

## **Transportation Policy Committee Meeting**

NIRPC Auditorium

November 13, 2012

### MINUTES

#### **Members Present**

John Bayler, Joe Crnkovich, Jerry Halperin, Jeff Huet, Tyler Kent, Bruce Lindner, Christopher Meyers, AJ Monroe, Joyce Newland, Mark O'Dell, Jim Polarek, Claudia Taylor, Robert Thompson, Dwayne Williams, Rebecca Williams, David Wright

#### **Guests**

Marcia Blansett, Michelle Bollinger, Glen Campbell, Jake Dammarell, Matt Deitchley, LuAnn Franklin, Craig Hendrix, Michael Jabo, Chris Reynolds, Eric Wilson

#### **NIRPC Staff**

Mitch Barloga, Gabrielle Biciunas, Bill Brown, Jack Eskin, Gary Evers, Kevin Garcia, Sarah Geinosky, Stephen Sostaric, Steve Strains, John Swanson

#### **1. Call to Order, Opening and Announcements**

- Chairman Stan Dobosz, NIRPC Commissioner and Griffith Town Councilman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.
- The INDOT voluntary participation survey was available on the table.
- Bruce Lindner motioned to approve the minutes of the June 12 meeting; seconded by Jim Polarek. Motion carried.

- 2. Congestion Management Process** – Stephen Sostaric will send an email regarding a survey posted on the NIRPC website being used to determine how to move forward with the CMP in terms of Mobility v. Accessibility. The survey must be completed by 5:00 pm December 7.

#### **3. Planning**

- Urban Area Boundary – Kevin Garcia presented a resolution and the map for the adjusted urbanized area boundary for northwest Indiana. Rebecca Williams motioned to recommend approval of the adjusted urbanized area boundary to the NIRPC board; seconded by Bruce Lindner. Motion carried.
- Functional Classification Revision – Bill Brown provided a table of potential changes to 137 roadways from the current classification to the requested classification. The system needs modification so that no functionally classified road ends at a segment that is of a lower functional class. If they do not connect to the same or higher classification the roads must be downgraded or connected. Examples were given. The committee will review the listing of roads in their areas for a future discussion. Traffic counts are being done in two phases, one in fall and the second in spring. Staff must provide a snapshot to INDOT by December and will need local agency signatures as well. With regard to funding, minor collectors and local streets are not eligible for federal aid for most projects other than those for safety and bridge projects.
- ITS Architecture – Kevin Garcia commented that his time was spent on the urban area boundary community meetings and that he will have a report on ITS Architecture at the next meeting.
- 2040 CRP Implementation – Gabrielle Biciunas reported that the committee received an update on the Livable Centers Initiative and the Green Infrastructure Pilot Program last month. The next meeting is in January. The Livable Centers Initiative preliminary analysis is completed and staff will meet with the 41 communities to define that

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boundary. Staff continues to meet with communities to present the 2040 plan and met with Cedar Lake and Crown Point earlier this month. Staff is also working with a production company selected through an RFP process to create a video as an outreach tool for the plan.

**4. Programming**

- Quarterly Project Tracking Part III – Gary Evers reported that of the 98 projects on the list, we have reports from all but 39. Staff is looking for ways to improve the system and will be conducting field visits to LPAs about their projects. A trial run will be held in January with a good system in place projected by April. The total amount of projects reported is around \$198 million.
- FY 2014-2017 TIP Development – Gary Evers provided a tentative schedule for the new TIP to be produced by May. The project submission deadline is April 1. A CMAQ solicitation for Lake and Porter only will be done next year. 5307 and 5310 solicitation will occur in mid-2013 by amendment. Transit is a CRP retrofit to undertake along with the changes due to MAP-21.
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Mitch Barloga announced the successor to Transportation Enhancement will have half as much money with twice the projects. The application revision will begin next Monday at 1:30 p.m. in the NIRPC Auditorium by members of 3PC and the policy committees.

**5. Indiana Department of Transportation**

Chris Reynolds reported on the lettings for October through January. The report will be emailed to the committee after the meeting.

**6. Transit Operators Reports**

- **NICTD** – Joe Crnkovich reported that October ridership is about the same as that of October 2011. The Kensington bridge work is finished. The Ford City Bridge at 130<sup>th</sup> and Torrence is in use. Catenary work east of Michigan City will continue next year.
- **GPTC** – David Wright reported that ridership is about 12% higher than September and is the highest since January 2011. DNR and the Coastal Program invited GPTC to present a full grant application for NOAA funds and they should hear something by spring.

**7. Local and Regional Transportation Projects Update.**

No reports.

**8. Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Authority**

Joyce Newland reported that NIRPC is up for another certification review, date to follow.

**9. Planning Neighbors: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and Southwestern Michigan Commission**

No reports.

**10. Other Business, Public Comment and Upcoming Meetings at NIRPC**

Upcoming Meetings:

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- The Lake Michigan Marina and Shoreline Development Commission meeting has been cancelled
- The Local Government Assistance Advisory Committee / Towns and Small Cities will meet at 9:00 a.m. November 28 at the Monastery in Cedar Lake
- The Environmental Management Policy Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. December 6 at NIRPC
- The NIRPC Executive Board will meet 9:00 a.m. December 13
- Ped, Pedal and Paddle Committee will meet at 1:30 p.m. December 13 at NIRPC

**12. Next Transportation Policy Committee Meeting**

The next Transportation Policy Committee meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at NIRPC.

Chairman Dobosz adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.