



MINUTES
COLUMBUS AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CAMPO)
POLICY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 AT 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, COLUMBUS, INDIANA

Members Present:

Tom Finke, Chair (Barth. Co. Plan Comm.)
Dennis Baute, (City of Columbus Plan Comm.)
Tom Dell (City of Columbus City Council)
Kim Bennett (Barth. County Council)
Bob Tally (INDOT)

Members Absent:

Mary Ferdon (Mayor of Columbus)
Tony London (Barth. Co. Comm.)

Staff Present:

Ashley Beckort (CAMPO Manager)
Danny Hollander (County Engineer)
Andrew Beckort (City Engineer)
Austin Whitted (Attorney)
Janie Meek (Planning Dept)

Mr. Finke opened the meeting with the roll call.

MINUTES

Mr. Finke called for any additions, corrections, or a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2026 meeting. Mr. Baute moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bennett and carried by a vote of 4-0.

PROJECT UPDATES

City Engineer – Mr. Beckort reported that Talley Road has a March 2027 letting, with 2 parcels in the condemnation process. The Emergency Vehicle Preemption project is almost complete and should be live at the end of the month for the Fire Department.

County Engineer – Mr. Hollander reported the Lowell Road project is waiting on the environmental approval and is still on the January letting. Tannehill Bridge is in the early stages but is on schedule. The fieldwork is done on Bridge Inspections, and they are working on the reports.

OLD BUSINESS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

None.

NEW BUSINESS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Resolution 2026-09: Adoption of Annual Title VI Implementation Plan and Goals for 2027

Ms. Beckort explained the document describing the changes from last year including translating the complaint form into Spanish, updating the questions on the volunteer survey to match the census wording, and updating the goals and accomplishments report. Ms. Beckort shared that to-date, CAMPO has not received a complaint. After Mr. Baute's question, Ms. Beckort explained that the demographic data came from census data. After discussion, Ms. Bennett moved to approve Resolution 2026-09. Mr. Baute seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Dell joined the meeting at 1:40pm.

Resolution 2026-10: Adoption of Annual INDOT Safety Targets for 2027

Ms. Beckort explained the provided memo and described the changes from last year. After discussion, Mr. Baute moved to approve Resolution 2026-10. Mr. Dell seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 5-0.

Resolution 2026-11: Approval of CY 2027-2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Ms. Beckort explained the document describing the budget and project items for 2027 and noted any changes from last year. Mr. Baute inquired whether the Flood Risk Management Plan and the Floodplain Manager was covered by CAMPO. Ms. Beckort explained the project was being done with a consultant paid for by CAMPO, due to the number of transportation routes affected by flooding. However, the Floodplain Manager was paid out of the Planning Department budget, not by CAMPO. Mr. Baute further inquired about the budget breakdown on page 9. Ms. Beckort explained that the majority of the 2026 funds were going toward the 600s for the Flood Risk Management Plan to finish out that contract, with the remainder of funds evenly distributed to the other work elements. After

discussion, Mr. Baute moved to approve Resolution 2026-11. Ms. Bennett seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 5-0.

Resolution 2026-12: Amendment to FY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Beckort explained the provided materials describing the need to fill FY 2029 with a project since the CR 350 West project was terminated. The provided materials included the application from the City of Columbus including project details and explanation of consistency with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Mr. Beckort further explained the proposed project parameters regarding traffic signal modernization at 7 intersections, including creating safer intersections and allowing traffic light coordination. Mr. Baute inquired whether HAWK signals are popular. Mr. Beckort explained that they work well mid-block but can be confusing at intersections. Further Mr. Baute asked whether the existing HAWK signal could be salvaged. Mr. Beckort explained that this signal was designed to easily be converted into a full signal. Mr. Baute also discussed the concern with access to push buttons at 10th and Central for bicyclists, noting the complexity of this intersection and contradicting needs from ADA standards. After Mr. Finke's question, Mr. Beckort explained that these are all also a part of the Emergency Preemption project. After discussion, Mr. Baute moved to approve Resolution 2026-12. Mr. Dell seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 5-0.

Resolution 2026-13: Approval of Call-for-Projects Application for FY 2028-2032 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Beckort explained the document describing the changes from last cycle. Ms. Bennett asked whether a project could get funding over multiple years. Ms. Beckort explained that typically a project was funded in one year but could be divided into phases or sections and funded separately. After Mr. Baute's question, Ms. Beckort explained that this application was separate from the Planning Department application process that uses OpenGov. After discussion, Mr. Baute moved to approve Resolution 2026-13. Ms. Bennett seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 5-0.

MPO MANAGER'S REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS

TIP Changes Report (Modifications & Emergency Votes) – Ms. Beckort shared the TIP Changes Report and asked the Board to reach out with any questions.

TIP Process Feedback (Minor & Major Amendments) – Ms. Beckort explained that work on the new TIP is starting. She inquired whether the current Amendment and Modification protocol adopted with the last TIP is working or if there were any concerns with the current process. After discussion, the Board agreed the current process was working.

Gauging Interest in Training Opportunity – Ms. Beckort shared a training opportunity from MPO Council on training modules for new Board members or topics like the TIP and MTP. After discussion, the Board agreed Ms. Beckort could answer questions and provide the information needed to new members, and they had little interest in paying for the modules.

2026 MPO/IARC Conference – Ms. Beckort shared the upcoming conference opportunity in Kokomo, noting CAMPO submitted a session abstract on the recently adopted MTP and was waiting to hear back if it was selected for a session presentation.

Meeting Time for 2027 – Ms. Beckort inquired whether the Board would be interested in reassessing the best day and time to meet starting in CY 2027. After discussion, the Board agreed they would be willing to review options. Ms. Beckort will send out meeting time options via email to the group prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Baute asked Mr. Tally about bridge damage and repair caused by salt. Mr. Tally explains the overlay process as a temporary fix on a bridge rather than having to replace everything.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:32 p.m.

Mr. Baute moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bennett and approved by a vote of 5-0.

These minutes approved at the Policy Board meeting on _____.

Tom R. Finke, Chair

Attest: Ashley E. Beckort, CAMPO Manager