

**GREATER LAFAYETTE AREA TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT STUDY
TECHNICAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2017

Jon Fricker	JTRP
Sallie Fahey	Area Plan Commission
Jennifer Leshney	Lafayette City Engineer
Heather Kennedy	INDOT – Crawfordsville Division
Opal Kuhl	Tippecanoe County Highway Department
Will Carpenter	Lafayette Police Department
Ed Garrison	West Lafayette City Engineer
Lee Bender (proxy for Adam Baxmeyer)	Purdue University Airport
Jason Philhower (proxy for Troy Harris)	West Lafayette Police Department

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

John Thomas	APC
Doug Poad	APC
Tim Stroshine	APC
Bob Foley	Lafayette Engineer's Office
Adam Baxmeyer	Purdue University Airport
Mike Spencer	Tippecanoe County Highway Department
Mike Parks	Tippecanoe County Highway Department
Dan Auckley	City of West Lafayette
Marcus Smith	City of West Lafayette
Bob Foley	Lafayette Engineer's Office
Greg Jones	Battle Ground Town Council

ALSO PRESENT

Jan Myers	Citizen
Margy Deverall	City of Lafayette

Jon Fricker called the meeting to order at 2:00p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Opal Kuhl moved to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2017 meeting as submitted. Jenny Leshney seconded.

Jan Myers said the second sentence on page 3, paragraph 2, should start with "He said" instead of "The said".

The minutes, as amended, were approved by unanimous voice vote.

II. ACCESS PERMITS

Heather Kennedy said no permit applications were submitted.

III. FY 2018-2021 TIP & 5 YEAR PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Doug Poad said development of the new *TIP* is going well and the draft was completed last week. The draft was uploaded to the APC website and we were the first MPO to submit a copy to INDOT for review. Since our last meeting INDOT notified us that our PYB funds must be spent by the end of FY 2020. We only had \$2,000 PYB funds allocated in FY 2021 and we moved the funds to FY 2020 for the right-of-way phase for the Harrison Area Safety project and reduced the construction amount for that project by the same amount. Staff has also done additional public outreach. The meeting notice letters went out yesterday and today staff has been posting public notices around the community. This year we included notices in Spanish and posting them at various Hispanic establishments throughout the community.

He went on to say the 5-Year Production Schedule has been updated to reflect all the amendments and modifications that have been done recently as well as the out years of 2019, 2020, and 2021. The schedule also includes all the recommendations that were made by this Committee last month. We have allocated over 10% of our STP funds to bicycle and pedestrian projects as recommended in the *2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*. The draft will be presented at the March CPC meeting and to this Committee the following month for review and recommendation. The Policy Board will approve the document at its May meeting.

Jon Fricker asked Doug Poad if he gets many requests for paper copies of the document.

Doug Poad said he was asked for a paper copy yesterday.

IV. OBLIGATED FUNDS

Doug Poad referred to the status report that was included in the packet and said the report shows where our Federal funds have been obligated. There were a number of discrepancies between our report and INDOT's. We assumed that INDOT's numbers for our annual allocation were to be used for the new *TIP*. That is correct but the figures were also to be used for FY 2017 in our current *TIP*. We did a modification to correct that but we ended up losing a little over \$1,000 in STP and TA funds but gained a little over \$33,000 in safety funds. Our reports have now been corrected.

Sallie Fahey said it is always nice to get extra money but it is difficult to spend the money when we don't get the money until February or March and have to spend it by the end of the fiscal year (June 30th).

Doug Poad said since we received very good bids for the Scott and Park/South Streets project, we asked that HSIP funds solely be used. INDOT attributed both HSIP and PYB funds for the project so we asked that that be corrected. INDOT allocated \$229,000 for the Sagamore Parkway Trail to TA preliminary engineering funds but we only have \$209,000. INDOT has also agreed to make that change. The report shows the balance we need to spend. Staff has been working with Ed Garrison and Opal Kuhl to get the balances obligated and right now things look good. He hopes to be able to obligate all the funds in the next couple of weeks. We plan to obligate funds for River Road ROW, Morehouse PE, Lindberg ROW, adding resurfacing for the Kingston project, and finishing up construction and construction engineering for Happy Hollow.

Sallie Fahey referred to the Kingston project and called on Jon Thomas to explain how it can be beneficial in the end when doing the scope for a project.

John Thomas said when looking at the preliminary engineering for that project, Ed Garrison included several features like resurfacing and street lighting. Environmental was also looked at as part of the scope. When he learned how much money was available he again looked at the project and balanced what he could afford, the resurfacing was not included in the final estimates. Since we got good bids we can easily change the scope to put the resurfacing back in. He suggested everyone include some things that can be considered optional when doing the PE. We are fortunate the resurfacing was included in the environmental so the environmental did not have to be redone when we realized we had more money to spend. He asked everyone to err on the side of excess.

Doug Poad said he will be working with Ed Garrison and Opal Kuhl to obligate all our funds and he has a good feeling that we will be able to do it.

V. APC PROGRESS

2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

John Thomas presents a map of the draft locations for existing or proposed signals in the community, either on the Automated Traffic Management System (ATMS) and those that are not. The map has been refined to indicate the signals already on the ATMS and those that are not. The map is a component of the long range plan and will most helpful in the future getting greater traffic movement efficiency. Once it is completed he will forward a map of all the projects listed in the plan. The Citizens Participation Committee (CPC) has talked about goals and objectives for the plan and their recommendations for a tree replacement policy for all Federal-aid highway projects, establishing a recurring fund for education programs that include bicycle and pedestrian safety, and establish and fill a public sector bicycle/pedestrian coordinator staff position will be presented to this Committee for inclusion in the draft plan.

Opal Kuhl asked about the tree program.

John Thomas said the CPC Committee recommended that a replacement tree be planted for every tree that is cut down as part of a project. The goal is to have no net loss of trees. He believes we are already doing that when possible.

Opal Kuhl asked what types of projects the tree program will apply to.

John Thomas said the tree program will only apply to Federal-aid projects.

Opal Kuhl pointed out that 200+ trash trees will be taken down to cut a channel when bridges are built. Trees are taken into consideration through IDEM and DNR during the permitting process. Both agencies already have a tree replacement program.

John Thomas said that policy will require a procedure manual that will delve into the details. He is sure we will need to create thresholds for the size of trees. He thinks it is a good recommendation but we will not be able to implement the policy immediately. A lot of review, discussion, and clarification will be needed.

Sallie Fahey added that recommendations will need to be discussed as a part of finishing and adopting a plan. They are not givens at this point but we wanted to make you aware of the recommendations to have time to think about them before next month's meeting.

Ed Garrison asked if the replacements would be considered "participating" and actually build the trees into the contract. He hopes it is not a plan that will be outside the contract.

John Thomas said there often are landscaping contracts on Federal-aid projects anyway.

Jenny Leshney asked whether the new recommendation will change how contracts are structured because landscaping contracts are often already built in.

John Thomas said the contracts ensuring the trees take hold is lengthier than regular construction contracts. That is very problematic.

Ed Garrison pointed out that a landscape company is usually doing the seeding and mulching.

Jenny Leshney agrees that they should do that. Trees are usually an afterthought.

Sallie Fahey asked John Thomas to run through the state schedule.

John Thomas said this Committee will review and discuss the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan* at the April meeting and the CPC Committee will host the public hearing on the Plan in April. The plan will be brought to this Committee for a recommendation in May and to the Policy Board for adoption in June.

Sallie Fahey added that the current plan lapses on June 30th/July 1st.

Administrative TIP Modification

Sallie Fahey said she administratively modified the *TIP* on February 21st to modify funds for construction of the Kingston Trail project. The project was to be funded in part with HSIP PYB funds and the modification was made to replace the \$38,430 PYB funds commitment and replace them with FY 2018 annual allocation HSIP funds from the CE phase of the South & Scott/Park Street project. INDOT requested that all MPOs submit an updated allocation plan for PYB balances for FY 2018 and the second modification made that day was to update the *TIP* to reflect the updated PYB.

Bicycle Counting

John Thomas said staff has been working with a group that is sponsoring the Bike to Work Day this year. The group wants to give back as part of this year's effort by organizing bicycle counts. The group feels it can supply a couple dozen people to do the counts. The group has obtained gift certificates from the local bicycle shops to be used as rewards for those that count. We have identified 21 mid-block sites in downtown Lafayette and in West Lafayette as count locations. The counts are tentatively scheduled for the last weeks of April or first week of May.

Ed Garrison asked when Bike to Work Day is.

Jenny Leshney said it is Friday, May 19th.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad said the Kingston Drive project was let and awarded to Milestone for less than the engineer's estimate. Projects #2 & 4 (I-65 bridge projects) were included in seven other projects and the project was awarded \$47,287,000 with an October 31, 2020 completion date. Projects #3, 5, & 6 are all bridge projects and are scheduled to be let in April. All of the projects are deck replacements and the I-65 Bridge over the Wabash is also a widening project. The remainder of the list is the same as it was last month with all projects moving forward. The Cherry Lane road construction project from relocated US 231 to McCormick Road is the only new project appearing on the list and is scheduled for a July 2018 letting.

Heather Kennedy said INDOT is working through risk assessments on FY 2018 and locking down the risk the first week of June. Most of the projects are still going forward but there are still right-of-way issues with Teal Road. She was asked last month about the Montmorenci signal and learned a full signal will be installed. The Prophetstown environmental mitigation is moving into FY 2018 for a May letting.

VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jan Myers said the warm weather the last couple of weeks allowed her to be along Lindberg Road and the bridge trail junction on both ends is again sinking. Whatever was done the last time is not holding. She explained that it is where the asphalt of the trail goes up to the bridge. She always has ADA compliance issues and she just left the eastern part of Main Street where all the work was just completed and there are several things that are not compliant. The benches in front of the East End Grill prevent people from walking on round feet or two abreast. There is also no ADA parking on the east side of City Hall. New planters have been installed so it makes it difficult to open car doors or put ramps down. Most places she visits have the planters up by the building so pedestrian traffic is free and clear. She has been advised by people not to try to cross the Myers bridge because the signage is not correct and she would not be able to cross.

Jenny Leshney said signage is ordered and on its way. For City Hall there will be a designated spot on the east side of the door on the west side of 6th Street and a designated spot right by the ramp.

Heather Kennedy said Shane Spears is the new Crawfordsville District Deputy Commissioner. Shane was appointed last Monday and is from the Vincennes District and was over the Capital Programs.

Jon Fricker said the next Technical Transportation Committee meeting will be April 19, 2017.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Opal Kuhl moved to adjourn the meeting. Ed Garrison seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30p.m.



Sallie Dell Fahey
Secretary