

Public Participation and Consultation

The public was provided with a wide range of opportunities to review and comment on the final draft of the *Horizon 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*. As the planning process is composed of a number of elements, one being public involvement, it was important to gain public insight concerning the metropolitan transportation plan. Two TPC-approved documents were adhered to for this purpose: the *Participation Plan* (2007), and the *Community Assessment and Outreach Program for the Louisville (KY-IN) Metropolitan Planning Area for Title VI/Environmental Justice and other Communities of Concern* (2004).

The public review and comment period held by the Louisville (KY-IN) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the metropolitan transportation plan draft adhered to the standards of the *Participation Plan*. The review period provided opportunities over a 30-day period for the public to respond to the proposed plan prior to action being taken by the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) to approve the plan following their review of public comments submitted.

Notification of Public Review

Prior to the *Horizon 2030* public review period, the public was notified in a number of ways to ensure that all interested parties had adequate notice of the public review activities. During *Horizon 2030* development, several methods were used to inform populations and user groups traditionally underserved by the existing transportation system of the opportunity to participate in the process. In accordance with the *Community Assessment and Outreach Program for the Louisville (KY-IN) Metropolitan Planning Area for Title VI/Environmental Justice and other Communities of Concern*, organizations representing low-income and minority populations were notified of public involvement activities for the public review period. Advertisements were placed in *The Courier-Journal*, *The Louisville Defender*, *The Tribune*, *The Evening News*, *The Oldham Era* and *The Pioneer News*. In addition, over 2,500 residents and organizations received email notifications regarding the public review and public meetings. Some of the organizations that received this notification include The Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, TARC Elderly and Disabled Council, Clifton Community Center Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Committee, Bicycling for Louisville, Southern Indiana Transit Advisory Group, New Hope Services and Wheels, among others.

Public Involvement Activities

The public review period was held for 30 days. KIPDA staff held meetings in which projects sponsors attended to answer questions and gather comments. Plan materials were made available in the following ways for each review period.

- Public libraries throughout the Louisville (KY-IN) MPA (34 libraries total)
- KIPDA website (www.kipda.org)
- Notification and reference to the website through the KIPDA blog, Facebook and Twitter sites
- Public Meetings
- At KIPDA
- Upon request

Directions for submitting comments were included with the review materials. Public input could be submitted via:

- Email
- Fax
- Public Meetings
- Participation in KIPDA Meetings
- Regular Mail

By having various outlets for review and a mixed means of submitting comments, members of the public were not limited to a specific time, date, or meeting; rather, they could review the material and submit comments at their convenience any time within the 30-day period.

Public Review Period

August 6, 2010 to September 6, 2010

The public review period centered on the draft of *Horizon 2030* in its entirety. Attendees were asked to identify the items that they liked, the items that they disliked, and what they believed missing from the draft *Horizon 2030* plan. They were also encouraged to contact their local and state elected officials who hold seats on KIPDA's Transportation Policy Committee to relay their likes and dislikes directly.

The following public meetings were held from 6-8 p.m.:

- **August 12** – New Albany-Floyd County Public Library, 180 W. Spring St., in New Albany.
- **August 17** - John Black Community Center, 1551 North Highway 393 in Buckner.
- **August 18** – NIA Center, 2900 W. Broadway in Louisville.
- **August 23** – Southwest Government Center, 7210 Dixie Highway in Louisville.
- **August 24** – Louisville Free Public Library Fairdale Branch, 10616 W. Manslick Road
- **August 26** – Republic Bank Community Room (in the building's basement), 9600 Brownsboro Road in Louisville.
- **August 30** – Town of Clarksville Municipal Center's Council Chambers, 2000 Broadway St.
- **August 31** – Paroquet Springs Conference Center's Adam Shepherd Room, 395 Paroquet Springs Drive in Shepherdsville.

Documents were available for review at WorldFest on September 3 and 4 at the Belvedere (in downtown Louisville), and at the Louisville Metro Mayor's Community Conversation on September 20 at Central High School in Louisville.

In addition to the review periods and open meetings, there is a public comment item on the agenda at each Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee (TTCC) meeting and each TPC meeting where members of the public are invited to voice their concerns before committee members. This, in addition to the 30-day public review periods, ensures that full and open access is provided to the MPO decision-making process.

Disposition of Comments

As stated in the *Participation Plan*, KIPDA is committed to a public involvement process that ensures a wide variety of opportunities for the community to take an active role in the regional transportation planning process.

The summary of comments comprised in the table below this section illustrates the varied public opinion received from citizens of the Louisville (KY-IN) Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). All comments are vital to the planning process and offer insights into what issues exist in the MPA. Following the close of the public review period, all comments were forwarded to TPC members for their consideration, and in addition, given explicit consideration by members of the TPC’s Public Comment Review Working Group.

Project/Physical Improvements-Specific Comments

Project issues identified in Public Comments	Support	Oppose	Examples of Projects in Response to the Comments
Intersection improvements	1	0	287
Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements	6	0	222, 282, 283, 188, 1804, 1442, 1444, 154, 359, 128, 446, 1271, 465, 1423, 1647, 1513,
Bridges	5	1	52, 185, 226
Increasing Roadway Capacity	6	0	446, 128, 465, 163, 1338
Advanced Transit	2	0	980, 977
Transit Improvements	1	0	1306
Sound barriers	2	0	1761,
Streetscape Improvements	3	0	446, 128, 465, 163, 1338

In addition, there were some comments received that requested further investigation into possible needs not identified in the plan. These comments related to adding additional lanes, bicycle lanes and turning lanes to existing roadways, adding traffic signals and street lights in various locations, as well as replacement of a bridge going from Clarksville, Indiana to New Albany, Indiana.

Comment Consideration

Following the close of each public review period, all comments in their entirety were compiled and forwarded to TPC members for their review and consideration for a period of 30 days prior to the TPC taking action on the draft *Horizon 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*. Project specific comments were forwarded to the project’s sponsor for their review, consideration, and if appropriate, response. People submitting comments were sent an acknowledgement that their comment was received, as well as information explaining what happens to comments upon submission.

TPC members had 30 days to review and consider public comment before action was taken following the public review period. In addition, a working group of the TPC further reviewed comments to ensure all comments received explicit consideration and to determine their significance. The Public Comment Review Working Group completed their responsibility during the TPC review period and presented their findings to the TPC with a report to the Chair. The 30-day TPC review period following the public review period provided TPC members with time to review comments, contact project sponsors, and collect additional information if deemed necessary prior to taking action on the final draft of the plan.

Summary of Public Comment

A summary of the public comments (as well as other public participation materials) is available in Appendix F of *Horizon 2030* document.

Project & Plan Impacts

The majority of comments received through the public review period were addressed in the draft *Horizon 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* as a number of them received were in support of projects contained therein. In addition to the development of *Horizon 2030*, comments received prior to this plan update (the 2010, 2020, 2020 II, and 2025 plans) had already been incorporated in the process through past project and plan development processes. Project sponsors, the Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee, and the Transportation Policy Committee guided the transportation plan update process with consideration to given to comments received as well as other information provided.

As reflected in the comments received during the plan update process and other venues, there appears to be a great deal of support and no opposition to transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and operational improvements. Project sponsors considered comments in conjunction with other information to reflect on the projects submitted for inclusion in *Horizon 2030*. *Horizon 2030* includes a number of such projects. Examples of projects are included on the previous page. Policy-specific comments are summarized in the table below.

Policy Specific Comments

Policy Issue	Statements	Number of Statements Made
Alternate Modes	Appreciate discussions of alternate modes in the document	1
Air Quality	Appreciate the heavy emphasis on meeting EPA air pollution standards	1
Complete Streets	Complete Streets used throughout the process	1

The 30-day public review period, in conjunction with the update of the *Horizon 2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*, guarantees the public involvement in the planning process. Public opinion is a highly valued and needed part of the planning process. Public comment aids decision-makers with determining a plan's impact, what alternative solutions may be, and raises issues existing in the area. Through KIPDA's efforts to engage the entire community in the planning process and to present an opportunity for everyone to participate and be heard, the MPO remains dedicated to providing a platform for the citizens of the region to express their concerns and the potential to affect the scope and direction of projects today as well as in the future.

Consultation

Numerous agencies and organizations were presented the projects included in *Horizon 2030*. The agencies were asked to identify any significant issues relative to their area of expertise and, if possible, propose any mitigation measures. Participants were provided with a list of projects that will leave a footprint. Agencies and organizations were also given a map of all the projects. The map included:

- Horizon 2030 Projects
- Schools
- Railroads
- Wetlands
- Historic Archeological Sites
- Streams
- Superfund Sites
- The 100 Year Flood Plain
- The 500 Year Flood Plain

In their review of the projects and maps, participants were asked to identify any additional sites or sensitive that may be impacted by any one of the projects in Horizon 2030 that can be reflected in the analysis of Horizon 2030.

The types of agencies and organizations contacted for the consultation process included:

- State and Local Planned Growth and Land Use
- Economic Growth
- Environmental Protection, Natural Resources, Conservation
- Historic Preservation
- Airport Operations
- Freight Movement
- Non-emergency medical transportation service providers

Ninety-seven agencies and organizations were contacted and asked to provide insight into the metropolitan transportation plan relative to their areas' of expertise and to identify environmental issues for which mitigation measures could be proposed. State, regional, and local agencies and organizations were contacted. No significant issues were identified from the consultation process. Participants were also informed that KIPDA will be seeking their involvement in future planning activities by providing inventories, sharing policies from their area of focus, and other pertinent issues.

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