



**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**

March 9, 2023

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 (Thomas Witt as proxy)	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	X		
Nick Stallings	Henderson County Appointment			X
William “Buzzy” Newman (Dawn Kelsey as proxy)	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		
Others Present		In Person	Webex/ Phone	Absent
Kari Carmany-George			X	
Nick Hall			X	
Dawn Kelsey			X	
Alexis Berggren		X		

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

2. ELECTION OF CY 2023 OFFICERS – CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Buzzy Newman nominated Jack Corn for Chairman and Dan Saylor made a motion to close the nominations; the committee approved the nomination by acclamation.

Jack Corn nominated Rusty Fowler for Vice-Chairman and Buzzy Newman seconded the motion; the committee approved the nomination by acclamation.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dan Saylor made a motion for approval and Rusty Fowler seconded the motion; motion carried.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update – presented by Pam Drach

City of Evansville

- Walnut St Phase 2 (Weinbach Ave to Vann Ave): From Boeke to Vann, waterline extension work is ongoing.
- Walnut St Phase 3 (MLK Jr Blvd to US 41): Project was let for bids on February 10, 2023 and awarded to Blankenberger Brothers Inc for the low bid of \$21,274,381.

Warrick County

- Telephone Rd: Right of way acquisition underway with 73 of 79 offers made.
- Epworth Rd: A corridor traffic study and a hydraulic study were both started in January.

Pam Drach added that work is continuing for Henderson and KYTC projects, but no significant updates.

INDOT Updates – presented by Rusty Fowler

- (B-43148) US 41 Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Pre-Con was held on October 13, 2022, and the final acceptance was sent out on December 7, 2022.
- (B-44156) US 41 over SR 66/Diamond Ave: Awarded to E&B Paving for \$2,572,177.82.
- (R-39921) SR 66 at Epworth Rd: Awarded to JBI Construction for \$13,207,513.63.
- (R-44786) SR 61 in Lynnville: Project will be moving out of FY 23, new letting date not yet determined.
- (R-37845) US 41 at Hillsdale Rd: Re-start field check scheduled for March 7, 2023.
- (R-42287) Lloyd4U project: Received Stage 2 plans and estimates. Eastside projects Public Hearing held March 7, 2023.

John Stoll asked if INDOT had any plans to do pavement repairs on SR 57 past the airport up to Kansas Rd, stating that his office has received a lot of complaints. Rusty Fowler responded that the INDOT maintenance crew has been out to look at that area and he thinks that INDOT will do something inhouse; there are no contractors scheduled right now. They've been looking at that area within the last couple of weeks.

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

b. MTP 2050 and Conformity Determination – presented by Erin Schriefer

The Evansville MPO is requesting approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2050 and the associated conformity determination included in Chapter 8 of the MTP. In January, the MPO presented the draft MTP. A 30-day public comment period was advertised from January 25 through February 24, 2023, where comments were sought from

the public, Policy and Technical Committee members, the Citizen Advisory Committee, local, state and federal planning partners as well as federally designated tribes.

The MPO received several comments, none of which caused a significant change in the document. All comments received and the MPO's responses are in Appendix E of the documents. A few comments received include:

- The WATS information in Chapter 2: Regional Assessment is no longer current; routes and run times have been changed. The final draft of the MTP has been updated to reflect these changes.
- A comment from a resident regarding passenger rail through this region. The MPO is reviewing the information that resident provided and looking into any potential opportunities.
- A few comments from FHWA and INDOT that resulted in slight wording changes in the document for clarification.
- Several comments from federally-recognized tribes - One tribe commented on the importance of Angel Mounds and preserving and protecting this area. Other comments received from the tribes stated that at this stage of planning, there are no known issues, but they would like to be contacted if and when a project is in development and any artifacts are found.

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

c. Fiscal Year 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO is requesting approval of the FY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP was developed cooperatively with local government, transit operators, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and other appropriate state and federal agencies. The purpose of the TIP is to fulfill federal requirements and to serve local officials and the public as a complete program of federally funded transportation improvements proposed to be undertaken during the next five years (fiscal years 2024-2028) in the Evansville-Henderson Metropolitan Planning Area.

The draft 2024-2028 TIP was advertised for a public comment period from January 25 through February 24, 2023. No comments on the TIP document were received. Changes in the text to expand discussion on public outreach were made per recommendations by FHWA and INDOT. After further discussion with INDOT, the draft TIP program of projects as presented during the Public Comment period should move forward for approval by the committees.

The TIP program of projects is fiscally constrained and the projects included in the TIP are consistent with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2050 and air quality conformity determination report. The updated document is available on the Evansville MPO website.

John Stoll made a motion for approval and Rusty Fowler seconded the motion; motion carried.

d. 2023-2027 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan – presented by Matt Schriefer

A draft of the 2023-2027 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan was made available for public comment from January 25 through February 24, 2023. The draft was also provided to the Technical and Policy Committees and the Regional Transit Advisory Committee (RTAC) by email. Public Open Houses were conducted on February 8 at the Evansville Central Library and the Henderson County Public Library to gather additional feedback from the public.

The plan identifies the transit needs of seniors and individuals with a disability in Vanderburgh, Warrick and Henderson counties. Two public surveys, and RTAC meeting, and discussions with the region's transit agencies and non-profit organizations that provide transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities all helped develop the draft plan and recommendations.

During the public comment period, the MPO received one comment related to updating the Warrick Area Transit System (WATS) routes which were recently adjusted. Those changes were made in the Transportation Providers chapter.

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and John Stoll seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2022-2026 TIP Modifications – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO modified the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program on January 17, 2023 with the following:

Sponsor	Contract	Des#/ID#	Road	Description	County	Work Type	Funding Type	% Split	Action	Fiscal Year	Phase/Source	Current TIP Entry	New TIP Entry		
													Total	Federal	State/Local
All amounts in thousands															
INDOT	B-44505	2200518	I 64	From 3.32 miles E of SR 65 interchange to 1.69 miles W of SR 37 interchange	Vanderburgh	Small Structures & Drains Construction	NHPP	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$1,270	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$1,270	\$1,016	\$254
INDOT	B-44506	2200972	I 64	From 0.82 miles E of SR 65 to 0.96 miles E of SR 65	Vanderburgh	Slide Correction	NHPP	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$284	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$284	\$227	\$57
INDOT	B-44508	2200649	US 41	Over Pond Flat Ditch 02.01 miles S of I-64	Vanderburgh	Bridge Replacement	NHPP	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$568	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$568	\$454	\$114
INDOT	B-44509	2200684	SR 57	01.08 miles S of I-69	Vanderburgh	Bridge Rehabilitation Or Repair	NHPP	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$211	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$211	\$169	\$42
INDOT	B-44512	2200688	SR 61	00.21 miles S of SR 68	Warrick	Bridge Thin Deck Overlay	STBG	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$240	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$240	\$192	\$48
INDOT	R-44499	2200044	US 41	1.57 miles S of SR 57 At St. George Road	Vanderburgh	Intersection Improvement	NHPP HSIP	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$781	\$781	\$625	\$156
										2024	PE	\$175	\$956	\$765	\$191
INDOT	R-44500	2200038	SR 66	2.23 miles W of SR 65 at University Parkway Intersection	Vanderburgh	Intersection Improvement	STBG	80/20	Move PE	2023	PE	\$174	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$174	\$139	\$35
INDOT	B-43986	2100812	SR 66	over UNT, 1.45mi E JCT SR 65	Vanderburgh	Small Structure Pipe Lining	STBG	80/20	Move PE	2022	PE	\$140	\$0	\$0	\$0
										2024	PE	\$0	\$140	\$112	\$28

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

b. FY 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment – presented by Kari Akin

The Evansville MPO seeks review and approval of the amendment to the FY 2023 and FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program. The amendment includes the FY 2024 sources of funding and some additional activities in the scope of work the office will complete, including the addition of Task 600.4: Regional Pavement Management System. The RPMS project comprises 20% of the budget totaling \$285,000.

SOURCE	FY 2024			
	Federal	State	Local	Total
IN PL/5303	\$633,054	\$0	\$158,264	\$791,318
Y410 (2.5% PL)	\$13,487	\$0	\$0	\$13,487
IN HSIP 100%	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
IN STBG	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
IN STBG - Pavement	\$183,200	\$0	\$45,800	\$229,000
IN STBG- softwares	\$8,800	\$0	\$2,200	\$11,000
IN STBG-REMIX*	\$11,856	\$0	\$2,964	\$14,820
IN SPR - Planning	\$43,904	\$2,160	\$8,816	\$54,880
IN SPR State Traffic Count	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$50,000
KY FTA 5303	\$10,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$12,500
KY FTA 5307	\$10,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$12,500
IN FTA 5307	\$10,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$12,500
FTA Section 5310	\$35,689	\$0	\$0	\$35,689
KY PL Discretionary Pavement	\$44,800	\$0	\$11,200	\$56,000
KY PL FUNDS	\$74,400	\$4,650	\$13,950	\$93,000
Total	\$1,219,190	\$16,810	\$250,694	\$1,486,694

This amendment also includes the 2024 planning emphasis areas (PEA's.) issued by Indiana and Kentucky Divisions Office of FHWA & FTA. The PEAs have not changed; however, some additional details have been added. The complete list is found on pages 8-11 in the UPWP.

- Tackling the Climate Crisis: “We encourage INDOT and the MPOs to coordinate regarding the statewide NEVI plan; Carbon Reduction Program strategy, and PROTECT formula program...”
- Equity and Justice40 in Transportation Planning: “...meaningful public involvement.”
- TIP/STIP Development & Maintenance: “Project cost estimation practices, as well as procedures to address and/or document inflation in the project estimates, should be reviewed in consultation with the MPOs and other stakeholders.”
- MPA and Urbanized Area Boundaries: “INDOT and the MPOs should also work together to review any funding programs/allocations that may need to be revised in light of the boundary adjustments.”

The draft UPWP amendment will be sent to our Federal and State Planning Partners for review. Material comments will be made available at an upcoming meeting. More information can be found on the Evansville MPO website at <http://www.evansvillempo.com/Links.html> under “Finance”.

Dan Saylor made a motion for approval and John Stoll seconded the motion; motion carried.

c. Nationwide addition of after-tax Roth contributions to Deferred Comp Plan – presented by Kari Akin

The Evansville MPO would like to offer employees an additional benefit to the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan in the form of offering an after-tax investment Roth option.

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

d. FY 2024 FTA Section 5303 Application Local Share – presented by Kari Akin

KYTC’s application process for Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 Transit Planning Funds is entirely online. Approval of the resolution gives Seyed Shokouhzadeh authorization to upload the required documents for the Section 5303 application. The resolution also states that the Evansville MPO will provide the required 20% local match, which is currently part of the City of Henderson’s local share in the amount of \$2,500.

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and John Stoll seconded the motion; motion carried.

e. Henderson 2023 SHIFT Project Sponsorship – presented by Brooke Vorbeck

As part of Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) Kentucky Ahead transportation prioritization plan, the Evansville MPO must select six of their highest priority projects from Kentucky’s unfunded projects list to “sponsor”. The selected projects, along with those sponsored by KYTC District 2, will then be analyzed and given a data-driven score based on safety, congestion, economic growth, asset management and benefit/cost etc. Local and regional agencies will then have a chance to review the scores and apply “boost points” to any project that has merit above and beyond the identified performance measures. The MPO has selected the projects listed below in coordination with local leaders from the City of Henderson and Henderson County. Approval allows the MPO to submit these projects to KYTC for sponsorship.

- Watson Lane/MP 0.309 to 0.850 and MP 1.2 to 1.395: 2-383.2
- KY 812/Turn lane by Sports Complex: CHAF-IP20230002
- KY 1539/Zion Larue Road-KY 351 to Kimsey Lane: CHAF-IP20080095
- KY 351/East of Adams Lane and Bishop: CHAF-IP20070066
- Van Wyk Road/I-69 to 5th Street: CHAF-IP20230028
- Tillman Bethel Road/US 60 to Melody Lane: CHAF-IP20230037

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

f. 2023 Title VI Goals and Accomplishments Report – presented by Matt Schriefer

At the beginning of each year, the Evansville MPO develops a list of Title VI accomplishments from the prior year and Title VI goals for the upcoming year. These goals and accomplishments include completed and upcoming trainings and workshops, updates to Title VI documents and surveys, and the total number of Title VI complaints from the previous year.

The complete list forms the annual Title VI Goals and Accomplishments Report. The 2023 report will be added to the appendices of the Title VI Implementation Plan & Limited English Proficiency Plan.

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

g. 2023 Transit Targets (TAM & PTASP) – presented by Matt Schriefer

METS and HART have been required to develop annual Transit Asset Management (TAM) Targets since completion of the Group TAM Plan in September 2018. At the end of each year, the MPO gathers fleet data from METS and HART to calculate the end of the previous year Performance Metrics and set the end of the current year Targets. Although not required, the MPO also calculates Performance Metrics and sets Targets for the non-profit vehicles. With approval of these Targets, the MPO will include them in the TIP and MTP documents. The table includes TAM Performance Measure definitions, end of 2022 Performance Metrics, and end of 2023 TAM Targets.

Starting in 2021, METS and HART are also required to develop annual Safety Targets. These Targets are listed in the Public Transit Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) for both METS and HART. The MPO worked with METS and HART to collect safety data to calculate Performance Metrics and set Targets. With approval of these Targets, the MPO will include them in the TIP and MTP documents. The table includes Safety Performance Measure definitions, end of 2021 Performance Metrics, and end of 2023 Safety Targets.

		METS		HART		MPO	
		End 2022 Measures	End 2023 Targets	End 2022 Measures	End 2023 Targets	End 2022 Measures	End 2023 Targets
Transit Asset Management	Rolling Stock (buses) - % of revenue vehicles that have met or exceeded their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)	40%	20%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Rolling Stock (cutaways) - % of revenue vehicles that have met or exceeded their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)	68%	42%	25%	25%	17%	25%
	Equipment - % of equipment that has exceeded ULB or with a condition rating below 3.0 on FTA's (TERM) Scale	71%	93%	0%	67%	6%	10%
	Facilities - % of facilities with a condition rating below 3.0 on FTA's Transit Economic Requirement Model (TERM) Scale	0%	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a
		METS		HART			
		End 2021 Measures	End 2023 Targets	End 2021 Measures	End 2023 Measures		
Transit Safety	Fatalities - Total number of fatalities that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle	Fixed Route	0	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	0	0	0	0	
	Injuries - Any injury (other than a fatality) requiring immediate medical attention that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle	Fixed Route	1	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	0	0	0	0	
	Safety Events - Any fatality, injury or other safety event (property damage, collisions, evacuations), that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle.	Fixed Route	2	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	0	0	0	0	
System Reliability (major failures) - Distance between major mechanical failures that limit actual vehicle movement, require a tow, or create safety issues (n/a if no major mechanical failures)	Fixed Route	54,275 miles	75,000 miles	136,563 miles	75,000 miles		
	Demand Response	19,311 miles	50,000 miles	n/a	50,000 miles		

John Stoll made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Approval of Bills

Dan Saylor made a motion for approval and Buzzy Newman seconded the motion; motion carried.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jack Corn thanked the board for voting him as Chairman for another year.

8. UPCOMING DATES

- CY 2023 EMPO Policy Meetings:
 - May 11th; July 13th; September 14th; November 9th.

Meeting adjourned.