

URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: August 4, 2026

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, 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 Therese Brown
- Member Mike Fruchey
- Member Rick Kruchten
- Member Dirk Schmidt for Dana Plattner
- Member Patrick Rorick
- Member Paul Spoelhof
- Member Patrick Zaharako

The following attended the meeting virtually via Teams:

The following were not present:

- Member Lindsey Hammond
- Member Scott Hinderman
- Member Hannah Walker

- Member Alison Shaner (non-voting)
- Member Erica Tait (non-voting)

Staff members present were Dan Avery, Executive Director; Ian Lese, Principal Planner; Debbie Magsam, Administrative Assistant and Stephen Senior; Associate Planner. Micah Glim, Logan Gonya, David Lutz, Wendy Reust, Chad Salzbrenner and Tinisha Weigelt were also present.

Mr. Gunawardena brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was the approval of the May 12, 2026, minutes. Ms. Brown moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Spoelhof seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Kruchten gave the progress report for the City of New Haven. The 90% plans have been reviewed and revisions sent to USI for the Rose Avenue and Linden Road Intersection Improvement project. The LOI (letter of interest) for inspection scoring will be completed soon. Appraisals have begun on seven parcels for the South Maplecrest Road-Phase I project. A progress meeting was held July 15, 2026 for the SR 930 Pedestrian Facilities project.

Mr. Rorick gave the progress report for Citilink. The Farebox Replacement project is underway. Citilink is seeking to purchase two TVMs (ticket vending machines) for central station. The replacement of the underground storage tanks to above ground storage tanks is in process. Citilink will be seeking approval from the Citilink Board for the purchase of three new buses. The Bus Simulator project is under procurement. A procurement is out for the Facility Needs Assessment. Citilink has submitted a new round of grants in accordance with FTA input including a new grant, a grant amendment, and a 5310 grant amendment.

Mr. Zaharako gave the progress report for the City of Fort Wayne. PE is 37% for the Ardmore Avenue project and 30% plans have been submitted. The letting date for the Tillman Road Bridge #550 project is December 9, 2026. PE is 95% and RW is 30%. PE is 42% for the North Clinton Road project. The letting date for Phase I of the Hillegas Road Project is October 14, 2027 and working for NEPA approval. PE is 95% and RW is 100%. PE is 70% for the Bluffton Road/St. Mary's Riverbank project. The environmental document and 90% plans are due by September. A public meeting will be held in September 2026 for the Broadway & Taylor Corridors Project. PE is 40% and 30% plans have been reviewed. The next public meeting for the Southeast Corridors Planning and Design project will be August 25, 2026. PE is 60%. PE is 59% for the Airport Expressway Railroad Crossing Elimination and currently working on the environmental document and 60% plans. The Bluffton Road Bridge #358 project is almost complete. A fence will be installed later this month.

Mr. Hartman gave the progress report for Allen County Highway. Construction funding has been moved to FY29 due to the CE-4 Approval for the Hamilton Road Bridge #242 and Van Zile Road Bridge #32 project. PE is 80% for the Coverdale Road-Indianapolis Road-Winters Road intersection. Construction funding may be moved up to FY28. All right-of-way (RW) has been acquired, utility coordination is starting, CE proposals are being reviewed and Stage 3 will be submitted in November for the Cuba Road Bridge #24 project. All right-of-way (RW) has been acquired, utility coordination is starting, CE proposals are being reviewed and Stage 3 will be submitted in November for the Woodburn Road Bridge #51 project. PE is 30% for the Corbin Road Union Chapel Roundabout project. Final plans were submitted to INDOT for the Un-Signalized Intersection Sign & Marketing Visibility Improvement project. A public stakeholder meeting will be held on August 11, 2026 for the C.R.O.S.S. Scott Road Railroad Crossing. The LPA agreement was signed for the Homestead Road Bridge #224 project. The LPA agreement was signed for the Monroeville Road Bridge #295 project. The Monroeville Road-Wayne Trace project was awarded to Fleming Excavating. Construction is anticipated to be completed on October 12, 2027. Monroeville Road Bridge #277 has reopened. A NTP was issued and inspections have begun for the 2026-2029 NBIS Bridge Inventory & Inspections project.

Mr. Schmidt gave the progress report for INDOT. The letting date for Contract R-45835, for Bike/Pedestrian Facilities from Goshen Road to Lima Road, has been moved from January 18, 2029 to September 13, 2028. The letting date for Contract B-46790, for Bridge Replacement, has been moved from August 14, 2030 to July 10, 2030. The letting date for Contract B-46793, for Small Structure Replacement on SR 37, has been moved from January 1, 2031 to October 9, 2030. The letting date for Contract B-46794, for a Median U-Turn on US 30, has been moved from January 1, 2031 to October 9, 2030. Contract R-46426 for access control on I-469 has been added to the list and has a July 9, 2031, letting date.

There was no progress report for the Fort Wayne International Airport.

There was no progress report for Huntertown.

The first item of new business was the Intersection Studies presented by Mr. Avery. The performance of eight intersections was evaluated. Six of the intersections were signalized and two were un-signalized. The six signalized intersections included Aboite Center Road/Coventry Lane, Aboite Center Road/Dicke Road, Aboite Center Road/Engle Road/Jefferson Boulevard, Covington Road/Jefferson Boulevard, Covington Plaza/Jefferson Boulevard, and Franke Park Drive/Wells Street. The two un-signalized intersections are Amstutz Road/Hosler Road and Franke Park Drive/Sherman Boulevard. All the signalized intersections operated at a LOS (level of service) of C or better except Aboite Center Road/Engle Road/Jefferson Boulevard and Covington Road/Jefferson Boulevard which operated at a LOS of D. Amstutz Road/Hosler Road operated at a LOS of C for all approaches. Franke Park Drive/Sherman Boulevard operated at a LOS of B for westbound and southbound and a LOS of A for northbound. Signal warrants were run for both unsignalized intersections and they were not met.

The next item of new business was Corridor Studies presented by Mr. Avery. The study of Paulding Road/Tillman Road corridor was initiated by NIRCC in FY26 due to developments within the area. This study focuses on the corridor from Hessen Cassel Road to Meyer Road on Paulding Road and from Hessen Cassel Road to I-469 on Tillman Road. The main purpose of a corridor and impact analysis is to evaluate traffic impacts of future developments on an existing corridor. Scenario 1: Existing traffic volumes, Scenario 2: Existing volumes + traffic generated by the proposed developments (Phase I), Scenario 3: Existing volumes + traffic generated by the proposed developments in Phase I + traffic generated by the areas with a potential for development (Phase II). There are seven new developments projected in Phase I and seven in Phase II. The average annual growth rate was estimated to be 1.5% along the Paulding Road corridor and 1% along the Tillman Road corridor. Maps of the area and average daily traffic were shown. Mr. Avery went over the LOS for the following intersections: Paulding Road/Hessen Cassel Road, Paulding Road/Wayne Trace, Paulding Road/Meyer Road/School Access, Tillman Road/Hessen Cassel Road,

Tillman Road/Wayne, Tillman Road/Adams Center Road, Tillman Road/Hartzell Road, Tillman Road/Interstate 469 Ramp C, and Tillman Road/Interstate 469 Ramp A. It is recommended that the following intersections be signalized: Paulding Road/Wayne Trace, Paulding Road/Meyer Road/School Access, Tillman Road/Wayne Trace, Tillman Road/Adams Center Road, and Tillman Road/Interstate 469 Ramp A.

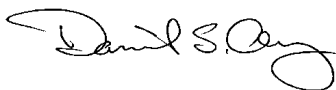
The next item of new business was the Gas Tax Holiday Discussion presented by Mr. Avery. The Indiana Gas Excise Tax is 36¢ per gallon and the Indiana Gasoline Use Tax is 17-28¢ per gallon. The Gas Use Tax was suspended on April 8, 2026, and extended to August 6, 2026. The Gas Excise Tax was suspended on May 6, 2026, and extended to August 6, 2026. The estimated revenue loss is approximately 533 million. In July 2026, the Indiana Board of Finance approved a transfer of funds from the State Highway Fund to Motor Vehicle Highway Account, Highway, Road and Street Fund, and the Local Road and Bridge Matching Fund. There may be additional transfers and the State plans to make local governments whole by November 1.

The next item of new business was the Transportation Bill-BUILD America 250 Act presented by Mr. Avery. The bill has passed out of committee in the House of Representatives. Mr. Avery went over the highlights of the House version of this bill. The Senate has not released anything so the current bill that is set to expire in September will most likely be extended.

The last item of new business was a TIP Amendment presented by Mr. Avery. There was one amendment. The amendment was for the Maplecrest Road (South) project. A new phase will be added. Ms. Brown moved to approve the TIP Amendment as submitted. Mr. Kruchten seconded the motion and it carried.

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

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

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

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