

Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council
Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
MIBOR
1912 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202

Voting Committee Members Present

Ryan Cannon – Town of Avon	Gary Pool – Hancock County
Julie Young – Town of Bargersville	John Ayers – Hendricks County
Kevin Killinger – Town of Bargersville*	Bill Anthony – City of Lawrence
Dennis Buckley – City of Beech Grove	Jim Hellman – City of Noblesville*
Nick Parr – Boone County	Steve Maple – Town of Pittsboro
Todd Barker – Town of Brownsburg	Wendell Walters – Town of Speedway
Jeremy Kashman – City of Carmel	Jeremy Lollar – City of Westfield
David Littlejohn – City of Carmel*	Lance Lantz – Town of Zionsville
Jeff Hill – City of Fishers	IndyGo – Annette Darrow
Mark Richard – City of Franklin	Philip Roth – CIRTA *
Jason Koch – City of Greenfield	Katie England – INDOT
Brad Davis – Hamilton County	Robert Dirks – FHWA

* = Proxy Voting IRTC Member

Others Present

Anna Gremling – MPO	Kristin Brier – INDOT
Sean Northup – MPO	Jennifer Beck – INDOT
Taylor Firestine – MPO	Tim Miller – HNTB
Kristyn Sanchez – MPO	Jennifer Pyrz – HNTB
James Rinehart – MPO	Chelsea Fenimore – Town of Bargersville
Jen Higginbotham – MPO	Katie Robinson – City of Indianapolis
Ward Kennedy – MPO	Jeffrey Meek – City of Indianapolis
Andy Swenson – MPO	Bill Hall – United Consulting
Jennifer Dunn – MPO	Ericka Miller – WSP
Nathaniel Simmons – MPO	Marsha Craney-Blevins – GAI Consultants
Stephanie Campbell – Etica Group	Kim Irwin – Health By Design
Kate Zale – Etica Group	Kate Weese – Clark Dietz
Sarah Rubin – INDOT	Mark Turner – First Group Engineering
Paul Boone – INDOT	Ross Snider – USI Consultants
Stephen Pool – Town of New Palestine	

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Anna Gremling called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and welcomed Technical Committee members and visitors. Introductions were made around the room. **Gremling** proceeded with the meeting, reminding members that the Technical Committee serves an advisory role to approve recommendations to the Policy Committee for final approval.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (SEEKING APPROVAL)

Anna Gremling introduced the IRTC Technical Committee Meeting minutes dated October 11, 2017. Gremling noted a spelling error to Mike Fruth’s name to be corrected.

Dennis Buckley moved to approve the corrected October 11, 2017 IRTC Technical Committee Meeting minutes. **Jeff Hill** seconded the motion. The corrected minutes of the October 11, 2017 IRTC Technical Committee Meeting were approved.

ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. MINUTES FROM JOINT POLICY AND TECHNICAL MEETING

Anna Gremling introduced the IRTC Joint Meeting minutes dated December 13, 2017 to recommend for Policy Committee approval.

Jeff Hill moved to recommend the December 13, 2017 IRTC Joint Meeting minutes for Policy Committee approval. **Mark Richards** seconded the motion. The minutes of the December 13, 2017 IRTC Joint Meeting were recommended for Policy Committee approval.

4. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (IRTIP) AMENDMENTS

Kristyn Sanchez reviewed her memorandum dated January 31, 2018. She stated that the MPO had received five Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) amendment requests. The amendments will be offered for public review from February 11th to February 21st, prior to presentation at the IRTC Policy Committee meeting scheduled for February 21st. **Sanchez** also noted a title modification to one INDOT project (Des #1601131), now titled Interstate Tolling Project Planning and NEPA Services (originally FIRSST Modeling and Analytical Services). **Anna Gremling** said that INDOT will be updating the IRTC Technical and Policy Committees on this project.

Dennis Buckley moved to recommend the IRTIP amendments for Policy Committee approval. **John Ayers** seconded the motion. All IRTIP amendments were recommended for Policy Committee approval.

Sanchez also gave an update on the 1st Quarter 2018 TIP, noting that about half of the annual allocation is left to spenddown. **Gremling** reminded members that outstanding local match contributions should be sent to the MPO, especially those jurisdictions with projects going to letting. **Sanchez** noted that 2022-2023 TIP Project recommendations were presented to the IRTC Administrative Committee on January 26th. She also mentioned that a steering committee to identify recommendations for improved project scoring criteria has been meeting since September and will test results before coming to full board for approval later in 2018. **Gary Pool** recommended the need to incorporate benefit-cost analyses into new scoring criteria. **Gremling** also reminded members that projects are not fully funded until final Policy Committee approval in May.

5. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT #2

Sean Northup introduced Amendment #2 to the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He noted that the amendment will add \$55,324 (federal) to the work program, matched 80/20 with member dues. Some of that balance—\$23,324—is already matched with 2018 dues. The other \$32,000 came as a grant from the MPO Council, and match will be rolled into 2019 invoices.

Jeff Hill moved to recommend Amendment #2 to the 2018 UPWP for Policy Committee approval. **Philip Roth** seconded the motion. Amendment #2 to the 2018 UPWP was recommended for Policy Committee approval.

STATUS REPORTS

6. STRATEGIC PLAN

Anna Gremling presented an update on the MPO Strategic Plan, summarizing the findings and identifying next steps in the planning process. She listed recommendations resulting from the panels convened on the areas of Transportation, Land Use, Housing, Water, Economic Development, and Data Analysis—while highlighting regional organizations already involved in each and formation of a values framework. Possible MPO tasks include but are not limited to: creation of a regional land use and housing think tank; development of a regional vision and strategy for land use and housing; expanded staff capacity to offer technical planning assistance; refinement of a regional economic competitiveness plan, with partners Indy Chamber and Accelerate Indy; designation as an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic

Development District (EDD); and convener for existing regional organizations. **Gremling** ended the presentation outlining next steps, including defining an optimal organizational structure needed for the MPO if the organization takes on new responsibilities. Status reports to IRTC members will continue into 2018.

Gremling opened the floor to questions. Some discussion ensued on how the MPO would facilitate conversations on Strategic Plan recommendations to its member jurisdictions. **Gremling** answered that the MPO is currently refining an educational component that will succinctly relay findings onto elected officials. **Jeremy Kashman** asked a question regarding the EDD designation. **Gremling** responded that the Indianapolis region is currently missing out on federal economic development dollars because there is not a designated EDD. As with peer metropolitan planning organizations in the U.S.—including Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), both of which were the focus of MPO field trips in 2017—the Indianapolis MPO could serve such a role.

INDOT FREIGHT PLAN

Kristin Brier presented on INDOT’s 2018 Multimodal Freight Plan Update. She mentioned that the plan is built on the 2009 Multimodal Freight and 2014 Mobility Plans. As part of the 2015 FAST Act, states are now required to complete freight plans to receive federal transportation funds. **Brier** shared an overview of plan requirements and considerations, as well as findings from stakeholder engagement with partner agencies throughout the state. The 2018 update was submitted for formal review to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on January 26, 2018, with anticipated approval by April 1, 2018.

Brier was asked a few questions regarding the plan. **Kim Irwin** asked whether a time savings analysis had been completed for the proposed expansions of Interstate 65 and 70 through Indiana. **Brier** said she could check on this. **Jeff Hill** asked if there would be any delay in obligating funds in the event of a federal government shutdown if the plan does not receive FHWA approval by the April 1st deadline. **Brier** affirmed that any government disruptions would not impact funding obligations.

7. RESILIENCY PLAN

Katie Robinson, City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability, presented an overview on the development of the city’s first Resiliency Plan, including background, framework, and timeline. The presentation highlighted project goals and public engagement strategies. Robinson opened the floor to questions. Some discussion ensued on the city’s goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

8. DIRECTOR’S UPDATE / OTHER BUSINESS

Anna Gremling noted that the MPO will discontinue offering services from Grant Finder due to low usage among member agencies. She also reminded members that per bylaws, dues must be paid by the February 21st IRTC Policy Committee meeting. IRTC Administrative Committee elections will take place at that meeting. Also of note, Resolution Number 17-MPO-016 (Safety Performance Measures Resolution)—which was approved at the last meeting but not included in the agenda packet at that time—was included in this agenda packet for full transparency.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Buckley motioned to adjourn.

Philip Roth seconded the motion.

The IRTC Technical Committee meeting was adjourned.