

the Evansville MPO *Express*

Transportation Planning Updates for Vanderburgh, Warrick and Henderson counties

METS Micro: A New Pilot Program for Evansville's East Side

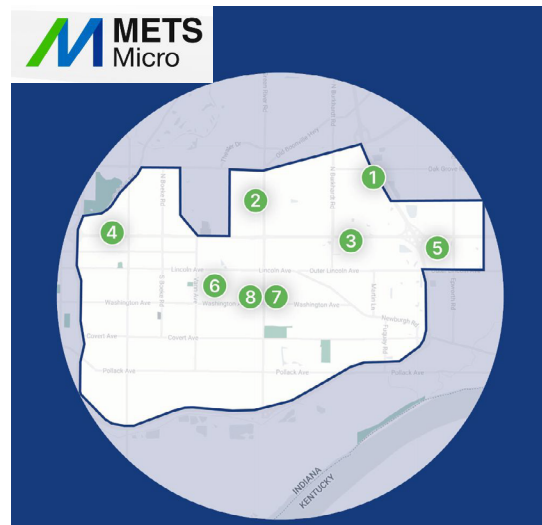
On November 28, the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System (METS) launched METS Micro, an on-demand, app-based public transit pilot service, in partnership with Via, the Toyota Mobility Foundation (TMF), Energy Systems Network (ESN), and the Evansville MPO.

METS Micro allows anyone within a designated service zone on Evansville's east side to book an on-demand ride through the METS Micro app or by calling 812-562-5011. Upon booking a ride, Via's intelligent algorithms match riders headed in the same direction into one shared vehicle to create quick, efficient shared trips. This model

provides a flexible transit option designed to extend the reach of METS' existing offerings by providing coverage in areas where fixed-route buses cannot efficiently reach and thus expanding access to transportation in Evansville.

METS Micro is available Monday to Saturday from 6:15 a.m. to 12 a.m. and on Sundays from 6:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. Rides cost \$2. The fleet includes three Toyota Sienna minivans, two of which are wheelchair-accessible, and another minivan for backup as needed.

For more information on how to ride with METS Micro, please visit: <https://city.ridewithvia.com/metsmicro/>



Popular Destinations:

- 1 Costco Wholesale
- 2 Eastland Mall
- 3 Walmart Supercenter
- 4 University of Evansville
- 5 Gateway Hospital
- 6 St. Vincent Hospital
- 7 Schnucks Lawndale
- 8 WorkOne Southwest Evansville



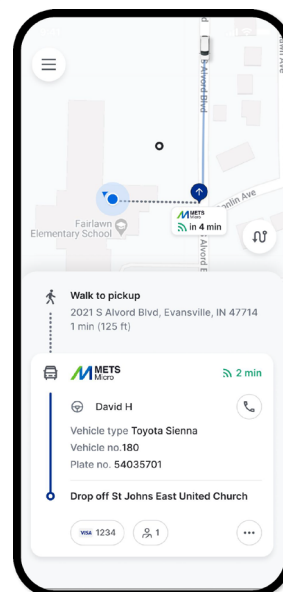
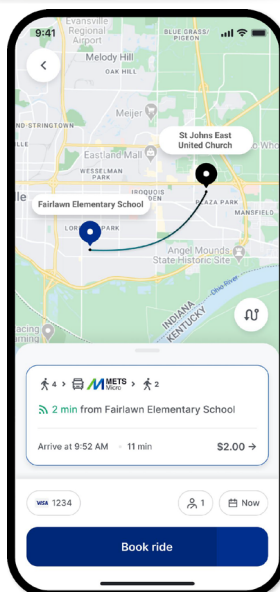
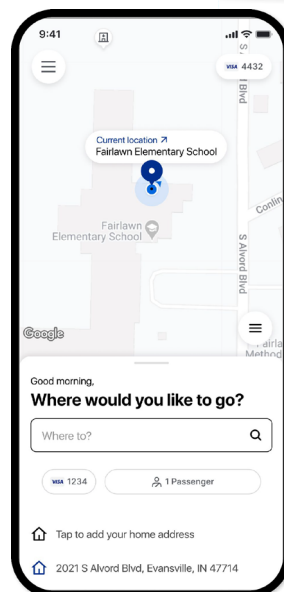
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Evansville MPO



Henderson • Vanderburgh • Warrick



The Latest on the Lloyd: Lloyd4U Construction Updates

Over the last several years, INDOT has been planning and developing solutions designed to reduce conflict points, enhance traffic flow and improve safety along the Lloyd Expressway. The Lloyd4U improvement projects are divided into two phases - Phase 1 extends from Rosenberger Ave to Cross Pointe Blvd, and Phase 2 extends from Posey County Line Rd to Rosenberger Ave. Overall, INDOT plans to invest about \$150 million in improvements to the Lloyd Expressway.

In 2023, the Lloyd4U project made substantial progress in the development phases, including

- public hearings being held on the east and west sides of Evansville;
- an education plan was launched to keep drivers informed as the construction phase nears; and
- gained approximately 800 new text and email signups from the project website, thelloyd4u.com.

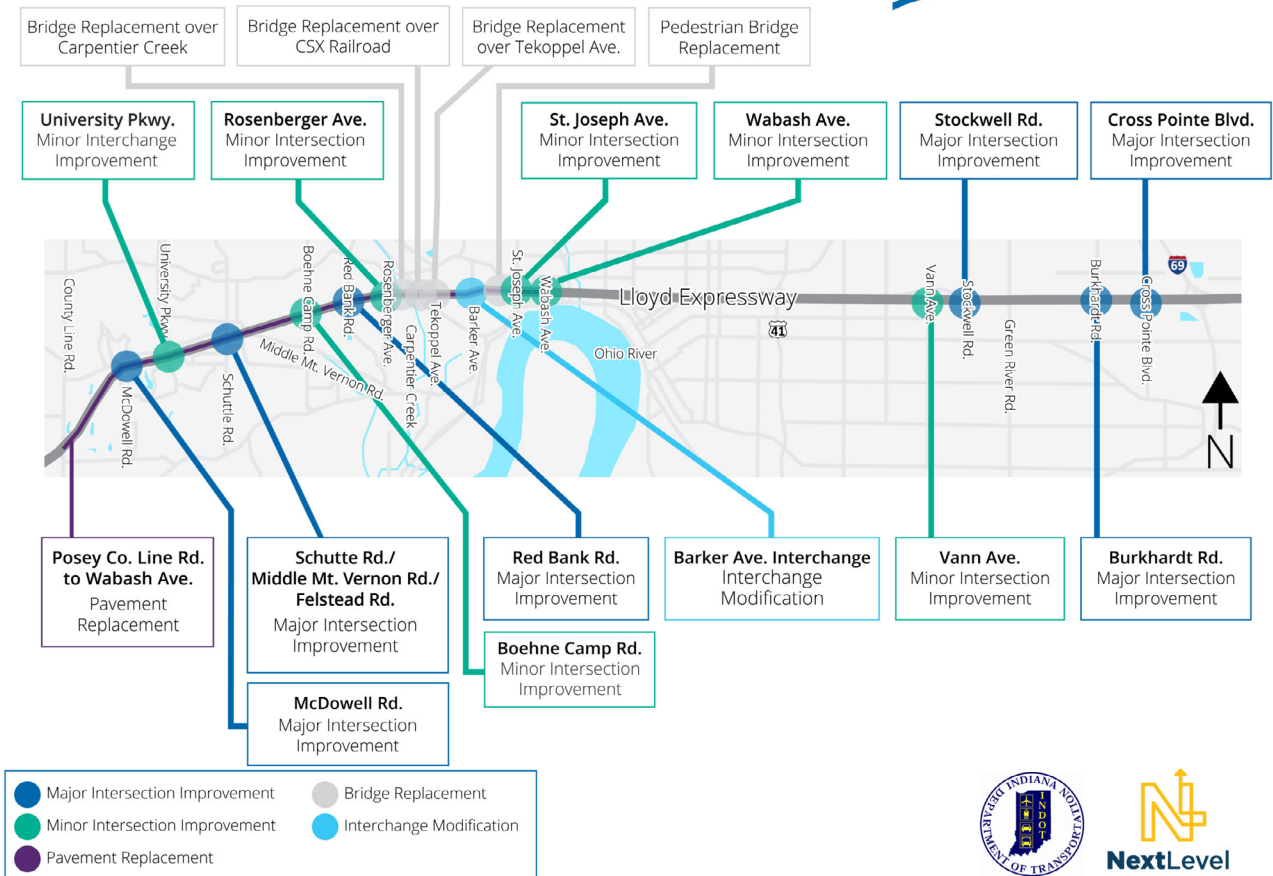
2024 will be another big year for the Lloyd4U project - it's construction time! Construction for the east side improvements is expected to start in the spring of 2024 and end in 2026, while the west side improvements will be further split into two phases. The first phase will start in 2024 and end in 2026, then the second phase will start in 2027 and end in 2028.

In order to educate Evansville residents about upcoming construction, several billboards along the Lloyd Expressway have been installed that direct people to the Lloyd4U project website. Once there, people can sign up to receive either email or text updates throughout the construction period. As lane

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Westside Improvements				
Eastside Improvements				

closures begin and traffic patterns shift, you can count on these updates to be your resource for timing of detours.

Stay connected and up to date on future Lloyd expressway project developments by texting "INDOT LLOYD" to 468311. Continue following thelloyd4u.com for more previews of the innovative intersections you can expect to encounter on the improved Lloyd Expressway.



Welcome to the Evansville MPO, Jennifer!

The Evansville MPO would like to welcome Jennifer Scott as the new Transit Transportation Planner. Scott arrives having served for 12 years as the Executive Assistant for a Commissioner of Hays County, Texas and City Planner for the City of Uhland, Texas.

In 2008, Jennifer graduated from the University of Evansville with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. She then moved to San Marcos, Texas to pursue a Master of Public Administration Degree from Texas State University. In 2009, while studying for her degree, Jennifer took an internship with Hays County Commissioner Will Conley focusing on water needs, county budgeting, the impact of the homestead tax exemption, and coordination with Texas State University.

The relationships and connections gained during that internship would propel Jennifer to become the Executive Assistant for Hays County Commissioner Mark Jones. In this position, Scott cultivated a passion for surface transportation infrastructure, planning, and public involvement. After many years of service to the Hays County community, Jennifer and her family agreed it was time to return home to Evansville.

With a background in transportation, land use, planning, and budgeting, Ms. Scott brings valuable skills to the position of Transit Transportation Planner. Please join us in welcoming Jennifer Scott to the EMPO team!

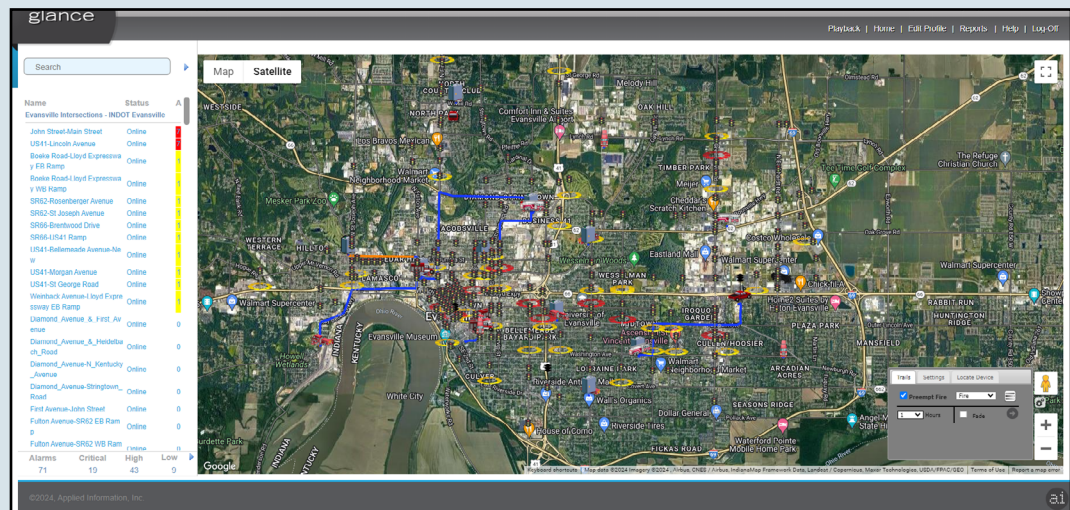


Evansville Fire Dept Deploys Signal Preemption System

In 2021, Evansville became the first major city in Indiana to deploy CV Network technology to automatically request green lights for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections.

CV (connected vehicle) technology is used to give emergency vehicles preemptive green lights at traffic signals – reducing response times and improving safety at intersections.

This technology was installed at 230 traffic signals and on 40 emergency vehicles. The preemption technology uses LTE cellular vehicle-to-everything (C-V2X Network) connectivity, with redundant 900MHz radio, which enables emergency vehicles to communicate with multiple traffic signals in the direction of travel and change the light to green or hold the light green. Traffic in front of the emergency vehicle is kept moving while oncoming and cross-traffic is brought safely to a



halt. Deployments in other cities indicate a time savings of about 10 seconds or more per light using the technology.

“Deploying the preemption system will help to ensure our firefighters get to the scene safely and quickly, as well as safeguard the public we are sworn to protect and serve,” said Paul Anslinger, Fire Chief of the Evansville Fire Department.

Since implementation, the EFD is seeing response times reduced as much as 20 to 25%.

The total project contract value was \$4 million and came from federal funds. The deployment was completed in the fall of 2021. More information on the technology can be found at <https://appinfoinc.com/solutions/preemption-priority/>

Long-awaited 5310 Vehicle Deliveries Begin and FY 2023 Project Call

From 2021 through 2023, the Evansville MPO continued its partnership with local non-profits to provide federal funding, for accessible minivans for seniors and people with disabilities, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310- Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities grant program. The economic reverberations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and hyperinflation have begun to steadily decline throughout the automotive industry. The impact of the COVID lockdowns created backlogs on the assembly of vehicles that continued throughout 2021 and 2022. As the economy began to recover to pre-COVID levels, hyperinflation and supply-chain issues began to affect

the timely delivery of primary parts for large transit buses, paratransit vehicles, and minivans.

In the 4th quarter of 2023, the long-awaited vehicles were delivered to our local non-profit organizations. On October 10, 2023 and December 28, 2023, EMPO, with the help of Midwest Transit, delivered vehicles to Missing Pieces CDC, Arc of Evansville, and the Warrick County Council on Aging. The vehicles granted to Missing Pieces CDC will enable the non-profit to continue to operate the Epworth Express. Epworth Express provides people access to transportation to medical appointments, food and grocery establishments, and employment opportunities. The minivan delivered

will allow Arc of Evansville and the Warrick County Council on Aging to provide safe and reliable transportation that is necessary to assist clients in attending community outings; volunteer opportunities; and social, educational, and recreational activities. Participation in events and activities provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life and to develop new friendships. In 2024, the final vehicle from this grant will be delivered to Easterseals.

EMPO has completed the FY 2023 Call for Projects for Section 5310 project funding. In early 2024, EMPO will prepare and submit the grant application to the FTA.



Construction on Walnut Street Phase 2 is Nearing Completion

Walnut Street Phase 2 has been under construction for nearly a year and is nearing completion! In December, crews continued to pour the sidewalk and multi-use trail, and sod was being placed. This new section of complete street will be ready for use this spring!



Total Solar Eclipse 2024

The chance to witness a total solar eclipse from your hometown is extraordinary, and we're fortunate to have this opportunity in the Evansville region on Monday, April 8, 2024. A total solar eclipse occurs on a given spot on the planet only once about every 375 years. Portions of Indiana will not be in the path of totality for a total solar eclipse again until 2099!

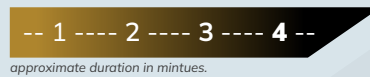
With a large portion of southern and central Indiana being in the path of totality for the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024, the State released a travel information page with interactive maps and traffic conditions. Before you head out for the event, you can check current traffic conditions here: <https://www.in.gov/dhs/solar-eclipse-2024/travel-information/>

With many expected to take to the roads for a prime viewing spot, they offer the following advice for a smooth trip:

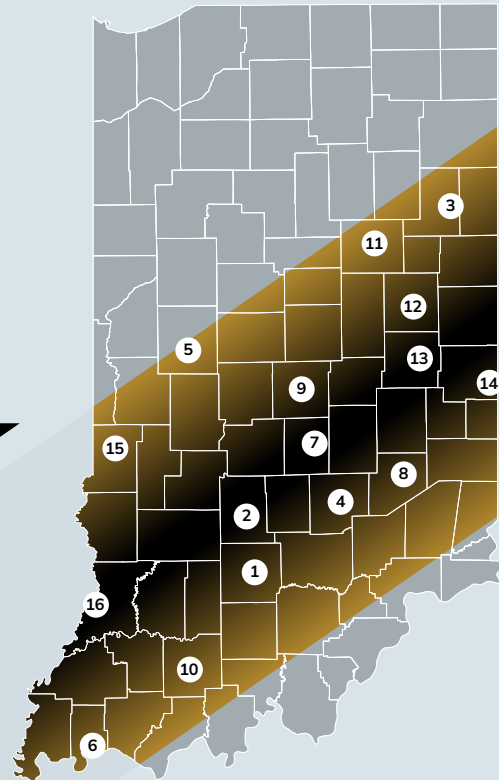
- **Plan Ahead:** To ensure a smooth trip, start planning well in advance. Research your eclipse viewing site, considering accessibility, parking, and crowd size. Consider booking accommodations and transportation early, as they may fill up quickly due to high demand.
- **Traffic Awareness:** Anticipate increased traffic. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) provides real-time traffic updates and road closures. Use navigation apps and check INDOT's official website for traffic information to plan your routes and travel times accordingly.

TOTALITY DURATIONS IN SELECT CITIES

- 1 - Bedford: 3 minutes, 42 seconds
- 2 - Bloomington: 4 minutes, 2 seconds
- 3 - Bluffton: 2 minutes, 33 seconds
- 4 - Columbus: 3 minutes, 44 seconds
- 5 - Crawfordsville: 1 minute, 6 seconds
- 6 - Evansville: 3 minutes, 2 seconds
- 7 - Franklin: 4 minutes, 2 seconds
- 8 - Greensburg: 3 minutes, 32 seconds
- 9 - Indianapolis: 3 minutes, 49 seconds
- 10 - Jasper: 3 minutes, 11 seconds
- 11 - Marion: 2 minutes, 11 seconds
- 12 - Muncie: 3 minutes, 46 seconds
- 13 - New Castle: 4 minutes, 0 seconds
- 14 - Richmond: 3 minutes, 49 seconds
- 15 - Terre Haute: 2 minutes, 56 seconds
- 16 - Vincennes: 4 minutes, 5 seconds



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY



<https://www.in.gov/dhs/solar-eclipse-2024/files/TSE24-Totality-Durations-Map.pdf>

- **Plan Your Method:** Plan your post-eclipse transportation method well ahead of time. Ensure everyone in your group has a safe and sober way to return to your accommodations or home. Having a plan and adjusting to changes is better than being stranded with no way home.

Traffic Congestion: After the eclipse, exercise patience when leaving the viewing area, as traffic may be heavy. Indiana State Police and local law enforcement agencies will be managing traffic flows. Follow their instructions and be considerate of fellow travelers for a safe departure.

For more information on the Total Solar Eclipse, check out the following resources:

- <https://www.exploreevansville.com/eclipse/>
- <https://www.in.gov/dhs/solar-eclipse-2024/>
- <https://www.in.gov/indot/>

And don't forget your eclipse glasses! Make sure they are certified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). You can tell if a pair of solar eclipse glasses meet today's standards if they are labeled ISO 12312-2 (sometimes written as ISO 12312-2:2015).