

## **RESOLUTION 16-34**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING AMENDMENT TWO OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017**

**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 of transportation, environment and economic development; 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 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 and accompanying guidelines and regulations;

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

**WHEREAS**, NIRPC identified safety funds to conduct formal highway safety performance examinations known as Road Safety Audits (RSA) on 20 roadway segments for four Local Public Agencies (LPA's);

**WHEREAS**, These agencies are three cities Hobart, Gary, and Valparaiso, and Lake County;

**WHEREAS**, the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program is developed by the Commission in coordination and cooperation with local elected and appointed highway and transit officials, special interest and service organizations, including users of public transit, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Federal Transit Administration, and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

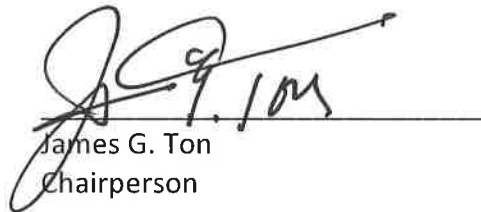
**WHEREAS**, the changes to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program brought about by this amendment were reviewed by the Air Quality Conformity Task Force's Interagency Consultation Group (ICG); and

**WHEREAS**, the changes to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program brought about by this amendment were subjected to public comment in the manner prescribed by the 2014 Public Participation Plan with no comments received; and

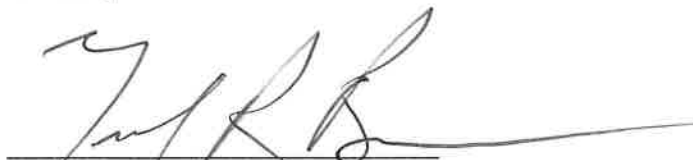
**WHEREAS**, the Technical Policy Committee (TPC) has recommended that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission make these changes to the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby amends the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program by adding the new projects and making other changes as shown on the attachment to this resolution.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this eighth day of December, 2016.

  
James G. Ton  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
Geof R. Benson  
Secretary

## ROAD SAFETY AUDITS

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### OBJECTIVE:

The purpose of this task is to conduct formal highway safety performance examinations (i.e., Road Safety Audits, or RSA's) on 20 roadway segments for four Local Public Agencies.



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### PAST WORK/BASIS:

An RSA is a formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent audit team. It qualitatively estimates and reports on potential road safety issues and identifies opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users.

NIRPC has not previously funded stand-alone Road Safety Audits. Only in the case of Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funded projects involving high crash locations have we required that an RSA be performed as a condition of assistance. The RSA's, in these cases, were conducted by the engineering consulting firm prior to project selection.

Our goal here is to perform RSA's on a variety of roadway segments early in the project development process following the eight-step process identified in the FHWA's Road Safety Audit Guidelines (Publication FHWA-SA-06-06).

RSA's will be performed at the following locations:

- Hobart – Marcella Blvd (61<sup>st</sup> Ave to Mississippi St)
- Hobart – Old Ridge Road (Liverpool Rd to Hansen Blvd)
- Gary – Ridge Road (Grant St to Broadway)\*
- Gary – Grant St (4<sup>th</sup> Ave to I-80/94)
- Gary – Lake Street (US 12/20 to Lakefront)
- Lake County – 101<sup>st</sup> Ave (State Line Rd to Calumet Ave)
- Lake County – Calumet Ave (101<sup>st</sup> Ave to 109<sup>th</sup> Ave)
- Lake County – 109<sup>th</sup> Ave (Calumet Ave to US 41)
- Valparaiso – Silhavy Rd (CR 500 North to US 30)\*
- Valparaiso – CR 500 North (Campbell St to East Corp. Limit)\*
- Valparaiso – Calumet Ave (Downtown to North Corp. Limit)
- Valparaiso – Campbell St (Entire Length)

Valparaiso – Lincolnway (Entire Length)  
Valparaiso – CR 400 North (aka Vale Park Rd – Entire length)  
Valparaiso – SR 2 (Entire Length)  
Valparaiso – US 30 (Entire Length)\*  
Valparaiso – Roosevelt Road (Entire Length)  
Valparaiso – LaPorte Ave (Sturdy Rd to East Corp. Limit)  
Valparaiso – Harrison Blvd (Calumet Ave to Froberg Rd)

The \* symbol next to the project location identifies locations that have been selected for construction funding by NIRPC or the LPA.

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#### WORK ELEMENTS/METHODOLOGY:

Consultant Selection: LPA's will utilize INDOT's standard RFP process in selecting an engineering consultant.

RSA Team Selection: LPA's will select their own RSA team or teams. NIRPC intends to observe this process closely to measure the extent to which the independent nature of the team can be maintained. While we expect that each LPA's approach will be similar, we desire to see the mechanisms the LPA's will employ to ensure stakeholder inclusion and involvement.

Field Reviews: Field reviews are required. We hope that the entire RSA Team will participate. We are especially interested in seeing if LPA's choose to perform both daytime and night-time reviews.

Audit Analysis & Report of Findings: The LPA's consultant will prepare this as a single document. The document will incorporate all suggestions made by team members, the project owner, and consultant. Team members will execute a statement that indicates that they have participated in the RSA and agreed or reached consensus on its findings.

#### **FY 2017/ 2018**

1. It is expected that consultants will be engaged prior to May 2017.
2. It is expected that Final Reports will be issued within one year of consultant engagement.

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**END PRODUCTS:****2017/2018**

Road Safety Audit Reports as follows:

- Hobart – Two (2) Reports.
- Gary—Three (3) Reports.
- Lake County—Three (3) Reports.
- Valparaiso—11 Reports.

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**USE OF FY 2017/2018 END PRODUCTS/FUTURE DIRECTION:**

These products will aid the LPA's in selecting candidate projects for future highway construction projects. The completed RSA's will be used by NIRPC in the redesign of its HSIP project selection process.

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**STAFFING AND PROGRAM LINKAGES:**

*This work will be overseen by the LPA project managers. At NIRPC, the implementation will be overseen by Gary Evers, with assistance from Stephen Sostaric and Amanda Peregrine.*

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**FUNDING:**

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Penalty Funds obligated at 100% Federal.

- Hobart:       \$60,000
- Gary:         \$105,000
- Lake County: \$100,000
- Valparaiso:  \$275,000