

MPO POLICY BOARD
Minutes
January 12, 2023
2:00 pm
Virtual / Tippecanoe County Office Building

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/c/TippecanoeCountyGovernment>

Members Present

Tony Roswarski	Mayor, City of Lafayette
John Dennis	Mayor, City of West Lafayette
Tracy Brown	Tippecanoe County Commissioner
Cindy Murray (proxy for Gary Henriott)	Lafayette Board of Works
Julie Ginn	Chairman, Board of Directors for CityBus
Shane Spears	INDOT

Absent Voting Members

Kevin Underwood	President, County Council
Larry Leverenz	President, Area Plan Commission
Perry Brown	President, Lafayette City Council
Peter Bunder	President, West Lafayette City Council

Non-Voting Members Present

Stu Kline	Tippecanoe County Highway
Bryan Smith	CityBus
Jeromy Grenard	City of Lafayette
David Hittle	APC
Doug Poad	APC
Tim Stroshine	APC
Aria Staiger	APC

Tony Roswarski called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM and conducted roll call of the members present.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Dennis moved to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2022 meeting. Cindy Murray seconded, and the minutes, as submitted, were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

II. RESOLUTION T-23-01: FY 23 & 24 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENT

Tim Stroshine explained that every year we are given funding from the State Department of Transportation and Federal Highway to do some of our planning work. For a long time, we have not spent the full allocation of these funds. This leads to us rolling over the balances of those purchase orders to continue to draw them down. There are balances remaining in two years' worth of purchase orders, FY 21, and FY 22. The staff report details what type of work we're going to be doing as we roll these over. A lot will be planning studies, involving us partnering with consultants, which we think will be a good way to get value out of those dollars. The specifics of the financials are outlined in the staff report. Tim Stroshine concluded by saying he would entertain a motion to approve this purchase rollover and would answer any questions.

Tony Roswarski asked for clarification from David Hittle regarding his vote, asking if he needed to vote during the roll call or put affirmative down since he is calling the roll for the vote.

David Hittle asked Tim Stroshine if Tony Roswarski has a vote like everyone else.

Tim Stroshine responded yes; Tony Roswarski is a voting member.

David Hittle replied to Tony Roswarski and said he should vote in the same fashion as others.

Tony Roswarski said he would vote to show six affirmative votes for the actual quorum.

Resolution T-23-01 was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

**III. RESOLUTION T-23-02: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2022-2026
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

A. Tippecanoe: \$1,220,000 funding swap for Yeager Road project

Doug Poad said this TIP amendment addresses the swapping of federal funds with the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission. While we do have a substantial amount of federal funds allocated to our area, we do not have enough to fund the construction of the McCutcheon pedestrian safety project and the Yeager Road project. When we were developing the current TIP two years ago, we recognized that need, and at that time, programmed a swap of federal funds. The Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission has agreed to swap federal funds in the amount of \$1.22 million, and will be repaid back next year, fiscal year 2024. With this additional funding, we should have enough to fully fund the 80/20 split for the Yeager Road project if the engineering estimates hold true. If the estimates rise, it means the county may have to pay more. The Technical Transportation Committee reviewed and recommended this amendment.

Tony Roswarski added this is something we have done in the past with other MPO's and other projects.

Resolution T-23-02 was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

**IV. RESOLUTION T-23-03: RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2050 METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) AND THOROUGHFARE PLAN**

Doug Poad started by saying if you haven't been on Concord Road by Wal-Mart, be it known there is development underway. There has been discussion in the past six months, for a large, substantial development just north of this and east of Concord Road that will contain approximately 800 dwelling units, be it apartments, duplexes and so forth. When we started to internally compare the new number of homes to what is programmed in our 2050 long range plan, we are on track, with potential for further development, to have substantially more homes in that area. We started discussing this and looked at the current road network. In the road segments between (northside) Veterans Memorial, (southside) 600 South and between Concord Road and 450 East, there are only two east-west roads and no other north-south roads. So, when we started looking at how this area is developing, especially with this development that's underway, and the proposed new one, it appears that a new north-south collector road is warranted. We are coming to this Board to add a non-residential collector road. Homes will not have driveways accessing this road, like Twyckenham Boulevard. To relieve pressure on Concord Road, another north-south collector road is needed. Taking this through the adoption process will add the road to the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Thoroughfare Plan. The Technical Transportation Committee reviewed and recommended this amendment. If this Board approves the resolution, the next step is to amend it into the long-range plan and Thoroughfare Plan as a comprehensive plan amendment. When developers come in with property in this area, they will have to take this road into account. Being a non-residential collector, if it runs through the property they wish to develop, they will have to make those improvements. We suspect within the next five years, we will probably see additional housing in this area, and we wanted to address this need now, rather than wait.

Tony Roswarski asked how long the road was.

Doug Poad responded with approximately 2.5 miles.

Tony Roswarski said looking at the map, where it ties into Veterans Memorial Parkway, that's at the Wabash site (formerly Wabash National).

Doug Poad said that is correct. Veterans Memorial is what we call a limited access road. At that location, there is no access break. There are two in the Wabash property so one of those will need to be moved at the signal. Internally, we agreed that having this road come into a signalized intersection would be best, rather than having it offset.

Tony Roswarski agreed. He asked if there has been discussion with the city and county engineers and if they have had a chance to weigh in on this.

Jeromy Grenard, City of Lafayette Engineer, confirmed that he has had input on this, and the road does line up with what we've been shown in that area, with all the proposed developments on Concord. We were talking about how to access those properties. It really lines up with what they have laid out there already.

Tony Roswarski asked of Jeromy Grenard if the discussions they have had with a developer about the road lines up with that discussion also.

Jeromy Grenard said it does.

Tracy Brown asked if this will always remain no access to the road, for neighborhoods.

Doug Poad answered that it will have access to neighborhoods, but it will not have frontage for homes. It will be a lower volume street; lower speed limit and we are recommending sidewalks and a trail. The road will be designed more as one for moving traffic, rather than having a lot of homes access it. That is why we are classifying it and recommending it as a non-residential collector.

Tony Roswarski said to keep the trail. There's a nice trail on Veterans and the trail on Concord that could be a nice tie-in for that area. We certainly want to keep that part of the project.

Cindy Murray asked if there was a timeline on this.

Doug Poad replied no, not at this time. Since we are designating it as a collector rather than an arterial, when a developer comes in, they will have to build their portion of it, similar to what was lined up for Park East Boulevard. The city did eventually build the road, but when it was in the works years ago, it was on the developer's dime. It is also like the discussions we have had for an east-west collector on the north side of West Lafayette, as a non-residential collector.

Tony Roswarski said on the first phase of Park East Boulevard, the developers did contribute some money to that project. They certainly didn't build most of the road, but they did put some money into it.

Resolution T-23-03 was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION FOR THE FY 2022-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

A. December 31, 2022

Doug Poad explained a simple letter is composed and presented to this Board to let them know that David Hittle took action to modify the TIP. The McCutcheon pedestrian safety project went out to bid in December, and unfortunately, the lowest bid was a pinch more than what the engineer had estimated. To keep the project at the same federal/local split, it was decided to move \$211,177 in STBG funds from the Yeager

Road project. We moved a pinch of funds from one project to the other. In doing so, it did not require a full TIP modification.

VI. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN APC, INDOT AND CITYBUS

Tim Stroshine said this is an update to an existing document dating back to 2015. This agreement outlines the responsibilities of the different entities that take part in the transportation planning process, specifically as it relates to our work with INDOT and CityBus. Subjects include the metropolitan transportation plan, the transportation improvement program, the UPWP, performance-based planning and programming (collecting data and using it to make planning decisions), public participation and involvement, and transit planning. INDOT has similar responsibilities that include the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and TIP, the UPWP and performance-based planning and programming. CityBus responsibilities include the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and TIP, the UPWP and performance-based planning and programming, public participation and involvement and transit planning. This agreement says within each of those activities, the specific items that everyone will do to accomplish those activities. These are things we are already doing and have been doing for years. We are asking the Policy Board to approve the agreement and authorize David Hittle to sign as the Executive Director. We will then get similar authorization from CityBus and INDOT.

Tony Roswarski asked Bryan Smith to comment on behalf of CityBus.

Bryan Smith said they have reviewed the agreement and are in compliance with all the pieces that are on the list of responsibilities and are happy to execute them. He will bring the agreement to the CityBus Board at their January 26th meeting and will ask for their authority to sign it on behalf of CityBus.

Tony Roswarski asked Shane Spears to comment on behalf of INDOT.

Shane Spears said he had only seen this as the packet came out, but in his brief review, didn't see any problems with it. He will have to run it through some people for a signature.

Tim Stroshine said it goes through the Central Office of INDOT for review.

Tony Roswarski explained the motion that the Board will be making is to approve of this document and authorize Director Hittle to sign it.

Tracy Brown moved to approve the memorandum and authorized Director Hittle to sign on behalf of the Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County. Julie Ginn seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

VII. APC PROGRESS REPORT

A. MPO Update

i. Census Urban Area Boundary Update

Doug Poad said last month the Census Bureau released the population information for all the urban areas within the United States. We have been searching their website for a GIS map showing the boundary but have not yet found one. The Census indicated in our urban area, for 2020, we have a population of 157,100 persons. In 2010 our number was 147,725. In 2000 we were at 125,738 and in 1990 it was 100,103. The county population, according to the census, is 186,251. Doug was expecting our urban population would be in the upper 160,000 to lower 170,000 and suspects the Census significantly undercounted our area of population. When the map is available, it will be shared. The next step in the process is to work with INDOT and the Federal Highway Administration to create an urbanized area boundary map. That map is used for federal funding purposes.

Tony Roswarski added that there's not much we can do with the numbers, unfortunately. He is convinced they are wrong and said there's no way in a ten-year period, our urban areas only grew by that amount.

He is disappointed in the way the Census went and does not believe the numbers are accurate. It appears to be undercounted.

John Dennis agreed.

B. INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad began with the McCutcheon pedestrian safety project. The engineer estimate for the project was \$1.25 million and the project was awarded to Milestone Contractors for \$1.29 million. Three bids were submitted for the project and the estimated contract completion date is May 15, 2024.

There were three INDOT projects on the December bid letting list and unfortunately two bids came in above the engineer estimate and were not awarded. These projects (#7-9) were rescheduled to a February 10, 2023 bid letting. Projects #2-6 are on the bid letting for this month, with project five and six rescheduled from November 2022 due to bids being above the engineer estimate.

Project 14, the ITS Traveler Information System, moved from an April 2023 bid letting to May 10, 2023. Project 22 is the Morehouse Road project, Phase 1. Project 23 is Bridge #527 on Old US 231.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Tony Roswarski asked if Shane Spears wanted to speak from the state standpoint. Shane Spears had nothing to add.

IX. CITIZEN COMMENTS

A one-minute pause took place to allow for comments. There were none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristina Lamb
Recording Secretary

Reviewed By,



David Hittle
Executive Director