



Northwest Indiana Pedestrian & Bicycle Transportation Plan of 2005

Prepared by
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**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

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RESOLUTION 05-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE 2005 PED & PEDAL
REGIONAL PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Northwest Indiana require a safe, efficient, and effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system to attain and maintain socially, economically, and environmentally sound living conditions towards an improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "The Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Lake, Porter, and LaPorte County Region, has established a region-wide, cooperative, comprehensive and continuing planning process to develop the unified planning work program, long-range transportation plan and transportation improvement program. The Commission enacts the plans and programs to facilitate federal, state and local funding for surface transportation improvements carried out by the Indiana Department of Transportation, the region's communities, counties and transit operators, and provides technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

WHEREAS, the Commission performs the above mentioned activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Federal-Aid Highway Acts of 1962, 1970, 1973 and 1976, the Surface Transportation Assistance Acts of 1978, 1982 and 1987, 1991 and 1998, the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964 as amended in 1970, 1974 and 1982, the Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, the Clean Air Act of 1970 as amended in 1977 and 1990, and other legislation mandating cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing regional transportation planning activities; and

WHEREAS, Lake and Porter Counties are classified as severe non-attainment for ozone precursors and must follow the guidelines established in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA), including the reduction of single occupant automobile trips; and

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WHEREAS, activities such as walking, jogging, rollerblading, and bicycle riding represent a healthy form of commuting and recreation, and have been identified in the CAAA as a transportation control measure (TCM) to reduce the number of single occupant vehicles (SOV's); and

WHEREAS, Northwest Indiana has currently developed 70 miles of off-road trails, nearly 600 miles of signed, shared bike routes, with approximately 100 miles of planned off-road trails; and


WHEREAS, an abundance of available rights-of-way still remain suitable for the development of additional trail systems, and

WHEREAS, local emphasis on pedestrian access and safety needs to take a more prominent role in land use decision-making, and

WHEREAS, the Commission has conducted the planning process in an open and participatory manner involving numerous people, including solicited public comment on the draft *2005 Ped and Pedal Plan*, and has reviewed and considered the comments received and recommended modifications to be effected to the draft *2005 Ped and Pedal Plan*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission endorses and adopts the *2005 Ped and Pedal* Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan to identify and prioritize regional trail corridors and encourage improved facilities for pedestrian and bicycle movements. This Plan is subject to amendment, and will be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission on this twentieth day of January, two thousand and five.


Chairperson

ATTEST:


Secretary