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**IRTC Approves Complete Streets Policy for Central Indiana**

The Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is excited to announce that on March 5, 2014, the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) Policy Committee approved a complete streets policy for the central Indiana region. This policy provides a step forward toward creating a safe, balanced, and effective transportation system that responds to the needs of all travelers. As part of the policy, counties and municipalities are encouraged to consider all modes of transportation within their project designs. At a minimum, projects should include at least one multi-use path, designated bikeway, or sidewalk on one side of a street. Many jurisdictions are already including these types of facilities in their projects. You can view the full policy, as well as a quick reference guide, [here](#).

The policy will go into effect on July 1, 2014, and the IMPO will be implementing the new policy through the MiTIP application process. All potential Surface Transportation Program (STP) or Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects should include at least one of the facilities listed above or justification for why the project should receive a policy exception. We look forward to working with you as we implement the policy!

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**Town of Fishers' Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan**

The Town of Fishers is initiating the development of a bicycle and pedestrian master plan to increase the safety and mobility of residents who bike and walk within the community. The master plan will engage Fishers residents and community leaders to provide recommendations that seek to improve existing bicycle and pedestrian circulation within neighborhoods as well as connections with key destinations.

For more information, check out the [website](#). Part of this process includes public participation. To get involved, provide your knowledge and insight using this [interactive mapping tool](#) or by attending the next Community Forum, which will take place on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm at Launch Fishers, 7 Launch Way.

For questions or comments, contact Sue Harrison at [harrisons@fishers.in.us](mailto:harrisons@fishers.in.us).

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### Get a Closer Look: IndyGo's Downtown Transit Center

If you haven't heard, IndyGo is building a **Downtown Transit Center** (DTC)! Set to open in late 2015, the DTC will be a hub for public transit. It will include a large public indoor waiting area as well as bus bays with canopies to protect passengers from the elements. With its close proximity to the heart of downtown, the Cultural Trail and Bike Hub, the DTC will serve pedestrians, cyclists and bus riders. IndyGo and the City of Indianapolis are also exploring possible bike and car share facilities at the transit center to increase multi-modal transit.

To best serve the transit center, downtown routes and stops may have to be modified to best accommodate transfers. In mid-2014, IndyGo is collaborating with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization to update the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) which will focus on downtown routing changes and new services to improve circulation in the core of the city. The study will also examine locations for additional transfer facilities outside of downtown.

Designs and information about the project can be found in an interactive gallery in The Hall (Old City Hall), located at 202 N. Alabama. The gallery is open to the public on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by to give your input on retail space, downtown routing and be sure to take the survey! An online version of the survey can be found [here](#).

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### Pedestrian Safety

The bad news: Approximately 60 pedestrians are killed in Indiana each year; and nationally, pedestrians account for 12% of all traffic fatalities. The good news: Communities throughout Central Indiana are taking steps to make their streets safer for pedestrians by building sidewalks and trails, improving intersection designs, and adopting Complete Streets policies.

Recently, representatives from the IMPO, Indianapolis, Fishers, Lebanon, Westfield, Bloomington, and Richmond had the chance to learn how to strengthen their efforts even further, by participating in a two-day National Highway Institute training, "How to Develop a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan".

Organized by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, in partnership with INDOT and FHWA, the training helped participants better understand the affect that human behavior has on driver and pedestrian interaction. The training identified best practices and effective solutions to enhance pedestrian safety and access, offered engineering solutions for reducing speeds and protecting vulnerable road users and included a walk audit near a neighborhood school.

Each community is expected to develop a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan in follow-up. Such plans are put together by key city staff and community stakeholders and are intended to serve as a guide for how to best accommodate pedestrians throughout the planning, design, operations and maintenance life-cycle of transportation projects. For more information about Pedestrian Safety Action Plans, please contact Jeremy Moore ([jeremy.moore@indy.gov](mailto:jeremy.moore@indy.gov)) or Jen Higginbotham ([jennifer.higginbotham@indy.gov](mailto:jennifer.higginbotham@indy.gov)).

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### "Hoosier Ride" Links Rural and Small Urban Communities with Larger Markets

"Hoosier Ride" is an intercity service that links dozens of the state's rural communities and small urban areas with larger markets such as Indianapolis, Louisville, Chicago and Columbus, OH. The service uses over-the-road wheelchair-accessible motor coaches with amenities such as wi-fi connectivity and plug-ins.

Hoosier Ride schedules and ticketing are coordinated with Greyhound Lines and other regional carriers. Customers booking inter-city trips with any such "interlined" carrier may purchase one ticket for a trip involving transfers between multiple carriers. Tickets may be purchased at bus stations or online at [Hoosierride.com](http://Hoosierride.com) or [Greyhound.com](http://Greyhound.com). Hoosier Ride routes originate at Greyhound stations in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Muncie, Louisville, Chicago, Columbus OH, and Benton Harbor MI. A list of stop locations is available at [Hoosierride.com](http://Hoosierride.com). Many of the state's colleges and universities are accessible via Hoosier Ride, with stops at or near IU-Bloomington, Purdue, IUPUI, Ball State University, Vincennes University and others. Service is available to the Indianapolis International Airport and South Bend Regional Airport. Hoosier Ride passengers may transfer to other carriers to travel to more than 3,800 destinations throughout the US, Canada and Mexico.

For ticket information, terminal and bus stop locations, call 1-800-544-2383 or visit Miller Transportation online at [Hoosierride.com](http://Hoosierride.com) or [MillerTransportation.com](http://MillerTransportation.com).

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### Other IRTC Approvals

The Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council approved the [First Quarter Indianapolis Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendment](#) and the [Long Range Transportation Plan 2014 Update](#). The approval came at the IRTC Policy Committee March 5 meeting. Information on both the IRTIP and LRTP Plan Update can be found on the [MPO website](#).

## 2014 IRTC MEETING SCHEDULE

INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (IRTC)

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Technical Committee	Policy Committee	TIP Amendment Deadline
<b><u>FEBRUARY 19</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>MARCH 5</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>JANUARY 22</u></b>
<b><u>MAY 14</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>MAY 28</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>APRIL 21</u></b>
<b><u>AUGUST 6</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>AUGUST 20</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>JULY 11</u></b>
<b><u>OCTOBER 15</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>OCTOBER 29</u></b> MIBOR, Meeting Room B	<b><u>SEPTEMBER 19</u></b>
<b>Joint Policy Committee and Technical Committee Retreat</b> <b><u>JUNE 18, 2014</u></b> Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors (MIBOR), 1912 N. Meridian Street, Meeting Room B (2nd floor) Indianapolis, IN 46202		

**PLEASE NOTE: MEETING LOCATIONS, DATES, AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

You can find past meeting minutes by clicking [here](#).

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