



EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Regular meeting held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 301
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana**

September 8, 2022

The following are minutes and not intended to be a verbatim transcript. An audio version of the proceedings can be heard or viewed on our website at www.evansvillempo.com.

1. ROLL CALL

Policy Members	Organization	In Person	Webex/ Phone	Absent
Jack Corn, Jr.	Chairman	X		
Mayor Lloyd Winnecke	City of Evansville	X		
Ron Beane	Evansville City Council	X		
Rusty Fowler	Vice Chairman, Indiana Department of Transportation	X		
Jill Hahn	Vanderburgh County Council	X		
Deneatra Henderson	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet		X	
Nick Stallings	Henderson County Appointment		X	
William “Buzzy” Newman	City of Henderson Appointment		X	
Christy Powell	Town of Newburgh Appointment	X		
Todd Robertson	City of Evansville Mayoral Appointment		X	
Dan Saylor	Warrick County Commission	X		
Ben Shoulders (Robb Myers as proxy)	Vanderburgh County Commission			X
John Stoll	Vanderburgh County Commission Appointment	X		
EMPO Staff Members		In Person	Webex/ Phone	Absent
Seyed Shokouhzadeh			X	
Pam Drach		X		
Matt Schriefer		X		
Erin Schriefer		X		
Amir Varshochi				X
Xinbo Mi		X		
Kari Akin		X		
Brooke Vorbeck		X		
Nicole Chandler (Intern)			X	
Others Present		In Person	Webex/ Phone	Absent
Kari Carmany-George, FHWA		X		

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

Pam Drach introduced Kari Carmany-George with the Indiana Division of Federal Highway.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dan Saylor made a motion for approval and Christy Powell seconded the motion; motion carried.

3. EVANSVILLE MPO REGION: CLIMATE STRESSORS, RISKS, AND ADAPTATIONS – presentation by Nicole Chandler, IU McKinney Climate Fellows Program and Evansville MPO Intern

Nicole Chandler interned with the Evansville MPO during the summer and presented the research she conducted on climate change and ways to plan for its impacts.

The PowerPoint presentation can be viewed here: <http://www.evansvillempo.com/Environmental.html>

The audio from the meeting can be heard here: <http://www.evansvillempo.com/Meetings.html>

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke commented on the mass transit section of the presentation, where making transit more affordable was presented as a possible way to increase ridership. He asked what is considered to be more affordable, given that METS trips are currently \$0.75 cents per ride. Nicole Chandler responded that the cost of METS trips are on par with other communities, and suggested that partnerships with universities and schools could help reduce costs for those users. She also explained that the efficiencies of operating and maintaining the overall transit system would help reduce costs for users. She suggested that promoting programs for free rides or events would help attract users to the system. Mayor Winnecke commented that METS currently does offer free rides, but they have to do it based on the federal transit guidelines and funding received with free rides being offered to everyone in the service area and not for just one organization or event. He thinks this topic is worth more discussion, but wants METS' Operation Manager to be included to make sure their standard operating procedures are fully understood. Nicole agreed and added that these adaptations and management strategies work best with multi-agency coordination.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update – presented by Pam Drach

City of Evansville

- Walnut St Phase 3 (MLK Jr Blvd to US 41): Seven parcels have been secured.

Vanderburgh County

- Oak Hill Rd (Lynch Rd to St George): Work is continuing on the design, right-of-way engineering, utility coordination and the environmental document.

Warrick County

- Epworth Rd (SR 662 to SR 66): Notice to proceed with the preliminary engineering was given July 26, 2022.

City/County of Henderson

- Green River Rd (Bend Gate Rd to Osage Dr): Twelve of the 15 parcels are secured.
- Wathen Lane (US 60 to city limits): Fifteen of the 18 parcels are secured. Utility plans are complete.

KYTC

- Watson Lane (Sunset Ln to Green River Rd): Appraisal activities are under contract and appraisals should be ready in a couple months with offers to follow. Utilities are working on plans.
- US 60 Spottsville Bridge: Bridge was opened to traffic on August 23, 2022.
- KY 2084 at KY 812/Airline Rd: The project construction is complete, pending some corrective work.

INDOT Updates – presented by Rusty Fowler, INDOT

- (B-43148) US 41 Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Bridge deck is poured, working on southbound pavement.
- (B-42109) Various bridge deck overlays on US 41, I 69, and SR 61: Work is substantially complete and are waiting on pre-final.
- (R-39921) US 66 at Epworth Rd: Project is now in December 2022 letting. Waiting on county to sign MOU. Right of way buying has started.

- (B-42876) US 41 Pedestrian Walk at US 41 and Washington Ave: Environmental Document was submitted for final review.
- (R-42753) Various pavement projects: Received Stage 3 submittal, revised Pavement Design Patching and Joint work quantities. Working on Environmental Document and determining needed permits.
- (R-42287) SR 62 from Rosenberger Ave to Wabash Ave; US 41 over SR 66/Diamond (including various intersections improvements from Rosenberger Ave to Cross Pointe Blvd): Second round of Traffic Management Plan meetings were held August 18 and 19, 2022.

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. CY 2022 Call for Projects – presented by Erin Schriefer

On July 13, 2022, the Evansville MPO announced a Call for Projects for FY 2025 and beyond for Kentucky LPAs and FY 2028 and beyond for Indiana LPAs. Two applications were received and reviewed, and both were determined to be eligible for federal funding. Applications received include:

LPA	Project	Fed. Funding Requested
Warrick County	Oak Grove Road IV (SR 261 to Anderson Road)*	\$8,160,000
	Project includes adding left turn lanes at major intersections, including at Castle North Middle School. The roadway will be widened for bike lanes and a sidewalk to tie into the previous phases of Oak Grove Road. Drainage curb and gutter and storm sewers will be improved.	
Vanderburgh County	Wimberg Road Bridge #2430 Replacement	\$3,021,600
	Project includes replacing the existing concrete arch bridge with a new concrete beam structure. Roadside ditches will be piped or reconstructed as necessary.	

**This section of Oak Grove Road is classified as a local road; therefore, it is not currently eligible to receive federal funds. The Evansville MPO, on behalf of Warrick County, will submit to INDOT a request to reclassify this section based on the changing role the road plays in the regional network. Once approved, it will be eligible to move forward using the requested federal funding.*

Your approval designates these projects for MPO funding. The federal participation level and program years for these projects will be determined as part of the upcoming Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) development process.

Christy Powell made a motion for approval and Mayor Lloyd Winnecke seconded the motion; motion carried.

b. FY 2022 Performance and Expenditures Report – presented by Kari Akin

The annual Unified Planning Work Program Performance and Expenditures Completion Report for FY 2022 presents a summary of the activities and products completed by the Evansville MPO during FY 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). Described in the report is the progress attained in completing each of the work elements contained in the approved FY 2021 and FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program. This report is submitted to Indiana and Kentucky state agencies by September 20th and to FHWA by September 30th of each year.

Each work element includes a purpose, finished products, and funds expended. The document also includes budget and expenditure summary tables for each funding source and staff hours per element.

The report will be available September 8, 2022 on the Evansville MPO website:
<http://www.evansvillempo.com/Links.html> (the report is FY 2022 Performance and Expenditures Completion Report)

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

c. TIP Modifications – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO modified the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program on August 31, 2022 with the following:

Sponsor	Contract	Des#/ID#	Road	Description	County	Work Type	Funding Type	% Split	Action	Fiscal Year (7/22 to 6/23)	Phase/Source	Current TIP Entry	New TIP Entry			Cost to Complete (amount not in Active TIP)	Project Total	Fed Authorization Data and Phase (INDOT USE)
													Total	State/Local	Federal			
													All amounts in thousands					
INDOT	B-44549	2200893	I-69	5.53 miles south of I-64	Vanderburgh	Bridge Deck Overlay	NHPP	90/10	Add Project	2023	PE	\$0	\$194	\$175	\$19	\$ -	\$ 1,728	
										2024	CN	\$0	\$1,634	\$1,381	\$153			
INDOT	B-44551	2200910 2200911	I-69	1.55 miles north of SR 66 1.55 miles north of SR 66	Vanderburgh	Bridge Painting Bridge Painting	NHPP	90/10	Add Project	2023	PE	\$0	\$210	\$189	\$21	\$ -	\$ 1,071	
										2025	CN	\$0	\$861	\$775	\$86			
Henderson	N/A	02-382	Wethen Lane	US 60 to the city limits	Henderson	Upgrade with widened lanes, curb, gutter, and sidewalks	INFRA	80/20	Add Funding	2023	UT	\$0	\$206	\$164	\$41			

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

d. FY 2023 Transit Memorandums of Agreement – presented by Matt Schriefer

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval of the following FY 2023 Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs):

- Memorandum of Agreement Between the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Metropolitan Evansville Transit Systems (METS)
- Memorandum of Agreement Between the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Henderson Area Rapid Transit (HART)

The MOAs identify activities the EMPO will perform in FY 2023 for METS and HART in exchange for compensation by both. It also identifies activities METS and HART must complete in order for the EMPO to complete their tasks. The approval sheets are at the end of each MOA.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion for approval and Buzzy Newman seconded the motion; motion carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Approval of Bills

Christy Powell made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Seyed Shokouhzadeh provided a follow-up comment to Mayor Lloyd Winnecke’s questions and comments regarding the efficiency of METS. He explained that the intent was to make the routes more efficient for the choice riders, and wasn’t about the efficiency of how METS itself operates.

8. UPCOMING DATES

- CY 2022 EMPO Policy Meetings:
 - November 10

Meeting adjourned.