

URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: April 4, 2023

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 440, Citizens Square, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The following were present:

Members (voting):

- Member Shan Gunawardena-Chair
- Member William Hartman-Vice Chair
- Member Therese Brown
- Member Mike Fruchey
- Member Scott Hinderman
- Member Dana Plattner for Jason Kaiser
- Member for Rick Kruchten for Steve McMichael
- Member Judi Wire
- Member Patrick Zaharako

The following were not present:

- Member Paul Lagemann
- Member John Metzinger
- Member Paul Spoelhof
- Member Stephanie Belch (non-voting)
- Member Kari Carmany George (non-voting)
- Member Erica Tait (non-voting)

Staff members present were Dan Avery, Executive Director; Jeff Bradtmiller, Senior Transportation Planner; and Debbie Magsam, Administrative Assistant. Kevin Brooks, Matthew Brown, Jodi Coblentz, Andrew Fenker, Beth Johnson, Wendy Reust, Cornelia Schulz, and Jeff Weaver were also present.

Mr. Gunawardena brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was the approval of the March 7, 2023, minutes. Ms. Brown moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Hartman seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Hartman gave the progress report for Allen County Highway. There are only a few slight changes from last month's report.

Mr. Zaharako gave the progress report for the City of Fort Wayne. The Bluffton Road Bridge and Goeglein Road Bridge projects are in design. A request for proposals (RFP) is out for right-of-way services for the Hillegas Road project.

Mr. Kruchten gave the progress report for the City of New Haven. There are no project updates. Mr. Kruchten is the new Director of Engineering for the City of New Haven.

Mr. Plattner gave the progress report for INDOT. The contract for the Small Structure & Drains Construction at various locations on SR 3 project was not awardable and will be re-let in September 2023.

There was no progress report for the airport.

There was no progress report for Citilink.

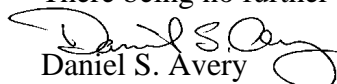
The first item of new business was the Draft FY2024-2028 TIP project lists presented by Mr. Avery. Handouts of the Transit Projects, INDOT Projects, and Local Roadway Projects were distributed. A Local Funding Only-No Federal Funds handout of projects was also distributed. These handouts were emailed to the Board on March 28, 2023, for their review. If the Board votes to put the plan out for public comment at today's meeting, the public comment period will run from April 5, 2023, to May 5, 2023. An Open House is scheduled for April 26, 2023. Mr. Gunawardena proposed two changes to the Local Funding Only-No Federal Funds list. The description for the Coldwater Road project should be three lanes and the Goshen Road project should be three lanes. Mr. Zaharako asked if there will be a map of the INDOT projects. Mr. Avery said yes, and it will be available online. Ms. Brown moved that the Draft FY2024-2028 go out for public comment with the proposed changes. Mr. Fruchey seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of new business was the 2045 Transportation Plan presented by Mr. Avery. The planning assumptions use the latest available estimates of population, land-use, travel, employment, congestion, and economic activity. The 2045 Transportation Plan focuses on the Metropolitan Planning Area. Next, Mr. Avery showed the data for population, housing units, vehicles, and employment for the base year 2020 and the horizon year 2045. The 2045 data is entered into traffic analysis zones to run the forecasting model. The All in Allen Comprehensive Plan is looked at for where future growth is anticipated to occur. A handout was distributed with all the committed and proposed roadway improvement projects. Mr. Avery asked the Board to review the list. These are the next steps for the 2045 Transportation Plan: refine project and policy listings, conduct financial analysis-fiscal constraint, submit planning assumptions for informal ICG review, complete plan narrative and transportation conformity document, approve draft plan and draft transportation conformity document, solicit public comment, UTAB approval, and submit to INDOT, FHWA, FTA, and ICG.

The last item of new business was one TIP Amendment presented by Mr. Avery. The TIP Amendment was regarding a capital equipment purchase for an automatic vehicle location system for Citilink. Ms. Wire moved to approve the TIP Amendment as submitted. Mr. Zaharako seconded the motion and it carried.

At this point, Mr. Gunawardena asked for public comment. Mr. Brooks stated he is a member of Three Rivers Active Streets. He is concerned about climate change and traffic fatalities. He would like to see all surface streets account for the safe movement of people on bikes, scooters, and mobility devices. Ms. Schulz attended the meeting regarding the Goshen Road project. She questioned why the Goshen Road project does not include a bike lane and the plans for the new Zoo/Franke Park entrance on Goshen Road does include a bike lane. She would like to see better coordination of projects.

There being no further business, Mr. Gunawardena adjourned the meeting.


Daniel S. Avery

Executive Director - Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council