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## **RESOLUTION 13-31**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NIRPC TASK FORCE TO ANALYZE THE COMPOSITION OF THE NICTO BOARD

WHEREAS, the citizens of Indiana require a safe, efficient and effective transportation system that maintains and enhances mobility and contributes to improving the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "The Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County region, has established a regionwide, cooperative, comprehensive and continuing planning process to develop the unified planning work program, long-range transportation plan and transportation improvement program; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan identifies improved passenger rail efficiency as a key strategy for the revitalization of Northwest Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan has a transportation goal of "increased mobility, accessibility and transportation options for people"; and

WHEREAS, the NICTD Board is comprised of four County Commissioners and four County Council members from Lake County, Porter County, La Porte County and St. Joseph County, and two appointments by the Governor of the State of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, in the 2013 session of the General Assembly, House Bill 1450 was proposed to change the composition of the NICTD Board and then was sent to summer study session; and

WHEREAS, The Commission wishes to be actively involved in any discussion that would change the composition of the NICTD board;

WHEREAS, the northern core cities along the NICTD line wish to be actively involved with NICTD as relates to transit-oriented development,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Commission hereby endorses and requests the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee by The Commission to study the composition of the NICTD board to report their findings back to the Legislative Committee. It is further urged that the Ad Hoc Committee include in its informationgathering a representative from St. Joseph County."

David Uran Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Secretary