

**Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council  
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2018**

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors  
1912 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

**Committee Members Present**

Tom Klein – Town of Avon	Gary Pool – Hancock County*
Kenneth Zumstein – Town of Bargersville*	Tim Dombrosky – Hendricks County
Dennis Buckley – City of Beech Grove	Daniel Parker – City of Indianapolis
Craig Parks – Boone County	Bill Anthony – City of Lawrence*
Grant Kleinhenz – Town of Brownsburg	Tonya Galbraith – Town of McCordsville
Mike Hollibaugh – City of Carmel*	John Beery – City of Noblesville*
C.J. Taylor – Town of Cicero*	Steve Maple – Town of Pittsboro*
Jeff Hill – City of Fishers*	Andrew Klinger – Town of Plainfield
Steve Barnett – City of Franklin	Andy Cook – City of Westfield
Chuck Fewell – City of Greenfield	Justin Stuehrenberg – IndyGo*
Mark Myer – City of Greenwood	Philip Roth – CIRTA
Mark Heirbrandt – Hamilton County	

\* = Proxy

**Others Present**

Anna Gremling – MPO	Melody Park – City of Indianapolis
Taylor Firestine – MPO	Julie Young – Town of Bargersville
Kristyn Sanchez – MPO	Bradley Davis – Hamilton County
Ward Kennedy – MPO	Bill Hall – United Consulting
James Rinehart – MPO	Chris Hammond – United Consulting
Steve Cunningham – MPO	Nick Isenberg – Woolpert
Jen Higginbotham – MPO	Scott Hornsby – GAI Consultants
Anita Bjork – MPO	Steve Fleming – Loch Group
Trevor Preddy – MPO	Kim Irwin – Health by Design
Nathaniel Simmons – MPO	Mark Richards – City of Franklin
Daniel Johnston – City of Greenwood*	Jason Koch – City of Greenfield
Robert Dirks – FHWA	Dan Haake – HDR
Tom Cicero-SEH Inc.	Kate Zale – Etica Group
Marsha Craney Blevins – GAI	Jeremy Kashman – City of Carmel

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

**Mayor Myers** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Policy Committee members and visitors. Introductions were made around the room.

**ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (SEEKING APPROVAL)**

**Dennis Buckley** moved to approve the February 21, 2018 minutes as presented.  
**Chuck Fewell** seconded the motion.  
 The minutes of the February 21, 2018 IRTC Policy Committee Meeting were approved.

3. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) AMENDMENTS

**Kristyn Sanchez** reviewed her memo concerning the proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2018 Amendments to the 2018-2021 IRTIP. Twenty-four local amendment requests and 74 INDOT amendment requests were received. Seventy administrative modifications and amendments were processed since the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter. Amendments were open for public review and comment from May 13<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The amendments were detailed in the handout for review. There was no further discussion.

Public hearing was opened by **Mayor Mark Myers**. There were no comments.

Public hearing was closed.

**Craig Parks** motioned to approve the Indianapolis Transportation Improvement Program (IRTIP) Amendments.  
**Daniel Parker** seconded.  
The Indianapolis Transportation Improvement Program Amendments were approved.

4. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) 2022-2023 ILLUSTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

**Steve Cunningham** noted that the annual call for projects was in October 2017. The MPO received 73 project applications from 21 local planning agencies totaling more than \$188 million in federal funds. The final MPO staff recommendations include funding for 31 projects from 15 local planning agencies totaling over \$61.5 million in federal funds. **Cunningham** stated approximately 15 percent over the allocation is built in for flexibility.

**Cunningham** reviewed the staff recommendations as detailed in his memo. He specified there were two TAP projects for 70/30 match and two larger capacity projects. All Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) applications were recommended for funding, but due to limited applications received, the MPO will flex remaining funds to the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program in State Fiscal Years (SFYs) 2022-2023. All projects meet Complete Streets Policy compliance. There were no questions. **Anna Gremling** stated there would be a press release highlighting the projects discussed.

**Tom Klein** motioned to approve the IRTIP 2022-2023 Illustrative Recommendations as presented.  
**Steve Barnett** seconded.  
The IRTIP 2022-2023 Illustrative Recommendations were approved.

5. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) PROJECT SCORING

**Kristyn Sanchez** presented her memo dated May 16, 2018 regarding updates to IRTIP project scoring. Changes were recommended by a subcommittee composed of IRTC Technical and Policy Committee members, which was first convened to oversee revisions in September 2017. These revisions better align with 5-year programming of the TIP and reflect current performance measures. She summarized the revisions to the existing TIP selection criteria for the Policy Committee.

**Sanchez** covered revisions in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) added capacity projects, roadway reconstruction/rehab and resurfacing plus intersection improvements and score adjustments to the pavement scores. A brief discussion ensued regarding bike trail lengths and connection points.

**Gary Pool** motioned to approve the IRTIP Project Scoring as presented.  
**Mark Heirbrandt** seconded.  
The IRTIP Project Scoring was approved as presented.

6. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

**Jen Higginbotham** presented her memo concerning the MPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP). The current plan was reviewed by community engagement specialists and partner organizations. They were asked to provide suggestions to improve the document as well as the processes. The modifications were listed in her handout. The public review and comment period was March 16<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>. One comment was received on the online draft via Civiccomment.

Public Hearing was opened.

**Kim Irwin** from Health by Design stated she is in support of the revisions and the improved Public Involvement Plan. She confirmed the processes were well drafted and welcomes new stakeholders at a local level.

Public Hearing was closed.

**Philip Roth** motioned to approve the Public Involvement Plan.  
**Steve Barnett** seconded.  
The Public Involvement Plan was approved.

#### **7. 2019 IRTC MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**Sean Northup** reviewed local match contributions for 2019, which increased marginally over 2018 Membership Dues. He provided a handout of the UPWP for review. He also presented a PowerPoint slide of local match contributions and federal allocations from previous years for comparison, transparency and review. **Northup** stated a Dangerous Intersection Report would be completed in 2019. He said the governmental relations contract with Capitol Assets proved very valuable over the last two years. The MPO will be repeating a contract with the same vendor in 2019. **Northup** stated \$100,000 HSIP funds would be flexed to the UPWP for 2019. A brief discussion ensued.

**Dennis Buckley** motioned to approve 2019 IRTC Membership Dues.  
**Andrew Klinger** seconded.  
The 2019 IRTC Membership Dues were approved.

#### **8. RESOLUTION: INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN FEDERAL PERCENTAGES**

**James Rinehart** reviewed **Anna Gremling**'s memo on the White House's Rebuilding America's Infrastructure Plan. The letter reinforces continuing the existing 80/20 local match for federal projects and would be sent to Indiana's Congressional Delegation. A short conversation ensued regarding the possibility of changes in the federal percentages.

**Dennis Buckley** motioned to approve Resolution Number 18-IMPO-005, with requested language.  
**Chuck Fewell** seconded.  
Resolution Number 18-IMPO-005 was approved.

### **STATUS REPORTS**

#### **9. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) ANNUAL ALLOCATION**

**Anna Gremling** provided a PowerPoint presentation on the MPO's annual allocation. She commented the MPO routinely over-programs the fiscal year by approximately 20%. Since FY2015, (under INDOT's "use it or lose it") bids have averaged about 5% under their programmed TIP amount. By 2020, the MPO will be required to spend down its \$66.5 million of past year balances (PYBs). **Gremling** mentioned two strategies for spending funds by deadline: moving 2021 projects up and transfer funds to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). It was noted that advanced construction is not permitted in Indiana. **Gremling** stated the MPO has stressed the importance of LPAs keeping their projects on schedule, completing quarterly tracking and updating the MPO on the status of projects. But she is very concerned there are municipalities that have not started projects after having been awarded the funds months or years ago. She stressed losing federal funding is not acceptable and would like to see a concerted effort by LPAs to work with their vendors and staff to get projects in line. **Kleinhenz** stated more often ROW delays the projects. **Tom Klein** agreed more efforts to spend down funds needs to happen immediately.

#### **10. REGIONAL DATA PRESENTATION**

**Drew Klacik** presented a PowerPoint on data illustrating the economic changes in the region. He described the challenges municipalities are witnessing now and the compelling impacts in the years to come. The areas of change and struggle are in wages, growth or lack thereof in various demographics, lack of collaboration, lack of entrepreneurship and shortages in a solid workforce. He provided insight on developing communities in other areas of the country and comparative data with Indiana communities. A short discussion ensued.

**11. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

**Anna Gremling** stated the analysis of the MPO becoming a fully independent organization (no longer hosted within the City of Indianapolis) continues. She supplied a handout for review which included expanding the scope of planning services to its member jurisdictions into five areas; economic development, land use and housing, water resources, transportation planning, and data warehouse/dashboard. There will be upcoming meetings to discuss the plan in-depth.

**12. FHWA/FTA CERTIFICATION – JUNE 11 & 12**

**Anna Gremling** noted that the MPO's certification will be held June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. A public meeting concerning the certification process will be held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The IRTC Policy Meeting of May 23, 2018 was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.