



**COMMITTEE MEETING ~ NIRPC AUDITORIUM
MAY 23, 2013
MINUTES**

MEMBERS & GUESTS –Don Parker, Jan Dick, Bruce Spires, Michael Jabo, Mark O’Dell, Craig Zandstra, Mark Heintz, Stu Summers, John Novacich, Chris Moore, Jake Dammarell, Denny Cobb, Erik Wolverton, Mark Gordish , Dwayne Williams

STAFF - Mitch Barloga, Meredith Stilwell

Jan Dick called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. with self-introductions.

PED

SOUTH SHORE TRAILS - UPDATE

A very successful Ride of Silence was held on May 16. This is an annual ride held all over the nation to commemorate bicyclists injured and killed in traffic mishaps and two were held in the region. SST will partner with Active Transportation Alliance and Chicago for Bike to Work week June 10-14. The first ever region ride overnight trip camping at Indiana Dunes State Park will be held on Saturday night June 1. The ride will showcase the new lakefront section of the Porter connection of the regional trail system. SST will be conducting bike parking at Pierogi Fest at the end of July.

PEDAL

TAP & STP-1 APPLICATION REVIEW, RANKING & FUNDING

After the review meeting on May 21 two projects, Merrillville and Valparaiso, opted to defer to the CMAQ cycle that will kick off later this year. Those projects will be first in line for the non-motorized funding aspect of CMAQ. Stu Summers voiced his concern about ranking during the CMAQ cycle and wanted to make sure it is known those deferred projects are first in line. Mark O’Dell motioned that the projects from Merrillville and Valpo be deferred to the next CMAQ funding cycle. With second from Bruce Spires and no opposition the motion passed. Mitch noted that the funding splits would be worked on after confirmation on the scoring. Projects and scores from the review meeting on the 21st were presented by Mitch for confirmation with the Committee. Chesterton scoring remained the same at 92.5 for both TAP and STP. Griffith scoring was bumped up 4 points for overmatch and raised their score from 77.5 to 81.5. Attendance bonus points were discussed and it was noted that Pete Kohut has been contracted individually by the town of Griffith as engineer and not as a consultant for BFS and is singularly representing Griffith at the 3PC meetings. If accepted by the Committee, 3.5 attendance bonus points would be awarded bringing the total for the Griffith project from 71.5 to 85 points. Further discussion was held regarding attendance and representation by consultants. Bruce Spires questioned if the attendance discussion was appropriate since applications have already been submitted for this round. It was decided a new precedent should not be set until after decisions this funding round. Since in the past consultant attendance was not included, the 3.5 points were rescinded and the Griffith total kept at 81.5. The Hammond Grand Calumet Trail project has two separate phases, one under TAP and one under STP. The point total for TAP during review was tentatively tallied to 78.5 with proof of public transit to be provided to Mitch, which was done. Dwayne Williams was informed that a letter from the City of Gary confirming local match can be provided is needed for their Safe Routes to School application. The parent surveys and teacher surveys needed were given to Mitch. No environmental or historic projects were submitted. The STP projects and scores from the review meeting were presented by Mitch. The 78.5 score for the Hammond Grand Calumet Trail project remained. The Hammond Marquette Greenway project which scored 84 points was discussed and 10th Ward Alderman Pope submitted a letter of support for the project. Chris Moore submitted documentation declaring the funding authority of the Hammond Port Authority is separate from the City to try to obtain the 5 points available. The Committee agreed to accept the provided documentation raising the final score to 89. The Schererville project was scored at 102 points and remained at that total.

The final TAP rankings were:

1. Chesterton - Westchester-Liberty Trail = 92.5 points
2. Griffith – Oak-Savannah Trail: Oak Ridge Prairie to Erie-Lackawanna Trail = 81.5 points
3. Hammond – Grand Calumet Trail: Columbia to East Chicago = 78.5 points

The final STP rankings were:

1. Schererville – Pennsy Greenway Phase III = 102 points
2. Chesterton – Westchester-Liberty Trail = 92.5 points
3. Hammond – Marquette Greenway: Hammond Lake Front Park to Chicago Calumet Park = 84 points
4. Hammond – Grand Calumet Trail: Columbia to East Chicago = 78.5 points

The following funding chart was presented by Mitch.

2013 TAP & STP-1 Funding Chart

Transportation Alternatives Program (AFTER SRTS to Gary)

Project Rank	Municipality	Project	Amount:
1	Chesterton	Westchester-Liberty Trail	\$ 261,267
2	Griffith	Oak-Savannah Trail: Oak Ridge Prairie to Erie-Lackawanna Trail	\$ 261,267
3	Hammond	Grand Calumet Trail: Columbia to East Chicago	<u>\$ 260,000</u>
Total			\$ 782,534
		Available	\$ 927,101

Surface Transportation Program Group 1

1	Schererville	Pennsy Greenway Phase III	\$ 800,000
2	Chesterton	Westchester-Liberty Trail	\$ 598,000
3	Hammond	Marquette Greenway: Hammond Lake Front to State Line	\$ 420,920
4	Hammond	Grand Calumet Trail: Sohl St. to Columbia	<u>\$ 414,000</u>
Total			\$2,232,920
		Available	\$ 800,000

STP is cut and dried with only \$800k available. Since there were no environmental projects submitted and the balance of the Safe Routes to School money is being transferred the TAP monies available are \$927,101k. With all projects submitted for TAP funded there would be \$144,567 left on the table. As top scorer, Schererville has the right to the full 800k from STP. Discussion was held regarding the two funding pots and the two programs can be mixed and matched to utilize both funds, but there are different rules applicable as to what can be funded in each category. Since funding targets were set it was felt it was too late in the process for this funding cycle to change now, but can look at changing after. Putting the monies in one pot and funding the top scorers ends up with only two projects being funded. Chairman Dick felt that as a procedural issue further discussion should probably be held and rules changed by the next round. Mitch gave Hammond the option to bump their Grant Calumet Trail application and move their Marquette Greenway STP application to TAP for the same amount of \$260k which would not short anyone in TAP receiving their money but would place Hammond in 2nd place and bump Griffith to 3rd. The Hammond representatives were in agreement with the option. The Committee felt that moving the 89 scoring Hammond Marquette Greenway project up as a higher scoring project and the remaining funds would go to Chesterton. After the discussion Bruce Spires made motion and Don Parker seconded to move the Hammond Marquette Greenway project to TAP at a requested amount of 260k and the remaining TAP funds of \$144,567 to go to Chesterton. The new TAP project totals would be \$405,834 to Chesterton for the Westchester-Liberty Trail project, \$261,267 for the Griffith Oak-Savannah Trail project, and \$260k for the Hammond Marquette Greenway project. STP would be \$800k to the Schererville Pennsy Greenway Phase III project. With no opposition the motion was approved. The recommendations will be brought before the TPC on June 11th for their approval. After their approval the projects should be programmed into the TIP and the money should be ready to go hopefully by October. A detailed breakdown will be provided for the awardees.

PADDLE –

A. NWI PADDLING ASSOCIATION – UPDATE

Mitch announced NWIPA is putting a public campsite will be on the Kankakee River in La Porte county and it will include chickees. The handicapped accessible canoe launch in Michigan City is still being worked on and should be ready to go in July.

B. CAMPING ON THE KANK – UPDATE – No update given

GRAB BAG

A. MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES, CONCERNS, GRIPES

A bike to work event with Mayor Costas Friday May 17th in Valpo. There was also a ride in LaPorte with Mayor Blair.

B. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (UPCOMING RIDES, EVENTS, ETC.) REGION RIDE! JUNE 1-2

C. NEXT 3PC MEETING IS THURSDAY JUNE 27TH @ PORTAGE WOODLAND PARK

Complete Streets Workshop – *Planning for Livable Communities*

Working with the Indiana Department of Health and will include discussion of the Complete Streets Guidelines manual. The next 3PC meeting will probably take place in August.

Jan Dick motioned and Don Parker seconded to approve the minutes from the April 25th meeting. With no opposition the motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:56.