

**Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2019**

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

MIBOR REALTOR Association, Meeting Room B
1912 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Committee Members Present

Tom Klein – Town of Avon	Brad Davis – Hamilton County
Julie Young – Town of Bargersville	David Borden – City of Indianapolis
Dennis Buckley – City of Beech Grove	Tonya Galbraith – Town of McCordsville
Craig Parks – Boone County	Andrew Klinger – Town of Plainfield
Brian Hartsell – Town of Brownsburg	Jacob Blasdel – Town of Speedway
Mike Hollibaugh – City of Carmel*	Tim Haak – Town of Zionsville
April Fisher – Town of Cumberland	Mike Terry - IndyGo
Mark Richards – City of Franklin	Andrew McGee - CIRTA
Jason Koch – City of Greenfield	Robert Dirks - FHWA
Daniel Johnston – City of Greenwood	Steve Barnett – Town of Franklin
Jeremy Kashman – City of Carmel	

* = *Proxy*

Others Present

Anna Gremling – MPO	Dolan Monroe – City of Beech Grove
Sean Northup - MPO	Heather Efraymson – DB Engineering
Steve Cunningham – MPO	John Myers – HNTB
Jennifer Dunn – MPO	Scott Hornsby – GAI Consulting
Anita Bjork – MPO	Jeff Hill – WSP
Jen Higginbotham – MPO	Bill Hall – United Consulting
Nick Badman – MPO	Amy Groff – INDOT
Trevor Preddy – MPO	Lauren Day – IndyGo
Catherine Kostyn – MPO	Kate Zale – Etica Group
Danielle Gerlach – MPO	Scott Higginson – American Structurepoint
Andrew Swenson – MPO	Ericka Miller – WSP
Kristyn Sanchez – MPO	Kim Irwin – Health by Design
Taylor Firestine – MPO	Allison Redenz - MCPHD
Rose Scovel - MPO	Mark Turner – First Group

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Craig Parks called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed IRTC Policy Committee members. Introductions were made around the room.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20TH, 2019 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES (SEEKING APPROVAL)

Mayor Dennis Buckley moved to approve the February 20th, 2019 IRTC Policy Committee minutes.
Mayor Steve Barnett seconded the motion.
 The minutes of the February 20th, 2019 IRTC Policy Committee meeting were approved.

3. ELECTION OF AT-LARGE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER

Anna Gremling briefly described the voting and election process for the representatives of the IRTC Administrative Committee. She explained that **Brian Jesson, Andrew Klinger,** and **Jason Taylor** all expressed interest on serving in the at-large member seat left vacant by **Jeff Hill**.

Craig Parks asked if there were any more nominations. There were none.

Mayor Dennis Buckley motioned to close the nominations
Mayor Steve Barnett seconded the motion.

Trevor Preddy collected the ballots. **Andrew Klinger** was elected to the At-Large seat on the IRTC Administrative Committee.

4. **2018-2021 INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) AMENDMENT (RES. 19-IMPO-005)**

Kristyn Sanchez discussed the project amendment requests for the City of Indianapolis and the Town of Bargersville. The City of Indianapolis request was recommended to be tabled by the IRTC Technical Committee at their May 8th meeting. The Town of Bargersville request for an increase in STBG funding was recommended for approval by the IRTC Technical Committee. **Julie Young** explained the additional costs were projected during the design phase, which found more drainage infrastructure was required, as well as a barrier between pedestrians and a nearby railroad.

Craig Parks opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments from the public.

Tom Klein moved to approve Resolution Number 19-IMPO-005.
Mayor Dennis Buckley seconded the motion.
The IRTC Policy Committee approved Resolution Number 19-IMPO-005.

5. **2020-2023 INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (IRTIP) ADOPTION WITH STATE FISCAL YEAR 2024 RECOMMENDATIONS (RES. 19-IMPO-006)**

Anna Gremling asked **Steve Cunningham** to give an update on the 2019 fiscal year. **Cunningham** said MPO funds had been fully obligated. He went on to discuss the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), as well as 2024 illustrative projects. The MPO received 69 applications from 18 Local Planning Agencies in the 2024 Call for Projects, with \$55 million available for distribution. **Cunningham** noted that subsequent to the original recommendations, the City of Carmel had withdrawn two intersection projects because they would now be funded locally. The next project in line, based on scores was a different Carmel intersection project that is part of the final recommendation. All projects are eligible under FHWA and INDOT regulations. INDOT found the TIP to be fiscally constrained, and all recommended projects met the requirements of the Indianapolis MPO's Complete Streets Policy. The draft TIP was sent out for public comment. The MPO received comments from Health by Design, which mostly related to public involvement and types of projects that were funded. The MPO provided a response to all comments. The draft TIP was recommended for approval by the IRTC Technical Committee upon approval will be submitted to INDOT and FHWA. Final approval is expected by July 1st.

Craig Parks opened the Public Hearing.

Kim Irwin, of Health by Design, expressed concern regarding expansion and lane addition without consideration for maintenance, which removes resources from other projects which could better serve communities. She also said the MPO should strengthen their Complete Streets policy and focus on increasing public engagement, especially with at-risk populations. **Tom Klein** asked **Cunningham** if the MPO has any latitude to go against INDOT projects. **Cunningham** said the MPO can only reject INDOT projects if they are not identified in the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Mayor Dennis Buckley moved to approve Resolution Number 19-IMPO-006.
Tom Klein seconded the motion.
The IRTC Policy Committee approved Resolution Number 19-IMPO-006.

6. TITLE VI PROCESS (RES.19-MPO-004)

Rose Scovel stated the last update to the Title VI process was 2007. She explained the Title VI policy is supposed to allow residents to submit complaints about the organization in relation to federally protected classes. **Scovel** said the changes include a new form and new language. After approval by the IRTC Policy Committee, the Title VI process will go to the Metropolitan Development Commission, and will then be put on the MPO website. **Tom Klein** asked if the MPO had received any complaints in the past. **Anna Gremling** said there had been none. **Klein** asked if the MPO could expand protected classes; **Scovel** stated it is possible to expand the protected classes. **Tonya Galbraith** asked if the Title VI process was the same component local planning agencies are required to submit for their projects. **Gremling** and **Scovel** confirmed it was, the only change is a new contact form. **Mike Terry** asked if there are any trainings to ensure compliance with title VI to receive funds, **Gremling** confirmed that INDOT holds training.

Craig Parks opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments from the public.

Mike Terry moved to approve Resolution Number 19-IMPO-004.
Tonya Galbraith seconded the motion.
The IRTC Policy Committee approved Resolution Number 19-IMPO-004.

7. MEMBERSHIP DUES (RES. 19-MPO-007)

Sean Northup discussed funding for the 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Federal funds increased \$67,000, with an increase in local match dollars, and the Surface Transportation Block Grant spread out over the next three years for survey collection and data and modeling improvements. State funding is being reduced and total membership dues for the region is \$771,482. Of those dues, \$55,000 is funded a 100% local for Transportation for America dues and government relations. **Craig Parks** asked if membership prices would increase after the MPO separates from the City of Indianapolis; **Northup** said they would not, he is expecting it to remain flat. **Steve Barnett** inquired about the 2019 increase, **Northup** said it is roughly a thirty percent increase from 2018. **Brad Davis** asked about the communities that were grayed out on the memo. **Northup** said those communities have decided not to submit dues for this year. The MPO is still trying to reconcile Mooreseville and Brooklyn for their local match. **Jason Koch** asked when membership dues would be based on the 2020 Census population numbers; **Northup** said it would most likely be between 2022 and 2023.

Mayor Dennis Buckley motioned to approve Resolution Number 19-MPO-007.
Mayor Steve Barnett seconded the motion.
The IRTC Policy Committee approved Resolution Number 19-IMPO-007.

STATUS REPORTS

8. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Rose Scovel explained the changes in performance measures, mostly to ensure they are replicable. She explained the format of the document and a detailed methodology document was already created. **Scovel** continued to explain the data results for all of the performance measures. **Tonya Galbraith** asked what the definition of a grocery store was; **Scovel** said staff used NAICS standards to define grocery stores in the data, which did not include specialty or convenience stores. **Jason Koch** asked if the walking measure for grocery stores includes sidewalks; **Scovel** said sidewalks are not currently included in the measure, but once the MPO upgrades the sidewalk data the organization will be able to calculate that measure more accurately. **Scovel** said the MPO is making sure they do regular updates to the performance measures, they plan on setting targets and trends in the next few years. The data will be used to see which performance measures will be added in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. There were no further questions. **Anna Gremling** thanked **Scovel** and other staff for their work to update data for performance measurements.

9. COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Anna Gremling said economic development planning will be a future planning function of the MPO, and the reason for presenting the economic development document. The document outlines a plan that will establish an Economic Development District (EDD) for Central Indiana. **Taylor Firestine** said the MPO is taking on the task because there is an economic development district void in the region. **Firestine** said the Economic Development Administration (EDA) distributes grants to Economic Development Districts, which require half of the project to be funded by local dollars compared to the 20 percent match for MPO projects. In FY 2017, 15 grants totaling \$9.5 million were awarded to other Indiana EDDs. The EDA provides about 2/3rds of its funding to rural areas. He presented an overview of the different programs provided by the EDA. **Firestine** gave a high-level overview of what the region needs to apply for program funds, which includes an EDA-approved Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) with economic distress eligibility. He presented a case study of a project under the West Central Indiana EDD; the EDD was able to get \$1.2 million from the EDA Public Works Program and \$1.3 million in private funds. The project created 127 new jobs and retained 1,186 jobs in the Terre Haute Region. **Firestine** also presented a case study for the Milwaukee EDD, which attained a \$1.87 million grant from the EDA Public Works Program to redevelop an industrial park, which spurred \$106 million dollars in private investment and retained 1100 jobs. Another case study from the Greater Nashville Regional Council showed how a \$2.5 million grant from the EDA Disaster Recovery Relief Program was used to repair and expand an entrepreneur center.

Firestine said that public input meetings and regional buy-in will be required for CEDS approval and EDD designation. Eventually the MPO will issue an RFQ for an economic development consultant to develop a strategy document, which will then be sent to the Chicago EDA office. The MPO will track CEDS performance and update the plan every five years. **Tom Klein** asked if the Indy Chamber will be involved; **Firestine** said they would. **Sean Northup** added that there is a clear delineation between the duties of the MPO, Accelerate Indy, Indy Partnership, and Indy Chamber. The MPO will create a plan that is in line with land use and transportation goals. **Brian Hartsell** asked why we had never applied before; **Anna Gremling** said she was unsure, but believed it may have had something to do with UniGov. **Andrew Klinger** said that attempts to form an EDD have been tried in the past, but the regional participation was not as strong as it is now. **Gremling** said when Indy Chamber started the CEDS project, they did not want to pursue the EDD designation because it would require them to comply with Freedom of Information Act and Open-Door Communication requirements. **Jason Koch** asked how the regional boundaries would be defined; **Northup** responded that it has to be at the county level; all counties within the MPA with the exception of Shelby County, and possible addition of Madison County.

10. SAFETY DATA DEMONSTRATION

James Rinehart discussed the crash data dashboard that displays pedestrian, cyclist, and automobile crashes within the MPA from 2015 – 2017. **Rinehart** showed how to access the dashboard through the website, described its components, and how to read and filter data down to the individual LPA level. All of the data is from ARIES. **Gremling** said the MPO has been concentrating work on safety data and the MPO will be kicking off the intersection safety study. **Tom Klein** clarified they will only be local intersections. **Mike Terry** asked how scooter accidents were being classified in the crash dashboard; **Andrew Swenson** was unsure, but **Kim Irwin** said there are some cases where they are being listed as motor vehicle accidents.

11. BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATES

Nicholas Badman announced the MPO had launched surveys to collect input for both the regional bikeways and pedestrian plans, both of which are open until June 7th. He also announced the MPO will be conducting stakeholder meetings during the first week of June. A video was posted on the MPO's Facebook page on May 21st explaining the scope of the regional bikeways plan. A Facebook Live event was also held the same day to answer any questions in real-time as a substitute for an in-person public meeting. Both videos are still available and staff is consistently checking for questions that require responses. **Anna Gremling** spoke about how the MPO is trying to hold more virtual meetings due to their cost effectiveness and ability to reach more people at once. **Danielle Gerlach** announced there will be a pedestrian plan video live event launched at lunch time on May 23rd.

12. FORD CITY: ONE CHALLENGE

Lauren Day discussed the background and history of the City:One Challenge. Its goal is to leverage public-private partnerships to identify mobility solutions and start pilot programs which implements those solutions. The program is facilitated by Ford City Solutions, Dell, and Microsoft. **Day** highlighted how technology is used to identify issues and create innovative solutions. Indianapolis, Detroit, Austin, and Mexico City are all in the program this year. Indianapolis is unique in that it already has a charitable foundation working on mobility solutions. **Day** discussed the Personal Mobility Initiative, where a personal mobility network can get anyone, anywhere in the city, without using a private,

personal vehicle. Strategic focus areas include affordable transportation improvements, increased access to opportunity, enhancement of the ability for physically-challenged residents to navigate communities, identification of transit incentives, and integration of transportation options to enhance transit experience. **Day** discussed the Propose, Refine, Select methodology for mobility solutions. She stated the winning solution will be announced in December 2019.

Mike Terry asked if there are multiple awards; **Day** said there is usually just one, but they are working to leverage funding for multiple solutions. **Anna Gremling** asked why the IRTC should be paying attention to this program, **Day** said there may be possible solutions that come from the process that can be applied across the region, not just Indianapolis. **Jeremy Kashman** asked if there was any model legislation coming out of the challenge in terms of micromobility. **Day** said there is not any model legislation, but IndyGo is working to make sure that mobility solutions work with public transit. **Sean Northup** said that the selection committee will evaluate any possible legislative restriction on solutions, which may spawn some model legislation. **Terry** said there needs to be a plan to address issues of integration and governance for the solutions. **Northup** said Ford has taken a hard turn into examining how mobility should work within the right-of-way in the future, including mobility for low density communities and slow lanes for bikes and cars.

13. **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Anna Gremling announced Functional Classification Updates are due to **Jennifer Dunn** by May 24th and the IRTC Technical Committee should be aware of the deadline. She also said there will be a lot of information on the MPO's transition at the June 12th Joint Meeting; most discussion will be focused on state legislation to define the MPO's functions, as well as updates on services for human resources, legal, and accounting policies. **Jen Higginbotham** said the National Transit Institute, in conjunction with National Highways, Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration, will be holding a public involvement course from October 1st to the 3rd, 2019. There will be a concentration on how to engage and provide information to the public. The MPO requested that they bring the class to the region, so IRTC members and the MPO will have priority for a maximum of 25 seats.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Rose Scovel** said the MPO needs shapefiles for the economic development or other special districts to use as inputs for the regional activities centers study.
- **Anna Gremling** introduced Nick Badman and Danielle Gerlach as new contacts for the IRTC.
- **Gremling** announced the IRTC Administrative Committee meeting for May 24th has been cancelled.
- **Andrew Swenson** said the MPO has been working with the Census Bureau to get finalized boundaries for Census-Designated Places.

Mayor Dennis Buckley motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Andrew Klinger seconded the motion.
The IRTC Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.