



HORIZONS

A Quarterly Publication of the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency
 Transportation Division

Bullitt County study helps officials plan for the future

The Bullitt County government and KIPDA have initiated a transportation study for the Bullitt County area.

The study will provide the basis for identification and implementation of future transportation improvements in Bullitt County over the next 20 years. It will include an evaluation and analysis of existing and projected traffic conditions, an evaluation of alternative transportation modes, and recommendations of priorities for future projects.

A steering committee made up of Bullitt County Judge Executive Melanie Roberts, representatives from KIPDA, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 5 office, and several Bullitt County government offices, as well as officials from the cities of Shepherdsville, Mount Washington, Lebanon Junction, Hillview, Pioneer Village, Fox Chase, Hebron Estates, and Hunters Hollow will coordinate the study and work with stakeholders to establish goals, objectives, and priorities.

Traffic counts will be conducted and future traffic volume information based on KIPDA's travel demand forecasting model will be collected. KIPDA will also provide the consultant, Entran, with aerial photography and other geographic information system data.

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The study will enable community members to discuss transportation needs in Bullitt County. KY 44 is one highway that could be mentioned by participants as an area to study.

Indiana project will help ease traffic along Grant Line

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing a project in New Albany that will add lanes to Grant Line Road and create an overpass above the railroad crossing near the Pillsbury Plant.

Jim Ude, Planning and Programming Director for INDOT Seymour District, said the lane widening will go from Mount Tabor Road to McDonald Lane. The current two lane road will be extended to four lanes with a middle turning lane, added Kenny Franklin, a project manager with INDOT.

Crews have not begun working on the roadway because the right-of-way has not been bought, said Franklin. But he said design work is complete and they are hoping to begin work in March. They will begin with the relocation of utilities, said Franklin.

Franklin said a public meeting was held and that the hearing had "a pretty good turnout." He also said, "There have been meetings with business owners in the area to make sure everyone is on board."

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Transportation Policy Committee Member Retirement

Bob Williams
Indiana Department of Transportation - Seymour District



Bob Williams, who has worked for the Indiana Department of Transportation for 12½ years, is retiring from his current position with INDOT, but will stay through April to provide a transition period for his

successor and to work with the Transportation Management Center (TMC) in Indianapolis on new highway safety initiatives.

“We appreciate Bob’s willingness to not only help during the transition period, but also to put his public safety knowledge to work on the TMC,” said Michael Cline, INDOT’s Deputy Commissioner of Operations.

Williams previously served as the District Deputy Commissioner for the Greenfield District. As District Deputy Commissioner, he managed INDOT staff, properties, equipment, materials, construction, maintenance, and planning for 1/6th of the state. The Seymour district is the southeast portion of Indiana from Columbus to Brookville, from the Ohio Line to the Ohio River, down the river to New Albany, up to Bloomington, and back to Columbus.

Williams, of Shelbyville, Indiana, began his career as a material handling manager in Indianapolis in 1996. He was named Sub-District Manager in Seymour in 1997 and was promoted to District Director in 2004. He moved into his District Deputy Commissioner position in Seymour in 2005. He has also served as the chief of police and mayor of the City of Shelbyville.

He attended the University of Virginia, Indiana University, and Ivy Tech Community College. He and his wife, Linda Williams, have two adult children.

As of January 12, 2009, Jim Stark took over the role of District Deputy Commissioner for the INDOT Seymour district.

Bullitt County study helps officials plan for the future

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Entran will collect data on bridge sufficiency ratings, crashes, railroad crossings, TARC service, land use, economic development, school bus routes, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

There will also be at least two open house-style public meetings. The first meeting will gather input from the public on current problems and how the public envisions future transportation infrastructure and services in Bullitt County. The consultant will also present concepts at this meeting to encourage discussion and to assist in establishing goals and priorities for the study. The second meeting will present alternatives developed by the consultant to the public. Public comments on the alternatives will be encouraged at this meeting. The dates, times, and locations for these meetings have not been determined.

In addition to the public meetings, the consultant will also be gathering

input from individuals and small groups of stakeholders. The steering committee will help to identify those individuals and groups. Potential stakeholders may include schools, police and fire departments, emergency management agencies, local government representatives, neighborhood associations, CSX Transportation, U.S. Army personnel, and private industry.

“With the amount of growth our county is experiencing, we feel it’s imperative to have a transportation study performed. In the past ten years, our residential population has greatly increased and businesses continue to be planted in our blooming economic soil,” said Bullitt County Judge Executive Melanie Roberts.

“The study’s impact will enable us to plan for the future. In 2009, we will begin developing our 20/20 (Year 2020) vision and beyond,” she added.

The scheduled completion date for the study is December 2009.

Indiana project will help ease traffic along Grant Line

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New Albany Mayor Doug England appears pleased with the changes and hopes it will ease congestion in an area where trains passing through tend to cause backups. “This will easily move traffic to and from the interstate. This

is a heavily traveled stretch of road and adding lanes and an overpass will create a more efficient traveling route,” he said. “This will eliminate congestion significantly in this area. It will also allow easier access to businesses along this corridor.”



The railroad crossing at Pillsbury Lane and Grant Line Road will have an overpass built over it to ease traffic backups.

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Driving tips to help you through the winter months

As we strive to survive the winter months, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Office of Highway Safety recommends following the "Four P's of Safe Winter Driving."

Prepare Your Vehicle

Check the tire tread and tire air pressure. Check fluid levels and heat. Assemble a disaster supply kit (shovel, ice scraper, flashlight and batteries, sand or cat litter, first-aid kit, candles and matches, bottled water and snacks). Make sure your car is free of snow, ice or frost from its headlights, taillights, mirrors, and windows before you start to drive.

Plan Your Travel

Check weather and road conditions. Call 511 in Kentucky or 866-737-3767.

Information is also available at <http://511.ky.gov>. In Indiana, go to www.in.gov/isp/2332.htm.

Prevent Crashes

Drive carefully. Be seen by using your low-beams on dull, cloudy days. Make sure you know whether your car has anti-lock brakes or non-anti-lock brakes and how much pressure to apply when braking in winter

conditions. In the event you do start to skid on the roadway, steer into it.

Protect Yourself in an Emergency

In Kentucky, there is a Quick Clearance Law. If you are involved in a crash and no one is visibly injured, move your vehicle onto the shoulder or off the interstate or parkway, call police, and exchange information. If you have a disabled vehicle, move the vehicle off the roadway (if possible) and stay in. Turn on emergency flashers, tie something white or bright to your antenna or window, or raise the hood, to request aid. If unable to move the vehicle from the roadway, stand away from the vehicle. Keep your arms and legs moving to keep warm.

Keep in mind that snow plows may be on the road. Be patient and don't pass a plow. If it is safe, the plow will pull over and let you pass. Be aware that a plow may create snow clouds, which can cause zero visibility. Give the plow room to work. Stay back from the plow since it tends to speed up and slow down.

For more information, go to www.highwaysafety.ky.gov or call 888-374-8768.

Bike Summit offers residents a chance to be heard

The second Louisville Metro Bike Summit will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 12 at the Salvation Army Male Center (Old Male High School) at Brook and Breckinridge streets.

The Bike Summit allows the bicycling community to come together for a grassroots event to help move Louisville to the next level as a Bicycle Friendly Community. "Our goal is to move from the bronze level to the silver level by 2010. We will be showing participants feedback on Louisville's progress from the League of American Bicyclists, sharing some of the ideas that the Bike Louisville program has come up with, and asking for their input," said Scott Render, E-Communications Manager for Louisville Metro government and coordinator of the event. Attendees will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and be heard.

Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson hosted the first summit in February 2005. Two hundred people attended, including elected officials, community leaders, cyclists, professionals, and other citizens. "The goal of the summit was to develop strategies to guide the Louisville region in creating safe and sustainable bicycling facilities and programs to improve community health, air quality, and tourism. As a result of discussions in breakout sessions... the summit created a vision for a cycle-friendly Louisville and established a set of goals and a timeline for achieving them," Render added.

The Bike Summit is free and open to the public. More information and registration is available online at www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisville.



Valuable Web Resources

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Snow and Ice Removal Site

http://transportation.ky.gov/maintenance/Snow_Ice.htm

Want to know which streets in your county will have the snow and ice removed from them first? Go to this site and you can learn which are a priority.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Highway Project Information

www.transportation.ky.gov/default2.html

Learn about projects that are currently being developed by the state. Information is provided for each project listed.

TRIMARC Travel Times

<http://www.trimarc.org/perl/TravelTimes.pl>

Discover how long it will take for you to travel from I-264 East at Bank Street to West of Dixie Highway, as well as many other routes.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's BAM! Body and Mind Page

http://www.bam.gov/sub_yoursafety/yoursafety_helmets.html

Parents and children can use this site to gain some facts about wearing helmets and the benefits of this safety device.

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KIPDA Transportation Meeting Calendar

Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee

February 11, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

Location to be announced

March 11, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

Location to be announced

Regional Transportation Council

March 26, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Conference Room

A map of KIPDA's location can be found at http://kipda.org/About_KIPDA.aspx.

For TARC routes and schedules, please visit www.ridetarc.org.

Transportation Policy Committee

February 26, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Burke Room

March 26, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Burke Room

April 23, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Burke Room

If you would like to be added or removed from the Horizons mailing list, or receive Horizons electronically, please e-mail us at kipda.trans@ky.gov or call us at 502-266-6084.

**Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change.
Please call KIPDA at 502-266-6084 to confirm, or visit the calendar on our website at <http://kipda.org/news.aspx>.**

Articles contained in this newsletter will be consistent with assisting readers in accessing information from the public government entities or nonprofit organizations in which KIPDA maintains a membership, from which KIPDA is funded, or to which KIPDA contributes funds or with which KIPDA is contractually affiliated. KIPDA reserves the right to accept or deny any articles from other external sources at its discretion.

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