

## NEWS FROM NIRPC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NIRPC to Hold 30-Day Public Comment Period on SR 249 Bridge to Port of Indiana**

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is holding a 30-day public comment period on amending the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan Update (CRP). The comment period will begin on October 21, 2016 and end on November 21, 2016.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has determined that the current two lane State Road (SR) 249 bridge into the Port of Indiana in Portage requires replacement. As part of this process, INDOT is studying the need for additional capacity by either constructing an additional two lane bridge or one four lane bridge. While such a capacity expansion may not be determined necessary, NIRPC is amending the CRP to be prepared for the possibility of a capacity expansion.

As required in NIRPC's 2014 *Public Participation Plan*, a public meeting will be held as part of the comment period. The public meeting information is as follows:

- November 2, 2016: 3:00-5:00 pm, NIRPC, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, Indiana

Comments can also be submitted until November 21, 2016 in the following ways:

- Email: [comments@nirpc.org](mailto:comments@nirpc.org)
- Phone: 219-763-6060, ext. 160
- United States Postal Service: NIRPC, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368

All comments received during the 30-day public comment period will be compiled into a public comment report and responded to. This report will be made available to the public and distributed to the relevant NIRPC committees prior to any action on these items.

Information on this project is available on NIRPC's website at [www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org). Requests for alternative formats may be directed to Mary Thorne by calling 219-763-6060, ext. 131, or by email at [mthorne@nirpc.org](mailto:mthorne@nirpc.org). TTY users may use the Relay Indiana service by calling 711 or 800-743-3333.

NIRPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and regional council of local governments for Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties. NIRPC provides the forum for local elected officials, regional, leadership, and citizens to address regional topics relating to transportation, the environment and community and economic development. NIRPC seeks to develop consensus solutions with the broadest participation.

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