



HORIZONS

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

Floyd County Thoroughfare Study underway

Officials in Floyd County, Indiana, are beginning work on a major thoroughfare study of seven corridors. "We plan to study the current conditions and assess future needs of these key roadways in order to provide safer and more efficient routes for motorists," said Don Lopp, Floyd County Planner. "We anticipate significant population growth in the next fifteen years, and the development of this plan will assist us in managing the community's transportation needs.

"We also want to explore multi-modal options on these roadways. The study will include looking at adding bicycle and pedestrian lanes, as well as additional transit routes."

The study has three proposed elements. The first element focuses on reviewing and updating the county's current system of classifying rural and urban roadways by use and level of traffic volume. The second element is a detailed analysis of key transportation corridors within the county, and the third element is a systematic analysis of the county's multi-modal forms, focusing on future development opportunities of alternative modes of transportation.

"This study is an integral part of the county's recent comprehensive land use plan update," said Lopp. "Traffic and congestion issues were identified as the second highest concern behind protecting natural resources in a recent survey of residents."

The geographic area of the project is the unincorporated area of Floyd County. This area is approximately 75

Corridors and intersections included in the study:

- US 150 (I-64 to Greenville)
- IN 64/62 (I-64 to Georgetown and I-64 to IN 11)
- Paoli Pike (Hilltop Road to US 150)
- Old Vincennes Road (US 150 to Edwardsville-Galena Road)
- Scottsville Road (Paoli Pike to Martin Road)
- Corydon Pike (IN 62 to IN 111)
- Grant Line Road (Chapel Lane to County Line Road)
- Edwardsville-Galena Road (US 150 to IN 64)

percent of the total area of the county, excluding New Albany, Georgetown and Greenville. The total population in the proposed project area is 45 percent of the total county population. Officials anticipate the county area will absorb 82 percent of projected population growth in the next fifteen years.

According to Lopp, the Floyd County Board of Commissioners will select a consultant for the project by August 31. The study is expected to be completed June 2007. Eighty percent of the funding for the \$125,000 project will be provided by the US Department of Transportation, and KIPDA will provide the local portion of the cost.

Louisville Metro develops Streetscape Design Manual

In a continuing effort to create safer and more efficient roadways for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, Louisville Metro Planning and Design officials have created a Streetscape Design Manual. "Louisville Metro first made a commitment toward a 'complete streets' policy with the adoption of Cornerstone 2020, the community's comprehensive plan for growth and development," said Mohammad Nouri, Assistant Director. "Our goal is to promote the design of transportation corridors that are safe and convenient for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders of all ages and abilities."

Planning officials worked closely with an advisory group made up of



Streetscape design provides safe access for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles.

Continued on page 2

Transportation Policy Committee Member Profile

A Memorial to John Minta, former Clarksville Town Council President, who passed away on June 1, 2006



By John Gilkey, Director of Communications, Southern Indiana Clark-Floyd Counties Convention and Tourism Bureau

I'm going to miss John Minta, but not nearly as much as he will be missed by the Town of Clarksville. In

one sense, John was the glue that held things together in the community.

He wasn't an elegant speaker, but that didn't matter. His strength lay in his ability to see a solution to a problem and then find a way to help others to see it as well. He didn't force his will on people; he helped them to understand the answer.

In my years in the Tribune newsroom, we were always amazed at how Minta could lead Clarksville through turbulent times with hardly a bump in the road. John refused to think small, saying people judge a community by its accomplishments, and he led Clarksville to the front page with stories of what the town was accomplishing.

Often times that would mean he would have to compromise to get to a point of consensus, but he was one of those rare politicians who believed in compromise, and who was able to make it work effectively.

You could go on and on about John's accomplishments, but if he were here today he would tell you that's not important. The important things as far as he was concerned were the projects still to be accomplished.

John is gone, and that is a huge loss for Clarksville. We need to take some time to mourn his loss and reflect on his accomplishments. But then we need to get on with his goal of building a better Clarksville.

Someone like him only comes along once in a great while. The nature of Clarksville will doubtless change with his passing, but I hope not too much. He was a tremendous asset to Clarksville, Clark County and the state of Indiana. We will miss him deeply.

Editor: Nedra Morrell
502-266-6084
nedra.morrell@ky.gov

Louisville Metro develops Streetscape Design Manual

Continued from page 1

members of the public and private sector, as well as consultants Gresham Smith & Partners and QK4, to establish the context-sensitive approach to street design. Three demonstration corridors were selected for the initial study and included River Road from Zorn Avenue to US 42, Taylorsville Road from KY 155 to Bardstown Road, and New Cut Road.

After assessing these locations, the following site specific design guidelines were developed:

- Adequate right-of-way for future bike lanes on roads where vehicular speed and average daily trip volumes warrant
- Adequate right-of-way or easements for multi-use trails and/or sidewalks

- Easements for shared access and/or crossover access between lots for future or current connections
- Easements for transit facilities, street lighting, benches or similar facilities
- Landscape areas

In addition to land area requirements, site specific streetscape design guidelines include the installation and maintenance of streetscape plantings, streetscape furnishings (e.g. benches), bike racks/lockers, sidewalks and shared use trails, transit stops/shelters and street lights.

For more information on the Streetscape Design Manual, contact Mohammad Nouri at 502-574-6235.

\$9.8 million awarded to improve I-64 in Jefferson County

Drivers in Jefferson County will soon see improvements to nine miles of I-64. A \$9.8 million dollar contract has been approved by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) to resurface I-64 from ½ mile west of I-264 to Floyds Fork Bridge. This project will improve safety and traffic flow along the interstate.

"Our interstate system is the lifeline for economic growth," said Andrea Clifford, Public Information Officer for KYTC District 5. "This resurfacing project will improve the commute for those who work in Louisville and provide a safer, more

efficient route for transporting goods and services."

In addition to the resurfacing, the left lane of I-64 is being extended at the Gene Snyder Freeway to improve safety at that interchange. The right lane of the ramp from eastbound I-264 to eastbound I-64 is being extended to Hurstbourne Parkway to improve traffic flow.

Work on this project was started in April and the anticipated completion date is November 2006.

For more information, contact Andrea Clifford at 502-367-6411.

Smart Growth Conference

Registration is now available for the "Bridging Boundaries – Building Great Communities" Regional Smart Growth Conference hosted by the Ohio River Bridges Project at the Downtown Louisville Marriott, September 18-20. The conference gives attendees the opportunity to interact with leaders from across the country and participate in the evolving study of Smart Growth.

Topics of study and discussion will include historic preservation and planning, land use and transportation planning, economic development, context-sensitive solutions and many others. The conference will also feature

three nationally-recognized speakers on Smart Growth issues.

The Ohio River Bridges Project addresses the long-term, cross-river transportation needs in the Louisville-Southern Indiana region. In 2003, the Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Department of Transportation and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet agreed that the only feasible way to

Continued on page 3


BRIDGING BOUNDARIES
BUILDING GREAT COMMUNITIES

Ask the Expert!

Have you ever wondered why some intersections have traffic signals 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 staff.

Let us help you with that nagging question. 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 Dee Lynch of Kentuckiana Air Education (KAIRE) the following question:

How can I help keep the air clean this summer?

Ms. Lynch's response:

Nothing says summer to me like cruising in the convertible with my sunglasses on and cool summer tunes playing on the radio - "Vacation" by the GoGo's, Don Henley's "The Boys of Summer" and almost anything by the Beach Boys.

Except at this point in my life, any "cruising" I'm doing is in the minivan on the way to my daughter's tee ball game, and my sunglasses are somewhere under the seat with a few stray Cheerios and an empty juice box. At least I still have my summer songs.

With gasoline prices as high as they are the last thing I want to do is drive more miles while driving up my fuel costs. The upside is my fuel-saving behaviors help keep the air cleaner for my family and my city.

KAIRE
www.helptheair.org

So, while cruising has become a no-no, I've added the nostalgia of a summer song playlist to my Top 5 tips for cleaner air for this summer.

"Little Deuce Coupe"

When was the last time you had your car's oil changed? Checked the tires lately? If your car is properly maintained, you'll get more miles per gallon.

"The Heat is On"

Remember to fuel when it's cool. You'll lose less gasoline to evaporation if you fuel up in the early morning or after dusk when temperatures drop. When the gas pump nozzle clicks off automatically, resist adding a little more gas to round off your purchase to the nearest dollar. Topping off the gas tank can result in you paying for gasoline that is fed back into the station's tanks because your gas tank is full.

"Walking on Sunshine"

Surprisingly, your lawnmower can be a big culprit in making our air difficult to breathe. To keep your lawn both green and air-friendly trade in that gas-powered mower for a quiet electric one. They now come in corded and cordless versions. Save even more with a rebate from the Air Pollution Control District at <http://www.apcd.org/lawncare/rebates>.

"I Get Around"

Whether you're sitting in traffic or waiting with the engine running, when you're idling you get a whopping **zero** miles per gallon. Excessive idling can wipe out all your good intentions of saving gas and saving the air. I listen to traffic reports to steer clear of accidents and road construction tie-ups.

"Take It Easy"

When an air quality alert is called, it means the potential for dirty air is already there. This usually occurs on hot, sunny days without a breeze. Time to put the strenuous outdoor work aside and schedule errands for another day. Scale down your afternoon run to a jog, or move your exercise routine indoors. Walk to lunch or order in take-out as a group. Relax. Pour a glass of iced tea and enjoy your own summer song playlist!

Smart Growth Conference

Continued from page 2

meet cross-river transportation needs was to construct two new bridges and rebuild the Kennedy Interchange. Of a variety of options studied, the alternative selected would best achieve the transportation needs with the least amount of impact on environmental resources and the communities.

The Bridges Project is currently in the design phase with construction tentatively scheduled to be completed by 2020.

For more information on the Bridges Project and the Smart Growth Conference, visit the project website at www.kyinbridges.com.

US 60 Operation Drive Smart Enforcement Blitz

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, in conjunction with KIPDA, the Bluegrass Area Development District, Kentucky State Police, Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement and local law enforcement, is coordinating an Operation Drive Smart Enforcement Blitz for September 6-10.

The Blitz will take place along the US 60 Corridor in Jefferson, Shelby and Franklin counties and is focused on reducing vehicle crashes, fatalities and injuries. The US 60 Corridor is one of 13 corridors identified for special emphasis in collision reduction through a data-driven process by the Governor's Executive Committee on Highway Safety.

"Targeted Enforcement Area" signs and Drive Smart visual speed radar units will be placed along the corridor in each county. "These portable units are intended to remind motorists to be aware of their speed and to comply with the posted speed limit," said Kentucky State Police Captain Tom Porter of Post 12 in Frankfort. "We are also planning to set up several safety checkpoints along the corridor."

The operation will focus on reducing the contributing factors involved in vehicle crashes, such as speeding, improper passing, and aggressive and reckless driving. Violations relating to non-use of safety belts, children not in safety seats and expired or no liability insurance, as well as equipment violations, will also be strictly enforced.

KIPDA Transportation Division Meeting Calendar

Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee

August 9, 10:00 a.m.
Location to be announced

September 13, 10:00 a.m.
Location to be announced

October 11, 10:00 a.m.
Location to be announced

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

Transportation Policy Committee

August 24, 1:00 p.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

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

October 26, 1:00 p.m.
KIPDA Conference Room

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

Regional Transportation Council

September 28, 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 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.

The KIPDA Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Transportation Division of KIPDA and is prepared with financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Transit Authority of River City, and the local governments in the KIPDA region, in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Transportation. This financial assistance notwithstanding, the contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official views and policies of the funding agencies.

www.kipda.org
kipda.trans@ky.gov

