

MPO POLICY BOARD
Minutes
July 14, 2022
2:00 pm
Virtual/ Tippecanoe County Office

The meeting was held virtually. Members of the public may watch the livestream of the meeting at <https://www.facebook.com/TippecanoeCountyIndiana> or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJleeA9ZQo9E11GdZTdjurQ/featured>

Members Present

Tony Roswarski	Mayor, City of Lafayette
John Dennis	Mayor, City of West Lafayette
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette Council
David Byers	President, Tippecanoe County Commissioners
Larry Leverenz	President, Area Plan Commission
Perry Brown	President, Lafayette City Council
Shane Spears	INDOT
Cindy Murray (proxy for Gary Henriott)	City of Lafayette

Absent Voting Members

Kevin Underwood	President, County Council
Ben Murray	Chair, GLPTC

Non-Voting Members Present

Tim Stroshine	APC
Doug Poad	APC
Aria Staiger	APC
Jennifer Ewen	APC
Michael Thompson	APC
Stu Kline	Tippecanoe County Highway
Dave Griffiee	Lafayette City Engineer

Tony Roswarski called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM, and he conducted a roll call of the members present.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Dennis moved to approve the minutes from the June 07, 2022 meeting. David Byers seconded, and the minutes, as submitted, were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

II. RESOLUTION T-22-09: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2022-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

CityBus: Allocate \$1,005,777 in section 5339 funds for two new buses.

Doug Poad said this TIP Amendment was a request by CityBus, and this is to specifically program special FTA Funds, what we call Section 5339 funds, and these are competitive nationwide funds. CityBus submitted an application for these funds, and they were approved in the amount of \$1,005,777. The federal funds along with a local match will be used to purchase two CNG propulsion busses which will replace 2011 Gillig Hybrids. The CityBus Board of Directors did authorize this amendment on June 28th, and the Technical Transportation Committee did review this amendment and recommended it for approval on June 15th. The APC staff also is recommending approval.

John Dennis moved to approve **Resolution T-22-09**. Cindy Murray seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

III. RESOLUTION T-22-10: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2022-2026 TIP

Tippecanoe: Reallocate FY 22 and FY 23 funds.

Doug Poad said there are two parts to this amendment request. The first part deals with our FY 2022 allocation even though the fiscal year is over. Recently, we did receive an update to our 2022 funding from INDOT, and we received an additional \$316,999. Normally, we would not be able to allocate and obligate these funds, but these funds came from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and we have until September 30th to obligate these funds. We put together a list of five options and presented this list to the Technical Transportation Committee, and what we are recommending is to allocate the funds to the Morehouse right-of-way phase to repay the funds borrowed for the Sagamore Parkway Trail, and that is what we are asking the Policy Board to approve.

At the same time, INDOT also released new FY 2023-2026 funding targets for our area, and over the period, we will be receiving an additional \$5.1 million dollars. For FY 2023, we will be receiving an additional \$1.1 million dollars. We decided to only look at FY 2023, and we will be developing a new TIP starting this October. It is listed in the staff report what the current allocation of funds are between all of the different projects, and there's been a couple changes. South 9th Street, the right-of-way phase is being delayed due to an environmental review. Soldiers Home Road, preliminary engineering, roughly an additional \$30,000 in federal funds will be needed, and Yeager Road is moving into the construction phase and will need additional federal funds. They looked at the additional federal funds, put together several scenarios, and presented them to the Technical Transportation Committee, and we came up with a recommended allocation between the Yeager Road Project, the Soldiers Home Road Project, and the McCutcheon Pedestrian Safety Project. This time we will have to also include the repayment of federal funds we borrowed from the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission. If you remember, we had to borrow an additional \$300,000 to fully fund the Sagamore Parkway Trail. The table in the staff report is what they are recommending. It includes the additional funding for the Soldiers Home Road Project for preliminary engineering. There will be additional funding for Yeager Road, and when we were developing this during the Technical Transportation Committee meeting, it was discussed to split the STBG part of the funds between the right-of-way phase and construction phase, but since then, the county was able to save some money in the right-of-way phase and asked that we allocate the full amount to the construction phase. Doug noted there is one caveat in approving the recommended allocation and that is we have two construction projects, and we don't have enough federal funds to fully fund both projects. We will be seeking \$1,216,633 million in federal funds from another MPO. By doing this, we will have enough funds to fully fund the Yeager Road Project and the McCutcheon Pedestrian Safety Project, and we will be able to add the additional funds needed for the Soldiers Home Road Phase 1 Preliminary Engineering, and we also will be able to repay what we borrowed from the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission. The Technical Transportation is recommending this allocation, and we are asking for approval.

John Dennis moved to approve **Resolution T-22-10**. David Byers seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

IV. APC PROGRESS REPORT MPO Update

New Funds from the IJJA: SSR4 Funds and Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Funds

Doug Poad said with the approval and adoption of the new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a lot of new programs were added into that, specifically, the Safe Streets and Roads for All and Reconnecting Community Pilot Program Funds. The Safe Streets and Roads for All is open for applications, and that

will be closing here in September on the 15th. The main purpose of these funds is to address safety, specifically reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries. In order to get these funds, there are two ways that projects can be funded. The first is to develop an action plan, and that includes a number of different bullet points. One of them is looking at the crashes and comparing them to projects and actually developing projects that can be done. There is a self-certification worksheet that our office completed to see if we would qualify for funding and looking at the documents we already have and that are approved, it appears they all qualify to be under the action plan, so it is possible that we could actually apply for funds to then put together a Supplemental Action Plan or an Implementation Grant. If we would like to pursue that, our office would be more than happy to be the one to take charge of that, so we can put in different requests from the different cities and towns. The second is Reconnecting Communities the Pilot Program. Over the history of developing a transportation system, there were a lot of road projects that basically went through various communities, especially disadvantaged communities, and these federal funds are specifically targeting those projects.

Peter Bunder asked Doug Poad if he knew where the Reconnecting Communities funds would be spent in Tippecanoe County.

Doug Poad said in West Lafayette, the location that would be a possibility is making a connection across Sagamore Parkway in terms of pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

Tony Roswarski asked Doug Poad what he is needing from this committee.

Doug Poad said if there is an interest in pursuing this from this committee, it would be great to give us the green light, so we could start reaching out to the different agencies, and then start thinking how we can use these funds.

Tony Roswarski said he is okay giving authorization to pursue and to continue down this path and working with the Technical Transportation Committee and the various other staff members. He asked for any objections, and there were none.

Federal Funding Obligation

Doug Poad said we have a small amount of \$316 that we needed to obligate, and with the Board's action earlier, we will be sending this in and then when it is approved through the STIP, we will then submit a FMIS request to actually obligate those funds. He thinks we will be doing this before the next committee meeting which will then obligate all of our FY 2022 funds.

INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad said looking at the projects through April of next year, there are no changes. Project #4, the Yeager Road Project, is still on target for an October bid letting, and Project #9, the McCutcheon Pedestrian Safety Project, is on a November bid letting. There are four new projects showing up. Project #17, the District Wide ITS Project, we don't have any specific details on this yet to pass along. Project #20, Small Structure Replacement Project on SP 52. Project #21 is a project at the Indiana Veterans' Home, and Project #22, Phase 1 of the Morehouse Road Project.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Tim Stroshine said he had a quick update on the MTP. He said we are still waiting to hear from INDOT and Federal Highway to wrap-up some of the issues we had with the initial document, so we are just waiting to hear from those planning partners, and then when we hear something more definitive, we will get into the amendment process.

Cindy Murray asked Shane Spears what the progress is on the Bridge on SR 225.

Shane Spears said they are getting to the point where they are making the decision on whether or not they are going to be able to open it back up. Essentially what is going on is that we can't keep the overweight vehicles off of it, and it is creating stress cracks. We are in the process of trying to decide whether or not we are going to open it back up.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There was a one-minute pause to allow for public comments. There were none.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

John Dennis moved to adjourn. Cindy Murray seconded, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer A. Ewen
Recording Secretary

Reviewed By,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hittle", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

David Hittle
Executive Director