

Technical Planning Committee Meeting

NIRPC Lake Michigan Room
6100 Southport Road, Portage
December 5, 2017

MINUTES

Chairman Kevin Breitzke called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. Members present included Kevin Breitzke, George Topoll, David Wright, Tom MacLennan, Lyndsay Quist, Mark O'Dell, Bill Emerson, Jr., Kay Nelson, Kelly Wenger, Tim Burkman and Jerry Siska. Others present included Tom Schmitt, Mike Yacullo, Jeff Huet, AJ Monroe, Jake Dammarell, Claudia Taylor, Laurie Keagle, Ismail Attallah, Bruce Spires, Dean Button, Eric Wolverton, Mike Jabo, Karie Koehneke, Frank Rosado, Jr., Steve Summers, Brandon Arnold, Robin Barzoni-Tillman and Andrew Steele. Staff present included Ty Warner, Trey Wadsworth, Mitch Barloga, Charles Bradsky, Scott Weber, Gabrielle Biciunas, James Winters, Eman Ibrahim, Stephen Sostaric and Mary Thorne.

Ty Warner welcomed new staff members Trey Wadsworth, Director of Transportation; Charles Bradsky, Project Manager; Daria Sztaba, Chief Financial Officer and Talaya Jones, Chief Account.

The INDOT participation survey was available at the table in the lobby. The minutes of the October 10, 2017 Technical Planning Committee meeting were approved on a motion by George Topoll and a second by Kay Nelson.

Implementation Planning

Mitch Barloga reported that NIRPC applied for a TIGER grant. The program is offered yearly by the USDOT. Our application is for the 30-mile balance of the 58-mile Marquette Greenway route in an ask amount of \$24.2 million along with 74 letters of support from Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. The total project amount is \$33 million. The recipients should be announced early next year. If we do not get an award, we will submit under the second round in the Spring. Ty Warner thanked Mitch for filing the application, adding that the Marquette Greenway vision began in 2009.

Programming

- Stephen Sostaric reported that the 7-day public comment period for amendments 5, 6 and 7 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program ends today. As of this morning, no comments were received. The amendments were vetted through the inter-agency consultation group as well as the Transportation Resource & Oversight Committee. The changes listed in the amendments are minor and recommendation is being sought today, pending no adverse comments being received.
- Charles Bradsky described Resolution 17-23, Amendment #5 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program for local agencies. On a motion by George Topoll and a second by Mark O'Dell, the Technical Planning Committee voted to recommend Amendment #5 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program to the NIRPC Board for adoption.
- Charles Bradsky presented Resolution 17-24, Amendment #6 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program for INDOT projects. On a motion by Kay Nelson and a second by George Topoll, the Technical Planning Committee voted to recommend Amendment #6 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program to the NIRPC Board for adoption.
- James Winters presented Resolution 17-25, Amendment #7 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program which corrects an omission oversight for a NICTD project putting it back into the TIP. On a motion by Kelly Wenger and a second by David Wright, the Technical Planning

Committee voted to recommend Amendment #7 to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program to the NIRPC Board for adoption.

Topical Committee Reports:

- Mitch Barloga said the Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 7 at 1:30 p.m. and will see a presentation on bike tourism. The Committee has changed it's meeting date to the first Thursday of the month beginning in January 2018.
- James Winters said the Transit Operators will meet immediately following the TPC meeting on a new project selection process. This has been a banner year for transit with the South Shore double tracking and Westlake Corridor, GPTC's Broadway Rapid Transit and the Transit Triangle in LaPorte County. All transit grants were awarded and two studies were completed with Portage and Hobart. We will be looking at expanding South Lake County Community Services into Hobart and we are working with GPTC and several communities along the Lake Shore South route. David Wright added that thanks to funding support from the Lake County Commission, the Lake County Council and the City of Hammond, GPTC is announcing that service to the Lake Shore South will be returning with all day service next year. An announcement on the Broadway Metro Express launch date will take place next Wednesday at the Metro Center at 3:30 p.m. as well as details on mobile ticketing.
- Eman Ibrahim said the Land Use Committee will meet on January 17 at 10 a.m.
- Scott Weber said the Surface Transportation Committee met this morning and adopted an amendment to the committee's bylaws and adopted guidelines for pavement condition ratings. The next meeting is February 6 at 9 a.m. at NIRPC. Committee Chair Tom Schmitt thanked Scott for his work and added that at the meeting the committee heard about the Community Crossings Grant Program intended uses and an update on the Household Travel Survey.

Emerging Trends: Mitch Barloga showed a brief video on the possibilities for trail use titled, "Edmonton Freezeway."

Announcements and Events:

- Kay Nelson said she has been appointed by Governor Holcomb to the VW Trust Fund Board. IDEM will be scoring the applications for the Board's final decisions. For more information on the mitigation trust program go to <http://www.in.gov/idem/airquality/2712.htm>.
- Kay Nelson said IDEM Commissioner Bruno Pigott will attend the joint Forum-EMPC meeting on January 4.
- Kay and Kathy Luther are happy about the excitement being generated on brownfield redevelopment and the energy grant has been spent down and Kathy has submitted a new grant application.
- Kelly said the double tracking and the West Lake Corridor projects were submitted to FTA on September 8 and should have an answer in February. Construction is expected to begin in 2018 for the double tracking, opening in 2020 and West Lake would begin in 2020 with opening in 2022.
- Kevin Breitzke read the list of upcoming meetings.

The next Technical Planning Committee meeting is January 9 at 9 a.m. at NIRPC. Hearing no other business, Kevin Breitzke adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

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