

Surface Transportation Committee Meeting
NIRPC Lake Michigan Room
August 7, 2018

Chairman Tom Schmitt called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions. Present were Tom Schmitt, Schererville Town Council; Jim Biggs, Lake County Commission; Christine Cid, Lake County Council; George Topoll, Union Township Trustee; Ian Hirt, Ports of Indiana-Burns Harbor; Dean Button, City of Hammond; and David Clark, ESI Consultants.

NIRPC staff present were Ty Warner, Trey Wadsworth, Scott Weber, and Mary Thorne.

There was no public comment.

On a motion by Christine Cid, seconded by Jim Biggs, the June 5, 2018 minutes were approved as presented.

Presentation. Ian Hirt presented five projects for which the Ports of Indiana-Burns Harbor were awarded a \$9.85 million FASTLANE Grant (Fostering Advancement in Shipping and Transportation in the Long-term Advancement of National Efficiencies). The projects were: East Rail Yard road relocation, a truck marshalling yard to reduce emissions; Berth 5 bulk cargo expansion improving vessel discharge productivity; New rail connection; West Rail Yard providing unit train capability and the addition of a new rail connection; and Berth 16 & 17 pavement improvements which will provide waterfront expansion for vessel operations. Mr. Hirt added that 500 acres will be available for lease.

Action on Report 18-01, NIRPC Priorities for INDOT Statewide Corridor Planning Study. Scott Weber said INDOT is going to do a statewide corridor planning study and is looking for eight corridors around the state for this study. Scott presented NIRPC's notes presenting 10 corridors along SR 49, 51, 912, and US 6, 20 35, 41 and 421 for consideration by INDOT for its study. The corridor segments were for SR 49 from Chesterton to Valparaiso; SR 51 from I-80/94 to US 20; SR 912 from Ridge Road to I-90; US 6 from Hobart to Westville; US 12 from Indianapolis Boulevard to Michigan City; US 20 from Indianapolis Boulevard to I-94; US 20 in LaPorte County; US 35 in LaPorte County; US 41 in Lake County; and US 421 in LaPorte County. Committee members made a few suggestions which will be incorporated into NIRPC's notes. On a motion by Christine Cid, seconded by Jim Biggs, the Surface Transportation Committee voted to approve Resolution 18-01, NIRPC's Priority Corridors for the INDOT Planning Study.

Scott Weber gave the INDOT Letting Report. He noted that the next letting comes out August 10. Tom Schmitt noted that a ramp from Cline to Michigan Avenue has two signs that warn of "rough pavement". These signs have been up for a couple of years and asked that we push it with INDOT. Scott suggested he bring it to Rick Powers' attention at the Commission meeting next Thursday.

Scott Weber gave staff updates. The 2050 Plan pop up events will be held throughout the region in August. The CMAQ report to identify targets for all ozone precursor emissions is due October 1 and staff will have the draft report before the September 11 TPC meeting. The Household Travel Survey mailings are on paper and will be sent out September 7. Data will be collected from September 10 through Thanksgiving. The goal is to receive 2,000 responses. With regard to the air quality post processor model, there is a slowness issue with the technology which is being worked on. 42 travel corridors have been identified through collections of travel information. Peter Kimball is working to set

criteria for designating critical urban and rural freight corridors for the National Highway Freight Program for Critical Urban and Critical Rural Freight Corridors.

There was no other business.

On a motion by Jim Biggs and a second by George Topoll, Tom Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 10:15 AM.