



Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Regular meeting held at 10:00 a.m. in Room 318
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana**

January 4, 2007

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Kent Cutchin, Nick Hall, Kevin McClearn, Brandon Sheridan, Emmanuel Nsonwu, Holly Groupe, John Stoll, Mike Feltz, Bob Working, Pat Keepes, David Matthews, Khalil Dughaiash, Doug Boom, Kelly C. Mitchell

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Brad Mills, Seyed Shokouhzedah, Craig Luebke, Laura Lamb, Dave Stensaas

Others Present:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Nsonwu and seconded by Mr. Matthews to approve the minutes of the November meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATE

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Surface Transportation Projects:

St. Joseph Avenue

Ms. Lamb: The bids posted on December 13, 2006 for the construction of phases III and IV were rejected. All bids came in over the engineer's estimate.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Projects

Green River Road – Lincoln Avenue (CN FY'08 – Schneider Corporation)

Ms. Lamb: The consultant has received confirmation from INDOT's Public Hearings Coordinator that no public hearing is required. The Right-of-way Services contract is still being negotiated.

INDOT PROJECTS

SR65 – Boonville-New Harmony Road (CN FY'07, INDOT)

Ms. Lamb: This project is complete and open to traffic.

SR62 – Lloyd Expressway – Fulton Avenue Interchange (PE FY'06)

Ms. Lamb: A Preliminary Field Check meeting was held on November 29, 2006.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Projects

I-69 Corridor Location and Ohio River Bridge Crossing (HNTB)

Ms. Lamb: INDOT, in cooperation with the FHWA, has issued a Tier 2 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public review and comment. The prior Tier 1 study reviewed and recommended a preferred corridor. This Tier 2 study has increased the focus by recommending a preferred route within the chosen corridor. Public comments regarding this document must be submitted by February 20, 2007. The document and details regarding comment submission is available in the MPO office.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of Transportation Plan Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Mr. Stensaas: We sent you an electronic copy of the draft goals, objectives, and policies that we have helped our Citizen Advisory Committee to create for the updated LRTP. The CAC is still in the process of evaluating them. We would also like any comments you may have on this set of goals, objective, and policies. We will be wrapping this process up this month and putting it into our document, and sending it on to the Policy Committee. If you want to make comments, please send them to us as soon as possible.

2. FY 2006-2008 TIP Amendments

Mr. Luebke: The first three pages are brief descriptions of the items. The following two pages are the spreadsheets representing all of these amendments. We have several from INDOT. INDOT is requesting the following amendments to the TIP. These are for Warrick County.

DES#9802480 (and additional numbers) SR261:

Added Travel Lanes project from SR66 to Jenner Road (CR 150S). We are adding the right-of-way phases to the project at a cost of \$3,000,000 for FY 2007. The funding for the phase will be \$2,400,000 in federal STP funds with a \$600,000 INDOT match.

DES#8823156 - SR62:

Added Travel Lanes project from .15 miles East of the West Urban Area Boundary (UAB) of Boonville to Locust Creek, which is phase III of the project. The cost estimate for the construction phase is being increased to \$5,042,872 and the fiscal year for construction moved to FY 2007. The project will be funded with \$4,034,298 in federal STP funds and a \$1,008,574 INDOT match.

DES#8823155 – SR62:

Added Travel Lanes project from Sixth Street in Chandler to 0.15 miles East of the West Urban Area Boundary (UAB) of Boonville, which is phase II of the project. Right-of-way phase is being added to the TIP in FY 2008 at a cost of \$5,300,000. Funding for this phase will be \$4,240,000 in federal STP funds and a \$1,060,000 INDOT match.

DES#0401295 - I-64:

This is a landscaping/beautification project a half mile east of the Wabash and Erie Canal. This project is being added to the TIP for construction in FY 2007. The project cost of \$57,400 will be funded by \$45,920 in federal STP funds with an \$11,480 INDOT match.

DES#0500436 – I-69:

New road construction from I-64 via SR 57 corridor to 2.6 miles north of I-64. This amendment revises the right-of-way cost, changes the funding sources and fiscal years for the right-of-way and PE phases and also removes the construction phase from the TIP. The revised project is proposed to include a PE at a cost of \$2,150,000 in FY 2007 funded by \$1,720,000 in federal STP funds and \$430,000 in INDOT funds. \$1,000,000 in right-of-way costs in FY 2007 will be funded 100% by INDOT.

DES#0500938 – I-164:

This is another landscaping/beautification project at the I-164 interchange at SR 62 (Morgan Avenue). This project is being added to the TIP for construction in FY 2007. The project cost of \$60,000 will be funded by \$48,000 in federal STP funds with a \$12,000 INDOT match.

Mr. Luebke: We have two Warrick County amendments. These are two phases of the same project that was in the TIP as one item. This is splitting it out for construction.

DES#0101272 - Epworth Road phase I:

Road widening from Oak Grove Road to Telephone Road. This amendment split the existing single phase project into two phases for construction and updates construction cost and fiscal years. The new phase I will be constructed in FY's 2007 and 2008 at a total cost of \$6,350,315. Project costs will be \$3,175,158 in each fiscal year. Federal STP-Rural funds will pay \$2,540,126 in each fiscal year matched by \$635,032 in local funds. This represents an 80/20 split.

No DES# - Epworth Road phase II:

Road widening from SR 66 to Oak Grove Road. This amendment updates the cost estimate, revises funding sources and moves construction to the illustrative section (proposed construction in FY 2009) the second phase of construction created by amending DES#0101272. The new phase II cost of \$3,450,000 will be funded by \$1,567,748 in federal STP-Rural funds and \$1,882,252 in local funds.

Mr. Luebke: Henderson County is requesting the following amendment to the TIP.

No ITEM# - KY 2183 (Holloway Lane):

Road widening from KY 351 to 0.7 miles north of KY 351 to improve safety. This is a narrow road with little shoulder right now. They are widening that to a standard 24 foot to improve safety. The project is being added to the TIP for utilities and construction phases in FY 2007. Construction cost of \$310,000 will be funded by \$215,000 in federal STP (SHN) funds matched by \$95,000 in local funds. Utilities cost of \$140,000 will be funded entirely by STP (SHN) funds. The total project cost sharing represents 78.9% SHN and 21.1% local.

Mr. Nsonwu: The second phase of the Epworth Road project, it is not using urban funds, right?

Mr. Luebke: That is a rural project.

Mr. Nsonwu: Okay. The problem we may have is that it has no DES#. That is the one that Jeanette is going to help you get a DES# on?

Mr. Luebke: My understanding is Brian Malone at the District is working on developing that DES#, but it does not exist yet. They indicated that it could be processed in this fashion and assigned a DES# to it when it is available.

Mr. Nsonwu: If we don't have a DES#, it is going to be hard for us to amend the INSTIP. That is the problem, so we need a DES#.

Mr. Luebke: I would presume that we can process this at this point today and you could wait to process it into the INSTIP when Jeanette and the district can provide you with a DES#.

Mr. Nsonwu: If you write the letter now, and request that we amend these into the INSTIP, and this project is one of them, we are not going to be able to do it because it does not have a DES#. I have to have a DES# for air quality purposes. So before you can write the letter, you need a DES#.

Mr. Luebke: I can certainly wait on that. I think the primary intent of this was to create the two-phase project so that the first one can move forward with the contract administration.

Mr. Nsonwu: ...it looks like they are having some problems getting the DES# ...we can give you a DES#, so by the time you write the letter, you have a DES# so that we can process all of them.

Mr. Luebke: That sounds good. I think the intent was to get this on to really establish the first phase so they can move forward and not have to wait until the February meeting.

Mr. Mills: Anything you can do to help...

Mr. Nsonwu: I'll go ahead and call.

Mr. Mills: Thank you.

Mr. Matthews: The I-64 landscaping/beautification project a half mile east of the Eric Canal, I think it is a beautiful area there. I don't know what they are talking about doing, but it has a beaver pond and lake. Are they talking about draining that?

Mr. Luebke: Emmanuel, do you know anything additional?

Mr. Nsonwu: I think they are doing some things to make it more beautiful.

Mr. Matthews: As long as they don't drain that lake. I have to ask you about I-69. I can't let this pass. This is great that you are doing this. A million dollars in ROW costs in 2007, do they have the plans done yet? The engineering plans, is that for acquisition or...I know they are trying to get the final route approved. I believe that is the hearing coming up. That's the final ROW plans, and then they would be ready to start acquisition.

Ms. Lamb: That's my understanding.

Mr. Matthews: So you can start buying ROW this year?

Mr. Mills: That is the plan.

Mr. Matthews: And then break ground next year.

Mr. Mills: That is what they are working towards.

Mr. Keepes: Are there any other questions or comments for Craig on any of these? If not, we will need a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Nsonwu and seconded by Mr. Stoll. SO ORDERED.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Mills: I just wanted to let you all know that the MPO Policy Meeting will be aired by WNIN on local Sigecom channel 12. So if you have some free time at 4:00 in the afternoon, please tune in and catch all the excitement.

Mr. Keepes: Is there any other business?

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Mr. Keepes: Meeting adjourned.