

## MPO POLICY BOARD

### Minutes

February 9, 2017

2:00pm

Lafayette City Hall Board of Works Room

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tony Roswarski	Mayor, City of Lafayette
John Dennis	Mayor, City of West Lafayette
John Basham	President, Tippecanoe County Council
Tracy Brown	President Tippecanoe County Commissioners
Gerry Keen	President, Area Plan Commission
Ron Campbell (proxy for Nancy Nargi)	President, Lafayette City Council
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette Council
Cindy Murray (proxy for Gary Henriott)	Lafayette Board of Works
Julie Ginn (proxy for Bill Ooms)	Chairman of the GLPTC
Russell Fowler	INDOT Deputy District Commissioner

#### **Absent Voting Members**

#### **Non-Voting Members Present**

Sallie Fahey	Executive Director, Area Plan Commission
Jenny Leshney	Lafayette City Engineer's Office
Ed Garrison	West Lafayette City Engineer
John Thomas	APC Staff
Doug Poad	APC Staff
Tim Stroshine	APC Staff

Vice-President John Dennis called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

#### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ron Campbell moved to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2017 meeting. Gerry Keen seconded and the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### **II. RESOLUTION T 2017-2**

##### **Amend the *FY 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)* for CityBus**

Sallie Fahey said this amendment, requested by CityBus, will add \$8,000 in Federal funds to Work Item 524 in the *UPWP* to evaluate bus stops. City Bus provides the funds but because it is a planning project it goes into the *UPWP*. The objective of Work Item 524 is to enhance and maintain files on characteristics and usage of the transit system.

Cindy Murray moved to approve **RESOLUTION T 2017-2**. Tracy Brown seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

*Tony Roswarski joined the meeting in progress.*

**III. RESOLUTION T 2017-3**  
**Amend the *FY 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Carryover & HSIP Funds***

Sallie Fahey said INDOT is allowing all MPOs to add their carry-over funds from prior years into the Work Program but those funds have to be expended by June 30, 2019. This amendment will add \$339,426.92 in PL carryover funds to be distributed amongst the various work program items that we can bill for reimbursement. She said that has not been done yet because she is deciding where the funds will go at this time. Because of the carry-over funds, the second part of the amendment will remove \$40,000.00 in HSIP funds allocated to safety planning and we will be able to reprogram those funds for projects.

Ron Campbell moved to approve **RESOLUTION T 2017-3**. Gerry Keen seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**IV. RESOLUTION T 2017-4**  
**Amend the *FY 2016-2019 TIP for Two INDOT Projects***

Doug Poad said INDOT has requested this amendment for two on-call pavement design and geotechnical investigations for pavement preservation and replacement projects at various locations throughout the state. The intent is to streamline PE funding and activities that range from spot location projects to major interstate pavement rehabilitation work. He went on to say the Technical Transportation Committee recommended approval of this amendment at its January meeting.

Gerry Keen moved to approve **RESOLUTION T 2017-4**. Peter Bunder seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**V. APC PROGRESS**

**2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update**  
**Safety, Congestion, Transit, Freight, Bicycle & Pedestrian, and Traffic Operations**

John Thomas said we are in the process of finalizing the project list for the 2045 Plan and explained that this community has been doing that well for the past 40 years. Our needs are well identified and we have been very successful in programming projects and working with INDOT to get those projects funded. The new list of projects will not look much different than those not completed in the previous plan. The US 231 Extension north of US 52 to I-65 is the only major project on the list. We have created outer belt loops but future loops will be more challenging because they may have to cross the interstate or the river.

Sallie Fahey said Veterans Memorial was one of the first outer belt loops and its connection to CR 500 East was next. Creasy Lane improvement and its connection to Brady Lane is another loop but it is farther in. Cumberland/Kalberer and US 231 are other rings around the community. This is a way we can provide good around and cross-community connections as we grow. Another aspect of the Plan will be focused on operations and how we can use the roads we have more efficiently with traffic management and light signalization coordination. Lafayette has been very successful doing that already. We will try to balance our needs in a congestion area between new roads and operations. As always, there will be a big emphasis on bike/ped and safety in the Plan.

John Dennis said West Lafayette's campus loop is an ongoing project.

Ron Campbell asked the criteria for a project to be included in the plan.

Sallie Fahey said we use a traffic modeling system that generates information about where vehicles will be in the future (home to work, home to school, shopping, etc.) She added that we can test that model for the future by applying various road improvements to determine whether they improve traffic flow.

### **Administrative Modifications**

Sallie Fahey said on January 27<sup>th</sup> she administratively modified the *TIP* by adding \$26,880 in Federal funds from the balance in Happy Hollow to Battle Ground's North Street project because the bids for that project came in over the engineer's estimate. She also moved \$18,037 from the balance in Happy Hollow to West Lafayette's Sagamore Parkway Trail project for preliminary engineering because that bid also came in higher than the engineer's estimate.

### ***FY 2018-2021 TIP Update***

Doug Poad said staff has already started working on the new *TIP*. All the LPAs have submitted their project lists and next month we will be looking at all the requests to best determine where we should use our Federal funds. At the Tech meeting next week we will discuss how to allocate our funds by project. All the engineers work well together and that is a rarity. We worked with the engineers and INDOT's District Office to come up with our list of INDOT projects that are priorities for our community. We are also updating the document for ADA, complete street compliance, and other aspects like that. We plan to bring a draft of the *TIP* to this Board for review and approval in April.

Ron Campbell asked about the Teal Road and 4<sup>th</sup> Street project. He noticed that some band-aid work was done out there a few days ago but the road is still not good.

Doug Poad replied that the project is moving forward and still showing up on the 18-Month Letting List.

Tony Roswarski recalled that the project was pushed back from 2017 to 2018 because there were issues purchasing right-of-way.

Doug Poad agreed and added that there are 96 properties so that means there are a lot of individual owners to work with.

### **Road Safety Audit**

Tim Stroshine said on January 20<sup>th</sup> a Road Safety Audit was conducted at the intersection of SR 43 and Northgate Drive in Battle Ground. The Speedway at that location plans to purchase the EconoLodge right behind it and raze the motel to be able to expand the Speedway station to accommodate semi truck fueling. The safety audit team included representatives from County Highway, Sheriff's Department, State Police, INDOT, FHWA, LTAP, Battle Ground, Speedway, and Weihe Engineering. The draft report is out for final comments and he will provide the Committee with the report and publish it online when it is completed.

Sallie Fahey said there is concern that the expansion will increase truck traffic and most of the trucks exiting the Speedway on Northgate Drive will be turning left at SR 43 to get back to I-65. There are traffic issues at this stage because a traffic light is not warranted. We want to see what can be done in the short term before the properties across the street are redeveloped. The audit will identify safety concerns in the area, establish a report, and make some recommendations to INDOT for some short and long-term solutions as the area develops more. We want to make sure the area is safe.

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Obligated Federal Fund Status**

Doug Poad referred to the report that was distributed prior to the meeting and said the report updates where we stand on obligating our Federal funds. The top table is the official information from INDOT but unfortunately the table only shows three obligations when there were a lot more than that in the last couple of months. The dollar amounts highlighted in pink in the funds categories show the Federal funds that have been obligated but are not showing up on INDOT's monthly report. We have a few months left to obligate the remainder of our funds. INDOT opened the bids for the Kingston Trail project yesterday

and although there were some good bids, we will need to find a home for the additional funds because the bids came in under the engineer's estimate. Staff has been working with the local engineers about obligating the remaining funds. We are paying close attention because we want to make sure we are able to obligate all our funds so we do not lose any.

Sallie Fahey explained that it is great when the bids come in low but we have to make sure we have a project we can add the extra funds to so we do not lose it. It is too late in the fiscal year to start a new project.

John Dennis asked if there is a reason the bids are coming in less than the estimates.

Ed Garrison explained that Kingston is the last project to be let this fiscal year.

Tony Roswarski said Lafayette got a good bid on Sagamore Parkway last Tuesday.

Sallie Fahey wrote to FHWA and INDOT about what she thinks the issue is with North Street. She thinks small projects in small towns are bid by big companies who really do not want to bid because the project is so small and projects like that are not worth their time. She thinks it is a burden on a small jurisdiction who can only do a project once every ten years or so. The small jurisdictions get penalized because they have a small project. She wonders if INDOT can compile a list of qualified small contractors who might like these smaller jobs. It would be better to get contractor size and project size better matched up.

Rusty Fowler said INDOT faces the same situation Sallie Fahey described. He thinks the problems are market and appetite for work. The cross section of projects also factors in. There were a lot of big, multi-million dollar projects in Major Moves and now we are transitioning into preservation mode with a lot of smaller jobs showing up. INDOT tried to watch those things but sometimes it does not make sense. He agrees that sometimes the contractor that bids on a job really does not want the work.

Sallie Fahey said Reith Riley and Milestone were the two bidders on the North Street project but neither may need nor want that work because they both are big contractors.

Rusty Fowler asked Doug Poad where he gets the INDOT obligation information. He then asked if the discrepancy is a report timing issue.

Doug Poad replied that Stephanie Vermillion from INDOT Central Office sends the information out to the MPOs early in the month. This month INDOT reported the obligation of Federal funds for North Street PE but not for Railroad Street and we sent in a FMIS for both projects at the same time but the Railroad Street project did not show up. He thinks it might be a matter of when things get processed and go through the pipeline.

### **2017 Draft State Sharing Agreement and MPO Amounts**

Sallie Fahey referred to the sharing document that was included in the packet and said she included it to show the Board how Group 1 and Group 2 money is divvied up between the MPOs in the INDOT Sharing Agreement. She explained that every year we have an allocation of a little over \$3,800,000 in STP money, \$555,334 in HSIP money, \$214,499 in TA money, and \$157,582 in penalty money. The penalty is money that is taken out of STP by FHWA because Indiana has not met one of the safety criteria and that money has to be used on safety projects. Our total allocation is \$4,733,615 but we can only put \$4,621,111 into the *TIP* because Congress said we only have 97.6233% spending authority. She went on to say CMAQ is air quality money and it is a good thing we do not get it. If we did not meet the air quality requirements our STP money would be reduced and those funds would go into CMAQ to do projects that improve air quality/reduce air pollution. We are "in attainment" with the air quality standards.

Ron Campbell asked how often air quality is checked.

Sallie Fahey replied there are ongoing monitors and one of ours is just over the line in Carroll County. She added that the monitor is in the direction the wind blows.

## INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad said nothing has changed on the project list since last month. The two US 231 bridges over the Wabash River scour projects (8 & #9) are no longer on the list because they have been moved out to late 2018 due to environmental issues. Battle Ground's North Street and Railroad Street projects were awarded to Reith Riley. Lafayette's South Street at Scott and Park Streets bike/ped facility project was awarded to Milestone for over \$100,000 less than the engineer's estimate. The I-65 bridge over the Wabash River road maintenance and tree project was awarded to Morphe Construction for slightly over the engineer's estimate.

## VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tony Roswarski said Lafayette is getting ready to take its Complete Street Ordinance to City Council. He asked that the *Thoroughfare Plan* be updated because community priority lists change with regard to biking and cycling.

Sallie Fahey said staff can update the Plan to include Lafayette's Complete Street Ordinance.

John Basham said he recently got stopped on the street about the traffic signal at Poland Hill and CR 350 South. He thanked the City for installing a cobra light at that intersection after he mentioned the concerns to Jenny Leshney. Recently several people have talked to him about needing a street light installed where Veterans Memorial Parkway deadheads into new US 231. He travels that way all the time and agrees that it is a problem because the area is so dark. At one time there was no street light where the old Poland Hill comes up and deadheads into Veterans Memorial but Jenny Leshney was able to take care of the problem.

Jenny Leshney said the intersection of Veterans Memorial and new US 231 is in the county but she thinks the intersection might be under INDOT's control.

John Basham asked who he should contact.

Tony Roswarski said part of Veterans Memorial Parkway is a Lafayette road but that intersection is in the county because the city has not annexed that area. He added that should the city annex that area, lights would not be installed until the roadway is widened.

Tony Roswarski said that location is near Brian Walker's new apartment complex.

Rusty Fowler said he will have INDOT look at that intersection but explained that typically INDOT does not do a lot of new lighting.

Ed Garrison said he received similar comments about the intersection of Airport Road and US 231/State Street.

John Basham said another individual spoke to him about putting a stop sign at the intersection of SR 38 and CR 900 East. He turned that request in to INDOT and INDOT's review showed there were only four accidents at that intersection.

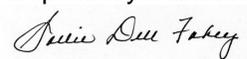
John Dennis said the next meeting is March 9, 2017.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ron Campbell moved to adjourn. Gerry Keen seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sallie Dell Fahey". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Sallie Dell Fahey  
Secretary

SDF/lmu