



Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Bradley G. Mills, P.E., Executive Director

EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Regular meeting held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 301
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana

November 1, 2007

ROLL CALL

Members Present (voting):

Steve Melcher, Mayor Weinzapfel, Cynthia Burger, Lloyd Winnecke, John Stroud, Pam Drach, Ted Merryman, Ed Ziemer

Members Absent (voting):

Jeff Korb, Jack Corn, William Hubiak, Don Williams, Greg Meyer

Members Present (non-voting:)

Dave Franklin

Members Absent (non-voting:)

Karl B. Browning, Robert F. Tally, Scott Deloney, Marisol Simon, Stewart McKenzie, Jose Sepulveda, Bernadette Dupont, Bill Nighbert, Daryl Green John Goins

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Brad Mills, Laura Lamb, Craig Luebke, Kari Akin, Rob Schaefer

Others Present:

Jason Heile

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Winnecke: I would like to call to order the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting. The first item on the agenda is the approval of minutes from the previous meeting. Is there a motion for approval? (Motion was made by Mr. Melcher and seconded by Mr. Ziemer.) SO ORDERED.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATE

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Projects

Vann Avenue – Lincoln Avenue:

Ms. Lamb: The Board of Public Works approved the submission of the final tracings to INDOT for review at their October 11, 2007 meeting. A tentative letting is being proposed for the 2nd quarter of 2008.

Ohio Street ITS Project:

Ms. Lamb: The consultant has submitted the final plans for this project and INDOT has indicated that the project will be placed on the March 5, 2008 list for letting.

The Greenway Passage Project – Phase 3:

Phase 3C (Casino Aztar to Franklin Street along Pigeon Creek)

Ms. Lamb: A ribbon cutting ceremony was held October 30, 2007 to officially open this section of the Greenway. Miscellaneous aspects of the project, such as tree plantings, will be finalized during the month of November.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Burkhardt Road – Virginia Street:

Ms. Lamb: Preliminary field check plans have been submitted for review. The MPO is working with the County Engineer to verify that the proposed turn lane lengths are sufficient. In addition, the MPO staff has begun work on the environmental document.

Oak Hill Road – Bergdolt Road:

Ms. Lamb: All right-of-way needed for this project to move forward has been secured.

Upper Mt. Vernon Road – Red Bank Road:

Ms. Lamb: This is a safety project. The final design has been submitted and INDOT has indicated that this project will be placed on the March 5, 2008 list for letting.

INDOT PROJECTS

Ms. Lamb: We have received an INDOT flyer and I have inserted that after this page. It includes two projects.

US Highway 41 – Lloyd Expressway Interchange:

Ms. Lamb: The need for the project is due to travel delay primarily on Lloyd Expressway caused by the signalized intersections at the two ramp junctions; and the elevated level of accidents being experienced at or near these intersections. The full cloverleaf interchange being proposed will impact the playground and parking area of the adjacent Howard Roosa Elementary School. Mitigation plans to replace playground equipment and provide alternate parking spaces are under way. Conceptual plans call for routing a multi-use path, which is part of the Pigeon Creek Greenway along the east side of the proposed interchange from Walnut Street on the south to Virginia Street on the north. The new pedestrian overpass bridge will be constructed over the Lloyd Expressway as part of the project. The path will typically run parallel to the interchange ramps and will be separated from the ramps by a drainage swale and a chain link fence which will be constructed along the interchange's limited access right-of-way line.

US Highway 41, SR 66 to Boonville-New Harmony Road:

Ms. Lamb: This is an added travel lanes project. The need for the project is mainly due to the deteriorating condition of the existing pavement. Additional concerns are medians and roadsides do not satisfy current design standards, insufficient or lack of auxiliary lanes, and the CSX railroad location causing undesirable vertical alignment of intersecting roads. The current recommended alternative involves adding travel lanes from Diamond Avenue to Mt. Pleasant Road. Features of the project will include three 12 foot travel lanes in each direction, 10 foot outside shoulders, and a concrete median barrier. Improvements will also be made to intersecting roads as part of this project.

SR 62/Morgan Avenue – Green River Road Intersection:

Ms. Lamb: This is also an INDOT project. On June 25, 2007, the City issued a letter to INDOT requesting that the plans for this intersection improvement be reviewed for the inclusion of dedicated biked lanes to match those that are to be installed by the City as part of the Oak Hill Road corridor project. INDOT has indicated that these design changes and the additional funding necessary has been approved, but the proposed letting of the project will be pushed to April, 2009.

SR 66/Lloyd Expressway – Stockwell Road Intersection:

Ms. Lamb: This intersection improvement is now complete.

I-69 in Indiana Corridor

Ms. Lamb: The Tier 2 Final Environmental Impact Statement for Section 1, which is I-64 to Oakland City, has been released by INDOT. A record of decision approving this document from the Federal Highway is needed before any federal funds can be released for use on this project, and INDOT is anticipating the issuance of the ROD by the Federal Highway by the end of year. This document is available for review in the MPO office or on the I-69 website at www.i69indyevn.org. In addition, preparation continues for the expected start of construction for the initial 2.6 mile segment from I-64 to SR 68 in June, 2008. INDOT held a Maintenance-of-Traffic meeting on October 9, 2007 to review and discuss alternatives to the detours needed during the construction of this first segment.

Ms. Lamb: That's all I have for project updates. Does anyone have any questions or additions about these or any of the other projects?

Mr. Winnecke: Are there any questions for Laura?

NEW BUSINESS

METS Federal FY 2007 Section 5307 Grant Application

Ms. Akin: The Metropolitan Evansville Transit System is seeking the approval of the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization for the METS Federal FY 2007 Section 5307 Grant Application. METS is requesting capital, operating and transit enhancement assistance to fund its calendar year 2008 budget. The capital projects include preventative maintenance activities and replacement of three para transit vehicles which have exceeded their useful life in both mileage and age. Operating assistance is requested for the normal everyday operation of the system. Transit enhancement assistance is requested for fencing and landscaping at the METS downtown terminal.

The total project cost \$5,994,333 which will include:

FTA Section 5307	\$1,345,947
State of Indiana PMTF	\$1,407,813
City of Evansville	\$3,240,573

Ms. Akin: This is all in our TIP. We would like approval.

Mr. Winnecke: At this time, I would entertain a motion to approve. (Motion was made by Mr. Ziemer and seconded by Mr. Melcher.) Voice vote. SO ORDERED.

FY 2008-2011 TIP Amendment

DES#0101170:

Mr. Luebke: We have one TIP amendment today. This is a request from INDOT. This is a US 41 major pavement road reconstruction project from Boonville-New Harmony Road in Vanderburgh County to Coal Mine Road in Gibson County. This project is being amended to add preliminary engineering for the project in fiscal year 2008. PE will be \$2,000,000 funded by \$1,600,000 in federal NHS funding and a \$400,000 INDOT match.

Mr. Winnecke: Are there any questions? I will entertain a motion to approve. (Motion was made by Ms. Burger and seconded by Mr. Ziemer.) Voice vote. SO ORDERED.

FY 2008-2011 TIP Amendment (Informational Item)

Mr. Luebke: We also have a TIP administrative modification which will not require any action by the committee. The Federal Transit Administration has request that the text on page 5-8 be revised to indicate the future transit operating assistance from the INDOT Public Mass Transit Fund in lieu of expired FTA Section 5307 Operating Assistance. The text revisions are defined in the second to

the last paragraph on 5-8. In the next five years, METS will continue to require operating assistance from the INDOT PMTF fund. That is the only change to that page. Are there any questions?

Mr. Winnecke: Are there any questions? Thanks Craig.

Cancellation of December 2007 MPO Meeting

Ms. Akin: We would like to have a discussion of cancelling the December 2007 Policy meeting. In previous years, due to the holidays, it has been a little tough getting quorum for December. But, we wanted to make sure that there were no pressing issues from anyone such as TIP amendments that are required to go through in December that anyone knows of before we do decide to cancel the meeting.

Mr. Luebke: We do have some TIP amendments that are developing. District 2 has requested one TIP amendment in relation to a project in Henderson. I think they are amenable to the possibility of having it in January but I think their preference would be to have it in December. So keep that in mind. There is also a potential ITS project TIP amendment that we are working on as well.

Mr. Winnecke: What would the date be for the December meeting?

Ms. Akin: December 7th or 8th.

Mr. Winnecke: I personally wouldn't mind moving it to January.

Ms. Akin: As for our docket, we would do what we did last year which was email the document out and request an email approval. Then we would bring the hard copy docket to the January meeting and have the people that responded and approved by email to sign that.

Mr. Winnecke: Does anyone care if we not have the meeting? Okay, it is postponed.

2008 MPO Holiday Schedule

Ms. Akin: The next item is the 2008 MPO holiday schedule. We have looked at the City and the County holiday schedules for calendar year 2008. These are the exact same holidays that the Civic Center is closed. We would like to get your approval on the holiday schedule.

Mr. Winnecke: I would entertain a motion. (Motion was made by Mr. Stroud and seconded by Mr. Ziemer.)

SO ORDERED.

Capital Asset Policy

Ms. Akin: The next item is the Capital Asset Policy. We originally have a handbook that talks about our capital assets and our purchasing, although we do not have the limits set. So in your packet under the purchasing policy, we have under \$500; less than \$25,000 etc. We have set limits for purchasing items. This is done in compliance with 49 CFR part 19.44, which is Procurement Procedures under the Uniform Administrative Requirements. We used that guidance. We would like to have our Capital Asset Policy approved.

Mr. Winnecke: I would entertain a motion to approve the Policy as presented. (Motion was made by Mr. Ziemer and seconded by Mr. Stroud.)

Mayor Weinzapfel: Is this consistent with the City's Purchasing Policy.

Ms. Akin: Yes. That is correct. I spoke with Debbie Spalding from Purchasing and this is what the City uses. I also ran it by our State Board of Accounts Auditor and she said that it looked fine with her and it is compliant with the federal and state laws as well.

Mr. Winnecke: Voice vote. SO ORDERED.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rezoning:

Docket No: R-2007-21 1507 N. Main Street Gerald F. Clements, Petitioner

Mr. Mills: This is a downzoning from C-4 to R-2 for a single family home. That will not have any impact on our transportation system.

Subdivision:

Docket No: 23-MS-2007 Burwell Minor No. 2 BLP Indiana Properties, LLC, Owner

Mr. Mills: This is a proposed subdivision located near the northwest corner of Burkhardt Road and Virginia Street in Vanderburgh County. The property is currently zoned C-4. The proposed Lot 2 is developed as a Popeye's Restaurant and has access to Burkhardt Road and Virginia Street through a cross access agreement with Lot 2 of Burwell Minor which is the corner lot. The proposed Lot 1 is undeveloped and appears to have a similar agreement for access across Lot 2 of Burwell Minor. There is currently an improvement project being designed, which we mentioned earlier. Our recommendation was that there be no additional access granted to Burkhardt or Virginia Street. All access should be from the existing access points located on and approved for Lot 2 of Burwell Minor. The two proposed lots should be interconnected and should have cross access agreements with each other with the existing Lot 2 of Burwell Minor.

Mr. Winnecke: Are there any questions of Brad?

Schedule of MPO Meetings for 2008

Mr. Mills: We have before you the schedule for next year's meetings. Typically we meet on the first Thursday of the month and that is what we are showing here. If there are no questions, that is what we will do again.

Mr. Winnecke: Is everybody okay with the schedule?

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Mr. Winnecke: At this time, I will entertain a motion for approval of the bills that have been submitted. (Motion was made by Ms. Burger and seconded by Mayor Weinzapfel.)
SO ORDERED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Mills: I would like to make one comment about the MPO conference. It was a great success. We had a lot of good feedback and a lot of good comments from the other MPO's across the state. I would like to thank Kari and Craig who did a whole lot of work putting that together, and also the rest of the office. Dave helped out as well. But it was very successful and we had a great time.

Meeting adjourned.