

MPO POLICY BOARD
Minutes
August 12, 2021
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
Jackson Bogan	Area Plan Commission
Cindy Murray	Lafayette Board of Works
Ben Murray	Chair, GLPTC
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette Council
Tom Murtaugh	President, County Commissioners
Shane Spears	INDOT

Absent Voting Members

Kevin Underwood	President, County Council
Melissa Williamson	President, Lafayette City Council

Non-Voting Members Present

David Hittle	Executive Director, Area Plan Commission
Doug Poad	APC
Tim Stroshine	APC
Aria Staiger	APC
Maureen McNamara	APC
Jeromy Grenard	Lafayette City Engineer
Dave Griffiee	Lafayette City Engineering

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Dennis moved to approve the minutes from the July 08, 2021 meeting. Tom Murtaugh seconded and the minutes, as submitted, were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

II. RESOLUTION T-21-09: RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FY 2021 TITLE VI AND LEP PLAN

Tim Stroshine said this had been brought up at previous meetings as an informational item, but now staff is ready to act on it. This document assures that no person is discriminated against in any Lafayette Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) programs that receive federal funding, and allows for a process for persons to file complaints about discrimination. The document also includes analysis of environmental justice (EJ) issues based on census and American Community Survey (ACS) data. It was presented at the most recent Citizens Participation Committee (CPC). The Technical Transportation Committee recommended approval at their July 21 meeting. Staff is requesting adoption of the plan.

The resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

III. RESOLUTION T-21-13: RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Tim Stroshine said that this is another plan staff is looking to update. The original plan was adopted in 2007 and is now outdated. Social media platforms are a much more prevalent form of civic engagement and are now included. It also includes accommodations for situations where social distancing requirements are being enforced, and where comments must be accepted virtually. It also includes information about reaching various minority populations. This plan It was presented at the most recent Citizens Participation Committee (CPC). The Technical Transportation Committee recommended approval at their July 21 meeting. Staff is requesting adoption of the plan.

The resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

IV. RESOLUTION T-21-12 RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2020-2024 AND FY 2022-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS (TIPs)

Doug Poad said staff received a request from the INDOT Crawfordsville district office to amend both TIPs. The MPO is still in the phase of transition from the old TIP to the new TIP. The request will be adding three new projects. Two projects are bridge maintenance-related, specifically repairing or replacing joints. One is on SR 28, and the other is on I-65 at CR 100 W. The third project is the installation of a new permanent traffic signal at the intersection of US 52 and SR 28. There is currently a temporary signal at that location.

Doug Poad said that federal funds will be used for all three projects, and preliminary engineering will occur in the current fiscal year (FY), with construction in FY 2023. The Technical Transportation Committee recommended approval at their July 21 meeting. Staff is requesting approval.

The resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

V. CORRECTION TO RESOLUTION T-21-14: RESOLUTION OF ELECTRONIC MEETING POLICY

Tim Stroshine said that this was staff's error. When staff had the Board pass this resolution, it did not have a number attached to it. Everything in the resolution is exactly the same, but staff wanted to get it in our records properly so that it can be referred to as needed. This item was already approved by the Board once, but staff wanted to let the Board vote again for full transparency.

The resolution was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS FOR THE FY 2020-2024 AND 2022-2026 TIPs

Doug Poad said that there are two ways to change the TIP. The first is through the amendment process such as with the three INDOT projects earlier in the meeting. The second is through an administrative modification, which can be carried out by staff and is usually used to move money around within a project, or make minor changes. The policy for these modifications is to bring them to the Board for the Board's information.

Doug Poad said that staff processed a modification on August 2nd, related to the Sagamore Parkway Trail Project. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, bat mitigation is needed because a number of trees will be removed. The mitigation involves placing funds into a conservation fund. The total amount of federal funds being moved is \$17,087. They were moved from the construction phase to the preliminary engineering phase.

Cindy Murray asked if there's a certain time of year that trees can be removed, or whether it will delay the project.

Doug Poad said that he believes that's correct, that there are specific months when trees can be taken down. Doug Poad said he believes it's around April that trees cannot be removed.

Dave Griffie said that it is from April through November. For mitigation, bats are removed when they are not nesting, so you can move their nests out and tear trees down.

VII. APC PROGRESS REPORT MPO Update

2021 MPO Conference

David Hittle said that staff polled other MPOs around the state, and there's not enough interest in having this conference in person, especially with the health issues of the past month or so. It will be held virtually for one day like last year. It will be October 28. Staff is in the process of putting together an agenda for that.

Transportation Resource Guides

Doug Poad said that this is a project that staff does every three years or so. In the past year and a half, staff has been updating the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP), which looks at transportation for elderly, disabled, and low-income persons. In developing that plan, staff conducted a survey of all transportation services in Tippecanoe County. Staff updated the transportation resource guide with that information to create a brochure.

Doug Poad said that the brochure includes information about CityBus, all nonprofit and for-profit agencies that provide services, medical and emergency services, transportation for just the elderly, taxi services, and out-of-town services.

Doug Poad said that the guide is available on the APC website or as a paper copy. It is available in not just English and Spanish, but also Chinese, Korean, and Swedish. Staff hopes to also have it translated to Hindi and Nepalese in the future. Doug Poad thanked Purdue for their help in translating it to Korean.

Ben Murray asked why Swedish.

Doug Poad said that one staff member used to live in Sweden and thought it would be fun to translate it, so staff said why not.

Tony Roswarski said that Saab is moving in almost 90 families from Sweden, so it will be valuable to have a Swedish version of the brochure.

INDOT FY '22-'26 STIP and TIP Update

Doug Poad said this is an ongoing saga that will go on for a while. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has reviewed INDOT's STIP and found several issues with it. The biggest one is that there are projects shown in MPOs' TIPs that are not shown in the STIP. That's a project alignment issue. In the past few weeks INDOT has been hosting meetings with agencies and MPOs to decide what to do next. INDOT has decided to take the document they currently have, address the issues, update it to create a new document, then resubmit it to FHWA. INDOT estimates this will take six months, and they are already starting to work on it. Staff received a timeline and first steps from INDOT yesterday.

Doug Poad said that the good news in terms of the TIP is that the governor did approve the MPO's 2022-2026 TIP. The next step in terms of moving that forward is for INDOT to amend that into their current STIP. Staff is anticipating that will happen soon. Once that happens, staff will only need to modify or amend one TIP rather than two.

INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad said there's only a few changes. Project 1 was on yesterday's bid letting. Two bids were submitted – one from Reith Reilly and one from Milestone. The low bid from Reith Reilly was nearly spot-

on with the engineer's estimate, so it will probably be awarded. Projects 7-18 all involve the widening of I-65. It is still on track for a Nov 17 bid letting. There is also a new project on the November bid letting, a district-wide maintenance project. Project 24, Sagamore Parkway Trail is still on track for a January bid letting. Projects 39 and 40 were bumped from a July to October bid letting. Project 38 is new, and is the project from the TIP amendment earlier in the meeting. All the other projects have the same bid lettings.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

IX. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:29pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aria Staiger
Transportation Planner

Reviewed By,

David L. Hittle
Executive Director