

**Land Use Committee**  
NIRPC  
August 23, 2022  
Minutes

George Topoll called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

In attendance were George Topoll (Union Township), Wendy Burbridge (Habitat for Humanity), Tom Vanderwoude (Munster), Craig Phillips (City of La Porte), Robert Forester (Kouts), David Wright (GPTC), and Nick Bellar (Winfield).

Staff present were Meredith Stilwell, Eman Ibrahim, and Flor Baum.

On motion by Nick Bellar and second by Tom Vanderwoude, the committee voted to approve the May 25 meeting minutes.

Eman Ibrahim presented on the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Funding Program and the NOFA committee assignments. NIRPC promotes a TOD with sustainable and safe operations of transportation for walking, rolling, biking, and transit use. The program aims to establish investment guidelines, criteria, and project eligibility, as well as bring vitality and livability to transit station areas and corridors. The main goal of the TOD Program is to bring vitality and livability to transit station areas and transit corridors. The identified TOD of a NICTD train station is within half a mile of the existing South Shore and future Westlake Stations. It also includes all or parts of the RDA's Transit Development District (TDD) area and all parcels within an intersecting block. The Identified TOD bus station areas are within a half-mile, including all parcel(s) within a block that intersects with the half-mile boundary. For the next NOFA, funding is slated to be provided to 18 identified TOD areas, including the NICTD existing South Shore and future Westlake stations and Five bus stations identified in Gary, Merrillville, East Chicago, and Valparaiso. On motion by motion by Craig Phillips and second by David Wright, the LUC approved the supporting criteria to be presented at the TPC for a recommendation.

Community updates were announced.

The Town of Munster has received the RAISE Award for Ridge Road. Munster was awarded \$17M for the Ridge Road Streetscape project. The town will implement a road diet from the state line to Columbia and for Calumet Avenue and from the Calumet River to Ridge Road. There will be one lane for each direction of traffic and center turning lanes where appropriate. Pedestrian refuge islands will be installed, and sidewalks will be expanded.

Additional announcements were made.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.