



## Key Information on the Lancaster County Draft Long-Range Transportation Plan & Transportation Improvement Program

May 16, 2016

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### Transportation and Health

The transportation system in Lancaster County has the potential to improve the health and well-being of our community. Transportation planning can help people lead more active lifestyles by increasing the number of opportunities for them to move between places without driving. Health experts recommend that active transportation systems connect the places where people live, learn, work, shop, and play by providing safe and convenient walking and bicycling facilities. Using smart growth design principles can also reduce the distance between destinations people need to travel during their daily activities. When transportation systems do not provide safe alternatives to automobile travel, it is harmful for the most vulnerable members of the community, such as people living in poverty, children, older adults, and those with disabilities.

### What is the LRTP? What is the TIP?

Connections 2040 is the long range transportation plan (LRTP) for Lancaster County. It provides the vision, goals, and objectives for our transportation system - including roads, bridges, pedestrian and bicycle pathways, public transportation, freight, and aviation. The 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) lists the highway, bridge, and transit projects that will have high priority for federal funding over the next four years.

The Lancaster County draft 2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2016 update to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) are available for public comment from May 1-31. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will vote on approval of the plan at its June meeting.

### Vision and Goals in the Draft LRTP

The draft LRTP includes a vision statement for the Lancaster County transportation system in 2040: *Lancaster County will have a transportation system that meets the needs of the 21st century. A truly multimodal system will operate to move people and goods safely and efficiently throughout Lancaster County. The system will support the communities' goals to balance the needs of a growing community and economy with the goal to protect and preserve the rural and agricultural resource areas. The physical and economic environments of Lancaster County will be supported by a framework of transportation alternatives. Mobility and access will be maximized by a balanced system of roadway networks, transit, rail freight, pedestrian, and bicycle modes.*

There are five major goals for Lancaster County's transportation system in the draft LRTP:

- Target transportation investments to support Smart Growth
- Maintain and improve the county's multimodal infrastructure
- Improve safety and security
- Manage and operate the transportation system to reduce congestion
- Protect the county's natural and historic assets

The draft LRTP also includes implementation strategies and performance measures that will be used to track progress.

### **Active Transportation in the Draft LRTP**

The draft LRTP notes that increased demand for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure is a key trend in recent years. "Lancaster residents have expressed a desire for more bicycle and pedestrian facilities to enable them to walk and bike safely for more of their trips," the plan states. "Lancaster County has responded with implementation of a Smart Growth Transportation Program, through the Transportation Alternatives Program and by funding multi-use trail, shoulder-widening, and streetscape projects on the TIP. The county has embarked on an update of its Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to plan for improvements on a countywide level of facilities to encourage these modes."

### **How to Get Involved**

We encourage our members to get involved with the transportation planning process! To learn more about how transportation projects are developed and the county's long-range transportation goals and to support better infrastructure for bicycles and pedestrians, please attend the public information meeting:

Thursday, May 19, 2016  
4:00 – 7:00 PM  
Conference Room 102, Lancaster County Government Building  
150 North Queen Street, Lancaster, PA

We also encourage you to submit written comments on the plan to Latoya Westbrook Thomas, LCPC, 150 N. Queen Street, Suite 320, Lancaster, PA 17603 or by email to [Lwestbrook@co.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:Lwestbrook@co.lancaster.pa.us).