



NEWS RELEASE

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
913 W. Holmes Rd., Suite 201, Lansing, Michigan 48910 • Area Code 517/393-0342

Monday, December 21, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission announced today that copies of the Draft Regional 2035 Transportation Plan covering major transportation investments throughout Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties and cities and villages is available for public review and comment.

The Draft Regional 2035 Transportation Plan includes the following major elements:

- Regional transportation goals and objectives;
- A summary of the **“Regional Growth: Choices for our Future”** project, which resulted in adopting a preferred regional land use pattern;
- Official population and employment growth forecasts for all areas of the region;
- An overview of existing transportation facilities;
- Results of analysis showing where future roadway congestion problems are likely to occur during the forecast period;
- Analysis of revenues available to meet the region’s future transportation needs;
- Identification of proposed projects and other recommendations to address regional transportation needs; and
- Analysis showing the plan reduces air pollution and conforms to requirements of the Clean Air Act.

Printed and digital copies of the Draft Plan have been forwarded to public libraries in the region and will be provided to interested parties on request to the Commission, located at 913 W. Holmes Road, Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910 or by calling the Commission at (517) 393-0342. Copies can also be downloaded from the Commission’s web site at www.mitcrpc.org. Non-local telephone inquiries, short comments or requests for additional information may also be made by calling the Commission’s toll free hotline at 1-800-619-6676.

M O R E

In addition, the Commission announced today a schedule of meetings where the Draft Plan will be reviewed or acted upon by the Commission or its advisory committees, as itemized below.

Review, comments and questions on this plan can be presented in a variety of ways, as summarized below.

The Commission is scheduled to act on this plan at 7:30 p.m. on January 21, 2010. A listing of committee actions and public information meetings follows.

Unless otherwise listed individually below, location of all meetings in this announcement is the **Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street in Lansing** in Conference Rooms listed below.

The draft Regional 2035 Transportation Plan and conformity determinations will be reviewed and acted on at the following open public meetings:

- **Long Range Plan Task Force:**
Conference Room D/E, 8:30 a.m., January 5, 2010 (Tuesday);
- **Capital Area Regional Transportation Study Technical Advisory Committee (CARTS):** Conference Room D/E, 9:30 a.m., January 5, 2010 (Tuesday);
- **Transportation Review Committee (TRC):** at the Foster Community Center, 200 North Foster, Lansing, Room 209, 4:00 p.m., January 13, 2010 (Wednesday);
- **Tri-County Regional Planning Commission:** at the Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Executive Conference Room, 7:30 p.m., January 21, 2010 (Thursday).

Public Information Meetings: Open public information meetings will also be held as follows:

- Beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 immediately prior to CARTS in Conference Room D/E;
- Beginning at 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at the Southside Community Center Auditorium, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing;
- Beginning at 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 7, 2010 at the Hannah Community Center Executive Conference Room, 819 Abbot, East Lansing;
- Beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at the Foster Community Center, 200 North Foster, Lansing, Room 209; and
- Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at the Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Executive Conference Room.

At these meetings staff will present the plan, answer questions and accept additional input.

Commission Action: At the conclusion of the final public information meeting on January 21, 2010, the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission will convene in open session at 7:30 p.m. Any last additional public comments will be accepted. The Commission will act on the Plan.

Oral and Written Comments: All meetings of the Commission and its advisory committees are open to the public. Reasonable opportunity to present comments, ask questions or provide input will be accepted at any of these meetings consistent with rules of these respective bodies. In addition, any written comments submitted prior to plan adoption will be considered by the Commission at the time of action.

Notices and materials for Commission or advisory committee meetings will be provided to interested parties on receipt of a request which includes the complete name and mailing address of the interested party.

The following examples are representative of projects in the Regional 2035 Transportation Plan.

- Widening portions of Willow Highway in Eaton County from two to three lanes and adding bike lanes and sidewalks from M-100 to Canal.
- Construction of a new two lane extension (with bike lanes) of Coleman Road from West to Wood Streets in East Lansing.
- Widening Waverly Road from two to three lanes between Miller and Jolly in Ingham County.
- Widening State Road from two to four lanes between DeWitt Road and US 127 BR in Clinton County.
- Construction of US 127 limited access freeway from Kinley Road in Clinton County to the Gratiot County line by the Michigan Department of Transportation.
- Conversion of segments of Capitol, Grand, Pine and Walnut from one-way back to two way streets in downtown Lansing.
- The plan also identifies roads to be resurfaced or reconstructed throughout the region and other planned changes in traffic operations at intersections or other locations in the region to the year 2014.

In addition, the Draft Plan includes a future Regional Non-Motorized System Plan for pedestrians and bicyclists, future public transit system improvements and airport improvements for Capital Region International Airport.

TCRPC Executive Director, Jon W. Coleman, in announcing availability of the Draft Plan and meetings for public review and comments, stated:

“The Regional 2035 Transportation Plan is a key document which addresses federal laws and local needs for planning the regional transportation system, consistent with federal transportation funding eligibility requirements and the Clean Air Act as amended.

“In order for any major road or public transportation project to be constructed in the three county region using federal funds, it must be drawn from this transportation plan.

“While this plan fulfills these requirements, it clearly shows there are many more future congestion problems and other transportation needs facing the region than we are financially able to solve. Addressing unfunded regional congestion and other needs will be a key issue as this plan is revised and updated in the future.

“On behalf of the Commission, I urge any interested parties to review the Draft Plan and submit comments concerning this plan to local elected officials as we move through its adoption process in the next several weeks.”

Additional information on the Regional 2035 Transportation Plan or public involvement opportunities in its review and adoption process can be obtained by contacting the:

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
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