INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

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Room N901
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Michael B. Cline, Commissioner

February 22, 2012

Ms. Marisol R. Simon
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
200 West Adams Street, Suite 320
Chicago, IL 60606

RE: FY2012 - FY2015 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Transit Amendment #11

Dear Ms. Simon;

Please find attached a Metropolitan Planning Organization TIP amendment which must be approved and included into the FY 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program. We will reflect by reference the 2012 – 2015 federal aid projects covered by this approval in our 2012 - 2015 STIP. The amendment is for the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (Fort Wayne MPO). The project to be added to the STIP is as follows:

MPO	Project Description	DES #	Federal	Section
Fort Wayne	Lake Avenue Corridor – Transit and Pedestrian improvements	1296181	$152,784	Section 5309 (Livability Grant)

We have determined that the proposed amendments are: 1) consistent with the transportation plan; 2) the TIP remains fiscally constrained in that federal funding resources are sufficient to support the new or modified projects and 3) conform to state and national air quality standards as required by the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

We request your review and approval of the subject amendment. Please contact me at (317) 232-5292 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Larry Buckel

Larry Buckel
Manager
Office of Transit

CC: Dan Avery, Fort Wayne MPO
Kenneth Housden, Citylink
Reggie Arkell, FTA

FY 2012-2015 TIP Amendments/Modifications
UTAB - February 7, 2012

Project Location (Description of Project)	DES #	Phase	Est Cost ($1000)	Year	Federal ($1000)	State ($1000)	Local ($1000)	Funding	LPA / Sponsor
Lake Avenue Corridor - Transit and pedestrian improvements Transit - Rider Amenities	1296181	CN	191.0	2012	152.8	0.0	38.2	Livability Grant	Citilink

URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes: February 7, 2012

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 220 Citizens Square, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The following were present.
Members (voting):

Member Shan Gunawardena
Member John Leckie
Member Linda Bloom
Member Pam Holocher
Member William Hartman
Member Scott Hinderman for Tory Richardson
Member Ken Housden
Member John Shoaff
Member Bob Kennedy
Member Terry McDonald
Member Darren Vogt
Member Roy Buskirk

Member (non-voting):

Member Joyce Newland (Phone in)

The following were not present:
Member (non-voting):

Member Jerry Halperin

Staff members present were Dan Avery, Executive Director, Jeff Bradtmiller, Senior Transportation Planner, and Judy Bennett, Secretary. Eli Samaan, Mike Thornson, Mitch Hansel, John R. Caton, Ben Lanka, Tom Henry and Dawn Ritchie were also present.

Mr. McDonald brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was approval of the January 10, 2012, minutes. Ms. Bloom moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Buskirk seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of business was Progress in Implementing the Present TIP. Mr. Leckie gave the report for Indiana Department of Transportation. He reported that I-69 at Union Chapel Road interchange construction was awarded to Brooks Construction for $13,970,422.38. US 27 southbound curves at Westbrook Street and Elizabeth Street project letting is scheduled for February 2012. State Road 14 from Scott Road to West Hamilton Road added lanes project contract is in right of way phase. The project letting is scheduled for October 2012. US 27 from (Edgewood Avenue) 0.99 miles south of State Road 930 to State Road 930 (Coliseum Boulevard) road rehabilitation project preliminary field check is scheduled for late October 2012. Project letting is scheduled for October 2013.

Mr. Hartman gave the report for Allen County. He reported that only state limited-access right of way and a few complicated right of way acquisitions are yet to be completed for Flutter Road. The letting date for Gump Road is March 2013. The right of way is 75% complete. Coverdale Road letting is scheduled for January 2013. Bethel-Till-Huguenard roads project environmental is at 87% and the preliminary engineering is at 75% complete. The Hoagland Streets Sidewalk project had to be scaled back due to limited funding. Cripe is under contract to do the engineering study on route alternatives and costs for the Carroll Road-Corbin Road Corridor.

Mr. Gunawardena gave the report for the City of Fort Wayne. He reported that the Auburn Road project was awarded to Fleming Excavating. The Covington Road Bridge over I-69 & Dickie Road is scheduled for an October 2012 letting. The Dupont Road added travel lanes project is about thirty percent complete. Lake Avenue - Anthony Boulevard to Stanley Avenue is scheduled for a March 2012 bid letting. Maplecrest Road – Lake Avenue to State Boulevard water main relocation/upgrade design is 65% complete. The Signal Controller Upgrade – intersections project was awarded to Morphy Construction and will be completed this summer. The State Boulevard – Cass Street to Spy Run design is forty percent complete. There will be a meeting sometime in May to discuss mitigation. Work on the US 27 (Clinton Street) Bridge over the St. Mary's River project truss placement is complete and Clinton Street is open to traffic. Lighting installation is underway.

Ms. Ritchie gave the Trails Report. She reported that Covington Road Trail – Ladue Lane to I-69 letting is scheduled for January of 2013 but it is dependent upon when the Covington Road Bridge over I-69 is let. D. A. Brown will need to submit a supplemental agreement and fee for re-designing the Covington Road Trail – Beal-Taylor Ditch to West Hamilton Road project. Johnny Appleseed Park to Shoaff Park, PH 1-B and 1-C right of way will be clear this week once the Board of Works signs the non-revocable license agreement with AEP. They are also waiting for a DNR permit. INDOT has decided to move the project from a May to a July letting because right of way is not secure and the permit has not been obtained in time. The New York Central (Pufferbelly) Trail right of way appraising of seven properties has begun. Review appraising should be done by the third week of February. They have begun to clear some of the vegetation in order to get the rest of the survey work finished on the Pufferbelly Trail, Dupont Road to Carroll Road. The Safe Routes to School Sidewalk along East State Boulevard project has some issues with the right of way acquisition and they are awaiting some details from INDOT. The letting has been moved from May to July.

Mr. Hinderman gave the report for the airport. He reported that Mr. Richardson had sent in a list of projects that are nearing completion. Projects they anticipate doing this year are pending because of federal funding. They anticipate replacing all of the remainder of the fence around Fort Wayne International, replacing some runway and guard lights, and making some terminal improvements. They are seeking reimbursement of federal funds for a project they did this year at Smith Field.

Mr. Housden gave the report for Citilink. He reported that they have received seven access and one small fixed route bus. They are anticipating delivery of two new hybrids by the end of February. They have five options remaining. The entire small bus fleet has been flipped. The Baker Street Station is 38% complete. Some electronics will be added to the station.

Mr. McDonald gave the report for the city of New Haven. He reported that the Depot restoration is moving along pretty nicely. They are starting utility relocation on the Moeller Road project. The letting date is May 2, 2012. They are preparing for public hearing on the Landin Road project. They are going to ask the Allen County Surveyor's Office to partner regarding two legal drains. They hope to be doing a Safe Routes to School project soon. They also have plans for the Six Mile Creek Trail.

The next item of business was the Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) Report. Mr. Avery gave this report with assistance from a PowerPoint presentation. He reported that staff prepares an annual report documenting the calendar year VMT and monthly travel variation. Staff has completed the report for 2011. The first component is the monthly count factors that indicate the variation of travel within the metropolitan planning area, by month throughout the year. The factors are derived from eight permanent count stations within the Metropolitan Planning Area. Staff obtains and analyzes monthly traffic data from these stations. Mr. Avery presented a table and bar chart that displayed the monthly variation. He stated that for the last three years or so, the monthly variation has been influenced by volatile fuel prices and economic conditions. This variation is depicted in the drop in travel during the months of July and August. The vehicle miles of travel report is based on approximately 600 to 700 counts taken during 2011 and calculated through a statistically valid sampling process, with predetermined precision levels. NIRCC has conducted the VMT analyses since 1986. The VMT estimate for 2011 indicates an overall increase of 1.44% over 2010 estimates. Mr. Avery explained that freeway/interstate data is only available once every two years. In 2012 new data will be available on the Interstate system. There were slight increases on the expressway, arterial and collector systems. The increase in regional VMT is consistent with the national VMT. This is likely due to improving economic conditions. The VMT in the region has almost doubled since 1986, but expectations for future VMT growth is for a slow but steady growth.

The next item of business was the Fairfield Avenue-Ewing Street Analysis. Mr. Avery stated that the city of Fort Wayne requested NIRCC's assistance to evaluate traffic flow impacts if Fairfield Avenue and Ewing Street were converted from one-way to two-way streets. The staff worked through the Feasibility Subcommittee on this project and determined that six major intersections should be evaluated. The six major intersections include Fairfield Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard; Fairfield Avenue and Washington Boulevard; Fairfield Avenue and Main Street; Ewing Street and Jefferson Boulevard; Ewing Street and Washington Boulevard; and Ewing Street and Main Street. The NIRCC staff ran analyses to evaluate changes to the intersection levels of service using existing service levels as the basis for comparison. Mr. Bradtmiller presented the results of the analyses. Future traffic volumes derived from several growth scenarios were assigned to the six intersections with Fairfield Avenue and Ewing Street operating as two-way facilities. The level of service and intersection operating characteristics were evaluated against current conditions. The analysis of existing conditions indicated all six intersections are operating well. Most of the intersection service levels remained within acceptable ranges under future traffic conditions, with only one intersection, Fairfield Avenue and Main Street, displaying unacceptable conditions. Additional analyses were preformed on this intersection, and the adjacent Ewing Street and Main Street intersection, to determine if performance levels could be raised by converting a left-turn/through lane to an exclusive left-turn lane. This reconfiguration improved service levels, but indicated the service level may fall

below acceptable levels under the most aggressive growth scenario. Overall the intersections are expected to perform adequately, with some minor modifications necessary in future years.

Mr. Gunawardena added that this analysis did not address Superior Street. Ewing Street, Fairfield Avenue, Superior Street and Wells Street form a five-legged intersection. To accommodate two-way traffic on Ewing and Fairfield, this intersection will need to be modified. A roundabout is being evaluated for addressing the intersection with Superior Street. Mr. Vogt confirmed that this is for development reasons and not more efficient travel. Mr. Avery and Mr. Gunawardena concurred that the one-way to two-way conversion was to support redevelopment efforts and not to improve traffic flow. The analyses were performed to determine if, and to what extent, any adverse impacts would result. Mr. Samaan added the historic background for the realignment of Wells Street and the Wells Street Bridge. Ms. Holocher added that from a connectivity and accessibility standpoint, it is good to convert one-way streets to two-way streets.

The next item of business was the Transit Planning Committee Membership. Mr. Avery reported that the Transit Planning Committee is a subcommittee of UTAB that focuses on transit and para-transit issues. He provided a handout that contained the membership of the Transit Planning Committee. He explained that there were currently two vacancies on the committee, both for consumers of transit and para-transit services, and that staff and other committee members were presenting two recommendations to fill these vacancies. The recommendations were John Wallace who is the Assistant Director of Redevelopment for the city of Fort Wayne and Anne Palmer who works part time for the League for the Blind and Disabled. Mr. Housden moved that these be approved. Ms. Holocher seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of business was the TIP Amendment. Mr. Avery stated that the amendment was for a Citilink project for transit and pedestrian improvements along the Lake Avenue Corridor. Citilink received a Livability Grant that needs to be amended into the TIP. Mr. Housden moved that this be approved. Ms. Bloom seconded the motion. Mr. Buskirk asked what the grant would be used for. Ms. Holocher answered that it would be for sidewalks and shelter that would improve transit accessibility and comfort. She stated that the City of Fort Wayne hopes to receive many more of these grants The board approved the amendment..

The next item of business was Election of Officers. Mr. Avery explained that the retirement of David Ross left a vacancy as he had been elected chair for several years. Mayor McDonald has served as the vice-chair. Mr. Leckie nominated Roy Buskirk for chair. Mr. Vogt seconded the motion and it carried. Ms. Bloom nominated Mr. Gunawardena for vice-chair. Mr. Vogt seconded the motion and it carried. Mr. McDonald turned the meeting over to Mr. Buskirk.

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

Daniel S. Avery
Executive Director
Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council