

URBAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: September 2, 2025

The Urban Transportation Advisory Board convened on Tuesday, September 2 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 Wendy Reust for Therese Brown
- Member Emily Grabill for Mike Fruchey
- Member Scott Hinderman
- Member Angela Nicholson for Dana Plattner
- Member Patrick Rorick
- Member Patrick Zaharako

The following attended the meeting virtually via Teams:

The following were not present:

- Member Lindsey Hammond
- Member Rick Kruchten
- Member Paul Spoelhof
- Member Hannah Walker

- Member Stephanie Belch (non-voting)

- Member Erica Tait (non-voting)

Staff members present were Dan Avery, Executive Director, Stephen Senior, Associate Planner and Debbie Magsam, Administrative Assistant. Mason Gamble, Logan Gonya, Phil LaBrash, Tinisha Weigelt, and Kyle Winling were also present.

Mr. Gunawardena brought the meeting to order. The first item of business was the approval of July 1, 2025 minutes. Mr. Hartman moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Zaharako seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Rorick gave the progress report for Citilink. Citilink is testing Diamond fareboxes on the fixed route system and anticipates transitioning to the new system in early 2026. Citilink would like to purchase two ticket vending machines for central station for purchasing passes and loading smart cards. The fare increase has been implemented. The Access Plus fare increase from \$3.00 to \$4.50 has been implemented. Proposals for paratransit and microtransit services were received and Citilink is currently in discussions with the union and highest scored bidder. Citilink

is in the process of working with FTA to obtain obligation of funds on multiple grants and amendments including 5310 funding, low/no funding (hybrid buses), 5307 funding and funding for the underground storage tank project. The 2026 Citilink budget was approved by the Board of Directors and will be going to Fort Wayne City Council for approval.

Mr. Zaharako gave the progress report for the City of Fort Wayne. A notice to proceed was issued for the Ardmere Avenue project. PE is at 3%. Design plans are 60% for the Tillman Road Bridge #550 project. The construction estimate is \$2,500,000. The field review is complete for the North Clinton Road project. The letting date for the Hillegas Road project is January 4, 2026. PE and RW services are complete and waiting on NEPA approval. The Bluffton Road Bridge #358 project is expected to be completed by the end of August 2026. The letting date for the Geoglein Road Bridge #113 was held on August 6, 2025. Duncan Robertson was awarded the bid with a bid of \$862,017.18.

Mr. Hartman gave the progress report for Allen County Highway. The Monroeville Road Bridge #277 is out for bid. CE services were awarded to A & Z Engineering for the Monroeville Road-Wayne Trace project and RW is 95%. CE services for the Hamilton Road Bridge #242 and the Van Zile Road Bridge #32 project were awarded to BF & S and RW is in process. Three letters for NOI for inspection were received and under review for the Cloverdale Road-Indianapolis Road-Winters Road intersection. PE is at 75% for the Cuba Road Bridge #24 project. PE is at 75% for the Woodburn Road Bridge #51 project. PE is at 30% for the Ferguson Road Bridge #404 project. PE is at 10% for the Corbin Road/Union Chapel roundabout. PE is at 80% for the countywide sign inventory project. PE is at 50% for the un-signalized intersection sign and marking visibility improvement project. The letting date for this project is September 2, 2026. The project managing plan is complete for the C.R.O.S.S Scott Road Rail Crossing and there is a fully executed contract with Federal Highway. Concrete pavement installation began in June for the Bass Road Phase 3B and 3C project. The Grabill Road Bridge #29 is scheduled to be opened on October 9, 2025. The Fogwell Parkway project is under construction and the traffic pattern will change on September 3, 2025. The Antwerp Road Bridge #15 project is complete and waiting on INDOT for the final walk thru. The project came in slightly over the estimated overall project cost. The deck will be poured on September 8, 2025 for the Amber Road Bridge #226 project. The deck was poured on August 26, 2025 on the Slusher Road Bridge #141 project. A LPA agreement was signed on May 30, 2025 for the 2026-2029 NBIS Bridge Inventory and Inspections and they are waiting on the INDOT NOA.

Mr. Hinderman gave the progress report for the Fort Wayne International Airport. The work on changing the configuration of the exit road from the terminal to Ferguson Road started today. The ramp expansion project also started today and will

be approximately 6 million dollars. The terminal project is still in progress. The contract for hangar project at Smith Field was awarded and will begin in the spring. Approximately 12 acres on Airport Expressway/Ardmore Avenue is being developed into a business park.

Ms. Nicholson gave the progress report for INDOT. Contract R-43802 for HMA overlay on SR 14 was awarded to Brooks Construction Company, Inc. on July 17, 2025. The amount of the contract was \$4,044,857. Contract B-43794 for bridge thin deck overlay on the I-69 NB bridge over Cedar Creek was awarded to E & B Paving, LLC on August 12, 2025. The amount of the contract was \$2,567,890. Contract B-43816 has been changed from a bridge thin deck overlay project to a replace superstructure. The contract letting date is July 2029. Contract R-43577 has been added to the list. This is a project to install new cable rail barriers along US 24. It has a contract letting date of February 2027.

There was no progress report for the City of New Haven.

There was no progress report for Huntertown.

The first item of new business was the 2045 Transportation Plan Amendment – Air Quality Conformity Determination presented by Mr. Avery. Two projects need to be amended into the 2045 Transportation Plan. The projects are both part of the US 30 corridor improvements. The intersection of Leesburg Road and Felger Road will be a new bridge and the intersection of US 30 and Butt Road will be a new interchange. The amendment was put out for public comment and one comment was received. In conjunction with approving the amendment, we need to find that the amended Transportation Plan conforms to the air quality regulations. The Transportation Conformity document will be submitted along with the amendment to gain a conformity determination from Federal Highway. Mr. Hartman moved to approve the 2045 Transportation Plan Amendment and that it is consistent with the air quality regulations. Mr. Hinderman seconded the motion and it carried.

The next item of new business was the Highway Functional Classification System presented by Mr. Avery. The highway functional classification was reviewed by NIRCC. NIRCC is working with INDOT for several modifications due to the changes to US 30.

The next item of new business was the Resilience Infrastructure Plan Update – Critical Infrastructure presented by Mr. Avery. NIRCC has been working on defining the critical infrastructure. The next step is to do assessment of the vulnerability of the critical infrastructure. Federal Highway Administration defines resilience as, “the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions”. When a Resilience Improvement Plan is in place the cost sharing of PROTECT funds will be higher. A map of the critical railroads and a map of the critical infrastructure were shown. Mr.

Avery went over the natural stressors that could impact the critical infrastructure. Mr. Gunawardena asked about deliberate acts that could impact the critical infrastructure. Mr. Avery said they are focusing on natural stressors.

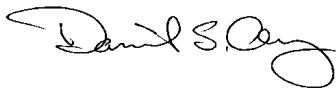
The next item of new business was the Intersection Analyses presented by Mr. Avery. The performance of 20 signalized and four unsignalized intersections was evaluated. The intersections include Broadway/Washington Boulevard, Ewing Street/Washington Boulevard, Calhoun Street/Washington Boulevard, Clinton Street/Washington Boulevard, Lafayette Street (US 27)/Washington Boulevard, Fairfield Avenue/Lower Huntington Road/Tillman Road, Calhoun Street/Tillman Road, Hanna Street/Tillman Road, Lafayette Street (US 27)/Tillman Road, Decatur Road/Tillman Road, Anthony Boulevard/Tillman Road, Hessen Cassel Road/Tillman Road, Lafayette Street (US 27)/Paulding Road, Hanna Street/Paulding Road, Decatur Road/Paulding Road, Decatur Road/Hanna Street, Anthony Boulevard/Paulding Road, Hessen Cassel Road/Paulding Road, Anthony Boulevard/Oxford Street, Anthony Boulevard/McKinnie Avenue, Anthony Boulevard/Pettit Avenue, Broadway Street/Main Street (New Haven), and Getz Road/Lois Lane. All the intersections had acceptable LOS (level of service). Signal warrants were done on the Getz Road/Lois Lane and at this time warrants are not met.

The next item of new business was the Participation Plan presented by Mr. Avery. The Participation Plan will be put out for a 45-day public comment period soon. The goals of the plan and means of outreach were shown. After the comment period has ended, the comments will be reviewed and addressed. The final Participation Plan will be brought before the Board for approval.

The last item of new business was the TIP Amendment presented by Mr. Avery. A list of thirty-nine projects to be amendment was presented. Mr. Hinderman moved to approve the TIP Amendments as submitted. Mr. Zaharako 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 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