

**PATHWAY TO 2040
COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

August 20, 2014 - 9:00 AM @ NIRPC

AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Chair

Michael Griffin, Chair

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Welcome and Introductions
- c. Approval of Minutes – *July 10, 2014*

2. 2040 CRP Implementation Activities

Kathy Luther & Jack Eskin, NIRPC

- a. Marquette Plan Update

3. Other Business

- a. Staff Comments/Announcements
- b. Committee Announcements
- c. Public Comments

4. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 9 @ 9:00 AM at NIRPC

Requests for alternate formats, please contact Mary Thorne at NIRPC at (219) 763-6060 extension 131 or at mthorne@nirpc.org.

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**Pathway to 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan
Implementation Committee Meeting
NIRPC Auditorium
July 10, 2014**

Minutes

Attendees

Nancy Adams, Tony Sindone, Richard Morrisroe, Rich Herr, Cecile Petro, Kris Parker, Keith Kirkpatrick, Deb Backhus, George Malis, David Wright, Brian Poland, Joe Wszolek, Craig Phillips, Jim Vanderkloot, Michael Jabo, Jan Dick, Craig Grabow.

Staff

Gabrielle Biciunas, Mitch Barloga, Eman Ibrahim, Scott Weber, Steve Strains, Stephen Sostaric, Kathy Luther, Jack Eskin, Ty Warner and Mary Thorne.

Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Nancy Adams called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Richard Morrisroe and a second by Tony Sindone, the minutes of the February 13, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

2040 CRP Implementation Activities

- a) Strong Cities, Strong Communities, Strong Northwest Indiana Symposium – Jim Vanderkloot of the EPA gave a presentation on the symposium sponsored by the White House Council on Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2), HUD, the EPA, NIRPC and the City of Gary to be held July 22-23 at the Gary Genesis Center. The keynote speaker will be Carol Coletta of the Knight Foundation. Various elements of NIRPC's 2040 Plan will be featured in the presentations. The purpose of the symposium is bringing people together to improve the quality of life in Northwest Indiana. Visit www.nirpc.org for registration.

- b) Marquette Plan Update – Kathy Luther and Jack Eskin gave a presentation on the update of the Marquette Plan. The update includes the integration of the two phases of Marquette I and II to create a livable lakefront and recapture 75% of the lakeshore for public use (we currently have 53.78% recaptured). A new framework, cultural and historic landmark redevelopment opportunities have been added as well as an improved online presence and access, and a Marquette GIS database. The implementation of the plan is overseen by the DNR Coastal Program, NIRPC, and the RDA in partnership with the communities. Staff will finish the sub-area framework mapping. Stakeholder interviews and meetings were held last summer and open houses were held in November. Currently staff is working on creating the draft plan update. For more information on the update, go to www.rdatransformation.com.

Discussion followed. Committee suggestions offered included:

- A definition of buffer zones for access to the lake (walking, biking and driving);
- Delineation of parking lot capacities and distance to the lake and shuttle access;

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- Historic industrial promotion through scenic painting of structures; adaptive reuse of sites such as the Stateline Energy facility;
- Other creative and innovative projects; and the development of a new concept such as “Waterfront Access Development.”

It was mentioned that there are some models available of “working” waterfronts to consider. While smaller project-oriented studies have been done, it was suggested that a more comprehensive economic impact study is needed as to long-term benefits. A brief discussion of transit-oriented development was held. Eman Ibrahim offered that 60% of total population in Northwest Indiana live within five miles of the lakefront and an increase in density in the northern communities is needed. A lot of land is still undeveloped north of US 30, but sprawl continues south of US 30. Kathy Luther said DNR Coastal Program has a RFP on the street with a 50/50 match, and an application for funding could be approved. The Committee decided to meet next month, possible dates to be announced.

Current Initiatives – 2040 CRP Update – Mitch Barloga provided a preliminary schedule for the 2040 Plan update. Stakeholder meetings and public meetings will take place in September through November on element-specific topics. A call for new capacity and regionally significant projects will be completed in October, with staff review to be done by Thanksgiving. From December through March staff will prepare the draft plan update which will go out for public comment in March through April of 2015. Staff will revise the plan based on public comment received and present for approval by the TPC and the Full Commission in May. A suggestion was made to have a strategic marketing approach for implementation strategy ideas for the update of this nationally award-winning plan. Mitch Barloga said NIRPC has its website, social media, Constant Contact email list and postal mail tools to help insure stakeholder and public involvement. Mitch Barloga added that the Ped, Pedal & Paddle Plan is being updated with a November kick-off.

Schedule of Meetings:

The next regularly scheduled meeting is October 9, 2014. Suggestions for an August meeting on the topic of the Marquette Plan Update and other items were made. Staff will send a Doodle Poll to select one of several dates.

Other Business:

- a) Keith Kirkpatrick announced that Lake Shore Focus next Friday night will feature Mitch Barloga.
- b) David Wright announced the Livable Broadway Project steering committee will meet next Wednesday, June 16 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at GPTC, 100 W. 4th Avenue in Gary.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Tony Sindone and a second by Richard Morrisroe, Nancy Adams adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Handouts and materials provided:

- Agenda Packet – Agenda and Minutes

An audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

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