



Oak Savanna bike trail. Photo by Samuel A. Love via Flickr.

Chapter VI:
Implementation

Continuing a Pathway to Success

The *2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan* stands as a landmark document for Northwest Indiana. The CRP charts a bold course of visionary actions across a number of planning areas with a variety of partners, and positions NIRPC as a prime mover in the process. Implementation of the CRP remains a top priority of NIRPC.

Born from the intense public participation process, which created the CRP, a Vision Statement emerged where all goals and their related objectives were categorized into four broad themes. The Vision Statement is as follows:

Stretching from the treasured shores of Lake Michigan to the historic banks of the Kankakee River and committed to an ethic of sustainability:

- **A *vibrant* region – Our economy is thriving, our people are well educated, growth is planned, and natural and rural areas are valued and protected;**
- **A *revitalized* region – Urban areas are renewed and our environment is clean;**
- **An *accessible* region – Our people are connected to each other and to equal opportunities for working, playing, living and learning;**
- **A *untied* region – Celebrating our diversity, we work together as a community across racial, ethnic, political and cultural lines for the good of the region.**

Breaking down roles and responsibilities regarding implementing the many goals and objectives as outlined in the CRP is a daunting task. To aid in this effort, NIRPC worked with the Pathway to 2040 Committee on the preparation of an implementation matrix, which breaks each goal into a series of action steps, complete with timeframe, responsible party, funding avenues and best practices examples. The matrix was created a year after the CRP was adopted in 2012. It represents a list of activities and responsibilities that will continue to be advanced and updated.

Embedded within this matrix are the roles NIRPC and regional stakeholders must play to successfully implement the 2040 CRP, and the lay the groundwork for a sustainable and livable region that provides a strong quality of life for all today, and in the foreseeable future. Please refer to Appendix B to read the matrix in its entirety.