RESOLUTION 19-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE NWI 2050 PLAN FOR LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA

May 16, 2019

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "The Commission," being designated the Council of Governments, representing all local governments in the region has established a comprehensive planning process including the three domains of environmental, economic development and transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Lake, Porter and La Porte County Region, has established a regional, cooperative and comprehensive planning program to develop the unified planning work program, long-range transportation plan, and transportation improvement program; to annually endorse the plans and programs; to facilitate federal transportation funding for the Indiana Department of Transportation, regional communities and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, as a metropolitan area, is required to prepare a long-range regional transportation plan that provides for the development and implementation of the multimodal transportation system. This includes transit, highway, bicycle, pedestrian, and accessible transportation options over the next 20 years at a minimum. The NWI 2050 Plan responds to the transportation and air quality planning needs of Northwest Indiana and is in keeping with federal requirements found in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 and accompanying guidelines and regulations;

WHEREAS, the NWI 2050 Plan continues to emphasize the linkages between transportation, environment, land use, and economic development.

WHEREAS, Input from the public directly shaped the vision for the NWI 2050 Plan. A variety of outreach methods were used to solicit input across the three-county region. Activities included the Plan website, public meetings, pop-up events, surveys, newsletters, social media, emails, and committee meetings;

WHEREAS, the public engagement effort has resulted in updating the visions for a connected, renewed, united, and vibrant region, and helped to prepare for Northwestern
Indiana's future sixteen critical paths of action and four essentials focuses, economy and place, environment, mobility, and people and leaders;

WHEREAS, the NWI 2050 Plan undertakes an innovative process to examine possible futures to give a glimpse at some of the influences that may shape NWI's future. A list of major influences and drivers of the future of NWI are identified in the areas of regional assets, environment, people, economy, and technology. These influences were weighed against the likelihood of occurring and the values that residents have in NWI to mitigate or encourage those impacts. The possible futures process resulted in the identification of three plausible futures for the region;

WHEREAS, the NWI 2050 Plan sets up a performance-based planning framework to track progress towards advancing the critical paths. The NWI 2050 Plan identifies strategies and investments to face possible challenges and seize opportunities along the way to improve the region as informed by a robust public participation effort. It also identifies stakeholders and partners to help the region move towards the year 2050.

WHEREAS, the NWI 2050 Plan is the product of a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the NWI 2050 Plan conforms to the federal and state requirements for transportation and air quality; and

WHEREAS, the NWI 2050 Plan was subjected to public comment in the manner prescribed by the 2014 Public Participation Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission adopts the NWI 2050 Plan.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this sixteenth day of May, 2019.

\[Signature\]
Diane Noll
Chairperson

ATTEST:

\[Signature\]
George Topoll
Secretary