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Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

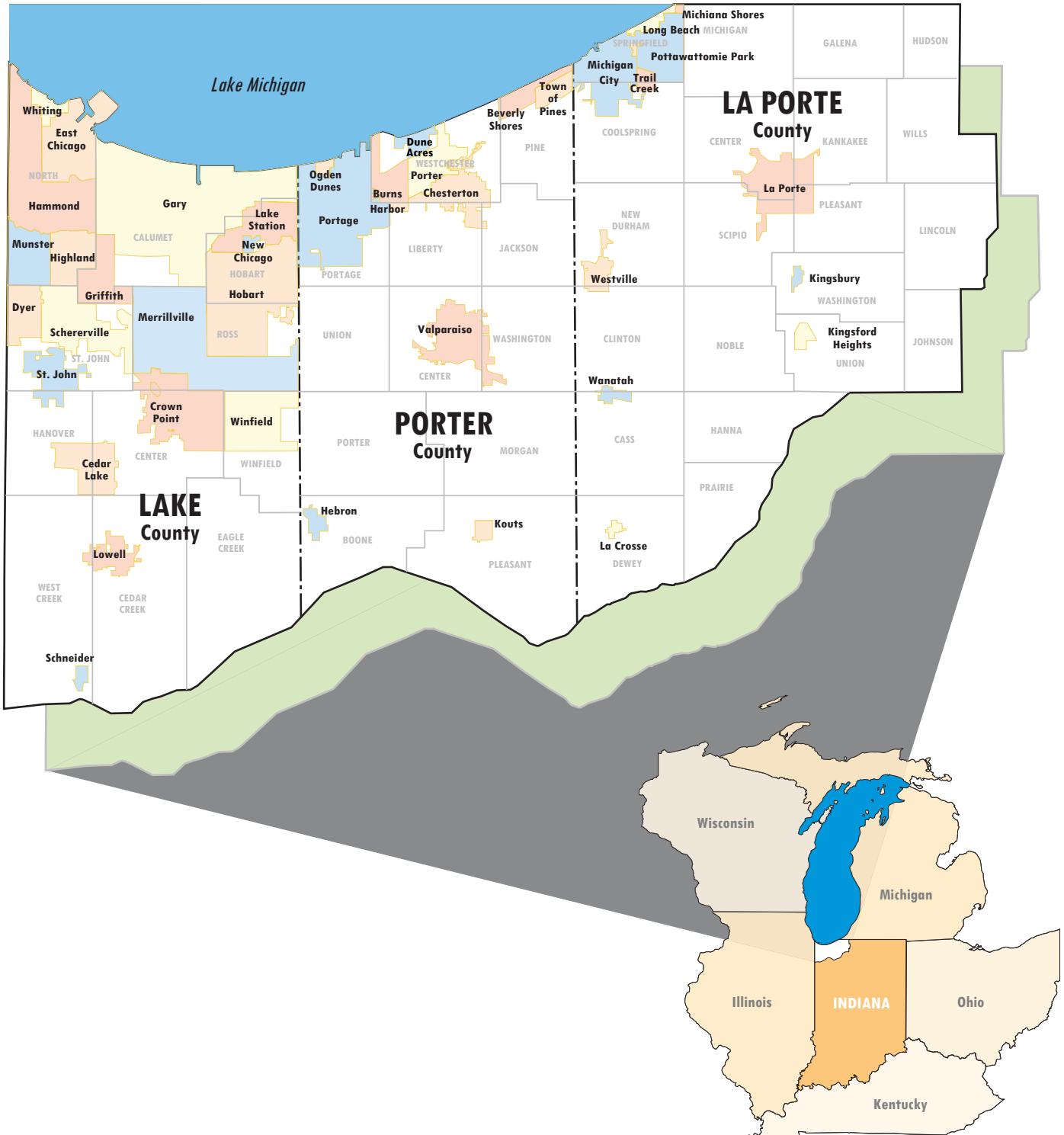
FILED
08/29/2016

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015



Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

Council of Governments District



COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANICAL REPORT

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015

**Prepared by the Office of Finance and Administration
Angie Hayes, Director**

On the Front & Back Covers:

Indiana State Road 249, Portage, Indiana. Photo by: Stephen Sostaric
Ship Unloading at Buffington Harbor, Gary, Indiana. Photo by: Stephen Sostaric
Amtrak's Hoosier State Train, Serving Dyer, Indiana. Photo by: Stephen Sostaric

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
 For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015

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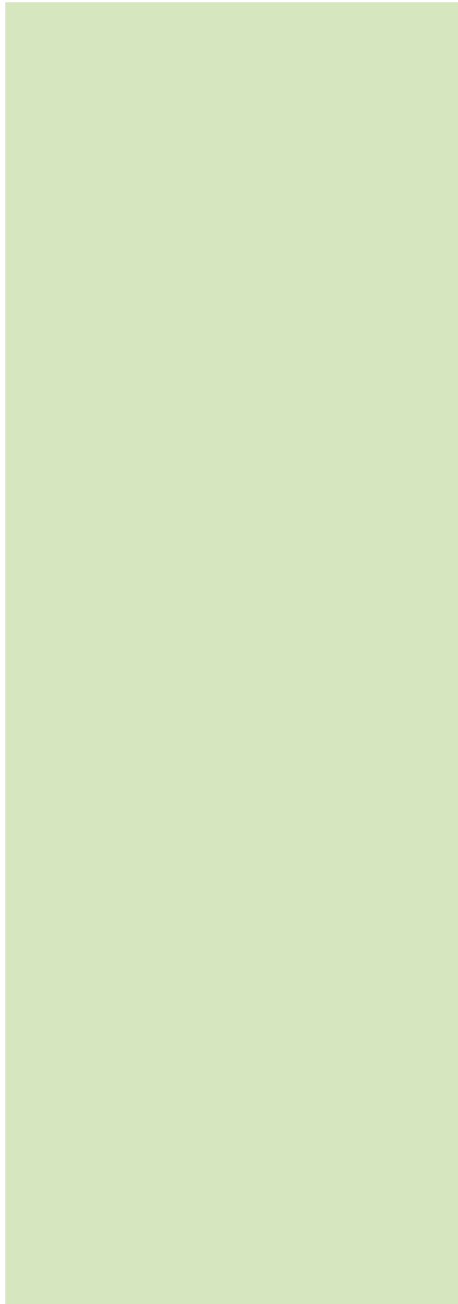
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July 14, 2016

Honorable Members
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

Dear Commissioners:

Formal Transmittal

We are pleased to submit the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Commission) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

This financial report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (GAAP) by the Commission's management and staff that are responsible for and affirm the adequacy of the material presented in this report based upon a comprehensive framework of internal control that has been established for this purpose. Since the cost of internal control should not exceed anticipated benefits, the objective is to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of any material misstatements. We believe the Commission's internal controls adequately safeguard assets and provide reasonable assurance of the proper recording of financial transactions.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, the information as presented herein is accurate in all material respects. The information is presented in a manner designed to set forth fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Commission as measured by the financial activity of the various funds. All disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain the maximum understanding of the Commission's financial affairs have been included.

The Commission's financial statements have been audited by the Indiana State Board of Accounts as established by Indiana General Assembly to review and perform the external audit of units of governments in Indiana. The goal of the independent audit is to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements presented here for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, are free of material misstatement. In addition, the Commission is required to undergo a Single Audit of Federal programs conducted under the provisions of OMB Circulars A-133 and 2 CFR Part 200. The Commission has been issued an unqualified opinion. The independent auditor's report is located at the front of the financial section of this report.

GAAP also requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements. The efforts to establish this narrative are presented in the form of Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) which can be found immediately following the independent auditor's report.

Profile of the Government

The Commission is nestled in the northwest corner of Indiana between the metropolitan influences of Chicago and Indianapolis. Northwest Indiana, shaped by sand and steel, draws on a rich history of economic accomplishment and unmatched natural beauty.

The Commission was originally called the Lake-Porter County Regional Transportation and Planning Commission and was created by state statute in 1965 defined as a multi-purpose, area-wide planning agency. A 1973 amendment provided the Commission with its current name and gave LaPorte County the option to join the Commission. In 1975, Indiana Governor Otis T. Bowen re-designated the Commission as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the two-county region. Then in 1979 LaPorte County exercised their option to join which made the Commission a three county agency.

In 2003, significant and major changes were made to the Commission's functions and appointing authorities in a law passed by the Indiana General Assembly and signed by the Governor. The new state enabling legislation defined the Commission as a Council of Governments (COG) and designated regional planning responsibilities in the areas of economic development, environmental resources, and transportation. Reorganizing the Commission as a council of governments increased the size of the membership from 39 to 51. The new seats included representation from all 41 cities and towns from within the three-county region, the county surveyor from each county, one county council member and county commissioner from each member county, and one member appointed by the Governor. The legislation also specified that only elected officials could be appointed to serve on the Commission. In 2007, the legislation was amended to add trustees of a township with a population over 8,000 which do not contain a municipality. This amendment added two more voting members, making the total Commissioner Board 53. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and a public transit operator representative selected by the operators have the opportunity to participate in vital roles on the Commission Board as non-voting members.

The Commission is responsible for its annual budget. The budget for governmental funds is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These funds include the Commission's general fund, its special revenue funds, and its one capital projects fund. A proposed budget for the ensuing year is submitted to the Commission by the Executive Director. This usually occurs at the fourth quarterly meeting of the Commission which is typically held in October. The Commission may vote to adopt the budget at this meeting, or may call a special meeting to take action on the budget.

The budget as adopted by the Commission is organized by object class categories. Major object class categories represent the legal level of control. Amendments to the adopted budget may be made only by the Commission at any regular meeting of the Commission or at any special meeting of the Commission called to consider the budget. The Commission has established a Finance and Personnel Committee composed exclusively of Commission members appointed by the Chair. This Committee exercises financial oversight over Commission operations and establishes more detailed accounts. Amounts presented in the financial statements are the final budget amounts for the year, as legally amended.

The Commission's planning area is comprised of the participating counties of Lake, Porter and LaPorte in Indiana. This area has a population of 771,815 as of the 2010 Census, covers 1520 square miles in area, and includes forty-one municipalities and forty-four townships. The Commission has received numerous designations from state and federal agencies for programs which encourage or require area-wide planning in such fields as economic development, transportation, environmental protection and comprehensive planning.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Functions

The Commission also functions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for northwest Indiana. Planning is carried out in accordance with the federal transportation planning requirements of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and their predecessor acts. The major products of the metropolitan area transportation planning process are a Unified Planning Work Program, a long range plan and a short range plan program of projects. The Commission works with federal and state transportation departments, local municipalities and local transit operators to prioritize and fund regional projects, making the region well-positioned to capitalize on some the most strategic and critical links in our nation's transportation system. This is accomplished through the Transportation

Improvement Program (TIP), a short-term (four-year) list of federally funded surface transportation investment projects. Surface transportation projects include those for public transit, local and state highways and bicycle/pedestrian projects. The Commission adopts a new TIP every other year. In between those years, revisions are made to the TIP by way of amendments which are presented to the Technical Planning Committee for approval and ultimately acted upon by the Commission. Projects in the TIP have to support the implementation of the long range transportation element of the comprehensive plan.

The first three-county comprehensive regional plan was adopted by the Commission in June 2011 after an intensive 30-month planning process. The process included an extensive and unprecedented public participation effort beginning with a regional forum in December, 2008 that attracted over 500 participants from the three-county area. It was the most demographically balanced function of its kind ever held in the three-county region. The forum was followed by over 30 workshops and meetings in 2009 and 2010 which produced the Plan's vision statement, goals and objectives; regional public policy recommendations; and implementation strategies.

The *2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP)* placed the Commission in a new role in the region with respect to planning and implementation. The Commission is called upon to assist local governments and regional stakeholders to develop integrated land use and transportation strategies, support economic development efforts, help realize land conservation and a protected green infrastructure, and to do so in a manner that recognizes and supports social equity and environmental justice. The breadth of the CRP planning initiatives suggests a broader role for the Commission in realizing the future aspirations of northwest Indiana. The 2040 CRP lays the foundation and establishes the program for how the Commission will assist northwest Indiana in realizing its vision.

Following adoption of the 2040 CRP, the Commission created an implementation and monitoring process. It includes committees of stakeholders who have and will continue to help identify local implementation actions, monitor progress, and recommend changes or new policies. This is an innovative approach for a regional planning initiative and will make the Commission's decision-making process more transparent and accessible.

The 2040 CRP took the top honor in receiving the prestigious 2013 Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan from the American Planning Association (APA). The Daniel Burnham Award recognizes a comprehensive plan that advances the science and art of planning. The award is named for America's most famous planner, Daniel Burnham, for his contributions to the planning profession and to a greater awareness of the benefits of good planning. This award is an exceptional national honor, representing the best in category among nationwide submittals.

This recognition is accompanied by the National Association of Regional Councils' 2010 and 2012 Outstanding Achievement Awards for the planning process and for the plan respectively; the 2009 Indiana Metropolitan Planning Organization award for Outstanding Public Involvement; and the Indiana Chapter of the APA's awards - in 2010 for Outstanding Community Initiative, in 2012 for Outstanding Plan, and in 2014 for Outstanding Best Practice for the Plan's implementation strategy.

In late 2014, the Commission began the process of preparing an update to the 2040 Plan called the 2040 CRP Update Companion. The Commission conducted a series of focused listening sessions throughout the region in the fall of 2014. These sessions included several areas of interest, primarily including public transportation, the environment and freight. The Update Companion was adopted by the Commission in May, 2015. This document provides a snapshot of major planning initiatives undertaken, and changes in regional demographics since the release of the 2040 CRP in 2011. The Update Companion did not represent a significant overhaul of the planning processes that led to the creation of the 2040 CRP. The goals, objectives and implementation strategies from that Plan remain consistent with the regional vision, and thus no additional work was necessary to revise these. The Update Companion recognized a few new projects that will be included in an updated TIP, including having been analyzed for air quality conformity with clean air standards. Every four years, the MPO planning process undergoes a planning certification review by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration to assure compliance

with federal metropolitan area transportation planning regulations. The Commission's next review is scheduled for 2017.

In 2014, the Commission launched its "Creating Livable Centers" program, implementing key goals of the CRP to enhance the vitality and viability of the region's communities. The innovative nature of this program was recognized with a 2014 award from the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Approved in 2015 and implemented in 2016, the Commission updated its committee structure. Since the Commission is both an MPO and a COG, the new committee structure is defined according to the requirements of these roles. Three committees provide assistance to the Commission under overall function of the COG: the Legislative Committee, the Finance & Personnel Committee and the Local Government Advisory Committee. Under the MPO role, projects will originate in the Transportation Resource & Oversight Committee and then flow to the six topical committees: Environmental Management Policy Committee; Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee; Land Use Committee; Rail Vision/Freight; Transit Operators Roundtable and the Surface Transportation Committee for recommendation to the Technical Planning Committee (reformulated from the Transportation Policy Committee and Pathway to 2040 Implementation Committee) for final recommendation to the Commission for adoption. The Outreach Committee is born of the Public Participation Plan and works alongside the process of the MPO committees to ensure accountability and transparency.

The Commission provides several support services to governmental bodies within northwest Indiana. These services are provided through the combined efforts and utilization of financial resources obtained directly through the appropriations made by participating counties.

Provided Services

Federal Transit Administration

Since 1975, the Commission has acted as the designated direct recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding. The Urban Mass Transportation Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation (UMTA), the forerunner of FTA, made federal funds available to human service providers who were acting as the public transportation providers in areas where no government-supported public transit existed. Since there were many small agencies applying for small grants, UMTA/FTA approached the Commission to become the direct recipient on behalf of these small operators.

As required by FTA, the Commission provides oversight and technical assistance for seven subrecipients: City of East Chicago, City of LaPorte, City of Valparaiso, North Township Dial-a-Ride, Opportunity Enterprises, Porter County Aging and Community Services, and South Lake County Community Services. These subrecipients operate various services such as fixed route with complementary paratransit and demand response service within portions of northwest Indiana, as well as commuter service to Chicago.

The Commission has a dual-role purpose in the FTA grant process. The first role is that of the MPO that requires the Commission to include all grant monies necessary for transit operations, including equipment, to be included in the TIP. This process is done through an operators' round table meeting, from which the results are then included in the TIP and taken to the Transportation Policy Committee newly configured and renamed the Technical Planning Committee for recommendation and subsequently submitted to the Commission for approval.

The second role is that of grant management. The Commission is responsible for meeting grant responsibilities and reporting requirements as mandated by FTA. In administering FTA funded projects, the Commission must monitor grant-supported activities to ensure compliance with applicable Federal requirements. This includes the administration and management of the grant in compliance with the

Federal regulations, Grant Agreement, and applicable FTA circulars. The Commission is also responsible for funds that “pass through” to the subrecipients.

Every three years, FTA performs a triennial review to examine the Commission’s performance and adherence to current FTA requirements and policies. The review process currently examines 17 areas of compliance. In addition to helping evaluate the Commission, the review gives FTA an opportunity to provide technical assistance on the latest FTA requirements and aids FTA in reporting to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Congress, other oversight agencies, and the transit community. The most recent triennial review of the Commission was conducted by FTA in September, 2014. The next triennial for the Commission is scheduled for 2017.

Revolving Loan Fund Program

Another service the Commission provides is administration of the LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund. The revolving loan fund program is one of several tools of the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) available to assist areas with high unemployment. A revolving loan fund is a pool of money used by an eligible recipient for the purpose of making loans to achieve certain economic benefits. As the loans are repaid by borrowers, the money is returned to the fund to make new loans. In that manner, the fund becomes an ongoing or revolving financial tool. Due to the high unemployment rate in the region in the mid-1980s, LaPorte County was awarded the federal revolving loan grant to help stimulate job retention and creation. The Commission was chosen to administer the revolving loan fund given its neutrality in the Region and its capacity to run the program. In 1987, the Commission established the LaPorte Revolving Loan fund to account for the financial resources used for the revolving loan fund program in LaPorte County.

In 2015, the loan committee updated the management plan which the Commission adopted by Resolution No. 16-19 in 2016. The Commission funded two new loans in 2015, the first since 2010. With approval from EDA, the Commission funded a third loan in 2016.

Other Programs

The Commission provides staff services on a continuing basis, via contractual relationships, to several governmental organizations serving northwestern Indiana. These include the Kankakee River Basin Commission and the Lake Michigan Marina and Shoreline Development Commission. Each of these organizations is an independent governmental unit. In addition to providing services to these agencies, the Commission also provides services on a contractual basis to other governmental units (such as cities and towns) within the region. Most of these other arrangements are for the undertaking of specific projects or programs, such as the preparation of a plan or study of some aspect of the community’s development.

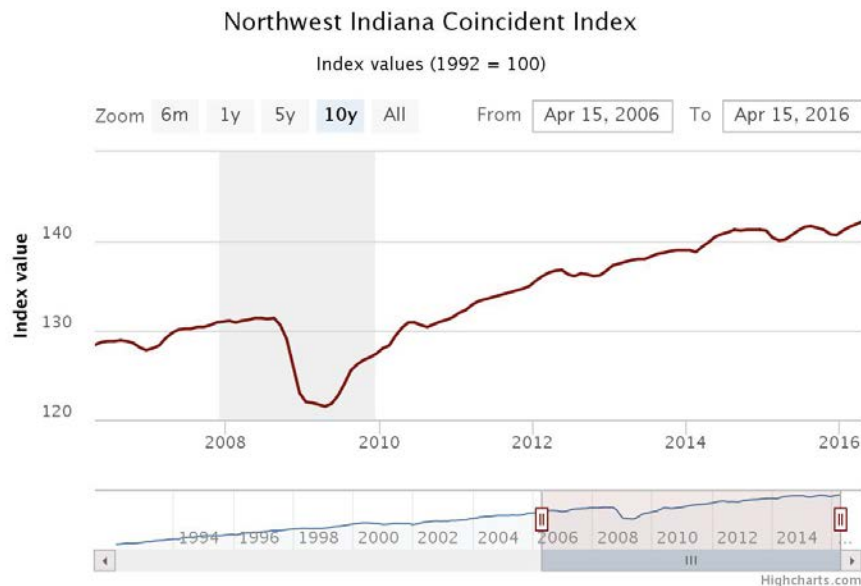
Other services are provided utilizing revenues received through specific federal and state grants, contracts or agreements. These services usually involve the provision of specific types of services, often in the form of studies or demonstration projects, which benefit local governments in the region. Often these programs require a matching share of resources from the Commission. This matching share is usually derived from the county appropriations. Still other types of services are provided for through contractual or other arrangements with specific local governmental bodies.

Information Useful in Assessing the Commission’s Economic Condition

Northwest Indiana is noted for its heavy industry. Gary, Portage, Burns Harbor and East Chicago are home to major steel mills, including the largest North American facilities for both U.S. Steel (Gary Works) and ArcelorMittal (Indiana Harbor). Whiting and Hammond are home to the largest oil refinery in the Midwestern U.S., operated by BP. Other industrial outputs include fabricated metals, transportation equipment, and food products.

The steel industry is still the Region's biggest economic producer, while health care and social services are the Region's largest industry employer. Although the steel industry has seen dramatic improvement in productivity resulting in less jobs, those jobs still pay higher wages than those in other industries. According to the 2010 IMPLAN economic model, one steelworker job creates approximately four other jobs as those steelworkers and their families spend their earnings. The combination of an improving job market (unemployment rate of 5.8% May, 2016), pent-up consumer demand, less drag from U.S. Government policies, and a brighter global outlook boost optimism from the business community for the rest of 2015. According to IN Business, March 2016 edition, the Region has seen a decline in steel production, which calls for business leaders to take bold steps to diversify for future economic growth. The article suggests creating infrastructure such as public transit that would better connect northwest Indiana to the high-paying jobs in Chicago.

Indiana University Northwest School of Business and Economics department, led by Dr. Micah Pollak and Dr. Bala Arshanapalli, has published the Coincident Index. The index measures economic activity for northwest Indiana and provides a six month economic forecast. The index created by Indiana University Northwest is modeled after the State and National coincident indices published by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The index variables used to determine the index value are nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, the unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements deflated by the consumer price index. As indicated in the Coincident Index below the region has seen significant progress in recovering from the 2008 recession. The most current Coincident Index report is expecting moderate growth at a rate of 1% for the next six month period. The index can be found on the school's website (<http://www.iun.edu/business/nwi/index.htm>).



Source: Indiana University Northwest (<http://www.iun.edu/business/nwi/index.htm>)

Formation of the EDD

To assist the three county region of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte in developing and implementing economic development programs, the Commission and the Northwest Indiana Forum (Forum) came together to create the Northwest Indiana Economic Development District (NWIEDD) as a Not-For-Profit Corporation in 2009. In 2014, the NWIEDD changed bylaws to become an autonomous self-appointing board. In December of 2015 the NWIEDD submitted its request for designation of district status that meets the

Economic Development Administration (EDA) requirements noted in 13 CFR part 304 to the Economic Development Administration. District status would make the NWIEDD as well as applicants within the three county jurisdiction eligible to receive grant funds in order to implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) projects. Currently the NWIEDD maintains and implements the CEDS plan. The CEDS represents the confluence of local public and private interests and is intended to be a roadmap to a bright future in northwest Indiana. The deliberation and forethought incorporated in the CEDS is designed to help create jobs, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve quality of life. It provides a mechanism to coordinate the efforts of individuals, organizations, local governments, and private industry concerned with economic development.

The Commission

The Commission is funded primarily by federal grant dollars either directly or passed through state agencies. A continuing funding concern is the availability of federal funds for planning activities.

The required federal grant local match comes primarily from the mandated county contribution amount which is based on population according to most recent decennial census. The Commission does not generate its own source revenue.

The 2015 fiscal year continued to be another challenging year, and yet there were significant accomplishments made by the Commission as indicated in the Management's Discussion and Analysis highlights. The Commission continues to find additional sources of revenue while trying to minimize expenditures. The Commission is poised to address its future in the midst of these challenges.

Acknowledgements

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** to the **Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission** for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable program requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. The Commission believes its current report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program requirements, and it is being submitted to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

The preparation of this report could not have been accomplished without the persevering service of the following individuals: Allen Hammond, John Smith, Stephan Sostaric and Meredith Stilwell. Special thanks go to Chief Accountant Kelly Wenger, whose assistance made this report possible.

The Commission would like to thank Indiana State Board of Accounts and especially Cynthia David and Brittany Curtis, for the timely and thorough completion of the independent audit report and for their special effort in the development of the 2015 Commission CAFR.

Sincerely,



Angie Hayes
Director of Finance and Administration



T. Warner AICP
Executive Director



Government Finance Officers Association

**Certificate of
Achievement
for Excellence
in Financial
Reporting**

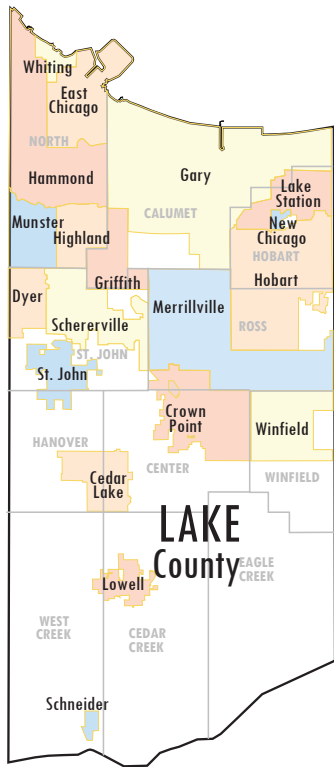
Presented to

**Northwestern Indiana
Regional Planning Commission**

For its Comprehensive Annual
Financial Report
for the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2014

Executive Director/CEO



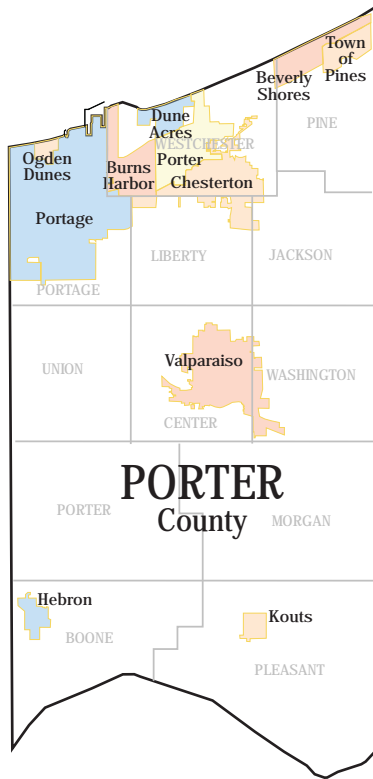
**2015
COMMISSION BOARD
FROM
Lake County**

APPOINTING AUTHORITY

Cedar Lake Town Council
 Dyer Town Council
 Griffith Town Council
 Highland Clerk Treasurer
 Lake County Commissioners
 Lake County Council
 Lake County Surveyor
 Lowell Town Council
 Mayor of Crown Point
 Mayor of East Chicago
 Mayor of Gary
 Mayor of Hammond
 Mayor of Hobart
 Mayor of Lake Station
 Mayor of Whiting
 Merrillville Town Council
 Munster Town Council
 New Chicago Clerk Treasurer
 Schererville Town Council
 Schneider Town Council
 St. John Town Council
 Winfield Town Council

MEMBER

Robert Carnahan
 Jeff Dekker
 Stanley Dobosz
 Michael Griffin, Executive Board
 Roosevelt Allen, Jr., Treasurer
 Jamal Washington
 Bill Emerson, Jr.
 Chris Salatas, Jr.
 David Uran
 Anthony Copeland, Executive Board
 Karen Freeman-Wilson
 Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.
 Brian Snedecor
 Keith Soderquist
 Joseph M. Stahura
 Richard Hardaway
 Joe Simonetto
 Lori Reno
 Tom Schmitt
 Richard Ludlow
 Michael Forbes
 Dave Anderson



**2015
COMMISSION BOARD
FROM**

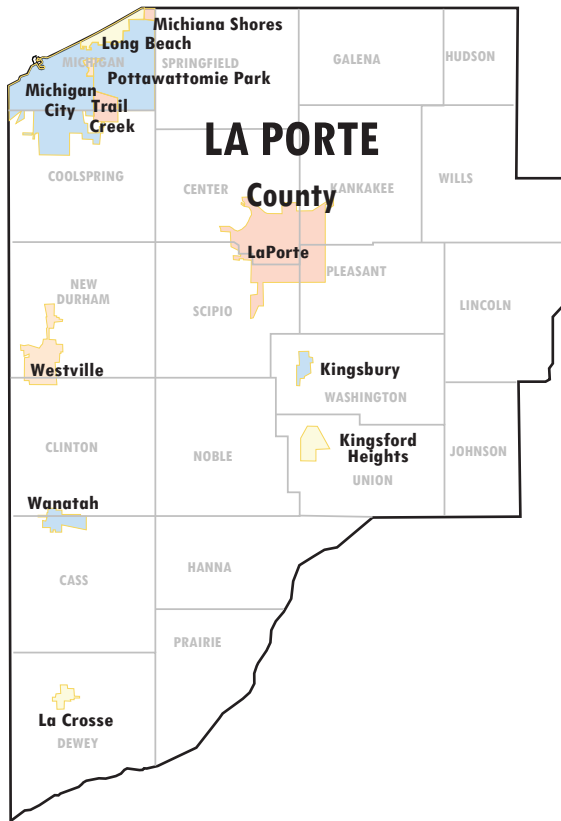
Porter County

APPOINTING AUTHORITY

Beverly Shores Town Council
 Burns Harbor Town Council
 Chesterton Town Council
 Dune Acres Town Council
 Hebron Town Council
 Kouts Town Council
 Mayor of Portage
 Mayor of Valparaiso
 Ogden Dunes Town Council
 Pines Town Council
 Porter County Commissioners
 Porter County Council
 Porter County Surveyor
 Porter Town Council
 Porter Township Trustee
 Union Township Trustee

MEMBER

Geof Benson
 Jeff Freeze
 Jim Ton, Vice-Chair
 Vacant
 Don Ensign, Executive Board
 James Murphy
 Jim Snyder
 H. Jonathan Costas
 Tom Clouser
 Vacant
 Jeff Good
 Jeremy Rivas
 Kevin Breitzke
 Greg Stinson, Executive Board
 Edward Morales
 George H. Topoll



**2015
COMMISSION BOARD
FROM**

LaPorte County

APPOINTING AUTHORITY

Kingsbury Town Council
 Kingsford Heights Clerk Treasurer
 LaCrosse Town Council
 LaPorte County Commissioners
 LaPorte County Council
 LaPorte County Surveyor
 Long Beach Town Council
 Mayor of LaPorte
 Mayor of Michigan City
 Michiana Shores Town Council
 Pottawattomie Park Town Council
 Trail Creek Town Council
 Wanatah Clerk Treasurer
 Westville Town Council

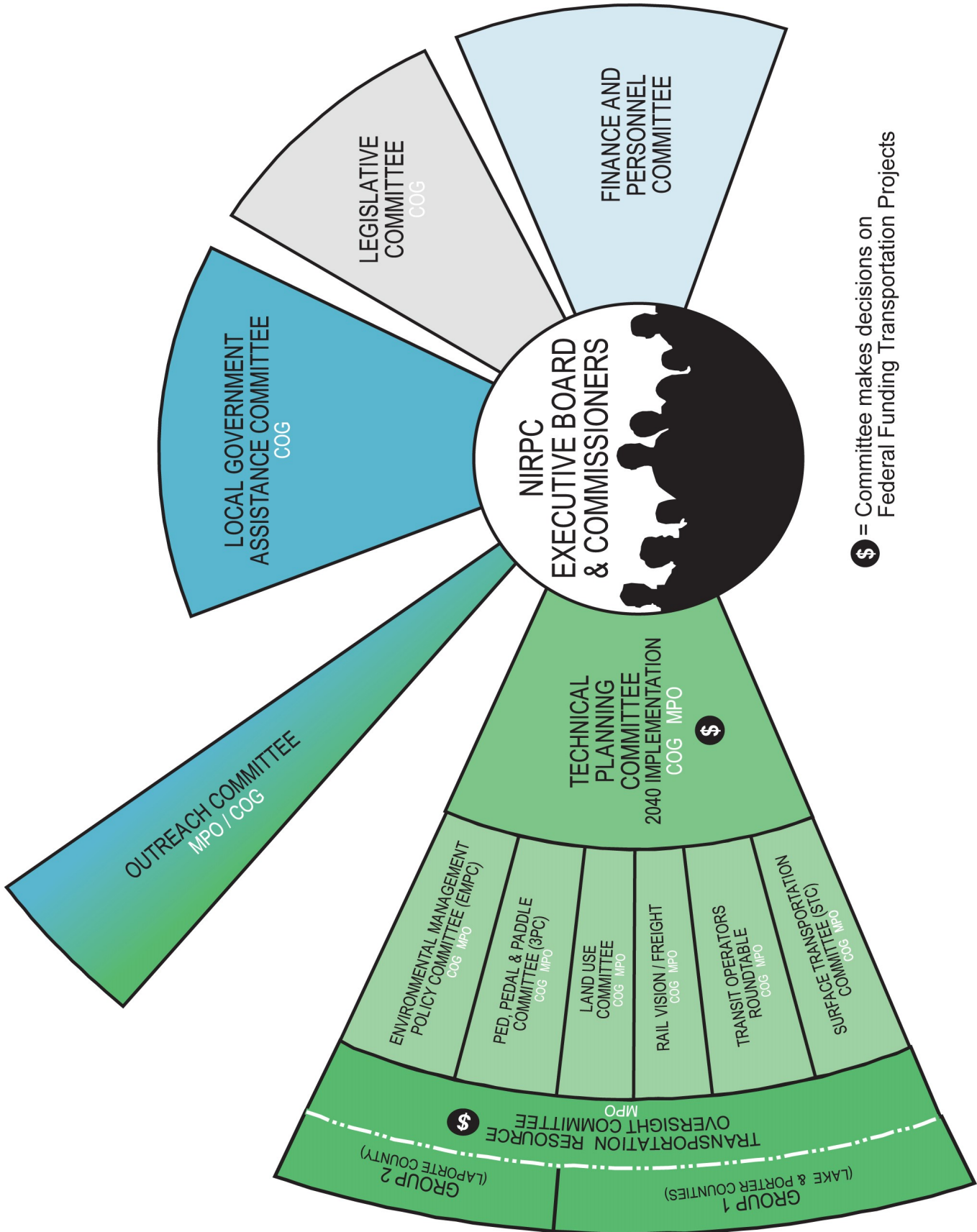
Governor of Indiana Appointee

MEMBER

Mark Ritter
 Patty Arnett
 Vacant
 Dave Decker, Executive Board
 Cary Kirkham
 Anthony Hendricks
 Bob Schaefer, Secretary
 Blair Milo, Chair
 Richard Murphy, Executive Board
 Jean Poulard
 Roger Miller
 John Bayler
 Diane Noll
 Ronald Stallings

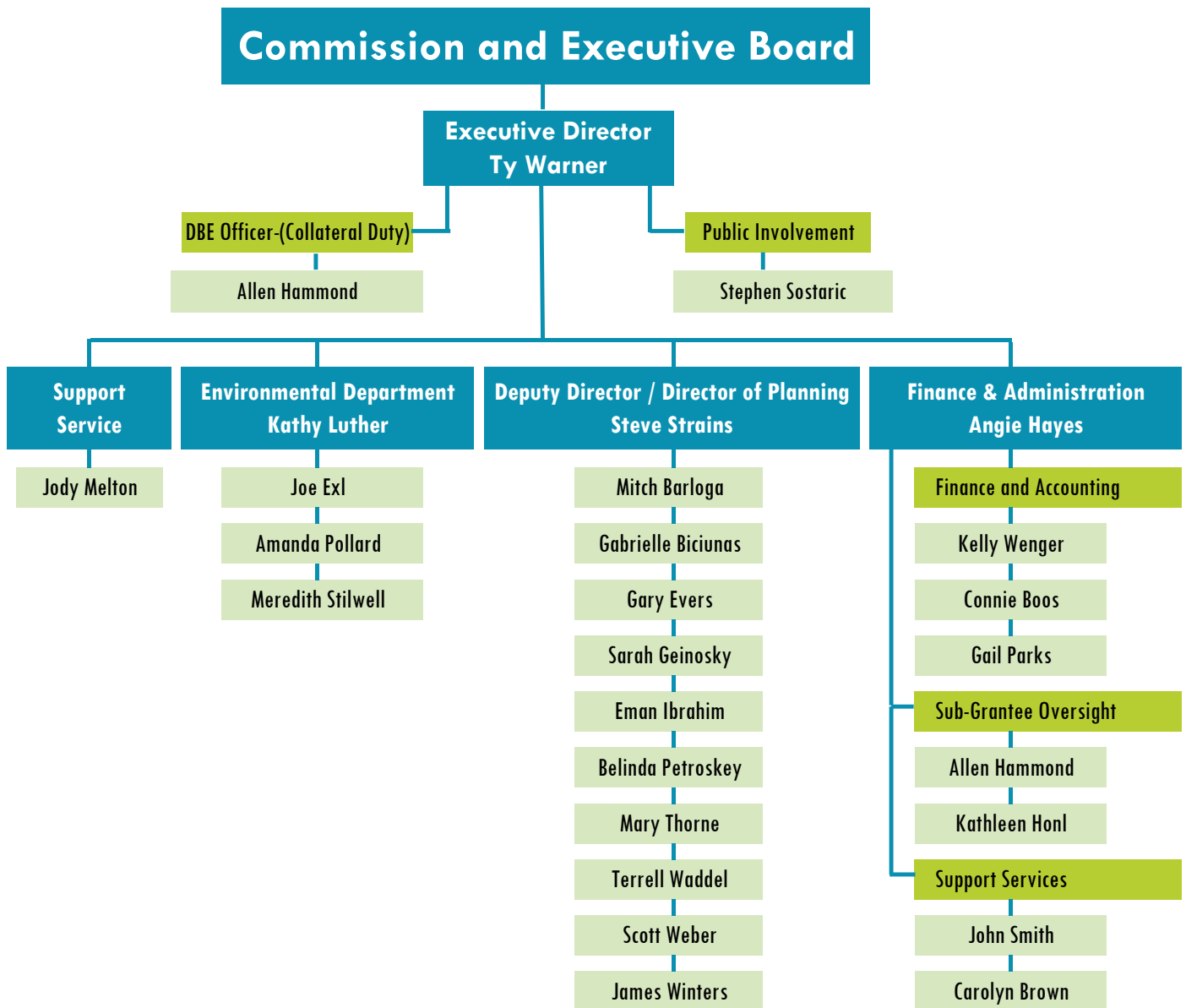
Ed Soliday, Executive Board

Commission Organizational Chart

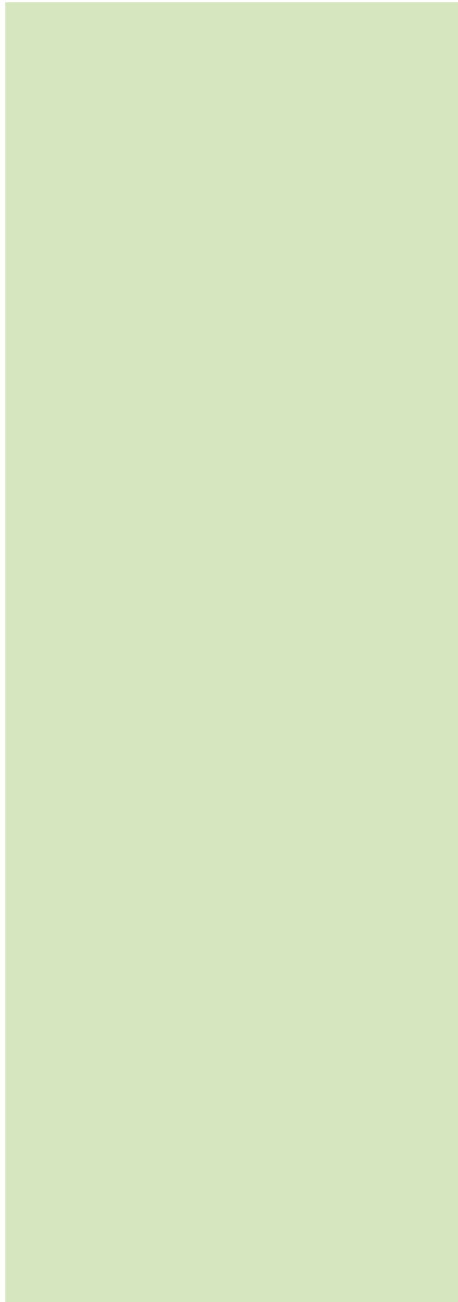


\$ = Committee makes decisions on Federal Funding Transportation Projects

COMMISSION STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION, LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Commission), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Commission's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
(Continued)

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Commission, as of December 31, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof and for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note I.G to the financial statements, the Commission adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement 68 *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and Budgetary Comparison Schedules, as listed in the Table of Contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements. The accompanying Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Transit Capital, the Introductory and Statistical Sections, and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not required parts of the basic financial statements.


The Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Transit Capital and Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Transit Capital and Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The Introductory and Statistical Sections have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
(Continued)

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 14, 2016, on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

July 14, 2016



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION, LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Commission), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 14, 2016.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Commission's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.


INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*
(Continued)

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

July 14, 2016

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

The Commission offers readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. Readers are encouraged to consider this information in conjunction with additional information furnished in the basic financial statements and notes to the financial statements to enhance understanding of the Commission's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Commission exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year by \$4,211,068 (net position). Of this amount, \$547,272 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the Commission's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- Approximately 98.4% of the Commission's general fund balance, \$1,369,002, constitutes an unassigned fund balance, which is available for spending at the Commission's discretion.
- The Commission continues to experience a positive cash flow and has not, therefore, had to execute the board approved line of credit.
- The Commission invests in capital assets for its governmental activities. All capital assets owned by the Commission are free of debt.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Commission's basic financial statements. The Commission's basic financial statements comprise of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Commission's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all the Commission's assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Commission is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Commission's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Commission that are principally supported by intergovernmental revenues (government activities). The Commission does not have business type activities.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities. The Commission, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Commission are governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental Funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

General Government Revenues

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Commission maintains four individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for all four funds.

The Commission adopts an annual budget for the four individual governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for all four funds to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

Notes to the financial statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Overall Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Commission, assets exceed liabilities by \$4,211,068 at the year ending December 31, 2015.

The Commission's Net Position

The following table reflects a summary of Net Position compared to the prior year.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission		
Statement of Net Position		
	2015	2014
Current and Other Assets	\$ 2,706,384	\$ 2,823,878
Capital Assets	<u>3,167,949</u>	<u>3,230,550</u>
Total Assets	\$ 5,874,333	\$ 6,054,428
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 440,529	\$ -
Long-term Liabilities	1,170,951	73,156
Other Liabilities	<u>827,184</u>	<u>964,008</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,998,135	\$ 1,037,164
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 105,659	\$ -
Net Position:		
Investment in Capital Assets	3,167,949	3,230,550
Restricted	495,847	517,548
Unrestricted	<u>547,272</u>	<u>1,269,166</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 4,211,068</u>	<u>\$ 5,017,264</u>

Summary of Changes in Net Position

The following table summarizes the changes in net position for the current and previous year.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Changes in Net Position

REVENUES	2015	2014*
Program Revenues:		
Operating Grants and Contributions	\$ 5,280,329	\$ 5,755,607
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,154,881	137,207
General Revenues:		
County Contributions not restricted to specific purposes	540,271	540,271
Unrestricted Interest Income	<u>5,790</u>	<u>4,391</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 6,981,271</u>	<u>\$ 6,437,476</u>
EXPENSES		
Planning and Development	3,131,609	2,982,481
Transit Operating	2,739,753	3,218,566
Transit Capital	<u>1,231,002</u>	<u>1,241,494</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 7,102,364</u>	<u>\$ 7,442,541</u>
Changes in net position	(121,093)	(1,005,065)
Net Position - Beginning, Restated	<u>4,332,161</u>	<u>6,022,329</u>
Net Position - Ending	<u>\$ 4,211,068</u>	<u>\$ 5,017,264</u>

*For this presentation, the 2014 column balances were not restated for the prior period adjustment due to the lack of information and management desire to maintain comparability with prior reports.

Analysis of Overall Financial Position and Results of Operations

Capital assets are used to provide services to citizens and they are not available for future spending. Approximately 82% of the Commission's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., machinery, equipment, and vehicles). The Commission does not own any real property or infrastructure. It should be noted that all capital assets owned by the Commission are free of debt and do not require additional resources.

Current and other assets consist mainly of cash, receivables from intergovernmental sources, and interest. Long-term liabilities consist of compensated absences.

The Commission's net position decreased by \$806,196 during the current fiscal year. The net pension obligation which had been removed in the prior year was added back due to the implementation of GASB 68 to reflect the change to the Commission's pension plan.

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Commission uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of the Commission's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Commission's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

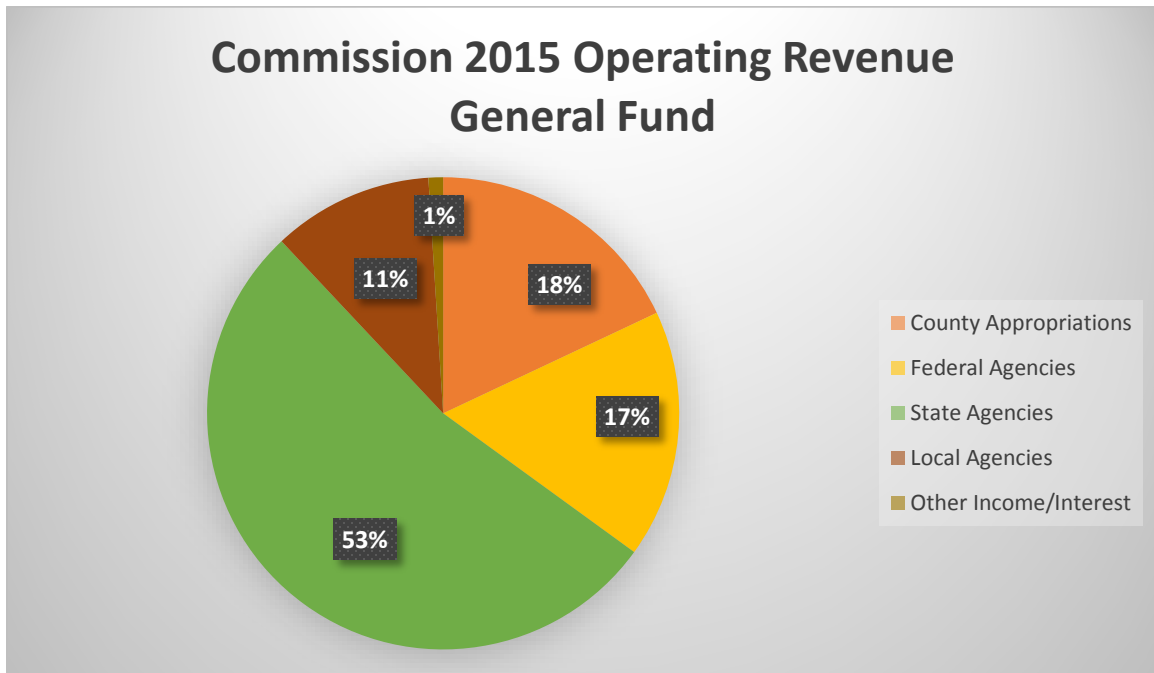
As of the end of the current fiscal year the Commission's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$1,887,707 an increase of \$19,708 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 73% of this total amount, \$1,369,002, constitutes unassigned fund balance which is available for spending at the government's discretion. The remainder of the fund balance is not available for spending because it has been committed for nonspendable prepaid insurance, \$22,858, and restricted for economic development, \$495,847.

The general fund is the chief operating fund of the Commission. At the end of the current fiscal year, the unassigned fund balance amount of \$1,369,002 is in the Commission's general fund. As a measure of the general funds' liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total general fund expenditures.

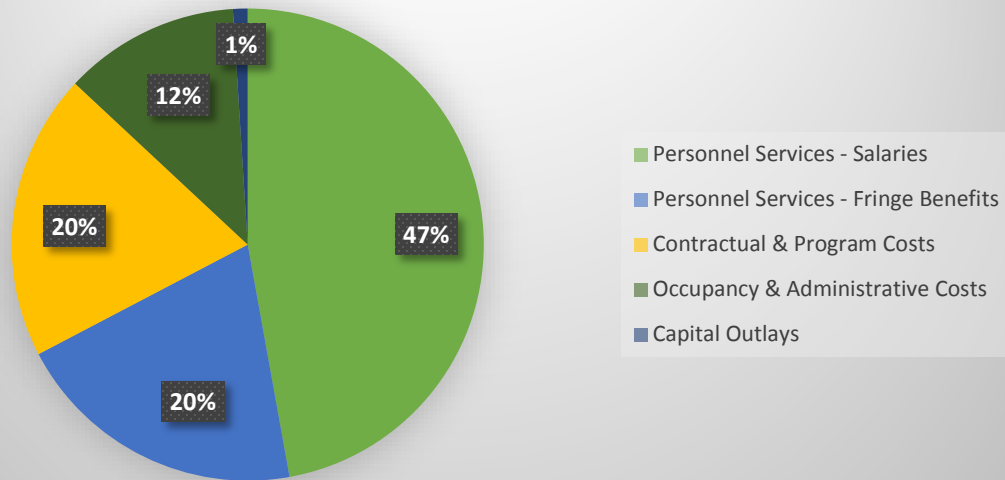
The fund balance of the Commission's general fund increased by \$17,728 during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this increase are as follows:

The indirect costs were within budget based on the allocation rate of 90% in the 2015 Cost Allocation Plan. Additionally, more direct salaries were charged to grants than to indirect salaries which increased the amount reimbursed for indirect costs.

The charts below note the sources of the Commission's general fund operating revenues and operating expenses.



Commission 2015 Operating Expenses General Fund



The LaPorte revolving loan fund accounts for the revolving loan program activities. The fund balance increased for 2015 due to closing cost revenue. Two new loans were closed in 2015, Etropal Group, LLC and Metalized Coatings, LLC; the first new loans since 2010. The fund had no delinquent loan write-offs in 2015. Two loans were paid off by the borrowers, St. Andrew Products and Marathon Insurance, Inc., which increased the cash in the fund. The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, required the Commission to sequester additional funds as a result of holding excess funds during two or more consecutive reporting periods. The sequestered funds still belong to the Commission and can be used to make additional loans but need approval from the Commission's Revolving Loan Fund Administrator at the Economic Development Administration.

The transit operating fund is used to account for the reimbursement of operation expenses for subrecipients providing public transit. The Commission itself does not operate public transit but is the direct recipient for these funds. As expected this fund balance has remained consistent with the 2014 balance.

The transit capital fund is used to account for the purchase of capital equipment and facilities used for public transit. The funding for these purchases is provided by both Federal Transit Administration and the subrecipient operating the capital equipment. The Commission does not cover any costs associated with the purchase of the capital equipment in this fund. In order for the Commission to safeguard the federal interest, the Commission retains title to all federally funded capital equipment. As expected this fund balance has remained consistent with the 2014 balance.

Budgetary Highlights

General Fund

The Commission's general fund is budgeted annually for general operating expenses. During the year there no significant variations between both the original general fund budget and the final amended budget and the actual results.

Capital Assets

The Commission's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of December 31, 2015 amounts to \$3,167,949 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes intangibles, vehicles, machinery, office equipment, and computer equipment. The Commission does not own land, buildings, or infrastructure assets.

The total decrease in the Commission's assets for the current fiscal year was \$62,601. A detailed note of these capital assets can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements (Note III E).

There were no major capital asset events during the current fiscal year.

Capital Assets		
	2015	2014
Intangible Assets	\$ 10,828	\$ 10,828
Total Intangible Assets	<u>10,828</u>	<u>10,828</u>
Capital Assets Net of Depreciation		
Vehicle	2,996,127	2,998,008
Transit machinery	160,994	217,140
Office and computer equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>4,574</u>
Total Capital Assets Net of Depreciation	<u>\$ 3,157,121</u>	<u>\$ 3,219,722</u>
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$ 3,167,949</u>	<u>\$ 3,230,550</u>

Long-term Debt

The Commission carries no long term debt.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

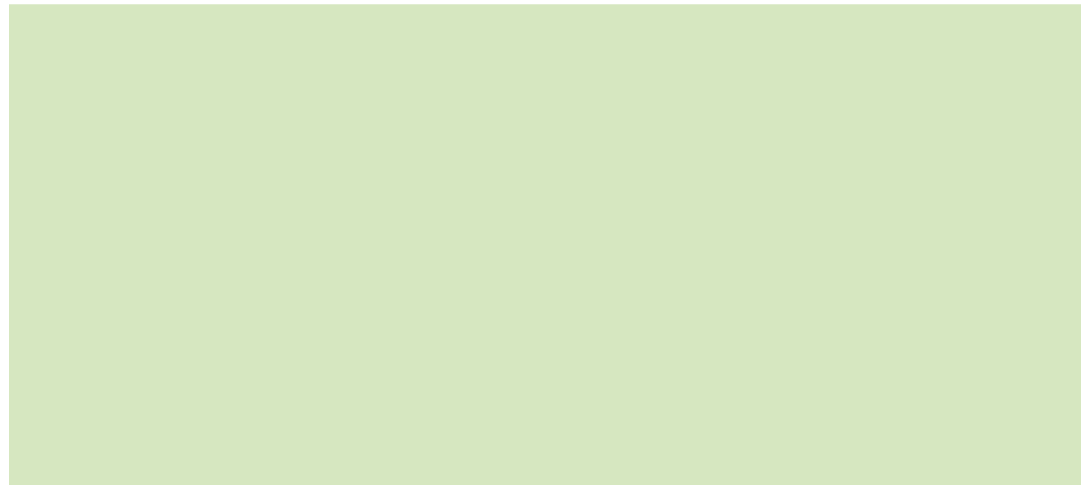
All these factors were considered in preparing the Commission's general fund budget for the 2016 fiscal year.

- Effective January 1, 2016 the Commission gave employees an 2% across the board raise, the first since 2010. The fringe benefits associated with the raise such as FICA contributions and PERF contributions costs also increased.
- The 2016 budgeted cost for health insurance was increased \$30,000 from the prior year budget with the Commission paying 85% and employees paying 15% of actual health insurance costs.
- For 2016, the Commission anticipates a decrease in PL funding for the 2017 work plan. Some of this revenue reduction will be sublimated with Surface Transportation Programing (STP) planning funding of \$160,000.
- The 2016 General Fund budget increased 7.5% from 2015.

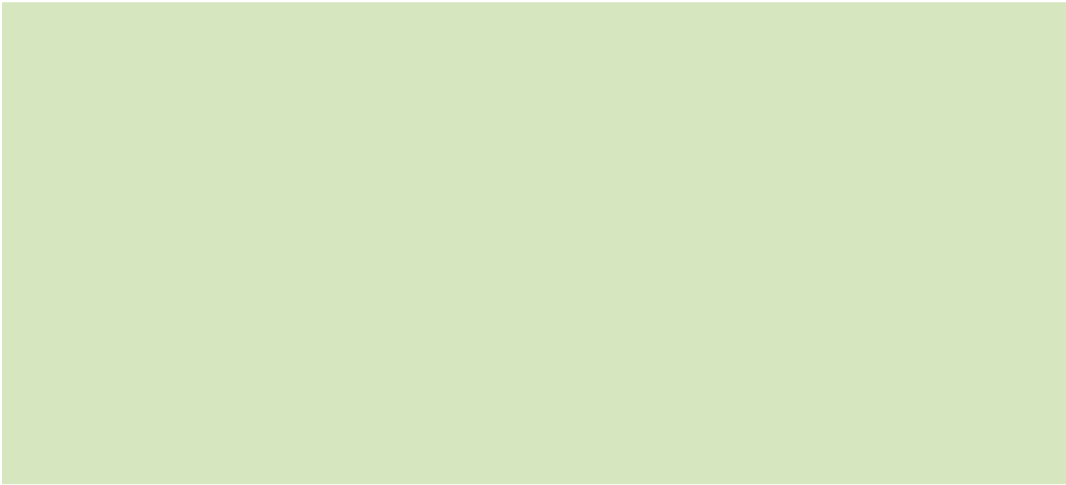
Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Director of Finance, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368 or by email at nirpc@nirpc.org.

Basic Financial Statements



Government-Wide Financial Statements

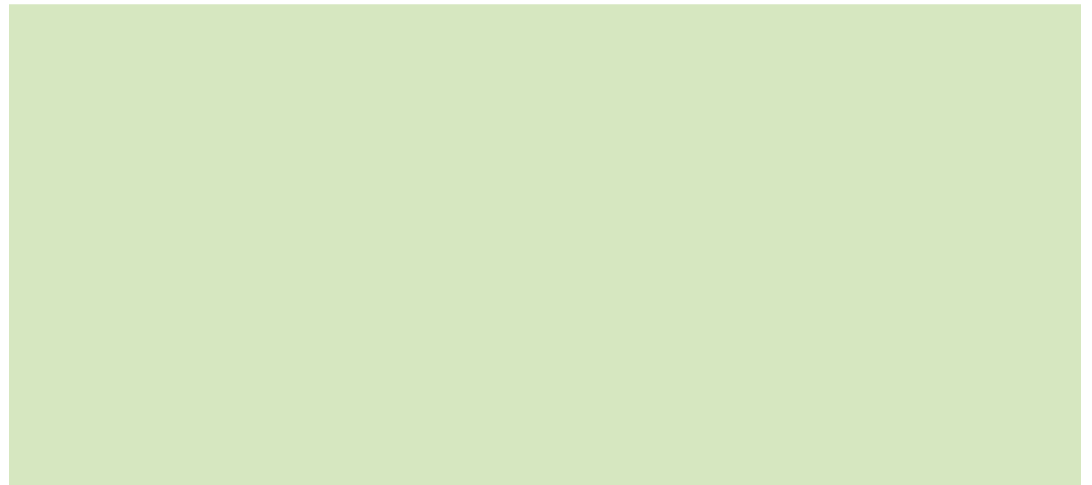


**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 965,554
Accounts receivable	518,256
RESTRICTED ASSETS:	
Cash and cash equivalents	946,806
Accounts receivable	37,879
Loan receivable	215,031
PREPAID INSURANCE	22,858
CAPITAL ASSETS AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS	
Intangible Non-Depreciable	10,828
Machinery and Equipment, Net of Depreciation	3,157,121
TOTAL ASSETS	5,874,333
 DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred pension	440,529
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	440,529
 LIABILITIES	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Payable from restricted assets	44,651
Payable from nonrestricted assets	116,134
UNEARNED REVENUES	657,892
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES	
Amounts due within one year:	
Compensated absences	8,507
Amounts due beyond one year:	
Compensated absences	76,562
Net pension liability	1,094,389
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,998,135
 DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred pension	105,659
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	105,659
 NET POSITION	
INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS	3,167,949
RESTRICTED:	
Economic Development	495,847
UNRESTRICTED	547,272
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 4,211,068

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Fund Financial Statements



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**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General	LaPorte RLF	Transit Operating	Transit Capital	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 965,554	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 965,554
Accounts receivable	518,256	-	-	-	518,256
RESTRICTED ASSETS:					
Cash and cash equivalents	232,002	282,142	-	432,662	946,806
Accounts receivable	9,857	-	-	28,022	37,879
Loan receivable	-	215,031	-	-	215,031
PREPAID INSURANCE	22,858	-	-	-	22,858
INTERFUND SERVICES PROVIDED RECEIVABLE	1,326	-	-	-	1,326
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,749,853	\$ 497,173	\$ -	\$ 460,684	\$ 2,707,710
LIABILITIES					
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE					
Payable from restricted assets	\$ 9,857	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,794	\$ 44,651
Payable from nonrestricted assets	72,565	-	-	-	72,565
PAYROLL AND WITHHOLDINGS PAYABLE	43,569	-	-	-	43,569
INTERFUND SERVICES USED PAYABLE	-	1,326	-	-	1,326
UNEARNED REVENUES	232,002	-	-	425,890	657,892
TOTAL LIABILITIES	357,993	1,326	-	460,684	820,003
FUND BALANCES					
Nonspendable:					
Prepaid Insurance	22,858	-	-	-	22,858
Restricted for:					
Economic Development	-	495,847	-	-	495,847
Unassigned	1,369,002	-	-	-	1,369,002
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	1,391,860	495,847	-	-	1,887,707
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 1,749,853	\$ 497,173	\$ -	\$ 460,684	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:					
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the funds.					
		Machinery and Equipment, Net of Depreciation			3,157,121
		Intangible Non-Depreciable			10,828
		Total Capital Assets			3,167,949
Compensated absences, a form of liability, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.					
					(85,069)
Deferred outflows and inflows related to pension obligations are included in the governmental activities in the statement of net position.					
					334,870
Net pension obligation, a form of liability, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.					
					(1,094,389)
Net position of governmental activities					\$ 4,211,068

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General	LaPorte RLF	Transit Operating	Transit Capital	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
INTERGOVERNMENTAL - COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 540,271	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 540,271
INTERGOVERNMENTAL - FEDERAL AGENCIES	535,213	-	2,238,802	979,310	3,753,325
INTERGOVERNMENTAL - STATE AGENCIES	1,647,571	-	500,951	-	2,148,522
INTERGOVERNMENTAL - LOCAL AGENCIES	288,434	-	-	48,023	336,457
NON-GOVERNMENTAL	70,911	-	-	127,548	198,459
INTEREST INCOME	2,255	3,535	-	-	5,790
TOTAL REVENUES	3,084,655	3,535	2,739,753	1,154,881	6,982,824
EXPENDITURES					
CURRENT - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT					
PERSONNEL SERVICES - SALARIES	1,440,710	-	-	-	1,440,710
PERSONNEL SERVICES - FRINGE BENEFITS	615,718	-	-	-	615,718
OTHER SERVICES AND CHARGES	996,981	1,553	2,739,753	-	3,738,287
CAPITAL OUTLAYS	13,520	-	-	1,154,881	1,168,401
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,066,929	1,553	2,739,753	1,154,881	6,963,116
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	17,726	1,982	-	-	19,708
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	1,374,132	493,867	-	-	1,867,999
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 1,391,858	\$ 495,849	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,887,707

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance) 19,708

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.

Expenditures for capital assets	1,018,265	
Less current year depreciation expense	(1,080,866)	
Less reduction in accumulated depreciation related to disposal of assets	-	(62,601)

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are therefore not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. This is the amount by which compensated absences increased in the current period. (3,784)

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are therefore not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. This is the amount by which net pension liability increased in the current period.

Increase in deferred pension liability	(409,286)	
Deferred outflows of resources for deferred pension	440,529	
Deferred inflows of resources for deferred pension	(105,659)	(74,416)

Change in net position of governmental activities (Statement of Activities): \$ (121,093)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2015

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. A summary of the Commission's more significant accounting policies which have been consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements is presented as follows:

A. ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORTING ENTITY

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Commission) operates as a separate legal entity under provisions of the Indiana Code (Title 36, Article VII, Chapter 7.6). Its primary mission is planning and development coordination in northwestern Indiana, which includes Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties. Legislation enacted into law during 2007 changed the composition of the Commission. The governing body of the Commission currently consists of fifty-three members. Members are appointed by the counties, cities and towns within northwestern Indiana according to the provisions of the enabling legislation. Each county makes three appointments; each city and town appoints one member. All members must be elected officials. Members serve until replaced by the appointing authorities, which are typically the chief elected executive officials of the individual cities and towns and specified county officials. The Commission itself cannot remove a member for any reason.

According to state legislation, each of the three counties must make a mandatory appropriation to the Commission in an amount equal to seventy cents per capita. Counties voluntarily may make contributions in excess of this amount. The Commission selects and employs its Executive Director, controls the hiring of its employees and is responsible for its overall fiscal management. No other entity is responsible for the legal obligations of the Commission.

The enabling legislation under which the Commission was established provides for an appointing and funding process that is sufficient to support the conclusion that the Commission is not accountable to any other single unit of government. The Commission is a primary unit; it has no component units.

B. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the activities of the Commission. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Under governmental accounting standards, governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues are reported separately from business-type activities which rely to a significant extent of fees and charges for support. The Commission does not have what are normally considered business-type activities.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which direct expenses of a given function or segments are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

The Commission has only governmental type funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Revenues from cost reimbursable grants, contracts or similar agreements are recognized when expenditures are made or as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. The Commission occasionally reports unearned revenues that arise when resources are received by the Commission before it has a legal claim to them, such as when grant or contract monies are received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods or when the Commission has a legal claim to the resources, the liability for unearned revenues is removed from the combined balance sheet and revenue is recognized.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Federal grants are the major source of revenue and considered available once grant agreements are executed. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible in the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Commission considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

The Commission has established the following major governmental funds:

General Fund: The general fund is the general operating fund of the Commission. It is used to account for all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The revenues received support the Commission's general operation as well as specific programs relating to the Commission's primary mission of planning and development coordination.

Special Revenue Funds: Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. Special revenue funds are designed to help determine and demonstrate that resources that must be used for a specified purpose are, in fact, used for that purpose. At the core of each special revenue fund must be resources derived from one or more specific revenue sources. The Commission has two special revenue funds:

LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund: This special revenue fund is used to account for the restricted financial resources that are used in conjunction with a revolving loan program which is regulated by the Economic Development Administration. The purpose of the revolving loan program is to foster economic growth and development by providing below market loans to businesses and industries locating or expanding operations within LaPorte County. This special revenue fund is used to issue loans and receipt in the principal and interest payments from those loans. Payments received are distributed as identified in the mandated management plan for the program.

Transit Operating Fund: This special revenue fund is used to account for financial resources that are received from other governmental units and are provided to entities which operate public transportation service within northwestern Indiana.

Capital Projects Fund: Capital project funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. Capital project funds exclude those types of capital-related outflows financed by proprietary funds or for assets that will be held in trust for individuals, private organizations, or other governments.

Transit Capital Fund: This capital projects fund is a governmental type fund which is used to account for the financial resources that are used in the acquisition or purchase of capital equipment and facilities used for public transit. The acquisition or purchase of operating equipment is accounted for in the general fund.

D. ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION

1. Deposits and Investments

The Commission's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

State statute (IC 5-13-9) authorizes the Commission to invest in securities, including but not limited to, federal government securities, repurchase agreements, and certain money market mutual funds. Certain other statutory restrictions apply to all investments made by local government units.

2. Interfund Transactions and Balances

Activities between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as "interfund receivables/payables (i.e., the current and non-current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "interfund services provided/used."

3. Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements. The cost of the prepaid items is recorded as expenditures/expense when consumed rather than when purchased. The Commission uses the consumption method to recognize the prepaid items.

4. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment and infrastructure assets (e.g. roads, bridges, sidewalks and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental type activities column in the government-wide statements. The Commission does not own real property or infrastructure assets.

Capital assets are reported at actual or estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost. Contributed or donated assets are reported at estimated fair value at the time received. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the useful life of an asset are not capitalized.

Statement No. 51 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets requires that intangible assets be classified as capital assets. For example, licensed financial accounting software that the government modifies to add special reporting capabilities would be considered internally generated software and is therefore an intangible asset. An intangible asset should be depreciated over the estimated useful life unless the intangible asset has an indefinite useful life. The Commission now owns an intangible asset.

The capitalization threshold (the dollar value above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts) used by the Commission is \$5,000 (amount not rounded) and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Computer and similar equipment that does not meet the threshold and useful life test, is not depreciated but maintained as an inventory item.

The Commission's equipment is depreciated using the straight line method of depreciation based on the following estimated useful lives:

Vehicles	4-12 Years
Office Equipment	4-6 Years
Computer Equipment	3 Years

5. Compensated Absences

It is the Commission's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but not used vacation and personal leave time. There is no liability for unpaid accumulated personal leave since the Commission does not have a policy to pay any amounts when employees separate from service with the Commission. Vacation pay is accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. Vacation time is earned at the rate of 9-20 days per year based on the number of years of service. A maximum of 30 days may be accrued at the end of any annual reporting period.

6. Fund Balance

Fund balance for governmental funds should be reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

The classifications should depict the nature of the net resources that are reported in a governmental fund. The fund balance classifications are reported as follows: restricted, committed, assigned, nonspendable, and unassigned.

- i. The restricted fund balance category includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.
- ii. The committed fund balance category includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Commission's Board.
- iii. The assigned fund balance category includes amounts that are constrained by the Commission's intent to be used for a specific purpose, but are neither restricted nor committed.
- iv. The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The not in spendable form criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash for example as inventories and prepaid amounts.
- v. The unassigned fund balance category is the residual classification for the government's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

The Commission has the following fund classifications: restricted, nonspendable, and unassigned.

The Commission considers restricted or unrestricted amounts to have been spent when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available. The Commission's policy is to spend the restricted balances first before spending any

unrestricted funds. Likewise, committed amounts would be reduced first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

For the government-wide financial statements, net position is reported in three separate categories: investment in capital assets, net position–restricted, and net position–unrestricted. The financial statements report \$1,199,716 of restricted assets, of which \$0 is restricted by enabling legislation.

In the Commission's financial statements, restricted assets of \$1,199,716 do not agree with the reported restricted net position of \$495,847. The difference is due to liabilities payable from restricted assets and unearned revenues totaling \$702,543 with a balance of \$1,326 which is the amount of the transfer between funds.

7. Allocated Costs

Under provisions of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular 2 CFR Part 200, the Commission allocates to each program activity those costs which are "(a) incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective, and (b) not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefited, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved".

There are two categories of costs which are allocated. The first is fringe benefits which includes the employer's cost of providing paid time off such as vacation, sick, personal, holiday, other leave (jury duty, military and funeral) and various types of insurance, retirement benefits, and social security taxes. The second is indirect costs, which includes those costs related to general management, finance and accounting, office operation and maintenance, and support services.

The vehicle utilized to allocate costs is an indirect cost allocation plan which is prepared at the beginning of each year and establishes allocation rates based on prior experience and anticipated program effort. This plan is prepared by the Commission and is negotiated with the "cognizant federal agency for indirect costs" which for the past several years has been the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation working through the Indiana Department of Transportation. Allocated rates are established in this plan, which are used for billing purposes throughout the year. Upon the completion of an independent audit at the end of each year, final allocation rates are established based on actual costs. When actual costs are less than the amounts previously allocated, revenue is reduced and a liability is recognized.

During 2015, the Commission's allocation rates were as follows:

Fringe Benefits	90% of total direct salaries and wages
Other Indirect Costs	90% of total direct personnel

8. Non-Governmental Accounts

Occasionally the Commission provides contractual services to non-governmental entities primarily not-for-profit agencies. The most common example of this occurs when the Commission acquires transit vehicles for such agencies through its Transit Capital Fund. In this circumstance, as well as other cases where a non-governmental entity provides revenue, it is reported under the heading "non-governmental accounts".

II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A. BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Annual budgets for the governmental funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These funds include the Commission's general fund, its special revenue funds (the LaPorte Revolving Loan (RLF) Fund, and the Transit Operating Fund) and its one capital projects fund (the Transit Capital Fund). A proposed budget for the ensuing year is submitted to the Commission by the Executive Director. This usually occurs at the fourth quarterly meeting of the Commission which is typically held in October. The Commission may vote to adopt the budget at this meeting, or may call a special meeting to take action on the budget. The budget as adopted by the Commission is organized by object class categories. Major object class categories (which typically include salaries, fringe benefits, occupancy, equipment service and maintenance, departmental, contractual, and capital outlays) represent the legal level of control. Amendments to the adopted budget may be made only by the Commission at any regular meeting of the Commission or at any special meeting of the Commission called to consider the budget. The Commission has established a Finance and Personnel Committee composed exclusively of Commission members appointed by the Chair. This Committee exercises financial oversight over Commission operations and establishes more detailed accounts. Amounts presented in the financial statements are the final budget amounts for the year, as legally amended. No supplemental budgetary appropriations were made during the year ended December 31, 2015. Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts or other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded in order to reserve that portion of a relevant appropriation, is employed as an extension of the Commission's formal budgeting process in the governmental funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reported as restricted fund balances since they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities. All appropriations lapse at year-end. Outstanding encumbrances at year-end are re-appropriated in the ensuing year. The Commission had no outstanding encumbrances at year-end.

III. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

A. DEPOSITS

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned to it. Indiana Code 5-13-8-1 allows a political subdivision of the State of Indiana to deposit public funds in a financial institution only if the financial institution is a depository eligible to receive state funds; and has a principal office or branch that qualifies to receive public funds of the political subdivision. The bank balances were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Public Deposit Insurance Fund, which covers all public funds held in approved depositories. The Commission does not have a custodial credit risk policy, other than to follow the statutes.

At year end, the Commission's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,912,360.

As of December 31, 2015, the entire amount reported as cash and cash equivalents on the statement of net position and the balance sheet was in the form of demand deposits.

In 2015, the Commission received a request to sequester additional funds in the amount of \$23,805.80 as a result of holding excess funds during two or more consecutive reporting periods for the LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund. The sequestered funds still belong to the Commission and can be used to make additional loans but approval from the Commission's RLF Administrator at the Economic Development Administration is needed.

B. INVESTMENTS

Authorization for investment activity is stated in Indiana Code 5-13. As of December 31, 2015, the Commission had no investments.

C. INTERFUND SERVICES PROVIDED AND USED

The Commission provides the administrative functions for the LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and in exchange the Commission's General Fund receives an annual interest payment from the revolving loan interest proceeds. The interfund services provided/used balance as of December 31, 2015 is \$1,326.

D. OPERATING LEASES

The Commission leases office facilities, postage equipment, and copier equipment under non-cancelable operating leases. Total costs for such leases were \$208,960 for the year ended December 31, 2015. The future minimum lease payments for these leases are as follows:

<u>December 31,</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Copiers</u>	<u>Phones</u>	<u>Total</u>
2016	204,112	20,760	2,502	\$ 227,374
2017	209,215	3,460	2,085	214,760
2018	214,446	-	-	214,446
	<u>\$627,773</u>	<u>\$ 24,220</u>	<u>\$4,587</u>	<u>\$ 656,580</u>

E. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2015 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning</u>			<u>Ending</u>
<u>Governmental activities:</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Capital assets not being depreciated:</u>				
Intangibles	\$ 10,828	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,828
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>10,828</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,828</u>
<u>Capital assets being depreciated:</u>				
Machinery and Equipment	8,643,013	1,018,265	550,436	9,110,842
<u>Less accumulated depreciation for:</u>				
Machinery and Equipment	<u>5,423,291</u>	<u>1,080,866</u>	<u>550,436</u>	<u>5,953,721</u>
Net capital assets being depreciated	<u>3,219,722</u>	<u>(62,601)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,157,121</u>
<u>Total governmental activity</u>				
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 3,230,550</u>	<u>\$ (62,601)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,167,949</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the Commission as follows:

Governmental activities:	
Planning and Development Activities	\$ 4,574
Transit Capital	<u>1,076,292</u>
 Total depreciation expense	 <u>\$1,080,866</u>

F. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Changes in long-term liabilities for the Commission for the year ended December 31, 2015 were as follows:

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year	Amounts Due Thereafter
Government activities:						
Compensated absences	\$ 81,285	\$ 15,127	\$ (11,343)	\$ 85,069	\$ 8,507	\$ 76,562
Net pension liability	\$ 685,103	\$ 409,286	\$ -	\$ 1,094,389	\$ -	\$ 1,094,389

The General Fund typically has been used to liquidate any long-term liabilities.

G. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, certain changes have been made to the financial statements to more appropriately reflect financial activity. The prior period adjustment reflects the implementation of GASB 68 to recognize the liability associated with the reporting change of the Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) to a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The prior period adjustment is reflected in the beginning net assets in the government-wide statement of activities for the net pension obligation in the amount of \$685,103.

IV. OTHER INFORMATION

A. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; job related illnesses or injuries to employees; medical benefits to employees and dependents, and natural disasters for which the Commission carries commercial insurance from independent third parties. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage in the prior year. The amounts of settlements have not exceeded insurance coverage for any of the past three fiscal years.

B. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received or receivable from grant agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures that may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the Commission expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

C. COST-SHARING MULTIPLE-EMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND

Plan Description

The Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) provides pensions for all full-time Commission employees. The plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plan administered by

the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS). The pension system issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.inprs.in.gov

Benefits Provided

The plan provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits. The Indiana Code, Title 5, Articles 10.2 and 10.3, as amended only by the Indiana General Assembly, identifies the benefit provisions and establishes the authority under which employees and employers are obligated to contribute to the plan.

Retirement benefits for employees are calculated as years of credible service times the average highest 20 quarters of salary times 1.1% plus the employee's Annuity Savings Account. Normal retirement age is 60 with early retirement at 50-59 with 15 years of service. Vesting period is 10 years. An employee who leaves service may withdraw his or her Annuity Savings Account contributions, plus any accumulated interest.

Benefit terms provide for annual cost of living adjustments to each employee's retirement allowance subsequent to the employee's retirement date. The annual adjustments are granted by the Indiana General Assembly on an ad hoc basis.

Contributions

Per Indiana Code Title 5, Articles 10.2 and 10.3, contributions requirements of active employees and the participating employers are established and may be amended by the INPRS Board based on recommendations by the INPRS actuary. Employees are required to contribute three percent of their annual covered salary. The employer is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate; the current rate for the calendar year 2015 is 11.20% percent of annual covered payroll. The annuity savings account consists of employee contributions, set by state statute at three percent of compensation, plus the interest credited to the employee's account. The employer may elect to make the contributions on behalf of the employee. In 2015, the Commission elected to pay the entire required employee contribution. The actuarial amount, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Contributions to the PERF plan from the Commission were \$178,383 for the calendar year ended December 31, 2015.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2015, the Commission reported a liability of \$1,094,389 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2015 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Commission's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Commission's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating units, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2015, the Commission's proportion was .0002687 percent, which was an increase of .000008 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2014. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Commission recognized pension expense of \$185,600. At December 31, 2015, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflow of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflow of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 46,976	\$ 2,263
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings on pension plan investments	184,528	102,923
Change of assumptions	92,513	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	19,889	473
Commission contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>96,623</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 440,529</u>	<u>\$ 105,659</u>

\$96,623 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Commission contribution subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as deferred outflows in the year ended December 31, 2015. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,
2016	\$ 77,380
2017	77,380
2018	37,353
2019	46,134
2020	-
Thereafter	-
Total	<u>\$ 238,247</u>

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2015 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	2.50% to 4.25% including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.75% net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Mortality rates	RP-2014 Total Data Set Mortality tables projected on a fully generational basis using the future mortality improvement scale inherent in the mortality projection included in the Social Security Administration's 2014 Trustee Report

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2015 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the four years ended June 30, 2014. The Study was performed in April 2015. As a result of the study inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.25%, future salary rates decreased from a table range of 3.25% to 4.50% to a table ranging from 2.50% to 4.25%. The mortality rates changed from the 2013 IRS Static Mortality projected five years with Scale AA to the process referenced above. Each of these assumption changes were made to more closely reflect actual experience.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense, and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return as of June 30, 2015 for each major asset class are summarized in the following table.

<u>Global Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Public equity	22.5%	5.3%
Private equity	10.0%	5.6%
Fixed income - Ex inflation - linked	22.0%	2.1%
Fixed income - inflation - linked	10.0%	0.7%
Commodities	8.0%	2.0%
Real estate	7.5%	3.0%
Absolute return	10.0%	3.9%
Risk parity	10.0%	5.0%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from units will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Commission's proportional share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.75 percent, as well as what the Commission's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1- percentage-point lower (5.75 percent) or 1-percentage point higher (7.75 percent) than the current rate:

	5.75%	6.75%	7.75%
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Net Pension Liability	\$1,614,317	\$1,094,389	\$ 662,753

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued INPRS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Actuarial Valuations. These reports can be found at:

<http://www.in.gov/inprs/files/2015INPRSCAFRBook.pdf>

<http://www.in.gov/inprs/files/2015PERFActuarialValuationReport.pdf>

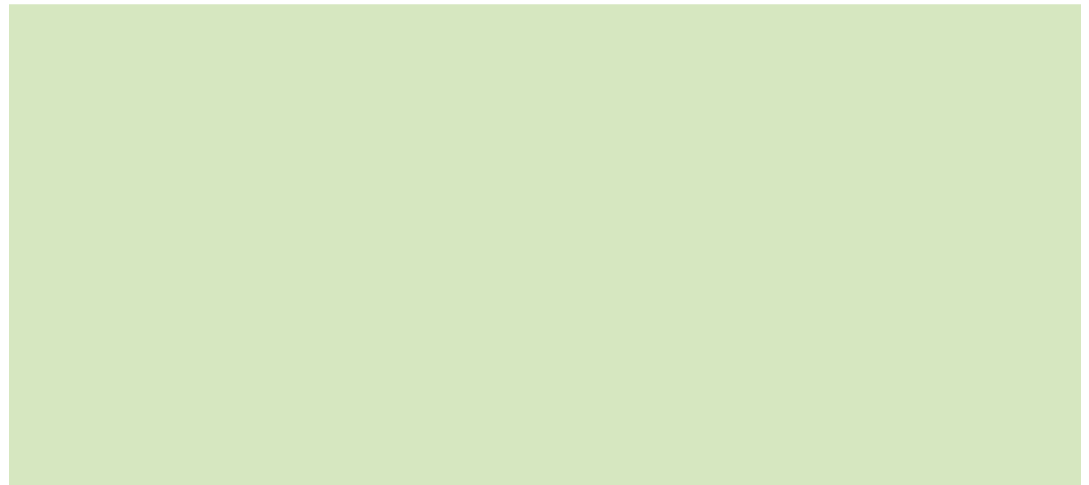
The plan's fiduciary net position has been determined on the same basis used by the plan. The plan uses the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Investments are stated at fair value. Contribution revenue is recorded as contributions are due, pursuant to legal requirements. Benefit payments and refunds of employee contributions are recognized as expense when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms.

D. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

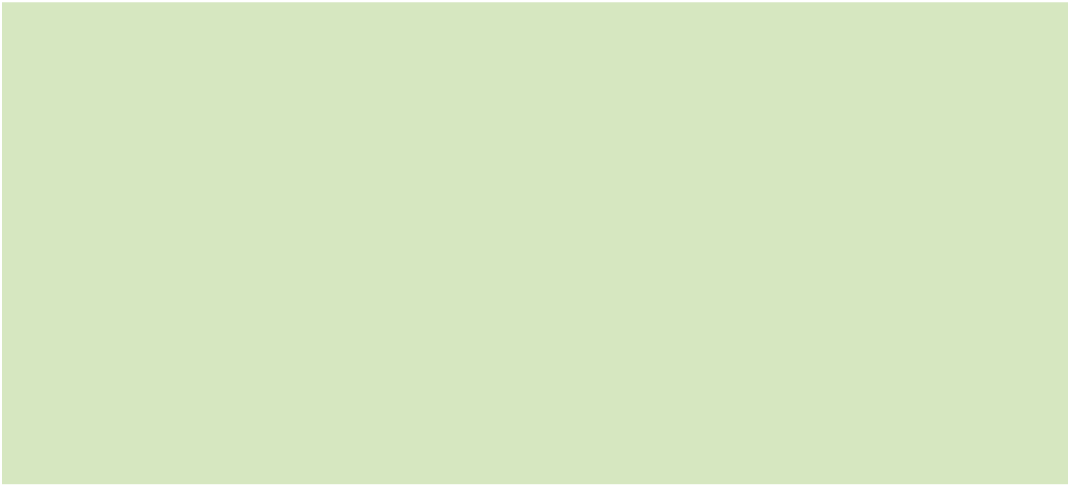
In January 2016 the Commission implemented new accounting software, AccuFund. As part of the implementation process, the Commission has updated the chart of accounts and accounting procedures which stream line processing and reporting.

During 2015, the Commission was party to litigation involving a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) subrecipient. The City of Valparaiso (City) acquired buses through the Commission as part of a FTA grant program through which the Commission retains ownership of the vehicles which are then leased to the City. The City then entered into an operational agreement which included responsibility for maintaining the vehicles with Free Enterprise System/Royal, LLC. The City terminated its agreement with Free Enterprise System due to failure to properly maintain the vehicles. Litigation ensued and the Commission is a named party to the lawsuit because of its ownership of the vehicles. The City of Valparaiso has agreed that Commission will have no exposure to the cost of pursuing the litigation.

Required Supplementary Information



Budgetary Comparison Schedules



**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Budgetary Basis Amounts	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Grantor	\$ 2,635,248	\$ 2,892,124	\$ 2,427,575	\$ (464,549)
Local	540,271	540,271	540,271	-
Interest	2,500	2,500	2,255	(245)
Other	118,921	183,265	114,554	(68,711)
Total Revenues	<u>3,296,940</u>	<u>3,618,160</u>	<u>3,084,655</u>	<u>(533,505)</u>
Expenditures:				
Personnel - Salaries	1,496,025	1,496,025	1,440,710	55,315
Personnel - Fringe Benefits	643,100	643,100	615,717	27,383
Occupancy	243,235	243,235	229,234	14,001
Equipment Service/Maintenance	107,600	107,600	90,054	17,546
Departmental	207,235	210,235	164,635	45,600
Contractual	538,745	846,965	513,059	333,906
Capital Outlays - Equipment & Furniture	61,000	71,000	13,520	57,480
Total Expenditures	<u>3,296,940</u>	<u>3,618,160</u>	<u>3,066,929</u>	<u>551,231</u>
Net Change In Fund Balance	-	-	17,726	17,726
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>1,374,132</u>	<u>1,374,132</u>	<u>1,374,132</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 1,374,132</u>	<u>\$ 1,374,132</u>	<u>\$ 1,391,858</u>	<u>\$ 17,726</u>

The accompanying Note to the Required Supplementary Information is an integral part of the required supplementary information.

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
LAPORTE RLF
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Budgetary Basis Amounts	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Inflows:				
New Loan Receivable	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -
Interest Revenue	-	-	3,535	3,535
	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>153,535</u>	<u>3,535</u>
Total Inflows				
Outflows:				
New Loans	150,000	150,000	150,000	-
Other Services and Charges	-	-	1,553	(1,553)
	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>151,553</u>	<u>(1,553)</u>
Total Outflows				
Net Change In Fund Balance	-	-	1,982	1,982
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>493,867</u>	<u>493,867</u>	<u>493,867</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 495,849</u>	<u>\$ 1,982</u>

The accompanying Note to the Required Supplementary Information is an integral part of the required supplementary information.

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
TRANSIT OPERATING
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Budgetary Basis Amounts	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Revenues:				
Grantor	\$ 3,745,085	\$ 3,745,085	\$ 2,739,753	\$ (1,005,332)
Total Revenues	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>2,739,753</u>	<u>(1,005,332)</u>
Expenditures:				
Other Services and Charges	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>2,739,753</u>	<u>1,005,332</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>3,745,085</u>	<u>2,739,753</u>	<u>1,005,332</u>
Net Change In Fund Balance	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The accompanying Note to the Required Supplementary Information is an integral part of the required supplementary information.

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 1. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Commission follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the budgetary comparison schedules:

- A. The Commission's annual budget for the governmental funds is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- B. A proposed budget for the ensuing year is submitted to the Commission by the Executive Director. This usually occurs at the fourth quarterly meeting of the Commission which is typically held in October.
- C. The budget as adopted by the Commission is organized by object class categories. Major object class categories which typically include salaries, fringe benefits, occupancy, equipment service and maintenance, departmental, contractual, and capital outlays represent the legal level of control.
- D. Amendments to the adopted budget may be made only by the Commission at any regular meeting of the Commission or at any special meeting of the Commission called to consider the budget.
- E. The Commission has established a Finance and Personnel Committee composed exclusively of Commission members appointed by the Chair. This Committee exercises financial oversight over Commission operations and establishes more detailed accounts.
- F. Amounts presented in the financial statements are the final budget amounts for the year, as legally amended.

Note 2. Financial Reporting – Pension Plan

A. Plan Amendments

In 2015, there were no changes to PERF that impacted the pension benefits during the actuarial period.

B. Assumption Changes

An experience study was performed in April of 2015 resulting in an update to the PERF assumptions.

- a. Inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.25%.
- b. The future salary increase rate decreased from a table ranging from 3.25% to 4.50% to a table ranging from 2.50% to 4.25%.
- c. Mortality changed from the 2013 IRS Static Mortality projected five years with a Scale AA to the RP-2014 (with MP-2014 improvement removed) Total Data Set mortality table projected on a fully generational basis using the future mortality

improvement scale inherent in the mortality projection included in the Social Security Administration's 2014 Trustee Report.

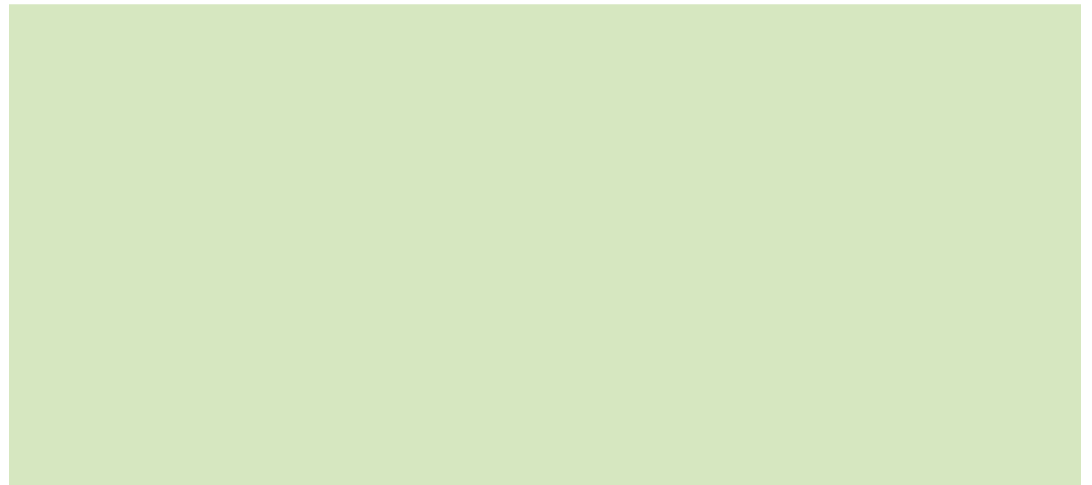
- d. Retirement, disability and termination rates were adjusted to reflect recent experience.

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION					
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION					
SCHEDULE OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY					
Public Employees' Retirement Fund					
Last 10 Fiscal Years					
		2015		2014	
Commission's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)		0.02687%		0.02607%	
Commission's proportion share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$	1,094,389		\$ 685,103	
Commission's covered employee payroll	\$	1,287,150		\$ 1,272,861	
Commission's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll		85.0%		53.8%	
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability		77.3%		84.3%	
Information is not available prior to 2014. Additional years will be added until 10 years of historical data are shown.					

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION			
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION			
SCHEDULE OF THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTIONS			
Public Employees' Retirement Fund			
Last 10 Fiscal Years			
		2015	
Contractually required contributions	\$	185,600	
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution		(144,161)	
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	329,761	
Commission's covered employee payroll	\$	1,287,150	
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll		11.20%	
Information is not available prior to 2014. Additional years will be added until 10 of historical data are shown.			

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Supplementary Information

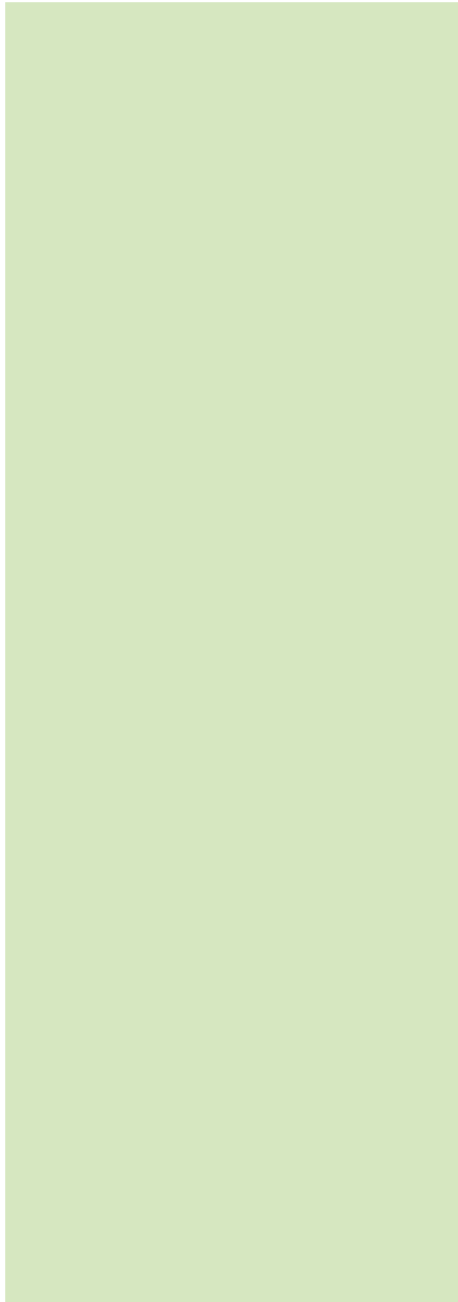


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**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
 TRANSIT CAPITAL
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Budgetary Basis Amounts	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Revenues:				
Grantor	\$ 1,500,625	\$ 1,500,625	\$ 979,310	\$ (521,315)
Local	<u>289,412</u>	<u>289,412</u>	<u>175,571</u>	<u>(113,841)</u>
Total Revenues	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,154,881</u>	<u>(635,156)</u>
Expenditures:				
Capital outlays - transit equipment	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,154,881</u>	<u>635,156</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,790,037</u>	<u>1,154,881</u>	<u>635,156</u>
Net Change In Fund Balance	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

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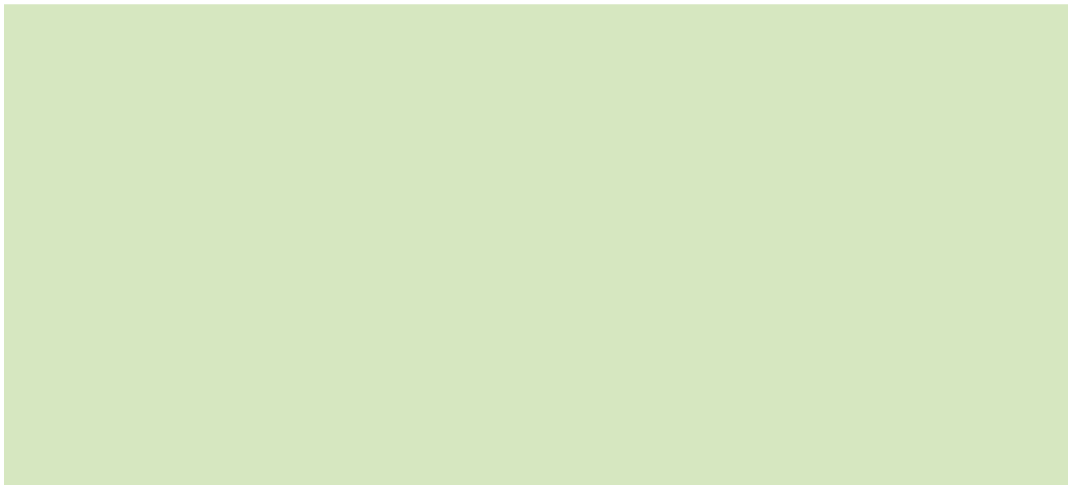
STATISTICAL SECTION
Table of Contents

This part of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission comprehensive annual financial report presents detailed information as a context for understanding what the information in the financial statements, note disclosures, and required supplementary information says about the government's overall financial health.

Contents	Pages
Financial Trends	67 - 70
<i>These schedules contain trend information to help the reader understand how the government's financial performance and well-being have changed over time.</i>	
Demographic and Economic Information	73 - 74
<i>These schedules offer demographic and economic indicators to help the reader understand the environment within which the government's financial activities take place.</i>	
Operating Information	76 - 77
<i>These schedules contain service and capital data to help the reader understand how the information in the government's financial report as it relates to the activities it performs.</i>	

Sources: Unless otherwise noted, the information in these schedules is derived from the comprehensive financial reports for the relevant year.

Financial Trends



Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
 Net Position by Component
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
 (accrual basis of accounting)

	Fiscal Year									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Governmental activities										
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 3,167,949	\$ 3,230,550	\$ 4,286,809	\$ 3,711,814	\$ 4,546,806	\$ 4,712,056	\$ 2,335,894	\$ 2,954,406	\$ 3,732,664	\$ 3,296,844
Restricted	518,705	517,548	496,401	494,508	520,783	*	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted	189,544	1,269,166	1,032,004	1,085,704	1,191,026	1,964,365	1,863,109	1,840,419	1,870,738	1,793,165
Total governmental activities net position	\$ 3,876,198	\$ 5,017,264	\$ 5,815,214	\$ 5,292,026	\$ 6,258,615	\$ 6,676,421	\$ 4,199,003	\$ 4,794,825	\$ 5,603,402	\$ 5,090,009

* Prior to 2011 restricted funds were not reported separately from unrestricted funds.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
 Changes in Net Position
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
 (accrual basis of accounting)

	Fiscal Year									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Expenses										
Governmental Activities:										
Planning and Development	\$ 3,466,479	\$ 2,982,481	\$ 2,978,453	\$ 3,227,570	\$ 3,424,211	\$ 3,318,143	\$ 2,758,597	\$ 3,218,449	\$ 3,445,558	\$ 3,057,184
Workforce Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	268,113
Transit Operating	2,739,753	3,218,566	2,904,493	4,064,024	5,151,766	4,318,720	3,234,228	3,070,455	3,433,634	1,974,463
Transit Capital	1,231,002	1,241,494	1,172,318	1,395,717	1,144,805	1,116,585	334,588	221,375	291,054	34,358
Total Expenses	\$ 7,437,234	\$ 7,442,541	\$ 7,055,264	\$ 8,687,311	\$ 9,720,782	\$ 8,753,448	\$ 6,327,413	\$ 6,510,279	\$ 7,170,246	\$ 5,334,118
Program Revenues										
Governmental Activities:										
Charges for Services:										
Planning and Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,750
Operating Grants and Contributions	5,280,329	5,755,607	5,331,919	6,636,745	7,887,671	7,271,126	4,913,156	4,964,960	5,627,451	3,898,678
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,154,881	137,207	1,699,524	534,323	950,587	3,430,368	282,980	186,228	1,481,473	1,091,499
Total Program Revenues	\$ 6,435,210	\$ 5,892,814	\$ 7,031,443	\$ 7,171,068	\$ 8,838,258	\$ 10,701,494	\$ 5,196,136	\$ 5,151,188	\$ 7,108,924	\$ 5,002,927
Net (Expense)/Revenue										
Governmental Activities	\$ (1,002,024)	\$ (1,549,727)	\$ (23,821)	\$ (1,516,243)	\$ (882,524)	\$ 1,948,046	\$ (1,131,277)	\$ (1,359,091)	\$ (61,322)	\$ (331,191)
Total Net (Expense)/Revenue	\$ (1,002,024)	\$ (1,549,727)	\$ (23,821)	\$ (1,516,243)	\$ (882,524)	\$ 1,948,046	\$ (1,131,277)	\$ (1,359,091)	\$ (61,322)	\$ (331,191)
General Revenues and Other Changes in Net Position										
Governmental Activities:										
Unassigned County Contributions	\$ 540,271	\$ 540,271	\$ 540,271	\$ 519,028	\$ 519,028	\$ 519,028	\$ 519,028	\$ 519,028	\$ 518,931	\$ 585,485
Unassigned Interest Income	5,790	4,391	9,383	9,653	7,551	14,410	28,445	53,428	61,001	26,485
Restricted Interest Income	-	-	-	2,783	2,793	2,017	3,041	2,259	3,794	2,976
Total Primary Government	\$ 546,061	\$ 544,662	\$ 549,654	\$ 531,464	\$ 529,372	\$ 535,455	\$ 550,514	\$ 574,715	\$ 583,726	\$ 614,946
Total Change in Net Position	\$ (455,963)	\$ (1,005,065)	\$ 525,833	\$ (984,779)	\$ (353,152)	\$ 2,483,501	\$ (580,763)	\$ (784,376)	\$ 522,404	\$ 283,755

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

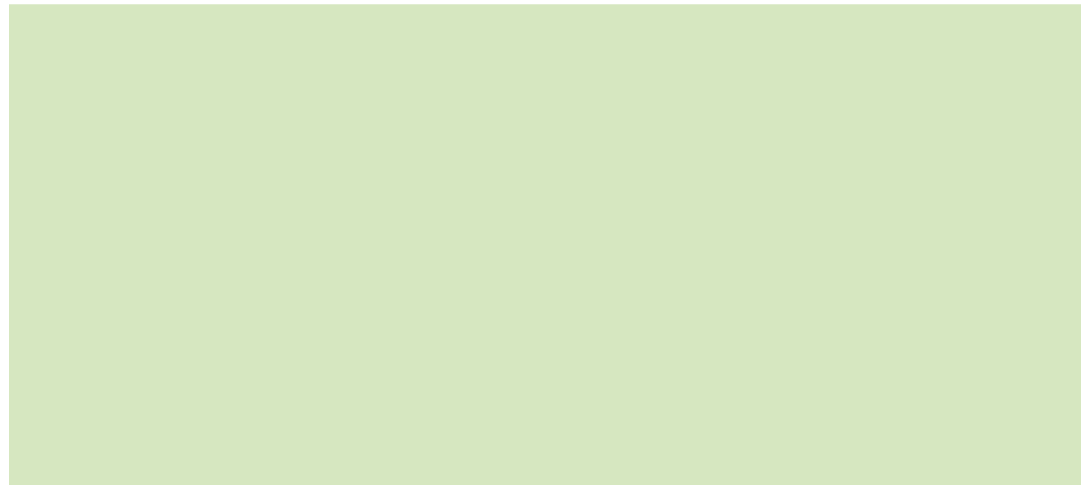
	Fiscal Year									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
General Fund										
Nonspendable	\$ 22,858	\$ 23,681	\$ 2,534	\$ 641	\$ 26,916	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Unassigned	1,369,002	1,350,451	1,303,028	1,316,243	1,373,654	1,558,248	1,460,769	1,402,679	1,352,164	1,267,930
Total General Fund	<u>\$ 1,391,860</u>	<u>\$ 1,374,132</u>	<u>\$ 1,305,562</u>	<u>\$ 1,316,884</u>	<u>\$ 1,400,570</u>	<u>\$ 1,558,248</u>	<u>\$ 1,460,769</u>	<u>\$ 1,402,679</u>	<u>\$ 1,352,164</u>	<u>\$ 1,267,930</u>
All other governmental funds										
Restricted	\$ 495,847	\$ 493,867	\$ 493,867	\$ 493,867	\$ 493,867	* \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Unassigned	-	-	-	-	-	493,866	505,504	505,504	583,744	583,744
Total all other governmental funds	<u>\$ 495,847</u>	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 493,867</u>	<u>\$ 493,866</u>	<u>\$ 505,504</u>	<u>\$ 505,504</u>	<u>\$ 583,744</u>	<u>\$ 583,744</u>

* Prior to 2011 restricted funds were not reported separately from unrestricted funds.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
 Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
 (modified accrual basis of accounting)

	Fiscal Year									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Revenues										
Intergovernmental - County Appropriations	540,271	540,271	540,271	540,271	519,028	519,028	519,028	519,028	519,028	518,931
Intergovernmental - Federal Agencies	3,753,325	3,112,013	3,771,830	4,023,433	5,316,733	6,249,057	3,042,880	2,979,074	3,829,248	2,786,042
Intergovernmental - State Agencies	2,148,522	2,435,592	2,666,309	2,591,311	2,907,273	3,155,464	2,153,224	2,318,640	2,285,161	1,095,744
Intergovernmental - Local Agencies	336,457	312,097	550,277	464,747	438,951	1,094,581	543,738	585,498	766,448	963,244
Non-Governmental	198,459	35,311	57,457	99,103	182,721	209,560	108,662	48,828	234,176	168,153
Interest Income	5,790	4,391	6,738	9,383	12,436	13,728	16,427	31,486	55,667	64,795
Total Revenues	\$ 6,982,824	\$ 6,439,675	\$ 7,582,882	\$ 7,728,248	\$ 9,377,142	\$ 11,241,418	\$ 6,383,959	\$ 6,482,554	\$ 7,689,748	\$ 5,596,909
Expenditures										
Current - Planning & Development										
Personnel Services - Salaries	1,440,710	1,416,545	1,441,682	1,476,490	1,594,735	1,645,088	1,436,268	1,494,126	1,358,402	1,448,961
Personnel Services - Fringe Benefits	615,718	587,307	603,923	638,160	697,320	603,106	520,538	496,176	478,471	473,259
Other Services and Charges	3,738,287	4,182,019	3,801,286	5,136,559	6,263,209	5,403,306	4,034,475	4,298,602	4,273,034	2,686,402
Capital Outlays	1,168,401	185,235	1,747,313	560,725	979,555	3,504,077	334,588	221,375	1,495,607	1,137,714
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,963,116	\$ 6,371,106	\$ 7,594,204	\$ 7,811,934	\$ 9,534,819	\$ 11,155,577	\$ 6,325,869	\$ 6,510,279	\$ 7,605,514	\$ 5,746,336
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 19,708	\$ 68,569	\$ (11,322)	\$ (83,686)	\$ (157,677)	\$ 85,841	\$ 58,090	\$ (27,725)	\$ 84,234	\$ (149,427)

Demographic and Economic Information



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Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Demographic and Economic Statistics
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year	Population (1)	Median Age (2)	Per Capita Income (2)	Personal Income	Public School Enrollment (3)	Unemployment Rate (4)
2015						
Lake County	487,865	n/a	n/a	n/a	82,984	6.8
Porter County	167,688	n/a	n/a	n/a	27,453	5.4
LaPorte County	110,884	n/a	n/a	n/a	17,989	6.3
2014						
Lake County	490,574	38.3	24,945.00	\$ 12,237,368,430	83,359	7.9
Porter County	167,308	40.1	28,880.00	\$ 4,831,855,040	27,746	6.2
LaPorte County	111,695	40.8	22,835.00	\$ 2,550,555,325	16,941	7.2
2013						
Lake County	491,560	38.2	\$ 24,400.00	\$ 11,994,064,000	85,268	9.2
Porter County	166,578	39.2	\$ 30,630.00	\$ 5,102,284,140	28,090	7.4
LaPorte County	111,376	39.2	\$ 22,654.00	\$ 2,523,111,904	16,894	9.4
2012						
Lake County	493,192	37.7	\$ 22,911.00	\$ 11,299,521,912	78,794	9.4
Porter County	165,765	38.8	\$ 27,362.00	\$ 4,535,661,930	27,160	7.7
LaPorte County	111,223	39.9	\$ 21,982.00	\$ 2,444,903,986	17,492	9.9
2011						
Lake County	494,788	37.5	\$ 23,436.00	\$ 11,595,851,568	79,874	9.9
Porter County	165,510	38.4	\$ 27,186.00	\$ 4,499,554,860	27,090	7.9
LaPorte County	111,223	39.3	\$ 22,210.00	\$ 2,470,262,830	17,884	10.4
2010						
Lake County	496,005	37.2	\$ 21,722.00	\$ 10,774,220,610	82,143	11.0
Porter County	164,343	38.0	\$ 25,012.00	\$ 4,110,547,116	27,336	8.8
LaPorte County	111,467	39.7	\$ 20,982.00	\$ 2,338,800,594	17,662	11.9
2009						
Lake County	494,211	37.3	\$ 22,389.00	\$ 11,064,890,079	82,874	10.7
Porter County	163,598	38.4	\$ 26,828.00	\$ 4,389,007,144	27,645	9.4
LaPorte County	111,063	38.5	\$ 22,252.00	\$ 2,471,373,876	17,730	11.9
2008						
Lake County	493,800	37.3	\$ 23,551.00	\$ 11,629,483,800	83,712	6.2
Porter County	162,181	37.9	\$ 29,497.00	\$ 4,783,852,957	27,561	4.7
LaPorte County	110,888	38.6	\$ 24,620.00	\$ 2,730,062,560	17,879	6.2
2007						
Lake County	492,104	37.3	\$ 22,853.00	\$ 11,246,052,712	84,711	5.2
Porter County	160,578	37.9	\$ 28,218.00	\$ 4,531,190,004	27,580	3.9
LaPorte County	109,787	38.9	\$ 21,524.00	\$ 2,363,055,388	18,151	5.1
2006						
Lake County	494,202	37.1	\$ 21,714.00	\$ 10,731,102,228	85,214	5.8
Porter County	160,105	37.1	\$ 26,183.00	\$ 4,192,029,215	27,158	4.4
LaPorte County	110,479	38.5	\$ 22,140.00	\$ 2,446,005,060	18,149	5.7

Sources:

1. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program
2. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
3. Indiana Department of Education
4. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Annual Average Unemployment (not seasonally adjusted)

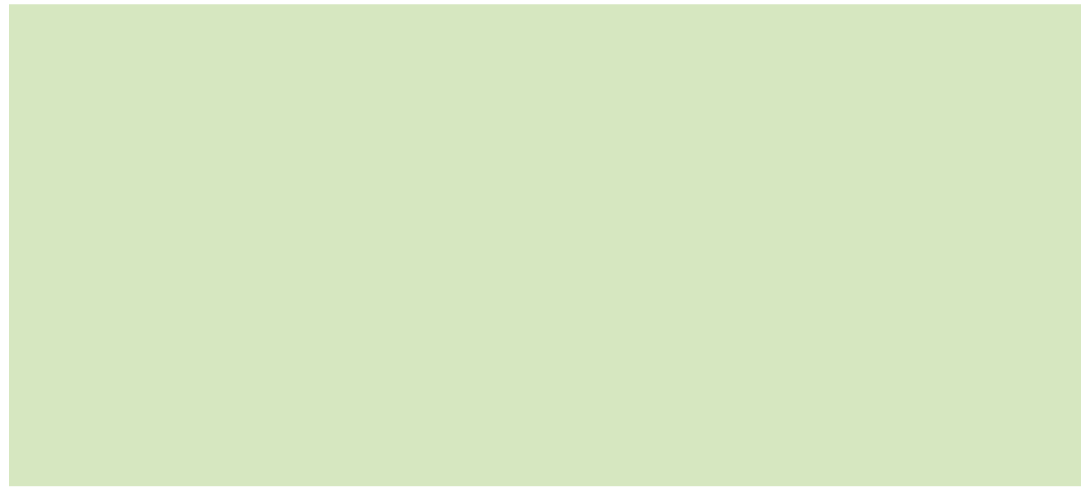
The sources for this information did not make available all information presented. Information unavailable is indicated above by n/a (not available).

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Employment by Industry
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

Industry	2015			2006		
	Employees	Rank	Percentage of Total Region Employment	Employees	Rank	Percentage of Total County/Region Employment
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	161	18	0.06%	396	19	0.10%
Mining	86	19	0.03%	315	20	0.10%
Utilities	0		0.00%	1,625	17	0.60%
Construction	15,650	5	5.49%	19,496	6	6.60%
Manufacturing	41,740	2	14.64%	44,723	1	15.20%
Wholesale Trade	3,400	14	1.19%	8,708	12	3.00%
Retail Trade	37,369	3	13.10%	38,114	3	13.00%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,996	10	2.80%	9,540	10	3.20%
Information	2,555	16	0.90%	3,551	15	1.20%
Finance and Insurance	6,138	13	2.15%	7,218	14	2.50%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	3,147	15	1.10%	3,471	16	1.20%
Professional and Technical Services	7,747	12	2.72%	7,960	13	2.70%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,344	17	0.82%	1,601	18	0.50%
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgt. & Rem. Services	12,988	7	4.55%	12,466	8	4.20%
Educational Services	14,317	6	5.02%	26,107	4	8.90%
Health Care and Social Services	44,353	1	15.55%	41,656	2	14.20%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,938	11	2.78%	9,467	11	3.20%
Accommodation and Food Services	28,109	4	9.86%	24,814	5	8.40%
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	10,767	9	3.78%	11,068	9	3.80%
Public Administration	12,490	8	4.38%	14,301	7	4.90%
Unclassified	0		0.00%	32	21	0.00%
	259295					

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics - Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (Annual Average Employment by Industry)

Operating Information



**Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Full-time Equivalent Employees by Function
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

Function	Full-time Equivalent Employees as of December 31									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Governmental Activities										
Planning & Development:										
Finance & Administration	9	9	9	9	11	11	11	11	12	13
Planning Department	12	12	13	13	15	14	13	14	11	10
Environmental Department	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	2
Partner Agency	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	2
Transit Operating:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transit Capital:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Employees	26	26	27	27	31	32	29	30	28	27

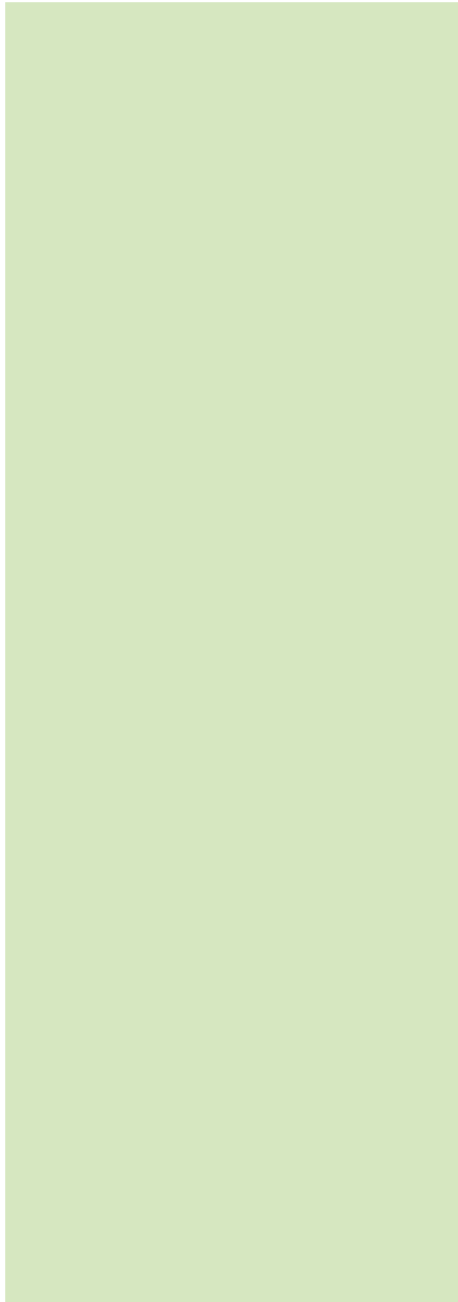
Source: Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Department of Finance and Personnel

**Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
Capital Asset Statistics by Function
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

	Fiscal Year									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
General Government:										
Office Equipment										
Computer Workstations	35	35	79	54	55	70	52	50	50	61
Network Servers	4	6	7	7	5	5	4	4	4	4
Traffic Counters	8	8	26	26	26	36	36	20	20	20
Transit Capital:										
Vehicles	90	80	81	77	81	81	68	90	90	95

Source: Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Department of Finance and Personnel

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR
FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION, LAKE, PORTER, AND LAPORTE COUNTIES, INDIANA

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's (Commission) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2015. The Commission's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Commission's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Commission's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Commission's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Commission complied in all material respects with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2015.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR
FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
(Continued)


Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of the Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Commission's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. In accordance with Indiana Code 5-11-5-1, this report is a part of the public records of the Indiana State Board of Accounts and of the office examined.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

July 14, 2016

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Federal Grantor Agency/Pass-Through Entity Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Pass-Through To Subrecipient	Commission Expended	Total Federal Awards Expended
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</u>					
Direct Grant					
Economic Development Cluster					
Economic Adjustment Assistance	11.307	06-39-02180	\$ -	\$ 360,983	\$ 360,983
LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund					
Pass-Through Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority					
Coastal Zone Management Administration Awards	11.419	CZ225	-	5,000	5,000
Total for Federal Grantor Agency			-	365,983	365,983
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</u>					
Direct Grant					
Federal Transit Cluster					
Federal Transit_Formula Grants	20.507	IN-57-X010	210,546	-	210,546
		IN-90-X667	368,682	719,350	1,088,032
		IN-95-X024	14,632	-	14,632
		IN-90-X669	152,130	-	152,130
		IN-90-X609	11,597	179,045	190,642
		IN-90-X636	22,059	60,800	82,859
		IN-95-X035	756,515	107,738	864,253
		IN90-X653	602,489	405,002	1,007,491
		IN-90-X645	73,652	-	73,652
Subtotal			2,212,302	1,471,935	3,684,237
ARRA - Federal Transit Formula Grants		IN-96-X017	-	26,500	26,500
Subtotal			-	26,500	26,500
Total for Cluster			2,212,302	1,498,435	3,710,737
Pass-Through Indiana Department of Transportation					
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster					
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	PL-0016803140	-	207,789	207,789
		PL-0015805501	-	604,262	604,262
Surface Transportation Program		STP-0015808664	-	87,170	87,169
		STP-0016804160	-	100,139	100,139
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)		CQ-0012805562	-	14,284	14,284
		CQ-0015808709	-	151,834	151,834
		CQ-0013803302	-	19,607	19,607
		CQ-0016804160	-	1,586	1,586
		CQ-0013803302	-	64,410	64,410
Total for Cluster			-	1,251,081	1,251,081
Pass-Through Indiana Department of Transportation					
Metropolitan Transportation Planning and State and Non-Metropolitan Planning and Research	20.505	5303-0016803140	-	383,192	383,192
Total for Federal Grantor Agency			2,212,302	3,132,708	5,345,010
<u>U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY</u>					
Direct Grant					
Urban Waters Small Grants	66.440	00E01318	-	42,588	42,588
Pass-Through Indiana Department of Environmental Management					
Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants	66.460	0014530174	-	13,298	13,298
Pass-Through Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority					
Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements	66.818	1149	-	13,889	13,889
		1151	-	5,950	5,950
Subtotal			-	19,839	19,839
Total for Federal Grantor Agency			-	75,725	75,725
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY</u>					
Pass-Through Mid-America Regional Council					
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Information Dissemination, Outreach, Training and Technical Analysis/Assistance	81.117	DE-EE0006310	-	54,401	54,401
Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant					
Total for Federal Grantor Agency			-	54,401	54,401
Total Federal Awards Expended			\$ 2,212,302	\$ 3,628,817	\$ 5,841,119

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) includes the federal grant activity of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Commission) and is presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America which is the basis of accounting used in presentation of the financial statements. Accordingly, the amount of federal awards expended is based on when the activity related to the award occurs. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in preparation of, the basic financial statements.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the SEFA are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A133, *Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments*, or the cost principles contained in *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. When federal grants are received on a reimbursement basis, the federal awards are considered expended when the liability is incurred. The Commission has elected not to use the 10% de minimis cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 3. Calculation of Expenditures of the Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund

Balance of RLF loans outstanding at the end of the fiscal year	\$ 215,032
Plus: Cash and investment balance in the RLF at the end of the fiscal year	282,142
Plus: Administrative expenses incurred not yet paid for 2015	<u>1,326</u>
 Total Calculation Basis	 498,500
 Calculation for Federal Participation Rate	
Original Economic Development Administration Funding	700,000
Local Match:	<u>266,667</u>
 Total Original Grant with Original Match	 966,667
 Federal Participation Rate (Federal grant awarded divided by total program)	 72.41%
 The Federal share of the LaPorte Revolving Loan Fund	 \$ 360,983

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements:

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified?	no
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	no

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major programs:	
Material weaknesses identified?	no
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	no

Identification of Major Programs and type of auditor's report issued on compliance for each:

<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>	<u>Opinion Issued</u>
Federal Transit Cluster	Unmodified
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster	Unmodified
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	no

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

No matters are reportable.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

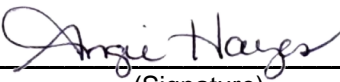
No matters are reportable.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

FINDING 2014-001

Fiscal year in which the finding initially occurred: 2014
Pass-Through Entity: Indiana Department of Transportation
Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Angie Hayes
Contact Phone Number: 219-763-6060

Status of Audit Finding: It has been corrected



(Signature)

Director of Finance & Administration
(Title)

June 24, 2016
(Date)

OTHER REPORTS

In addition to this report, other reports may have been issued for the Commission. All reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>.



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