

URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: January 7, 2025

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 220, Citizens Square, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The following attended the meeting in person:

Members (voting):

- Member Shan Gunawardena-Chair
- Member William Hartman-Vice Chair
- Member Chris Beebe
- Member Mike Fruchey
- Member Scott Hinderman
- Member Jason Kaiser
- Member John Metzinger
- Member Paul Spoelhof
- Member Hannah Walker
- Member Patrick Zaharako

The following attended the meeting virtually via Teams:

- Member Rick Kruchten
- Member La’Keshia Stewart (non-voting)

The following were not present:

- Member Therese Brown
- Member Paul Lagemann
- Member Stephanie Belch (non-voting)

Staff members present were Dan Avery, Executive Director; Jeff Bradtmiller, Senior Transportation Planner; Matt Vondran, Senior Transportation Planner; and Debbie Magsam, Administrative Assistant. Tim Ehlerding, Bill Etzler, Mason Gamble, Donya Larue, Wendy Reust, Eli Samaan, Jay Stankiewicz, Tinisha Weigelt and Kyle Winling were also present.

Mr. Gunawardena brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was the approval of the October 1, 2024, minutes. Mr. Hartman moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Hinderman seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Kaiser gave the progress report for INDOT. The contract for several Small Structure Pipe Lining projects on I-69 and I-469 was awarded to Temple & Temple Excavating & Paving, Inc. on November 22, 2024. The contract for two Bridge Deck Overlay projects on I-469 was awarded to Milestone Contractors, LP on November 22, 2024. The contract for the Repairs to Approach Slab on US 24 was awarded to Pioneer Associates, Inc. on November 22, 2024. The contract for several Repair or

Replace Joints projects on bridges along SR 3, US 27, and SR 930 was awarded to Pioneer Associates, Inc. on December 23, 2024. The contracts awarded came in under the Engineer's Estimate. Mr. Kaiser made the Board aware that Todd Johnson, Deputy Commissioner for the Fort Wayne District, retired. Mr. Kaiser is currently acting as the Interim Deputy Commissioner for the Fort Wayne District.

Mr. Metzinger gave the progress report for Citilink. Six buses have been ordered three hybrid buses and three access minibuses. Citilink is working on the Program Management Plan for the 5310 Program and will have a public meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025. The Program Management Plan will go before Citilink's Board in March 2025.

Mr. Zaharako gave the progress report for the City of Fort Wayne. VS Engineering was selected for the Ardmere Avenue project. Currently, awaiting FMIS approval and INDOT's approval to issue a NTP (notice to proceed). The Tillman Road Bridge project is 60% design plans and currently awaiting BIP grant application results. Surveying is complete and the design plans are at 30% for the North Clinton Road project. The Hillegas Road project is in right of way (RW) acquisition. PE (preliminary engineering) and RW are at 75%. A & Z Engineering was selected for construction inspection for the Goeglein Road Bridge #113 project. Currently, working on final tracing documents and PE is at 95%. USI was selected for construction inspection for the Bluffton Road Bridge project and a public meeting will be held January 15, 2025.

Mr. Hartman gave the progress report for Allen County Highway. The letting date for the Monroeville Road Bridge #277 project is September 10, 2025. PE and RW are at 100%. The letting date for the Slusher Road Bridge #141 project is January 15, 2025. Environmental Documentation was approved for the Monroeville Road-Wayne Trace project and RW acquisition has started. It was requested that RW be moved to FY 2026 for the Van Zile Road Bridge #32 project. A public meeting was held for the Coverdale Road – Indianapolis Road-Winters Road Intersection project. The RW agreement needs to be in place for the Cuba Road Bridge #24 project and the Woodburn Road Bridge #51 project by March /April of 2025. Final inspections were completed for the Bluffton Road Bridge #257 project and the Bass Road Phase 3A New Bridge project. Intersection improvements have begun at the Clay Street and SR 1 intersection. A NTP was issued on October 18, 2024 for the Fogwell Parkway project. Millers Brothers was awarded the contract for the Antwerp Road Bridge #15 project and additional federal aid was awarded for construction. Milestone Contractors LP. was awarded the contract for the Amber Road Bridge #226 project.

Ms. Walker gave the progress report for Hometown. A preconstruction meeting will be held next week for the Kell Road Bridge project. A RFP (request for proposals) for CE will be out later this month for the Carroll Road Roundabout project.

Mr. Hinderman gave the progress report for the airport. The terminal project is going well and scheduled to be finished this year. The Taxiway Charlie 2 project was awarded. The start of the project might be delayed until after the July Air Show. Design work is underway for the Ramp Expansion project and construction will start late summer 2025.

Mr. Kruchten gave the report for the City of New Haven. The stage one plans were received on December 23, 2024 for the Rose Avenue and Linden Road roundabout project. The stage one plans were received on December 13, 2024 for the South Maplecrest Road Phase I (SR 930 to Moeller Road) and Phase II (Moeller Road to Seiler Road). The City of New Haven is exploring adding a pedestrian bridge or pedestrian lane to the existing bridge over the Trier Ditch instead of reconstructing the bridge saving approximately 2 million dollars for the South Maplecrest Road Phase II project.

The first item of new business was the Citilink Agency Safety Plan 2025 presented by Mr. Avery. The Citilink Agency Safety Plan has two goals. Goal 1 is to create a culture that supports employee safety and security and safe system operation (during normal and emergency conditions) through motivated compliance, rules and procedures, the appropriate use and operation of equipment, and an active safety promoting role for everyone in the organization. Goal 2 encourages safe system operation through identifying hazards, mitigating risk, and reducing occurrences. The objectives of the goals were presented. A safety event was defined along with the explanation of what is a major event and what is a minor event. Major and minor mechanical system failures that could create a safety event were discussed. The Fixed Route Safety Performance Baseline and Targets were presented. The target rates are based on per 100,000 vehicle revenue miles (VRM). The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Fixed Route Fatalities is 0.3 and the target is 0. The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Fixed Route Injuries (minor/major) is 4.0 and the target is reduction from baseline. The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Fixed Route Safety Events (minor/major) is 9.0 and the target is reduction from baseline. The 2020-2023 baseline for Fixed Route System Reliability is 11,774 VRM and the target is increase from baseline. The Paratransit Safety Performance Baseline and Targets were also presented. The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Paratransit Fatalities is 1 and the target is 0. The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Paratransit Injuries (minor/major) is 0.5 and the target is reduction from baseline. The 2020-2023 baseline rate for Paratransit Safety Events (minor/major) is 1.5 and the target is reduction from baseline. The 2020-2023 baseline for Paratransit System Reliability is 30,005 VRM and the target is increase from baseline. Mr. Kaiser moved to adopt the targets and Citilink Agency Safety Plan 2025. Mr. Zaharako seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of new business was the 2024 Crash Snapshot presented by Mr. Avery. The number of deaths and injuries for January – October 2024 on all Indiana roads was shown. The number of deaths was broken down by area (rural/urban) and route

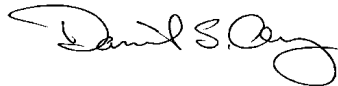
type. Most deaths occurred in the rural areas and on US routes. A chart was shown that detailed 2024 injuries and the manner of the collision. The Allen County fatal crash and vulnerable road user data was shown.

The next item of new business was the FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program presented by Mr. Avery. The work program outlines the activities that will be performed by NIRCC. The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration identify the Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs). The FY26 PEAs are institutionalizing equity, accessibility, and safety, maximizing coordination, and the metropolitan planning area and urbanized area boundaries. The major planning initiatives for FY26 are big data analytics, Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP), equity assessment, and safety-vulnerable road users. Mr. Avery went over the planning activities in the metropolitan planning area (MPA) and the Small Urban and Rural Planning-Transportation Program (SURTP). Mr. Spoelhof moved that the FY25-26 UPWP and SURTP be approved with the ability for staff to amend and modify as needed without additional policy board approval. Mr. Fruchey seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of new business was the Road Funding Update presented by Mr. Avery. Mr. Avery went over the sources and distribution of transportation revenue for 2024. The increase in construction materials and salaries, fuel efficiency, and the increase in sales of electric and hybrid vehicles are all concerns influencing revenue and purchasing power. The funding gap over a ten-year period between the funding needed and the available dedicated funding is significant. Mr. Avery went over revenue options from the INDOT study. House Bill 1085 is currently the only bill in the Indiana State House regarding road funding. House Bill 1085 would have funding distributed based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

At this point, Mr. Gunawardena asked for public comment. There were no public comments.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel S. Avery". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "D".

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