

Transit Development District Steering Committee meeting August 17, 2022

Note

The meeting can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzKBOx6Zl2o>

Location

Conducted via Zoom

Present

Richard Morrisroe, Lee Ann Mellon, Michael Barry, John Blackburn, Brian Poland, Tim Corcoran

Minutes

Minutes of the Many 18, 2022 meeting were approved.

Regional Development Authority Update

RDA COO Sherri Ziller updated the committee on the progress of the rail projects. She began by noting that the RDA Board of Directors had approved seven Transit Development Districts at its most recent meeting and that they would enable RDA to accelerate investment around the stations. She personally thanked all of the TDD steering committee members for their partnership and leadership.

She continued that West Lake remained on track. On Double Track, there was a groundbreaking on June with the Governor.

TDD Boundaries Update

Aaron Kowalski updated the committee on the boundaries. The first round of boundaries have been approved by RDA and will be taking them to the State Budget Committee at the end of the month. That means they will be established in calendar year 2022, so the base year for the increment will be set in 2022. There is a second group of communities eligible, and he provided an update on each.

Gary Metro: Have had several meetings with the city to understand the plans they have in place and how the TDD can be part of a greater revitalization effort downtown. We anticipate creating a draft boundary in the fall or early winter. It would advance through the same process as the earlier TDDs in 2023.

Dune Park/Porter: Porter is ready to look at that boundary now. Looking around the station and around the state and national parks.

Beverly Shores: have had some conversations.

South Bend: some of you may have seen the news about NICTD issuing an RFP to study moving the station to the west side of the airport, that's in conjunction with local economic development plans, and they are ready to look at a TDD around the relocated station.

He then reviewed the boundaries that were approved by RDA and that would be presented to the SBC. Following that he provided a brief update on the upcoming TDD presentation to the SBC.

TOD Implementation Planning

Aaron noted they were making very good progress and were on course to have this process wrapped up on schedule, which is by the end of the year. He provided some community level updates, including on Beverly Shores, Gary Metro, Dyer, Hammond, Portage and East Chicago.

Q&A

Eman Ibrahim from NIRPC noted that NIRPC would be releasing details of a grant program for TOD planning and implementation in September.

Sherri Ziller added that the SBC final agenda was not out yet so RDA was waiting for final confirmation on the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.