



## 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 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](http://www.evansvillempo.com).

### ROLL CALL

#### Members Present (voting):

Jack Corn, Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Bruce Ungethiem, William Hubiak, Buzzy Newman, Bobby Howard, Khalil Dughaiash, Wade Clements

#### Members Absent (voting):

Dr. H. Dan Adams, Todd Robertson, Joe Kiefer II, Angela Koehler Lindsey, Christy Powell

#### Members Absent (non-voting):

Joe McGuinness, Mayela Sosa, Antonio Johnson, Shawn Seals, Marisol Simon, Susan Weber, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Bernadette Dupont, Greg Thomas, Ann Estes, 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

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Project Update- presented by Pam Drach**

**CITY OF EVANSVILLE**

Covert Avenue Road Diet: Comments on the CE document were received and coordination on the revisions is ongoing.

Weinbach Avenue Road Diet: Right-of-way activities are underway.

Washington Avenue – 2<sup>nd</sup> Street – Parrett Street Area: The environmental document was approved.

**VANDERBURGH COUNTY**

Heckel Road Widening, Green River Road to Oak Hill Road: Waterline work on Oak Hill Road is complete. Storm sewer work is continuing.

**WARRICK COUNTY**

Bell Road, Highpoint Drive to Telephone Road: Draft Historical Properties and Archaeological reports are complete and were distributed to the reviewing agencies.

Warrick Trails SRTS: The design consultant received notice to proceed on 2/11/17.

**INDOT**

US Highway 41 – Fix for 41, I-69 Interchange to Ohio River Bridges: The project was awarded to E&B Paving, Inc. for \$26,765,349.90.

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

**B. National Highway System Network Revisions – presented by Vishu Lingala**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has requested the Evansville MPO review and approve their proposed revisions to the National Highway System (NHS) within the Indiana portion of the Metropolitan Planning Area. The MPO reviewed the FHWA’s primary and secondary criteria for the NHS network and consulted with INDOT and local partners. The revisions 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   |

*Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion for approval and Bobby Howard seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Proposed Step Adjustment – presented by Kari Akin**

Prior to 2007, the Evansville MPO experienced a high staff turn-over rate and had challenges in keeping the office fully staffed. A newly hired transportation planner made the same salary as a transportation planner with 20-years of experience. On February 1, 2007, the Evansville MPO Policy Committee approved a pay scaled system that followed the Vanderburgh County's pay scale percentages that increased pay based on longevity of employment. This model has served its function of employee retention for the past 10 years, however it does not provide a mechanism for performance compensation.

The MPO has adjusted the model by setting each horizontal pay scale step percentage increases to 2% and created several subcategories vertically under Class III Transportation Planner which in addition to Planner include Planner II, Planner III, Senior Planner, and Chief Planner. Each of these vertical subcategories are increased by 5%. These adjustments will continue to aid in employee retention, but encourage staff to strive for advancement with quality output. Step increases take place at the 2 year, 5 year, 10 year, 15 year, 20 year, and 25 years of service anniversaries.

Cost of living increases will continue to be approved by the Policy Committee during the annual budget approvals.

*Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and William Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.*

#### **B. Title VI Plan/Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plan 2017 Revision – presented by Matt Schriefer**

The MPO Title VI Plan and Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plan have been revised. The revisions reflect recommendations from FHWA discussed during the MPO's Certification Review held in February. The suggested changes include better clarification in some sections, additional information where needed and copies of complaint procedures and forms in an appendix.

Changes include:

- The "Notification to the Public of Rights under Title VI" now includes contact information for FHWA and FTA if a complainant wants to send complaints directly to either agency.
- The "Evansville MPO Title VI Complaint Procedures" now states that complaints can be sent directly to FHWA or FTA.
- The Complaint Procedures were also revised to clarify how the complainant will be notified after the MPO determines the necessary steps to mitigate or prevent the discrimination from occurring in the future.
- A new section was added to the LEP Plan to clarify how questions, comments or requests can be submitted to the MPO.
- Appendix A was added to include copies of the Public Notice, Complaint Procedures and Complaint Form. These items are also posted on the "Non-Discrimination" page of the MPO website (<http://www.evansvillempo.com/TitleVI.html>).
- Appendix B was added to include a list of Policy and Technical Committee Members and the organizations represented.

A PDF of the revised Plan can be found on the MPO website: <http://www.evansvillempo.com/TitleVI.html>.

The MPO plans to complete a full update of the Title VI/LEP Plan later this year. The update will include new demographic data and maps showing planned projects and their potential impact on disadvantaged populations.

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

### **C. FY 2016-2019 TIP Amendments – presented by Craig Luebke**

The MPO is seeking approval of the following amendments to the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A public review and comments period was publicized from February 16<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>. Local fiscal constraint for the proposed amendments has been confirmed.

The Metropolitan Evansville Transit System (METS) requested the following amendment:

Des# 1700384: Transit Bus Purchase: Add project to purchase one transit bus. The total fiscal year 2017 cost of \$433,000 is programmed with federal Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities funds (\$76,000), federal CMAQ funds (\$270,000), and a 20% agency match (\$87,000).

The City of Evansville requested the following amendment:

Des# 1601824: Various Locations: City of Evansville Sign Inventory/Replacement Program, Phase 3: Add project for preliminary engineering (PE) and construction (CN). Fiscal year 2018 PE costs of \$76,000 are programmed with \$50,000 in federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds and a \$26,000 local match. Fiscal year 2019 CN costs of \$829,000 are programmed with \$761,000 in federal HSIP funds and a \$68,000 local match.

*Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion for approval and Bruce Ungethiem seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### **C. FY 2018-2021 TIP Draft Project List – presented by Craig Luebke**

MPO staff have been working with state and local planning partners to develop the next TIP which will cover fiscal years 2018-2021. For your review and comment today, we have a draft listing of the roadway projects for this document. We continue to develop the transit program of projects and the full Draft TIP based on the proposed project list will be presented in April, and a 30 day public comment period (including open houses in Evansville and Henderson) will be held. Based on all feedback, the TIP presentation for final adoption will occur in May. Please review your agencies projects and comments/corrections within the next two weeks will allow us to incorporate those into the draft document next month.

## **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Approval of Bills**

*William Hubiak made a motion for approval and Bruce Ungethiem seconded the motion; motion carried.*

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Pam Drach announced that INDOT is working on an update to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. A public meeting will be held on March 29, 2017 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM (EST) at the Vincennes District INDOT Office. INDOT will be available to answer any questions. (See attached flyer for more details.)

Meeting adjourned.



## **INDOT Seeks Input on Selection of Future Highway Projects** ***Reminder: INDOT staff hosting regional open houses starting this week***

The Indiana Department of Transportation is inviting its customers and the public to provide input on the selection of future state-highway construction projects.

To use federal funds, a transportation project must be listed in a four-year budget document known as the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. In urban areas, Metropolitan Planning Organizations produce and collect public input on their own Transportation Improvement Programs.

### **Provide input**

INDOT's draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is available for public review at [www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm). The document lists construction projects planned from July 2017 through June 2021 and the funds available for transportation projects and programs including highways, transit, bicycles and pedestrians.

The public may submit comments through:

The web comment form at [www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/3132.htm),

Email addressed to [draftstip@indot.in.gov](mailto:draftstip@indot.in.gov),

Postal mail addressed to Michael McNeil, INDOT STIP Director, 100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 955, Indianapolis, IN 46204, or

Paper comment forms at one of six regional open houses.

INDOT respectfully requests that all comments be submitted or postmarked by Monday, May 1. INDOT will then collate and respond to comments and questions on the record as an appendix to the final document.

### **Regional open houses**

Open houses hosted by INDOT's regional district staff offer an informal setting for the public to ask questions and discuss a variety of transportation programs including planning, multimodal, public involvement, Title VI and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The open houses will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern time at the dates and locations listed below.

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017:** INDOT Seymour District, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, IN 47274

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017:** INDOT Sub-District Office, 3650 S. U.S. 41, Vincennes, IN 47591

**Thursday, March 30, 2017:** Crawfordsville Public Library, 205 S. Washington St., Crawfordsville, IN 47933

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017:** INDOT District Office, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., LaPorte, IN 46350

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017:** INDOT District Office, 5333 Hatfield Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46808

**Thursday, April 13, 2017:** INDOT Traffic Management Center, 8620 E. 21st St., Indianapolis, IN 46219

Please note that INDOT's LaPorte District office is located in the Central time zone, where local time for the open house is 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

## Special accommodations

With advance notice, special accommodations will be made for individuals needing auxiliary aids or services of interpreters, signers, readers, or large print. Anyone with such needs should contact Rickie Clark with INDOT's Office of Public Involvement at 317-232-6601 or [rclark@indot.in.gov](mailto:rclark@indot.in.gov).



## Submit written comments

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## Media Contact

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