

# TIP Changes: Definitions and Thresholds

Res: 26-04 *Engage NWI* amendment & Res: 26-05 TIP Amendment

March 19, 2026

# Background

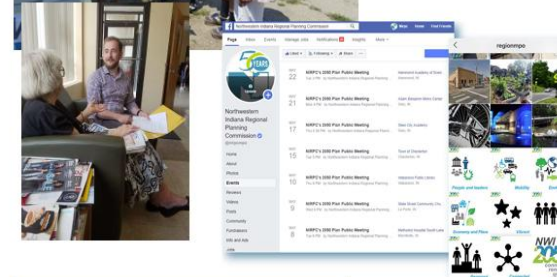


## **Invest NWI** **2026 - 2030** **Transportation Improvement Program**

Adopted May 15, 2025

INDOT / USDOT Approved August 28, 2025

- Adopted every two years
- May be revised as needed



## **Engage NWI**

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's  
Public Participation Plan - Adopted August 15, 2019 by Resolution 19-24  
Updated August 21, 2025 by Resolution 25-15

- Updated from time to time
- Currently includes the definitions and threshold for TIP revisions

## NIRPC Certification Review by USDOT – Nov 25, 2025

- NIRPC's TIP *does not currently list the thresholds which determine if a change to a project requires a modification or amendment* [and recommended that] *NIRPC should consider defining the thresholds* [in the TIP rather than the public participation plan] *for public awareness.*
- Cost Change Thresholds are different for projects in NIRPC vs. INDOT and other MPOs in the state. This causes confusion for INDOT& FHWA staff and the public.

## In Addition

- Need to update our region's cost change thresholds to reflect current pricing/estimates.
- Correct some ambiguity in the definitions.

# Currently in *Engage NWI*

## Amendment:

- 1) Any phase of any project is added or construction phase or transit project deleted;
- 2) Any addition of funds over \$100,000;
- 3) Change to an air quality non-exempt project;
- 4) Project scope change that alters original intent of project;
- 5) Change to policy or programming rules.

Interagency Consultation Group review on all TIP amendments and a redetermination of fiscal constraint is required. Twenty-one-day comment period required.

Must be approved by Commission or Executive Board. Public comment opportunity is available at the meeting.

## Modification:

- 1) Project moving year to year (but not out of the TIP, which is an amendment);
- 2) Project fund source change;
- 3) Project is split into multiple construction segments;
- 4) Addition of funds under \$100,000 (TIP and UPWP); or
- 5) Typographical changes.

Modifications are made by NIRPC staff at the request of project sponsor subject to regulation and funding availability.

A redetermination of fiscal constraint is required.

An email to INDOT suffices.

# Currently in *Engage NWI* (cont)

## Technical Amendment:

- Changes to technical information that does impact policy or programmed projects, i.e.: performance targets, data updates, asset information.
- Must be approved by Commission or Executive Board. Public comment opportunity is available at the meeting.

## Emergency Amendment:

- NIRPC Executive Director authorizes a TIP amendment without public process or Commission if:
  - 1) public well-being or safety is at risk; or
  - 2) lapse or loss of federal funds is at risk.
- A redetermination of fiscal constraint is required.

# Proposal for inclusion in *Invest NWI*

## Formal Amendment:

- A new project is added (even if the project was in the previous TIP).
- A new phase of a project is added, or a construction phase or transit project is deleted.
- A significant increase or decrease in project costs as defined in the *Cost Change Threshold* table.
- Change in project scope that:
  - Alters the original intent of the project, and/or
  - Affects air quality conformity determination.
- Change of years of a regional significant project within the current TIP that results in a project's anticipated Open to Traffic year moving regional emissions years in the Air Quality Conformity Report for the current TIP.
- Change to projects impacting fiscal constraint.
- Change to policy or programming rules.
- Considered MAJOR changes
- Requires public review and comments according to NIRPC adopted public participation plan

## Technical Amendment:

- Remains the same

# Proposal for inclusion in *Invest NWI* (cont)

## Emergency Amendment:

- Remains the same

## Administrative Modification:

- Change of years of a project within the current TIP.
- Change of years of a regionally significant project within the current TIP as long as the project's anticipated open to traffic year stays within the regional emissions analysis years in the Air Quality Conformity Report for the current TIP.
- [A non-significant funding change \(see the \*Cost Change Threshold\* tables below\).](#)
- Correction of minor data entry or typographical errors or other 'scrivener's errors' that have no impact on fiscal constraint.
- Minor change to a project description that does not alter the original project intent.
- Addition of a designation (des) number or transit project identification number (TPIN) to a project.
- Addition of or change to a federal funding source that does not impact fiscal constraint.

# Cost Change Thresholds

For all Projects – Endorsed by TROC on January 21, 2026

Total Programmed Project Costs in an Approved TIP	Amendment (per phase)	Administrative Modification (per phase)
Less than \$2,000,000	Equal to or greater than 75%	Less than 75 %
\$2,000,000 - \$14,999,999	Equal to or greater than 50%	Less than 50%
\$15,000,000 - \$75,000,000	Equal to or greater than 40%	Less than 40%
Greater than \$75,000,000	Equal to or greater than 30%	Less than 30%

From INDOT 2026-2030 STIP document pages 39- 41

# Impacts on Previous Amendments (FY 2026)

## Amendments 26-02, 26-03, & 26-04

	Total Number of Projects in the Approved Amendments	Number of Projects that would have remained in an Amendment	Number of Projects that would have been considered an Administrative Modification
LPAs	61	51 (84%) (44 – New Projects)	10 (16%)
INDOT	90	72 (80%) (43 – New Projects)	18 (20%)
Total	151	123 (81%)	28 (19%)

# Process

- Cost-change Thresholds discussed at a January 21, 2026, meeting of the Transportation Resources and Oversight Committee
- Resolution 26-04 made available for a 45-day public comment period
  - 1 comment received and responded to; no change to the Resolution
- Resolution 26-05 made available for 21-day public comment period
  - 1 comment received and responded to; no change to the Resolution
- Both resolutions reviewed at the March 3, 2026, Transportation Committee meeting and received a recommendation to approve.

# Recommendation

Approve Resolution 26-04 amending the NIRPC Public Participation Plan, *Engage NWI*

Approve Resolution 26-05 approving Amendment #26-05 to the FY 2026-2030 TIP

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