

**Transportation Resource Oversight Committee Meeting  
(Lake and Porter County)  
Tuesday, August 26, 2025  
Minutes**

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. In attendance were Mark O'Dell (Chesterton), David Wright (GPTC), Jeff Huet (Schererville), Sandy McDaniel (Portage), Martin Bobcek (Porter County), George Topoll (Union Township), Bob Thompson (Valparaiso), Max Rehlander (Valparaiso), Tim Hollandsworth, Eric Wolverton, Alex Olesker, Trisha Nugent, Christopher Murphy, Brian Snedecor, and Jill DiTommaso.

NIRPC staff included Charles Bradsky, Tom Vander Woude, Ann Weitgenant, Meredith Stilwell, and Candice Eklund.

**Approval of Minutes**

The April 29, 2025, TROC meeting minutes were approved on motion by Jeff Huet and seconded by Bob Thompson.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Program of Projects**

Charles Bradsky reported he is finalizing modifications to the FY 2026 Program of Projects and will send the updated document to the committee members today. These adjustments are necessary to address a projected \$4.5 million deficit for FY 2026.

**New Business**

- During the recent Local Quarterly Meetings with Local Public Agencies (LPAs), it was determined that a \$3.6 million project must be moved from FY 2026 to FY 2031 due to Right-of-Way (ROW) issues. It was also noted that both ROW and environmental schedules are taking longer, which is impacting project timelines. Charles reported that 12 projects were identified as high risk, though several of these concerns were addressed and resolved during the meetings.
- In 2026, NIRPC will borrow a Data Bike from MACOG to video the bike paths. The e-bike is equipped with GPS and a camera. The video's findings will be shared.
- Effective January 1, 2026, Indiana Senate Bill 5 gives the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) the authority to close any purchase order without activity for 90 days. INDOT will be required to process the closure when given the direction.

- Twenty communities will have alternative fuel vehicles delivered. When they receive them, they must contact Ryan Lisek, Drive Clean Indiana. Charles reminded the committee that the \$7,500 rebate for these vehicles is only good through Labor Day. Charles also announced that electric vehicle funding exists, and if interested, contact Ryan Lisek.
- The Community Crossings Matching Grant program will now accept applications once per fiscal year. For FY 2026, the call for projects will be open from October 1 through 31. Starting in FY 2027, the application period will be in July each year. The maximum grant award has been lowered from \$1.5 million to \$1 million.
- The USDOT communicated that the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) was being revived. It's been available since 2012, but the new administration is making it more well-known. For larger projects, a loan can be taken out for the sponsors' portion. It will be a low-interest loan with five years to complete the phase. There will be no PE limit for ROW, and repayment can take 35 to 75 (in some cases) years.
- NIRPC is currently in the final phase of selecting Road Safety Audits from the 15 applications received. Three applications involved corridor studies, and some are on INDOT roads and will require their input and comments. A meeting with the sponsors will be scheduled after Labor Day, followed by fieldwork to collect traffic counts, turning movements, and a discussion of the intersections.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m. The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2025.

*The livestream video recording for this meeting is available on NIRPC's YouTube Channel at [TROC Lake & Porter 8.26.25 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8.26.25)*