Understanding the Transportation Improvement Program
Aka: TIP 101
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

• Federally Mandated for all MPO’s by USDOT

• Fiscally Constrained

• Short Range (no more than four years)

• All federally funded **capital and non-capital** surface transportation projects (or phases) within the region are programmed in the TIP.

• **The TIP must be compatible with the State TIP (STIP).** State roads contained in the STIP must be in the appropriate MPO’s TIP.
Indianapolis Regional Transportation Improvement Program (IRTIP)

• A four-year schedule of Federally funded transportation projects in the Central Indiana Metropolitan Planning Area.

• Uses FHWA, FTA, or INDOT funds for projects. Projects considered regionally significant are included regardless of funding source.

• Assists local governments by ensuring limited Federal funds are spent on projects consistent with the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) goals.

• Roadway and intersection improvements/maintenance, bike/ped enhancements (trails, multi-use paths, sidewalks), as well as traffic signal and transit updates are able to be submitted to the IRTIP.

• LPA’s in good standing with the IMPO are able to submit projects to the IRTIP.
Federal Funding Types Administered by the Indianapolis MPO

- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

• Federal Aid Program with the goal to achieve significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries

• Funding available for all public roads

• Requires a data driven strategic approach to improve safety with a focus on performance

• Example: the installation of school zone flashers
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)

- Federal Aid Program designed to support surface transportation projects
- Also designed to support efforts that contribute to air quality improvements and congestion relief
- Example of CMAQ funded project is the 96th St and Priority Way roundabout.

Image: Proposed Roundabout, 96th St & Priority Way
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

• Federal Aid Program designed to fund surface transportation projects such as on and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities including

• TAP funds are eligible for Safe Routes to School and Historic Preservation projects.

• Example of a TAP funded project is the widening and resurfacing project along the Monon Trail.

Image: Monon Trail at bridge crossing Fall Creek Pkwy
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)

- Flexible Federal Aid funding program available for pavement preservation, expansion, bridge, transit, and bike/pedestrian infrastructure projects.
- The IMPO awards STBG funding based on the established policy goals set forth in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

STBG funding breakdown as approved in the 2045 LRTP
What is MiTIP?

• MiTIP is the MPO’s web-based project database that stores and manages data for the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Improvement Program. It utilizes EcoInteractive’s Project Tracker Software as a Service (SaaS).
• MiTIP improves project tracking and communication between all parties involved in the federal aid process.
• LPAs can easily view and amend their projects.
• LPAs can run reports to get detailed information on their projects.
• LPAs can submit quarterly reports and track the changes in their project development schedule.
• LPAs can apply for Federal funds through the IMPO’s calls for projects.
What is MiTIP? (continued)

- By requiring all LPAs to use MiTIP, the IMPO is able to gather and track consistent project information across the region.

- All project amendment versions, applications, and quarterly reports are saved in MiTIP as historic data for record keeping.

- Real Time information can be search by using defined criteria (LPA, Funding Type, Project Type, etc.) or an interactive Google Map.
The public MiTIP website represents the most up-to-date version of the IRTIP.

- The site is automatically populated with updated information whenever a change is made on the secure MiTIP website.

Six tabs include:

- About the IRTIP/MiTIP
- Federally approved IRTIP
- IRTIP Amendments
- Advanced Search
- Projects by County
- Map

Our public website module is now being used by other MPOs nationwide.
Submitting amendment requests via MiTIP:

- **Administrative Amendment** – Some examples of an administrative action are: changing fiscal year, splitting or combining projects without affecting the original project intent, minor funding changes (non-competitive funds), transferring funding between phases (PE to ROW, etc.)

- **INDOT Amendment** – For all INDOT sponsored projects that take place on state highways/interstates and require an amendment rather than a modification

- **Local Amendment** – For all projects sponsored by local agencies that require an amendment to be approved by the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) rather than an administrative amendment or modification
Quarterly reports are due via MiTIP on the 21st of January, April, July, and October to assist the MPO and INDOT in always knowing where the project stands in its development process.

Once a project is submitted and approved in MiTIP by MPO staff, an automatic email is forwarded to the LPA’s INDOT District Program Manager and Project Manager with a copy of the submitted report.

Quarterly review meetings are then held a week to two weeks after the submittal date to discuss the projects’ development.

All LPAs should closely follow INDOT’s Letting Prep Schedule.
The INDOT Annual Allocation Policy requires all MPO’s to fully spend down their annual allocations each SFY, or the remaining balance is returned to INDOT.

The IMPO issues an annual Call for Projects to ensure its annual allocation is programmed to new projects

• The Call for Projects typically opens in MiTIP in late September/early October and closes the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

• All project information must be completed in MiTIP in order to submit a project application.

• Supporting Application Documents and Reference Materials for each Call for Projects are available on our [website](#).

• Projects are automatically scored within MiTIP based on the information input by the LPA and the MPO’s scoring criteria.

• The project application review is completed before Christmas, and recommendations are sent to the IRTC Admin Committee the following January. Recommended HSIP and CMAQ projects are sent to INDOT and FTP in January as well for eligibility determination.

• Final Project List is completed in late February.
Questions?

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