



CREATING TOMORROW TODAY

CREATING THE PLAN

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission 6100 Southport Road Portage, Indiana 46368 (219) 763-6060

2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan Steering Committee Meeting NIRPC Auditorium September 24, 2009 Minutes

Members

Mike Aylesworth, Don Babcock, Geof Benson, David Blumenthal, Lee Botts, Victoria Brockett Dale Engquist, Phil Gralik, Jerry Halperin, Rich Herr, George Malis, Sergio Mendoza, Richard Morrisroe, Sandy O'Brien, Chuck Oberlie, Jill Ritchie, Daniel Suson, Ellen Szarleta

Guests

Joe Csikos, AJ Monroe

Staff

Mitch Barloga, Gabrielle Biciunas, Bill Brown, Eman Ibrahim, Christopher Mercado, Belinda Petroskey, Lauren Rhein, Steve Strains,

Welcome & Minutes

Mayor Oberlie chaired, calling the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The minutes of July 23 the minutes were approved as presented.

Planning Process Update

The CRP timeline update was given. The third subregional cluster workshop was concluded. The workshops were envisioning mapping exercises to identify new metro centers, communities, job centers, etc. for each county and the region. Facilitators and staff are available at each workshop to help the participants and answer any questions. A Synthesis Report of the Cluster Workshops will be presented at the Regional Open House sometime in November for public viewing and comment, leading to the building of scenarios. A short discussion on the data-gathering process followed. A draft synthesis report will be presented at the next Steering Committee meeting in October.

Building the Comprehensive Regional Plan

- Lauren Rhein and Matt Hay presented a compilation of GIS and Land Use work highlighting a series of maps produced for use and reference at the Cluster Workshops that include County & Regional, Land Use and a variety of reference materials. Each series of maps was explained and defined. Several table and board maps are being used. The

presentation can be found in electronic form on the NIRPC website at www.nirpc.org. More data will be made available throughout the CRP process as it becomes available.

- Bill Brown overviewed the regulatory requirements for building the transportation component of the Comprehensive Regional Plan. The plan is a living document that must be updated every four years and include both short and long range strategies. The plan must have long-range and short-range strategies leading to the development of a multimodal transportation system under federal safety guidelines. Highlights of the plan must include an integrated system of facilities, a financial plan, an opportunity to comment, be published and readily available.

Outreach Subcommittee

The committee will be meeting in October, after the conclusion of the cluster workshops.

Goal Setting Workgroup Report:

Consensus was reached from the Committee to postpone reviewing the definitions and Matrix of the Draft Goals and Objectives to the next Steering Committee meeting in October. Any comments and suggestions on the definitions may be emailed to NIRPC staff at bpetroskey@nirpc.org or gbiciunas@nirpc.org.

Subregional Cluster Workshops

The Lake and LaPorte County Workshops produced productive sessions with positive feedback. Members who participated expressed their support for the process of the Workshops, especially the visual presentation, hands on activities, tools, and regional thinking. A brief discussion followed by those who attended the workshops already held. A fifth Workshop will be added and will be held on Friday, October 2nd from 1-3:30pm at NIRPC, and will include participation from members of the Steering Committee, NIRPC's Board of Commissioners and Policy Committees.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be on October 22 at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Oberlie adjourned the meeting.

Handouts provided:

- Agenda
- August 27 Meeting Minutes
- August 27 Meeting Summary
- Goals/Objectives/Strategies Matrix as of August 27
- Handout of the Regulatory Requirements Presentation
- 2nd CRP Newsletter

Audio tapes of this meeting are filed. Contact Mary Thorne at NIRPC should you wish to schedule a time to hear them.

Respectfully submitted October 2, 2009
Mary Thorne, Planning Secretary
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission