



# NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Together We Make The Difference

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## RESOLUTION 14-12

### A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE 2040 COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PLAN FOR NORTHWESTERN INDIANA

April 17, 2014

**WHEREAS**, Northwest Indiana's citizens require a safe, efficient, effective, resource-conserving regional transportation system that maintains and enhances regional mobility and contributes to improving to the quality of life in Northwest Indiana; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, hereafter referred to as "the Commission", being designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Lake, Porter and LaPorte County area, has established a regional, comprehensive, cooperative and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process to develop the unified planning work program, a transportation plan, and a transportation improvement program to facilitate federal funding for communities, counties, and transit operators, and to provide technical assistance and expertise to regional transportation interests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission performs the above activities to satisfy regional requirements under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act of 2012 (MAP-21), as well as other federal, state and local laws mandating 3-C transportation planning activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Regional Plan is a product of a multi-modal, 3-C transportation planning process that was developed in an open and participatory manner, including extensive participation involving numerous people, with specific efforts made to engage low-income and minority populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2040 Comprehensive regional Plan provides a framework for how the three-county region can develop in the next generation, and is a tool to guide our actions and to direct our resources to achieve our vision of a vibrant, revitalized, accessible, and united region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has analyzed the benefits and burdens of the implementation of transportation expansion projects in the 2040 Comprehensive

Regional Plan and has found that there are no unfair burdens, nor unfair lack of benefits for low-income and minority populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has solicited public comment on the proposed amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has found it necessary to make technical corrections to the Plan, as described on the attachment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission hereby adopts this Amendment #4 to the Comprehensive Regional Plan.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this seventeenth day of April 2014.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Snedecor  
Chair



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Roosevelt Allen, Jr.  
Secretary

# Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan Amendment #4

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) proposes Amendment #4 to its 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan (CRP). This amendment will add the following two projects to the list of Capacity Expansion Projects published on Page II-28 of the Plan:

1. **I-65 Added Travel Lanes**, from US 231 to SR 2 (adds one additional travel lane in each direction for a total of six).  
Open-to-Traffic Date: Before December 31, 2019  
Project Sponsor: Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)
2. **Replacement Bridge on Cline Avenue** (SR 912) in East Chicago.  
Four-Lane Toll Bridge (two travel lanes in each direction).  
Open-to-Traffic Date: Before December 31, 2016  
Project Sponsor: City of East Chicago

Action on this amendment is scheduled to occur at a meeting of the Commission on Thursday, April 17, 2014. Adoption of this amendment is contingent upon the following:

- Each project will need to be evaluated under and will have to be cleared for inclusion in the CRP by the adopted Congestion Management Process (CMP). This clearance is expected to occur in March 2014.
- Each project will need to be found to be in general agreement with the goals and objectives of the CRP. This finding is expected in April 2014.
- An Environmental Justice (EJ) Assessment of the impact of the projects on minorities and low-income persons, will need to conclude that EJ communities will either benefit or will have no undue burdens placed upon them. Completion of this assessment is expected in March 2014.