



HORIZONS

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

Hurstbourne extension opens mid-June

The new roadway, scheduled to open in the middle of June, will extend Hurstbourne Parkway from Bardstown Road to Fern Valley Road, a distance of 3.3 miles and provide improved access to Louisville International Airport and General Electric Company's Appliance Park. The extension will also offer another way into the Okolona shopping district and Jefferson Mall via Fern Valley Road and Jefferson Boulevard.

The extension will be four lanes with a grassy median dividing the northbound and southbound lanes. The outside lanes will also be striped to accommodate bicyclists.

In addition to extending the Parkway, a major curve in Watterson Trail north of the new roadway will be reduced to make the Watterson Trail-Hurstbourne intersection safer. A portion of Poplar Level Road is also being relocated to make this road's intersection safer with the new Hurstbourne Parkway. The construction on this \$18.8 million project is being performed by Gohmann Asphalt and Construction Company of Clarksville, Indiana. For more information, contact Andrea



Construction is almost complete on Hurstbourne extension.

Clifford at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Highway District 5 office at 502-367-6411.



May is Bike to Work Month

May 2005 marks the 49th Annual National Bike to Work Month designated by the League of American Bicyclists. The intent of Bike to Work Month is to raise awareness of bicycling as a healthy mode of transportation and to encourage people to make a bicycle commute to work rather than drive a car.

The TARC Bikes-on-Board program offers cyclists the opportunity to combine their bike trip with transit and allows people in the KIPDA region to go further than ever before on a bike. All of TARC's buses are equipped with bike racks and can hold up to two bicycles.

"Mayor Abramson is committed to making Louisville residents healthier and more fit, and one way to do that is to encourage bicycling as a great way to get to the office and exercise at the same time," said Mohammad Nouri, assistant director of Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services.

There are many resources available to help individuals who want to bike to work. They include:

- Route maps and bicycle boarding information for TARC's Bikes-on-

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**Mayor Abramson's
Hometown Bike & Hike
May 30, 2005
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Join the family-friendly celebration of walking and cycling in Louisville on May 30. Sponsored by Louisville Metro Government and the Louisville Bike Club, the Memorial Day event will feature booths, food and drink vendors and skills demonstrations.

10:00 a.m. start at Slugger Field for a one-mile hike or 14-mile bike ride. Free t-shirts to the first 500 attendees!

For more information, check out
www.louisvillebikeclub.org or
www.loukymetro.org.

Transportation Policy Committee Member Profile

Clay Foreman

Mayor of Jeffersontown

10416 Watterson Trail
Jeffersontown, KY 40299

502-267-8333



As Mayor of the city of Jeffersontown for four years, Clay Foreman has dealt with many challenges and opportunities within the growing city. "Transportation is one of the basic keys to the success of making a city function," he said

recently. "When our roads don't work well, people notice, and I am one of the first people to hear about the problems." In order to improve regional transportation Mayor Foreman is a member of both the Transportation Policy Committee and the KIPDA Board of Directors.

As a member of TPC, the Mayor advocates the widening of Watterson Trail through the Bluegrass Industrial Park and the improvements planned by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for I-64 at Hurstbourne to alleviate congestion in the area. "Attracting and maintaining businesses and jobs to the area is a very competitive endeavor these days, and my administration is determined to deliver the best possible services to people who live and work in the city."

Mayor Foreman also serves as a member of the Transportation Infrastructure and Services Policy and Advocacy Committee and the Human Development Steering Committee with the National League of Cities.

During his tenure as a member of the Jeffersontown City Council for 11 years, Foreman had already begun to formulate plans for a new direction for the city and for spending resources more effectively. He works closely with the Jeffersontown Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Louisville Sports Commission, the Kentucky Derby Festival, the Kentucky League of Cities and the Jefferson County League of Cities to put his plans into action.

Foreman and his family have operated Foreman Funeral Home in Jeffersontown since 1955, and he is a licensed Funeral Home Director/Embalmer. He and his wife Kris have two children, 12-year-old son Lee and 10-year-old daughter Kaylin, and live in the Plainview subdivision.

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Regional outreach for Horizon 2030

In April, elected officials, transportation planners and agencies asked for public input on the transportation projects proposed for the Horizon 2030 long range plan. Hundreds of improvements and options were submitted for consideration in the draft plan for Bullitt, Jefferson and Oldham counties in Kentucky, and Clark and Floyd in Indiana. All public comments received were sent to the Transportation Policy Committee for their review and consideration.

Projects were listed on the KIPDA web site at www.kipda.org as well as made available in public libraries throughout the region. Dates and times for meeting locations were posted on the web site as well as sent on postcard mailings to residents, neighborhood groups and business associations around the region. Advertisements were placed in local newspapers and press releases were sent to all media outlets in the five county area.

"The next public involvement period is slated for August, and will feature



Meeting attendees studied project maps and provided opinions to be shared with TPC members.

projects for the final draft of the long range transportation plan," said John Reisert, Floyd County Commissioner and Chairman of the TPC. "We've held more than 20 public meetings since the update process began last May, and we look forward to hearing more input from the region's residents."

If you have questions or would like to arrange for a presentation for your neighborhood or business group during the August public involvement session, please contact Nedra Morrell at (502) 266-6084 or by e-mail at nedra.morrell@ky.gov.

Members of the Transportation Policy Committee and KIPDA staff hosted or were invited to meetings at the following locations:

- April 5 – Clarksville, Indiana Town Council
- April 14 – Judge's Night In, Oldham County Community Center
- April 18 – Mayor Abramson's Community Conversation at Valley High School
- April 19 – Southwest Government Center, Louisville Metro Planning & Design
- April 20 – Park DuValle, Louisville Metro Planning & Design
- April 21 – Central Government Center, Louisville Metro Planning & Design
- April 25 – Brownsboro Road Area Defense (BRAD)
- April 26 – East Government Center, Louisville Metro Planning & Design

May is Bike to Work Month

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Board program can be found at www.ridetarc.org.

- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet information on bicycling at http://transportation.ky.gov/planning/bike_walk/bikewalk.asp.
- Indiana Department of Transportation information on bicycling at www.in.gov/dot/modetrans/bicycle/index.html.
- More helpful tips can be found at www.bike-to-work.com and www.bikemonth.com.
- Electronic versions of bike routes in Louisville are available from

www.loukymetro.org/departments/plandesign/bikeped.asp.

Bike Safely

- Always wear a helmet.
- Obey all traffic controls.
- Ride your bicycle near the right-hand edge of the road.
- Never carry another person on your bicycle.
- Always use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- Keep your bicycle in good condition.
- Use a light if riding after dark.

Seat belts least likely worn in pickup trucks

According to the National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA), pickup truck drivers and their passengers are among those Americans least likely to wear seat belts. In Kentucky, on average, only 50.7 percent of pickup truck occupants buckle up, and 71 percent of those killed in pickup truck crashes in the southeastern United States were not wearing their seat belts.

Kentucky State Police (KSP) are joining with NHTSA and state and local highway safety and law enforcement leaders across an eight-state region to launch an aggressive new public awareness initiative called "Buckle Up In Your Truck" with the goal of convincing pickup truck drivers and their passengers to buckle up.

The multi-state initiative includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee and immediately precedes the intensive "Buckle Up Kentucky – It's the Law and It's Enforced" campaign set for May 23 to June 5, 2005.



"Our goal is to save more lives by reminding pickup truck occupants to always wear their seat belts because that is the single best defense against ejection in a crash," said Lt. Col. Dean Hayes, Operations Division Director for KSP.

"In fact, that simple step of always buckling up will increase your odds of survival by 70% to 80% if you have a rollover crash."

For driving tips on how to avoid rollover crashes and injuries, please visit www.safecar.gov. For more information about the value of always wearing your seat belt, visit www.buckleupamerica.org, and for more details on the "Buckle Up in Your Truck" campaign, visit www.kentuckystatepolice.org.

Transportation planners discuss roundabouts

Oldham County Judge Executive Mary Ellen Kinser, the Oldham County Planning Commission, KIPDA and Louisville Metro Planning and Design recently sponsored a conference on roundabouts in Oldham County. Roundabouts are designed to control traffic at intersections without the use of stop signs or traffic signals

Speakers with DLZ Co., Lansing, Mich., discussed potential roundabouts at Hayfield Way and U.S. 42, and at the three-way juncture of Ky. 55 (Taylorsville Road with Ky. 148 (Finchville Road) in southeastern Jefferson County.

"Roundabouts have enjoyed renewed interest as a roadway option because of concerns about congestion and safety at intersections, and because adding a traffic signal isn't always effective or warranted at the location," said Judge Kinser.

Oldham County officials received federal money through KIPDA for a roundabout feasibility study, and they are also looking at sites on a planned extension of Ky. 393 in the Buckner area, according to Oldham County Planning and Zoning Administrator, Louise Allen.

"They're not the solution for every intersection," Allen said. But statistics show they can improve air quality by cutting down on stopping and starting, she said.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet staff from Highway District 5 in Louisville are looking at Ky. 22 and Seminary Drive for a roundabout in a study of Ky. 22 from Herr Lane to Ky. 329.

For more information on roundabouts, log on to www.roundaboutsusa.com or www.ourston.com.

Ask the Expert!

Have you ever wondered why some intersections have stop lights and others have stop signs? Or how it is decided where to add a crosswalk to a street?

In each issue of *Horizons*, we will take a question and ask the experts – state transportation departments, local planning agencies, TARC and Federal Highway Administration offices.

Let us help you with that nagging question that you've never quite gotten an answer for. It's probably one that plenty of our readers have wondered about as well. We'll review the questions and select one for each issue. Send them via e-mail to kipda.trans@ky.gov with "Ask the Expert" in the subject line, or by mail to:

ASK THE EXPERT
KIPDA Transportation Division
11520 Commonwealth Drive
Louisville, KY 40299

In this issue, we asked Barney Leslie, program manager at TRIMARC, the following questions:



How many cameras does TRIMARC currently use to monitor traffic in the Louisville – Southern Indiana region? How many motorists were assisted last year by TRIMARC's freeway service patrol vehicles?

Mr. Leslie's response:

TRIMARC currently uses 59 cameras to monitor traffic in the Louisville – Southern Indiana region, as well as 11 dynamic message signs in Jefferson County and 4 in Southern Indiana. TRIMARC's freeway service patrol vehicles assisted 3,605 last year and inspected 1,679 vehicles along the interstate system.

For more information about TRIMARC, check out the web the web site at www.trimarc.org.



An example of a roundabout.

KIPDA Transportation Division Meeting Calendar

Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee

June 8, 10:00 a.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

July 13, 10:00 a.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee

June 27, 2:00 p.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

Regional Transportation Council

July 28, 1:00 p.m.
KIPDA Board Room

Transportation Policy Committee

June 23, 1:00 p.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

July 28, 1:00 p.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

A map of KIPDA's location can be found at <http://kipda.org/download/KIPDALocaleMap.pdf>.

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

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 and times are subject to change. Please call KIPDA at 502-266-6084 to confirm, or visit the calendar on our web site at www.kipda.org/transport/events.asp.

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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