Transportation Resource Oversight Committee Meeting (LaPorte County) Tuesday, April 27, 2021 Minutes

This meeting was convened as an electronic meeting, pursuant to Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 21-08. All persons were meeting remotely on a Zoom 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.

Charles Bradsky called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Candice Eklund. In attendance were Mitch Bishop (LaPorte County), Jay Sullivan (LaPorte County), Nick Minich (City of La Porte), Sarah Nimetz (City of LaPorte), and Skyler York (Michigan City).

NIRPC staff included Charles Bradsky, Kevin Polette, Flor Baum, and Candice Eklund.

Approval of Minutes

Under General Consent, the minutes of the January 26, 2021 TROC meeting minutes were approved on motion by Nick Minich and seconded by Mitch Bishop. With Mitch Bishop, Jay Sullivan, and Nick Minich voting in the affirmative, and no one voting in the negative, the motion passed.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

NOFA Summary

Charles Bradsky discussed the summary of NOFA projects that were approved for the 2020 NOFA. These projects were also entered into the FY 2022-2026 TIP.

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)

Charles Bradsky stated Group 2 received \$206,00 in CRRSAA funds. These funds are 80/20 matching funds only and cannot be used for match of another federally funded project or for new road construction. These federal funds must be obligated by FY 2024 and the listing of projects from the 2020 NOFA will be used as the guideline to move projects forward.

Below is a summary of the projects that requested acceleration using CRRSSA funds. The federal share amounts reflected have been rounded up.

- LaPorte County Mitch Bishop stated funding was needed for Bridge #512 on Michigan Boulevard. Mitch requested \$400,000 to begin work on the bridge for a super structure and deck replacement in 2022.
- The City of La Porte Possibly fund the traffic signal preemption project with the CRRSAA funds and move project to 2023 from 2024. This would cause a deficit of \$170 in 2023 and a surplus of \$205,000 in 2024.
- The City of La Porte Nick Minich requested possibly accelerating the North South Corridor project but will need to send Charles the financial plan before consideration. Federal share is \$293,000.
- The City of Michigan City Skyler York stated the Liberty Park Trail connection may need ROW or PE funding of \$34,000-\$36,00 in the future.
- The City of Michigan City Skyler may request funding for a paving project on Michigan Boulevard in 2023. The approximate funding would be \$5 million.

Nick Minich asked if projects not selected in the 2018 NOFA could now be considered if necessary. Charles said these projects could be considered to insure the CRRSAA funding is allocated but would need to be agreed on by the Committee.

On motion by Nick Minich and seconded by Skyler York, the committee agreed to grant \$400,000 to LaPorte County for Bridge #512 and to move the traffic signal preemption project from 2024 to 2023. With Mitch Bishop, Jay Sullivan, Skyler York, and Nick Minich voting in the affirmative, and no one voting in the negative, the motion passed.

The \$206,000 CRRSSA funding allocation in 2024 will be discussed further at the next scheduled TROC meeting.

New Business

Charles reminded the Committee of the virtual Local Quarterly Meetings that are scheduled for May 4, 5, and 6.

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.