

**MPO POLICY BOARD  
Minutes  
February 11, 2021  
2:00 pm  
Tippecanoe County Office**

*Due to the public health emergency, 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
David Byers (proxy for Tom Murtaugh)	President, County Commissioners
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette Council
Ben Murray (proxy for Mike Gibson)	Chair, GLPTC
Jackson Bogan	Area Plan Commission
Shane Spears	INDOT
Cindy Murray	Lafayette Board of Works

**Absent Voting Members**

Ron Campbell (proxy for Melissa Williamson)	President, Lafayette City Council
Kevin Underwood	President, County Council

**Non-Voting Members Present**

Sallie Fahey	Executive Director, Area Plan Commission
Doug Poad	APC
Tim Stroshine	APC
Aria Staiger	APC
Maureen McNamara	APC
Jeromy Grenard	Lafayette City Engineer
Mitch Lankford	West Lafayette City Engineer

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 January 14, 2021 meeting. David Byers seconded and the minutes, as submitted, were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**II. RESOLUTION T 2021-02: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2020-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)  
INDOT: Update Eight Programmed I65 Widening Projects**

Doug Poad said this is a request from INDOT to amend the current TIP. This involves 8 projects that are all related to the widening of I-65. The TIP currently shows the total construction cost at \$47.4 million and the request bumps that up to \$66 million. The original scope of the project was to widen I-65 from north of the Wabash River to north of CR 725N. There were concerns for funding, so the scope of work was made shorter. There is now enough to fully fund this and I-65 will be widened just north of CR 725N. There are 4 additional projects that are changing dates to FY 2022 and 3 are changing funding amounts. The Technical Transportation Committee and staff recommended approval.

Tony Roswarski asked for comments or questions. There was a one-minute pause for citizen comments. There were none.

Tony Roswarski conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved 8-yes to 0-no.

**Yes-Vote**

Tony Roswarski  
John Dennis  
Dave Byers  
Peter Bunder  
Ben Murray  
Jackson Bogan  
Cindy Murray  
Shane Spears

**No-Vote**

**III. APC PROGRESS REPORT  
MPO Update  
FY 24 TIP Update**

Doug Poad said at the January Technical Transportation Committee meeting, the projects were reviewed and found to be compliant with the Complete Street Policy. These projects include the Cherry Lane Extension and North 9<sup>th</sup> Street Trail. At this meeting, the Committee also allocated all the federal gas tax funds. We have enough funds to include various phases of quite a few projects. These include the South 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Lafayette project, the Morehouse Road project, the McCutcheon Safety project and the Soldiers Home Road project. There was only one request for safety projects so the McCutcheon Pedestrian Safety project will receive federal funds in FY 2023. The Committee also reviewed INDOT projects and made a suggestion as to which projects are important to the community. These projects included continuing US 231 to I65, widening I65, improving US 52, adding sidewalks to SR 38 from Sagamore Parkway to Park East Boulevard. The next step in developing this document is submitting the draft to INDOT. This document will be presented at the CPC meeting in March then brought back to the Technical Committee for review and recommendation to this Board.

**FY 22 UPWP**

Sallie Fahey said this is the time of year that we begin work on our new Unified Planning Work Program which must be approved by INDOT, Federal Highway and Federal Highway Transit for our office transportation planning work in the next fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The first step is to prepare our cost allocation plan. Our overhead rate for 2022 is lower than years prior because with the pandemic, we were not traveling or going to conferences. Instead of spending in the \$5,000 range last year, which would be reimbursable, we did not spend much. This is why our overhead is much lower this year than the typical year. This was submitted to INDOT and we have received an approval letter. The next step is to allocate federal funds for transportation planning into the work program. In the packet, there is a break down of the allocation between each MPO. This is based on the percentage of urban population in the state based on the 2010 census because we do not have the 2020 census numbers yet. Next year we will receive \$338,667 in federal funding matched 20% by the County Council's funding of our budget. Based on the money, we are the largest of the small MPOs. The large MPOs are those with an urban population of 200,000 or more. In the spreadsheet of how this money is divided, one of the bottom boxes shows that \$5,480,202 is available to all MPOs. We have a formula for dividing up the money. The MPOs came up with this formula 10 years ago and it was approved by INDOT and Federal Highway. It is designed to be equitable for smaller MPOs so that Indianapolis does not get so much money that the rest of us cannot operate. The next step will be to complete the draft of the full work program then submit it to INDOT, Federal Highway and FTA for review. Once reviewed, it will come back to this Board for adoption.

### **Federal Funding Obligations**

Doug Poad said we have obligated all of our FY 21 federal funds. These funds were obligated to the construction of Park East Boulevard, North River Road at CR 500N and Lindberg Road. Park East Boulevard received favorable bids so the remaining residual funds were moved to the construction engineering part of that project. The city was initially going to pay for that project with 100% local funds but with the residual funds we were able to move that to CE. We also funded the railroad construction at Lindberg Road and KB&S.

Sallie Fahey thanked all of the LPAs for having early lettings. The earlier the letting, the easier it is to make sure all the funds are spent.

### **Planning Certification Review**

Sallie Fahey said we received word from INDOT that they have decided to do a planning certification review which happens every 5 years. The certification review will be virtual on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Board will be invited and this will take most of a day so with it being virtual, people may come and go as their time will allow. They want us to tell our story in a power point. We have a massive amount of work to do to gather up every task that we do. This will include all the MOUs, citizen participation efforts, TIP process, long-range planning process, the annual listing of projects and all the other things we do. We have an outline of what we need to prepare and have started assigning various elements to staff members that are typically involved in these efforts. We will update the Board in more detail at the early March meeting.

Tony Roswarski thanked Sallie for her efforts on this project.

### **New Executive Director Hire**

Sallie Fahey said she wanted to update everyone on the new Executive Director because not everyone has been given the same information. She asked Jackson to take over.

Jackson Bogan said David Hittle will be joining us officially on March 1, 2021.

Sallie Fahey said there will be four weeks to a maximum of six of overlap for transition.

Jackson Bogan said Sallie has been great throughout this process. We put together a group that included both mayors, people from the County Council and County Commissioners. It was a good process that narrowed it down to three candidates. We hit it out of the park with this individual. He is excited to come here from Johnson County. He was able to steady the waters in a place that had five executive directors in six years. From doing his background check and checking his references, they could not say enough great things about him. There will be some learning on the transportation side for him as he does not have a lot of experience in that world but he does have a lot of experience in all other areas. We knew going into this search that we would not find another Sallie. As much as we would love to have Sallie stay on, we want to help her retire. We are very happy that she agreed to stay on until we found the right person and did not have to make a rushed decision.

Tony Roswarski said the selection committee is excited about Mr. Hittle. We think he will fit in with the culture of our community, our priorities and our vision. We have chosen an individual that has the capacity to continue to learn and develop those skills.

Jackson Bogan said we did this with a national search group. It just happened that this search was narrowed down to an individual in Johnson County, which worked out quite well.

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

Doug Poad said the first five projects listed were from the January letting. All five projects were awarded. The project on SR 28 was awarded to Milestone for \$12.87 million. The project on Lindberg Road was awarded to Reith Riley for \$3.8 million. The North River Road project was awarded to White construction for \$3.78 million. The Park East Boulevard project was awarded to Reith Riley for \$1.97 million. The SR 26 project was also awarded to Reith Riley for \$2.29 million. The February bid letting has several projects on the Hoosier Heartland and involve thin deck overlays and five bids were received. The engineers estimate was \$1.24 million and the low bid was only \$566,366 from Pacific Painting. Ram Construction was the next lowest bidder at \$718,566. Project 13 is on SR 38 and was moved from a March to an April letting. Project 13 through 18 are the remaining projects for the state fiscal year. Projects 32 through 42, which are all related to the widening of I65, are targeted for a February 2022 letting.

### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Shane Spears said we have a kick off meeting for the US 231 corridor study for the alignment from US 231 to I65. Some of the Board members will be hearing from the consultant Lochmueller Group. We are identifying the key stakeholders so we can get to the next step. That process will be approximately six to eight weeks. Once they get started on this, they will be invited to one of these meetings to give additional information.

Sallie Fahey said our staff and the consulting firm had a good meeting and started to figure out where we are headed, who has what information and how we will handle stakeholder and public involvement.

Cindy Murray asked if Shane could give an update on Teal Road.

Shane Spears said they are moving utilities. We should be seeing more work next spring. He said he will bring more detailed information next month.

### **V. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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

### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

John Dennis moved to adjourn. Jackson Bogan seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chyna R. Lynch  
Recording Secretary

Reviewed By,



Sallie Fahey  
Executive Director