

# Achieving an Efficient Transportation Management System

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## Why Plan?

• **Basis for local policy development and evaluation**

- Technical, Professional, and Administrative Staff are not policy-makers
- Provides guidance and technical documentation for those who are (Council)



## Why Plan?

### ∞ **Basis for local policy development and evaluation**

- Ensures that the “Topic, Issue, or Problem of the Day” does not detract from long-term transportation programming and daily demands of operation and maintenance
- Allows for public participation



## Why Plan?

### ∞ **Effective decision-making**

- Provides a roadmap (*no pun intended*) for day-to-day decision-making concerning transportation improvements
- Provides clear direction when many alternatives exist



## Why Plan?

### Ω **Effective decision-making**

- Can provide a central source of data or information to address new problems when they arise
- Provides standards for capital improvements



## Why Plan?

### Ω **Ease political demands**

- Involves citizens and elected officials
- Helps keep emphasis on data and defined needs rather than politics
- Helps to streamline annual capital budgeting process



## Why Plan?

### ∞ Increased access to capital project funding

- Identifies preferred funding sources
- Shows state and federal funding agencies that a need and a local commitment exist for a given project



## Why Plan?

### ∞ Increased levels of service

- Resurfacing/reconstruction
- Snow removal
- Sidewalk/ramp maintenance and reconstruction
- Striping and signage maintenance



## Why Plan?

### ∞ Overall asset management

- GASB 34 compliance
- Life-cycle costing
- Proactive maintenance saves taxpayer money



## Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

### ∞ Project Planning - new construction

- Complete a planning phase prior to the start of design
- May not be necessary if some type of overall transportation planning has been completed
- What are the project objectives?



## Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

### ∞ Project Planning - new construction

- How will the project be funded, and what are the budget constraints?
- Impacts of construction timing?
- How will the negative impacts of construction be minimized or mitigated?



## Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

### ∞ Comprehensive Plans / Thoroughfare Plans

- Establishes policies for future land use and thoroughfare development
- Provides a link between new development and transportation needs
- Confirms or recommends changes to functional classifications
- May be much more detailed



## Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

### ∞ Capital Improvement Plans

- Identifies specific capital projects, costs, and relative priorities over a time-certain period
- May be based upon the Comprehensive Plan, Thoroughfare Plan, or other overall planning document



## Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

### ∞ Capital Improvement Plans

- Helps to identify probable funding shortfalls so that additional revenues or funding sources can be sought over a multi-year capital planning period



# Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

## ∞ Area Plans

- Downtown areas
- Target areas for annexation or new growth and development
- TIF districts



# Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

## ∞ Emergency Response Plans

- Evacuation routes
- Emergency response procedures
- Railroad considerations
- Promotion & public awareness





# Opportunities for Local Transportation Planning

## ∞ Specific Inventories and Management Plans

- Pavement management
- Pedestrian facilities
- Bridges
- Drainage



# The Basics of Data Collection and Management for Planning and Reporting

## ∞ System Mapping

- Consolidate Maps

## ∞ Database

- Track Different Sets of Data

## ∞ Keep It Current

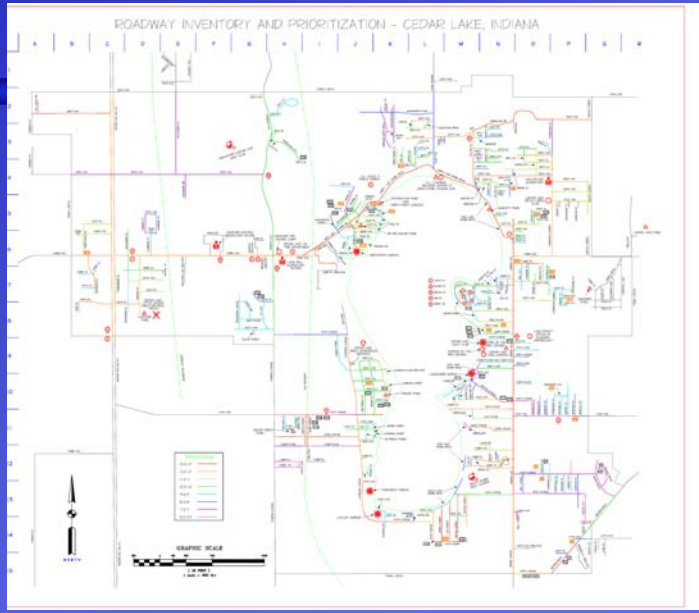
- Data Inventory Form

## ∞ Interactive Mapping Option

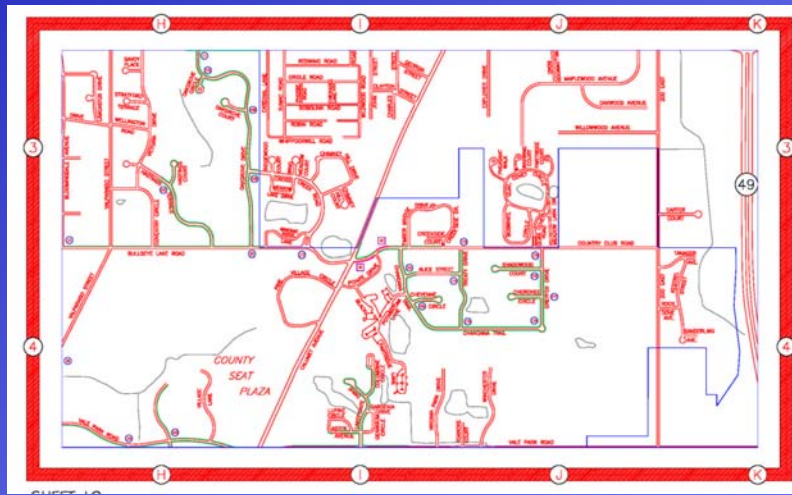
- Photos and Video Documentation



# Cedar Lake



# Valparaiso



## Typical Questions

- ∩ **How long does the mapping and inventory take?**
- ∩ **How much does the mapping and inventory process cost?**
- ∩ **Does the mapping and inventory process need to be done at the same time?**



## Typical Questions

- ∩ **If I have some of the data already collected, can we use it?**
- ∩ **How do I update the information?**
- ∩ **Can the municipality's staff help in the process?**
- ∩ **What is the benefit to the community?**
- ∩ **Can the data be used for a GIS?**



**For more information:**

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