

Technical Planning Committee Meeting

NIRPC Lake Michigan Room
6100 Southport Road, Portage

January 9, 2018

MINUTES

Chairman Kevin Breitzke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. Members present included Kevin Breitzke, George Topoll, David Wright, Tyler Kent, Tom MacLennan, Lyndsay Quist, Mark O'Dell, Kay Nelson, Kelly Wenger, and Jerry Siska. Others present included AJ Monroe, Maggie Dickerson, Claudia Taylor, Dean Button, Jeff Huet, Eric Wolverton, Jake Dammarell, Frank Rosado, Jr., Jill Murr, Robin Barzoni-Tillman, Chris Moore, Don Oliphant, Andrew Steele and Christopher Murphy. Staff present included Kathy Luther, Mitch Barloga, James Winters, Stephen Sostaric and Mary Thorne.

The INDOT participation survey was available at the table in the lobby. The minutes of the December 5, 2017 Technical Planning Committee meeting were approved on a motion by Tom MacLennan and a second by Mark O'Dell.

There were no requests for public comment.

Implementation Planning

Stephen Sostaric presented on Resolution 18-02, in support of INDOT's adopted safety reduction goals for 2018 based on five-year rolling averages. NIRPC has chosen to plan and program projects in support of attaining these targets. It will then be adopted into our amended Comprehensive Regional Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. On a motion by Kay Nelson and a second by Mark O'Dell, the Technical Planning Committee voted to recommend Resolution 18-02 to the Board for adoption.

Programming

- Stephen Sostaric said Amendment #8 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program went out for a 7-day public comment period ending January 8. No comments were received.
- Mitch Barloga presented Resolution 18-01, Amendment #8 to the FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program for an added phase project in Porter County and change years for two grade separation projects in Munster. On a motion by George Topoll and a second by Mark O'Dell, the Technical Planning Committee voted to recommend Amendment #8 to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program to the NIRPC Board for adoption.

Topical Committee Reports:

- Kathy Luther said the Environmental Management Policy Committee meeting last week was cancelled.
- Mitch Barloga said the Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee saw a presentation on the 2017 Year in Review for projects at its meeting last Thursday. The Greenways + Blueways Plan is being formatted and should go out for public comment next month with an open house on February 15 at NIRPC. There are no results as of yet on the TIGER grant application. A new chair and vice chair are being sought. The next meeting is on February 1 at 1:30 at NIRPC.
- James Winters said the Transit Operators will meet immediately following the TPC meeting.

- Mitch Barloga said the Land Use Committee is scheduled to meet on January 17 at 10 a.m.

There were no reports from our planning partners.

Emerging Trends:

- James Winters showed a brief Vimeo video on “*Epic Sneckdowns.*”
- Mitch Barloga showed a brief You Tube video titled, “*What’s That Infrastructure*”, Episode 1.

Announcements and Events:

- Kay Nelson said the Legislature is back in session. SB 69 is a prohibition on a 15-mile radius from Monument Circle being eliminated from proposed tolling. People in Northwest Indiana want to know if this would impact us. Another bill is HB 1115 on land owner immunity for trail access. A closed-door orientation meeting for members of the VW Settlement board is this Thursday in Indianapolis. Several public meetings on fund distribution will be held around the state and there is one on February 6 at 6 p.m. here at NIRPC. Shawn Seals will present at the Commission meeting next Thursday at 9 a.m.
- David Wright said the Merrillville Shuttle service begins on January 22. The BMX service from downtown Gary to Southlake Methodist will begin on February 19. The Ivy Tech South Broadway shuttle to the Purdue Research Park and token transit will take place at the same time.
- Mitch Barloga said we are merging the Greenways + Blueways Facebook and Twitter accounts into NIRPC’s social media accounts.
- Stephen Sostaric announced that this meeting is being streamed live.
- Kevin Breitzke read the list of meetings through February 13, 2018.

The next Technical Planning Committee meeting is February 13 at 9 a.m. at NIRPC. Hearing no other business, Kevin Breitzke adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

A Digital MP3 of this meeting is filed. Contact Mary Thorne at the phone number or email below should you wish to receive a copy or a portion of it.