

MTP 2045

AMENDMENTS

Evansville MPO



Henderson • Vanderburgh • Warrick

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

2045

Amendments

Evansville MPO Policy Committee Adoption: March 11, 2021
FHWA Conformity Finding: May 3, 2021

Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization
1 NW Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 316 - Civic Center Complex
Evansville IN, 47708

This project was partially funded through the U.S.
Department of Transportation's Federal Highway
Administration and Federal Transit Administration.

Front Cover Image: **Alex Morgan Imaging**

RESOLUTION MTP 2045 - 1
AMENDING THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) 2045 AND
AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION

WHEREAS the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the organization designated by the Governor as the Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible, together with the State, for carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 (Federal-Aid Highway planning requirements), and capable of meeting the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 1603(a) (Federal Transit planning requirements) in the Evansville-Henderson Urbanized Area: and

WHEREAS the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization has established a region-wide, cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing planning process to develop the unified planning work program, long range transportation plan, and transportation improvement program. The EMPO enacts the plans and programs to facilitate federal, state, and local funding for surface transportation improvements carried out by the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the region's communities and counties, and transit operators, and provides technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization has complied with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) requirements as they pertain to the development and conformity of the amendment to the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045*; and


WHEREAS the amendment to the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045* conforms to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's *Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision*, made available November 2018;

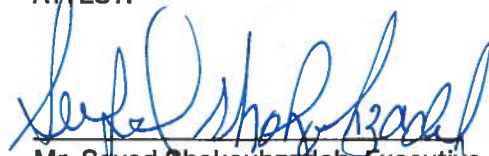
WHEREAS the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization presented the draft amendment to the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045* at the Evansville MPO Technical and Policy Committees public meetings, and made the proposed amendments open to public review as detailed in the Evansville MPO *Participation Plan*, which includes a public comment period of no less than 15 days; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee at the regular meeting of March 11, 2021 amends the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045* and *Air Quality Conformity Determination*.

Duly adopted by the Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee on this eleventh day of March 2021.

ATTEST:


Mr. Jack Corn, Jr., Chairperson
Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Committee


Mr. Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Executive Director
Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration **Federal Highway Administration**
Region V Indiana Division
200 West Adams St., Suite 320 575 N. Pennsylvania St., Rm 254
Chicago, IL 60606-5253 Indianapolis, IN 46204-1576

5/3/2021

Roy Nunnally, Director
Technical Planning & Programming Division
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 N Senate Ave. N925
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Nunnally:

The Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization (EMPO) has updated the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the documents necessary to make an air quality conformity finding on the updated EMPO updated 2045 MTP and updated 2022-2026 TIP.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the Indiana Department of Transportation, and the US Environmental Protection Agency have completed their reviews and recommend that we find the updated documents conform to applicable air quality conformity requirements. Appropriate consultation and public involvement on the conformity analyses was completed.

Therefore, FHWA and FTA find the EMPO's 2045 MTP and 2022-2026 TIP conforms to air quality conformity rule requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kari Carmany-George, FHWA, at 317-226-5629 / k.carmanygeorge@dot.gov or Cecilia C. Godfrey, FTA, at 312-705-1268 / cecilia.crenshaw@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

**KELLEY
BROOKINS** Digitally signed by
KELLEY BROOKINS
Date: 2021.04.22
13:13:44 -05'00'

Kelley Brookins
Regional Administrator
FTA Region V

Sincerely,

**JERMAINE R
HANNON** Digitally signed by
JERMAINE R HANNON
Date: 2021.05.04
08:55:24 -04'00'

Jermaine Hannon
Division Administrator
FHWA Indiana Division

cc: (transmitted by e-mail)
Seyed Shokouhzadeh, EMPO
Pamela Drach, EMPO
Jay Mitchell, INDOT
Emmanuel Nsonwu, INDOT
Sharon Emery, INDOT
Cecilia C. Godfrey, FTA
Jason Ciavarella, FTA
Tony Maietta, EPA
Shawn Seals, IDEM
Bernadette Dupont, FHWA-KY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Evansville MPO Policy Committee Members

Mr. Jack Corn, Jr.	Chairperson, Evansville City Council Appointment
Mr. Rusty Fowler	Vice-Chairperson, Indiana Department of Transportation
Mr. Lloyd Winnecke	Mayor, City of Evansville
Mr. William "Buzzy" Newman	Henderson City Manager, City of Henderson Appointment
Mr. Ron Beane	Councilmember, Evansville City Council
Mr. Ben Shoulders	Commissioner, Vanderburgh County Commission
Ms. Jill Hahn	Councilmember, Vanderburgh County Council
Mr. Dan Saylor	Commissioner, Warrick County Commission
Mr. William Hubiak	County Engineer, Henderson County Appointment
Mr. John Stoll	County Engineer, Vanderburgh County Commission Appointment
Mr. Todd M. Robertson	Transportation and Services Director, City of Evansville Mayoral Appointment
Ms. Christy Powell	Newburgh Town Manager, Town of Newburgh Appointment
Ms. Deneatra Henderson	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Mr. Joe McGuinness	Indiana Department of Transportation (NV)
Ms. Mayela Sosa	Indiana Federal Highway Administration (NV)
Ms. Kari Carmany-George	Indiana Federal Highway Administration (NV)
Mr. Shawn Seals	Indiana Department of Environmental Management (NV)
Ms. Marisol Simon	Federal Transit Administration Region V (NV)
Ms. Cecilia Godfrey	Federal Transit Administration Region V (NV)
Mr. Todd Jeter	Kentucky Federal Highway Administration (NV)
Ms. Bernadette Dupont	Kentucky Federal Highway Administration (NV)
Mr. Jim Gray	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (NV)
Mr. Mikael Pelfrey	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (NV)
Ms. Leslie Poff	Kentucky Division of Air Quality (NV)

(NV) = Non Voting

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Evansville MPO Technical Committee Members

Mr. Greg Wathen

Chairperson, Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana

Mr. John Stoll

Vice-Chairperson, Vanderburgh County Engineer

The following organizations are represented on the Technical Committee:

American Medical Response	Henderson County Riverport
ARC of Evansville	Henderson-Henderson County Chamber of Commerce
Black Chamber of Commerce Evansville	Henderson-Henderson County Plan Commission
Carver Community Organization	Henderson Judge Executive
CSX Transportation	Indiana Department of Environmental Management (Indianapolis)
David Matthews Associates	Indiana Department of Transportation (Indianapolis)
Easterseals Rehabilitation Center	Indiana Department of Transportation (Vincennes)
Eastland Mall	Indiana Southern Railroad
Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (Frankfort)
EnviroKinetics, Inc.	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (Madisonville)
Evansville Bicycle Club	Lochmueller Group
Evansville Board of Public Safety	Metropolitan Evansville Transit System
Evansville Chamber of Commerce	Port of Indiana-Mount Vernon
Evansville City Engineer	Posey County Chamber
Evansville Department of Metropolitan Development	Qk4 Inc.
Evansville Department of Transportation and Services	River City Taxi
Evansville Department of Urban Forestry	St. Vincent's Trauma Hospital
Evansville Environmental Protection Agency	Shrewsberry & Associates, LLC
Evansville Parks and Recreation Department	SIRS Inc.
Evansville Police Department	Southwest Indiana Chamber
Evansville Regional Airport	Latino Chamber Alliance
Evansville-Vanderburgh Area Plan Commission	Nonprofit Alliance
Evansville Water and Sewer Department	Tri-State Manufacturers' Alliance
Federal Highway Administration (Indiana)	Young Professionals Alliance
Federal Highway Administration (Kentucky)	United Neighborhoods of Evansville (UNOE)
Federal Transit Administration (Region V)	University of Evansville
Green River Area Development District	Vanderburgh County Emergency Management Agency
Henderson Area Rapid Transit	Vanderburgh County Engineer
Henderson City Engineer	Warrick County Economic Development
HOLA Evansville	Warrick County Plan Commission
Assistant Henderson City Manager	Warrick County School Corporation
Henderson County Engineer	Westside Improvement Association

Evansville MPO Staff

Mr. Seyed Shokouhzadeh	Executive Director
Ms. Pamela Drach	Deputy Director
Ms. Erin Schriefer	Senior Transportation Planner
Mr. Matt Schriefer, AICP	Senior Transportation Planner
Mr. Amir Varshochi	Transportation Planner
Ms. Laura Lamb	Chief Transportation Engineer
Mr. Xinbo Mi	Transportation Engineer
Ms. Kari Akin	Finance Officer
Mr. Lorenzo Marsh	Transportation Technician

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In March 2019, the Evansville MPO adopted the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045, the vision for transportation investment through 2045 in Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties in Indiana and Henderson County in Kentucky. The purpose of the MTP 2045 is to guide decisions relating to roadways, public transportation, freight movement, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities through the year 2045, while conforming to federal air quality standards. Projects in the MTP 2045 are separated into three timeframes based on the anticipated/recommended completion year: projects that are to be completed between the 2019-2025 timeframe, projects that are to be completed between the 2026-2035 timeframe, and projects that are to be completed between the 2036-2045 timeframe.

Changes to the MTP 2045

This amendment includes changes to project timelines for three projects and an added section to an existing project in the MTP 2045. The changes to the local program of projects were identified as part of the development of the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and associated fiscal constraint analysis. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) identified the need for the proposed change to the I-69 Ohio River Crossing project.

**AMENDMENTS:
CY 20-21**

Oak Hill Road: Lynch Road to Heckel Road

Oak Hill Road is a north/south corridor that connects the City of Evansville with a more populated area of Vanderburgh County. The City portion of the corridor was widened to include a center turn lane, bike lanes, and a sidewalk on the east side of the road. Project development has begun for Vanderburgh County to extend the cross-section built by the City of Evansville into the county, with project funding using a combination of federal funded sections and 100% locally funded sections. The Lynch Road to Heckel Road section,

originally listed in the MTP 2045 in the 2019-2025 timeframe, was split into two sections. The section from St George Road to Heckel Road will remain 100% locally funded and is anticipated to go to construction in 2024. The section from Lynch Road to St George Road received approval for federal funding for construction in fiscal year 2026. As such, this section will need to move from the 2019-2025 timeframe to the 2026-2035 timeframe in the MTP 2045.

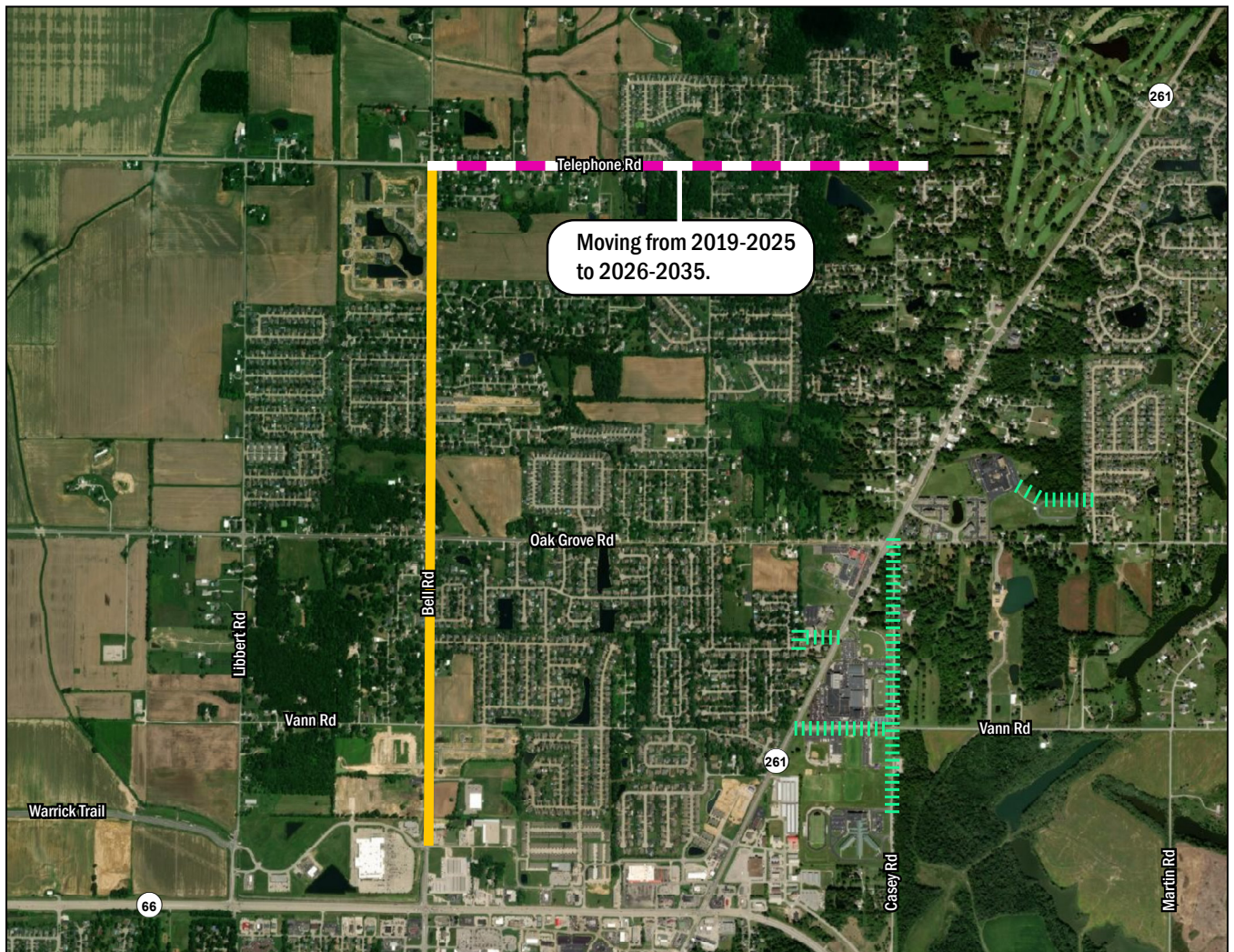


MTP 2045 Projects

- 2019-2025 Projects
- 2026-2035 Projects
- 2036-2045 Projects
- Amended Projects/Phases

Telephone Road: Bell Road to Fuquay Road

The Telephone Road project is the final section of a larger corridor project in Warrick County that widens the road to meet current design standards and improve safety. The project is listed in the MTP 2045 in the 2019-2025 timeframe. However, to maintain fiscal constraint in the 2022-2026 TIP, the federal funding for construction of the project will need to move to FY 2025. This requires a move in the MTP 2045 from the 2019-2025 timeframe to the 2026-2035 timeframe.



MTP 2045 Projects

- 2019-2025 Projects**
- 2026-2035 Projects**
- 2036-2045 Projects**
- Amended Projects/Phases**
- Warrick SRTS Project - letting Jan 2021**

Epworth Road: Lincoln Avenue to south of SR 66

The Epworth Road corridor is a major collector just east of I-69 in Warrick County. It serves as access to growing healthcare developments that include hospitals and urgent care facilities, among other specialty services. The Epworth Road project, listed in the MTP 2045 in the 2026-2035 timeframe, was proposed for improvement from SR 662 to Lincoln Avenue. During the 2022-2026 TIP call for projects, Warrick County submitted an application for the Epworth Road project adding the section from Lincoln Avenue to south of SR 66. The intent is to tie in the Epworth Road improvements with

the INDOT project at the SR 66 – Epworth Road intersection. At this time, Warrick County is proposing this new 0.33 mile section from Lincoln Avenue to south of SR 66 be widened from a 2-lane to a 5-lane cross-section with a trail on the west side of the roadway. This amendment adds this new section to the MTP 2045 2026-2035 timeframe and notes that the proposed improvement, which adds travel lanes, is considered non-exempt.



MTP 2045 Projects

- 2019-2025 Projects
 - 2026-2035 Projects
 - 2036-2045 Projects
- Amended Projects/Phases

I-69 Ohio River Crossing (ORX) Project

I-69 Ohio River Crossing (ORX) Project connects the southern terminus of I-69 in Indiana with the northern terminus of I-69 in Kentucky. The MTP 2045 listed the project in the 2019-2025 timeframe. KYTC and INDOT, along with the I-69 ORX project team, completed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and solicited public comment in 2019. The Project Team continues to work toward the selection of a preferred alternative and the development of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). Given the current schedule for the project, the MTP 2045 is being amended to reflect a change in the projected timeframe from 2019-2025 to 2026-2035.

The 2020 KYTC Enacted Highway Plan includes \$227 million to develop and begin construction on a portion of the project from the Henderson Bypass (KY 425) north to US 60 (Item# 2-1088.20). The Highway Plan programs funding for construction each year from 2022 through 2025. The 2022-2026 TIP and the KYTC STIP reflect the project as programmed in the KYTC Highway Plan, which is consistent with the proposed change in the MTP 2045 timeframe.

Financial Feasibility

The following table, Table 6.6 from the initial MTP 2045, has been updated to reflect the local program amendments as discussed in this document. This demonstration assumes that federal funds are applied only to construction costs. The assumed federal/local split is 80% federal and 20% local, unless the project is known to be completely funded locally or is expecting to receive a significant outside source of aid. As indicated in the table, the urban area federal funding totals for all analysis periods remains a surplus indicating the MTP 2045 is reasonably constrained.

Indiana Urban Area Federal Funds (in millions)				
Analysis Period	Project Costs	Multiplied by 80%	Federal Share	Federal Available
FY 2019-2025	\$50.90		\$40.72	\$59.48
FY 2026-2035	\$73.00		\$58.40	\$60.25
FY 2036-2045	\$77.90		\$62.32	\$60.25
Total		\$161.44	\$179.98	

Conformity Process

As part of the amendment process, the Evansville MPO completed a draft transportation conformity process for the amended MTP 2045 and 2022 - 2026 TIP. The report documents that the amended MTP 2045 and 2022 -2026 TIP meet the federal transportation conformity requirements in 40 CFR Part 93.

Clean Air Act (CAA) section 176(c) (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)) requires that federally funded or approved highway and transit activities are consistent with ("conform to") the purpose of the State Implementation Plan (SIP). Conformity for the purpose of the SIP means that transportation activities will not cause or contribute to new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the relevant National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or any interim milestones (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)(1)). The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) transportation conformity rules establish the criteria and procedures for determining whether metropolitan transportation plans (MTPs), transportation improvement programs (TIPs), and federally supported highway and transit projects conform to the SIP (40 CFR Parts 51.390 and 93).

On February 16, 2018, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in *South Coast Air Quality Mgmt. District v. EPA* ("South Coast II," 882 F.3d 1138) held that transportation conformity determinations must be made in areas that were either non-attainment or maintenance for the 1997 NAAQS and attainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS when the 1997 ozone NAAQS was revoked. These conformity determinations are required in these areas after February 16, 2019. Vanderburgh and Warrick counties were maintenance areas at the time of the 1997 ozone NAAQS revocation on April 6, 2015 and were also designated attainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS on May 21, 2012. Therefore, per the *South Coast II* decision, this conformity determination is being made for the 1997 ozone NAAQS on the MTP and TIP.

The draft conformity determination was completed consistent with CAA requirements, existing associated regulations at 40 CFR Parts 51.390 and 93, and the *South Coast II* decision, according to EPA's *Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision* issued on November 29, 2018.

Public Participation

On January 29, 2021 the amendment to the MTP 2045, draft 2022-2026 TIP document, and the corresponding Air Quality Conformity report were released for a 30-day Public Comment Period which closes on March 1, 2021. Public outreach includes a virtual open house. All events were announced through social media postings and were listed in Legal Notices published in the local news publications.

All comments received during the public comment period along with responses to the comments will be presented to the Technical and Policy Committees prior to requesting action on the document. The Evansville MPO staff coordinated with the project sponsors and project managers where necessary to obtain the accurate project information for project specific responses.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045

AMENDMENTS

Evansville MPO



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