



NEWS FROM NIRPC

Contact: Sarah Geinosky, Geographic Information System Analyst
219-763-6060; sgeinosky@nirpc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2015

NIRPC to Commence Public Comment Period

NIRPC to Amend Functional Classification System into 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission will host a 30-day public comment period beginning October 19, 2015 and ending November 20, 2015 on an amendment to the 2040 *Comprehensive Regional Plan*. A public meeting will be held on November 4, 2015 at the Construction Advancement Foundation Training Center, 6050 Southport Road in Portage from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This amendment will add a section on the Functional Classification system of the regional road network.

As a regional partner in the transportation system, NIRPC has a role in ensuring that the roads across the region are properly classified based on function. This concept is called Functional Classification. Functional Classification plays a role in determining the distribution of federal funds to road projects. This update to the Northwest Indiana Functional Classification system is the result of close collaboration between NIRPC staff and the local counties and municipalities, as well as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). NIRPC's Transportation Policy Committee approved the functional classification system at its April 14, 2015 meeting.

The public is invited to attend any and all of these public meetings. Comments may also be submitted to comments@nirpc.org, or by calling NIRPC at 219-763-6060, ext. 160, or by mailing to NIRPC at 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333. Additional information, including meeting information and draft document may be found at <http://www.nirpc.org/transportation/functional-class.aspx>.

Requests for alternative formats may be directed to Mary Thorne, 219-763-6060, ext. 131, or mthorne@nirpc.org. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333.

NIRPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and regional council of local governments for the three counties of Northwest Indiana. NIRPC provides the forum for local elected officials, regional, leadership, and citizens to address regional issues relating to transportation, the environment and community and economic development. NIRPC seeks to develop consensus solutions with the broadest participation.