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April 20, 2023

Dustin Anderson
Manager, Town of Munster
1005 Ridge Road
Munster, IN 46321

RE: Award of Federal Funds from the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

Congratulations! Town of Munster (et al.) has been awarded **\$ 6,450,000.00** in Federal Transportation Funds from the NIRPC (Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission) for the following project:

Signal Modernization, Emergency Vehicle Preemption for Munster and six other LPAs

The following is the project scope required to be completed as a condition of this award letter (as described in the need & purpose in the city's application):

- Need: Many signals in the Northwest portion of Lake County do not have signal preemption for emergency vehicles. This can make intersections extremely dangerous for police, fire, ambulances and general public in responding to emergency situations.
- Purpose: the municipalities of Gary, Hammond, Highland, Munster, St. John, and Lake County Highway and Sherriff share common interest while responding to emergency calls and transporting the injured to shared nearby hospitals. Implementation of an Emergency Vehicle Preemption provides emergency vehicles a safe means of proceeding through a signalized intersection. This can reduce conflicts, reduce driver confusion, and improve emergency response times.

The project scope provided and all of the elements described must be completed with the project, regardless of what length, phasing, or cost is determined. All awarded projects will be carefully monitored to ensure that the project scope, as provided by the MPO, will be specifically completed.

Please understand that the award amount is contingent upon the availability of funding through Congressional Appropriations to the State of Indiana. Also, it is important to understand that these funds are a part of the Federal Highway Reimbursement Program, which is not a "Grant", thus no funds may be used until the documentation of payment for services is received. Additionally, no project activities conducted prior to a signed LPA-Consultant contract are eligible for reimbursement.

These funds, administered by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), may only be used as reimbursement for those work items eligible within Federal Guidelines (unless instructed otherwise by the MPO). However, regardless of the actual phases awarded funding, Federal Guidelines and the INDOT Product Development Process (PDP) must be followed through all phases of the project: Preliminary Engineering (PE), Right-of-Way (RW), and Construction (CN), which includes both Construction (CN) and Construction Engineering/Inspection (CE).

This funding award has been divided among the phases of the project. The following amounts may only be used on the phases identified below:

Total Project Costs: \$8,773,826.00				
State Funding Year	Phase	Federal Funds	Required Local Match	Fed Funding Type
2026	PE	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 675,000.00	STBG/HSIP
	RW	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	N/A
2028	CN	\$ 6,000,000.00	\$666,667.00	STBG/HSIP
Total Award:		\$ 6,450,000.00	\$ 2,773,826.00	

This funding award must be obligated in the State Funding Year (SFY) identified above, which occurs July 1st to June 30th. Additional funding awards for this project may or may not be available, so the LPA should proceed as if the funds are not available. Any additional costs or cost increases in any phase of this project will be 100% responsibility of the LPA. Any non-participating elements of the project are not eligible for federal funds and therefore, will also be 100% responsibility of the LPA. This award may or may not include funding award for all phases of a project and there is no guarantee that additional funding awards will be available. Therefore, it is important to understand that upon acceptance of this award, if the project does not transpire into construction of the project, this funding award will be required to be paid back to INDOT, per FHWA Guidelines. Additionally, upon receiving a Notice to Proceed (NTP) from INDOT, monthly reimbursement requests must be submitted to INDOT to prove progress to FHWA on the project. The absence of regular reimbursement requests to INDOT proves inactivity and FHWA may close the project without recourse, at which time, the funding award will be revoked and the LPA will be required to pay back any reimbursements to INDOT.

Please note the following for this award: 1) Per NIRPC's policy, the maximum amount of federal funds awarded for construction (and CE) is \$6,000,000.00; 2) NIRPC will seek HSIP determination from INDOT, until then funds will remain programmed as STBG, and all federal guidelines governing STBG funds must be followed. 3) The total funds reimbursed cannot exceed eighty/ninety percent (80/90%) of the total project cost.

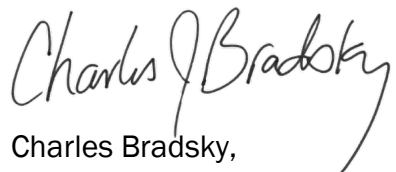
Each LPA receiving federal transportation funds will also be required to maintain a detailed project schedule (set at the Early Coordination Meeting with INDOT) to demonstrate your willingness to complete your project in a timely manner or the funding for your project will be withdrawn. This schedule will be established at the Project Scoping Meeting held with INDOT, the MPO, and the contracted consultant. Please Note: Once a letting date has been established, formal approval will be necessary from the MPO and/or INDOT for any changes

to the letting date. It is important to note that any changes to the dates in the project schedule that precede the letting date will affect the letting date.

To maintain eligibility for this award of federal funds, the designated ERC for your community must maintain certification through INDOT. The ERC will be required to actively participate throughout the life of the project, maintain project records on behalf of the LPA, and direct the contracted consultant. The ERC and the contracted consultant will also be required to attend Quarterly Tracking Meetings and follow the Quarterly Tracking Process as outlined by the policies of the NIRPC.

A hard copy of this correspondence will not be sent and it is advised that the ERC keep a copy for their records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles J. Bradsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles Bradsky,
Transportation Projects Manager
NIRPC

Ecc: Ty Warner, NIRPC
Tom Vander Woude, NIRPC
Wendy Mis, Town of Munster
Jill DiTommaso, Town of Munster
Marcia Blansett, INDOT
Breanne Freese, INDOT