



# 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**

**June 7, 2007**

### **ROLL CALL**

#### Members Present:

Doug Boom, Nick Hall, Kent Cutchin, Bill Harty, Emmanuel Nsonwu  
Brandon Sheridan, Khalil Dughaish, John Fields

#### Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Brad Mills, Kari Akin, Laura Lamb, Craig Luebke, Rob Schaefer, Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Dave Stensaas

#### Others Present:

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Mr. Dughaish and seconded by Mr. Harty to approve the minutes of the May meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **PROJECT UPDATE**

### **CITY OF EVANSVILLE**

#### **Surface Transportation Program Projects**

##### Oak Hill Road (American StructurePoint, Inc.):

**Ms. Lamb:** A supplemental agreement was approved by the Board of Public Works at their May 3, 2007 meeting with the existing consultant, American StructurePoint, Inc., in the amount of \$118,650. This agreement will allow for the additional design work necessary to amend the existing plans to include dedicated, striped bike lanes to accommodate cyclists instead of the planned extra-wide travel lanes.

St. Joseph Avenue:

**Ms. Lamb:** A Notice to Proceed was issued by INDOT on May 16, 2007. The contract completion date is set for April 10, 2009.

**Mr. Hartly:** Is that a little bit long for the amount of work that is being done there? They are dragging that out an awful long time for just widening.

**Mr. Mills:** They are doing utilities now.

**Mr. Hartly:** I realize that.

**Mr. Mills:** That is a lot of work. There is a lot of effort into it.

**Mr. Hartly:** For the amount of work that is being done, the road is already there. All they are doing is widening it and to drag it out that long...

**Mr. Mills:** It's not as simple as just putting down some more pavement.

**Mr. Hartly:** I realize that.

**Mr. Dughuish:** We can check, but it is based on the amount of work that is being performed. But, I will touch base.

**Mr. Mills:** I realize that too. It is to the benefit of the contractor to get in and get out so he can maximize his profit. It gets complicated with everything going on there, and the maintenance of traffic that is needed.

**Mr. Hartly:** I don't see it for the amount of work that is being done there. I'm sorry.

**Mr. Nsonwu:** But again, it might have to do with when the money is available.

**Mr. Mills:** But that's not the issue, I don't think.

**Mr. Nsonwu:** It might take a long time for the money to go.

**Mr. Mills:** We will take a look into it and see if there is any information we can find out.

**Mr. Hartly:** We were going to try to improve the Helfrich Park Monument there. With all the construction there and moving dirt there, we don't want to put any effort into it with Operation City Beautiful to make it a good project if this construction is going to last this year, next year, and on into April 2009... Sorry, I know a little bit about construction, and I just can't see it. I am sorry.

**Mr. Dughuish:** I will touch base with our construction department and the area engineer that has oversight.

### **Surface Transportation Program Projects**

University Parkway (Section A-2-1, CN FY'07):

**Ms. Lamb:** A Noticed to Proceed was issued by INDOT for the right-of-way acquisition contract on May 24, 2007.

### **TOWN OF NEWB URGH**

#### **Transportation Enhancement Project**

Rivertown Trail (American StructurePoint, Inc.):

**Ms. Lamb:** A Preliminary Field Check meeting was held May 30, 2007.

### **WARRICK COUNTY**

#### **Surface Transportation Program Project**

Epworth Road (CN FY'07, Crossroad Engineers):

**Ms. Lamb:** This project was let for construction on May 2, 2007 to J.H. Rudolph & Co. of Evansville for a low bid of \$4,674,175.18. We have some information to add to that from Bobby Howard this morning. He said a contract completion date is set for October 1, 2008.

### **INDOT PROJECTS**

#### **Surface Transportation Program Projects**

SR 62, Warrick County (I-164 to Boonville):

**Ms. Lamb:** This is Section III just west of Boonville to Locust Street in Boonville. This project was let for construction on May 16, 2007 to Blankenberger Brothers, Inc. of Evansville for a low bid of \$2,792,000. A contract completion date is set for November, 2008.

SR 66/Diamond Avenue (Section II – CN FY'06, Woolpert):

**Ms. Lamb:** This project was re-let on May 16, 2007 and the contract for construction was awarded to E & B Paving of Anderson, Indiana for a bid of \$21,090,006.91. A contract completion date is set for November, 2008.

**Mr. Matthews:** Will that finish the Diamond Avenue Project?

**Ms. Lamb:** To highway 41, yes. Pigeon Creek to 41.

**Mr. Matthews:** The Lloyd Expressway at Stockwell, how long is that project going to last?

**Mr. Mills:** Middle of October; Any other questions?

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **FY 2008 Memorandum of Understanding Between Evansville MPO, METS, & INDOT (approval requested)**

**Ms. Akin:** The Evansville MPO requests approval of the FY 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the Evansville MPO, INDOT, and METS. This is an annual agreement required by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. This agreement outlines the agencies responsibilities in response to transportation planning and programming. The Board of Public Works approved this agreement at their May 31, 2007 meeting. The only changes from last year are both under the MPO's responsibilities. Number 10 Evansville MPO will conduct the METS Sampling Project in accordance with Circulars 2710.1A and 2A for payment of \$59,997.89. This will be billed quarterly. All annual reports involved in this project will be delivered to METS by January 31, 2008. Number 11 has also been added: to meet the consultation requirements listed in SAFETEA-LU between the State, the MPO, and the Transit Agency. Are there any questions?

**Mr. Cutchin:** Kari, the only question I had is how is the study going? Is it on schedule?

**Ms. Akin:** It is on schedule. We have four interns right now. They have been conducting the fieldwork of the study, riding five trips every other day for the fixed route and one day a week for paratransit. That has been going on since January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Mr. Mills:** This is an action item so I would request a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Nsonwu and seconded by Mr. Harty.) MOTION CARRIES.

### **FY 2008 Memorandum of Understanding Between Evansville MPO, KYTC, & HART (approval requested)**

**Ms. Akin:** The Evansville MPO requests approval of the FY 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the Evansville MPO, the KYTC, and the Henderson Area Rapid Transit. The Henderson City Manager approved this agreement on May 11, 2007. We are not doing any special projects for them. But we do assist them in administering their grant. There is nothing that has changed from last year except that the consultation requirements listed in SAFETEA-LU between the State, the MPO, and the Transit Agency have been added.

**Mr. Mills:** If there aren't any questions, I would request a motion for approval on this one. (Motion was made by Mr. Hall and seconded by Mr. Nsonwu.) MOTION CARRIES.

### **FY 2008 HART Section 5307 Operating, Capital, and Planning Grant (approval requested)**

**Ms. Akin:** The Section 5307 FY 2008 HART operating grant application is on schedule to be submitted by June 22, 2007. The purpose of the project includes their operating expenses for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The capital project includes replacement vehicles. HART

will purchase two half ton trucks to replace two 1986 models which have exceeded their useful life. They are purchasing a tabletop copy machine; and two CB radios which will be installed in the new trucks. Preventative maintenance activities include a 90-point inspection maintenance check, fluids and filters and other routing preventative maintenance activities. Transit enhancement includes a concrete pad that will be installed at each of the stops for the four new bus shelters. Also, planning activities for FY 2008 as noted in the approved FY2008 UPWP. The funding sources for this grant are \$543,568 in Section 5307 Region 5 funds; \$137,661 in Section 5307 Region 4 funds; and \$30,493 is the State of Kentucky match. They are using a soft match for toll credits from the State of Kentucky of \$3,820. Normally you would have an 80% federal match for your capital projects and a 20% local match. By using toll credits, the federal match is bumped up to 90% and the local match is reduced to 10% for qualified capital projects. The City of Henderson local match is \$496,457. This includes \$40,000 in bus fare revenue. The total of the entire grant is \$1,208,179. Are there any questions?

**Mr. Cutchin:** Kari, does Henderson overlap in both regions in order to get funds from both...

**Ms. Akin:** I am not sure. Kentucky works a little differently. In Indiana, Section 5307 funds are disbursed by what's listed through the federal register. The State of Kentucky, what I was told was that they move their dollars around so that if one transit agency has a surplus in fund, they can transfer these funds to another transit agency that is deficient. In Indiana, it seems that we always need more and more. In Kentucky, they have a little bit more of a surplus.

**Mr. Mills:** But that doesn't come directly to the MPO.

**Mr. Cutchin:** Right. That's why I was wondering how they were recovering funds from another region when they are actually in region 5.

**Ms. Akin:** Right.

**Mr. Cutchin:** Are they fully funded or is this their second attempt to get everything they want the first time through?

**Ms. Akin:** I believe they have gotten everything they wanted this year because of the Region 4 funding. That was just recently approved by KYTC. I believe it is the transportation delivery department at KYTC that funds these request. This is the second year they were able to receive Region 4 funds.

**Mr. Mills:** Are there any other questions? If not, I need a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Hall and seconded by Mr. Nsonwu.) MOTION CARRIES.

FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (approval requested)

**Mr. Luebke:** We have the final version of the 2008-2011 TIP which we will be requesting would recommend forwarding it on to the Policy Committee for adoption. I have worked with the LPA's and our State officials on the minor adjustments for this program. The fiscal costs for 2008-2011 is \$566 million, \$346 million of that will be federally funded. \$137 million will be State funded. \$83 million will be locally funded.

INAUDIBLE

**Mr. Mills:** As you all know, this is a fluid document. Things are always changing. We make amendments frequently to this document. So this isn't the final of everything. This is what we know today.

**Mr. Luebke:** What you see here is the Executive Summary and tables.

**Mr. Matthews:** I have a question about the 2035 plan. You are projecting what kind of INAUDIBLE we need all through that period. You also, I assume, have population projections and economic development projections. Are those available if I want to take a look at it?

**Mr. Luebke:** It is in the 2035 plan. This is the Transportation Improvement Plan – which is the next four years

**Mr. Matthews:** You mentioned \$40-some million dollars.

**Mr. Luebke:** INAUDIBLE

**Mr. Matthews:** Doesn't that include...

INAUDIBLE CONVERSATION

**Mr. Nsonwu:** INAUDIBLE

**Mr. Luebke:** INAUDIBLE PORTIONS...regionally significant and air quality impact projects have support from the long range plan. There are others: maintenance projects, things of that nature that are not referenced in the Long Range Plan.

**Mr. Mills:** Are there any other questions? If not, I would request a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Nsonwu and seconded by Mr. Harty.) MOTION CARRIES.

2007 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (approval requested)

**Mr. Schaefer:** My name is Rob Schaefer. For those of you who don't know me, I started with MPO in January. I am passing out a draft of the Coordinated Plan. The 2005 SAFETEA-LU federal legislation stated that, as a requirement for receiving funds through federal grant programs Section 5310, 5316 and 5317, an area must be develop a coordinated public transit human services transportation plan. The three programs I mentioned are designed to improve transportation services for the elderly, disabled and low income. The goal of the Coordinated Plan is to improve transportation services for the elderly, low income and disabled. This does not only mean meaningful bus service, but also offer transportation options that individuals may need to use besides their own personal vehicle. The coordinated plan is a result of public meetings, surveys, public comments, and research of various other documents. The Plan consists of four sections. One is the summary of the three FTA grant programs I just mentioned. Section 2 is a list of currently available transportation services for the population of elderly, disabled and low income population. Section 3 describes the public and community involvement in the

creation of this plan. Section 4 summarizes the existing gaps in transportation services and lists the strategies to address those gaps. I will give you a couple of examples of what I am talking about. One gap that we found was limited affordable transportation options besides the municipal bus service. So one strategy may be for human service providers and transportation providers to meet on a regular basis to collaborate. It may include applying for grants or agencies sharing vehicles. It may also include increased public awareness. It could include increased distribution of taxi and bus vouchers by agencies serving the elderly, disabled and low income. Another gap was limited transportation options in the evenings and on weekends. The third gap is a high demand for para-transit services for the elderly and disabled. One strategy for that may be to use Section 5317 grant funds to purchase additional vehicles for social services agencies to serve the populations I described: the elderly, disabled, and low income.

**Mr. Mills:** Are there any questions? The plan is moving along. We've been in consultation with METS, HART, Human Service Organizations and talked with the State for their review. We have this on our website if you would like to look at it: [www.evansvillempo.com](http://www.evansvillempo.com). If there aren't any questions, I would ask for a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Matthews and seconded by Mr. Harty.) MOTION CARRIES.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mr. Matthews:** You did a good job on the 2035 Plan. I was very impressed.

Meeting adjourned.