



HOPKINS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Implementation

11

CHAPTER 11

IMPLEMENTATION

[INSIDE THIS CHAPTER]

This chapter identifies and prioritizes tasks necessary to accomplish the plan's overall vision, goals and plan elements. Action steps are outlined in implementation tables. These tables provide detailed information that assists responsible parties with completing the action step.

- Implementation Overview
 - Action Steps Overview
- Partnerships
- Strategic Action Plan
 - Action Steps
- Tools & Programs



■ The Hopkins County Comprehensive Plan is the beginning of a new effort that documents Hopkins County's aspirations and projected needs in the future and has been a coordinated effort between the many communities and residents of Hopkins County.

Although the completion of this plan is to be celebrated, this document is not the end of the community's effort. Instead, this marks the start of new initiatives that seek to improve the community by further defining the vision, goals and plan elements of the Hopkins County Comprehensive Plan through action steps.

This chapter calls for commitments from numerous public and private organizations. The first and strongest commitment must be from the individual communities of Hopkins County, the Planning Commission and the elected officials.

A strong and unified leadership is needed to reinforce decisions that support this plan, both through policy decisions and financial budgeting. If those charged with implementing the action steps in this chapter are diligent in identifying and removing barriers to success, the opportunity for increasing economic development and quality of life is greater.

IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

A strategic action plan is included in this chapter that is intended to include the overall direction for immediate short-term, mid-term and long-term action steps. The action steps seek to balance the priorities of the county by serving as the decision-making framework. They also allow for immediate and noticeable progress through the completion of short-term projects. Because the implementation of any comprehensive plan involves dozens of public, private and not-for-profit organizations, it is important that local leaders (Mayors, city councils, Planning Commissioners, Department heads) provide guidance to interested parties when bringing stakeholders to the table and coordinate long-term action steps.

ACTION STEP OVERVIEW

The implementation process includes creating action steps that provide clear details on what should be done, such as the steps that should be taken, who is responsible, and a timeline for project completion. The following provides a description of the details provided in each action step later in this chapter.

Action Step – Tasks detail what must be accomplished to achieve the greater vision. They are paired with an appropriate timeframe for completion. They are aggressive, but achievable.

Description – The description is intended to further explain the action step by providing details and other information to explain the intended result.

Responsible Party(ies) – While the Planning Commission and elected officials are ultimately responsible for the successful implementation of this plan, some tasks will be most successful if implemented by or in partnership with others. The responsible party / parties should always be a high-level champion who reinforces the purpose and intent of the plan, takes responsibility for implementing specific action items, and monitors the progress of the task. Parties appearing in bold text, should be the lead agency(ies) in coordinating the monitoring and progress of the action item.

Potential Funding Source(s) – Although it is not exhaustive, a potential list of funding sources has been provided for each task as a starting point. Many funding sources will vary depending upon the year, quarter, month, as well as the number and type of parties involved. The general fund is also typically listed because many federal or state grant programs require a local match. Each funding source is explained later in this chapter under Programs, Tools & Funding Opportunities.

Other Resources – “Other resources” often include: human capital (i.e. manpower, or labor) from volunteers; donated supplies, materials, or equipment; and coverage by the media. They also include professionals who have been hired due to their expert knowledge in a particular area.

Start-Up Timeframe – Not all projects can begin at once. The start-up of a given task will occur in the immediate short-, mid-, or long-term future. Immediate refers to action steps that should be started in 2015. Short-term typically means between one to five years (i.e. 2016 – 2019), mid-term between six to ten years (i.e. 2020 – 2024), and long-term between eleven to twenty years (i.e. 2025 – 2035). A task that is entirely dependent upon the successful completion of another task would fall outside of these start-up possibilities, in which case the conditions for start-up for these action steps are described in more detail on their respective tables. Action steps were prioritized in terms of start-up based on the priority of the plan’s goals.

Target Completion Timeline – The target completion timeline is intended to inform the user about the anticipated duration (from start to finish) of a given task – barring any unforeseen conditions.

RELATED GOALS – It will become increasingly important that each task be tied back to the goals of this plan. This will provide insight, justification and prioritization for each task as conditions change or others become involved in implementation and evaluation of the plan. If an action item aligns with one or more of the goals outlined in the previous sections of this document, the respective goal(s) are listed.

Goal 1 – Designate Land Use

Goal 2 – Diversify Job Base

Goal 3 – Provide Utility Capacity

Goal 4 – Develop Facilities

Goal 5 – Provide Functional Transportation Network

Goal 6 – Promote a Unified Character & Identity

Goal 7 – Expand Recreational & Entertainment Opportunities

Goal 8 – Foster Education System

Goal 9 – Generate Quality of Life Policies

RELATED PLAN ELEMENTS

Similar to the related goals, it is also important to reference the plan elements supported by each action step. This allows the parties implementing the plan to gauge progress but also aids in coordinating action steps that relate to a specific element. If an action step relates with one or more of the plan elements, the respective plan element(s) is listed.

NOTES

The notes are intended to be used by leaders and organizations who are tasked with implementing this plan as they carry out these tasks. This space can be used for tracking progress, noting additional or new partnerships or potential barriers to overcome.

PARTNERSHIPS

Forming a foundation of strong partnerships locally, regionally and state-wide with public, private and not-for-profit organizations is important in responding to changing conditions. While this plan seeks to achieve both projects obtainable today, it also reaches forward to a vision for Hopkins County. There will always be fiscal realities to recognize as the plan is brought to reality. As a result of this, key partnerships must be created and nurtured with many agencies to facilitate the implementation of the various aspects of the plan. This will facilitate cost savings as agencies utilize their expertise and in-house knowledge to improve the community.

The key idea is that the Hopkins County Comprehensive Plan cannot and should not be viewed as a plan implemented solely by the Hopkins County Joint Planning Commission.



STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

Many factors can influence the completion timeline for action steps, such as the current economic environment. If unexpected funding or additional county or city staffing become available, action steps can be started and/or completed prior to the specified timeline. Also conditions may change that require this timeline to be altered, modified or changed. The timeline and action steps should be evaluated and are intended to be flexible to respond to the ever-changing local needs and demands placed on the county and cities. The timeline is shown on the following page.

ACTION STEPS

The following tables are the individual action steps identified by this plan. Each action step is formatted into a standard format for comparison, reference and revision over time.

IMMEDIATE 2015**2015**

- **A:** Evaluate progress on the Comprehensive Plan's progress through a Planning Committee meeting twice a year.
- **B:** Create an individualized strategic action plan for each member community.
- **C:** Revise ordinances to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
- **D:** Coordinate upgrades that relate to I-69 that integrate local needs.
- **E:** Coordinate with KYTC on all projects on the current six-year plan.
- **F:** Evaluate financial incentives offered by county and each community to attract and retain businesses.
- **G:** Promote and support programming that encourages economic development.
- **H:** Support the continued improvements at the Madisonville Municipal Airport (MMA).
- **I:** Work with regional and local partners to evaluate the feasibility of a public or private bus system within Hopkins County and the greater region
- **J:** Develop a committee that will review and update fire district boundaries and service agreements.

SHORT 2016-2019

- **K:** Complete neighborhood assessments for all areas of the county.
- **L:** Improve intersections within Hopkins County with high crash rates.
- **M:** Support the development of Traffic Congestion Mitigation improvements

SHORT 2016-2019**2016-2019**

- **N:** Prepare a study to develop countywide bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- **O:** Create partnerships for housing revitalization.
- **P:** Continue to upgrade water and sewer systems throughout Hopkins County.
- **Q:** Develop program to incentivize private recreation on reclaimed mining land.
- **R:** Promote and market programs for housing rehabilitation.
- **S:** Identify first priority areas for streetscape improvements.
- **T:** Identify specific drainage issues within the county and determine best solutions taking into account environmental considerations.
- **U:** Market sports complex for regional events to increase economic development.
- **V:** Pursue buyout grants through FEMA to reduce the number of residential structures in floodplains.
- **W:** Work with KYTC to integrate streetscape improvements on state-owned roads.
- **X:** Design and install community gateways.
- **Y:** Participate in the Kentucky Main Street Program
- **Z:** Make building improvements to spur economic development
- **AA:** Utilize resources to support business development
- **BB:** Install historic markers on historically significant properties and places within the county.

MID 2020-2024**2020-2024**

- **CC:** Work with unincorporated Hopkins County to implement zoning in "fringe" areas around incorporated cities.
- **DD:** Develop an Access Management Plan and ordinance.
- **EE:** Work with cities to design and install local gateways
- **FF:** Partner to provide homeless shelter(s) in the county.

LONG 2025-2035**2025-2035**

- **GG:** Develop a new countywide emergency operations training center.
- **HH:** Encourage the relocation of the central Madisonville rail line.
- **II:** Create a wayfinding plan for Hopkins County.

ACTION STEP A		Evaluate progress on the Comprehensive Plan's progress through a Planning Committee meeting twice a year.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Committee should hold two working sessions a year to evaluate progress that is being made on the comprehensive plan. • It is important to follow up and determine if progress has occurred. If progress has not occurred on particular action steps, it should be gauged if the action is still pertinent, there is a lack of resources or if priorities have changed. • An unbiased report card should be developed and used to assess progress. • Planning Committee should also ensure the plan is updated every five years as required by KRS 100. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N / A 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9				
Related Plan Elements:					
A					

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP B		Create an individualized strategic action plan for each member community.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with each member of HCJPC to create an individual strategic action plan that reflects the recommendations of this plan. • An individual strategic plan allows each community to identify, prioritize and work towards completing specific actions and places a focus on each community individually. • Strategic plans should identify actions over the next three years and show how each action step relates to this plan. Funding sources should also be identified and programmed into budgeting where needed. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N / A 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9				
Related Plan Elements:					
					B

Action Step Notes:

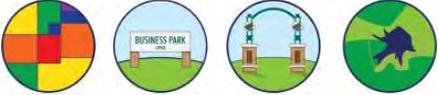
ACTION STEP C	Revise ordinances to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC and local ordinances should be updated to reflect the policies, guidelines and recommendations of this plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate zoning and subdivision control ordinances if needed. ○ Evaluate historic preservation ordinances and restrictions and update if needed. ○ Evaluate environmental ordinances and restrictions (including protection of prime farmland) and update if needed. ○ Evaluate subdivision control ordinance based on location criteria in <i>Chapter 3: Land Use</i> and update as needed. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Private Consultant 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9			
Related Plan Elements:				

C

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP D		Coordinate upgrades that relate to I-69 that integrate local needs.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify improvements immediately adjacent or connected to upgrades of I-69. This should focus on the new or updated interchanges and could include traffic signal timing, maintenance, etc. Continue to provide needed assistance and direction for the implementation of this upgrade project. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC KYTC Governing Bodies (Dawson Springs, Earlington, Hanson, Madisonville, Mortons Gap) Chamber of Commerce 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N / A 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KYTC Staff HCJPC Staff Public Works Staff FHWA 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #5, #6				D
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

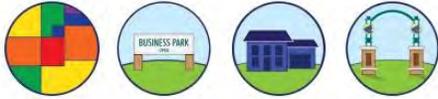
ACTION STEP G	Promote and support programming that encourages economic development.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an active downtown by consciously programming events and activities in the downtowns. • For recreation opportunities, partner with current facility owners to have events and tournaments. • Partner with local hotels to promote events • Actively pursue youth tournaments in soccer, baseball, and softball. • For leisure recreation work with and develop long term lease agreements for the use of property for recreation use such as: Hiking, fishing, hunting and four wheeling. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N / A 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Professional Consultant • Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#1, #2, #4, #6, #7			
Related Plan Elements:				

G

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP H		Support the continued improvements at the Madisonville Municipal Airport (MMA)			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with MMA and FAA to expand runway conditions at the airport. • Promote use of airport by local businesses. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMA • FAA 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAA Grants • General Funds 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAA • City of Madisonville and Hopkins County 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#2, #4, #5				H
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP K	Complete neighborhood assessments for all areas of the county.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete an assessment for each broad area of the county. • Identify and prioritize areas with the greatest need and greatest potential for improvement. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOME Program – National Affordable Housing Act • HUD – CDBG Grants • General Fund 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Professional Consultant • U.S. Housing & Urban Development • Kentucky Housing Corporation 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#1, #6			K
Related Plan Elements:				

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP 0	Create partnerships for housing revitalization.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify organizations, groups and businesses that can be partners for revitalization of housing in the county. • Form a Housing Task Force that acts as a clearinghouse as well as “one-stop shop” for housing revitalization efforts as well as low-income programs. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scattered Site Housing Grants • Donations • General Fund 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Not-For-Profit Organizations (such as Habitat for Humanity) • Faith-Based Organizations • Banks and Financial Lenders • Civic Groups (Volunteers) • State and Federal Programs • U.S. Housing & Urban Development (HUD) • Kentucky Housing Corporation 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#1, #6,			
Related Plan Elements:				

0

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP R	Promote and market programs for housing rehabilitation.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to strategically demolish, rehabilitate and improve specific houses in the worst condition that market forces would likely not justify revitalization. • Market and promote programs and grant sources that can be used by private property owners who rehabilitate their property. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N / A 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Not-For-Profit Organizations (such as Habitat for Humanity) • Faith-Based Organizations • Banks and Financial Lenders • Civic Groups (Volunteers) • State and Federal Programs • U.S. Housing & Urban Development (HUD) • Kentucky Housing Corporation 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#1, #6			R
Related Plan Elements:				

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP X	Design and install community gateways.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify specific locations for community gateways. • Design and install individual community gateways as funding is available. 			
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 			
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAP-21 Funds • KYTC Funds • Private Donations (service clubs, chamber of commerce, etc.) • General Fund 			
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Professional Consultant 			
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going
Related Goals:	#5, #6			X
Related Plan Elements:				

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP Z		Make building improvements to spur economic development			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovate facades as funding is available • Utilize tools available at the state and local level to rehabilitate buildings and provide low/no interest loans. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kentucky Main Street Grants • New Design Assistance Service • Private Business • General Fund 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Kentucky Main Street Program / Kentucky Renaissance Program 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #2, #6				
Related Plan Elements:					

Z

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP AA		Utilize resources to support business development			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize training available at local universities and colleges for entrepreneurs. Utilize the Kentucky Small Business Development Center, which provides a wide range of resources from starting a business to exporting your products. Work with area Chambers of Commerce to promote young professional groups and networking groups. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Governing Bodies 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N / A 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Staff Chamber of Commerce Universities and School Board 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#2, #8				
Related Plan Elements:					

AA

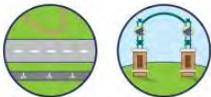
Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP BB		Install historic markers on historically significant properties and places within the county.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify specific properties, buildings or sites where historical markers could enhance the site, experience or interpretive opportunities. Work with partners to install individual signs. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Historical Society of Hopkins County 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Donations National Endowment for the Arts National Trust for Historic Preservation Kentucky Heritage Council General Fund 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Staff Governing Bodies Not-for-Profit Organizations Kentucky Heritage Council 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #6, #7				BB
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP DD		Develop an Access Management Plan and ordinance.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While specific problem areas might need individual focus analysis, overall best practices for access management should be applied throughout the community. An ordinance should also be adopted as part of the subdivision regulations that addresses development along thoroughfares and other transportation issues related to the division of land. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Hopkins County Fiscal Court and City of Madisonville 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Fund 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KYTC Model Access Management Ordinance PRADD Transportation Planning Private Consultant 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #5				DD
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP EE		Work with cities to design and install local gateways			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with each member community to identify specific locations for local gateways. • Design and install individual local gateways as funding is available. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC • Governing Bodies 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAP-21 Funds • KYTC Funds • Private Donations (service clubs, chamber of commerce, etc.) • General Fund 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCJPC Staff • Not-for-Profit Organizations (Main Street, Chamber of Commerce Service Clubs, etc...) 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#5, #6				EE
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

ACTION STEP II		Create a wayfinding plan for Hopkins County.			
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine major destinations within Hopkins County and develop a wayfinding sign system that helps visitors navigate the county. 				
Responsible Parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Governing Bodies 				
Potential Funding Source(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP-21 Funds KYTC Funds General Fund 				
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCJPC Staff Governing Bodies Public Works Department KYTC Chamber of Commerce 				
Start-up Timeframe:	2015	2016 – 2019	2020 – 2024	2025 – 2035	
Target Completion Timeline:	< 1 year	1-2 years	2-5+ years	On-going	
Related Goals:	#1, #4, #5, #6, #7				II
Related Plan Elements:					

Action Step Notes:

TOOLS, PROGRAMS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

TOOLS

Capital Improvement Planning

A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a system of documenting the capital investments that a city plans to make the short-term, often five years. A CIP identifies projects, timelines, estimated costs, and funding sources and is linked to a community's budgeting process. It is a means of planning ahead for capital improvements and ensuring implementation of specific projects by connecting them more closely to the budgeting process. Hopkins County and/or each community's CIP would include funding needed for any capital improvement the City is planning to invest in, regardless of which city department will be responsible for operating and maintaining a given investment.

Tax Abatement

Tax abatement is a phase-in of property taxes and is intended to encourage development in areas that would not otherwise develop. Tax abatement is one of the tools widely used by municipal governments to attract new businesses to the community, or to encourage investment in new equipment or facilities that will improve the company while stabilizing the community's economy. Communities may develop procedures for abatement application and policies on the amount and length of the abatement that will be approved and procedures to ensure compliance with the terms of the statement of benefits.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Tax increment finance is a tool for municipalities and counties to designate targeted areas for redevelopment or economic development through a local redevelopment commission. Those redevelopment or economic development areas can then be designated as allocation areas which trigger the TIF tool. When TIF is triggered, the property taxes generated from new construction in the area are set aside and reinvested in the area to promote development, rather than going to the normal taxing units (governments, schools, etc.). The taxing units do not lose revenue, they simply do not receive revenue from the additional assessed valuation that would not have occurred "but for" the reinvestment in the area through the TIF proceeds.

Zoning/Subdivision Control Ordinances

Zoning and land use controls are the primary implementation tool for the comprehensive plan. Standards and regulations legislatively determine the location, quality, and quantity of new development, and are legally enforceable. Hopkins County's current zoning regulations allow for uses that

are not consistent with this plan. It is recommended that the zoning regulations be updated to ensure contiguity between this plan and the City's regulatory document to facilitate the implementation of this plan.

PROGRAMS & FUNDING

Brownfields Funding

The Kentucky Brownfield Redevelopment Program offers education, assistance and funding for cleaning up environmentally hazardous sites for both local governments and private companies. An overview of the program can be found at: <http://dca.ky.gov/brownfields/Pages/default.aspx>.

Additionally, this program can assist with grant writing for multiple state and federal EPA grants. Funding and incentives are available for Assessment (Phase I and II), analysis of clean up alternatives, corrective action planning, corrective action implementation and redevelopment. Additional information on these state and federal grants, incentives and programs can be found at: <http://dca.ky.gov/brownfields/Pages/Funding%20For%20Brownfields.aspx>

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The CDBG program is available to city and county governments for a variety of projects. The minimum grants are \$5,000 and maximum grant requests are \$100,000. Application deadlines typically occur in February. The CDBG program areas and descriptions are listed below. For more information, visit <http://www.dlg.ky.gov/grants/federal/cdbg.htm>.

Housing: The housing program works to fund projects designed to develop decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing.

Community Projects: Housing and Communities Branch: Funds may be used to address human service needs such as senior centers, crisis centers and facilities that provide services to low-income persons. Funds may also be used to revitalize downtown areas. The maximum program request is \$500,000.

Public Facilities: Funds may be used for infrastructure needs that improve Kentucky's water and wastewater systems. The maximum program request is \$1,000,000 per community per year.

Economic Development: Funds may be used to create or retain jobs, and provide for the training and human services that allow for professional advancement of low and moderate income persons. Additional goals are to provide training and provision of human services that allow for the professional advancement of low and moderate income persons.

Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund (Fund B)

This revolving loan fund can be used to provide low interest loans for infrastructure projects that facilitate economic development. For more information, contact the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

Kentucky Renaissance / Main Street Program

Through the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Department for Local Government, the Kentucky Main Street Program strives to bring economic vitality to Kentucky's downtowns and assist communities with their revitalization efforts. The program is based on the four-point approach of the National Main Street Center, which is a division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The four components of the program are organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring. Various funds are available to certified Renaissance on Main Cities for projects such as real estate acquisition, facade improvements, new facility construction or streetscape improvements.

Renaissance on Main has a small grant program that is eligible to established "Certified" Main Street Programs, with maximum grant awards of \$20,000. Grant funds within this program are reserved for capital projects that contribute to downtown revitalization and must fall into the following categories: real estate acquisition, facility renovation, streetscape enhancements, signage, façade/awning, market analysis and planning. A city may only submit one application per funding cycle. Typically, the annual application process begins in November and closes in December. More information is available at the Office of State Grants, <http://dlg.ky.gov/grants/stategrants/RenonMain.htm>, or the Kentucky Heritage Council's website, <http://heritage.ky.gov/mainstreet/>.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

LWCF federal grants can be used to protect important natural areas, acquire land for outdoor recreation and to develop or renovate public outdoor recreation facilities such as campgrounds, picnic areas, sports and playfields, swimming facilities, boating facilities, fishing facilities, trails, natural areas and passive parks. The minimum grant request is \$5,000 and the maximum request is \$75,000 with a local match requirement. Application deadlines are typically in March. For more information, visit <http://www.dlg.ky.gov/grants/federal/lwcf.htm>.

Paula Nye Memorial Educational Grant (Bike Walk Kentucky)

Bike Walk Kentucky is a Kentucky Bicycle and Bikeway Commission (KBBC) grant program that aims to inform, educate and promote awareness for all matters pertaining to bicycle and pedestrian safety. This program encourages the development of curriculum, training aids and/or educational programs or projects that directly relate to bicycle safety. The application deadline is typically in October. For more information, visit <http://www.bikewalk.ky.gov/>.

Private Funding For Bicycling

Multiple private funding sources are available nationally that can be used as a match for federal funding. A small selection is listed below:

Bike Belongs: Funds up to \$10,000 for bicycle projects including bike paths. The goal of the organization is to put more people on bicycles more often by funding important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and building momentum for bicycling in communities across the US. For more information, visit <http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants>.

Kodak American Greenway Program: The Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society team up each year to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. One major element of the Program involves “seed” grant awards to organizations that are growing our nation’s network of greenways, blueways, trails and natural areas. For more information, visit <http://www.conservationfund.org/node/245>.

Tourism Cares: A vital part of the Tourism Cares mission is to distribute grants to worthy nonprofit, tax exempt, organizations for conservation, preservation, restoration, or education at tourism-related sites of exceptional cultural, historic, or natural significance around the world. Primary consideration is to grant funding to projects that are either: brick-and-mortar capital improvements that serve to conserve, preserve, or restore tourism-related sites of exceptional cultural, historic, or natural significance or programs that educate local host communities and the traveling public about the conservation, preservation, or restoration of tourism-related sites of exceptional cultural, historical, or natural significance. For more information, visit www.tourismcares.org.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Under the MAP-21, the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is continued at the current funding levels under the Transportation Alternatives Program. Funding for RTP is a set-aside from the TAP. However, the governor of each state may **opt out** of the RTP if it notifies the U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary not later than 30 days prior to apportionments being made for any fiscal year.

Source: American Society of Landscape Architects

Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Program

Under the bill, the Safe Routes To School (SRTS) program is eliminated as a stand-alone program. However, SRTS projects are eligible for funding under the TAP. As such, SRTS projects are now subject to all TAP requirements, including the same match requirements – 80 percent federal funding, with a 20 percent local match.

SRTS coordinators are not required under MAP-21 but are eligible for funding under TAP. Thus, states may decide to retain their SRTS coordinators and use TAP funds to pay for them.

Source: American Society of Landscape Architects

Transportation Alternatives (Formerly Enhancements):

Under MAP-21, the Transportation Enhancements program is re-named Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), with the current twelve eligible activities categories consolidated into six categories. The bill eliminates the bike/ped safety and education programs, transportation museums, and the acquisition of scenic and historic easements categories.

The six new eligible projects categories:

1. continue bike/ped facilities and expand the definition of these projects
2. establish a category for safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities
3. retain conversion of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians and bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users
4. retain the scenic byways category (However, the stand alone National Scenic Byways programs is completely eliminated)
5. establish a community improvement category that includes:
 - inventory control of outdoor advertising
 - historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
 - vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way (formerly landscaping and scenic beautification)
 - landscaping and scenic enhancement projects ARE eligible under TAP as part of the construction of any federal-aid highway project, including TAP-funded projects. But TAP funds cannot be used for landscaping and scenic enhancement as independent projects.
 - under this vegetation management category, routine maintenance is NOT eligible as TAP activity except under the RTP
 - archeological activities related to transportation projects
6. retain the environmental mitigation activities category
 - to address stormwater management control and water pollution prevention, and wetlands mitigation
 - to reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality

Source: American Society of Landscape Architects

Transportation Alternatives Funding:

The new Transportation Alternatives (TA) program will receive about \$780 million to carry out all TA projects, including SRTS and RTP projects across the country, which represents about a 35% reduction from the current \$1.2 billion spent on these programs. Under the bill, states will sub-allocate 50% of their TA funds to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and local communities to run a grant program to distribute funds for projects. States could use the remaining 50% for TA projects or could spend these dollars on other transportation priorities.

Source: American Society of Landscape Architects

Transportation Community and System Preservation (TCSP) Grants

Transportation Community and System Preservation grants are administered through the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) and provide funding, planning, implementation, and research to investigate and address the relationship between transportation, community and preservation plans. Eligible projects will include planning and implementation strategies that: improve the efficiency of the local/regional transportation system; reduce environmental impacts of motorized vehicles; reduce the need for costly future public infrastructure investments; ensure efficient access to jobs, services and centers of trade; and examine the development patterns and identify strategies to encourage private sector development.

A 20% local match is typically needed for this grant; this program initially was authorized through Section 1117, SAFETEA-LU, but expired in 2009. It has not been reauthorized but should continue to be considered in anticipation of a reauthorization bill. For more information, visit <http://tea21.ky.gov/tcsp/default.htm>.