

**Technical Planning Committee**  
**NIRPC Lake Michigan Room, Portage, IN**  
**January 14, 2020**  
**Minutes**

Kevin Breitzke called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Self-introductions. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/ocS3tdCST4w>

Committee members present were Robin Barzoni-Tillman, A.J. Bytnar, Kevin Breitzke, Dean Button, Will Farrellbegg, Tyler Kent, Kay Nelson, Jessica Miller, Mark O'Dell, George Topoll, Kelly Wenger, and David Wright.

Others present were Ismail Attallah, Jake Dammarell, Doug Ferguson, Lauri Keagle, Eric Hellmuth, Tim Hollandsworth, Jeff Huet, Tyler Kent, Sandra Kolb, Bill Laird, Bruce Lindner, A.J. Monroe, Christopher Murphy, Jerry Siska, Beth Shrader, and Kathryn Vallis.

Staff present were Mitch Barloga, Charles Bradsky, Candice Eklund, Eman Ibrahim, Peter Kimball, Kathy Luther, Kevin Pollette, Scott Weber, and Flor Baum.

The minutes of the October 8, 2019 meeting were approved on motion by Will Farrellbegg and a second by Mark O'Dell.

### **Planning**

Mitch Barloga presented on the Living Streets Resolution draft policy that is merging both Complete and Green Streets elements into one policy. The draft policy will be presented and reviewed by each topical committee, including TPC, before being recommended to the Commission meeting for final approval in April. All comments need to be submitted to Mitch Barloga at [mbarloga@nirpc.org](mailto:mbarloga@nirpc.org) or 219-254-2518 by the end of February. If approved, the policy will be used at the next Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

Scott Weber presented on Resolution 20-03. The resolution is requesting a vote for Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) to amend the *NWI 2050 Plan* as a technical amendment. The Commission is federally required to annually update federal safety performance targets. The Technical Planning Committee (TPC) recommended that the amended language include, "no more than," with the adjusted targets. On motion by Kay Nelson and a second by Beth Shrader, the Technical Planning Committee voted to recommend Resolution 20-03 to the NIRPC Full Commission for adoption.

Scott Weber also presented on Resolution 20-04, a technical amendment to update the federally required safety performance measure targets in the FY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in support of the State of Indiana's safety targets. On motion by George Topoll and a second by Will Farrellbegg, the TPC voted to recommend Resolution 20-04 to the NIRPC Full Commission for adoption.

### **Programming**

Charles Bradsky presented on the general public comment received for the draft changes to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The one comment received was a request to increase the capacity of the roadways for two state roads. Charles responded to the recipient, and forwarded the comment to Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).

Charles Bradsky presented on Resolution 20-02, Amendment #3 to the FY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 29 added projects in the Region. On motion by Dean Button and a second by Will Farrellbegg, the TPC voted to recommend Amendment #3 to the FY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program to the NIRPC Commission for adoption.

### **Topical Committee Reports**

Kathy Luther reported on the Environmental Management Policy Committee's (EMPC) meeting, held on January 9th. The U.S. EPA Region 5 is in the process of developing a Sub Area Contingency Plan (SACP), with a focus on inland and coastal, as a way of responding to spills, or potential spills of hazardous substances within Northwest Indiana. The next SACP meeting will be held on February 4, 2020, in Michigan City, from 10:00 am - noon.

Kathy Luther also shared with the committee a Save-the-Date for the Vehicle Emission Testing Educational Workshop, which will be held on February 7, 2020. The workshop will reintroduce legislation, and be fact and data driven. Resource information will also be presented for failed emissions.

Mitch Barloga shared with the committee the next scheduled Ped, Pedal, & Paddle (3PC) meeting will be on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

Eman Ibrahim stated the next scheduled Land Use Committee (LUC) meeting will be on Thursday, February 6, 2020, at 10:30 am.

Scott Weber stated the next scheduled Surface Transportation Committee (STC) meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 9:00 am.

Charles Bradsky reported on the Transportation Resource & Oversight Committee's (TROC) December 10 meeting. Two projects have been moved out to 2021, which has left a \$5 million surplus for FY2021. The next scheduled TROC - **Lake and Porter** meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 9:00 am, at NIRPC. TROC - **La Porte** will also meet on February 25, at 1:00 pm, in La Porte Park and Recreation Building.

### **Reports from Planning Partners**

Doug Ferguson, Senior Analyst at Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), reported on Neighboring Regional Planning Agencies. An interactive session is scheduled January 21st, at the Village of Montgomery, IL to develop a Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP) for the Chicagoland area. Different strategies will be collected as part of that development. CMAP also released a regional flood susceptibility index available online. <https://datahub.cmap.illinois.gov/dataset/on-to-2050-layer-flood-susceptibility-index>

Doug also reported on the background of Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) funding for the Complete Streets Project in Illinois. Illinois State Legislature passed the Capital of Improvement plan for the state, which included \$50,000,000 for bicycle and pedestrian improvements. However, it is yet to be determined on whether the funding is set per year, or a lump sum for the entirety of the program.

Lauri Keagle provided an update on the focus of the contract South Shore Clean Cities (SSCC) has with NIRPC regarding the vehicle emission educational workshop for the state of Indiana. Legacy Environmental Services, stated there will be an educational workshop on April 2, 2020. The workshop will reintroduce legislation, and be fact and data driven. Resource information will also be presented for failed emissions.

Lauri also presented on the Partners for Clean Air scholarship applications. For more information, please go online. <https://www.in.gov/idem/5157.htm>

Kelly Wenger, with Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), reported on Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) - Community Crossings Update. The 2020-1 Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) call for projects began on January 6, 2020 and will close at 5:00 pm Eastern Time, February 7, 2020. Reach out to Marcia Blancett for further assistance.

#### **Other Business, Staff Announcements and Upcoming Meetings**

Kathy Luther will provide information and data to Dean Button, regarding Lake Michigan lakeshore protection from storm surges and erosion due to high water levels.

Announcements and upcoming dates were shared with the committee.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next Technical Planning Committee Meeting will be on February 11, 2020, at 10:00 am, in NIRPC's Lake Michigan Room. Hearing no other business, Kevin Breitzke adjourned the meeting at 10:54 am.