

## Technical Planning Committee

Tuesday, February 18, 2021

### Minutes

This meeting was convened as an electronic meeting, pursuant to Governor Holcomb's extended Executive Order 21-03. All persons were meeting remotely on a Google Meet platform that allowed for real time interaction and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. When the agenda item was provided for public comment, this was supported as well. A roll call was taken to motion and approve the agenda items.

Kevin Breitzke called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee members present were Bryan Blazak (St. John), Kevin Breitzke (Porter County), Tricia Kistler, Frank Rivera (East Chicago), Tim Hollandsworth, Rita Cavin, George Topoll (Union Township), Jeff Huet (Schererville), Gerald Swets (St. John), Jake Dammarell (BFS), Douglas Flanagan, Leslie Phemister (South Suburban Mayors), Kay Nelson (FORUM), Stephanie Belch (INDOT), Beth West (La Porte), Blossom Mabon (SLCCS), and Katie Vallis (IDNR).

Staff present were Mitch Barloga, Denarie Kane, Meredith Stilwell, Kathy Luther, Scott Weber, Kevin Polette, Candice Eklund, Lucas Eklund-Baker, Charles Bradsky, Peter Kimball, and Flor Baum.

### Programming

Charles Bradsky presented on the recommendation for transit projects in the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

### Group I

There is \$12,400,200 in funding for Planning Funding Request 5307. However, it is over-programmed by \$7.7 million in 2025 and over-programmed by \$7.6 million in 2026. Funds for 5337 are not constrained but are to be used for Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD). NIRPC is using 2021 funding amount information due to legislation currently not passing a highway funding bill. Most busses were purchased using 5339 and 5310 funds. GPTC's request for six large electric busses for \$2.2 million a year have not been purchased. INDOT moved the deadline project out until March 8. Therefore, a meeting will be held next week with GPTC and NICTD to further discuss their projects.

### Group II

NIRPC purchased busses in group II using CMAQ/STBG funds in 2024, 2025, and 2026. TransPorte would receive \$259K and Michigan City Transit would get \$731K in funding.

On motion by George Topoll and second by Kay Nelson, the Technical Planning Committee will recommend the Group II transit funds projects to The Commission.

### Next Meeting

The next Technical Planning Committee (TPC) meeting is slated for Tuesday, March 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the NIRPC offices. An additional special meeting will be held on March 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss Group I Transit Expansion projects.

The meeting concluded at 10:20 a.m.