



NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Together We Make The Difference

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RESOLUTION 11-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT RANKINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

WHEREAS, the citizens of Northwest Indiana require a safe, efficient and effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system to attain and maintain socially, economically and environmentally sound living conditions towards an improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "The Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County Region, has established a regional, cooperative and comprehensive planning program to develop the unified planning work program, long-range transportation plan and transportation improvement program; and

WHEREAS, Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding began in 1991 when it was first included as part of federal transportation funding legislation, and supports projects that revitalize downtown areas, help preserve historic structures, provide alternative transportation and provide valuable recreation; and

WHEREAS, projects competing for TE funding must meet a number of criteria, and may provide facilities for accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists, preserve historic structures, or enhance a street's landscaping and beautification. Projects may also involve acquisition of scenic easements and scenic historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, preservation of abandoned railway corridors, and mitigation of highway runoff and groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, project applications shall be submitted or resubmitted on an annual basis according to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) TE application schedule, and NIRPC's funding limit, which currently is \$800,000 per project sponsor; and

WHEREAS, the Commission adopted the *2010 Ped and Pedal* Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan in January, 2011, and project applications shall be ranked in a prioritized manner on an annual basis by the Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee based upon that current Plan and established scoring criteria; and

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana has currently developed 80 miles of off-road trails, nearly 600 miles of signed, shared bike routes, with approximately 60 miles of funded off-road trails, and an abundance of available rights-of-way still remain suitable for the development of additional trail systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission endorses and adopts the recommendations of the Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee for the 2010 TE Project Rankings (attached list).

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this 28th day of April, two thousand and eleven.



Thomas McDermott, Jr.
Chairperson

ATTEST:



Kenneth Layton
Secretary