

## **URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes: September 5, 2023**

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, September 5, 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 Emily Grabill for Mike Fruchey
- Member Jason Kaiser
- Member Rick Kruchten for Steve McMichael
- Member Judi Wire
- Member Patrick Zaharako

The following were not present:

- Member Therese Brown
- Member Scott Hinderman
- 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. Emily Entley, Bill Etzler, Nathan Hooley, Wendy Reust, Chad Salzbrenner, Eli Samaan, Mike Thomson, and Tinisha Weigelt were also present.

Mr. Gunawardena brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was the approval of the July 11, 2023, minutes. Mr. Hartman moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Wire seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Hartman gave the progress report for Allen County Highway. The project cost were reviewed and adjusted for inflation. The estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate for the Bluffton Road Bridge #257 project has increased and right-of-way (RW) is 100% complete. Preliminary Engineering (PE) for this project is 95%. The Fogwell Parkway project has an increase in the estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. The letting date for this project has been moved from October 9, 2024 to July 10, 2024. The Monroeville Road Bridge #277 project has an increase in the estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. The Grabill Road Bridge #29 project has had a decrease in the estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. PE is 70% and consultant selection for inspection awaits INDOT approval. The Amber Road Bridge #226 project has an increase in the estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. PE is 65% and RW acquisition begins after environmental

document approval. The Antwerp Road Bridge #15 project has an increase in estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. RW acquisition is underway. The Slusher Road Bridge #141 project has an increase in estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. The Monroeville Road – Wayne Trace project has had a decrease in the estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. The Coverdale Road -Indianapolis Road-Winters Road intersection project was added and has a letting date of October 7, 2026. It will be a single lane roundabout. The Woodburn Road Bridge #51 project has had an increase in estimated overall project cost and the construction estimate. The South County Line Road Bridge #271 project has one change order in the amount of \$86,670.

Mr. Zaharako gave the progress report for the City of Fort Wayne. BLN has been selected for the Tillman Road Bridge #550 project. A notice to proceed (NTP) was issued and design work is starting. American Structurepoint has been selected for the North Clinton Road project and awaiting INDOT funding agreement. GAI was selected for right-of-way services for the Hillegas Road project and awaiting INDOT funding agreement. Drainage design is in progress and PE is at 60%. USI has been selected for construction inspection (CI) for the Bluffton Road Bridge #358 project and PE is at 70%. A & Z Engineering has been selected for CI for the Goeglein Road Bridge #113 project and PE is at 70%.

Mr. Kaiser gave the progress report for INDOT. R.L. McCoy, Inc. has been awarded the contract for the Bridge Deck Overlay project, I-469 on-ramp bridge over I-469, and the Bridge Deck Overlay project, S. Anthony Extended bridge over I-469. One of the small structure replacement projects that was part of a bundle of projects on US 24 has been removed from the list. This was a cost saving measure, and it was determined that this project could wait. The debris removal project on the SR 930 Bridge over the St. Joseph River has been added to the list.

Mr. Kruchten gave the progress report for the City of New Haven. The City of New Haven will be starting pavement resurfacing this month at 24 locations with funds received from the Community Crossings Matching Grant program. API was awarded the contract. Scour protection continues as part of phase II of the Landin Road project. The Rose Avenue/Linden Road project is waiting for approval from INDOT. The design portion of the South Maplecrest Road project has been awarded to DLZ.

There was no progress report for Citilink.

There was no progress report for the airport.

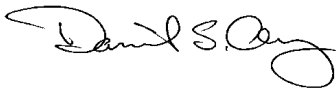
The first item of new business was the Adjusted 2020 Urban Area Boundary presented by Mr. Avery. After each census the Census Bureau defines an urbanized area boundary based on population density. This does not consider the roads and a small section of a road could be left out. NIRCC is allowed to smooth the area boundary. The adjustment of the boundary does not change the Census population. The Census Bureau changed the criteria for urban areas in 2020. The major change is the maximum jump distance between rural and urban areas has been changed from 2.5 miles in 2010 to 1.5 miles in 2020. This change makes it so Leo/Cedarville and Grabill are no longer in the urbanized area boundary set by the Census Bureau. Mr. Avery presented and discussed a map of the 2010 and 2020 Census Urban Area Boundary and a map of the 2020 Census Urban Area with adjustments to smooth the boundary. The adjusted boundary does impact the

rural functional class system and the urban functional class system. No action will be taken on the Highway Functional Classification System until the boundary has been approved. A map of the current Highway Functional Classification System in the metropolitan planning area was shown. Mr. Avery showed a map of the current Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary and the proposed MPA boundary. Ms. Wire moved to approve the Adjusted 2020 Urban Area Boundary and the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary. Mr. Zaharako seconded the motion and it carried.

The last item of new business was the TIP Amendments presented by Mr. Avery. There were four TIP Amendments. Two of the amendments were regarding Citilink including a capital facility rehabilitation and a capital equipment purchase. An amendment for intersection improvements at various locations for slotted left turns was submitted. The last amendment was an interchange modification on US 24. Mr. Hartman moved to approve the TIP Amendments as submitted. Ms. Wire seconded the motion and it carried.

At this point, Mr. Gunawardena asked for public comment.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel S. Avery". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Daniel S. Avery  
Executive Director - Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council