Vehicular Traffic in South Lake County

NIRPC’s planning activities + investments
Planning by NIRPC

- Program of all planning activities that NIRPC staff will complete
- Responds to the needs identified in the long-range plan
- Includes planning activities associated with the congestion management process
- Results of planning studies assist in the development of potential construction projects to be pursued by either INDOT or LPAs

- Program of all construction activities funded by FHWA or FTA in the next four-years
- Contains LPA and INDOT prioritized projects
- Must be consistent with the long-range plan
- Must be fiscally constrained
- Projects must not be estimated to exceed air quality budgets

- INDOT and LPAs implement the projects contained within the Transportation Improvement Program

- Long-range regional plan
  - Responds to public feedback and demonstrated needs for transportation system in region
  - Sets vision and direction for region
  - Required by federal law
  - All planning and construction activities must be consistent with the plan
  - Must be fiscally constrained
  - Projects must not be estimated to exceed air quality budgets

- Transportation Improvement Program
  - Response to public feedback and demonstrated needs for transportation system in region
  - Sets vision and direction for region
  - Required by federal law
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- Unified Planning Work Program
  - Program of all planning activities that NIRPC staff will complete
  - Responds to the needs identified in the long-range plan
  - Includes planning activities associated with the congestion management process
  - Results of planning studies assist in the development of potential construction projects to be pursued by either INDOT or LPAs

Vehicular Traffic in South Lake County / NIRPC’s planning activities + investments
Long-range planning

• **2040 Plan**
  • Federally required long-range plan updated every four years
  • **Emphasis areas:**
    • Environmental Justice + Ladders of Opportunity
    • Grow strategically
    • Protect open space + agricultural land
    • Reinvesting in our urban cores

• **2050 Plan underway now**
  • Will consider all of the issues, trends, and influences on our regional future
  • Will engage the public to hear about what they need from their transportation system
Planning initiatives from 2040 plan

- Regional Corridors Study
  - Issues + needs from 2040 plan:
    - Improve the internal connectivity of the transportation network
    - Enhance connectivity between housing, jobs, and educational facilities
    - Reduce emergency travel time
    - Reduce congestion and travel time
    - Poor local/regional north south connectivity and mobility
    - Safety
  - Results:
    - Identified gaps in roadway network between regional highways and local arterials
    - **Main Street and 109th Avenue are currently being addressed**

12 of the 22 identified gaps are located south of 57th Avenue
Roadway level of service

- South Lake County experiences congestion as expressed by the “level of service” indicator
  - From the “National Performance Management Research Data Set”
- Congestion management process
  - Collect data
  - Consider non-expansion alternatives
  - Select expansions where other alternatives are not available

Will be updated in the next UPWP
Performance-based planning

Background

- Per MAP-21 and the FAST Act, USDOT is requiring INDOT and MPOs to measure congestion and set targets for improvements
- Connects the concepts of transportation planning, performance management, and investment programming
- Congestion measures and targets will be set by INDOT no later than May 20th and then no later than 180 days later by NIRPC (likely at the November Commission meeting)

Congestion / freight measures

- Annual hours of National Highway System (NHS) peak-hour excessive delay per capita
- Percent of NHS peak-hour non-single occupant vehicle travel
- Percent of Interstate person-miles traveled that are reliable
- Percent of non-Interstate NHS person-miles traveled that are reliable
- Level of Truck Travel Time Reliability on the Interstates
Locations of currently programmed projects

http://www.nirpc.org/fy-2018-2021-tip/
Roadway investments

**Highland** / Intersection improvements 45th Ave & 5th Ave

**Schererville** / Added travel lanes on Kennedy Ave

**INDOT** / Added travel lanes & construction of turn lanes on Rt 41

**INDOT** / Auxiliary lanes & two-way left turn lanes

**Lake County** / Added travel lanes on 45th Ave

**Lake County** / Intersection improvements w/ added turn lanes at Colfax St

**INDOT** / Intersection improvement w/ roundabout at SR55 & 73rd Ave

**INDOT** / New signal installation at US231 & Fathke Rd

**Crown Point** / Intersection improvement w/ added turn lanes on 125th Ave

**Crown Point** / (left) Access control improvements at 109th from Rt 53 to Delaware Parkway / 2020 / $1.3 million

**Lake County** / Intersection improvement w/ roundabout at 109th & Iowa St

**Merrillville** / Recently completed Mississippi St improvements

**Hobart** / Sight line improvements & access management

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**Crown Point** / (left) Access control improvements at 109th from Rt 53 to Delaware Parkway / 2020 / $1.3 million (right) Intersection improvement w/ roundabout at 109th & Iowa St
NIRPC plans…

• NIRPC documents challenges and opportunities within our region through planning activities conducted with federal, state, and local partners

• NIRPC’s planning results in recommendations on transportation investments, land-use, economic development, and more

• However, NIRPC is not directly responsible for executing those recommendations and relies on its state and local partners to carry out improvements

…INDOT and municipalities invest

• INDOT and municipalities initiate transportation projects to address opportunities and challenges we face regionally

• Resources available for our local partners from FHWA via the TIP are constrained at ~$20 million per year

• Municipalities are responsible for providing match to FHWA funds for right-of-way acquisition, engineering, permitting, construction, and construction engineering
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