

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Virtual Meeting
December 1, 2020
Minutes

This meeting was convened as an electronic meeting, pursuant to Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-04 and 20-09, extended by Executive Order 20-47. All persons were meeting remotely on a Google Meet platform that allowed for real time interaction and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. When the agenda item was provided for public comment, this was supported as well. A roll call was taken to motion and approve the agenda items.

Tom Schmitt called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. In attendance were Gerald Swets, Jeff Huet, Duane Alverson, Michael Jabo, Jill DiTommaso, Mark O'Dell, Rachelle Morgan, Deb Backhus, Dean Button, John Kennedy, Sarah Nimitz, AJ Monroe, Sandra Kolb, Tyler Neff, Susan Alabbas, Dustin Anderson, George Topoll, Chris Murphy, Amy Blaker, Nick Bellar, Kevin Brietzke, and Dennis Cobb.

NIRPC staff present were Scott Weber, Kevin Polette, Candice Eklund, Peter Kimball, Charles Bradsky, Ty Warner, and Flor Baum.

There were no public comments.

The minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting were corrected and approved on motion by Michael Jabo and second Duane Alverson.

Review of NOFA Applications

Scott Weber reviewed the continuation of the 2020 Notice of Funding Applications (NOFA) for New Roadways, and Roadway Improvements. The scoring changes that were discussed and agreed on by the committee were made live by Scott. The representatives will provide supporting documentation to Scott by the end of this meeting.

New Roadway Submissions:

- City of La Porte (Group II) - North-South Corridor Phase 1 PE. Funding request is \$935,322. Due to technical difficulties, representatives were not present to discuss the city's project. The self-score of 78 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 67. STC did not submit a score.

Roadway Improvements Submissions:

- City of La Porte (Group II) - Emergency Vehicle Preemption - Lincolnway Corridor. Funding request is \$30,590. Due to technical difficulties, representatives were not present to discuss the city's project. The self-score of 42 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 45. STC did not submit a score.
- City of Gary
 - 15th Ave Reconstruction - Funding request is \$3,096,000. Eric Wolverton presented on this project at the November 10, 2020 meeting. The self-score of 55 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 53. The STC score reflected 53.

- City Signal Improvement - Funding request is \$928,000. The self-score of 56 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 54. The STC score reflected 54.
- City of Portage - Central Ave Reconstruction Phase 2. Funding request is \$2,179,375. The self-score of 70 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 62. The STC score reflected 68, pending materials from the congressional office.
- LaPorte (county; Group II) - Michigan Blvd Bridge Replacement. Funding request is \$2,322,000. The self-score of 35 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 48. The STC score reflected 48.

The following Roadway Improvement submissions were revisited to further discuss awarded points.

- Town of Chesterton - Emergency Vehicle Preemption - Safety Improvements. Funding request is \$1,327,052. Additional points were awarded. The self-score of 64 was adjusted by NIRPC staff to 57. STC updated the score from 58 to 61.
- City of Hammond - Summer St Reconstruction Phase 2. Funding request is \$3,285,000. Dean Button withdrew the request to award additional points. The STC score remains at 71.
- Lake County - Colorado St Bridge Replacement over Deep River. Funding request is \$1,045,625. An additional point was awarded. The self-score and NIRPC staff score was 44. STC updated the score from 44 to 45.

Except for the City of La Porte, on motion by Michael Jabo and second by Mark O'Dell, the committee recommended the final application scores to be submitted to the Technical planning committee. Scott will forward score updates from City of La Porte to the Surface Transportation Committee.

The Surface Transportation Committee will meet on February 2, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the NIRPC offices.

Hearing no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.