



## **RESOLUTION 15-23**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2016**

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a necessary and required part of the metropolitan area transportation planning process as specified in 23 CFR 450.314; and by its State statutory authority, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is charged with planning responsibility in three domains; and

**WHEREAS**, the work tasks described within NIRPC's UPWP for the three-county northwestern Indiana region are in conjunction with the programs of the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and significant planning projects in the region by other agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, this program has been prepared for planning (PL), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds through the Federal Highway Administration, Section 5303 technical study funds through the Federal Transit Administration, Sections 5307 and 5323 and planning funds through the Federal Transit Administration, private foundation, and NIRPC's locally derived funds;

**WHEREAS**, the work elements contained in the program respond to the transportation and air quality planning needs of Northwest Indiana and are in keeping with federal requirements found in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users and their regulations;

**WHEREAS**, all regional transportation and other significant planning projects in the three-county region should be included in the UPWP;

**WHEREAS**, four projects are added to the UPWP fiscal year 2016.

**WHEREAS**, LaPorte County requested Surface Transportation Program (STP) planning funds to conduct two studies, the Economic Development Corridor Project Phase I and the Pavement Management Inventory and Plan.

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Corridor project is performed to determine an alternate route and design parameters of highway improvements needed to accommodate increased levels of freight traffic between the Kingsbury Industrial Park (KIP) area and SR 39, I-80/90, and I-94.

**WHEREAS**, the need was identified after the county has constructed a new rail spur at the KIP and several new businesses have located there. KIP has been named an “Inland Logistics Port” by CSX Railroad, and additional expansion of the rail connections and warehousing operations at KIP is expected.

**WHEREAS**, these additional developments will result in a significant increase in freight traffic through the City of LaPorte—unless the alternative route is identified.

**WHEREAS**, this study include a NEPA document, cost/benefit study, identification of a preferred route and number of lanes necessary to accommodate the projected traffic volumes.

**WHEREAS**, the total budget for the Corridor is \$297,500. \$238,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of \$59,500 from the County general funds.

**WHEREAS**, the LaPorte County Pavement Management Inventory project is conducted to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the county jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

**WHEREAS**, the County will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA.

**WHEREAS**, the total budget for the Pavement Management Study is \$250,500. \$200,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of \$50,000 from the County general funds.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Michigan City requested federal funds to conduct a plan and assessment for the Franklin Street Drawbridge.

**WHEREAS**, The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze all potential alternatives for a long term improvement or replacement of the 83 year-old Franklin Street Drawbridge over Trail Creek in Michigan City.

**WHEREAS**, The bridge is nearing the end of its useful life and thought to be in need of significant investment to bring it up to a state of good repair.

**WHEREAS**, the project will include a detailed inspection of the bridge, development of cost-effective set of recommendations for repairs to the structure or replacement, and public involvement.

**WHEREAS**, the total budget for the Franklin Street Drawbridge Assessment and Plan is \$500,000. \$400,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of \$100,000 from the Michigan City general funds.

**WHEREAS**, the City of La Porte is conducting a Pavement Management Inventory and Plan that is similar to the LaPorte County study.

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the city and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

**WHEREAS**, the total budget for the City of La Porte Pavement project is \$180,000. \$144,000 is allocated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP II) with a local match of \$36,000 from the City of La Porte general funds.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission adopts the Fiscal Years 2016 Unified Planning Work Program amendment.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this seventeenth day of September, 2015.

  
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Blair Milo  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
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Robert J. Schaefer  
Secretary

## **LaPorte County Economic Development Corridor Project Phase I**

INDOT DES 1592338

Budget:      Federal:      \$238,000 (STP II)      Local:\$59,500      Total: \$297,500

### **Objective:**

The objective of this study is to determine the route and design parameters of highway improvements needed to accommodate increased levels of freight traffic between the Kingsbury Industrial Park (KIP) area and SR 39, I-80/90, and I-94.

### **Past Work/Basis:**

A general corridor study was performed by the City of LaPorte in 2008-2009 with earmark funds from Congress (DES 0500838). This study, entitled "LaPorte Economic Thoroughfare," identified a general location and costs associated with construction of a beltway circling the City of LaPorte.

Since that time the county has constructed a new rail spur at the KIP and several new businesses have located there. KIP has been named an "Inland Logistics Port" by CSX Railroad, and additional expansion of the rail connections and warehousing operations at KIP is expected. These developments will result in a significant increase in freight traffic through the City of LaPorte—unless an alternative route can be identified.

This study will identify an alternate route between the KIP and the SR 39 interchange at I-80/90 (Toll Road). Details to come out of this study include a NEPA document, cost/benefit study, identification of a preferred route and number of lanes necessary to accommodate the projected traffic volumes. This effort will produce documentation that will assist with our application for funding opportunities for the road design and construction of the new and rehabilitated roadways.

### **FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology**

Develop Scoping Report

Develop NEPA Report

Identify route alternatives

Identify Costs & Funding Alternatives

## **Michigan City Franklin Street Drawbridge Assessment & Plan**

INDOT DES 1592236

Budget:      Federal:      \$400,000 (STP II) Local:      \$100,000      Total: \$500,000

### **Objective:**

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze all potential alternatives for a long term improvement or replacement of the 83 year-old Franklin Street Drawbridge over Trail Creek in Michigan City, Indiana.

### **Past Work/Basis:**

None. The bridge is nearing the end of its useful life and thought to be in need of significant investment to bring it up to a state of good repair. This assessment will involve a detailed inspection of the bridge, development of cost-effective set of recommendations for repairs to the structure or replacement.

Alternatives will include multiple alignments of a fixed bridge as well as a replacement in kind with another lift bridge its existing location. In order to conclude what the most appropriate and cost effective solution would be, traffic data will be collected along with geotechnical data to analyze mobility and structural aspects of each option. Impacts to historical properties will also be considered.

Public involvement is a significant part of this study. Because the cost of any solution is expected to be high (i.e., over \$25M), obtaining positive public engagement in the decision making process is crucial if the improvements are to be paid with 100% local funds. A project web-site will be utilized to keep the public as well as stakeholders informed of the status and findings of the study and a minimum of three public meetings will be held. Our hope is that this report would serve as justification to pursue numerous grant opportunities to fund the design and construction of the replacement structure.

### **FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology**

Conditions Report, including Traffic Analysis

Public Involvement Activities & Report

Final Report, including Cost Information & Repair/Replacement Options

## **LaPorte County Pavement Management Inventory & Plan**

INDOT DES 1592337

Budget:      Federal:      \$200,000 (STP II)      Local:\$50,000      Total: \$250,000

### **Objective:**

The objective of this project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the sponsor's jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

### **Past Work/Basis:**

LaPorte County has not performed a similar study in the past.

The County will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA. The survey will encompass the entire county.

A Conditions Survey Report will be accompanied by a Preventative Maintenance Plan. At a minimum, the Plan will discuss the various types of pavement treatments, identify the expected impact of each upon the useful life of the pavement, and the frequency of treatment. These treatments will consist of those preventative maintenance measures pre-approved by INDOT.

This project will involve the competitive procurement of computer software through which the pavement conditions information may be stored. Following its purchase, the county will be responsible for paying for the renewal or upgrade of the software license.

### **FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology**

Consultation with INDOT/FHWA.

Develop Conditions Survey Report

Procure Computer Software

Develop Preventative Maintenance Plan.

## **City of LaPorte Pavement Management Inventory & Plan**

INDOT DES 1592339

Budget:      Federal:      \$144,000 (STP II)      Local:\$36,000      Total: \$180,000

### **Objective:**

The objective of this project is to perform an evaluation of all roadways within the sponsor's jurisdiction and to design and develop an ongoing program of preventative maintenance for these roadways.

### **Past Work/Basis:**

The City of LaPorte has not performed a similar study in the past.

The City will procure consultant services to conduct the conditions survey in a manner acceptable to INDOT and FHWA. The survey will encompass the entire city.

A Conditions Survey Report will be accompanied by a Preventative Maintenance Plan. At a minimum, the Plan will discuss the various types of pavement treatments, identify the expected impact of each upon the useful life of the pavement, and the frequency of treatment. These treatments will consist of those preventative maintenance measures pre-approved by INDOT.

This project will involve the competitive procurement of computer software through which the pavement conditions information may be stored. Following its purchase, the city will be responsible for paying for the renewal or upgrade of the software license.

### **FY 2016 Work Elements/Methodology**

Consultation with INDOT/FHWA.

Develop Conditions Survey Report

Procure Computer Software

Develop Preventative Maintenance Plan.