

**CARROLL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
DISCUSSION NOTES  
FEBRUARY 13, 2018  
3:00PM  
CARROLL COUNTY COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES LOUNGE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Shane Evans	Mayor of Delphi
Pete Wagoner	Camden Town Council Representative
Marcia Blansett (proxy for Rick Powers)	INDOT District Director

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Joshua Ayres	Flora Town Council President
Bill Brown	President Carroll County Commissioners
Lawrence Stauffer	President Carroll County Council
Carolyn Pearson	Delphi City Council Representative

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

Laura Walls	Carroll County EDC
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**ALSO PRESENT**

Cat Schoenherr	Area Plan Commission Staff
Tim Stroshine	Area Plan Commission Staff
Aria Staiger	Area Plan Commission Staff
Jackie Hockaday	INDOT– LaPorte District
Matt Deitchley	INDOT – LaPorte District

Shane Evans opened the discussion.

**I. CONFIRMATION OF OFFICERS**

Not confirmed due to the lack of a quorum.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Not discussed or approved due to the lack of a quorum.

**III. 2018 TRAFFIC COUNT PROGRAM**

Tim Stroshine referred to the 2015 traffic count information that was distributed in the packet and explained that the INDOT grant allows us to take sixty traffic counts every year, on a three-year cycle, and the number for this year was increased to sixty-five. He said a 2018 count site map was also included in the packet. The Technical Transportation Committee reviewed the 2015 map, removed the locations with low counts and replaced them with new count locations, and added the five additional counts. Two of the additional counts are on Meridian to see if the plant going in will have an impact on traffic. Earlier today the Technical Committee approved the sixty-five 2018 count site locations. We plan to start taking counts in April, weather permitting.

Laura Walls would like to see a count taken on Commerce where it runs to the BMV near the new Quick Pantry entrance. That location came up when they were talking about the road improvements to US 421 at the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting yesterday. She thinks counts in that area, after the Quick Pantry opens, might help justify adding a turn lane on US 421 and SR 39.

Shane Evans thinks that would be a good location to have a count taken. He added that it would be nice to have counts at Commerce & Bradford, just southeast of SR 25 and the US 421 exchange. Commercial traffic will increase at that location while there is minimal traffic at this time.

Laura Walls said commercial development is going in at that location and RDC has a Strategic Plan that shows making upgrades along US 421. There are concerns about the gas station about to open.

Tim Stroshine asked Laura Walls if she is looking for counts along US 421.

Laura Walls thinks eventually we will need those counts but right now she would like to see counts on the city streets to justify improvements that might need to be made.

Shane Evans said the road is 6" deep and will not hold up to truck traffic.

Tim Stroshine informed the Committee that INDOT does their own counts and should have some current information regarding US 421 counts. He is not sure if there are counts in the area Laura Walls was talking about, but he is pretty sure there will be counts around SR 25.

Laura Walls added that the RDC has done a traffic study for that area to help determine if a traffic signal at CR 100 North and US 421 is warranted. She would like to see the counts taken on city streets.

Tim Stroshine asked if counts at those locations could be considered for 2019 or if they are counts that are needed in 2018.

Laura Walls would like to see those counts taken in 2018 and 2019. She is pretty sure it will be 2019 before RDC finalized anything.

Shane Evans thinks the counts should be similar for this year and next year. He added that the joints in the concrete were repaired this year and the road will definitely hold up for a year. He knows INDOT will need the number to determine if a turn lane is justified, so he thinks we need 2018 counts.

Tim Stroshine asked the Committee to formalize the count locations, email the locations to him, and forward a copy to Paul Coutts. Paul Coutts said at the Tech meeting earlier he considered removing a couple of 2015 count locations because of low volumes. He thinks we can remove those locations and replace them with the locations this Committee asked for. Once that is done he will update the count location map before we start taking the counts in April.

#### **IV. FY 2019 GRANT APPLICATION**

Cat Schoenherr distributed copies of the truck route map that will play into one of the work items staff will continue working on in FY 2019. She informed the Committee that she has applied for the 2019 SURP Grant in order to continue to provide rural transportation planning assistance for Carroll County. We will continue the traffic count program, crash reporting, and work on an updated project list, piggybacking on the current short-term project list. We also factored in time to look at freight and truck routes and start working on a long-range plan.

Laura Walls asked if she can have copies of the truck count maps before the Transportation Task Force meets this Thursday.

Tim Stroshine said he and Sallie Fahey plan to attend the meeting and he will prepare a PowerPoint for the meeting.

Laura Walls said she can make copies of the truck count maps for the attendees.

Shane Evans asked who from Carroll County approves the traffic route map.

Tim Stroshine said the County Commissioners approve the truck routes in the unincorporated county. Delphi approves them in the city..

Shane Evans asked if there is an ordinance that spells out what happens if the truckers do not follow the approved truck routes.

Cat Schoenherr and Tim Stroshine said they have never seen the ordinance so they do not know what happens if truckers do not follow the truck routes.

## **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Meeting Date Change for May 1 (Election Day) and November (TBD)**

Cat Schoenherr said the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was changed to May 1<sup>st</sup> to not conflict with Election Day. Staff thought November 13<sup>th</sup> was also an Election Day but learned at the Tech meeting that that is not the case. The November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting date does not need to be changed because November 6<sup>th</sup> is Election Day.

### **Community Crossings**

Marcia Blansett said she has everything she needs from Delphi and has requested the purchase order (PO). The project can start once the money is transferred. She is waiting on the signed contractor bid from Carroll County. She went on to say she has requested a PO for Camden and is waiting on the INDOT LPA contract for the Town of Flora. She is waiting on Burlington's contract to come back from Indianapolis so the PO can be requested. Everything in Carroll County is moving along.

Shane Evans asked about the process for closing out POs because all of Delphi's projects have been completed.

Marcia Blansett asked Shane Evans to email her and she will explain the closing out process when she responds. She recalls that the other day she sent a letter to Shane Evans in error and he can actually use that letter to request close out. Shane Evans needs to fill out the letter, include copies of contractor invoices, and copies of cancelled checks.

### **INDOT 18-Month Letting List**

Jackie Hockaday said all projects on the list are on schedule. INDOT has accelerated the J-turn project up to a July 2018 letting because of the recent fatality. Tobe Leazenby was the only one at the Technical Committee that voiced an objection.

Shane Evans asked when construction should start.

Jackie Hockaday replied that if the project lets in July construction should start in mid-August and hopefully completed by the end of November.

Shane Evans asked if the projects will cause traffic flow problems in the area.

Jackie Hockaday said CR 800 will probably have to close and there will be a local detour, but all other traffic should flow just fine. There might be a slight change to going around the curve on CR 800 but most of the changes will be in the middle of the intersection.

Matt Deitchley from INDOT introduced himself and said he is working with Jackie Hockaday on this project. He said "J-Turn Alternative A" was chosen out of three possibilities and he distributed copies of the project plans to the Committee but cautioned that they are not the final plans. He plans to talk with Tobe Leazenby about the project soon. He met with Tobe Leazenby and other local folks about a year ago and explained the project to them. The locals were concerned at that time. He added that traffic volumes do not make this project a necessity but there are other factors. There is a similar project in

Morocco that works very well because at one time it was one of the highest injury crash sites in the state. After the project was completed, there has not been a crash at this location for over three years.

Shane Evans asked if the Morocco project has a cross-over, like the one proposed for Delphi's J-turn.

Matt Deitchley said the Morocco project does not have a cross-over. There has been a lot of uproar from citizens over projects like this, but it tends to be because they have never seen one before. He offered to conduct a public hearing where he will explain to people how J-turns work.

Laura Walls asked if there would be a benefit to have the Administrative and Technical Committees take a field trip to Morocco to see the J-turn.

Matt Deitchley said he is happy to do that for anyone that is interested.

Shane Evans is concerned that people will still try to cross the road in the middle.

Matt Deitchley said J-turns work so well because they channelize the traffic, making it feel very unnatural to make a left turn across the middle of the intersection. He again offered to help educate the public.

Laura Walls thinks we will see a decrease in traffic at this intersection once the J-turns go in. Right now people use the road as a cut-off to avoid using Washington Street. She will use Washington Street when the J-turns go in.

Matt Deitchley said it seems like it will take longer to cross the road but that is not the case. It will actually take about the same amount of time.

Pete Wagoner asked if there are any plans to resurface SR 218 from SR 25 to SR 29.

Jackie Hockaday confirmed the location, asked questions about the road, and said they will follow-up.

Matt Deitchley said this project is on INDOT's long-term project list and he will see if he can get any additional information.

Shane Evans said Delphi is trying to redo its Pavement Asset Management Plans and he asked if INDOT does something similar. He specifically asked if there are plans for US 421.

Matt Deitchley said INDOT has plans of what eventually will be done to state roads even if the projects are not on the letting list right now. He can look into a specific area if anyone is interested.

Marcia Blansett said they are working on a new, local Pavement Asset Management Plan form in Indianapolis but she does not know when it will be ready. She suggested holding off on submitting new data until the new collection format comes out.

Cat Schoenherr noted that the Committee roster has not changed for 2018 because there were no elections in November 2017. Proxies can be appointed at the May meeting if needed.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

The discussion ended at 3:30p.m.



Sallie Dell Fahey  
Secretary