

**PATHWAY TO 2040 IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX**

**Growth & Conservation**

**Goal G&C-1: Livable urban, suburban and rural centers**

**Objective 1-A: Encourage the compact mixing of uses**

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Create Livable Centers.	S / M / L	<b>NIRPC</b> will provide critical technical assistance to local communities as they plan for and implement improvements to support Livable centers. NIRPC will encourage and support the preparation of local plans specifically addressing Livable Centers. It will provide model ordinance language and advising communities on achieving desirable regional outcomes through their planning initiatives as local policies are developed. - Develop "model" code and regulatory guidance to address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting housing choice and affordability in livable centers</li> <li>• Promoting transit-oriented development in livable centers</li> <li>• Promoting complete streets policies in livable centers</li> <li>• Sustainable and "green" development practices in urbanized areas</li> <li>• Conservation development standards</li> </ul> <b>Local:</b> local communities as they plan for and implement improvements to support Livable Centers, and reflect a preference for investment in Livable Centers in funding allocation decisions.	NIRPC established a funding mechanism called Creating Livable Communities (CLC) program to help implementing variety of transportation-related land use projects. Current NIRPC transportation formula funds [STP, CMAQ, Transportation Enhancement (TE), etc.], with the corresponding local share will be used for funding planning and implementing capital projects such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access management - A model transit oriented development (TOD) ordinance, or</li> <li>• Redevelopment of urban livable centers to support transit facilities, and transit corridor plans. Search for other sources of funds to continue and expand the planning program and for construction projects.</li> </ul>	1- Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAG) for Livable Centers Incentives 2- Transit-Oriented Development Program by: Metro in Oregon <a href="http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tod">www.oregonmetro.gov/tod</a> 3- Livable Centers Initiative by Atlanta Regional Commission
Promote adaptive reuse of existing buildings and facilities and infill development will help to minimize the occurrence of single-use types.	S/M	<b>Local:</b> Develop conventional rezoning to allow higher densities and mixed-uses or different scales, such as smaller setback requirements, is helpful.	Land Banks; Tax Increment Financing; Tax Abatement; Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) New Market Tax Credit Program; Community Revitalization Enhancement District; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs)	1- University Park Neighborhood, Gary, IN 2-Fall Creek Place, Indianapolis, IN. 3- Horace Mann Hope VI neighborhood, Gary, IN 4- Small Farms, Gary, IN
Where possible create small mixed-use areas in existing single-use neighborhoods.		<b>Local:</b> Identify possible sites to accommodate mixed-use development compatible with local zoning ordinances.	Tax Increment Financing; Tax Abatement; CDBG New Market Tax Credit Program; Community Revitalization Enhancement District; Community Development Block Grant	1- Courtesy of Planning with Power Project, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 2- Zona Rosa, Kansas City, Missouri. 3- Aberdeen, Valparaiso, IN
<b>Objective 1-B: Encourage a diverse mix of housing types and affordability levels near job centers and transit routes</b>				
Coordination between local governments and prioritization of investment in centers will further improve development opportunities and facilitate mixed-use centers.	S	<b>Local:</b> Facilitating the rehabilitation of neighborhoods and the maintenance of high-quality and affordable housing will help to stabilize neighborhoods. Additional efforts, such as inclusionary housing policies, must be undertaken now to preserve the affordability of the region's housing stock before market conditions change (e.g. interest rates increase) and as the region is revitalized.	CLC Program; Tax Increment Financing; Tax Abatement; BID New Market Tax Credit Program (NWTCP); CDBG; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs)	1- Lakefront redevelopment, Gary and Portage, IN 2- NIRPC new CLC Program 3- Gary Northside Redevelopment Project: A multi-faceted collaboration between USDOT, US EPA, US HUD, the City of Gary, and other regional partners that is focused on urban revitalization in Gary.

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Consider making strategic land use decisions and providing for transit and complete streets, the region can ensure that all residents have access to good schools, grocery stores, community centers, medical facilities, reliable transportation and job opportunities.	S/M	<b>Local:</b> Provide incentives for developers to integrate features of traditional neighborhoods and walkable communities.	CLC Program	1- livable centers by Houston-Galveston Area Council <a href="http://www.h-gac.com/community/livablecenters/default.aspx">www.h-gac.com/community/livablecenters/default.aspx</a> 2- Livable Centers Initiative by Atlanta Regional Commission 4-Contra Costa Centre Transit Village, California <a href="http://www.contracostacentre.com/">www.contracostacentre.com/</a>
<b>Objective 1-C: Facilitate the remediation and redevelopment of abandoned and underutilized land, including brownfields and greyfields.</b>				
Promote infill and adaptive reuse	S/M	<b>NIRPC</b> can offer technical assistance and facilitate sharing of information between communities. <b>Local:</b> To encourage and incent it as a preferred choice of development over the option of developing previously undeveloped lands. Infill and adaptive reuse are most successful where there is some degree of regulatory flexibility. - Conventional rezoning to allow higher densities and mixed-uses or different scales, such as smaller setback requirements, is helpful. This allows adaptive reuse without requiring special approvals and streamlines the development process.	Tax Increment Financing; Tax Abatement; Industry Development Grant Fund (IDGF); CDBG New Market Tax Credit Program; Business Improvement District; Brownfield Tax Incentives; Land Banks; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs)	1- Near West Side Residential/Retail Development, City of Chicago, IL. 2- Fall Creek Place, Indianapolis, IN. 3- Portage, IN Lakefront Redevelopment. 4-Horace Mann Hope VI neighborhood, Gary, IN 5- East Chicago, IN: North Harbor Redevelopment and Waterfront Revitalization Initiative. 6- Gary, IN: East Lakefront Marquette Park Improvements.
Prioritize Transportation Funding to Support Centers, Revitalization Areas and Infill & Growth Areas	S	<b>NIRPC</b> will incorporate policies and strategies in transportation funding to support Centers, Revitalization Areas and Infill & Growth Areas <b>Fed/State:</b> Support NIRPC's strategies and develop similar policies /strategies within their agencies.	CLC Program	1- Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) for Jefferson Area Eastern Planning Initiative - Building Livable Communities 2-San Diego Area Council of Governments Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) Program 3-City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Incentive Program 4-The Sacramento Area Council of Government's Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035
<b>Objective 1-D: Promote community green infrastructure and access to public open space.</b>				
Concentrating new growth around infrastructure will allow preservation of environmental assets.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Use NIRPC funds more efficiently to create livable, pedestrian-friendly communities that offer a high quality of life for all residents.	CLC Program; Tax Increment Financing; Tax Abatement New Market Tax Credit Program (NWTCP); CDBG	1- Near West Side Residential/Retail Development, City of Chicago, IL. 2- West Pullman Industrial Park, Chicago, IL. 3- Small Farms, Gary, IN. 4- Siena at Renaissance Park, Atlanta, Georgia.

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<b>Objective 1-E: Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources.</b>				
Identifying the purpose and function of the necessity and benefit of having the historic districts.		<b>Local:</b> Designate historic districts based on a national or state level of significance. Establish local historic register and special zoning.	Indiana Landmarks; Historic Preservation Fund Program	1- Burlingame Historic District, San Diego, California 2- SurveyLA (Los Angeles) Public Participation Program is to identify, inventory, and document historic resources in the city. 3- NIRPC Cultural & Historic Inventory Mapping Project.
Identifying the difference between National Register and local districts.		<b>NIRPC:</b> Mapping historic preservation districts and sites. <b>Local:</b> Identify the function and classification of each landmark and historic district.	PL Initially, & find alternative funds to continue.	Lafayette Historic Preservation Commission and Local Historic Districts  <a href="http://www.lafayette.in.gov/egov/docs/1337275547814.htm">http://www.lafayette.in.gov/egov/docs/1337275547814.htm</a>
<b>Objective 1-F: Promote the integration of Context Sensitive Solutions into transportation planning projects.</b>				
See Transportation matrix				
<b>Goal G &amp; C-2: Revitalized urban core</b>				
<b>Objective 2-A: Foster the development of livable, mixed-use downtowns</b>				
Reuse historic buildings	S/M	<b>Local:</b> Provide incentives for Downtown investment. <b>Other Entity:</b> Work with Historic Preservation entities	Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits; Low-Income Historic Tax Credits; TIF; Land Banks	1- Brentwood Apartments, 4130-4140 Parkside Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2- Denny Row Housing Development, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 3-Freese Building Rehabilitation Project Bangor, Maine 4- The Broad Street Historic District Preservation Project Newark, New Jersey
Reclaim Downtown to anchor and enhance City	S/M	<b>Local:</b> Update zoning and approvals process to expedite Downtown infill.	CLC Program; TIF; CDBG; Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Business Improvement District; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs)	1- One Day 4-H Downtown Revitalization, Madison County, Texas 2- Lake Michigan Gateway Implementation Strategy in Michigan City, IN
Introduce additional housing	S/M/L	<b>Local &amp; Housing Authorities</b>	Land Banks; TIF; CDBG; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs)	Siena at Renaissance Park, Atlanta, Georgia.
<b>Objective 2-B: Promote adaptive reuse, infill development and the remediation and reuse of underutilized properties, particularly brownfields</b>				
Repair and restore the fragmented urban fabric.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Use NIRPC CLC Program to revitalize and restore downtowns and older neighborhoods. <b>Local:</b> Allow for the reuse of vacant buildings, restore sidewalks and repair streets.	Tax Increment Financing; CDBG; New Market Tax Credit Program; Community Revitalization Enhancement District Business Improvement District; Brownfield Tax Incentives; Land Banks; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs) NIRPC CLC Program and STP funding	1- West Pullman Industrial Park, Chicago, IL 2- Near West Side Residential/Retail Development. City of Chicago, IL. 3-Camden Crossing , City of Baltimore, MD. 4-Atlantic Steel Brownfield Tax Allocation District, Atlanta, GA
<b>Objective 2-C: Facilitate the rehabilitation of neighborhoods and maintenance of high-quality and affordable housing</b>				
Inclusionary housing policies, must be undertaken now to preserve the affordability of the region's housing stock before market conditions change (e.g. interest rates increase) and as the region is revitalized.	S	<b>Local:</b> Provide incentives to developers to include affordable housing as part of the development of market-rate housing. Provide housing policies to allow inclusionary housing. Provide local ordinance or policy that require developments of certain size to include some percentage of affordable housing.	HUD Local Housing Authorities Local funding	Regulatory Barriers Clearinghouse-solutions that support affordable housing <a href="http://www.huduser.org/rbc/search/rbcdetails.asp?DocId=1832">http://www.huduser.org/rbc/search/rbcdetails.asp?DocId=1832</a>

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Improve public infrastructure in great older neighborhoods.	S/M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Prioritize transportation improvement in the urban core communities.	Tax Increment Financing; CDBG New Market Tax Credit Program; Community Revitalization Enhancement District Community Development Block Grant; Renewal Communities (RCs), Empowerment Zones (EZs) and Enterprise Communities (ECs); NIRPC CLC and STP Funding	1- West Pullman Industrial Park, Chicago, IL 2- Small Farms, Gary, IN
<b>Objective 2-D: Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources</b>				
See Goal 1 objective C				
Assess historic structures and aim to preserve them.	S	<b>Local:</b> Allow for reuse of historic structures, including changing building uses. Provide incentives for investment into historic structures.	Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits; Low-Income Historic Tax Credits; Indiana Landmarks; Historic Preservation Fund Program; Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits	1- Brentwood Apartments, 4130-4140 Parkside Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2- Denny Row Housing Development, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 3-Freese Building Rehabilitation Project Bangor, Maine 4- The Broad Street Historic District Preservation Project Newark, New Jersey
<b>Objective 2-E: Expand visual and physical access to Lake Michigan and other open space</b>				
Implement the Marquette Plan	S/M/L	<b>Other Entity:</b> The Regional Development Authority should continue to fund projects within the lakefront communities of Northwest Indiana that are located in the Focused Revitalization Area.	Funded by The Cities of East Chicago, Gary, Hammond, Portage & Whiting and Indiana Department of Natural Resources; RDA	In 2015 NIRPC completed the Marquette Plan 2015 Update on behalf of the RDA with the support of the Indiana DNR Lake Michigan Coastal Program. Local Implementation projects included completion of Whiting Lakefront Park renovations.
<b>Objective 2-F: Partner to protect threatened natural remnants</b>				
Assess the region's natural resources to provide guidance as to where conservation is desirable and land is less suitable for development.	S	<b>NIRPC</b> developed a systematic approach to evaluate the region land development suitability based on both natural and built environments by assessing and mapping all environmental assets in a single composite map. NIRPC should make this system available for use and support to the region's planning and development agencies and organizations, development interests and other stakeholders for the use in local planning activities. <b>Local:</b> The system would be used by local government in the preparation of local land use and development planning programs. <b>Other Entity:</b> Planning & Economic Development	PL; Conservation Reserve Program; Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC &D), Calumet Land Conservation Partnership	In 2014 NIRPC and the Conservation Fund, updated the Green Infrastructure Vision map using metrics consistent with Chicago Wilderness and CMAP to identify high priority ecosystem hubs, key connecting corridors, and economic valuation data on ecosystem services provided by these areas.

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Avoid floodplains, and integrate preserved open spaces into new neighborhoods	S/M/L	<p><b>Local:</b> Improve City regulations to help preclude unnecessary destruction of natural features. Provide incentives for developers to preserve natural areas and use them as neighborhood focal points and open space.</p> <p><b>Other Entity:</b> Parks and Recreation</p>	Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC &D), FEMA Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Funds	Aberdeen, Valparaiso, IN, Harrington West, Valparaiso IN. Tryon Farms, LaPorte County, Porter County Unified Development Ordinance includes Conservation Subdivision Section 6.09-6.11, a Greenway Zoning District, and a Watershed Overlay District. LaPorte County Joint Development Ordinance, Article 22 Natural Resource Protection. All regional jurisdictions but 4 are listed in the FEMA Community Status book as participating in the Federal Flood Insurance Program, which means they have a minimally compliant Floodplain ordinance. Between 2012 and 2015, the number of NWI jurisdictions participating in the Federal Flood Insurance Community Rating System(CRS) Program increased from 0 to 3., which allows for reductions in FFIP premiums for residents based on above and beyond performance
<b>Objective 2-G: Enhance community design and aesthetics</b>				
Suburban Retrofit or Sprawl Repair: This technique involves reworking conventional, automobile-oriented areas like single-use housing developments, office parks and shopping centers into more walkable, mixed-use, transit-ready urban places.	S/M	<p><b>NIRPC</b> proposes the I-65 and U.S. 30 Retrofit Project into a livable urban center. A pragmatic plan is needed that can demonstrate this opportunity and guide development to correct its current deficiencies.</p>	CLC	<p>1- The country's best suburban retrofit: Bethesda Row: <a href="http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kbenfield/the_best_suburban_retrofit_i_h.html">http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kbenfield/the_best_suburban_retrofit_i_h.html</a></p> <p>2- Retrofitting Washington's Suburbs: <a href="http://www.dmsas.com/resources/docs/23_1298245997_Bulletin-Feb-2010-RetrofittingWashingtonsSuburbs.pdf">http://www.dmsas.com/resources/docs/23_1298245997_Bulletin-Feb-2010-RetrofittingWashingtonsSuburbs.pdf</a></p>
<b>Goal G&amp;C 3: Managed growth that protects farmland, environmentally sensitive areas and important ecosystems</b>				
<b>Objective 3-A: Promote the development and preservation of regional greenways and blueways (water trails) and establish linkages between them</b>				
Implement the Greenways & Blueways Plan, in particular improving north-south mobility and linking the trail network to local parks and recreation facilities.	S/M/L	<p><b>NIRPC:</b> Update plan for the next five years, and link regional priority corridor trails to federal funding programs.</p> <p><b>Local:</b> Identify regional corridor opportunities to link to community destinations.</p>	Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), CMAQ, STP, HSIP, local revenues, bonds, Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; Greenways Foundation; other foundations.	The Gary Green Link Plan, a 2005 effort, and one of the best examples of local environmental planning, with an exhaustive analysis of sensitive environmental areas and greenway linkages for potential conservation and/or restoration. The Gary Green Link is a master-planned, 30-mile, multi-use trail. The trail is a green infrastructure project that connects the unique Lake Michigan shoreline with the Little Calumet and Grand Calumet Rivers.
<b>Objective 3-B: Encourage the concentration of development around existing infrastructure</b>				
See objective 1-A & 1-d				

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Need to have strong and consistently implemented public policies regarding land use and transportation benefits to ensure that population and employment growth occurs in a sustainable and responsible manner.	S/M	<b>Local:</b> Propose growth management strategies that promote future development to occur where utilities and infrastructures exist.	IDNR Coastal Program Local governments Local foundations	1- Transportation for Livable Communities program by: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) www.mtc.ca.gov 2- Transit-Oriented Development Program by: Metro in Oregon www.oregonmetro.gov/tod 3- Puget Sound Regional Council for its Transportation 2040 plan
Financial incentives could be offered for using existing infrastructure and not requiring the construction and future maintenance of new infrastructure.	S/M	<b>NIRPC:</b> will support financial incentives. <b>Fed/State:</b> Promote and implement this action. <b>Local:</b> Promote and implement this action	BID, CDBG, CRED, NMTCP; TIF	1- West Pullman Industrial Park, Chicago, IL; 2- Small Farms, Gary, IN
<b>Objective 3-C: Encourage redevelopment of infill sites within established centers</b>				
See objective 1-C				
<b>Objective 3-D: Promote compact development&amp;smart growth thru techniques; transit-oriented development, traditional neighborhood development&amp;conservation design</b>				
Establish policies that address the appropriate location and scale of transit-oriented development	S	<b>NIRPC</b> encourages the development of a regional South Shore Corridor TOD Study to develop context-appropriate strategies for creating a network of transit-oriented places and sites that integrate different functions and activities within easy access of transit. <b>Local:</b> associated local governments should work with NIRPC. <b>Other Entity:</b> NICTD	CLC NICTD RDA Local communities	1- San Diego Area Council of Governments Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) Program; 2- City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Incentive Program 3- NICTD Strategic Business Plan- 2014 4- Livable Broadway Plan (GPTC), Gary, IN
<b>Objective 3-E: Foster the development of local food systems and a local food economy</b>				
Implement the recommendations of the Northwestern Indiana Local Food Study	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Continue and strengthen NIRPC's role as the forum for local food stakeholders to convene, discuss issues, and develop solutions for strengthening the local food system. Form the Local Food Systems Action Committee (Food SAC) to address local and state food policy and to implement the recommendations of the Local Food Study. Provide technical and other assistance to local food stakeholders.Share best practices and information with counties and municipalities for reviewing ordinances to ensure local food-friendliness. <b>Fed/State:</b> Support policies and programs that encourage and enhance local food system activities. <b>Local:</b> Review ordinances to ensure local food systems projects are permitted and encouraged. Encourage local food systems projects.	USDA, local foundations	Stewart House Urban Farm, Gary, IN; NWI Local Food Summit held in April 2015 at Valparaiso University; Task Force to plan/build NWI Food Council; Creation of NWI Food Council
<b>Objective 3-F: Preserve prime agricultural land and rural landscapes</b>				
To the extent possible, align, and make uniform, county land use regulations with the 2040 CRP to support sustainable development patterns and continued local farming	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Work with counties and adjacent municipalities in developing "rural area plans" in locations experiencing development pressure and related infrastructure issues (with counties and adjacent municipalities). <b>Local:</b> 1- Establishment of agricultural districts, review of unincorporated residential plans or other development proposals. 2- Requirement of appropriate buffers adjacent to active agricultural uses. 3- Development of incentives to encourage cluster developments that maintain agriculture and habitat areas.	PL	GIS Mapping for Prime Farmland &Conversion - Prime Farmland acreage changes were analyzed in the 2040 CRP Update.

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Discourage development of farmland or environmentally sensitive lands.	S/M/L	<b>Local:</b> New programs can transfer development rights to land more suitable for development.	CRP, local foundations	LaPorte County Joint Unified Development Ordinance Article 03 is designed to protect agricultural areas from residential and commercial encroachment. The Porter County UDO also incorporated strong agricultural development protection in Prime Agricultural Districts.
Discourage outward expansion, unless it's demonstrated to be essential to accommodate growth.	S/M/L	<b>Local:</b> Address the preservation of prime agricultural land and specify programs and techniques for protection.	Local Funding IDNR Coastal Program	1- Plan for the Valleys Baltimore County, Maryland 2- Clark County, WA: Comprehensive Growth Management Plan Implementation 2009 Monitoring Report
<b>Objective 3-G: Encourage and plan for the protection and responsible use of shoreline areas</b>				
Implement the Marquette Plan	S/M/L	Local communities, RDA, NIRPC, IDNR	Funded by The Cities of East Chicago, Gary, Hammond, Portage & Whiting and Indiana Department of Natural Resources;RDA	1- vision 2020, New York Comprehensive Waterfront Plan; 2- Portage Lakefront 3- City of Whiting 4- City of Hammond 5- City of Gary 6- Michigan City 7-City of East Chicago
<b>Objective 3-H: Improve access to major regional parks and preserved open lands, including the Indiana Dunes</b>				
<b>Transportation</b>				
<b>Goal T-1: A safe and secure transportation system</b>				
<b>Objective A: Reduce the number and severity of motor vehicle crashes</b>				
Compile crash data	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Work with INDOT and local entities on existing data. <b>Fed/State:</b> State Police and INDOT to provide data to entities. <b>Local:</b> Supply NIRPC and INDOT crash data	5303; PL	Houston Galveston Area Council for the Transportation Safety Program. The program used GIS exercise to geocode crash data to help reduce the number of crashes in the region.
Provide safety training	S	<b>Fed/State:</b> Offer classes at BMV <b>Local:</b> Local police departments can offer safe driving classes	Need local dedicated source	1- The Cheyenne MPO for their Transportation Safety Management Plan; 2- North Florida TPO for their Safety Video Series
<b>Objective B: Improve the safety of non-motorized transportation through education, enforcement, engineering, design and construction</b>				
Provide education and training for non-motorized facility design	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Offer courses at NIRPC, and encourage attendance at NIRPC Ped, Pedal and Paddle Committee (3PC) meetings. <b>Fed/State:</b> Offer webinars for professionals on best practice designs; INDOT to offer courses to engineers. <b>Local:</b> Attendance at NIRPC 3PC meetings and promoting Complete Streets policies at local level. <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails to promote design standards.	Safe Routes to School program	NIRPC Safe Routes to School Workshops; Cornucopia State of Our Trails Meeting; Local law enforcement Bike Rodeos
Supply funding for non-motorized improvements	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Open up all NIRPC-attributable funding for non-motorized improvements. <b>Fed/State:</b> Provide funding for NIRPC and local entities. <b>Local:</b> Use local monies for match and to build new facilities, including maintenance policies. <b>Other Entity:</b> Local and state foundations to fund infrastructure projects.	All federal, state and local funding outlets should be eligible for improvements; Greenways Foundation and South Shore Trails	1- NIRPC Rack em' Up! Bike rack and locker subsidy program; 2- The long range plan of Flagstaff MPO called for compact development, punctuated by activity centers and the emphasis on walking and bicycling modes. The MPO played a central role in a tax campaign that yielded dedicated taxes of more that \$800,000 annually for pedestrian and bicycle safety and capacity projects. With this money, they were able to increase their bike lane miles from 59 to 117.



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3. Publish Route Maps and install signage	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> to update 2012 NWI Greenways & Blueways Map in Spring of 2016. Create wayfinding design guide for all new trail development. Manage sign installation project on trails devoid of proper wayfinding. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT to install "Share the Road" signs along popular bike routes. <b>Local:</b> Local bike and pedestrian route maps should be developed and wayfinding signage created. <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails to promote maps and signage	NIRPC CMAQ funding; Local budgets	1- NIRPC 2012 NWI Greenways & Blueways Map; 2- Central Ohio Greenways Project Vision which represents an overall guide for all trail wayfinding developed on routes in the Columbus, OH vicinity.
4. Promote Bicycle-Friendly Community (BFC) Status	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> to provide education on standards necessary to attain BFC status. <b>Local:</b> Local entities to work on several areas of improvement to attain BFC status. <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails and Calumet Crank Club to promote BFC in locals	Local, state and federal funding available for nearly all BFC-related qualifications	1- California's Complete Streets Act; 2- Kentucky's Pedestrian and Bicycle Travel Policy 3- Oregon's statutes related to the provision of bicycle and pedestrian facilities by public agencies.
<b>Objective D: Reduce emergency response times</b>				
Rail-Highway Grade Separations - See Goal T-2.B.1	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Convene stakeholders working group, collect data, draft report, prioritize infrastructure improvements <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT and US DOT provide increased funding for rail improvements, Participate as stakeholder, provide data (FRA - train counts, INDOT - traffic counts). <b>Local:</b> Participate as stakeholder, provide data - traffic counts.	PL; STP; HSIP	The Wichita Area MPO (WAMPO) in Wichita, Kansas for their Railroad Crossing Plan, which examines safety and congestion issues at almost 300 railroad crossings in the region. CREATE Program
Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Separation	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Convene stakeholders working group, collect data. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT and US DOT provide increased funding for rail improvements, Participate as stakeholder, provide data (FRA - train counts, INDOT - traffic counts). <b>Local:</b> Participate as stakeholder, provide data - traffic counts. <b>Other Entity:</b> Railroads: provide data - train counts, participate as stakeholder	PL; STP; HSIP	1- the Wichita Area MPO (WAMPO) in Wichita, Kansas for their Railroad Crossing Plan, which examines safety and congestion issues at almost 300 railroad crossings in the region. 2- CREATE Program
Signal Pre-emption	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Assist with data to determine where need for these systems exist. <b>Fed/State:</b> Signal modifications on roads within jurisdiction. <b>Local:</b> Signal modifications on roads within jurisdiction, Stakeholders in determining where need exists. <b>Other Entity:</b> Other emergency service providers not under a governmental agency as stakeholders	STP; CMAQ; HSIP	Installed traffic signal pre-emption systems at 22 intersections, Houston, TX, reported a decrease in the average emergency vehicle travel time of 16 to 23 percent.
Incident Management Plans	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Include in the ITS architecture update. Attend and Promote Indiana IN-TIME Training. <b>Fed/State:</b> Indiana State Police & Hoosier Helper training; Indiana IN-TIME Training; plan development & refinement with relevant stakeholders. <b>Local:</b> First responder and Indiana IN-TIME training; plan development & refinement with relevant stakeholders.	STP; PL	Indiana IN-TIME program; the North Florida TPO for the Traffic Incident Management Handbook and Safety Video Series, which focused on incident management training for responders
Traditional street grid development	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support projects that contain a traditional street grid. <b>Local:</b> Implementing authority; require/encourage developments with a traditional street grid	PL; Local foundations	Porter County, IN proposed TND Plan,, which provides an effective connectivity to the surrounding neighborhood.
County Evacuation Plans		<b>NIRPC:</b> Support efforts, monitor progress, provide data <b>Local:</b> Coordinate resources, gather data, disseminate strategies	PL; STP	1-Gulf Coast States 2- The Texas Task Force on Evacuation, Transportation, and Logistics was established in direct response to the evacuation concerns brought on by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on 2005. 3-Florida Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program
<b>Objective F: Improve the safety and security of transit facilities including stations, stops and vehicles</b>				
Video Surveillance Systems	S	Transit Operators	FTA Section 5307 and 5339	Local operators have installed security systems



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<b>Objective G: Utilize technology, including Intelligent Transportation Systems and other strategies, to improve transportation safety</b>				
New Traffic Signal	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support if placement can have safety benefits. <b>Fed/State:</b> Consider if safety benefits exist. <b>Local:</b> Consider if safety benefits exist	STP; CMAQ; HSIP	Real-Time Work Zone Traffic Control System - Using an Automated Traffic Information System to Reduce Congestion and Improve Safety During Reconstruction of the I-55 Lake Springfield Bridge in Illinois
Incident Management Plans	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Include in the ITS architecture update. <b>Fed/State:</b> Indiana State Police & Hoosier Helper training; plan development & refinement with relevant stakeholders. <b>Local:</b> First responder training; plan development & refinement with relevant stakeholders. <b>Other Entity:</b> Other emergency service providers not under a governmental agency.	STP; PL	the North Florida TPO for the Traffic Incident Management Handbook and Safety Video Series, which focused on incident management training for responders
Dynamic Messaging System	S/M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Include in the ITS architecture update. Convene stakeholders for planning and feedback. <b>Fed/State:</b> Continue implementing the system in Northwest Indiana. <b>Local:</b> Consider implementation of dynamic messaging on local roads if necessary.	STP; CMAQ; HSIP	INDOT ITS Program and Hoosier Helper Patrol Zone
Traffic Signal Equipment Modernization	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support if modernization has safety benefits. <b>Fed/State:</b> Consider if safety benefits exist. <b>Local:</b> Consider if safety benefits exist.	STP; CMAQ; HSIP	Real-Time Work Zone Traffic Control System - Using an Automated Traffic Information System to Reduce Congestion and Improve Safety During Reconstruction of the I-55 Lake Springfield Bridge in Illinois
<b>GOAL T-2: Increased Mobility, Accessibility, and Transportation Options for People and Freight</b>				
<b>Objective A: Integrate local, regional and national transportation systems to facilitate movement of people and freight between modes</b>				
ITS Architecture		<b>NIRPC:</b> Develop and Maintain the ITS Architecture, convene stakeholders <b>Fed/State:</b> Review the ITS Architecture. <b>Local:</b> Participate in the ITS Architecture development and maintenance as stakeholders.	STP; HSIP; PL funding can be used for ITS.	1- OKI (OH/KY/IN) regional ITS Plan ; 2- Leon County, FL regional architecture 3- Northern Virginia Regional ITS Arch See <a href="http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/its_arch_imp/examples.htm">http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/its_arch_imp/examples.htm</a> for detail
Multimodal Center at Gary Airport	L	<b>Fed/State:</b> Project funds. <b>Other Entity:</b> NICTD, City of Gary, RDA, State of Indiana	STP; RDA; Project funding	Portland Airport
Bus Rapid Transit on Corridors	L	Transit Operators, INDOT, FTA	STP; FTA Sec. 5307 and 5309, CMAQ	GPTC has new plan for Broadway Corridor
TOD	M	NICTD, GPTC, FTA, and NIRPC	STP;CMAQ; PL; CLC; NICTD; RDA; GPTC	Transit-Oriented Development Program by: Metro in Oregon <a href="http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tod">www.oregonmetro.gov/tod</a>
Interconnected Regional Bus	L	NIRPC, Municipal and County Governments, RDA, FTA, INDOT	FTA Sec. 5307 and 5339; STP; CMAQ; RDA	Denver Regional Council of Governments has embarked on an ambitious effort to construct rapid transit in nine regional corridors along with other improvements associated with this
Illiana Expressway	M	NIRPC, INDOT, IDOT	NHS; HSIP; STP	Richmond Area MPO for a container barge service called the "64 express".
Develop multimodal and intermodal hubs	M / L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Provide data, Program transportation projects. <b>Other Entity:</b> Ports of Indiana, Railroads, Gary/Chicago Int'l	Various	Salt Lake City, Utah. Amtrak
Expand "Short Sea Shipping" on the Great Lakes	M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support efforts and monitor progress. <b>Fed/State:</b> US Maritime Administration: develop marine highways. <b>Other Entity:</b> Ports of Indiana	State Funding	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System: St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
Develop a short-haul intermodal corridor between Louisville and Chicago following the I-65 corridor	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support efforts, monitor progress, provide data. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT, US DOT. <b>Other Entity:</b> Railroads	STP; PL;CMAQ	Richmond Area MPO for a container barge service called the "64 express".

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Develop an Indiana Coal Corridor between southern Indiana coal mines and Northwest Indiana power plants	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Support efforts, monitor progress, provide data. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT <b>Other Entity:</b> Purdue University - conduct research	STP; PL;CMAQ	Richmond Area MPO for a container barge service called the "64 express".
Construct a new lock at the Soo Locks in Sault St. Marie, Michigan	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Monitor progress <b>Fed/State:</b> US Congress - Appropriate funding for construction	U.S. Congress	US Army Corps of Engineers: Olmsted Locks and Dam
<b>Objective B: Improve freight facilities connecting the region to national and global markets</b>				
Develop a regional rail improvement plan with a focus on highway-rail grade crossing separations	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Convene stakeholders working group, collect data. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT and US DOT provide increased funding for rail improvements, Participate as stakeholder, provide data (FRA - train counts, INDOT - traffic counts). <b>Local:</b> Participate as stakeholder, provide data - traffic counts. <b>Other Entity:</b> Railroads: provide data - train counts, participate as stakeholder.	PL; HSIP	CREATE Program
Improve the Extra Heavy Duty Truck Route	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Program funding, Corridor Study. <b>Fed/State:</b> Provide funding, develop transportation projects	STP; CMAQ; HSIP	Richmond Area MPO for a container barge service called the "64 express".
Study extension of Extra Heavy Duty Truck Route to IL	M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Corridor Study. <b>Local:</b> Participate as stakeholder, provide data. <b>Other Entity:</b> Illinois DOT, City of Chicago	TIGER, PL	Richmond Area MPO for a container barge service called the "64 express".
Develop multimodal and intermodal hubs	M / L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Provide freight movement data, Program transportation projects. <b>Fed/State:</b> Provide funding for transportation projects. <b>Local:</b> Update plans and ordinances to facilitate compatible development, provide incentives. <b>Other Entity:</b> Ports of Indiana, Railroads, Gary/Chicago Int'l, RDA	Various including STP, RDA, local, CMAQ, TIGER	Salt Lake City- Intermodal hubs, Utah. Amtrak
Maintain a regional freight infrastructure map	S / M / L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Update and publish map. <b>Fed/State:</b> Provide data. <b>Local:</b> Provide data. <b>Other Entity:</b> Provide data.	PL	GIS Mapping for Regional Freight Infrastructure Map
<b>Objective C: Reduce congestion on major freight and passenger routes</b>				
See Goal T-2, Objective B				
<b>Objective D: Improve the internal connectivity of the transportation network</b>				
Support Complete Streets	S	NIRPC to educate and promote, Municipal and county governments to implement	All NIRPC-attributable funding is subject to Complete Streets Policy & Guidelines	Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission has adopted a Complete Streets policy and created a Complete Streets toolkit, which is available online, and an equipment library.
Traditional Neighborhood Design	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Project Selection Criteria. <b>Local:</b> Ordinances	CLC	1- Coffee Creek, Chesterton 2- Millennium Place, Muncie, IN
<b>Objective E: Enhance connectivity between housing, jobs, services, and educational facilities</b>				
Invest in improvements to jobs access for low-income and minority residents	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria. <b>Local:</b> Match funds. <b>Other Entity:</b> County	CDBG; Need local dedicated source	National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) in Washington, DC for their Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and Program.
Proactive and balanced approach to transportation funding decisions, with emphasis on ensuring that public investments improve access and mobility in Livable Centers and the core cities.	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria, Education of Local Officials. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT adopt criteria. <b>Local:</b> Implementation Authority	CLC	1- Transportation for Livable Communities program by: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) www.mtc.ca.gov 2- Transit-Oriented Development Program by: Metro in Oregon www.oregonmetro.gov/tod 3- Livable Centers Initiative by Atlanta Regional Commission

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective F: Improve system accessibility for people with special transportation needs including persons with disabilities, the elderly, the young and low-income populations</b>				
Invest in improvements to jobs access for low-income and minority residents.	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria <b>Fed/State:</b> Increase Operating Funds <b>Local:</b> Match Funds <b>Other Entity:</b> County	CDBG; FTA Section 5310, and Section 5339, need local dedicated source of matching funds	National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) in Washington, DC for their Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and Program.
Support projects that encourage affordable housing creation in locations near jobs and transit.		<b>Local:</b> Establish zoning that allow mixed use and variation of housing options and TOD district.	NIRPC CLC Program Local Funding RDA	1- National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) in Washington, DC for their Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and Program. 2- Tysons Corner Fairfax County, Virginia for its Comprehensive Plan, the plan includes a tiered approach to density that is focused around four transit stations.
Create an interconnected transit system including BRT, commuter rail and regional and local bus and demand response paratransit.	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Promote, Advocate <b>Fed/State:</b> Increase Operating Subsidies <b>Local:</b> Matching Funds	FTA Section 5307, 5339, CMAQ	Portland, Oregon
Promote Complete Streets (CS) policies and designs	S/M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Apply NIRPC CS policy to all attributable projects. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT to use CS standards on state roadways. <b>Local:</b> Local entities to utilize CS design standards in transportation corridors. <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails and Indiana AARP to promote regionwide	All NIRPC-attributable funding; State funding; Local funding	Examples at <a href="http://www.completestreets.org">www.completestreets.org</a>
<b>Objective G: Increase access to and improve the reliability of public mass transit</b>				
Proactive and balanced approach to transportation funding decisions, with emphasis on ensuring that public investments improve access and mobility in Livable Centers and the core cities	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria, Education of Local Officials. <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT adopt criteria <b>Local:</b> Implementation Authority	MPO role	City of Valparaiso; Envision Missoula guided the decision-making process for making sound transportation investments in the region.
Project Selection Criteria	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Staff support to stakeholders to do new criteria <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT adopt criteria <b>Local:</b> Participate in criteria development <b>Other Entity:</b> Developers	PL	New transit criteria developed to reflect new CRP
<b>Objective H: Improve the non-motorized transportation network by building Complete Streets that accommodate bicycles, pedestrians and transit users</b>				
Adopt local Complete Streets policies	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Promote policy templates for community review and action <b>Fed/State:</b> Engage with communities through statewide CS committee <b>Local:</b> Adopt either resolutions, ordinances, plans or other mechanisms to recognize Complete Streets adherence <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails to promote by working with local entities	All NIRPC-attributable funding is subject to Complete Streets Policy & Guidelines	NIRPC Complete Streets Policy and Guidelines; Mid-Ohio MPO (MORPC) Complete Street Policy; Town of Lowell Complete Streets Policy; City of LaPorte Complete Streets Policy
Develop On-line Toolkit of Best Practices	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Adopted toolkit based on template from Active Transportation Alliance. <b>Local:</b> Review NIRPC-based toolkit to incorporate into local projects	PL	Active Transportation Alliance's Complete Streets Toolkit at <a href="http://www.atpolicy.org">www.atpolicy.org</a>

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Develop Statewide CS Policy	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Work with NIRPC Legislative Committee to make priority <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT to support legislative policy and apply to project designs <b>Local:</b> Contact state legislators to promote support of policy <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails & Indiana AARP to promote with legislators	PL	State of Illinois Public Act 095-0665; State of Michigan Public Act 135
Encourage INDOT development of CS designs on state roadways	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Review INDOT projects and work with LaPorte District on CS standards <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT to develop CS design guidelines in project scopes <b>Local:</b> Partner with INDOT projects within jurisdictions to aid in development of CS standards <b>Other Entity:</b> South Shore Trails to promote CS standards with INDOT	All FHWA-based funding programs are eligible	Preservation of trail access under I-65 and US 30; Trail lanes on SR 49 bridges over US 12 and 20; Lincoln Memorial Trail section along US 421 in LaPorte County
<b>Objective I: Encourage land use policy that supports access for disabled persons, efficient mass transit and non-motorized travel</b>				
Link funding decisions with Complete Streets, expanded trails, improved public transit and multimodal freight and passenger hubs.	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria, highway and transit planning <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT adopt criteria <b>Local:</b> Help do priority criteria, modify practices <b>Other Entity:</b> Developers, Industry, Transit operators, Counties	MPO role	Puget Sound Regional Council for its Transportation 2040 plan; Nashville (TN) Area 2035 Regional Transportation Plan
Support projects that encourage affordable housing creation in locations near jobs and transit	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Transit and economic development, project selection criteria, policies <b>Local:</b> Modify practices <b>Other Entity:</b> QLC, GNIAR, Northwest Indiana Forum, Mayors' Roundtable, Towns and Smaller Cities	CLC	Mercantile Square, Denver : Workforce Housing Soars Near Emerging Transit Hub
Promote transit supportive land use patterns including TOD, TND and Conservation design	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Advocate educator, project selection criteria for economic development and transportation <b>Fed/State:</b> Project funds	PL; STP	Puget Sound Regional Council for its Transportation 2040 plan
<b>Goal T-3: Adequate transportation funding and efficient use of resources</b>				
<b>Objective A: Increase the level of federal and state funding flowing into the region and improve the ability to provide local matching funds</b>				
Create dedicated source of local funding for public transit		<b>NIRPC:</b> Advocate, Educate, Coordinate <b>Local:</b> Support from local elected officials & County Councils <b>Other Entity:</b> Urban League, NAACP, QLC, Riders, Operators, Social Service Agencies, Churches, Everybody Counts	Consult with elected officials to pursue support from additional taxes	Illinois RTA
<b>Objective B: Protect previous investments through maintenance and improvements to existing transportation infrastructure, operations and service</b>				
Maintain and improve existing infrastructure to maximize the efficiency of scarce public resources	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Priority Criteria <b>Fed/State:</b> INDOT adopt Criteria <b>Local:</b> Submit appropriate projects	STP	Central City Community Transportation Plan, Los Angeles, California
<b>Objective C: Devote sufficient resources to address reconstruction and maintenance needs</b>				
See Goal T-3, Objective B, #1				
<b>Objective D: Utilize the Congestion Management Process to optimize the efficiency of the transportation network</b>				
Establish data collection activities to determine areas with recurring congestion	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> research and deploy data collection methods <b>Fed/State:</b> support with existing data sources <b>Local:</b> support with existing data sources	PL, STP	Boston Regional MPO Congestion Management Process
Evaluate Congestion Mitigation Strategies	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> analysis <b>Fed/State:</b> participation on Transportation Policy Committee <b>Local:</b> participation on Transportation Policy Committee	PL	Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Congestion Management Process Strategies: Evaluating Congestion Management Mitigation Strategies
Implement strategies	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Review progress on implementation of strategies <b>Fed/State:</b> Implement strategies <b>Local:</b> Implement strategies	STP, CMAQ, 5307	Boston Regional MPO Congestion Management Process

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Evaluate the effectiveness of implemented strategies	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> analysis <b>Fed/State:</b> participation on Transportation Policy Committee <b>Local:</b> participation on Transportation Policy Committee	PL	Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Congestion Management Process Strategies: Evaluating Congestion Management Mitigation Strategies
<b>Objective E: Prioritize transportation investments that support land use and economic development goals</b>				
Continue to update the TIP project evaluation criteria to coincide with the vision, goals and objectives of the current CRP (as amended), many of which are land use and economic development related.	S	NIRPC: This activity will be carried out through the work of the new Technical Planning Committee, the new Transportation Resource Oversight Committee and transportation planning stakeholders relative to implementation of the CRP.	This planning process is supported by PL funds. It pertains to all of the federal transportation fund categories that NIRPC programs.	The TIP is the primary tool to implement the long-range transportation plan, in this case the CRP. Decades ago NIRPC developed similar criteria that was in keeping with the then long-range transportation plan. It has been revised numerous times to stay in sync with the current iteration of the plan. Over the years the best projects have consistently risen to the top of the list of priorities and have been programmed within available resources. NIRPC is a best practice, and can always improve. Research can be done as necessary to find other best practices.
<b>Objective F: Encourage investments that consider long range impacts of changing transportation systems and anticipate future technologies</b>				
Determine long term impacts	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> analysis	PL	Michigan Connected Vehicle Infostructure Plan
Evaluate the effectiveness of investments	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> analysis	PL	To Be Determined
<b>Goal T-4: A transportation system that supports the health of all people and places</b>				
<b>Objective A: Improve the integration of environmental planning activities into transportation planning</b>				
Prioritize projects that have no adverse impacts		<b>NIRPC:</b> Project Selection Criteria	PL	SEMCOG in Detroit, MI for their regional analysis of the impact of planned transportation projects on the environment and the series of guidelines they developed for mitigating those impacts
<b>Objective B: Reduce the levels and impacts of pollution (air, noise and vibration) caused by transportation, particularly freight in environmental justice areas</b>				
Incorporate freight "Good Neighbor" practices - buffers, open space requirements, low impact design, context sensitive lighting, etc. - into zoning ordinances	M	<b>NIRPC:</b> Research and distribute local and national examples of best practices <b>Local:</b> Update zoning ordinances	PL;STP	1 - Delaware Village Regional Planning Commission, Good Neighbor Practices 2 - FHWA Freight and Land Use Handbook: Freight as a Good Neighbor- Land Use, Transportation System, and Environmental Considerations
<b>Objective C: Improve the non-motorized transportation network by building Complete Streets (CS) that accommodate bicycles, pedestrians and transit users</b>				
See Goal T-2, Objective H				
<b>Objective D: Expand environmental mitigation efforts</b>				
Best Management Practices	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Research best practices and provide technical support <b>State/Fed:</b> Technical support, incorporate BMPs into transportation projects, permitting <b>Local Governments:</b> Incorporate BMPs into transportation projects.	PL	The City of Cedar Rapids River Corridor Redevelopment Plan
Environmental Resource Maps on NIRPC Website	S	NIRPC: Maintain database of regional environmental mapping efforts and projects.	PL	NIRPC has made available the Green Infrastructure Vision maps, summarizing the most critical natural areas in NWI for conservation.
<b>Objective E: Conduct outreach to determine the negative impacts of transportation investments and to ensure environmental justice</b>				
Host workshop with environmental justice community stakeholders	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Conduct workshop with environmental justice stakeholders to determine potential project concerns and impacts <b>Fed/State:</b> Attend workshop, technical assistance <b>Other Entity:</b> Community organizations, citizen groups	PL	Environmental justice outreach was done for the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan and the Illiana Expressway amendment to the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective F: Promote energy efficiency and alternative energy</b>				
Develop alternative energy infrastructure	M	<u>Local:</u> construct stations for electric vehicle charging and alternative fuel pumping <u>Other Entity:</u> South Shore Clean Cities, Retail outlets	PL; Local foundations	Due to efforts of SSCC and private partners such as Family Express and others. NWI has 60 public Alt Fuel stations and 14 Private. These include CNG, Electric, Liquid Propane, E85
Promote alternative energy vehicle purchases	M	<u>Fed/State:</u> Legislation, regulation	PL; Local foundations	Several businesses and municipalities have expanded alternative fuel vehicles for both fuel economy and air quality benefits. Ozinga has several CNG operated concrete mixers operating in the region, with a plan to completely covert their 500 vehicle fleet by 2020. Cities of Hobart and others have purchased # CNG Garbage Trucks. The City of LaPorte is in process of purchasing propane transit vehicles. Many communities continue to operate the Think electric vehicles they received through South Shore Clean Cities as part of a ARRA grant.
Increase Gasoline Tax	S	<u>Fed/State:</u> Legislation, regulation		
<b>Environment</b>				
<b>Goal: Reduce flooding risks and improve water quality</b>				
<b>Objective A: Achieve water quality standards and designated uses of our lakes and streams.</b>				
Review and develop/improve ordinances for water quality enhancement	S/M	<u>NIRPC</u> will work with stakeholders to develop a watershed protection capabilities audits and identify/ develop model ordinances <u>Fed/State:</u> EPA has a variety of model ordinances available to assist local governments <u>Local:</u> Municipal and County reps.	Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104; Capitalization Grants for State Revolving Funds	Conduct audit of local watershed protection capabilities
Conduct watershed resource inventory and information analysis	S/M/L	<u>NIRPC</u> will make resource data readily available via web-based GIS and other products such as the Northwest Indiana Watershed Management Framework. NIRPC will update this information as significant changes or information becomes available (approx. every 5 yrs.). NIRPC will help raise stakeholder awareness of nonpoint source water quality issues within the region. <u>Fed/State:</u> The following agencies collect and make data available that can assist in watershed characterization and may also be able to provide technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS, ISDA, ISDH, USGS, USFWS, INDU, FHWA, INDOT, NOAA <u>Local:</u> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs <u>Other Entity:</u> universities, conservation organizations	PL funding can be used to maintain resource data for Env. Mit. Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104; Capitalization Grants for State Revolving Funds	GIS mapping for open space and water resource protection
Establish institutional structure for watershed management planning program including adequate funding and staff.	S	<u>NIRPC:</u> Technical support <u>Fed/State:</u> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS, ISDA, ISDH, USGS, USFWS, INDU, FHWA, INDOT <u>Local:</u> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs <u>Other Entity:</u> universities, conservation organizations	Need Local Dedicated Source	Watershed Management Program MOU
<b>Objective B: Complete, improve, and implement watershed management plans.</b>				
Identify WMP opportunities and prioritize watersheds for plan development/ improvement	S	<u>NIRPC:</u> Technical support and coordination <u>Fed/State:</u> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS <u>Local:</u> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs <u>Other Entity:</u> universities, conservation organizations, citizen groups	Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104; Need Local Dedicated Source	Hilltop Hanover, A Westchester County Farm and Environmental Center, Westchester County, New York



Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Develop WMPs or watershed diagnostic studies and coordinate with adjacent counties and states that share watershed boundaries with Northwest Indiana	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> will support stakeholders interested in WMP development by creating "watershed templates" for their watershed of interest. NIRPC will also assist by providing watershed characterization data and participating on WMP committees as requested. <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS, ISDA, ISDH, USGS, USFWS, INDU, FHWA, INDOT <b>Local:</b> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs, <b>Other Entity:</b> universities, conservation organizations, citizen groups	IDEM- 319 Program, Water Quality Management Planning-205; DNR- LARE Program	1- Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve, Chesterton. 2-India Creek Watershed Management Plan, Indianapolis
Implement WMPs	M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Technical support <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS, ISDA, ISDH, USGS, USFWS, INDU, FHWA, INDOT <b>Local:</b> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs <b>Other Entity:</b> universities, conservation organizations, citizen groups.	IDEM- 319 Program, IDEM- 205 Program, DNR- LARE Program, DNR- Coastal Program, SRF;CGSRF NRCS, local storm water programs	1- Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve, Chesterton. 2-India Creek Watershed Management Plan, Indianapolis
Evaluate WMP implementation effectiveness	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Technical support <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, NRCS, ISDA, ISDH, USGS, USFWS, INDU, FHWA, INDOT <b>Local:</b> Municipal and county reps., SWCDs <b>Other Entity:</b> universities, conservation organizations, citizen groups.	IDEM- 319 Program, DNR- LARE Program; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104	St. Clair County's Northeastern Watersheds (NEW) Watershed Management Plan (WMP) <a href="http://www.cis.stclaircounty.org/Watershed_Mgmt_Plan/Chapter_9_Evaluation_Process.pdf">http://www.cis.stclaircounty.org/Watershed_Mgmt_Plan/Chapter_9_Evaluation_Process.pdf</a>
<b>Objective C: Promote stormwater best management practices, including the development of green infrastructure and the reduction of impervious surfaces.</b>				
Pursue opportunities to restore and expand existing wetlands	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordinate with agencies and local partners to identify areas for wetland restoration <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, NRCS, DNR, USFWS	USDA-CRP, USDA-CTA, WRP,Wetlands Protection Development Grants Program; Small Watershed Program; NAWCA	1- Spring Creek Greenway, Joliet, Illinois; 2- Wetland Restoration at Grand Kankakee Marsh
Target implementation of stormwater management practices toward highly erodible lands	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC</b> has already identified highly erodible soils within the Watershed Framework using NRCS soils data and query function in GIS. NIRPC will make this data available to stakeholders via GIS or similar format <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support and data: NRCS- soils survey	IDEM-319; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104; Small Watershed Program;EWP; Urban Conservation Program	Stormwater Management Ordinance, St. Mary's County, Maryland
Plan and design channel modification activities to mitigate negative physical, chemical and habitat impacts, restore natural hydrology patterns	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC</b> can provide mapping data and facilitate stakeholder and agency involvement <b>Fed/State:</b> IDNR, INDOT, NRCS, <b>Local:</b> SWCD, local counties, cities, towns	SRF;Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104	Natural channel design (ex. two-stage ditches)
Promote practices that manage stormwater as close to its source as possible		<b>NIRPC</b> will collaborate with groups and organizations such as the NWI MS4 Partnership and Save the Dunes to promote and convey a consistent message on the use and applicability of LID techniques. NIRPC will also collaborate with partners to identify most effective methods for promotion.	NIRPC can promote and educate on this with MS4 dollars in member communities. Water Quality Management Planning-205	Low Impact Development techniques (ex. bioretention facilities, rain gardens, and pervious pavement)
Identity, map, and protect aquifer recharge areas with appropriate buffers	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Promote need, facilitate or coordinate efforts <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical assistance or study by: IDEM, DNR, USGS <b>Local:</b> Local Water Utilities, counties	Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104; Small Watershed Program; Watershed Surveys and Planning;	Spring Creek Greenway, Joliet, Illinois
Protect streambank and riparian habitat areas, limit active use of sensitive shoreline and streambank, with significant buffers, may be coordinated with expansion of regional trail system where appropriate	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Data and mapping, facilitation and coordination <b>Fed/State:</b> NRCS, IDNR <b>Local:</b> SWCD, Counties, cities, towns, park departments <b>Other Entity:</b> Conservation Organizations, private land owners	Small Watershed Program; Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act ; Conservation Reserve Program	Ex. Riparian Buffer Preservation- Trail Creek, Michigan City
Encourage adoption of tree preservation ordinances and urban forestry	S/M/L	<b>Local:</b> Local counties, cities, towns	Forestry Incentive Program; Cooperative Forestry Assistance; Classified Forest Program; Urban Forest Conservation Grants; Arbor Day Grant Program; Hometown Indiana Grants	Porter County Tree Preservation section of UDO; Harrison West, Valparaiso, IN



Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective D: Facilitate regional planning for adequate collection and treatment of wastewater and the elimination of inappropriate use of septic systems.</b>				
Study the feasibility of county on-site wastewater districts	S	<u>NIRPC:</u> Facilitate/Coordinate discussion on this topic <u>Fed/State:</u> ISDH Tech Assistance <u>Local:</u> County	Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104;	Study and Recommendation of Consolidating Wastewater Systems in Dearborn County, Indiana Study the feasibility of county on-site wastewater districts
Develop and implement on-site wastewater districts	M/L	<u>NIRPC:</u> Facilitate/Coordinate discussion on this topic <u>Fed/State:</u> ISDH Tech Assistance <u>Local:</u> County	SRF, IDEM-319;	Allen County created an On-site Wastewater Management District in 2003 in order to provide oversight and management of septic systems in
Document all new and existing on-site wastewater disposal systems in the ISDH ITOSS tracking system	S	<u>NIRPC:</u> Facilitate/Coordinate discussion on this topic <u>Fed/State:</u> ISDH Tech Assistance <u>Local:</u> County	PL funding can be used to maintain resource data for Env. Mit. SRF, Local foundations	NIRPC is an active participant in the NWI Septic System Task Force, under the facilitation of the IDNR Coastal Program. This group of local, state, federal, and NGO officials is working together to identify ways to better map septic systems.
Identify strategies to assist property owners in the elimination of the inappropriate use of on-site wastewater disposal systems	S/M	<u>NIRPC</u> education and outreach <u>Fed/State:</u> ISDH Tech Assistance <u>Local:</u> County	NIRPC can promote and educate on this with MS4 dollars in member communities.	City of Valparaiso began a pilot recycling program in 1990 and was expanded to the entire city.
<b>Objective E: Promote the upgrading of aging water infrastructure.</b>				
Audit water systems to detect leaks and inefficiencies	S/M	<u>NIRPC</u> can share information and promote this practice <u>Fed/State:</u> IDEM/IDNR/IURC technical support <u>Other Entity:</u> Local Utilities, AWWA	SRF; DWSRF	Valparaiso City Utilities performed a Community Wide Water Audit using free software from the AWWA.
Target upgrade efforts to systems that experience the most water loss through leakage		<u>Fed/State:</u> IDEM/IDNR/IURC technical support <u>Other Entity:</u> Local Utilities, AWWA	Safe Drinking Water RLF; SRF	Valparaiso City Utilities performed a Water Leak Survey. <a href="http://www.ci.valparaiso.in.us/index.aspx?nid=234">http://www.ci.valparaiso.in.us/index.aspx?nid=234</a>
Encourage model water use conservation ordinance	L	<u>NIRPC:</u> Public Education and Outreach in MS4 Communities <u>Fed/State:</u> Fed/State: IDEM/IDNR/IURC <u>Local:</u> Counties, Cities, Towns	MS4 Program Fees in Member Communities	St. Johns River Water Management District, Florida
Encourage water conservation strategies for residential and commercial development to reduce burden on aging infrastructure	S/M	<u>NIRPC:</u> Public Education and Outreach in MS4 Communities	MS4 Program Fees in Member Communities	Water conservation plan for Valparaiso City Utilities
<b>Objective F: Facilitate the development of a regional stormwater strategy.</b>				
Encourage and support consideration of stormwater quantity on a watershed basis, integrated with watershed management plans.	S/M	<u>NIRPC</u> will develop watershed templates for those watersheds in which groups are requesting technical support. NIRPC will coordinate WMP development at the request of stakeholders within NIRPC planning area.	IDEM- 319 Program, Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104	Gary Storm Water Management District
<b>Objective G: Facilitate regional planning for water supply and demand.</b>				
Coordinate regional water supply and demand planning and data collection efforts	L	<u>NIRPC:</u> Facilitate/Coordinate discussion on this topic <u>Fed/State:</u> IDNR, IDEM, IURC, USGS <u>Other Entity:</u> Local utilities	PL funding can be used to maintain resource data for Env. Mit.	Recommendation of the Indiana Water Shortage Task Force
Improve regional water conservation, allocation, and management through establishment of regional water supply and demand management districts		<u>NIRPC:</u> Facilitate/Coordinate discussion on this topic <u>Fed/State:</u> IDNR, IDEM, IURC, USGS <u>Other Entity:</u> Local utilities	Small Watershed Program; DWARF	Recommendation of the Indiana Water Shortage Task Force

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Fund and pursue studies of critical groundwater recharge areas to document and enforce necessary recharge area protection buffers		<b>Fed/State:</b> IDNR, USGS: Tech Assistance and Study Implementation	Small Watershed Program; Water Quality Management Planning-205; Water Quality Cooperative Agreements-104;	Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Government for Great Miami Drinking Water Protection Project Cincinnati, Ohio
Promote growth in areas with access to Lake Michigan water rather than in the Kankakee River sub-basin or in areas without existing water service	L	See infill and reinvestment strategies	DNR- LARE Program; USEPA-GLRI; Great Lakes Program	NIRPC will evaluate the growth and conservation metrics presented in the 2015 2040 CRP Companion through the lense of the Lake Michigan basin.
Promote source water planning in the Kankakee River sub-basin	S	<b>Fed/State:</b> IDEM regulatory authority <b>Local:</b> County Coordination very beneficial for small systems <b>Other Entity:</b> Local utilities	DNR- LARE Program; Small Watershed Program	This is a required activity for Public Water Supply Systems, Lake County joint Source Water Protection Plan is a best practice
Expand the metering of water use to raise awareness and enable cost recovery mechanisms		<b>Fed/State:</b> IDNR, IDEM, IURC, USGS <b>Other Entity:</b> Local utilities	Individual local utilities	Indiana Water Shortage Task Force recommendation. Valparaiso Utilities has good example of informative bills that can promote water conservation.
<b>Objective H: Preserve floodplains and wetlands.</b>				
Prioritize wetland restoration and conservation		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination and technical assistance <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, USACOE, USFWS, NRCS <b>Local:</b> SWCD, environmental/ conservation organizations	USDA-CRP, USDA-CTA, WRP, Wetlands Protection Development Grants Program; Small Watershed Program; NAWCA	Indiana Wetlands Conservation Plan criteria. Possible partnership with ACOE for an ADID user guide.
Discourage or restrict development activity with designated floodplains and recharge areas of wetlands	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Mapping and data <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support for mapping and data: DNR, FEMA, USACOE, USGS <b>Local:</b> Local Zoning or Planning commissions	USDA-CRP, USDA-CTA, WRP, Wetlands Protection Development Grants Program; Small Watershed Program; NAWCA	Indiana Wetlands Conservation Plan criteria.
<b>Goal: Improved air quality</b>				
<b>Objective A: Achieve national ambient air quality standards for all pollutants including ozone and particulates.</b>				
<b>Objective B: Reduce air toxins, greenhouse gases and other harmful emissions.</b>				
<b>Objective C: Improve the aesthetics- noise, odor, discoloration- of air.</b>				
<b>Objective D: Reduce the disproportionate impact of industrial and transportation emissions on environmental justice communities.</b>				
Prioritize Transportation Investment Dollars on Congestion and VMT Reduction	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Project Selection Criteria, Adherence to CMP and ITS Architecture <b>Fed/State:</b> Draft guidelines and rulemaking <b>Local:</b> Submit Congestion Projects	PL STP; CMAQ	Maryland Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Act Plan San Joaquin Council of Governments Draft Regional Transportation Plan 2014-2040
Prioritize CMAQ investment dollars on Congestion Reduction Air Emission Reductions	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Project Selection Criteria <b>Fed/State:</b> Draft guidelines and rulemaking <b>Local:</b> Submit CMAQ Projects	CMAQ	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission 2015 Competitive CMAQ Program Guidance
Fund and Promote Transit		See infill and reinvestment strategies	STP	Puget Sound Regional Council for its Transportation 2040 plan

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Promote growth in areas Livable Centers		See infill and reinvestment strategies	CLC	1- Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) for Jefferson Area Eastern Planning Initiative - Building Livable Communities 2-San Diego Area Council of Governments Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) Program 3-The San Francisco Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Transportation for Livable Communities Program (TLC) 4-City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Incentive Program 5-The Sacramento Area Council of Government's Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035
Promote and fund Clean Diesel and Diesel Emission Reduction Projects		NIRPC: CMAQ Air Quality Public Education subcontracts with South Shore Clean Cities to conduct an annual Green Fleets education and technical support program focusing on diesel fleet operators.	National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program; Pollution Prevention Grants Program; Reauthorization of Diesel Grants ; Clean Diesel Grants; CMAQ	NIRPC and SSCC have worked together to retrofit 180 regional diesel vehicles with Diesel Oxidation Catalysts or Auxiliary Heating Units. In addition, several diesel retrofit projects were submitted in the 2015 CMAQ solicitation and will be submitted for eligibility to INDOT and FHWA. The NIRPC sponsored SSCC Green Fleets program has conducted dozens of Education and Training workshops, webinars and programs focusing on air quality improvement and fuel conservation practices for diesel fleet operators.
Promote and facilitate opportunities for alternative energy and energy conservation		NIRPC: Education and Best Practices	CMAQ; TIGER; DOE	During 2013-2015 NIRPC has participated with the National Association of as one of 10 Regional Councils promoting best solar practices through the Solar Ready II program, conducting educational workshops, providing model documents, and implementing a Solarize NWI campaign in the region.
Promote tree planting and native prairie restoration for carbon sequestration		See Green Infrastructure Section and Clean Land Section.	Arbor Day Grant Program; Hometown Indiana Grants; FIP	Harrison West, Valparaiso, IN
<b>Objective E: Coordinate land use and transportation policies to reduce motor vehicle trips.</b>				
Prioritize Transportation Investment Dollars on Congestion and VMT Reduction	S/M/L	<u>NIRPC:</u> Project Selection Criteria, Adherence to CMP and ITS Architecture <u>Fed/State:</u> Draft guidelines and rulemaking <u>Local:</u> Submit Congestion Projects	PL STP; CMAQ	Maryland Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Act Plan San Joaquin Council of Governments Draft Regional Transportation Plan 2014-2040
Prioritize CMAQ investment dollars on Congestion Reduction Air Emission Reductions	S/M/L	<u>NIRPC:</u> Project Selection Criteria <u>Fed/State:</u> Draft guidelines and rulemaking <u>Local:</u> Submit CMAQ Projects	CMAQ	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission 2015 Competitive CMAQ Program Guidance

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Goal: Clean land</b>				
<b>Objective A: Maximize the number of brownfields returned to productive use.</b>				
Establish current information on existing sites that meet the definition of Brownfield	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Can be a partner in regional brownfield coalitions, and provide technical support. <b>Fed/State:</b> Funding and Technical Support: <b>Local Governments and LEDOs</b> should take the lead on identifying local brownfields, creating redevelopment plans, marketing brownfields, and applying for federal funding.	USEPA CERCLA Brownfield Grants, RDA, Private Redevelopers	NIRPC, the RDA, and the Cities of Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago have formed the Northwestern Indiana Brownfield Coalition. The NWIBC has successfully acquired \$1.4 in federal funding to create a brownfield inventory, produce Environmental Assessments for underutilized properties, and to establish a Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund. The Brownfield RLF has executed its first loan to the City of Gary Redevelopment Commission for the purposes of mitigating asbestos to allow for demolition of the 10 story long abandoned Gary Ambassador Apartment Building.
Support development of local capacity and funding to promote and implement the redevelopment of Brownfields	L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Can be a partner in regional brownfield coalitions, and provide technical support. <b>Fed/State:</b> Funding and Technical Support: <b>Local Governments and LEDOs</b> , especially those with significant numbers of vacant properties, can take the lead on identifying local brownfields, learning best practices, creating redevelopment plans, marketing brownfields, and applying for federal funding.	USEPA CERCLA Brownfield Grants, RDA, Private Redevelopers	Indiana 15 RPC has been very successful at development or brownfield capacity and attaining federal funding for brownfield redevelopment its 6 rural southern Indiana counties. The Downriver Community Conference, a coalition of 20 cities, towns, and townships in SE Michigan between Detroit and Toledo has been highly successful in obtaining federal funding and leveraging local, state, and private redevelopment resources
<b>Objective B: Facilitate a regional solid</b>				
Collect and Integrate information available from existing county solid waste management plans and metrics to establish a regional baseline.	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordinate or facilitate information gathering from county solid waste management districts (SWMDs) <b>SWMDs:</b> Share existing plans and data collected on various waste streams, disposal quantities, recycling rates, etc.	No known funding source for this activity	Lake Michigan District Household Hazardous Waste is a joint effort of the Lake, Porter, LaPorte Counties SWMDs. This partnership could form the backbone of a data collection and sharing effort. Several areas of Indiana have actually formed truly regional SWMDs, including the Northwest Indiana Solid WASTE District which serves Benton, Carroll, Jasper, Newton, Pulaski, and White Counties just south of the NIRPC region. Northeastern Indiana Solid Waste Management District, serving Lagrange, Stueben, Noble, and Dekalb Counties. The Southeastern Indiana Recycling District coordinates recycling in 7 counties.
<b>Objective C: Promote the acquisition and protection of greenspace.</b>				
Prioritize wetland restoration and conservation		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination and technical assistance <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical support: IDEM, DNR, USACOE, USFWS, NRCS <b>Local:</b> SWCD, environmental/ conservation organizations	USDA-CRP, USDA-CTA, WRP, Wetlands Protection Development Grants Program; Small Watershed Program; NAWCA	Indiana Wetlands Conservation Plan criteria

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Pursue strategic open space acquisition that provides opportunities to expand existing open spaces and improve network connectivity for the benefit of regional trail system, wildlife and biodiversity		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination, mapping, facilitation, identifying grant opportunities <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical Support and funding <b>Local:</b> Local Governments and NGOS can acquire property for conservation and open space recreation.	Some PL funding can be used to maintain resource data for Env. Mit. IDNR provides state funding through Bicentennial Nature Trust, and federal funding through the Lake Michigan Coastal Program for natural resources conservation land acquisitions and public access.	Ex. Riparian Buffer Preservation- Trail Creek, Michigan City - Hobart Marsh has an expansive patchwork of critical habitat that has been acquired by the City, The Nature Conservancy, Shirley Heinze Land Trust, Lake County Parks, IDNR, Save the Dunes, and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.
Protect sensitive areas and forestlands through creation of sufficient buffer zones		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination, mapping, facilitation, identifying grant opportunities <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical Support and funding <b>Local:</b> Local Governments and NGOS can acquire property for conservation and open space recreation.	EQIP; FIP; CRP; Cooperative Forestry Assistance; EFI	Ex. Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy- Chesterton
Seek opportunities to maintain or restore habitat corridors		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination, mapping, facilitation, identifying grant opportunities <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical Support and funding <b>Local:</b> Local Governments and NGOS can acquire property for conservation and open space recreation.	FIP; WHIP; CRP; Partners for Wildlife Habitat Restoration Program	Ex. Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy- Chesterton
Preserve and enhance strategically sited green areas in developed areas to mitigate impacts on region's ecosystem and wastewater system		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordination, mapping, facilitation, identifying grant opportunities <b>Fed/State:</b> Technical Support and funding <b>Local:</b> Local Governments and NGOS can acquire property for conservation and open space recreation.	Some PL funding can be used to maintain resource data for Environmental Mitigation. Need Local Dedicated Source	NIRPC, with funding from the Garlord and Dorothy Donnelly Foundation partnered with The Conservation Design Forum and the Town of Cedar Lake to identify strategic parcels along Founders Creek for creation of a community Greenway.
Encourage habitat protection, restoration, and cooperative land management agreements on both public and private lands through appropriate regulation and incentives		<b>NIRPC:</b> Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	FIP; WHIP; CRP; Partners for Wildlife Habitat Restoration Program	Habitat Conservation Plans: The Quiet Revolution : This U.S. Fish and Wildlife provides basic information about habitat conservations plans as well as a number of case studies on the use of these plans. [http://www.fws.gov/endangered/hcp/Quiet/quietrev.html]
Coordinate education, training and technical assistance especially to develop strategic partners in open space management		<b>Other Entity:</b> NWI CWMA	Soil Conservation Education Program; SARE	Hilltop Hanover, A Westchester County Farm and Environmental Center, Westchester County, New York
<b>Objective D: Mitigate transportation and land use impacts.</b>				
Identify proposed transportation projects that may have an environmental impact for early coordination with state and federal agencies		NIRPC: Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	PL to update and maintain data for Env. Mit.	Updated the Green Infrastructure Vision with more substantial data and conservation metrics, as well as research based Ecosystem Services Valuation data developed by the Conservation Fund for Chicago Wilderness.
Make environmental resource data readily available and accessible to transportation planners and decision makers		NIRPC: Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	PL to update and maintain data for Env. Mit.	NIRPC conducts Red Flag Investigations for all transportation projects we receive information on and provide this information to project sponsors.
Where deemed beneficial to the region, support artificial habitat creation in areas where natural habitat areas are too degraded or fragmented to restore effectively	L	NIRPC: Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	WHIP; CRP; Partners for Wildlife Habitat Restoration Program; Wildlife Conservation and Appreciation Program	Cowles Bog Restoration plan-Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
Prioritize environmental resource/ asset areas regionally to assist with transportation planning and assist with decision making		NIRPC: Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	PL to update and maintain data for Env. Mit.	Updated the Green Infrastructure Vision with more substantial data and conservation metrics, asd well as research based Ecosystem Services Valuation data developed by the Conservation Fund for Chicago Wilderness.
Identify mitigation areas/ opportunities that have the greatest ecological value to enhance regional restoration and preservation efforts		NIRPC: Data, mapping, facilitation and coordination	PL to update and maintain data for Env. Mit.	Updated the Green Infrastructure Vision with more substantial data and conservation metrics, asd well as research based Ecosystem Services Valuation data developed by the Conservation Fund for Chicago Wilderness.

**Economic Development**

**Goal H & E-1: A globally competitive, diversified economy that protects & enhances our natural environment**

**Objective A: Maximize technology, productivity and efficiency of existing core industries**

Provide broadband fiber optics		<u>NIRPC</u> can offer technical support and GIS data mapping <u>Other Entity:</u> The Forum will pursue recommendations from the Broadband Study such as identifying hot spots	EDA; NWIEDD	
Maximize Economic Development impacts of major employers		<u>NIRPC:</u> GIS data and mapping <u>Other Entity:</u> Technical Support from NWI Forum, RDA and Local Governments.	EDA; NWIEDD	Comprehensive Plan implementation of City of Gary identified several priority projects include Route 912 Business Park Development, and Interstate 90/65 Business Park Development.

**Objective B: Create diverse, emerging and sustainable industries**

Support the Regional Entrepreneurial Action Plan (REAP)	S	<u>NIRPC</u> can offer technical support, provide data and act as a convener / facilitator <u>Other Entity:</u> NWIEDD & Forum	RDA; NWIEDD	Elevate Ventures fund \$1.6 million pilot program called "Quickstart" - staff hired to be NWI representative (effective Jan. 1, 2012)
Provide Economic Development impacts of identified "industry clusters"		<u>NIRPC:</u> Supply data and coordinate with the Forum and IEDC <u>Fed/State:</u> IEDC <u>Other Entity:</u> Forum	EDA; NWIEDD; IDGF	Comprehensive Plan of City of Gary aims to establish a tax increment finance (TIF) district to finance infrastructure costs, expand the Gary-East Chicago-Hammond Empowerment Zone and Gary/Chicago International Airport Development Zone to encompass the Business Park and provide incentives to new businesses and developers including Foreign Trade Zone Benefits.

**Objective C: Strengthen public/private partnerships resulting in increased regional investment**

Update CEDS	S	<u>NIRPC</u> will support the NWIEDD and provide data <u>Other Entity:</u> Include criteria in NWIEDD call for projects	EDA	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2010
Maximize Economic Development impacts of NWIEDD's requests and EDA funds		<u>NIRPC</u> can offer technical assistance and align transportation funds to maximize economic development impacts and opportunities	EDA; NWIEDD	
Airport		<u>Other Entity:</u> RDA	RDA	Gary- Chicago International Airport Project

**Objective D: Redevelop urban core areas**

Pursue catalytic projects in the Marquette Plan		<u>NIRPC</u> can facilitate sharing of information, act as a convener and facilitator, provide technical assistance and coordinate with the RDA to pursue the Advisory Committee <u>Other Entity:</u> The RDA will continue to fund projects within the lakefront communities of Northwest Indiana that are located in the Focused Revitalization Area.	RDA	Portage Lakefront
Pursue catalytic projects in the GRIP project.		<u>NIRPC &amp; RDA:</u> Marquette Plan Update <u>EPA:</u> Provide planning and technical assistance	EZ; RDA; NWIEDD	Marquette Plan; Gary- Chicago International Airport Project

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective E: Use/expansion of transportation and other infrastructure advantages</b>				
Prioritize transportation investments which achieve improved connectivity		<b>NIRPC:</b> Formulate project selection criteria based on objectives outlined in PL; STP		South Shore Rail Line
Provide cutting-edge utilities, services and Broadband fiber optics, See Goal H & E-1, Objective A, #1		<b>NIRPC:</b> Will manage data and provide GIS mapping of utilities, services, and broadband fiber optics when the data is available. <b>Local:</b> Will manage data and provide data when necessary. Will work with Utilities and Economic development groups to expand access. <b>Other Entity:</b> Utilities, Economic Development groups, and other organizations which manage data will provide it with the understanding it will be managed confidentially. Utilities and Economic Development groups will work together to expand access.	EDA; NWIEDD	NIPSCO Economic Development Efforts
<b>Objective F: Promote growth that protects and enhances the environmental assets of Northwest Indiana</b>				
Pursue land assembly and site preparation efforts		<b>NIRPC:</b> will provide technical assistance, data and GIS mapping and continue to partner with the Forum to promote land assembly needs using land use and transportation infrastructure components <b>Local:</b> LEDO's <b>Other Entity:</b> The Forum will continue to support LEDO efforts and host additional seminars with NIRPC and develop programs	CLC; Land Banks; Brownfields Program	Portage Lakefront recovers abandoned brownfields along its waterway
<b>Objective G: Improve the region's workforce to accommodate growth in emerging industries</b>				
Provide Economic Development impacts of emerging "Green Economy" jobs		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordinate with Forum	EDA; NWIEDD; TIF; Tax Abatement;	South Shore Rail Line
Create programs to support job and economic growth		<b>NIRPC:</b> Assist with grant opportunities and coordinate with NWI Forum and RDA <b>Other Entity:</b> Center for Workforce Innovations, NWI Forum, NWI Ready Program, and Local Governments	RDA; NWIEDD; local Government	NWIEDD
<b>Objective H: Improve overall quality of life to attract businesses and residents</b>				
Create regional identity to support Economic Development opportunities		<b>NIRPC:</b> Coordinate with Forum <b>Local:</b> Chamber of Commerce <b>Other Entity:</b> The Forum will continue to market NWI to developers, site selectors, real estate brokers and targeted industries	RED; NWIEDD	Marquette Plan
<b>Goal H &amp; E-2: Expanded access to knowledge &amp; educational opportunities</b>				
<b>Objective A: Develop a transportation system that provides safe and reliable access to educational facilities</b>				
Prioritize transportation investments which achieve improved connections		<b>NIRPC:</b> Include in Project Selection Criteria	PL; STP	South Shore Rail Line
<b>Objective B: Maintain strategic partnerships with educational institutions</b>				
Create data base of education/occupation opportunities		<b>NIRPC:</b> Supply information/data and provide contacts <b>Local:</b> Education Institutions, Universities <b>Other Entity:</b> NWIWB & CWI supply data & reports	PL	Work One Northwest Indiana
Establish partnerships between industry and educational institutions for purposes of job training		<b>NIRPC:</b> Provide contacts and connections	RDA; EDA; EPA	U.S.Steel partnered with Purdue University Calumet Visualization lab
<b>Objective C: Provide critical information to the public to enable meaningful public participation</b>				
Provide "forum style" events	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Offer forums with keypad polling <b>Local:</b> Work with NIRPC to educate on Plan recommendations, etc.	PL, other grants and sponsorship for larger events.	Hammond Elementary school forum Dec.6,2011



Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective D: Educate leaders about best practices in urban and regional planning and public policy</b>				
Conduct civic and governmental activities in locations convenient to the urban core		<b>NIRPC</b> can act a facilitator, share information and provide technical assistance and support	PL	Public meeting at Chesterton Town Hall
<b>Objective E: Improve infrastructure connectivity and access to the technology that supports distance education</b>				
Prioritize transportation investments which achieve improved connectivity		<b>NIRPC</b> will include in Project Selection Criteria	PL; STP	South Shore Rail Line
<b>Stewardship &amp; Governance</b>				
<b>Goal S&amp;G-1: Environmental justice: shared benefits and burdens</b>				
<b>Objective 1-A: Increase outreach in environmental justice communities and improve the public involvement process to eliminate barriers and engage minority, disabled, elderly, and low-income populations in regional decision-making.</b>				
Host an annual regional forum addressing progress in 2040 CRP implementation and issue-oriented roundtables, as appropriate.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Lead the outreach effort to ensure that all groups are well represented. Host forums and roundtables at appropriate and easily accessible sites. <b>Fed/State:</b> Attend annual forums <b>Local:</b> Assist NIRPC in outreach efforts to reach E.J. communities in your local jurisdiction.	PL	Listening sessions held in the areas of Motorized Transportation, Public Transit, and the Environment as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan update. Listening sessions held as part of the Greenways + Blueways 2020 planning process on non-motorized transportation.
Provide ongoing communication to regional stakeholders on a quarterly basis.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Publish a quarterly newsletter.	PL	Plan Cheyenne includes a unique structure and online RFP process, and incorporation of cutting edge public participation strategies.
Support and facilitate meaningful public participation in planning efforts at all scales, including expanding NIRPC's online capabilities.	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Develop a Social Equity section on the NIRPC website.	PL; Foundations	Best Practice Website: Metro Boston Indicators Project ( <a href="http://www.regionalindicators.org/equity/">www.regionalindicators.org/equity/</a> )
<b>Objective 1-B: Improve capacity to identify residential, employment, and transportation patterns of low-income and minority populations so that their needs may be identified and addressed, and the impacts of transportation can be fairly distributed</b>				
Establish a Core Communities Committee to provide technical support and assist in securing resources from federal, philanthropic and other external sources.	S	<b>NIRPC:</b> Reach out to core community leaders, seeking representatives for the Core Communities Committee. <b>Local:</b> Identify leaders to participate in the Committee.	Need Local dedicated source	Staff serve on Urban Core Communities (Gary, East Chicago, Michigan City) Steering Committees for various plans and projects. Walkable and Livable Communities Institute Conducted a research about implementing projects to support active living, This handbook provides guidance of how to form a community committee. <a href="http://www.walklive.org/">http://www.walklive.org/</a>
<b>Objective 1-C: Avoid disproportionately high and/or adverse impacts on minority, disabled, elderly and/or low-income populations.</b>				
Consider the benefits and burdens of potential decisions on environmental justice communities.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Build upon the Environmental Justice Analysis conducted for the 2040 CRP to develop tools to evaluate benefits and burdens of projects on E.J. communities. Explore the potential for providing E.J. analysis tools and technical support for local governments. <b>Local:</b> Develop plans and tools to address benefits and burdens of local projects.	Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant Program	The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) of Massachusetts provides this Smart Growth/Smart Energy Toolkit on the website. <a href="http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html">http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html</a>
<b>Objective 1-D: Minimize and/or mitigate unavoidable impacts on low-income and/or minority populations by providing offsetting initiatives and enhancement measures to benefit affected communities and neighborhoods</b>				
See Objective 1-C above.				

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective 1-E: Increase awareness and understanding of environmental justice issues among decision makers</b>				
Facilitate increased understanding and meaningful discussion of social justice issues, in particular as they relate to the relationship between land use, transportation and environmental planning efforts in the core communities.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Increase and broaden public participation activities to ensure an ongoing and meaningful process for citizens. Educate NIRPC Commissioners and other local decision makers on the importance of ensuring social justice in our region.	PL	1-The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) of Massachusetts provides this Smart Growth/Smart Energy Toolkit on the website. <a href="http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html">http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html</a> 2- Environmental Justice workshops for the CRP and Illiana Expressway projects
Build local capacity and understanding of the regional impacts of local planning and promote "best practices" among both the general public and elected/appointed officials, as described elsewhere in this Plan.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Maintain an active and meaningful role in ongoing regional initiatives, including: Quality of Life Council, Quad-State Accord, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other initiatives described elsewhere in the CRP, as well as any other regional initiatives. Ensure public & media appearances by staff as well as public input sessions include these themes when appropriate	PL	1- Transit Listening Sessions prior to 2040 CRP Update explaining how transit is funded in the region and the process behind it 2- NIRPC's CLC program
<b>Objective 1-F: Mitigate displacement of local residents and the loss of property investments when redeveloping the urban core</b>				
Provide support for integration of livable communities' standards and social equity considerations into local planning decision-making.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Use the Core Communities Committee to provide support and advocacy in the urban core communities. <b>Local:</b> Use plans and policies to encourage the retention of existing residents while allowing for redevelopment.	CLC	Livable Center Initiative by Atlanta Regional Commission
<b>Goal 2: Efficient and coordinated local government</b>				
<b>Objective 2-A: Facilitate the consolidation of redundant local government services</b>				
Shared service and utility agreements, coordination and consolidation	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Facilitate and foster opportunities for shared local government services and improving the fiscal sustainability of the counties and existing cities and towns.	NIRPC Local Government Assistance Committee meet with regional finance experts, other local elected officials and members of the Indiana General Assembly to devise a strategy.	Ask the Indiana Association of Cities & Towns and Association of Indiana Counties for examples in Indiana that work. In addition, the following resource is among examples of municipal service agreements, etc. It is the the New York Association of Counties. It is "The Shared Municipal Service Incentive Program: A Policy Primer" <a href="http://nysac.org/policy-research/documents/sharedservicesbriefing.pdf">http://nysac.org/policy-research/documents/sharedservicesbriefing.pdf</a>
Shared purchasing agreements	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Facilitate and foster opportunities for shared purchasing agreements. Bundle this task with the shared service agreement task above.	NIRPC Local Government Assistance Committee meet with other local elected officials to devise a financial strategy. Include members of the Indiana General Assembly if state enabling legislation might be required.	Approach the Indiana Association of Cities & Towns and Association of Indiana Counties for examples in Indiana that work. In addition, see the paper "Municipal Cooperation: Sharing Services in New York" <a href="http://www.empirecenter.org/publications/municipal-cooperation-sharing-services-in-ny/">http://www.empirecenter.org/publications/municipal-cooperation-sharing-services-in-ny/</a>
<b>Objective 2-B: Promote coordination of land use and corridor planning across jurisdictional boundaries</b>				
Review and advise communities in the region as intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) are developed to address various issues of mutual and broader regional benefit.	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Discuss at the new Technical Planning Committee regarding implementation of the 2040 CRP what can be accomplished across community and county boundaries regarding land use and planning coordination.	PL, and search for other sources of funds for land use planning to expand NIRPC role as needed.	Research best practices as highlighted by the National Associations of Regional Councils (NARC)

Action Step	Term (S/M/L)	Responsible Party	Funding	Successes/Best Practices
<b>Objective 2-C: Foster better communication, cooperation, and coordination to better leverage resources</b>				
Communicate shared regional priorities to the federal and state agencies	S/M/L	<b>NIRPC:</b> Flexible regional financing options for initiatives that cross municipal and county lines. Provide ongoing community revenue sharing opportunities to better align regional resources with regional needs/cation to regional stakeholders on a quarterly basis. Provide ongoing education to state and federal agencies regarding vision, goals & objectives of the CRP. <b>Fed/State:</b> State and federal tax policy favorable to achieving Livable Centers and Focused Revitalization	Pursue state and federal tax policy and the allocation of other resources favorable to achieving Livable Centers and Focused Revitalization. Consult with members of the Indiana General Assembly and members of Congress if new enabling legislation is required.	Continuation of NIRPC's CLC program.
Explore funding resources for NIRPC and regional partners to support greater cooperation and interaction among non-traditional partners	S/M/L	NIRPC: Research	Search for other sources of funds for this expanded level of activity.	NW Indiana Greenways & Blueways Map which raised local match from a number of private sources.
<b>Objective 2-D: Promote the sharing of benefits, burdens and costs among governments</b>				
Consider the benefits and burdens of potential decisions on environmental justice communities.		<b>NIRPC:</b> Provide support for integration of livable communities' standards and social equity considerations into local planning decision-making.	CLC	The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) of Massachusetts provides this Smart Growth/Smart Energy Toolkit on the website. <a href="http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html">http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-ej.html</a>