Transit Development District Steering Committee meeting May 15, 2019

Location
Purdue Tech Center, Crown Point, IN

Present
Rich Murphy, Bernard Doyle, Marino Solorio, Scott Jefferson, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Carolyn Saxton, Brian Poland, Dave Hollenbeck (acting chair)

Minutes of Previous Meeting
Minutes of the February 20, 2019 were unanimously approved.

Regional Development Authority Update
RDA COO Sherri Ziller introduced team members from Policy Analytics, KPMG and MSMK and provided an update on the West Lake and double track projects. She noted that since the previous meeting, West Lake had received a favorable rating from FTA and NICTD was working toward completing all design and engineering work. She also said that double track was on schedule to be reviewed by RDA, NICTD, IFA and the state budget committee in June, with submission to FTA for a rating to follow those approvals.

Sherri also updated the committee on additional funding for rail expansion that was provided in the last legislative session, and on the status of data requests that had been sent to all the West Lake and double track communities. Finally, she laid out plans for meetings with each community followed by a public engagement process as set forth in the TDD legislation.

This was followed by presentations from MSMK and KPMG on the planning framework for establishing the TDDs, and the real estate and ROI analyses to be employed in the process. Bill Sheldrake from Policy Analytics provided a summary of the state approval process for TDDs. Sheri would return to outline next steps.

CROSSTALK
A question was asked regarding the use of the earlier Farr study, which had made recommendations that had been incorporated into the plans of some of the West lake communities, and whether this new effort would make that study obsolete. The answer was no. The Farr study was now several years old and, West Lake communities could use this process as an update to the earlier work.

East Chicago's Marino Solorio commented that while the market analysis might suggest certain types of development, it was not always reflective of what a community wanted to do, and believed that the team should keep that in mind moving forward, to which all agreed.

The meeting was adjourned.