



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

February 2, 2017

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.

ROLL CALL

Members Present (voting):

Jack Corn, Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Todd Robertson, Bruce Ungethiem, Joe Kiefer II, William Hubiak, Russell Sights, Dan Saylor, Christy Powell, Shane Spears, Thomas Witt

Members Absent (voting):

Dr. H. Dan Adams, Angela Koehler Lindsey

Members Present (non-voting):

Antonio Johnson, Joyce Newland

Members Absent (non-voting):

Joe McGuinness, Mayela Sosa, Shawn Seals, Marisol Simon, Susan Weber, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Bernadette Dupont, Greg Thomas, John Moore, Leslie Poff

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Pam Drach, Laura Lamb, Erin Schriefer, Craig Luebke, Matt Schriefer, Kari Akin, Vishu Lingala

Others Present:

Don Gibbs, Nick Hall, Robert Howard

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

Jack Corn welcomed Antonio Johnson and Joyce Newland of the FHWA Indiana Division, as well as introduced Joe Kiefer II as a new Policy Committee member.

OFFICER ELECTIONS – CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion to nominate Jack Corn as Chairman; Bruce Ungethiem seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion to nominate Russell Sights as Vice Chairman; William Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Project Update- presented by Pam Drach

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Washington Avenue – 2nd Street – Parrett Street Area: The CE-4 document was revised to address comments received and the document was resubmitted to INDOT on January 30, 2017.

Evansville-Vanderburgh Sign Inventory and Replacement: The contractor has mobilized and begun sign replacement.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Columbia-Delaware Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Work on the environmental document is proceeding.

WARRICK COUNTY

Lincoln Avenue: A preconstruction meeting was held on January 12, 2017.

Oak Grove Road – Phase 3: Right-of-way activities are continuing with 42 properties secured; pavement design was submitted to INDOT on December 14, 2016.

Warrick Trails SRTS: The consultant contract has been executed.

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

B. ITS Architecture – presented by Vishu Lingala

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval of an amendment to the Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture. The Architecture was amended with the cooperation of regional ITS Stakeholders to meet federal requirements and serve as a planning tool for future ITS projects.

A regional architecture is required for areas implementing ITS projects in order for those projects to receive federal funding. INDOT's Fix for 41 from I-69 in Vanderburgh County to the Ohio River Bridges is such a project. This project will be eligible for funding pending the Architecture's final approval.

William Hubiak made a motion for approval and Christy Powell seconded the motion; motion carried.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Certification Review Preliminary Findings – presented by Antonio Johnson, FHWA

Antonio Johnson from the Federal Highway Administration Indiana Division presented the preliminary findings from the MPO's Certification Review. Members from FHWA Indiana Division, FHWA Kentucky Division and FTA met with MPO staff on Wednesday, February 1 to review the MPO's planning process and procedures to certify compliance with Federal regulations. He presented FHWA and FTA's preliminary findings and thoughts. They will prepare a final report that will be available in May. As part of the preliminary findings, he mentioned that the MPO overall is doing great work and does not see any major issues or inefficiencies. One opportunity area that will likely be addressed in the final report is the coordination between transit providers and the MPO, as well as between INDOT and the MPO and public.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke thanked Antonio Johnson for taking the time to present their preliminary findings to the board and for recognizing the work done by the MPO staff. Mayor Winnecke felt he would be remiss if he did not comment on a few areas that Antonio Johnson mentioned. First, in his experience, INDOT has done a very good job of communicating important information to citizens all over the region – there may be technical deficiencies and lack of data sharing, but he wanted to make known that INDOT does a good job in communicating information to the general public. Secondly, he feels that METS has been very receptive to changes, especially in regard to the COA, and has already implemented a few recommendations from the COA. The City feels that the changes that were made to METS make sense from a transit and financial perspective. For the first time in the City's history, Sunday service is being provided, fare changes have been made, and other routes have been modified.

Antonio Johnson clarified that comments made regarding INDOT were more along the lines of technical/data sharing with the MPO. He also mentioned that there were two comments made at the previous night's public meeting that questioned these changes made by METS and that the MPO and/or the City/METS will be asked to provide a response to those comments.

Mayor Winnecke said that the City and METS will be happy to work with the MPO on crafting the appropriate responses.

Antonio Johnson requested that he be included on the May agenda to present the final Certification Review report.

B. FY 2016-2019 TIP Administrative Modifications – presented by Craig Luebke

Administrative modifications to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) were processed on January 11th and January 24th, 2017. The changes include:

The Evansville MPO and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) requested the following modification:

Des# 1592407: US 41: From I-69 to I-64, Planning/Feasibility/Corridor Study Project. Revise project cost for Preliminary Engineering (PE) in FY 2017. PE costs of \$285,000 are programmed with 80% federal STP funds (\$228,000) and 20% state match (\$57,000).

Warrick County requested the following modification:

Des# 0500641: Oak Grove Road, Section 3: Bell Road to SR 261. Road widening project. Revise Right-of-Way (ROW) estimate and funding. Fiscal year 2017 ROW costs of \$1,045,000 are programmed with \$836,000 in federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, and \$209,000 local funds.

The City of Evansville requested the following modification:

Des# 1383064: Covert Avenue: US 41 to I-69. Revise Right-of-Way (ROW) schedule. Fiscal year 2018 ROW costs of \$700,000 are programmed with \$300,000 in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, and \$400,000 local funds.

The Town of Newburgh requested the following modification:

Des# 0710850: Rivertown Trail Ph. 3A: Trail construction from Yorkshire Drive to Pollack Ave/Old SR 662W. Revise CN schedule. CN costs of \$980,000 in fiscal year 2018 are programmed with \$601,000 in federal TAP funds, and \$379,000 local funds.

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

C. MPO FY 2017 FTA Section 5310 (FFY15-17) Grant Application – presented by Matt Schriefer

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval to electronically submit the METS FY 2017 Program of Projects for FTA Section 5310 (FFY15-17) funds. These funds will be used for two non-profit vehicle acquisitions and MPO administration of the Section 5310 program. The total amount being requested is \$96,083. Approval designates MPO staff to apply for 5310 funding.

FTA Section 5310 funds will be used to purchase a low-floor minivan for The Arc of Evansville and a large transit vehicle for Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. The federal share of funding is a maximum of 80% for vehicle purchase. Section 5310 planning funds will be used for FY 2018 administration of the Section 5310 program. These funds are 100% federal share.

The MPO announced the call for projects for Section 5310 funds on August 19, 2016. Four applications were received and approved by the MPO Policy Committee on December 1, 2016. In addition to The Arc of Evansville and Easterseals Rehabilitation Center, METS and HART were also approved for Section 5310 funding. Approval for their applications will come before the Policy Committee in a later meeting.

A Public Notice of this application was placed in the Evansville Courier & Press and Henderson Gleaner on December 22, 2016. The Notice included public notification of the Public Hearing to be held at the MPO Technical and Policy Committee Meetings on January 5, 2017. It also provided a summary of the application, the location of hard copies of the Program of Projects for review and contact information for the MPO for public comments and questions. There were no public comments or questions during the review period or at the Public Hearing.

Russell Sights made a motion for approval and Bruce Ungethiem seconded the motion; motion carried.

D. METS FY 2017 FTA Section 5339 (FFY15) and CMAQ (FFY 16-17) Grant Application – presented by Matt Schriefer

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval to electronically submit the METS FY 2017 Program of Projects for FTA Section 5339 (FFY15) and CMAQ (FFY16-17) funds. The total amount being requested is \$2,214,077. Approval designates MPO staff to submit for Section 5339 and CMAQ funding on behalf of METS.

FTA Section 5339 and CMAQ funds will be used to purchase five fixed route transit buses and operating assistance for Sunday Service and Lynch/Walnut Evening Service for 2017. The federal share of funding is 80% for the purchase of new buses, 80% for operation of new Sunday Service and 50% for operation expanded Lynch/Walnut Service.

A Public Notice of the application for Section 5339 and CMAQ funding was placed in the Evansville Courier & Press on December 22, 2016. The Notice included public notification of the Public Hearing to be held at the MPO Technical and

Policy Committee Meetings on January 5, 2017. It also provided a summary of the application, the location of hard copies of the Program of Projects for review and contact information for the MPO for public comments and questions. There were no public comments or questions during the review period or at the Public Hearing. At a Board of Public Works meeting on January 12, 2017, the Board authorized by resolution the submittal of the grant application.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion for approval and William Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.

E. National Highway System (NHS) Revisions – presented by Vishu Lingala

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has requested the Evansville MPO to review and approve the proposed revisions to the NHS within the Indiana portion of the MPA. The MPO consulted with INDOT and reviewed FHWA’s primary and secondary criteria for the NHS network to make necessary changes. Edits include:

Street	From	To	County	Comments
SR 57	Boonville-New Harmony Rd	I-69	Vanderburgh	Add
SR 66 (Diamond Ave)	SR 65	US 41	Vanderburgh	Remove
SR 62 (Morgan Ave)	US 41	I-69	Vanderburgh	Remove
St Joseph Ave	SR 66 (Diamond Ave)	SR 62 (Lloyd Expressway)	Vanderburgh	Remove
Ohio St	St Joseph Ave	Fulton Ave	Vanderburgh	Remove
Riverside Dr/Veterans Memorial Parkway	Lloyd Expressway	I-69	Vanderburgh	Remove

Maps that show these changes have been sent to the engineer’s office in the City of Evansville and Warrick and Vanderburgh counties.

The proposed NHS network can be viewed at www.evansvillempo.com

This item was informational and did not require a committee action. Action will be taken at the March meeting.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Approval of Bills

Christy Powell made a motion for approval and William Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Russell Sights commented that the MPO has been a great help to Henderson and is glad that the Federal agencies recognize the work the MPO does.

Don Gibbs wanted to underscore what Antonio Johnson and Russell Sights said. He has been attending the MPO meetings for about one year and has been enlightened about the transportation planning process.

Jack Corn commented that sometimes it is easy to think the MPO and staff is just doing what they are supposed to do, but when others come in and say what a fine job the MPO is doing, accolades should be given.

Meeting adjourned.