



Transportation Times

Adams-Allen-DeKalb-Wells

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Indiana Traffic Incident Management Update



“open roads philosophy”. The open roads philosophy is “having all first responders, after ensuring their own personal safety and the safety and security of any incident victims, to have as their top priority reducing congestion and the increased risks of secondary incidents for public/motorist safety”. Once known as IN-TIME (Indiana Traffic Incident Management Effort), it was rebranded with a new name and logo and now known as Indiana Traffic Incident Management. (Indiana TIM).

The collaborative effort has allowed the program to have a full-time TIM Coordinator and Program Administrator. Because of this now dedicated effort, TIM 4-Hour Trainings and Train-the-Trainers have dramatically increased throughout the entire state. One of the larger training initiatives within the program is the Indiana EMS Commission, which is now requiring all EMS responders to attend the 4-hour

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Community Development Updates



Did you know that NIRCC is available to assist communities within Adams, Allen, DeKalb, and Wells Counties with community and economic development activities? We can assist communities with projects receiving funding through a myriad of sources such as grants and loans from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA), the State Revolving Fund (SRF), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and other State, Federal, and private programs. The NIRCC community development team has the capabilities to assist with project development and to provide grant writing, grant administration, and labor standards administration services. Information regarding available funding opportunities and the community development services provided by the NIRCC community development team is available by contacting Matt Vondran at Matt.Vondran@co.allen.in.us, Kristine Christlieb at Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us, Alexis Hathaway at Alexis.Hathaway@co.allen.in.us, or calling (260) 449-7309.

The NIRCC community development team has been working on a number of projects recently. The following provides a summary of a few projects they have been working on:

New Grant Awards

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs recently awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for two successful applications completed by NIRCC's Community Development Team. OCRA awards these federal grant funds to rural communities to assist them with various community projects including infrastructure improvements, downtown revitalization, public facilities improvements, and economic development projects. Both awards were given to projects in DeKalb County.

One was awarded to the city of Auburn in DeKalb County. Auburn was awarded \$750,000 as part of the Public Facilities Program to assist with

the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum showroom façade preservation project. The funds will be used for rehabilitation of damaged masonry, deteriorating lintels, windows, and doors. This project is essential in maintaining the safety, stability and functionality of the building for years to come.

The town of St. Joe in DeKalb County was also successful. St Joe was awarded \$750,000 to make improvements to its water distribution system. Throughout the town, there are asbestos concrete water mains which will be replaced. This project will replace those along with installing a water main loop on the north side of the system and installing new fire hydrants. The project will increase efficiency of the water utility service, enhance water quality and safety, and help protect the environment.

Stay tuned for more information on these in our next addition of the Transportation Times.

Updates on the City of Auburn Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program or HELP funded Memorial Park Improvements Project

Phase 1 of the Memorial Park Improvements Project was recently completed. Phase 2 should begin sometime in the spring of 2026.



MEMORIAL PARK AUBURN, INDIANA

PHASE ONE — **HELP GRANT PROJECT**

1. GENERAL SITE WORK
2. ADA COMPLIANT RESTROOM WITH ATTACHED SHELTER
3. 10' PATHWAYS THROUGHOUT PARK - 4,000 +/- WITH 8 BENCHES
4. EIGHT CONCRETE FITNESS NODES WITH EQUIPMENT ALONG PATHWAYS
5. TWO ADA COMPLIANT DRINKING FOUNTAINS WITH SHADE STRUCTURES
6. COMMUNITY MEETING NODE
7. REHABILITATED BASKETBALL COURT
8. PICKLEBALL FACILITY - 6 COURTS
9. SHADE STRUCTURES AT THE PICKLEBALL/BASKETBALL COURTS
10. CONCRETE PAD FOR GRILLING AREA
11. CONCRETE PAD FOR PERMANENT CORNHOLE GAME
12. BALL DIAMOND

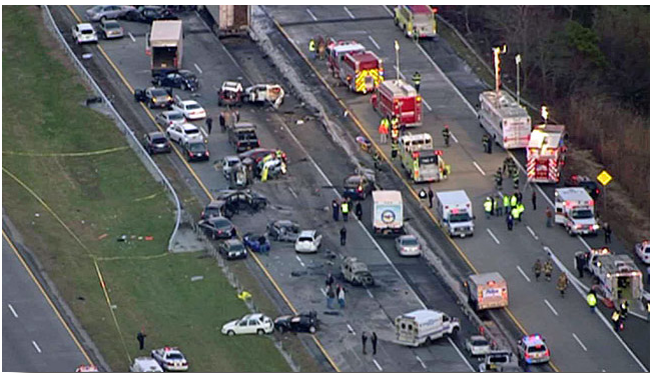
CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE: SEPTEMBER 2024-MAY 2025

Since the Spring of 2023, NIRCC has been assisting the City of Auburn with both project and grant application development for their Memorial Park Improvements Project which was funded with Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program or HELP funding from OCRA. In 2021, the City of Auburn was 1 of 9 communities selected to participate in HELP, which was a 2-year-long program that offered guidance for communities in spending their allotments of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Relief Funds, which was created under the American Rescue Plan Act, known as ARPA. The program required Auburn to complete a Strategic Investment Plan or SIP and allocate a minimum of 30% of the community's ARPA allocation to projects identified in the SIP. The HELP Core Team and Community Coordinator completed Auburn's HELP SIP in early 2023 identifying several community projects. Completion of the SIP made Auburn eligible for up to \$1 million dollars in Community Development Block

Grant CARES Act program funding, known as CDBG-CV program funding through OCRA's HELP program to complete projects identified in the SIP as long as they spent an equivalent amount of ARPA and local funding to complete projects identified in the SIP.

Out of all the projects identified in the SIP, the HELP Core Team identified that the improvements to Memorial Park would be the best project to pursue. The City submitted a HELP grant application for the project to OCRA in January 2024 and were awarded funding in March 2024. Memorial Park is located at 604 Hazel St. in Auburn, IN. The total project cost is \$2,107,627; funded with the \$1 million HELP CDBG-CV grant and \$1,107,627 in local funds from the City's ARPA and other local funds. The primary focus of the \$1 million in CDBG-CV funding was to construct a new ADA compliant restroom, 10 FT wide pedestrian pathways connected to fitness nodes and a community meeting node, shade structures, and new ADA compliant drinking fountain & hand sanitizing stations. In addition, the project also includes a new community meeting area with memorial and performance space, a rehabilitated basketball court, a new pickleball facility, a new baseball diamond, and concrete pads for grills and a permanent cornhole game.

Indiana Traffic Incident Management Update continued...



TIM training for recertification. Through online and in-person programs, Indiana TIM has trained 2,000 first responders in Indiana over the course of a year. AECOM has been working diligently to reach out to local first responders Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) and Regional Planning Organizations (RPO's) to establish relationships to create local and regional training opportunities. Indiana TIM continues to schedule in-person 4-hour training sessions (listed below) but encourages all MPO's and RPO's to become active in assisting local responders to get involved. It is important that all public agencies become involved in this program to ensure the safety of each responder and the motoring public.

Upcoming TIM Trainings:

- Sat. 9.13.25 (8am-12pm) Allen County-Northwest Fire

- Thurs. 9.18.25 (6pm-10pm) Noble County-Albion
- Tues. 9.30.25 (6pm-10pm) Allen County-Southwest Fire
- Sat. 10.4.2025 (8am-12pm) Allen County-Southwest Fire
- Thurs. 10.9.2025 (8am-12pm) Clark County-Jeffersonville
- Sat. 10.11.2025 (8:30am-12:30pm) Starke County-Knox Twp. Fire
- Sat. 10.18.2025 (8am-12:00pm) Adams County-Geneva
- Sat. 10.18.2025 (8:00am-12:00pm) Posey County
- Thurs. 10.22.2025 (6:00pm-10:00pm) Adams County-Riverview Center
- Sat. 10.25.2025 (8:00am-12:00pm) Dekalb County
- Tues. 10.28.2025 (8:00am-4:00pm) Allen County TIM Train-the-Trainer
- Wed. 10.29.2025 (6:00pm-10:00pm) Spencer County
- Thurs 11.13.2025 (12:00pm-4:00pm) Randolph County

For more information on training details, contact
Amanda Weimer

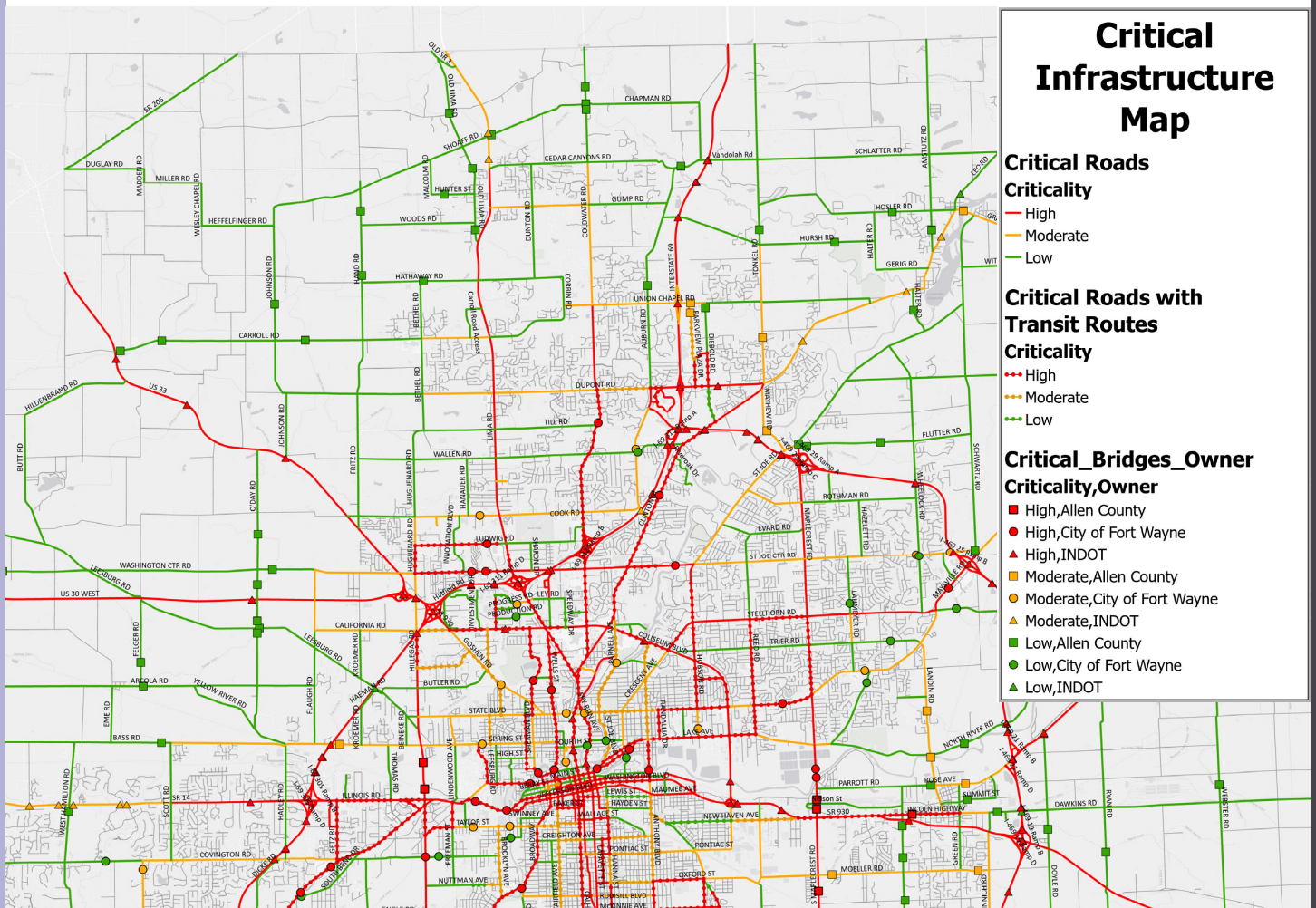
TIM Program Administrator/Trainer

Cell: 260-348-6720

amanda.weimer@aecom.com

Resilience Improvement Plan

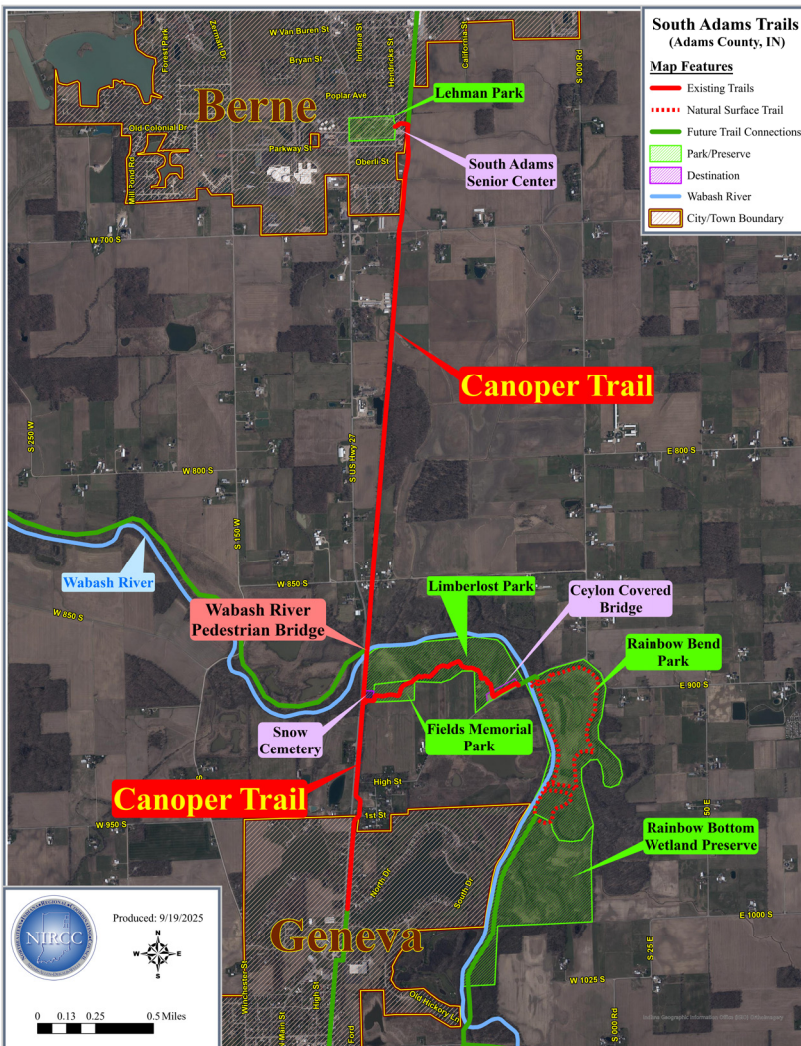
As part of our Resilience Improvement Planning, NIRCC, in collaboration with the Fort Wayne Board of Public Works, City Utilities, Allen County Highway, the Indiana Department of Transportation, Allen County Homeland Security, Citilink, Norfolk Southern, and Genesee & Wyoming Railroad has conducted an assessment to determine the criticality of transportation assets within Allen County. A critical infrastructure assessment is used to determine which assets are the most important in our community. Essentially, it is a measure of prioritization for our community. Transportation assets selected as critical will be the assets that will be included in the Vulnerability Assessment. These assets include roads, bridges, railroads, and railroad bridges. To ensure that no assets were overlooked in the Critical Infrastructure Assessment, the Steering Committee surveyed over 50 local stakeholders to ascertain which assets were critical to their organization. The feedback provided by the stakeholders allowed us to more thoroughly understand which assets were considered critical by important local governments and other community organizations. The Steering Committee considered this feedback and added additional transportation assets to the list of critical assets. Our next steps will be to commence the Vulnerability Assessment, which we are in the early stages of planning. An example of the Critical Infrastructure Map can be seen below.



South Adams Trails completes the Canoper Trail from Geneva to Berne

Congratulations to South Adams Trails, Inc! South Adams Trails recently completed a four-phase trail project connecting the communities of Berne and Geneva via a paved trail largely following the path of the former Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad alignment. This project first began nearly 20 years ago. Now, after years of hard work and dedication, the dream of connecting these two communities has finally come to fruition!

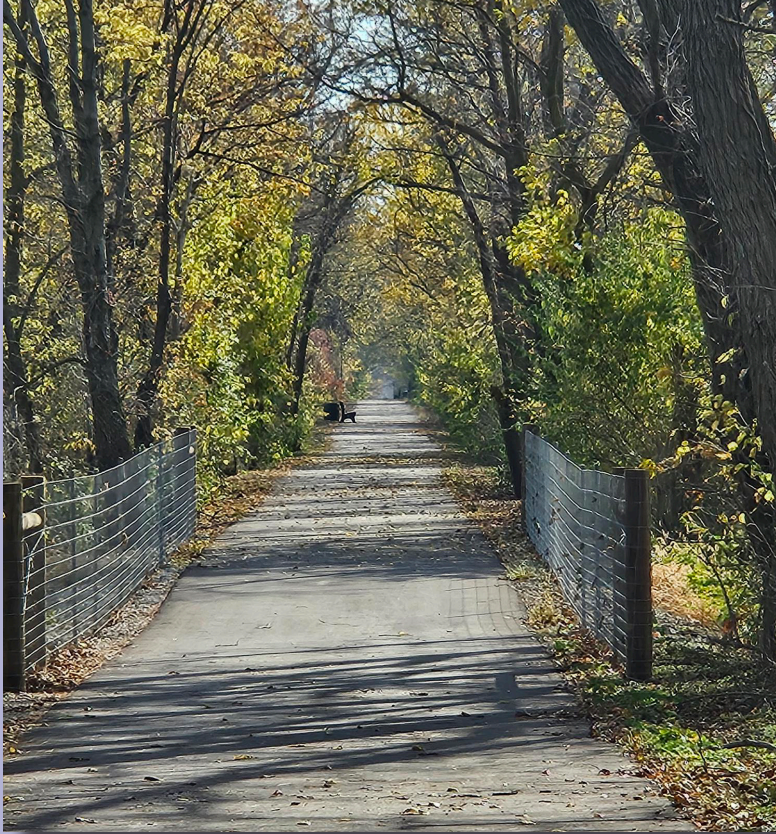
The trail has been named the “Canoper Trail”. The name, Canoper Trail, was chosen for its historical significance in the area. The Canoper Swamp once lay between the two communities, stretch-



ing from the Wabash River north to Berne, and the Canoper Trail was a popular pathway in the 1800's. What is now known as Amstutz Creek was once known as the Canoper Creek, as it came south from the Berne area straight through the Canoper Swamp before feeding into the Wabash as a tributary. The Canoper Swamp, Trail, and Creek are all referenced in the writings of local author Gene Stratton Porter.

The Canoper Trail is a 3.5 mile, 10 ft wide paved trail. It connects Geneva, near Rainbow Lake, to Berne at the South Adams Senior Center (near Lehman Park and the Berne Pool). The trailhead in Geneva has a small parking lot, bike rack, and restroom facilities. There is a connector trail off the Canoper Trail at Snow Cemetery, just south of the Wabash River, which leads through Fields Memorial Park, Limberlost Park, and out to the Ceylon Covered Bridge. Near that area is the Rainbow Bottom nature preserve.

One of the most impressive parts of the Canoper Trail is the award-winning pedestrian bridge that was constructed over the Wabash River, which included two 1890s iron railroad bridges. To create this pedestrian walkway over the Wabash



River, South Adams Trails used an old 1890s railroad bridge, which was still in place, and found another 1890s railroad bridge to replace the one that was removed back in the 1960s and scrapped. The replacement for the missing bridge was previously used along the same rail line in Decatur to cross the St. Mary's River. These two bridges were disassembled, sandblasted, inspected, and painted.

South Adams Trails had the official ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, July 12 at the Berne Senior Center to celebrate the completion of the Canoper Trail. This trail was a culmination of the hard work and dedication by so many people throughout the years. South Adams Trails also achieved federal, regional, and local financial support. This is a major accomplishment for the communities of Berne, Geneva, and Adams County.

Airport Expressway / Lower Huntington Road / Interstate 69 Subarea Analysis

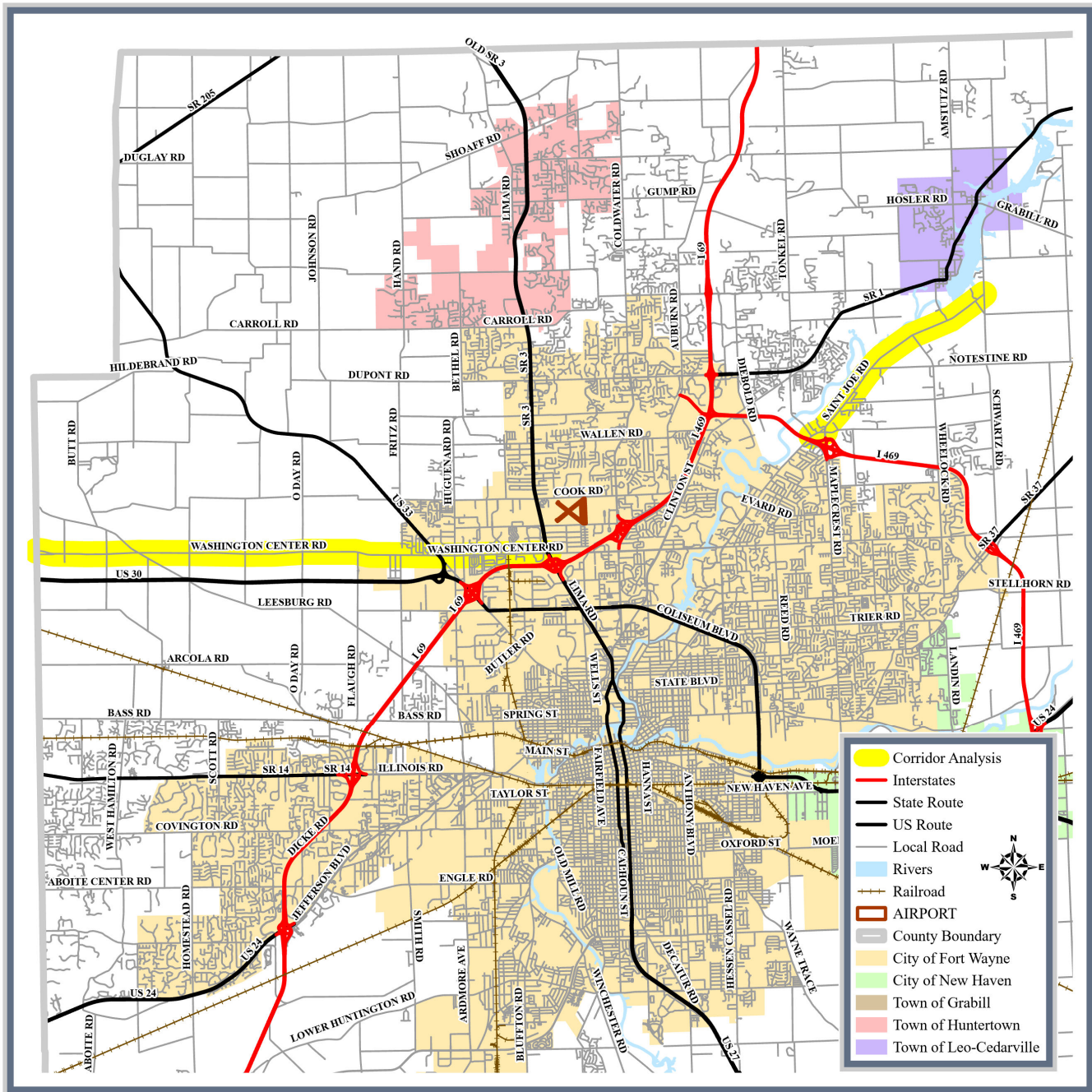
The main purpose of a corridor and impact analysis is to evaluate traffic impacts of future developments on an existing corridor. The corridor analysis estimates the number of new trips from anticipated developments that will be added to an existing facility to examine the changes in level of service (LOS). LOS is defined in terms of delay, which is a measure of driver discomfort, frustration, fuel consumption, and lost travel time. LOS is based upon the average stopped delay per vehicle for various movements within the intersection. LOS "A" describes operations with very low delays; most vehicles do not stop at all. LOS "C" describes operations with longer delays, stopping vehicles are significant but many still pass without stopping. LOS "F" describes operations with delays unacceptable to most drivers, the intersection is exceeding capacity.

The analyses are performed for three different levels of land use development including existing conditions, phase I developments, and phase II developments. Phase I focuses on proposed/approved land use developments and phase II focuses on potential developments on currently vacant land within the defined study area. Phase I has a one-to-five-year horizon, while phase II has a five-to-ten-year horizon. In phase II, vacant land is reviewed for development potential, and likely future developments are assessed.

The future developments are based upon surrounding land uses, current zones, community desires, and staff knowledge of development activity. Various maps, aerial photos, and field surveys assisted in reviewing the three phases of land use developments. For the phase I and phase II future analyses, projected traffic from future developments is forecasted from the ITE Trip Generation Manual 11th edition. The number of trips was based upon the size and type of each development. After determining the number of trips from each residential or commercial development, the trips were distributed and assigned to the adjacent roads and intersections along the corridor based upon logic and existing travel distribution patterns.

NIRCC is currently working on two Corridor Analysis:

1. St Joe Road from Mayhew Road to Schwartz Road.
 - The study will be evaluating 2 signalized and 5 unsignalized intersections.
2. Washington Center Road from West County Line Road to Lima Road (SR 3).
 - The study will be evaluating 4 signalized and 7 unsignalized intersections.



NIRCC

200 East Berry Street Suite 230
Fort Wayne, IN 46802-2735

www.nircc.com

Telephone: (260) 449-7309

Fax: (260) 449-8652