

**AN ORDINANCE adding § 37.05: “FORMAL PUBLIC WORKS
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR
BUDGET APPROVAL” to Chapter 37: Financing and Revenue of the
Fort Wayne Municipal Code of Ordinances**

WHEREAS, the duly elected Fort Wayne City Council is the legislative and fiscal body for the City of Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, as the legislative and fiscal body, the Fort Wayne City Council has the statutory authority to approve the tax levy and appropriate monies as outlined in the budget presented to them by the fiscal officer of the city, the Fort Wayne City Controller (Controller), as outlined in Ind. Code § 36-4-7 *et. al.*; and

WHEREAS, the process for compiling the Fort Wayne Civil City (City) budget is a long and complex task, involving many months of work by every department within the City and significant analysis by the Controller’s Office in consultation with the Mayor and his Administration; and

WHEREAS, the most recent budget, FY 2021, totals more than \$186,000,000; and

WHEREAS, as part of the budget process departments are asked to evaluate all aspects of their programming, including salaries, projects, revenues, and a five (5)-year outlook for all items in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), including those for the Transportation System; and

WHEREAS, as printed in the publicly available budget book, a summary of the five (5)-year Public Works Transportation System CIP is available, including anticipated funding sources, outlining the investments that are to be made by the City into certain aspects of the community, including, but not limited to: Arterial Projects (Maintenance and Improvements), Neighborhood Concrete Street Maintenance, Miscellaneous, Asphalt Resurfacing, Sidewalks, Trails, and Brick Streets; and

1 **WHEREAS**, since these items have been identified for future investment, with
2 specific dollar amounts assigned to them, it is reasonable that certain projects have been
3 specifically recognized and are in the pipeline to be completed in a timely manner; and

4 **WHEREAS**, it is reasonable for citizens to have access to this information and to
5 be able to anticipate when the City will be repairing or replacing their neighborhood
6 streets; and

7 **WHEREAS**, there has been no printed list of specific projects affiliated with the
8 printed City budget or document distributed to Council or the community since 2014,
9 listing the specific projects defined as part of the five (5)-year CIP; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Common Council is asked each year to pass a budget, which has a
11 Transportation System CIP included, with no details of upcoming plans, only a dollar
12 amount placeholder; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the explanation that has been given in the past for not including
14 specific projects in the CIP is that funding sources, market conditions, and priorities
15 change, as does cost of projects, which although understandable, should be publicly
16 disclosed and discussed; and

17 **WHEREAS**, more than ten (10) other departments within the City, including Public
18 Safety and other departments within Public Works, disclose in the City budget their
19 specific plans, even though there are changes in funding and priorities for those
20 departments as well; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Public Works has such a CIP internally prepared, but does not
22 disclose it to Council or the Public; and

23 **WHEREAS**, when asked to pass a budget appropriating millions of dollars to a
24 department, the planned programming of the department should be discussed
25 specifically, not in generalizations with the specifics to be rolled out later with no further
26 discussion.

1 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
2 FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

3 SECTION 1. That a new section § 37.05: shall be added in Chapter 37:
4 Financing and Revenue, and shall read as follows:

5 § 37.05 FORMAL PUBLIC WORKS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM CAPITAL
6 IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BUDGET APPROVAL

7 (A) As part of all future annual budgets for the City of Fort Wayne, as presented by
8 the Mayor, beginning with the FY 2023 budget, submitted by the Controller to
9 Council, the Public Works Division shall include the Transportation System
10 Capital Improvement Plan which outlines specific neighborhood concrete projects
11 for the following year and summations for the succeeding 4 years.

12
13 (B) Any Annual Budget and corresponding annual budget appropriation ordinance
14 submitted by the Mayor as required by law shall include the Transportation
15 System Capital Improvement Plan as required in section A of this chapter.

16
17 (C) Council is prohibited from approving any proposed Budget that does not include
18 the Transportation System Capital Improvement Plan as required in section A of
19 this chapter.

20
21 (D) That this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and
22 approval by the Mayor.

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25 _____
26 Russell Jehl
27 Common Council Member

28 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

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31 _____
32 Joseph G. Bonahoom, City Council Attorney