

# L RTP Planning Strategies

**DRAFT 11/28/2012**

These strategies are intended to guide the MPO's planning efforts during the LRTP period. These activities are important to achieving the goals and objectives of the recommended LRTP. Some of these activities are stand-alone planning efforts, but many are pre-cursors or support activities to projects identified in the "LRTP Projects List."

**Regional Sidewalk Connectivity Plan** – Expand the Connecting Network Sidewalks (CNS) from the Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Plan to include the urban portions of the region and select rural/suburban portions of the region where pedestrian traffic is anticipated to develop. The plan should include a 10-year action plan to implement improvements necessary to complete the CNS. This strategy should be coordinated with the Local Funding Committee's efforts to identify local funding opportunities to advance the Regional Pedestrian Safety and Sidewalk Connectivity Program (Project #39). Priorities should be established and projects identified to be completed under the ADA Connectivity Initiative (Project #2), and Safe Routes to School Improvements (Project #43). *Related to LRTP capital projects 2, 39, and 43.*

**Regional Bike Plan** – Building on the Morgantown Bicycle Plan, develop a "Regional Connecting Bike Route Network" (same concept as the CNS) and a 10-year implementation plan that identifies specific signage, markings, spot roadway improvements, trail improvements, etc. meeting current state of the practice. The plan should also include an education program and campaign to promote cycling, improve awareness of traffic laws and appropriate operational practices to improve safety. A local law enforcement plan and officer education program to help curb bicyclist, pedestrian and automobile driver behavior that is dangerous for cycling should also be part of the plan. *Related to LRTP capital project 40.*

**Access Management Plan** – Complete a study of key corridors in the region to identify current access management deficiencies. Include data driven prioritization based on related crashes and congestion, and develop policy for access control, planning, design and retrofits. Identify priority locations and a 10-year implementation plan. *Related to LRTP capital project 44.*

**Complete the Streets Initiative** – Develop an action plan to increase and leverage local funding sources, and coordination and implementation processes, for local agencies to partner with WVDOH on projects to share costs related to complete street enhancements. *Related to the majority of the LRTP capital projects.*

**Local Transportation Funding/Legislative Committee** – Establish a group of concerned citizens, elected officials, local transportation funding and legislative experts to meet regularly and develop an action plan to increase local agency (non-state/federal) transportation funding sources, and to maximize state/federal transportation funding expenditures in the region. A key component to this strategy is for this committee to engage state legislature for changes to state laws to allow greater flexibility for local agencies to raise local funds for projects. *Related to the majority of the LRTP capital projects.*

**Safe Routes to School Committee** – Develop a committee and identify funding sources to help local schools develop Safe Routes to School Travel Plans and apply for federal funding assistance with improvements. *Related to LRTP capital project 43.*

**Regional Freight Movement Plan** – Collect data and perform more detailed analysis of existing freight movement characteristics (truck, air, rail, pipeline, etc.), current truck volumes, current problems related to freight movement, existing and projected attractors and generators, market trends, and current and preferred

routes. Coordinate with local stakeholders, industry representatives, WVDOH, and local agencies to develop improvements and strategies to increase global competitiveness of the region while encouraging truck traffic to use desired routes.

**Regional Parking Management Plan** – Develop a “Park Once” policy for the urban area and a plan to manage parking and to incentivize rideshare/carpooling/walking/biking/transit to minimize parking (which encourages auto traffic) in congested areas. *Related to LRTP capital project 46.*

**Region-wide Traffic Signal Upgrades** – Undertake a study of all signalized intersections in the region. Develop an aggressive short-term plan to upgrade all signals to utilize state-of-the-art vehicle detection and vehicle responsiveness systems, corridor and system timing optimization, and central system control. Integrate priority timings for bus system where feasible. *Related to LRTP capital project 38.*

**Regional Transportation Systems Management Plan** – Develop region-wide micro-simulation analysis and site-specific alternative feasibility studies (primarily intersections) to develop a plan to maximize the capacity and safety of the transportation system through a series of intersection and other spot improvements to the system. *Related to most LRTP capital projects.*

**Regional Crash Data and Analysis Program** – Develop a program to improve crash data collection and analysis procedures and to develop an annual regional high-crash and priority improvement list. *Related to most LRTP capital projects.*

**Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection Program** – Modify the current traffic data collection program to also include bicycle and pedestrian data. *Related to most LRTP capital projects.*

**Regional Multimodal Travel Forecasting Model Development** – Expand current TransCAD regional travel forecasting model to include transit, bike, and pedestrian trip generation and assignments to better reflect the nature of travel in the greater Morgantown area. *Related to most LRTP capital projects.*

**Regional Transit Plan** – Conduct a study that would objectively look at the combined MLTA and WVU transit systems and develop joint short and long term strategies to increase ridership/provide better transit service in the region. Work collaboratively with the Local Transportation Funding Committee and WVDOH to develop funding strategies for system expansion. *Related to LRTP capital projects 26, 31, 32, 35, 41, and 42.*

**Monongahela River Crossing Study** – Perform a comprehensive study to select a preferred location for an additional bridge crossing of the Monongahela River to provide additional capacity and travel options from the downtown and campus areas to I-79. The study should include a stakeholder and public involvement process. *Related to LRTP capital project 6.*