NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD/FULL COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, September 17, 2015, 9:00 A.M.
Construction Advancement Foundation Training Center
6050 Southport Road, Portage, Indiana

AGENDA

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Jim Ton, Vice-Chair
   9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of August 20, 2015 Executive Board Meeting
   Pages 1-4 9:01 a.m.

III. Ball State University Video: “Indiana Crossroads: A Transit Choice”
    9:02 a.m.

IV. Report of the Executive Director – Ty Warner
    • Committees
    9:32 a.m.

V. Finance & Personnel Committee – Roosevelt Allen, Jr.,
   Pages 5-8 9:37 a.m.

VI. Environmental Management Policy Committee – Geof Benson
   • Action on Resolution 15-24, in Support of the 2015 SepticSmart Week
   Pages 9-12 9:42 a.m.
   Pages 12

VI. Transportation Policy Committee
   • Action on Resolution 15-23, Amendment No. 3 to the FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program
   • Public Comment Period Results
   Pages 13-33 9:252 a.m.
   Pages 16-22
   Page 23
   • Action on Resolution 15-19, Amendment No. 3 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program
   • Action on Resolution 15-20, Amendment No. 4 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program
   • Action on Resolution 15-21, Amendment No. 5 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program for Transit
   Pages 24-26
   Pages 27-30
   Pages 31-33

VI. INDOT, Rick Powers, La Porte District Director
   10:02 a.m.

VII. “What is an MPO?” Video from Broward County, Florida
    10:07 a.m.

VIII. Other Business
     10:08 a.m.

IX. Public Comment
    10:13 a.m.

X. Announcements
   10:17 a.m.

XI. Adjournment
    10:25 a.m.

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Minutes

Chairperson Blair Milo called the meeting of the Executive Board to order at 9:08 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief stretch session.

Executive Board Members present included Roosevelt Allen, Jr., Dave Decker, Don Ensign, Michael Griffin, Blair Milo, Rich Murphy, Bob Schaefer, Ed Soliday and Jim Ton.

Other Commissioners present included John Bayler, Geof Benson, Kevin Breitzke, Bob Carnahan, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Richard Hardaway, Tom McDermott, Diane Noll, Jean Poulard, Tom Schmitt, Joe Simonetto, Brian Snedecor and George Topoll.

Others present included Ethan Lowe, Mary Enright, Janette Wilson, Roy Nunnally, Matt Deitchley, Dewey Pearman, Heather Ennis, Lyndsay Quist, Bruce Lindner, Rick Powers, David Wright, Jim Nowacki, Nick Barbknecht, Mike Vandergast and Deborah Laverty.


Appointment to the Commission: Ethan Lowe, reporting for Dave Hollenbeck, announced the appointment of Cary Kirkham to the Commission representing LaPorte County Council, replacing Randy Novak.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the July 23, 2015 meeting were approved on a motion by Jim Ton and a second by Dave Decker.

Report of the Chair:
- Blair Milo reported that the State of Indiana’s Regional Cities Initiative is accepting applications for funds to enhance service along the South Shore Rail Line. A partnership of NIRPC, the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), the Northwest Indiana Forum and One Region has been jointly preparing the application. The opportunity for funding through this initiative would provide for substantial investment in commuter rail connecting Chicago to Northwest Indiana. On a motion by Ed Soliday and a second by Michael Griffin, the Executive Board approved Resolution 15-22 in support of an application to the Regional Cities Initiative.
- Blair Milo said the new committees were approved at the May Full Commission meeting. Many Commissioners have submitted their preferences. The first draft of committee appointments will be sent out shortly and Commissioners should review it for any issues so that it can be finalized and in place for 2016.
Report of the Executive Director:

- Ty Warner reported that the NIRPC office is still under construction and NIRPC should be able to start occupying the new offices in the beginning of September, with the Northwest Indiana Forum moving into their new space about a month afterwards. NIRPC will not have access to its auditorium again until January or February 2016, but multiple smaller conference rooms are being built into the new space and will be available. He thanked Forum staff for being so accommodating to NIRPC staff affected by the water main break. He also thanked Dewey Pearman for the Construction Advancement Foundation’s graciousness in using the Training Center.

- Ty Warner welcomed several members of INDOT staff from Indianapolis who will be meeting with NIRPC staff after the Executive Board meeting.

- Ty Warner said the federal transportation reauthorization – the six year DRIVE Act (Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy (DRIVE) Act (S. 1647)) – was passed by the Senate and would provide $277.4 billion in spending for highway programs, which represents an average growth of $5.3 billion per year. It still must go before the House when they reconvene later this month. The current funding reauthorization has been extended through October 29. There is an issue with a reduction in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding for localities which needs to be corrected; an amendment was drafted by Senators Wickam (MS) and Booker (NJ) to fix this, but no amendments were allowed on the Senate floor. This will be watched carefully with an attempt to fix this issue in the Senate.

- Ty Warner said he attended the Executive Directors training at the National Association of Regional Councils in Austin, Texas, which was followed by their Board meeting, which Geof Benson attended.

- Ty Warner asked for the Board’s consent for him to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for collaboration on a high speed rail corridor from Chicago to Columbus, Ohio. An earlier study for this corridor identified potential stops in Valparaiso and at the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Communities along the corridor have already signed the agreement (including Gary and Valparaiso), and now MPOs along the corridor have also been asked to sign. The MOA commits no funding to the project. The MOA would provide participation to do a Tier One Environmental Impact Study (EIS). On a motion by Jim Ton and a second by Dave Decker, the Executive Board authorized the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for a high speed rail corridor from Chicago, IL to Columbus, OH by Ty Warner.

- Ty Warner said NIRPC plans to jointly host an open house with the Northwest Indiana Forum when the renovations of the office space are complete. 2016 marks NIRPC’s 50th anniversary as well as the 50th Anniversary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, and the 200th Anniversary of the State of Indiana.

- Ty Warner congratulated the City of LaPorte and the City of Valparaiso for advancing in the America’s Best Communities Competition.

Finance & Personnel Committee:

Roosevelt Allen, Jr. reported that the committee met this morning. Two items are being brought to the Executive Board. Separate feasibility studies will be performed by SRF Consulting Group for both the City of Portage and the City of Hobart. The Finance & Personnel Committee recommends 2015 budget amendment 4 to add new revenue for contractual for the Hobart Feasibility Study in the amount of $149,610. On a motion by Roosevelt Allen, Jr. and a second by Jim Ton, the Executive Board voted unanimously to adopt budget amendment 4.
Roosevelt Allen, Jr. said the Finance & Personnel Committee recommends the 2015 budget amendment 5 to add new revenue for contractual for the Portage feasibility study in the amount of $149,610. On a motion by Roosevelt Allen, Jr. and a second by Jim Ton, the Executive Board voted unanimously to adopt budget amendment 5.

Roosevelt Allen, Jr. reported that the Committee reviewed NIRPC’s financial status and had no issues to report.

**Transportation:**

Ty Warner said the agenda items needed to be removed from the agenda and will be brought before the Transportation Policy Committee and the Full Commission in September.

**Indiana Department of Transportation:** Rick Powell said the Northwest District resources were realigned to better prepare for the coming road projects and winter weather. Roosevelt Allen, Jr. asked for information on the Cline Avenue Bridge, the loss of which is a major concern to the counties and the cities around the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Ed Soliday responded that the funding was bundled into a $1 billion package and the principal is acquiring office space in the area. The Army Corps of Engineers have deemed the permits in order. This is an all cash project and they are raising the cash from 200 of the wealthiest entities in America.

Ed Soliday also reported on the I-65 bridge issues in central and southern Indiana. HB 1104 mandated that INDOT contract with an outside agency to create a decision-making tool for funding roads through 2030 and will analyze a lot of data provided by the MPOs. That metrics tool turned out far more robust than anticipated, and it will be brought to the Legislative Interim Study Committee. Indiana needs $300 million this year alone just to stabilize and maintain our roads this year. $1 billion is needed for INDOT to make the improvements to better our road systems. There are 11,000 miles of state highway and 88,000 miles of county and local roads. The condition of our roads is a bipartisan issue and the biggest deficit we can leave to future generations is if we don’t maintain them. The southbound lane on I-65 at the Wabash River had a beam corrosion issue which was repaired with 2020 money. An artesian well eroded the support structure but was caught in time. I-65 should be a six-lane road border to border. There are more trucks and other vehicles crossing the Illinois Indiana state line than anywhere else in the world and much of that traffic goes to and from I-65. There are a lot of crashes due to construction and it was suggested to use police vehicles to slow traffic several miles before the construction zones. Rick Powers added that efforts are being made to stabilize the bridge in that area and an estimated 45 minutes commute time was added in the northbound direction.

Tom McDermott said the closure of the Cline Avenue Bridge is unacceptable and has put a huge burden on the local roads and has caused a lot of deterioration in the last six years. Also, he does not believe people will pay a toll to travel to and from work every day at the mills.

Tom McDermott said the installation of cable strip barriers on highways should be mandated by state law. The barrier saves lives, and should be repaired quickly after an impact. Rick Powers said INDOT has a maintenance program to fix them but there is no specific time requirement to do so. He suggested contacting INDOT to report problems.
Other Business:
- Robert Carnahan reported that Cedar Lake’s North Park was renamed Senator Sue Landske Memorial Park after the long-time beloved State Senator who was from Cedar Lake.
- Ty Warner introduced James Winters, NIRPC’s new Regional Planner & Policy Analyst, who has come to NIRPC from the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. James will be working with communities to give them the best regional data possible.
- Mitch Barloga announced the availability of a survey that will inform the new Greenways Blueways 2020 Plan and urged everyone to take the survey.
- Brian Snedecor announced that the City of Hobart received their official certificates for the downtown Hobart Commercial District as achieving a designation on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Tom Schmitt announced that the construction project on Main Street is wrapping up and should be open within a week.
- Don Ensign announced that Hebron is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year with a block party on September 19.
- Blair Milo announced that the Tour de LaPorte to benefit cancer victims is this weekend.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:
Jim Nowacki, Gary, suggested that NIRPC contact the RDA about not scheduling their meeting at the same time as NIRPC’s Commission meetings so that members of the public can attend both meetings. Tom McDermott asked that a letter be sent to the RDA asking them to change the time of their meetings so that they do not conflict with NIRPC’s meetings which have met on the third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. for a long time; Rich Murphy seconded the motion. Geof Benson asked whether a member of the Executive Board should make the motion. Rich Murphy amended his second and moved that a letter be sent to the RDA asking them to change the time of their meetings so that they do not conflict with NIRPC’s meetings; seconded by Don Ensign. The motion carried. Ty Warner said he had already mentioned the issue to Bill Hanna.

Hearing no other business, on a motion by Dave Decker and a second by Jim Ton, Blair Milo adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

A Digital MP3 of this meeting is filed. Contact Mary Thorne at the phone or email below should you wish to receive a copy of it. DVD recordings will be available once they are received by NIRPC from the videographer.

For requests for alternate formats, please contact Mary Thorne at NIRPC at (219) 763-6060 extension 131 or at mthorne@nirpc.org. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333.

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FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Thursday
September 17, 2015
8:00 a.m.

Construction Advancement Foundation
Portage, Indiana

1. Call to Order
2. Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2015
3. Review of Financial Status
4. Approval of Claims Register
5. LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund Management Plan & Board Member Appointment
6. Draft 2016 Budget Discussion
7. Report on Subrecipient Compliance
8. Employee Handbook & Organization Transition Plan Update
9. Accounting Software Update
10. Building Improvement Update
11. Other Business
12. Adjournment

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Requests for alternate formats please contact Angie Hayes at (219) 763-6060 extension 104 or ahayes@nirpc.org. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333.
NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

August 20, 2015
NIRPC Offices
Portage, Indiana

Members Present
Roosevelt Allen, Jr.
John Bayler
Geof Benson
Dave Decker
Jeff Freeze
Richard Hardaway
Diane Noll
Jim Ton

Staff and Others Present
Ty Warner
Angie Hayes
Kelly Wenger
Kathleen Honl
Allen Hammond
Ethan Lowe
Robert Carnahan
George Topoll

Members Absent
Jeff Dekker
Greg Stinson
David Uran

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Roosevelt Allen Jr.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Geof Benson, seconded by Jeff Freeze, the Committee approved the minutes of the July 23, 2015 meeting.

Review of Financial Status

Angie Hayes presented the financial report. At this time there are no cash issues to report. The 2016 draft budget will be presented at the September meeting. The Budget to Actual with Cash Variance and the Budget to Actual Expenditure reports were presented to the Committee. The total expenditures of the period ending July 31, 2015 are at 42.08%.

Approval of Claims Register

Kelly Wenger presented the claims register to the Committee for approval. Upon a motion by Jim Ton, seconded by Geof Benson, the Committee approved the claims register.
Budget Amendments

Angie Hayes presented budget amendments 4 and 5 adding new funds to the 2015 budget. The budget amendments will add a combined total of $299,220 to the contractual line for the transit feasibility studies. Upon a motion from Geof Benson, seconded by Richard Hardaway, the Committee recommended the budget amendments for approval to the Executive Board.

Contracts for Feasibility Studies

Angie Hayes presented two contracts to the Committee. Both contracts are with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. for transit feasibility studies for the City of Hobart and the City of Portage. Upon a motion by Geof Benson, seconded by Richard Hardaway, the Committee recommended the contracts for approval to the Executive Board.

Report on Subrecipient Compliance

Attorney Ethan Lowe updated the Committee on the status of the City of Valparaiso's litigation filed against the former service provider for the Chicago Dash service. The City has received a response to the lawsuit that was filed in addition to a counter suit that has been filed against the City of Valparaiso. Valparaiso is in the process of procuring a maintenance company to provide oversight of the vehicle maintenance going forward with local funds.

Angie Hayes and Allen Hammond presented information regarding the status of South Lake County Community Services (SLCCS) deficiency over the maintenance of federally funded vehicles. NIRPC implemented Resolution 15-10 requiring SLCCS to bring vehicle maintenance into compliance by July 20, 2015. At the July 23rd meeting the Committee gave SLCCS a 30 day extension. As of today that goal has not been reached. NIRPC continues to receive weekly updates and will now withhold payments until the SLCCS maintenance deficiency is in compliance.

Employee Handbook Update & Organization Transition Plan

Ty Warner discussed with the Committee the upcoming plans to hire a company to review the NIRPC structure as well as update the current employee handbook. Ty hopes the hired company can help NIRPC better prepare for the potential loss of staff due to upcoming retirements, retain young staff, and make sure there is an efficient staffing structure. NIRPC has budgeted $20,000 for this and hopes to have the updates completed in the fall of 2015.

Accounting Software Update

Angie Hayes updated the Committee regarding the accounting software. The go live date has been changed to January 1, 2016 to include changes with the employee handbook.
Building Improvement Update

Ty Warner updated the Committee on the status of the building improvement project. The renovation is still on schedule for NIRPC staff to move into the new space in the beginning of September.

Other Business

None at this time

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMITTEE
CAF Training Center
September 3, 2015

Members/Guests: Geof Benson, Dorreen Carey, Deb Backhus, Ashley Snyder, Mike Molnar, Michelle Caldwell, Jennifer Gadzala, Nicole Barker, Michael Kuss, Lara Gonzalez

NIRPC Staff: Kathy Luther, Stephen Sostaric, Meredith Stilwell

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman Benson called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of July 2, 2015 EMPC Minutes
On motion by Nicole Barker and second by Deb Backhus, the July 2, 2015 EMPC meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Presentations:
a. Remedial Action Plan (RAP) – Ashley Snyder, IDEM

After many requests for an update on the Remedial Action Plan Ashley Snyder presented the update to the Committee. The Remedial Action Plan was established by the 1987 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between the United States and Canada. The agreement identified 43 “Areas of Concern” (AOC) in the Great Lakes Basin needing high levels of remediation and the International Joint Commission (IJC) required the establishment of Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) to be the blueprint for restoring the beneficial uses of an AOC. An AOC is a location that has experienced environmental degradation. There are 43 areas of concern around the Great Lakes but only one, the Grand Calumet River/Indiana Harbor Ship Canal AOC, in Indiana. The northern boundary includes a 1.5 mile buffer out into Lake Michigan and initially this AOC was listed as the most highly impaired in the Great Lakes. It has been plagued by industrial waste, municipal wastewater and invasive species.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) charged IDEM to write the Remedial Action Plan for the Grand Calumet River AOC. Due to the scale of the effort, IDEM appointed and chairs a group of individuals to advise the development of the RAP, The Citizens Advisory for the Remediation of the Environment (CARE). Restoration planning is done in multiple stages. The current update to the RAP state 2.5 outlines the work required to restore each beneficial use and how it can be accomplished. The final stage 3 will be developed once remedial actions have taken place to prove that beneficial uses have been restored. Through the restoration process it was noted by the CARE committee that two of the 14 Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) no longer exist and were most likely listed in error from the beginning. The three areas to address for restoration implementation include river, ship canal and riverine wetlands; dune and swale habitats; and Lake Michigan beaches. Ashley spoke on the various restoration processes. The US Steel 5-mile dredge was the initial dredging project on the River and was initiated by the 1999 Federal Clean Water Act Consent Decree and a 1998 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Order. This dredging removed more the 800,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment from the river by 2007. Through the inception of the Great Lakes Legacy Act (GLLA) and utilization of the Indiana Natural Resource Damages trustees funds more projects have been done on the River and 730,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments have been remediated.
An overview of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) 2010 grant for restoration actions was given and it was noted that in 2015 $5 million in direct funding from U.S. EPA is expected to complete management actions by 2020. The GLRI will restore over 900 acres of Dune and Swale habitat and provide seasonal and contractual job opportunities.

Yearly exceedance rates from 2010 to 2014 decreased at most of Indiana’s Lake Michigan Beaches in the AOC. A lot of effort has gone toward Jeeorse Park Beach in trying to get it up to par with other beaches. A modification to the breakwall has been proposed and modeled to determine bacterial flow away from the beach. Issues found are being worked through. The restructure cost would be upwards of $9 million. In the meantime best management practices are being implemented some of which include a bird scare program, signage and addition garbage and recycling cans. From the start of the project E Coli counts dropped dramatically.

A Public Outreach seminar is being held in Hammond in October. A RAP brochure is available and a web page. Next steps are to complete management actions by 2020 and continue monitoring. Discussion followed.

b. Septic System Work Group and SepticSmart Week – Dorreen Carey – IDNR Lake Michigan Coastal Program

A fact sheet, brochure and sample support resolution for SepticSmart week which is September 21 – 25, 2015. With an estimated number of 60,000 septic systems many communities in Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties rely wholly or partially on septic systems for their wastewater treatment needs. Failing systems can be potential sources of threats to human health and water quality making proper care and maintenance critical to function and long-term performance.

In 2013 the Septic System Coordination Work Group, comprised of federal, state, and local governments/agencies, not-for-profit groups, and interested individuals, began meeting to develop collaborative plans and implementation strategies to address potential impacts of failing systems on local water quality and public health. The Indiana DRN Lake Michigan Coastal Program provides staffing and coordination assistance for the Work Group as part of the Indiana Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program which requires and stipulates management measures for addressing septic systems. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) determine if states have met all the measures in the Coastal Nonpoint Program. Indiana has not yet met the measure for inspections at a frequency adequate to determine if systems are failing.

Some of the Work Group’s 2015 efforts are aimed at ongoing research with focus groups; working with county health departments to communicate how ordinances are management for septic management and realtors for point of sale inspections; watershed mapping and monitoring to identify potential impacts on local waterways; coordination and information sharing between programs and projects; outreach and education; and innovative approaches and funding to address failing systems. Many septic owners never see the health department or know that the department oversees the systems. A 2014 study was developed to address do some people in Northwest Indiana fail to properly maintain their septic systems, and if so, what can public agencies do to help overcome these barriers. Most people think that products like RID-X are the answer, but this is not the solution and has little or no effect. Final analysis is to be released later this year.

Participating governments, agencies, organizations and individuals will be distributing EPA SepticSmart outreach materials during SepticSmart Week and provide links to the EPA SepticSmart web page. Discussion followed.
NIRPC Business:

a. Greenways + Blueways 2020 Plan Update – Kathy Luther, NIRPC

The attempt of this plan is to integrate trail planning that NIRPC has done with green infrastructure and natural resource planning. Public meetings were held and stakeholder interviews have begun. Kathy indicated if individuals have photos of natural areas that have public access or where they would like public access to send them to Joe Exl at jexl@nirpc.org. They can trail or waterway pictures.

A brief discussion was held regarding where meetings will be held for the next few meetings. Kathy indicated the NIRPC auditorium would most likely not be available for a meeting until December or January of next year.

Public Comment:

Mike Kuss asked if someone from the Calumet Heritage public outreach could be on the agenda for the next EMPC meeting.

Lara Gonzalez announced she is the new communications specialist at the Field Museum for the Calumet Heritage area feasibility study. She indicated they would like to come to the October meeting to give a quick presentation to get input regarding area assets and that everything is being encompassed in the calumet region. She brought brochures regarding the feasibility study and a save the date flyer for the Calumet Heritage Conference being held in October. Further discussion was held regarding the possibility of having the representatives come to the October NIRPC Commission meeting. Some EMPC meeting attendees might be attending the Great Lakes Conference which will be held at the same time as the October EMPC meeting. Schedules will be looked at to determine the best course of action.

Mike Kuss asked if the EMPC could draft a letter asking for an update on the status of certain communities’ long-term control plans. Kathy indicated that IDEM is tracking implementation of all of the long-term control plans. Hammond’s draft plan is out for public review. Kathy commented that the SC2 team which reports directly to the White House can’t even seem to get information regarding the status. Chairman Benson indicated that they could be invited to present.

Dorreen referred to the resolution she handed out and wondered if the EMPC could support the SepticSmart resolution. Kathy noted EMPC would have to recommend it to the NIRPC Full Commission or Executive Board. Nicole Barker made motion to support the SepticSmart Week Resolution. With second by Mike Kuss and no opposition the motion passed.

Announcements:

- Meeting and event announcements will be forwarded to the EMPC email distribution list.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.
RESOLUTION 15-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2015 SEPTICSMART WEEK.

September 17, 2015

WHEREAS: Throughout NW Indiana, many communities rely on Septic Systems, or Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems, to dispose of wastewater from their homes and businesses; and

WHEREAS: Septic Systems can fail or malfunction polluting our lands and waterways causing public health hazards and natural resource degradation; and

WHEREAS: Educating home and business Septic System owners about the need for periodic inspection, maintenance and proper daily use can result in the highest possible standard of safe, sanitary and environmentally sound onsite wastewater service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby proclaims September 21-25, 2015 to be SEPTICSMART WEEK in Northwest Indiana and encourage all residents and businesses to join in this observance.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this 17th day of September, 2015.

Blair Milo
Chairperson

Robert J. Schaefer
Secretary
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting
Construction Advancement Foundation Training Center
6050 Southport Road, Portage
September 8, 2015
MINUTES

Members Present
Stan Dobosz, Joe Simonetto, John Bayler, Joe Crnkovich, Claudia Taylor, Tom MacLennan, David Wright, Bruce Lindner, Frank Rosado, Jr., Taylor Wegrzyn, Phil Gralik, Jeff Huet, Mike Yacullo, Lindsay Quist.

Guests
Julie Retzler, Julia Surber, Mike Vandergast, Jake Dammarell, Deborah Laverty, James Mandon.

NIRPC Staff

1. Call to Order, Opening and Announcements
   a) Chairman Stan Dobosz called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.
   b) The INDOT voluntary participation survey was available.
   c) On a motion by Bruce Lindner and a second by Joe Simonetto, the minutes of the July 21, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

2. Presentation: David Wright reported on the Livable Broadway Regional Plan which would help make the commercial corridor more accessible and livable. The plan has been approved by the GPTC Board and the next steps include a kickoff of the implementation and hard planning. GPTF hired T.Y. Lin International at a cost of $250,000 to conduct a study of public transportation on a 14-mile stretch starting from the Gary Metro Center on Fourth Avenue and ending at 93rd Avenue, at the Merrillville/Crown Point border. That study recommended implementing a bus rapid transit line, improvement of bus shelters, removing accessibility barriers, improving branding and marketing, and adjusting bus stop spacing. According to the study, the plan will cost at least $1 million per year for operational expenses and about $2 million in capital funding for up to six buses. INDOT could install bypass lanes, eliminate parking conflicts and improve sidewalks. The project is in NIRPC’s Transportation Improvement Program. Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) would fund 80 percent of the operating expenses and a local match is needed.

3. Planning
   a) Stephen Sostaric showed a 45-second commercial from Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, on “what is an MPO?”
   b) Eman Ibrahim described Amendment No. 3 to the FY2016 Unified Planning Work Program for La Porte County STP planning projects. On a motion by Joe Simonetto and a second by David Wright, the Transportation Policy Committee voted to recommend FY 2016 UPWP Amendment No. 3 to the NIRPC Board for approval.
   c) Mitch Barloga provided an update of the Greenway & Blueway Plan. The survey is out for the next month for a draft of the plan will go out for public comment. The final plan will be out in spring of 2016.
4. Programming
   a) Stephen Sostaric said a seven-day public comment was solicited for the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments 3, 4 and 5. No comments were received.
   b) Gary Evers described Amendment No. 3 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program adding 2 INDOT projects in the City of Hobart and unincorporated Porter County for SR 130 for intersection improvements and new signalization. On a motion by Joe Simonetto and a second by Bruce Lindner, the Transportation Policy Committee voted to recommend Amendment 3 to the Commission for approval.
   c) Gary Evers described Amendment No. 4 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program adding 7 local projects or phases in Lake and Porter counties and deleting the grade separation project in Munster as INDOT has requested recombining the project with the original road project (DES 0710056). On a motion by Joe Simonetto and a second by Joe Crnkovich, the Transportation Policy Committee voted to recommend Amendment No. 4 to the Commission for approval.
   d) Belinda Petroskey described Amendment No. 5 to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program adding new public transit projects using 5310 funds for new vehicles for Parents and Friends and Michiana Resources, both in LaPorte County. On a motion by Joe Simonetto and a second by Mike Yacullo, the Transportation Policy Committee voted to recommend Amendment No. 5 to the Commission for approval.

5. Indiana Department of Transportation
   Lindsay Quist reported on the INDOT lettings through December.

6. Transit Operators Reports
   a) LaPorte Transit – Tom MacLennan reported that the Transit Triangle has not seen a significant increase in ridership from LaPorte to Purdue North Central, but a significant increase in ridership was seen between Michigan City and Purdue, at double the ridership from LaPorte to Michigan City.
   b) Valparaiso V-Line and Chicago DASH – Taylor Wegryn reported that the V-Line had over 10,000 riders last month and the Chicago Dash had just shy of 6,000. A new transfer location on the V-Line was installed at Valplaiso Park.
   c) East Chicago Transit – Frank Rosado, Jr. reported that East Chicago’s entire fleet will be outfitted with bike racks by the end of the month.
   d) GPTC – David Wright reported that the June ridership was up 5% over June of 2014. The route to Highland and Munster continues to perform well. A bus stop assessment will be performed for Gary and East Chicago. A workshop will be held prior to the assessment on October 16, possibly at North Lake Methodist Volunteers will be needed to assist with the assessment at US 12/20 and Indianapolis Blvd. and Burr St. The bus program with Ivy Tech will be continued for the 2015-2016 school year.
   e) Michigan City Transit – No report was given.
   f) NICTD – Joe Crnkovich reported that August ridership was down 2% over August of 2014. The overhead wire project continues at about six miles per year, and service outages will occur in mid-August, mid-September and late October east of Michigan City. Two engineering study contracts were awarded for rehab work on five bridges. At the NICTD board meeting last month, an interim plan for Bikes on Trains was presented which called for converting part of three 1992 cars and replacing some of the seats with bike racks. The cars would be on weekend trains between South Bend and Chicago. The plan was thought to be in place by next spring. Catenary wire work continues. An outage is scheduled for next week and another the week of October 26. A contract is out for steel posts for counterweights for the wire. A TIGER VII grant application was filed to get the work done sooner. NICTD is working with the City of Gary on
their grant application for development around the Miller Station for double tracking and new high level platforms.

g) **North Township Dial-A-Ride** – No report was given.

h) **Opportunity Enterprises** – Claudia Taylor reported that they were in the process of procurement for two replacement vehicles, fencing and security cameras for the area where the vehicles are stored and are in talks for placement of ads on vehicles to gain extra income.

i) **Porter County Council on Aging and Community Services** – Bruce Lindner reported that they received a small grant for new garage door openers at the Valparaiso garage. Three new buses came in last month. Porter County Council on Aging continue to operate seven vehicles a day ad provide 2,000 rides per month.

j) **South Lake County Community Services** – No report was given.

7. **Regional Transportation Partners** – No reports were given.

8. **Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration** – No reports were given.

9. **Planning Neighbors** – No reports were given.

10. **Public Comment on Agenda Items** – No requests were received.

11. **Other Business, Staff Announcements and Upcoming Meetings**

   a) **Other Business** – No other business was discussed.

   b) **Staff Announcements** – Gary Evers referred to the 2016 spending plan handout for the Chicago urbanized area for Lake and Porter Counties and the Michigan City urbanized area for LaPorte County for a record $24.2 million in federal funds including $17.4 million in regular apportionment and $6.6 million in prior year balance funds. We are currently under programmed by about $.5 million. If an LPA’s project is on the list, they are expected to spend their money. There are currently no obligations for 2016 for the Michigan City urbanized area. Updates will be posted on the NIRPC website monthly as well as the updated Transportation Improvement Program.

   c) **Upcoming Meetings at NIRPC** – Future NIRPC meetings will be announced as they are scheduled.

The Executive Board/Full Commission will meet on September 17 at 9:00 a.m. at the Construction Advancement Foundation Training Center, 6050 Southport Road, Portage.

Because of a conflict with the MPO Conference, the Transportation Policy Committee will meet on October 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Stan Dobosz adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

*A Digital MP3 of this meeting is filed. Contact Mary Thorne at the phone or email below should you wish to receive a copy of it.*

For requests for alternate formats, please contact Mary Thorne at NIRPC at (219) 763-6060 extension 131 or at mthorne@nirpc.org. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333.

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status, familial status, parental status, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program.
RESOLUTION 15-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2016

WHEREAS, the preparation of a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a necessary and required part of the metropolitan area transportation planning process as specified in 23 CFR 450.314; and by its State statutory authority, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is charged with planning responsibility in three domains; and

WHEREAS, the work tasks described within NIRPC’s UPWP for the three-county northwestern Indiana region are in conjunction with the programs of the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and significant planning projects in the region by other agencies; and

WHEREAS, this program has been prepared for planning (PL), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds through the Federal Highway Administration, Section 5303 technical study funds through the Federal Transit Administration, Sections 5307 and 5323 and planning funds through the Federal Transit Administration, private foundation, and NIRPC’s locally derived funds;

WHEREAS, the work elements contained in the program respond to the transportation and air quality planning needs of Northwest Indiana and are in keeping with federal requirements found in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users and their regulations;

WHEREAS, all regional transportation and other significant planning projects in the three-county region should be included in the UPWP;

WHEREAS, four projects are added to the UPWP fiscal year 2016.

WHEREAS, LaPorte County requested Surface Transportation Program (STP) planning funds to conduct two studies, the Economic Development Corridor Project Phase I and the Pavement Management Inventory and Plan.

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Corridor project is performed to determine an alternate route and design parameters of highway improvements needed to accommodate increased levels of freight traffic between the Kingsbury Industrial Park (KIP) area and SR 39, I-80/90, and I-94.
WHEREAS, the need was identified after the county has constructed a new rail spur at the KIP and several new businesses have located there. KIP has been named an “Inland Logistics Port” by CSX Railroad, and additional expansion of the rail connections and warehousing operations at KIP is expected.

WHEREAS, these additional developments will result in a significant increase in freight traffic through the City of LaPorte—unless the alternative route is identified.

WHEREAS, this study include a NEPA document, cost/benefit study, identification of a preferred route and number of lanes necessary to accommodate the projected traffic volumes.

WHEREAS, the total budget for the Corridor is $297,500. $238,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of $59,500 from the County general funds.

WHEREAS, the LaPorte County Pavement Management Inventory project is conducted to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the county jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

WHEREAS, the County will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA.

WHEREAS, the total budget for the Pavement Management Study is $250,500. $200,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of $50,000 from the County general funds.

WHEREAS, the City of Michigan City requested federal funds to conduct a plan and assessment for the Franklin Street Drawbridge.

WHEREAS, The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze all potential alternatives for a long term improvement or replacement of the 83 year-old Franklin Street Drawbridge over Trail Creek in Michigan City.

WHEREAS, The bridge is nearing the end of its useful life and thought to be in need of significant investment to bring it up to a state of good repair.

WHEREAS, the project will include a detailed inspection of the bridge, development of cost-effective set of recommendations for repairs to the structure or replacement, and public involvement.

WHEREAS, the total budget for the Franklin Street Drawbridge Assessment and Plan is $500,000. $400,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of $100,000 from the Michigan City general funds.

WHEREAS, the City of La Porte is conducting a Pavement Management Inventory and Plan that is similar to the LaPorte County study.
WHEREAS, the purpose of the project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the city and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

WHEREAS, the total budget for the City of La Porte Pavement project is $180,000. $144,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of $36,000 from the City of La Porte general funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission adopts the Fiscal Years 2016 Unified Planning Work Program amendment.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this seventeenth day of September, 2015.

______________________________
Blair Milo
Chairperson

ATTEST:

______________________________
Robert J. Schaefer
Secretary
LaPorte County Economic Development Corridor Project Phase I

INDOT DES 1592338

Budget: Federal: $238,000 (STP II) Local: $59,500 Total: $297,500

Objective:

The objective of this study is to determine the route and design parameters of highway improvements needed to accommodate increased levels of freight traffic between the Kingsbury Industrial Park (KIP) area and SR 39, I-80/90, and I-94.

Past Work/Basis:

A general corridor study was performed by the City of LaPorte in 2008-2009 with earmark funds from Congress (DES 0500838). This study, entitled “LaPorte Economic Thoroughfare,” identified a general location and costs associated with construction of a beltway circling the City of LaPorte.

Since that time the county has constructed a new rail spur at the KIP and several new businesses have located there. KIP has been named an “Inland Logistics Port” by CSX Railroad, and additional expansion of the rail connections and warehousing operations at KIP is expected. These developments will result in a significant increase in freight traffic through the City of LaPorte—unless an alternative route can be identified.

This study will identify an alternate route between the KIP and the SR 39 interchange at I-80/90 (Toll Road). Details to come out of this study include a NEPA document, cost/benefit study, identification of a preferred route and number of lanes necessary to accommodate the projected traffic volumes. This effort will produce documentation that will assist with our application for funding opportunities for the road design and construction of the new and rehabilitated roadways.

FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology

Develop Scoping Report

Develop NEPA Report

Identify route alternatives

Identify Costs & Funding Alternatives
Michigan City Franklin Street Drawbridge Assessment & Plan

INDOT DES 1592236

Budget: Federal: $400,000 (STP II) Local: $100,000 Total: $500,000

Objective:

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze all potential alternatives for a long term improvement or replacement of the 83 year-old Franklin Street Drawbridge over Trail Creek in Michigan City, Indiana.

Past Work/Basis:

None. The bridge is nearing the end of its useful life and thought to be in need of significant investment to bring it up to a state of good repair. This assessment will involve a detailed inspection of the bridge, development of cost-effective set of recommendations for repairs to the structure or replacement.

Alternatives will include multiple alignments of a fixed bridge as well as a replacement in kind with another lift bridge its existing location. In order to conclude what the most appropriate and cost effective solution would be, traffic data will be collected along with geotechnical data to analyze mobility and structural aspects of each option. Impacts to historical properties will also be considered.

Public involvement is a significant part of this study. Because the cost of any solution is expected to be high (i.e., over $25M), obtaining positive public engagement in the decision making process is crucial if the improvements are to be paid with 100% local funds. A project web-site will be utilized to keep the public as well as stakeholders informed of the status and findings of the study and a minimum of three public meetings will be held. Our hope is that this report would serve as justification to pursue numerous grant opportunities to fund the design and construction of the replacement structure.

FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology

Conditions Report, including Traffic Analysis

Public Involvement Activities & Report

Final Report, including Cost Information & Repair/Replacement Options
LaPorte County Pavement Management Inventory & Plan

INDOT DES 1592337

Budget: Federal: $200,000 (STP II)  Local: $50,000  Total: $250,000

Objective:

The objective of this project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the sponsor’s jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

Past Work/Basis:

LaPorte County has not performed a similar study in the past.

The County will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA. The survey will encompass the entire county.

A Conditions Survey Report will be accompanied by a Preventative Maintenance Plan. At a minimum, the Plan will discuss the various types of pavement treatments, identify the expected impact of each upon the useful life of the pavement, and the frequency of treatment. These treatments will consist of those preventative maintenance measures pre-approved by INDOT.

This project will involve the competitive procurement of computer software through which the pavement conditions information may be stored. Following its purchase, the county will be responsible for paying for the renewal or upgrade of the software license.

FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology

Consultation with INDOT/FHWA.

Develop Conditions Survey Report

Procure Computer Software

Develop Preventative Maintenance Plan.
City of LaPorte Pavement Management Inventory & Plan

INDOT DES 1592339

Budget: Federal: $144,000 (STP II) Local: $36,000 Total: $180,000

Objective:

The objective of this project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the sponsor's jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

Past Work/Basis:

The City of LaPorte has not performed a similar study in the past.

The City will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA. The survey will encompass the entire city.

A Conditions Survey Report will be accompanied by a Preventative Maintenance Plan. At a minimum, the Plan will discuss the various types of pavement treatments, identify the expected impact of each upon the useful life of the pavement, and the frequency of treatment. These treatments will consist of those preventative maintenance measures pre-approved by INDOT.

This project will involve the competitive procurement of computer software through which the pavement conditions information may be stored. Following its purchase, the city will be responsible for paying for the renewal or upgrade of the software license.

FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology

Consultation with INDOT/FHWA.

Develop Conditions Survey Report

Procure Computer Software

Develop Preventative Maintenance Plan.
Public Comment Report
Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Nos. 3, 4, & 5
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
September 4, 2015

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) held a seven day public comment period between Friday, August 28, 2015 and Thursday September 3, 2015 for proposed Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment numbers 3, 4, and 5. The purposes of the proposed Amendments are to add and delete projects currently included in the FY 2016-2019 TIP. These amendments cover both highway and transit projects.

These are minor amendments to the TIP that are not of regional significance. As such, NIRPC’s 2014 Public Participation Plan (PPP) specifies that these minor TIP amendments require a seven day comment period. No public meeting is required.

The amendments were posted on the NIRPC website at www.nirpc.org, and stakeholders were made aware of their availability via email. Additionally, the information was posted on NIRPC social media outlets.

No comments regarding the amendments were received during the comment period.
RESOLUTION 15-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AMENDING THE 2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA
AMENDMENT NO. 03
September 17, 2015

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana’s citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as “the Commission”, being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties, and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, as amended, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, as amended, the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, the Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, the 1970 Clean Air Act, as amended, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (2005), and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (2012), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process, compatible with regional goals and objectives and socio-economic and demographic factors used to form the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); and
WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is an implementation of the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); is fiscally constrained, and is consistent with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is developed by the Commission in coordination and cooperation with local elected and appointed highway and transit officials, special interest and service organizations, including users of public transit, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Federal Transit Administration, and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the changes to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program brought about by this amendment were reviewed by the Air Quality Conformity Task Force’s Interagency Consultation Group (ICG).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby amends the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program by adding the new projects and making other changes as shown on the attachment to this resolution.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this seventeenth day of September, 2015.

Blair Milo
Chairperson

ATTEST:

Robert J. Schaefer
Secretary
NEW INDOT Projects & Project Phases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DES</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Action Requested</th>
<th>Federal Funds</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funds Total</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>Non-Federal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8351540</td>
<td>INDOT</td>
<td>SR 130 Intersection Improvements at Lake/Porter County Line Road</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>State STP</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$ 800,000</td>
<td>$ 640,000</td>
<td>$ 160,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Includes Channelized Turn Lanes &amp; Signals</td>
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Located in City of Hobart (Lake County) and unincorporated Porter County.

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<tr>
<td>0201034</td>
<td>INDOT</td>
<td>SR 130 New Signals at Lake/Porter County Line Road.</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>State STP</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$ 130,000</td>
<td>$ 104,000</td>
<td>$ 26,000</td>
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Located in City of Hobart (Lake County) and unincorporated Porter County.
RESOLUTION 15-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AMENDING THE 2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA

AMENDMENT NO. 04

September 17, 2015

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana’s citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as “the Commission”, being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties, and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, as amended, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, as amended, the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, the Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, the 1970 Clean Air Act, as amended, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (2005), and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (2012), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process, compatible with regional goals and objectives and socio-economic and demographic factors used to form the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); and
WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is an implementation of the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); is fiscally constrained, and is consistent with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is developed by the Commission in coordination and cooperation with local elected and appointed highway and transit officials, special interest and service organizations, including users of public transit, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Federal Transit Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the changes to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program brought about by this amendment were reviewed by the Air Quality Conformity Task Force’s Interagency Consultation Group (ICG).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby amends the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program by adding the new projects and making other changes as shown on the attachment to this resolution.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this seventeenth day of September, 2015.

Blair Milo
Chairperson

ATTEST:

Robert J. Schaefer
Secretary
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0710056</td>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>Reconstruction of 45th St from 0.2 mi E of Calumet Ave to Calumet Ave.</td>
<td>Add New Phase</td>
<td>Demo</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Supplemental PE Work. Cost to Complete: $34,000,000.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500725</td>
<td>NIRPC</td>
<td>Production of guide for standardized trail signage designs on Erie-Lackawanna &amp; Prairie-Duneland Trails.</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>STP 1</td>
<td>PL</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Planning work only. Sign installation will occur under Highland Project 1592274 (below).</td>
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<tr>
<td>1592274</td>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>Trail Signage Purchase &amp; Installation on Erie-Lackawanna &amp; Prairie-Duneland Trails.</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>TAP</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Will include street identification, map signs at trailheads, mile markers and community entrance signs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1592273</td>
<td>Lowell</td>
<td>Purchase &amp; Install up to 10 bicycle racks.</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>CMAQ</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Racks to be installed in downtown Lowell &amp; at Library &amp; Town Hall. Our final Bike Rack project funded under the 2009 Eligibility Determination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1592274</td>
<td>Hobart</td>
<td>Deep River Stormwater Outfall and BMP.</td>
<td>Add New Project</td>
<td>TAP</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$308,100</td>
<td>$246,480</td>
<td>$61,620</td>
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Installation of a swirl separator, or similar BMP on the outfall to Deep River from the Downtown/Lake Front District.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1500346</td>
<td>Lake County</td>
<td>County-wide Bridge Inspections</td>
<td>Add New Phase</td>
<td>State Bridge</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$143,750</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>$28,750</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$168,750</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
<td>$33,750</td>
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<th>Non-Federal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1297017</td>
<td>Hammond</td>
<td>Reconstruct relinquished SR 312 from IN/IL State Line to White Oak Ave. Cost to Complete: $36,380,925.</td>
<td>Add New Phase</td>
<td>Demo</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$123,400</td>
<td>$98,720</td>
<td>$24,680</td>
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Supplemental funds.

**DELETE Local Projects & Project Phases**

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<th>DES</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Action Requested</th>
<th>Federal Funds</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funds Total</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>Non-Federal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1500319</td>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>Construct Grade Separation Structure (45th Ave beneath RR)</td>
<td>Delete Project</td>
<td>STP I</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$8,082,512</td>
<td>$6,466,010</td>
<td>$1,616,502</td>
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</table>

Project recombined with original road project (0710056).
RESOLUTION 15-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AMENDING THE FY 2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR LAKE, PORTER, AND LA PORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA AMENDMENT NO. 5

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana’s citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as “the Commission”, being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties, and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation stakeholder interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (2012), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process, compatible with regional goals and objectives and socio-economic and demographic factors used to form the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); and

WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is an implementation of the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP); is fiscally constrained, and is consistent with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality; and
WHEREAS, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is developed by the Commission in coordination and cooperation with local elected and appointed highway and transit officials, special interest and service organizations, including users of public transit, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Federal Transit Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby amends the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program by adding the transit project(s) as shown on the attachment to this resolution.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this seventeenth day of September, 2015.

Blair Milo
Chairperson

ATTEST:

Robert J. Schaefer
Secretary
### Local Public Transit

#### ADD New Public Transit Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DES</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Fund Type</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>FTA Funds</th>
<th>Total Non-Federal Funds</th>
<th>Air Quality Conformity</th>
<th>Document Reference</th>
<th>Regionally Significant</th>
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<td>1172751</td>
<td>Parents and Friends</td>
<td>2 Section 5310 Vehicles Selected Through the State Process</td>
<td>FTA Section 5310</td>
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<td>1172751</td>
<td>Michiana Resources</td>
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<td>FTA Section 5310</td>
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