

**Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council**  
**Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Hornet Park Community Center  
5245 Hornet Avenue  
Beech Grove, IN 46107

**Committee Members Present**

Tom Klein – Town of Avon	Joe Csikos* – Town of Bargersville
Tom Santelli* – Boone County	Mike Hollibaugh* – City of Carmel
April Fisher – Town of Cumberland	Jason Taylor – City of Fishers
Steve Barnett – City of Franklin	Mark Richards* – City of Franklin
Mark Meyers – City of Greenwood	Daniel Johnston* – City of Greenwood
Gary Pool – Hancock County	Eric Wathen – Hendricks County
David Borden* – City of Indianapolis	Sri Venugopalan* – City of Lawrence
Ryan Crum* – Town of McCordsville	Josh Messmer* – Morgan County
Matt Light* – City of Noblesville	Jim Hellman – City of Noblesville
Andrew Klinger – Town of Plainfield	Andy Cook – City of Westfield
Cameron Radford* – IndyGo	Christine Altman – CIRTA
Clark Packer – INDOT	

\* = *Proxy*

**Others Present**

Anna Gremling – Indianapolis MPO	Taylor Firestine – Health by Design
Nick Badman – Indianapolis MPO	Logan Lang – Health by Design
James Rinehart – Indianapolis MPO	Mark Turner – First Group
Jen Higginbotham – Indianapolis MPO	Kim Irwin – Health by Design
Rose Scovel – Indianapolis MPO	Catherine Kostyn – Indianapolis MPO
Andy Swenson – Indianapolis MPO	Kristyn Sanchez – Indianapolis MPO
Danielle Gerlach – Indianapolis MPO	Annie Dixon – Indianapolis MPO
Steve Cunningham – Indianapolis MPO	Anita Bjork – Indianapolis MPO
Sean Northup – Indianapolis MPO	Brittany White - INDOT

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Mark Myers called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and welcomed Policy Committee members and visitors. Introductions were made around the room.

**ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

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

<p><b>Mayor Dennis Buckley</b> moved to recommend the approval of the October 23, 2019 IRTC Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented.  <b>Steve Barnett</b> seconded the motion.  The minutes of the October 23, 2019 IRTC Policy Committee meeting were recommended for approval as presented.  <b>MOTION PASSED.</b></p>
<p><b>Eric Wathen</b> moved to recommend the approval of the December 11, 2019 IRTC Joint Committee meeting minutes as presented.  <b>Steve Barnett</b> seconded the motion.  <b>Christine Altman</b> abstained from the vote.  The minutes of the December 11, 2019 IRTC Joint Committee meeting were recommended for approval as presented.  <b>MOTION PASSED.</b></p>

**3. 2020 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

**Anna Gremling** explained the election process to the committee members. **Myers** opened the floor for nominations or for anyone to express interest to be on the ballot. There were none. MPO staff members collected ballots and exited to tally.

**4. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT #4 RESOLUTION #20-IMPO-003**

**Jen Higginbotham** briefed the committee on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) amendment #4. She described the included projects and a a minor typo correction. No comments were received during the public comment period. **Myers** opened the floor for questions. There were none. **Myers** opened the public hearing; there were no questions or comments from the public; the hearing closed.

**Mayor Dennis Buckley** moved to recommend the approval of resolution 20-IMPO-003.

**Tom Klein** seconded the motion.

Resolution #20-IMPO-003 was recommended for approval as presented.

MOTION PASSED

**5. INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM RES #20-IMPO-004**

**Kristyn Sanchez** briefed the committee about the proposed Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment: there were 13 requests from INDOT and 1 local request. **Sanchez** noted that no comments were received from the public review and comment period and then asked for any questions from the Board. There were none. **Myers** opened the public hearing for comments or questions. There were none.

**Mayor Dennis Buckley** moved to recommend the approval of resolution 20-IMPO-004.

**Chuck Fewell** seconded the motion.

Resolution 20-IMPO-004 was recommended for approval as presented.

MOTION PASSED

**Sanchez** updated the group about the call for projects and explained the MPO is still reviewing the applications and waiting on eligibility determinations, as well as having conversations with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding a potential Federal exchange. As result, the MPO hopes to have more information before the next meetings. **Sanchez** also updated the committee on the SFY 2020 annual allocation. The MPO is waiting on some purchase orders to be issued, but it is expected that the annual allocation will be spent down with the March letting.

**6. REGIONAL PEDESTRIAN PLAN RESOLUTION #20-IMPO-001**

**Jen Higginbotham** talked about the regional pedestrian plan and recapped previous presentations given to the board. She stated that public comments were received, but many requested a specific project or areas for work to be done. All comments were forwarded to the appropriate department of public works or equivalent in the respective community. Changes made to the document after the public review period were outlined in the agenda packet. **Higginbotham** said there will be a training session for IRTC members to attend, if they would like. The session will go over the data analysis that was conducted for prioritizing areas for pedestrian investment. There were no further questions. **Myers** opened the public hearing. **Kim Irwin** spoke, stating that she and her organization (Health by Design) has been providing input throughout the planning process and commended the staff and team working on the project. She urged local leaders to use the plan and take it further to improve pedestrian infrastructure at the local level. **Irwin** talked about addressing equity in a persistent and consistent way. She offered her organization's help if needed. **Tom Santelli** also commended staff for their work on the plan and stated Boone County has been using it in presentations. There were no other public comments and **Myers** closed the public hearing.

**Christine Altman** moved to recommend the approval of resolution 20-IMPO-001.

**Mike Hollibaugh** seconded the motion.

Resolution 20-IMPO-001 was recommended for approval as presented.

MOTION PASSED

**ELECTIONS – REVISITED**

The following results came in for the first round of Administrative Committee elections:

- Daniel Parker (Largest City – Indianapolis, by default)
- Dennis Buckley (Excluded City – Beech Grove)
- Andy Cook (City – Westfield)
- Tom Klein (Town – Avon)

- Mark Heirbrandt (County – Hamilton)
- Inez Evans (Transit – IndyGo)

**Anna Gremling** then opened the floor for at-large nominations. **Gary Pool** and **Eric Wathen** were nominated. **Gremling** closed nominations and members voted. Staff members collected the ballots and exited to tally.

**7. HOUSE BILL 1070 RESOLUTION #20-MPO-005**

**Anna Gremling** briefed the group about what was happening at the state house with the distracted driving bill. She explained the administrative committee wanted this to be on the agenda and the MPO should pass a resolution supporting the bill. **Christine Altman** stated CIRTAs has also adopted a similar resolution. **Gremling** explained the bill passed committee on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 8-1 and there was an amendment added. Some senators feel that the \$500 fine is not tough enough. There were no further questions.

**Jason Taylor** moved to recommend the approval of resolution 20-IMPO-005.  
**Andrew Klinger** seconded the motion.  
 Resolution 20-IMPO-005 was recommended for approval as presented.  
**MOTION PASSED**

**8. SPECIAL RESOLUTION #20-IMPO-002**

**Anna Gremling** explained the special resolution and why it was left off on purpose: the resolution is honoring Mayor Mark Myers for his leadership with the MPO and IRTC. **Gremling read the resolution and presented Myers** with an award.

**Unanimously** moved to recommend the approval of resolution 20-IMPO-002.  
**Tom Klein** seconded the motion.  
 Resolution 20-IMPO-002 was recommended for approval as presented.  
**MOTION PASSED**

**STATUS REPORTS**

**9. SENATE BILL 350 REGIONAL GOVERNANCE UPDATE**

**Sean Northup** briefed the committee on Senate Bill 350. He explained the different components of the bill, including establishing the MPO as a standalone organization independent from the City of Indianapolis. He also explained the difference between the different existing designations the MPO was considering and why those did not work, leading to drafting legislation to establish something that would be more suitable for the MPO. **Northup** also explained that the proposed legislation is not creating a new level of government, nor is it a new organization. He said the bill passed the senate committee and the senate floor and is being heard by the Ways and Means committee on February 19, 2020.

**10. SOCIAL MEDIA METRICS AND ANALYTICS**

**Danielle Gerlach** briefed the committee on the MPO’s social media strategy. She gave a brief presentation on the particular metrics being tracked for different platforms. **Gary Pool** suggested adding how many views posts get as another metric he would like to see.

**11. ELECTIONS – REVISITED**

The following results came in for the at-large member vote:

- At-large members:
  - o Jason Taylor (City of Fishers)
  - o Andrew Klinger (Town of Plainfield)
  - o Eric Wathen (Hendricks County)

**Tom Klein** motioned for a voice vote for the slate. The committee members then voted for chair and vice-chair of the administrative committee, appointing Mayor Andy Cook as Chair and Andrew Klinger as Vice-Chair.

**12. TRANSITION UPDATE**

**Anna Gremling** updated the group about the transition: the human resource information system (HRIS) is in place. The MPO is still looking into benefits and is looking to establish an MOU for cost savings purposes to remain with the city's policy in this regard. She also explained challenges with the first financial services vendor, which led to another firm being contracted for those services.

**Gremling** explained there will be more information available in the next month following the legislative session and pending Senate Bill 350 approval or denial. In the case where the MPO would need to use the Regional Development Authority (RDA) temporarily, Frost Brown Todd, LLC created a document about how to join the RDA. **Christine Altman** asked if there was a lobbyist that was working on this. **Gremling** explained Rick Cockrum, of Capitol Assets, has been taking care of it. **Altman** asked about the risks of being housed under the RDA. **Gremling** explained there is a risk by default, but does not believe there is anything to worry about at this point. **Sean Northup** added that the plan is to move the employees from the City of Indianapolis to the RDA, who would then have authority over contract authorizations, payroll, raises, and reviews. The RDA would not handle any federal transportation funding, which would stay with the Policy Committee making those decisions. There were no further questions.

### **13. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

**Anna Gremling** provided an update on the proposed Federal Funds Exchange agreement with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) noting that INDOT is proposing a 90/10 exchange rate. The MPO received a draft agreement from INDOT in December and anticipates providing feedback soon. INDOT has asked that an executed agreement be in place by June. **Gremling** stated there may not be a call for TIP projects in Fall 2020 to allow MPO staff to figure out policies and procedures moving forward if the agreement is executed. **Eric Wathen** requested a copy of the draft agreement; however, it is not able to be distributed at this time.

**Tom Santelli** asked what the advantage is of executing this agreement. **Gremling** explained this is a business decision for INDOT for the 90/10 split, but negotiations are ongoing. The MPO would incur cost increases while INDOT would incur savings. **Tom Klein** asked if there was research conducted to explore whether this would work. **Gremling** explained her review and analysis, which will be sent to the board at a later time. **Christine Altman** asked the MPO to look into whether there are requirements for using state funding under the swap.

### **14. OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**Anna Gremling** explained the MPO is partnering with ITE to do a symposium on freight in Central Indiana. She requested submissions from members for the symposium if they are experiencing issues with freight in their communities.

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

**Tom Klein** motioned to adjourn.

**Dennis Buckley** seconded.

The IRTC Technical Meeting of February 19, 2020 was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

MOTION PASSED