

I am writing today to bring attention and focus to the Preston, Burnett and Hill St intersection in the Shelby Park neighborhood of Louisville. Three different neighborhood associations have worked to create a public garden at a privately owned lot immediately next to the KYTC owned parcels and pedestrian bridge.

Attached are photos from the 2023 AARP national Community Challenge grant , which allowed us to take walk audits of the blocks immediately next to the houses and community garden we manage.

During our 3 years at this site so far, we have realized that the pedestrian bridge and crosswalks on the local and state maintained roads are very dangerous. There are multiple cracks in the concrete supports and residents are worried that the structure will collapse. Currently, there has been no score given by KYTC to the pedestrian bridge, and no money has been allocated to repairs. While I-65 and Preston are being redesigned, we want to make sure funding and planning is properly allocated to solve this issue for our children, seniors, disabled and all other residents who cannot use a personal vehicle to access the interstate. Once the bridge collapses, there will be no ADA compliant way to cross the tracks, leaving all residents with a potential federal felony charge if they use the painted crosswalks currently marked on the street.

It is important to note the neighborhood associations do not want a large scale overpass over the railroad on Preston that will demolish housing, but instead similar to what U of L and the Germantown businesses have from the same railroad owner-- a pedestrian and bicycle at grade crossing. This will allow the intersection to be ADA compliant while a new pedestrian bridge can be built. We also encourage a serious look at safety improvements for the Jackson St off ramp of I-65, as cars do not stop and speed immediately by Shelby Park , which is currently working on remaking a permanent library space in the former Carnegie library. With new foot traffic from families, especially children, we ask that the KYTC greenspace and gorms be turned into community greenspace and the ramps closed. Here is the youtube video of the grant and potential safety improvements.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-0cm1M9Shhw>

Thank you,



As the property owner of 13300 Urton Lane (which is 58 undeveloped acres along the west side of I-265), please consider modifying KIPDA's online Interactive Map, as follows:

- KIPDA's Interactive Map currently shows the Urton Lane future alignment for KIPDA Project #474 in an outdated location that bisects several properties, instead of the more practical location along major property lines and utilizing the existing Urton Lane roadway. For example, the future roadway alignment shown on KIPDA's Interactive Map is already blocked by new apartments located at 114 Urton Lane and 13702 Poplar Leaf Way.
- Essentially all potential Developers and major Users for this area prefer that the future roadway alignment be moved slightly to the east, and located as a frontage road near the west side of I-265. See the better and more current roadway alignment (shown as a dashed blue line) on the graphic below, with a widened Urton Lane already established (shown as a solid black line) for the first 1500 feet south of US 60.
- Please consider making this slight roadway alignment change on KIPDA's Interactive Map, which should also benefit Louisville Metro and Middletown in terms of economic development and job creation. A location slightly to the east will also help protect the rural character of the existing east-west-portion of Urton Lane from the higher-intensity development along I-265.
- Also, due to the amount of recent private development and future economic opportunities in this area, a new traffic volume estimate by KIPDA would be beneficial. A new area-wide traffic estimate by KIPDA should benefit planned private development projects, as well as two current KYTC planning projects:
 - US 60 widening in Middletown - KYTC Project 05-80001.00
 - I-64 Interchange and Connector Planning Study - KYTC Project 05-80000

Thanks for your consideration, and for any brief advice on how best to submit my comments to KIPDA.

David Dries
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13300 Urton Lane



The Commonwealth of Kentucky is in the process of updating its Statewide Rail Plan. The following link is for the public to submit comments on the plan update in progress: <https://kyrailplan.wordpress.com/2024/01/04/kytc-launches-rail-plan-website/>

As Metro Louisville and KIPDA, as well as intermediate cities and towns on the routes have expressed interest in passenger rail service from Louisville to Indianapolis, to Cincinnati and to Nashville, I urge KIPDA and its transportation representatives on the TTCC and TPC to submit comments in support of adding these routes to the planning document as potential passenger rail routes. This will help KIPDA and the state in their ability to access more federal funding in pursuit of these projects, which have apparently been very popular with the public, given the increase in social media traffic that KIPDA has experienced since receiving federal funding to begin planning the passenger rail route to Indianapolis.

Thank you,
Ron Schneider
volunteer Kentucky Council Member
National Association of Rail Passengers