

### Chapter 3: Transportation Planning Goals

- A) Enhance the mobility of people and goods traveling to, from, and through Franklin County.**  
*Ensure that people, goods and freight are able to travel freely and efficiently and that intermodal transportation options are available.*
- B) Ensure that the transportation planning process is inclusive and objective.**  
*Continue and expand outreach activities to public stakeholders and special needs populations. Include consideration of the objective evaluation criteria and financial constraints in decision-making and the prioritization of future projects.*
- C) Improve transportation safety.**  
*Ensure that Franklin County roadways, bridges, railroads, airports, and other transportation facilities are safe.*
- D) Promote economic development.**  
*Enhance and encourage economic development by creating a safe, efficient, comprehensive intermodal, and multimodal transportation network.*
- E) Maintain rural character.**  
*Ensure that transportation improvements are designed and constructed to enhance mobility while maintaining the historic and rural character of roadways, bridges and communities.*
- F) Support the preservation of existing transportation infrastructure.**  
*Promote cost-effective policies such as Fix-It-First that encourage the upgrading and maintenance of current transportation facilities over new construction.*
- G) Enhance the security of the transportation network.**  
*Promote increased security at transportation facilities, and expand the region's ability to protect the transportation network from potential hazards and threats.*
- H) Encourage integrated planning activities that support sustainable development patterns.**  
*Recognize and support the link between an efficient multimodal transportation network and balanced sustainable land development.*
- I) Eliminate and/or mitigate environmental degradation due to construction, repair, maintenance or use of transportation facilities.**  
*Ensure that water quality and soil stability and integrity are not compromised by the provision or existence of transportation facilities.*

**J) Promote transportation activities and technologies which conserve energy and reduce travel congestion and vehicle emissions.**

*Support commute options, alternative fuel use, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure, and other means of reducing motorized vehicle usage and emissions.*

**K) Provide and preserve public access to natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources.**

*Ensure that the general public has access to public water bodies, natural resource areas, historic structures, and scenic and cultural resources.*

The Franklin Region Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) is working towards these goals through the recommendations it makes in this regional transportation plan update. The TPO is also working towards these goals through its Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and its Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), both of which are influenced by the priorities and recommendations identified in the Franklin Region Transportation Plan (RTP). Most chapters in the RTP contain a recommendations section that suggests specific projects and studies that should be undertaken to help promote the region's transportation goals. The final chapter of the RTP (Chapter 17) summarizes the region's recommended projects by time frame and by transportation mode, and also lists the top 20 recommended projects for Franklin County through 2030. The recommended projects are helping to achieve the goals listed here.

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is updated annually and is a prioritized, four-year program for the implementation of transportation improvement projects in the region. The projects listed in the TIP reflect the region's transportation goals and priorities, within the financial constraints of anticipated Federal and State funding. Projects that are important, but for which there is insufficient funding, are included in the Appendix of the TIP, with the intention that they will be programmed in a future year when funding is available.

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is prepared annually and describes the work tasks to be conducted during the year by the transportation planning staff of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments on behalf of the Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization (FCTPO). Like the TIP, the UPWP is based upon the region's transportation goals and priorities, as well as State and Federal requirements. The priorities in the current 2007 UPWP include: focusing on the repair and upgrading of current infrastructure over the creation of new facilities; ensuring that projects are "context-sensitive" and protect and the surrounding community and landscape while addressing mobility needs; increasing the safety of the transportation network; and improving mobility in the region, not only for drivers but for transit riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians, freight transport, and other modes as well. In future years, the UPWP will address these priorities as well as others stated through the region's transportation goals.