



Transportation Times

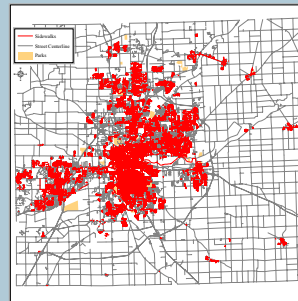
Transit News

NIRCC completed the Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Allen County in May 2007 to satisfy requirements from the 2005 SAFETEA-LU legislation. SAFETEA-LU required local areas to develop a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan for all FTA human service transportation programs that provide funding for transportation services. The programs included the Section 5310 Elderly Individuals with Disabilities Program, the Section 5316 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program and the Section 5317 New Freedom Program. All projects selected for funding from these FTA programs must be derived from this coordinated plan and be competitively selected. The plan developed strategies to address the identified transportation needs and gaps within Allen County (listed below). Local projects

(Continued on Pg. 4)

New News

See page 3 for New News updates!

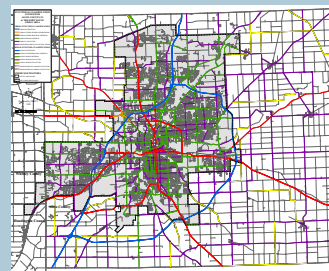


Community Development Updates

Town of Monroeville

NIRCC is currently working with the Town of Monroeville in Allen County, Indiana to obtain a \$500,000 Community Focus Fund (CFF) Grant to assist in the financing of a sanitary sewer and storm water utilities improvement project. The funding is federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money that is allocated from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

(Continued on Pg. 5)



**Northeastern
Indiana Regional
Coordinating
Council**

Norman Yoder
Chairperson,
City of Auburn
DeKalb County

J. Phillip Burt
Vice Chairperson,
Allen County

Connie R. Miles
DeKalb County

Gene Donaghy
Governor's
Appointee

Tom Henry
City of Fort Wayne
Allen County

Janet Ordway
DeKalb County

Kevin Woodward
Wells County

Roy Buskirk
Allen County

Ted Ellis
City of Bluffton
Wells County

Terry McDonald
Allen County

William Hartman
Allen County

In This Issue

Com Development.....pg 1,5
 Safety Updatepg 2
 New News.....pg 3
 Transit News.....pg 1,4



Urban Transportation Advisory Board

Dave Ross
Chairperson
FW City Engineer

Mayor Terry McDonald
Vice Chairperson,
New Haven
Representative

Bob Kennedy
Board of Public Works

Dave Gionet
Fort Wayne Public
Transportation Corp.
(Citilink)

Linda Bloom
Allen County
Commissioner

Pam Holocher
Fort Wayne
Representative

Ben Shaffer
INDOT

Roy Buskirk
Allen County Council

Susan Hoot
Allen County
Planning Commission
Representative

Tom Smith
Fort Wayne Planning
Commission

Tory Richardson
Fort Wayne/Allen County
Airport Authority

William Hartman
Allen County
Highway Director

Dave Holtz
Jerry Halperin
INDOT (Non-voting
member)

Janice Osadczuk
Robert Dirks
Federal Highway
Administration
(Non-voting members)

Transportation News

Spring/Summer 2008

Safety Management System Update:

High Crash Identification Process (Intersections)



NIRCC has developed a process through a cooperative effort with FHWA (Federal Highway Administration), INDOT (Indiana Department of Transportation), and TTC (Transportation Technical Committee) for identifying hazardous crash locations at intersections. The process includes all of the primary elements in identification of hazardous locations; frequency, rate per million entering vehicles (RMV) and injury/fatal (I/F) percentages.

Intersections are reviewed to determine the number of crashes that have occurred within 250 feet from the center of the intersection. Intersections are categorized by those with 7 or greater and 6 or less. Intersections with a frequency greater or equal to 7 are then reviewed by the rate per million entering vehicles (RMV). Locations with a rate of 2.00 or greater and locations with a rate between 1.00 and 1.99 that have an injury/fatal percentage greater than 66% or more will be selected for further analysis.

The intersections with a frequency of 6 crashes or less annually are reviewed to determine the injury/fatality percentage. Locations with 1 to 2 crashes annually and locations with a RMV less than 1.00 are removed from the analysis. The remaining locations are se-

lected based on the criteria listed in A. and B.

A. <u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percentage of I/F</u>
6	100% to 33 %
5	100% to 40%
4	100% to 50%
3	100 % to 66%

B. Locations with a RMV equal or greater than 1.00 will be included in the analysis.

Once the crash locations are selected based upon the two processes listed above, they will then be compared for a three year period. Crash locations that have been selected during one year may not meet the same criteria the following year. Locations that appear one time in a three year period are removed from the analysis. A final list is made with crash locations that have consistent results for a three year period. NIRCC will present the list alphabetically to each responsible jurisdiction (Allen County, City of Fort Wayne, and City of New Haven). Each jurisdiction will then select locations they would like us to do further analysis on.

NIRCC has completed the selection process for 2005, 2006 and 2007 crash locations. The final listing of hazardous crash locations is anticipated to be available to local officials by this summer. NIRCC will hold a Transportation Safety Forum in the fall of 2008 to review the locations with local engineers and law enforcement representatives.

New News

Allen County Air Quality Task Force



The Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) and the Allen County Air Quality Task Force is offering a pilot program for Allen County schools. The program is an effort to protect our children from harmful emissions by reducing idling of vehicles near schools. The Allen County School Safety Commission has worked with NIRCC and the Allen County Air Quality Task Force to define the program. The Commission supports the pilot program and is seeking commitments from each administration to participate.

This program is an effort to reduce the exposure of vehicle emissions to our children. Emissions from vehicles have a very negative impact on the health and well being of our children throughout the year, including the winter months. By limiting vehicles from idling in designated areas near schools the exposure of emissions to children are greatly reduced.

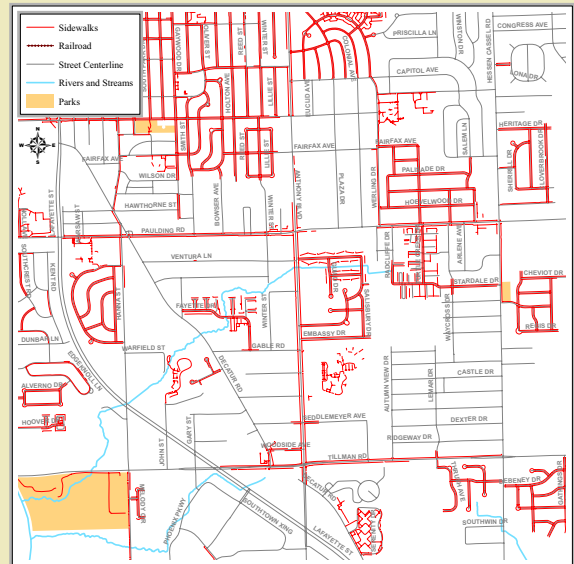
Three area school districts have agreed to participate in the No Idling program. NIRCC is providing over 100 signs and necessary equipment to post the signs to the participating schools. NIRCC will fund the program using Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.



The Allen County Air Quality Task Force is also working to develop a new commercial to be aired this summer. The commercial will promote cleaner air by encouraging residents to walk or bicycle rather than drive. Did you know there are a million vehicle trips made every day with travel distances of less than a mile or two long that could easily be made on foot or by a bicycle. Supplementing a bicycle or walking for some of these trips would make a large impact on our air quality.

Allen County Sidewalks

NIRCC has recently completed a sidewalk dataset for GIS mapping applications. Using aerial photography NIRCC mapped all the sidewalks in Allen County. Having this data digitally provides opportunities for a number of different applications. A few examples include gap analysis studies to find where sidewalks lack connectivity in crucial areas, safety studies which can utilize the data for pedestrian accessibility issues, and finding sidewalk deficiencies in the classified roadway system.



A map of all the sidewalks can be seen or downloaded from our website. Just visit www.nircc.com.

Functional Classification Updates

The Federal Function Classification System has been updated and approved by all the appropriate governmental agencies. The new Federal Function Classification Systems for Adams, Allen, Dekalb, and Wells counties are now available on NIRCC's website (www.nircc.com).

Functional classification is how streets and highways are grouped in the overall network of the transportation system. Their grouping depends on

(Continued on Pg. 5)

Transit News Continued...

must meet at least one of the strategies identified for each program.

Section 5310 Strategies:

- Maintain existing service / fleets
- Maintain and increase coordination / efficiency between all transportation providers
- Expand existing service / fleets
- Increase public awareness of available services and programs offered by providers that are available to them.

Section 5316 Strategies:

- Provide transportation to destinations outside of the current service area
- Provide transportation within and in particular outside of the current service schedules
- Facilitate multiple destination trips from a single service provider. (ie. daycare/job)
- Inform the public about transportation services available in the community and train them to use the services to get to work, job training, and child care as efficiently as possible



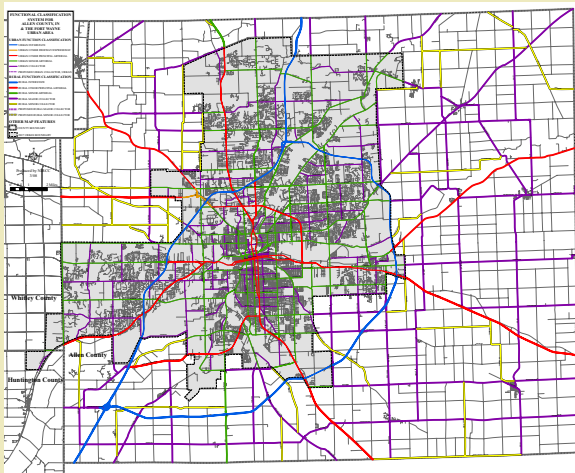
Section 5317 Strategies:

- Provide transportation above and beyond existing complimentary paratransit service
- Provide transportation outside current service areas
- Provide transportation within and outside current service schedules

The section 5310 program is administered by INDOT and already has an established competitive selection process. The local Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) prioritizes local 5310 requests and submits a joint application on behalf of all applicants in Allen County to INDOT every March. This year 4 vehicles were requested. The Allen County Council on Aging requested one (1) twelve (12) passenger van with a lift and the Community Transportation Network (CTN) requested three (3) twelve (12) passenger vans with lifts. An award announcement will be made in June.

Funding for the section 5316 JARC and 5317 New Freedom programs is distributed to INDOT for rural areas and a designated recipient for urban areas. Citilink is the designated recipient for the Fort Wayne Urbanized Area whom receives an allocation of 5316 JARC and 5317 New Freedom funds every year. However, a competitive selection process for the programs did not exist at the completion of the coordinated plan. As a result, NIRCC with the assistance of the Transit Planning Committee (TPC) developed a process for selecting projects for these programs. During the development of the process it was determined that two years worth of funding would be available and the awarded projects would run for a 24 month period.

Utilizing the new competitive selection process, the TPC selected projects to receive the available 5316 JARC and 5317 New Freedom funds in November 2007. Citilink was awarded funds from the 5316 JARC program to fund a project that would increase service frequency on selected routes with access to employment and related activities, provide targeted information and training about new and existing public transit service, and by coordinating with existing transportation services and employers to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of existing services and improve job related mobility. CTN was awarded funds from the 5317 New Freedom program to fund a project that would provide 4,000 new trips not currently provided during the two year project period. This will be accomplished by the utilizing their entire fleet and the increased capacity of larger vehicles, which will add 30-40 hours of new service per week. It is anticipated that both projects will begin in June 2008 and continue until June 2010.

Function Class Updates Continued...

their operational characteristics as well as the type of service they provide.

The Federal Function Classification System identifies specific groups of a continuously networked system throughout urban and rural areas and recognizes them to be eligible for federal funding. Funding opportunities for road projects depend on urbanized area sizes or groupings and classification types in the functional classification system.

Town of Monroeville Continued...

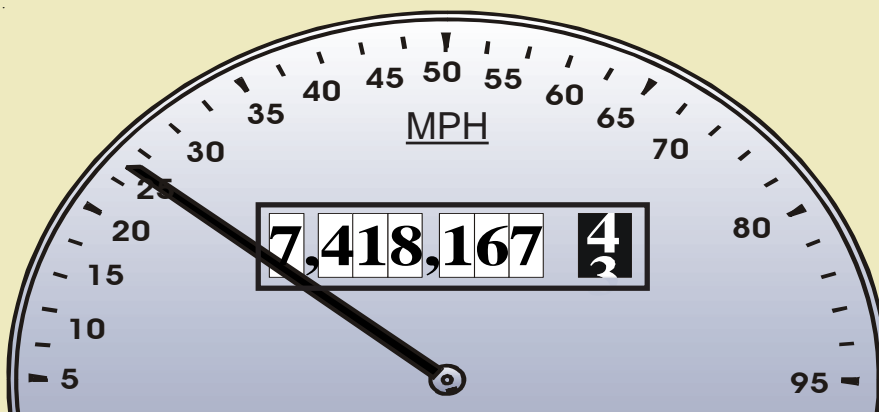
Development and administered by the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA). The overall cost of the project is \$1,200,000, with the Town providing a local match of \$700,000 (\$400,000 from a State Revolving Fund loan and \$300,000 from the Town's funds).

In recent years, the Town has experienced problematic issues, primarily inflow and infiltration (I/I), with their sanitary sewer and storm water systems that have led to flooding and the Town's collection system on the verge of being out of compliance with their IDEM permit. In order to identify and rectify these problematic issues, the Town hired DLZ Indiana, LLC, (with the assistance of a CFF planning grant) to study their sanitary sewer and storm water utilities. The study, completed in early 2007, produced a preliminary engineering report (PER) that identified recommended improvements to address these issues. The improvement project will complete improvements recommended in the PER, which include the rehabilitation of sanitary sewer segments with cured-in-place pipe lining, the excavation and replacement of selected sanitary sewer segments and or manholes, and the construction of a 600' storm water sewer.

Did You Know.....

In 2007 the daily Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) for the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) was over 7.4 million miles traveled. That number is up just slightly from 2006.

The Town submitted their grant application for the improvement project on March 14, 2008. OCRA will announce the grant awards in May 2008. If awarded the grant, the Town anticipates beginning the improvements in March 2009 with completion in November 2009.



NIRCC

830 City-County Building
One East Main Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802-1815

Telephone: (260) 449-7309
Fax: (260) 449-8652



NIRCC Has Moved

The Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) has moved to a new location. These days NIRCC seems to be moving up in the world. We have moved from the City-County Building's 6th floor to the 8th floor. With the reorganization of a few city and county departments NIRCC was relocated to room 830. Most of our contact information remained the same. The only changes made were to the fax number and room number.

One East Main Street,
City-County Bldg. Room 830
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: 260-449-7309
Fax: 260-449-8652
www.nircc.com

