



# 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**

**May 6, 2010**

### **ROLL CALL**

#### Members Present:

Richard Meyer, Bill Harty, Glenn Boberg, Kerry Kamp, Nick Hall, J.R. Ham, John Stoll, Patrick Keepes, John Fields, Gina Boaz, John Petkovsek

#### Evansville MPO Staff Present:

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

#### Others Present:

Roberta Heiman

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. PROJECT UPDATE**

##### **CITY OF EVANSVILLE**

Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage Project:  
3C-2 (Franklin to Lamasco Park at Maryland Street)

**Ms. Lamb:** Construction is underway and the contract completion date is currently set for June, 2011.

3C-5 (Kratzville/Fulton Bridge to Dresden Street)

**Ms. Lamb:** The Parks Dept. has received an authorization to send the Notice to Proceed for construction inspection services to the consultant Beam, Longest & Neff. A pre-construction meeting is anticipated within the next few weeks.

**Mr. Boberg:** I need to correct that. That is for Phase 3C-2.

**Ms. Lamb:** Okay.

### **VANDERBURGH COUNTY**

Burdette Park/University of Southern Indiana Trail Phase 3 (S of Broadway Av. To Nurrenbern Rd.)

**Ms. Lamb:** This project has been added to INDOT's website with a proposed letting date of September 1, 2010.

### **WARRICK COUNTY**

Lincoln Avenue Phase 2 (1,000 feet E of Grimm Rd. to E of Bell Rd.)

**Ms. Lamb:** The consultant is working on the final design plans and anticipates an informational meeting will be scheduled this summer to reintroduce the public to this phase of the project and to discuss design details and the right-of-way acquisition process.

### **INDOT PROJECTS**

US 41: SR 66 to Boonville-New Harmony Road Phase 1  
(SR 62/Diamond Av. To St. George Rd.)

**Ms. Lamb:** According to INDOT, the widening phases (1 and 3) of this project have been removed from the Major Moves funding list due to declining State revenues and the construction has been deferred to years 2018 and 2019. Previously this was set for 2010/2012. Phase 2 which is reconstruction from Hillsdale Rd. to Boonville-New-Harmony Rd. remains unchanged.

SR 61 Connector, Boonville

**Ms. Lamb:** According to INDOT, this project has also been removed from the Major Moves funded project list and will be required to compete for traditional funding sources. Construction of this project is not expected until 2017. Design of the project is expected to continue, though at a slower pace.

SR 66 Corridor Planning Study

**Ms. Lamb:** Due to lack of funding, this project was not carried over into the MPO's new 2010-2013 TIP and therefore will be removed from the Project Update document. Are there any questions about those or corrections or additions?

**Mr. Keepes:** If there are no questions, thank you Laura.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. FY 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between EMPO, INDOT, & METS**

AND

### **B. FY 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between EMPO, KYTC, & HART**

**Ms. Akin:** Federal regulations require a Memorandum of Understanding between the MPO, the State and the Transit Agency which outlines the transportation planning responsibilities of each organization. This is an annual agreement. We have one for the Indiana side and one for the Kentucky side. They can both be approved together. Does anyone have any questions?

**Mr. Kamp:** Kari, I noticed in the one for the Kentucky side, it is saying that 80% of the monies can be funded with 5307. I am assuming the one with METS can too?

**Ms. Akin:** Yes.

**Mr. Kamp:** Thank you.

**Mr. Ham:** I compared these to last year's and did not see any changes.

**Ms. Akin:** There are no changes.

**Mr. Keepes:** Any questions for Kari? If not, the Committee will entertain a motion for approval for both of those MOU's. (Motion was made by Mr. Boberg and seconded by Mr. Stoll.) SO ORDERED.

### **C. Agreement between EMPO and METS for the NTD Sampling Project**

**Ms. Akin:** Evansville MPO requests approval to conduct the NTD Sampling Project for METS. The data collection for the sampling project will occur May 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, and the annual reports involved will be delivered to METS by January 31<sup>st</sup> of next year. METS will pay the EMPO in the amount of \$46,082.96 for the services performed. This is to cover the part-time staff we have to hire to conduct this study. Attached is a copy of the agreement. Also, we did this about two or three years ago for METS as well.

**Mr. Keepes:** Any questions for Kari?

**Mr. Kamp:** Here again, this is funded 80% with 5307 monies?

**Ms. Akin:** Yes, that is correct.

**Mr. Kamp:** Thank you.

**Mr. Keepes:** Is there a motion for approval? (Motion was made by Mr. Meyer and seconded by Mr. Harty.) SO ORDERED.

#### **D. FY 2010-2013 TIP Amendments**

**Mr. Luebke:** We have three TIP amendments today. The first two are requests from METS. The first is to revise the Section 5307 capital assistance program and planning assistance. This is to remove some shop heating equipment and add software upgrade as well as revise their planning assistance budget in regard to that NTD project that we just touched base with Kari. The total METS federal and state budget amounts did not change. You can see the overall splits in the funding there. The second one doesn't have a DES # yet, but it is transit awareness free fare program and route map improvements. You have seen this through the CMAQ program the last several months. They are adding this project to move forward in FY 2011. The total project cost is \$105,000 with the standard 80/20 split on the funding.

**Mr. Luebke:** The second amendment is from Evansville ARC. This is to add FY 2010 federal transit Section 5310 funds. That is for purchasing a 13-passenger small transit vehicle and radio communication system for that vehicle. Total project cost is \$53,250 and represents the 80/20 split. Are there any questions on those?

**Mr. Keepes:** If there are no questions, the Committee will entertain a motion for those TIP amendments as presented by Craig. (Motion was made by Mr. Harty and seconded by Mr. Fields.) SO ORDERED.

#### **E. FY 2010-2013 TIP Administrative Modification**

**Mr. Luebke:** I have two TIP administrative modifications. In essence, it is just one. They are splitting the US 41 pavement replacement project into two pieces.

DES#9903240

**Mr. Luebke:** This is from north of the south junction of SR 66 to 0.4 miles of the north junction with SR 66. We are revising the project in two phases. They are actually moving this section forward, I believe to 2011, essentially north and south of the US 41 interchange project there, and to accommodate both construction schedules.

DES# 1000069

**Mr. Luebke:** The second is from Eagle Creek Slough to 0.2 miles south of the south junction with SR 66. Again, the project phase split and that is going to go 2013. It is pretty straight-forward. Do you have any questions about that? It is an information item.

**Mr. Keepes:** Any questions for Craig? Thank you.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Ms. Heiman:** I am Roberta Heiman. I am president of the new 501 C-3 Evansville Area Trails Coalition. You have dealt with some expansion and things for the trails that we have. I think the Pigeon Creek Greenway and the trail at Burdette are so fantastic. I think there really is a pent-up appetite for this kind of thing. That is what the coalition is trying to do. We are a coalition of about 30 organizations. The hospitals, the universities, walking groups, Keep Evansville Beautiful, the Convention and Visitor's Bureau. We want to help local government agencies make our community in Vanderburgh, Warrick and Posey, and in Henderson county full of safe routes for us to walk or ride our bikes from our houses to our schools, to our work places, to wherever.

Although these trails started now are really fantastic, there are a whole lot of places that are not safe for us to do that. It is not safe for you to try to walk across the street. So we are trying to grow into what some other communities have where this non-profit grass roots assistance group can become a partner with local government in seeking funds and helping plan in turning our communities into a really safe, sustainable, active community. So this week coming up, Walk and Roll Week, is kind of our coming out event. We have more than 60 events, almost all of them free. Birding walks, nature walks, greenway walks, walk to school walks, push your baby in the stroller walks all lined up to try to get people out on our trails and our nature areas and join the outdoors and become active and healthy. The key part of this week is going to be the trails summit, our first trails summit. I am here to invite each of you personally to attend. We have some really dynamite speakers coming, some of the top urban trails people in the Midwest are coming here. It is going to be free. I think we can all learn from their experiences from they have learned and what works and what doesn't work, how we can rally our communities to get this done. The summit is free. The only charge is \$10 if you want to eat lunch with us. The keynote speaker, which Glenn has recruited to bring in for us, is going to talk about how other communities have done this. It changes a community. It transforms a community. People are healthier. I don't know if you are aware of all the recent reports that have shown that Vanderburgh County has one of the unhealthiest populations in Indiana. We are sedentary. We are obese. We have high rates of heart disease, high rates of diabetes and other chronic illnesses directly related to a sedentary lifestyle. I was at a conference two weeks ago sponsored by Vectren and the City to look at how Evansville can stop the brain drain that we have suffered from the last several decades, how we can attract the kind of 21<sup>st</sup> century employers and the kind of young professionals and their families that this community needs in order to survive. They brought in this national consultant that said we are competing with every other community across the nation. One of our trump cards is quality of place: our parks, our trails, and nature areas. She listed trails at the top. Young people want these. Young mothers want to be able to let their kids ride their bikes safely to the neighborhood park or to school. Young people want to be able to stay healthy and get out and run on a trail. I was talking the other day with a local business owner. He said he and his family just got back from two weeks in Utah. He said they rode their bikes all week and it was so much fun. Here you can ride your bike for an hour on the greenway but you couldn't ride it all week. I could go on and on. But please come to our summit and please get out and take some of our walks and bicycle rides. You just let us know if you want lunch. Any questions?

**Mr. Keepes:** Again, when and where is the summit?

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**Ms. Heiman:** The summit is Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Registration starts at 8:30. It is at CK Newsome. If you can't come, send a staff member or send your wife or your spouse.

**Mr. Stensaas:** We will be forwarding an email invitation that Roberta has sent us, to all of our technical and policy committee members.

**Ms. Heiman:** Yes, we will send you an email invitation on that.

**Mr. Keepes:** I think everybody here recognizes the importance of walking and bicycling and alternatives modes of transportation. We certainly appreciate your efforts. I think it is very commendable. Thank you.

**Mr. Keepes:** Are there any other public comments? (None.)

Meeting adjourned.