

## **Transit Development District Steering Committee meeting minutes May 14, 2025**

### **Location**

Conducted via Zoom. A recording of the meeting may be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5JXEjYSb18>

### **Present**

Chris Harris, Michael Barry, Brian Poland, Scott Kingan, Scott Jefferson, Chuck Gardiner, Geof Benson, Angie Nelson-Deutch, Tammy Watkins

### **Minutes**

Minutes from the February 12, 2025, meeting were approved.

### **TDD Boundaries Update**

Dave Wellman noted that the RDA had held its first public hearing for the Beverly Shores and Pines TDD, and that it went very well. Aaron Kowalski of MKSK noted a second meeting would be upcoming and then we would present it to the State Budget Committee. We continue to have conversations with Valparaiso and South Bend. Both communities are continuing with their analyses but are not moving forward with TDDs at this time. We will continue to work with them on their timeline.

### **Regional Development Authority Update**

Dave Wellman provided an update on the rail projects. Not a huge amount of change since last time. West Lake is 96% complete, the big item remaining is the underpass at the Munster/Dyer station. On double track, NICTD continues to work with METRA to improve service. Michigan City is planning a ribbon cutting at the 11<sup>th</sup> street garage on June 18.

### **Program Guide/MOA Update**

AJ Bytnar provided an update on these items. He noted that the RDA is working through the impact of SB 1, and how that might affect the MOA and program guide. We have also been speaking with IFA and our bond council as to what they will need to approve any financing in the future. This way each community can understand what options are on the table and how we put those deals together. We anticipate being able to roll those out in the next quarter.

The MOA itself will be a framework laying out the groundwork. But we anticipate there would be amendments for each project that lay out the details, because all the assistance will be provided on a project by project basis.

Chris Harris asked about the balances in the existing TDDs. A: That is something RDA is working on establishing. The MOA does not need to be in place for increment to be generated, but we need projects to generate increment.

Chris noted that a white board session would be helpful once those balances in the TDD were available. A: we will definitely have one of those in person.

### **Discussion**

Chuck Gardiner thanked AJ and the RDA team for meeting with their town council.

Chris Harris noted that they had a press conference upcoming to roll out their new master plan developed in conjunction with Notre Dame. Everyone was invited to attend. ND has also offered the same level of support to any other community who wants it.

The meeting was adjourned.