

Surface Transportation Committee
Lake Michigan Room
YouTube Recording:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UqriqMrE2no>
February 7, 2023
Minutes

Thomas Schmitt called the Surface Transportation Committee (STC) meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

In attendance were Thomas Schmitt (Schererville), Jeff Huet (Schererville), Duane Alverson (Lake County), Gerald Swets (St. John), Ed Morales (Porter Township), Dean Button (Hammond), David Wright (GPTC), Denny Cobb (FGI), Wendy Mis (Munster), and George Topoll (Union Township).

NIRPC staff present were Scott Weber, Kevin Polette, and Flor Baum.

On motion by Dean Button, second by George Topoll, the STC voted to approve the October 18, 2022 minutes as presented.

There were no public comments.

Scott Weber presented on the NIRPC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for New Roadway Modifications applications. 29 total applications for New Roadways, Roadway Modifications, and Miscellaneous projects were reviewed and given a peer review score and ranked.

New Road projects and peer review scores are as follows:

- Hobart's Colorado St & 83rd Ave project, 50.
- Porter County's Willowcreek Rd extension, Ph II, 70.
- Schererville's Kennedy Ave Ph IV – US 30 to Junction Ave, 75.
- St. John's Cline Ave extension, 72.
- La Porte's Lake St extension, 38, and the Polk St extension, 25.

Roadway Modification projects and peer review scores are as follows:

- Crown Point's Delaware Prkwy & 129th Ave reconstruction Ph I, 40. Ph II also received a score of 40. The Delaware Prkwy & US 231 project scored a 70.
- East Chicago's Michigan Ave from Sheridan Pl to Broadway St, 80.
- Hammond's Michigan St from Columbia Ave to Indianapolis Blvd, 78. The Columbia Ave from 164th Pl to River Dr project scored a 79.
- Hobart's 37th Ave reconstruction from Lake Park Ave to I-65, 75. The E. Hickey St reconstruction from Kelly St to SR 51 scored a 43.
- Lake County's bridge replacement on Clay St, over Deep River, 48.
- Merrillville's 61st Ave reconstruction from SR 55 to SR53, 72.
- Munster's 45th St reconstruction, 67. EVP – Various communities scored a 76.
- Portage's Central Ave reconstruction from County Line to Brandt St, 73.
- Porter County's bridge replacement on 400 N over Salt Creek, 45.
- Schererville's 77th Ave & US Rte. 41 intersection improvements, 58.
- St. John's 101st Ave & Calumet Ave intersection improvements, 39.
- Valparaiso's roundabout at SR 130 & CR 400N, 79.
- La Porte's Park St intersection improvement, 49.
- LaPorte County's bridge 7 replacement, 30.

Miscellaneous projects are as follow:

- Cedar Lake's 133rd Ave Road Raise-Flood Reduction project, 48.
- Lake County's Kennedy Ave bridge replacement, 72.

On motion by Dean Button, second by Duane Alverson, the peer review scores will be carried over as shown to reflect the STC scoring and recommended to the Technical Planning Committee.

Scott spoke on the 2022 Safety and Travel Time Reliability (TTR), Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) and Congestion updates for the 4th quarter. Due to technical difficulties, the crash updates are currently unavailable. The TTR is at 87.4% YTD; 5.4% below the 92.8% TTR 2022 target. Traffic congestion is due to I-80/94 Westbound of I-65 construction problems. The Non-Interstate TTR is at 93.7% YTD; 3.9% above the 89.8% 2022 target. TTTR was at 1.42; .12 below the 2022 target. The system should have a TTTR of less than 1.3. Congestion in Chicago is at 11.5h; .1h less than the 15.6h 2022 target. For more information, please contact Scott at Sweber@nirpc.org.

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m. The next STC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the NIRPC building.