

Transportation Committee
NIRPC Lake Michigan Room
YouTube Recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/sr3AtITPUBU?si=NLOoPEgOpVyewhEf>

November 12, 2024

Minutes

Chairman Kevin Breitzke called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kevin Breitzke (Porter County), Mark O'Dell (Chesterton), Mary Tanis (Dyer), Max Rehlander (Valparaiso), George Topoll (Union Township), Kelly Wenger (NICTD), David Phelps (Beverly Shores), David Wright (GPTC) and Bob Thompson (Valparaiso) were present.

Brian Snedecor, Terry Martin, and Chris Murphy were also present.

NIRPC staff present were Tom Vander Woude, Grace Benninger, Stephen Hughes, Charles Bradsky, Meredith Stilwell, and Flor Baum.

On a motion by Mark O'Dell, second by Mary Tanis, the Transportation Committee (TC) approved the October 2024 meeting minutes, as presented.

There were no public comments.

Planning

Grace Benninger presented the 2024 2nd quarter Safety, Time Travel Reliability (TTR), Truck TTR (TTTR), and Congestion update. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) requires that states and MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations) set targets in several national performance areas and track performance measures to determine whether federal transportation investments are improving transportation system performance. Performance areas required to be measured include safety, travel time reliability, freight, and congestion. In keeping with these regulations, NIRPC adopts these performance measure targets periodically as required and provides reports on these measures approximately quarterly. 5739 total collisions were reported in the Region, of which 1054 resulted in injury and 18 in fatalities for the third quarter. Lake County had the highest number of collisions, under 4500, followed by Porter County, having approximately 700, and La Porte County, having just under 1100. NWI's TTR Interstate target was 85.3%, 7.7% below the TTR state target. The highest traffic congestion can be found on the Eastbound Boman Expressway. The Region's Non-Interstate TTR was 99.8%, 6.8% above the State target. The 1.47 YTD target for Truck TTR for Interstate roads did not meet the 1.32 State target. The Peak-Hour Excessive Delay Per Capita was 7.6h, well below the 15.6h required by the State target. Lastly, it was reported that over 80% of vehicles on the road are single-occupancy vehicles. For more information, contact Grace at gbenninger@nirpc.org.

Tom Vander Woude spoke on Resolution 24-13: Adopting 2025 Safety Performance Measure Targets. State DOTs and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) establish required annual targets for five safety performance measures. NIRPC staff will continue the practice of supporting state targets. Changes in the five measures are as follows:

- Number of fatalities- The 2024 target of 876.3 will be adjusted to 812 in 2025.
- Rate of fatalities per 100M Vehicle Mi Traveled (VMT) - The 2024 target of 1.072 will be adjusted to 1.009 in 2025.
- Serious injuries - The 2024 target of 3281.1 will be adjusted to 3032 in 2025.
- Rate of serious injuries per 100M VMT - The 2024 target of 3.987 will be adjusted to 3.402 in 2025.
- Non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries - The 2024 target of 391.6 will be adjusted to 363 in 2025.

The amended targets will also be reflected in *NWI 2050+*. NIRPC has historically approved a resolution supporting INDOT's targets and incorporating them into the agency's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). For more information, contact Tom at tvanderwoude@nirpc.org.

On motion by Mark O'Dell, second by Mary Tanis, the TC approved to recommend Res. 24-13 the Commission.

Programming

Charles Bradsky spoke on the 2024 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)/Call for Projects. NIRPC held its bi-annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for transportation infrastructure improvement projects from September 10 – October 18, 2024, and the four Transit Investment Programs were opened from September 10 – November 14. 26 projects were submitted for various programs. The largest being Roadway Modifications (10). The total request for funding is over \$61 million. Over the next two months, NIRPC committees and working groups will meet to review the applications and their scores. Their recommendations will be presented to the Transportation Committee at its February 2025 meeting.

Staff Updates & Reports from Planning Partners

Ryan Lisek reported on Drive Clean Indiana. For up-to-date information, visit www.drivecleanindiana.org.

Announcements

Announcements were made.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is slated for January 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the NIRPC building.