

CHAPTER 4: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

During the development of the initial Rural Transportation System Plan (RTSP) in 1998, a mission statement and a set of goals and objectives were developed. They were based on public input and provided a starting point and framework for the transportation planning process. These goals and objectives have been slightly updated in this 2005 update to better reflect the current issues affecting our transportation system in Marion County. These goals and objectives will continue to be revisited as part of future updates to reflect new changes in the transportation planning process, issues shaping that process, and the impacts of growth on development and maintenance of the countywide transportation system.

4.1 MISSION STATEMENT

Develop a balanced, safe, multi-modal transportation system to accommodate planned growth, facilitate economic development, recognize fiscal reality, and maintain a high standard of livability and safety.

4.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Improve Transportation System Safety

Objective 1.1: Improve system safety for and between all modes of transportation.

Objective 1.2: Dedicate adequate resources to ensure that the transportation system is properly maintained and preserved.

Goal 2: Provide an Accessible, Efficient and Practical Transportation System Appropriate to Both Urban and Rural Areas Throughout the County

Objective 2.1: Improve mobility and access options to transportation facilities throughout Marion County for transportation system users.

Objective 2.2: Facilitate goods movement into and out of the area; increase freight (truck, rail, air and water) mobility and inter-modal transfer.

Objective 2.3: Facilitate shipping of goods by the most efficient and least-impacting means possible.

Objective 2.4: Address changing characteristics of trucking, aviation, agriculture and rail industries.

Objective 2.5: Facilitate system connections as needed to improve efficiency and access.

Goal 3: Provide Sufficient Transportation Capacity

- Objective 3.1: Address existing priorities and projected growth.
- Objective 3.2: Adequately provide for the transportation needs of residents, businesses, customers, and visitors.
- Objective 3.3: Encourage and support actions that reduce demand on the transportation system.
- Objective 3.4: Encourage and support actions that maximize the value and efficiency of the existing system.

Goal 4: Recognize Fiscal Reality

- Objective 4.1: Facilitate best usage of available financial resources.
- Objective 4.2: Be ready to use additional resources efficiently if they become available, and be able to show what benefit results from those resources.
- Objective 4.3: Facilitate procurement of grant funding.
- Objective 4.4: Recognize that, due to financial limitations, **not** all goals and objectives will be met to the ideal extent.

Goal 5: Work in Partnership with Communities to Address Community Needs and Values

- Objective 5.1: Minimize adverse impact of the transportation system on quality of life in communities.
- Objective 5.2: Facilitate regional through movement of goods and services while minimizing conflict between through movement and livability in central city areas.
- Objective 5.3: Minimize adverse impact of the transportation system on quality of life and environment in rural areas.
- Objective 5.4: Foster cooperation between the County and cities to address a wide variety of transportation issues.

Goal 6: Promote Alternative Modes of Transportation

Objective 6.1: Facilitate provision of opportunities for a variety of transportation options.

Objective 6.2: Reduce dependence on any one mode of transportation.

Objective 6.3: Facilitate and support improved connections between different modes.

Objective 6.4: Support land use planning strategies that facilitate efficient transportation system use and development.

Goal 7: Consider Land Use and Transportation Relationships

Objective 7.1: Integrate land use planning and transportation planning to manage and plan the transportation system.

Objective 7.2: Minimize detrimental effects of transportation improvements on rural land uses.

Objective 7.3: Ensure an environmentally responsible/ environmentally sound transportation system that minimizes adverse impacts on air and water.

Objective 7.4: Ensure transportation-related activities comply with clean air and water requirements and fish and wildlife habitat management regulations.

Objective 7.5: Protect established land uses including prime farmland, forestland, and other natural resources.

Goal 8: Address Transportation Policy Issues and Intergovernmental Coordination

Objective 8.1: Improve coordination with all affected jurisdictions to meet future transportation needs.

Objective 8.2: Facilitate development of coordinated transportation design standards.

Objective 8.3: Emphasize facilitation, rather than restriction/ regulation, of business.

Objective 8.4: Ensure cost-effective investment in transportation. Improvements should be fiscally responsible, economically efficient and realistic.

Objective 8.5: Comply with applicable Transportation Planning Rule requirements for rural transportation system planning.

Objective 8.6: Maintain an ongoing public involvement process.

Goal 9: Provide a Useful Plan Document

- Objective 9.1: Accurately reflect the existing and future transportation systems, issues, and needs of Marion County.
- Objective 9.2: Identify methods for funding recommended actions.
- Objective 9.3: Provide clear planning direction.
- Objective 9.4: Maintain and update a list of issues for further study.
- Objective 9.5: Extend usable life of existing facilities; provide a maintenance element.
- Objective 9.6: Provide for a periodic review and update of the Plan that allows for improvements to be made as circumstances change regarding transportation issues throughout the County.