

CHAPTER 2. PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Overview-The following plan goals and objectives will help shape transportation development in the Erie County MPO region through the Year 2040 and will aid decision makers by providing policy direction. Goals are defined as the desired end condition reflecting the concerns and needs in better managing the transportation system. These goals will strengthen interrelationships between transportation modes and will achieve a more integrated network. Objectives are broad action statements that will aid in accomplishing targeted goals. Together these goals and objectives provide a policy platform for the 2040 Long Range Plan.

The general goals for the Long Range Plan Update are set forth in the federal legislation for funding transportation improvements. This legislation governs the planning, funding and implementation of transportation improvements throughout the County. The latest version is titled Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, or MAP-21 and it was passed in 2012. MAP-21 builds on previous federal transportation legislation and is designed to deal with the transportation challenges in today's environment. MAP-21 contains performance measures that will transform the federal-aid highway program and provide a means to the most efficient investment of federal funds. This is done by refocusing on national transportation goals, increasing the accountability and transparency of the federal-aid highway program and improving project decision making through performance-based planning and programming.¹ It places a new emphasis on areas related to safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability and reduced project delivery times. The goals and objectives for this update of the 2040 Transportation Plan are being developed with MAP-21 in mind.

2.2 Goals and Objectives- ERPC's first Long Range Transportation Plan was adopted in 2005 with an update conducted in 2010. The 2005 and the 2010 approved plans were passed under previous transportation bills; hence, a revision of the goals and objectives was needed to address the new planning factors of MAP-21 during this five-year update. Using these new factors as a base, the goals and objectives were developed through an internal process involving public input, MPO Policy and Technical Committee oversight, a review of existing conditions data, an identification of transportation system deficiencies and a review of state and regional goals and objectives. The following draft Goals and Objects will be used to evaluate potential transportation improvements throughout the Erie County MPO region and in the incorporated portion of the City of Vermilion in Lorain County.

¹ AASHTO, 2012

Goal	Goal Statement	Objectives	Performance Measures
<p>Safety</p>	<p>In the ERPC's transportation network achieve a reduction in fatalities & serious roadway injuries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Encourage clear signage on roadways throughout the MPO area ✚ Improve hazardous intersections ✚ Support projects that increase safety ✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to accentuate projects that encourage safety ✚ Promote educational safety programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Reduce the number of fatalities & serious injuries in the ERPC area ✚ Reduce the number of fatalities & serious injury per VMT in the ERPC area ✚ Expand availability & participation in safety education programs for all transportation users ✚ Expand availability & participation of community members in the citizen advisory/safety committee meetings

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Infrastructure Condition	Maintain the existing transportation infrastructure assets in a state of good repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="785 435 1249 532">✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to accentuate system preservation projects <li data-bbox="785 571 1249 766">✚ Support efforts for the proper maintenance of the existing transportation system & the use of non-motorized methods of transportation to reduce stress on the current system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1333 435 1881 500">✚ Improve the pavement conditions of roads by functional classification <li data-bbox="1333 539 1881 636">✚ Support MPO sponsored projects that encourage maintenance or preservation aspects <li data-bbox="1333 675 1881 740">✚ Promote efficient land use patterns when feasible <li data-bbox="1333 779 1881 844">✚ Assess the Bridge Condition Ratings for the ERPC area

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System Reliability	Improve the efficiency of the local surface transportation system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="751 191 1213 331">✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to accentuate projects that improve the efficiency of the local transportation system <li data-bbox="751 360 1213 423">✚ Reduce travel time & delays when feasible <li data-bbox="751 459 1213 522">✚ Support improved east-west travel through the county <li data-bbox="751 558 1213 688">✚ Identify developing & expanding corridors & implement appropriate regulations prior to development occurring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1362 191 1969 321">✚ Sponsor MPO projects that have ITS components or other innovative techniques that improve the operating efficiency of existing infrastructure <li data-bbox="1362 360 1969 423">✚ Aid projects that work towards improving east-west corridors through the county <li data-bbox="1362 459 1969 522">✚ Show a reduction in identified deficiencies in current system (pavement, intersections) <li data-bbox="1362 558 1969 654">✚ Support implementing appropriate regulations prior to development on identified when warranted <li data-bbox="1362 719 1969 782">✚ Illustrate the availability of dedicated non-motorized routes in appropriate locations <li data-bbox="1362 847 1969 911">✚ Encourage projects that apply access management guidelines <li data-bbox="1362 971 1969 1002">✚ Reduce travel time when feasible <li data-bbox="1362 1062 1969 1125">✚ Strive to support projects that reduce congestion on major corridors

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Freight Movement & Economic Vitality	Improve the local freight network & support the economic vitality of the MPO area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Develop a transportation network that supports movement of world-wide freight markets ✚ Increase access to employment areas & sites, especially those that utilize or are related to freight ✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to accentuate projects that give priority to transportation projects that support freight movement & support economic vitality ✚ Encourage public/private partnerships to leverage funding from federal, state & other sources ✚ Give priority to transportation projects that improve and provide access to area tourist destinations & amenities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Minimize congestion on major corridors when feasible ✚ Support projects that increase levels of private sector investment in transportation improvements ✚ Aid mobility by showing an increase in freight traffic volumes ✚ Encourage partnerships with the freight community stakeholders ✚ Increased availability & use of intermodal facilities including maritime, rail & air facilities ✚ Support more efficient movement of freight based on time & costs ✚ Strive for project selection that measures freight traffic volume

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Environmental Sustainability	Protect the environment in the MPO system & enhance the transportation system's performance simultaneously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to promote alternative transportation methods &/or projects that protect & enhance the environment ✚ Maintain a planning process that integrates & coordinates transportation planning with land use, water & natural resource conservation ✚ Minimize, avoid &/or mitigate environmental impacts of transportation improvements ✚ Provide equitable & environmentally just transportation facilities & services ✚ Promote consistency between transportation improvements, local planned growth & economic development patterns ✚ Support energy conservation initiatives with special emphasis on those being undertaken in the MPO region related to wind energy, biofuels & other alternative fuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Show the preservation of neighborhoods and cultural/historic resources &/or sites ✚ Document mitigation steps when (if) adversely impacting the environment ✚ Promote non-motorized transportation activities that preserve the environment ✚ Improve interagency communication ✚ Maintain a relative distribution of positive & negative impacts by socio-economic groups with consideration of existing communities ✚ Improve efforts supporting energy conservation initiatives ✚ Minimize adverse impacts to established neighborhoods

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<p>Reduced Project Delivery Times</p>	<p>Reduce project costs, promote jobs & the economy & expedite the movement of people & goods by accelerating local project completion through the elimination of delays in the process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Support efforts that coordinate local policies & projects with those at regional & state levels ✚ Encourage expedited project delivery ✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to promote reduced project delivery times that expedite the movement of people & goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Increase interagency communication ✚ Explore creating a list of reservoir “shovel ready projects” that can begin or advance if extra funding becomes available ✚ Show a reduction in estimated project completion dates & costs ✚ Improve project benefits relative to the costs

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<p>Congestion Reduction</p>	<p>Reduce congestion in the MPO area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Use transportation project selection criteria to promote alternative transportation & other congestion relief methods ✚ Enhance transit services to promote service to major employment centers, educational facilities, medical offices, commercial developments & tourist destinations ✚ Maximize bicycle & pedestrian connections to roadways, transit services & area amenities such as the waterfront & regional parks ✚ Encourage communities to incorporate bicycle & pedestrian facilities within major new residential & commercial developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Demonstrate an increase in transit ridership ✚ Increase the percentage of persons using alternate modes, especially during peak hours ✚ Support projects that show a decrease in travel time between regional/major activity centers ✚ Incorporate multi-modal components in project planning when feasible ✚ Encourage an increase in miles for bicycle & pedestrian facilities ✚ Reduce travel time on major corridors ✚ Decrease congestion on major corridors ✚ Support access manage techniques