



Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization

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EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Regular meeting held at 10:00 a.m. in Room 301
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana**

November 5, 2009

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Gina Boaz, William Harty, Richard Meyer, Patrick, Keepes, Nick Hall, John Fields, Doug Boom, Michael O'Daniel

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Craig Luebke, Kari Akin, Laura Lamb, Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Rob Schaefer

Others Present:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Keepes: The first item on the agenda is approval of minutes for the prior meeting. Is there a motion for approval? (Motion was made by Mr. Harty and seconded by Mr. Meyer.) SO ORDERED.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATE

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Oak Hill Road:

Ms. Lamb: This project is using \$2.6 million in ARRA funding and is ready for construction. The city is projecting a December, 2009 letting.

Lincoln Avenue Conversion:

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

Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage Project:

Phase 3C (Casino Aztar to the Animal Control Shelter on Uhlhorn Avenue):

Joan Marchand Bridge Rehabilitation Project:

Ms. Lamb: This project is substantially complete with only minor issues yet to be addressed.

Phase 3C-5 (Kratzville/Fulton Bridge to Dresden St.)

Ms. Lamb: This project is ARRA funded and ready for construction. The city is projecting a December, 2009 letting.

Phase 3C-6 (Uhlhorn to Kratzville/Fulton Bridge)

Ms. Lamb: This project is substantially complete.

TOWN OF NEWBURGH

Rivertown Trail:

Phase 1 (1 mile, Yorkshire Trailhead at old SR 662 to the Old Lock and Dam):

Ms. Lamb: Newburgh has scheduled a dedication ceremony to mark the completion of this phase of the trail. The ceremony will be held on November 21, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the B. Gene Aurand Trailhead, which I think they were calling the Yorkshire Trailhead at one time, near old SR 662 and Yorkshire Road intersection.

Phase 2 (Old Lock and Dam Site to New Lock and Dam):

Section A (Old Lock and Dam, .4 miles to Belle Rive Drive)

Ms. Lamb: This project is ARRA funded and ready for construction. The town is projecting a December, 2009 letting for this phase.

Section B (Belle Rive Drive to New Lock and Dam):

Ms. Lamb: Construction of this project is to be done in conjunction with Section A. The town is hopeful that letting for this section will be included on the December, 2009 letting list.

INDOT PROJECTS

SR 57 – SR 68:

Ms. Lamb: This project is substantially complete with only minor items to be addressed, so we will call this one complete.

SR 62 (Warrick County):

Phase IV (.25 miles west of SR 261 Eskew Road to SR 61):

Ms. Lamb: According to INDOT's website, the letting date for this project has been pushed back to August 4, 2010. INDOT has indicated that additional time was needed to resolve a mitigation issue.

SR 261, SR 66 to Jenner Road:

Ms. Lamb: According to INDOT's website, this project is currently scheduled for the February 10, 2010 letting for construction. That is all the updates I have. Are there any questions about those or additional questions or discussion?

Mr. Keepes: Any questions for Laura? (None.) Thank you Laura.

Mr. Keepes: I have one new item under Old Business. In the September minutes, Craig presented several FY 2008-2011 TIP administrative modifications. One of those was for the widening of US 41-A at KY 136. It was brought to our attention that, in Craig's presentation, reference was made to the section from mile point 14.48 to mile point 14.66. I believe Mr. Hamm later corrected that and said that mile point 14.66 should be mile point 14.68. So I believe what we will need is a motion to amend the September minutes accordingly. (Motion was made by Mr. O'Daniel and seconded by Mr. Meyer.) Voice vote. SO ORDERED.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Metropolitan Evansville Transit System FY 2010 Section 5307 Grant Application

Ms. Akin: The Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization requests approval to electronically submit the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System FY 2010 Section 5307 grant application to the Federal Transit Administration in TEAM. The program of projects includes preventive maintenance activities, a new hybrid 30' bus, a new trolley bus, two new paratransit vehicles, shop heating equipment, safety and security project which includes installing fencing, a transit enhancement project which is the installation and acquisition of new bus shelters, as well as a planning project. The FTA Section 5307 amount is \$1,499,709. The State of Indiana PMTF match is \$122,125. The City of Evansville local match for these capital projects is \$252,803 for a total of \$ 1,874,637. Does anyone have any questions?

Mr. Keepes: If there are no questions for Kari, we will entertain a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. O'Daniel and seconded by Mr. Meyer.) SO ORDERED.

B. FY 2008-2011 TIP Amendments

Mr. Luebke: On TIP amendments, we have four TIP amendments today. The first is from KYTC and I will make every effort to get some mile markers correct this month.

Item # 02-968:

Mr. Luebke: This is KY 351: Horizontal and vertical realignment, shoulder widening and guardrail installation. They are revising the project schedule and funding sources for all phases of the project. FY 2010 design costs of \$100,000 will use SHN which is STP urban funds. FY 2010 right-of-way costs will be \$90,000 using Hazard Elimination Safety funds. FY 2010 utility costs of \$285,000 will be funded \$115,000 of SHN funds and \$170,000 of HES funds. FY 2011 construction costs of \$1,955,000 will use \$1,170,000 HES funds and \$785,000 in SHN funds. A soft match for the project phases will be provided by Kentucky Toll Credits.

DES # 0800732:

Mr. Luebke: The second amendment is a request from Warrick County for bridge rehabilitation on Old SR 66 over Little Pigeon Creek. Add project for preliminary engineering in FY 2010. Project costs of \$179,750 will be funded with \$143,800 in federal bridge funds and a \$35,950 local match.

Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant:

Mr. Luebke: Metropolitan Evansville Transit System requested the 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant to be revised for FY 2010. This includes the budget and program of projects. Total budget for FY 2010 of \$8,145,472 funded by FTA 5307 funds, INDOT Public Mass Transit funds and City of Evansville funds. You can see the relevant funding numbers there.

DES # 0810392:

Mr. Luebke: The fourth amendment has been requested from Vanderburgh County. Burdette Park – USI Trail Phase 3 - Trail construction from approximately 1600 feet south of Broadway Avenue to Nurrenbern Road. Add project for construction in FY 2010. Construction costs of \$1,340,891 will be funded entirely by federal American Recover and Reinvestment Act funds. I believe this is a candidate ARRA project that INDOT will be funding with ARRA TE funds. Are there any questions about those amendments?

Mr. Keepes: Any questions for Craig? If not, we will entertain a motion for approval. (Motion was made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Harty.) SO ORDERED.

C. Draft FY 2010-2013 TIP

Mr. Luebke: We also have a limited number of copies for you of the upcoming Draft TIP. Last month we had the project tables out for you. We have the rest of the document, fiscal constraint, various discussions in the TIP process, the goals and objectives in the planning policy, and the fiscal constraint. Everything is updated for you this time. We will be opening a public comment period on the draft sometime in the next week. This morning we got projects for INDOT, so we are going to need to revise those projects, and we want to get that resolved before we get to the open public comment period of 30 days. The adoption of this project with that 30 day time period will likely be in January regardless of whether or not there is a December meeting due to public involvement requirements period. I would ask

that you take a look at the projects that are relevant to your particular LPA or field interest and pass on any comments on that. If you have any questions, I am here to answer them.

Mr. Keepes: Craig, when would your office need any comments by?

Mr. Luebke: If we are going to be in January, if you have comments on it, two weeks would be great.

Mr. Keepes: Okay. If you would please go through it and if you have any comments get them back within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Luebke: As long as we are not making huge changes to something, I'm fairly flexible on the comments from you guys, but once I do open the public comment period on the draft if we make significant changes, I would have to address some issues with that.

Mr. O'Daniel: How does the downtown project to open up Walnut to Fulton and the mitigating one ways downtown, does that not fit into this program at all, or is that something that is completely somewhere else? I know that the discussion and sort of approval to do that happened years ago. I am seeing no forward action on that at all.

Mr. Luebke: Pat, do you want to speak to that? I believe we had a project that is resolving some issues downtown that will be moving forward with STP funds that will need to be addressed.

Mr. Keepes: There are a couple of projects. One of them does involve upgrade of traffic signals at intersections downtown. It will be funded with STP funds. It was originally slated to be funded with ARRA funds, but because of the constraints that were put on it; they could not get it ready. So we talked about this at one of our previous meetings. We did a swap with that funding to use STP funds for that project. I am going through here now. I thought we did an amendment to add that.

Mr. Luebke: Yes, I think we are going to need to because it might be an oversight. We do need to make sure we have that in the STP projects for the City of Evansville. We need to follow up on that.

Mr. Keepes: We do. I thought we did an amendment. But I may be mistaken.

Mr. Luebke: We amended that project a number of times. So my recollection of exactly what the status of that is ...

Mr. Keepes: So we need to follow up on that. It should be in here. If it isn't, it will be. The other project you mentioned, to open up left turns onto Walnut Street will probably be a separate locally funded project. I expect that we will see that in our TIP under local projects at some point in the near future as well.

Mr. O'Daniel: My primary concern with Walnut and Fulton is that with the building of the new arena, we are going to have a lot of extra congestion on Walnut and Martin Luther King and kind of an escape route from downtown heading south such as to Henderson is Walnut Street. Right now a lot of people go from downtown down Walnut Street and make a right on Highway 41 because getting up to Cherry to make a left on Fulton, there isn't a real good road to take over to Cherry.

Mr. Keepes: Your observation is right on the mark. Those projects are in the works and I expect that we will see that reflected in our TIP. I thought at least the first one was addressed in the TIP amendment.

Mr. Luebke: We had it in as an ARRA project. I think that changed to revise that. It did come through as an amendment. I think we just didn't get that transition into this new document through the FY 2010 budget. That is something I can work with you, Pat, to make sure we get that in. That is exactly why we are here as a draft to catch those sorts of things. Hopefully that will be the only exception.

Mr. O'Daniel: Right now, I see Martin Luther King as kind of the major entry and exit into downtown. But with the completion of the Fulton and Lloyd Expressway project, I believe that Fulton will become the primary link of downtown to Lloyd Expressway. I can even see people coming west on Lloyd and skipping over the Martin Luther King exit to get off onto Fulton to get into downtown, which I think we want to encourage.

Mr. Keepes: Thank you for those comments. Any other comments on the draft plan? (None.)

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Meeting adjourned.