

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

DRAFT FFY 2025 - 2028

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

DRAFT FFY 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- What is a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?
 - An agreed upon list of specific priority transportation projects that intend to use federal funds along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant.
 - It shows estimated costs and funding sources and documents the anticipated schedule for each project and project phase.
 - It covers a four-year period and is updated every two years.
 - It must be fiscally constrained to the amount of funding that is available. It is not a “wish list”.
 - It is NOT a final schedule of project implementation and it is not a guarantee of implementation.

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- Projects must be drawn from the region's Long Range Transportation Plan and must help meet the goals of that plan.
- The TIP must comply with current national air quality standards.
- The TIP must undergo an Environmental Justice review to ensure equity

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- It identifies available federal and non-federal funding sources and must be fiscally constrained based on Financial Guidance
- Includes funding based on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) approved in November 2021.
- Overall funding to the Reading MPO increased by \$17.3 million over prior projections for the four-year period covered by the TIP (FFY 2025 – 2028)
- In November 2019 PennDOT announced discretionary “Spike” funding allocations of \$321 million relating to the US 422 West Shore Bypass and US 222 North Widening Projects. These commitments have been carried forward but these funds only begin to be available for use beginning in FFY 2026 and extend through FFY 2036

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- Plan development followed the following process
 - Candidate projects were solicited from both the public and municipalities
 - Prior program was reviewed to identify needs of existing projects
 - Preliminary priorities were established
 - Six TIP development meetings were held with PennDOT in October and November 2023 to match the highway and bridge priorities with the available funds
 - Coordination was held with SCTA / BARTA on the development of a listing of transit projects

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- The MPO approved the final draft project listing in December, 2023
- Staff prepared the draft documents being presented today:
 - Draft FFY 2025 - 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report for the Reading MPO FFY 2025-28 TIP and 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan
 - Draft FFY 2025 – 2028 Environmental Justice Summary

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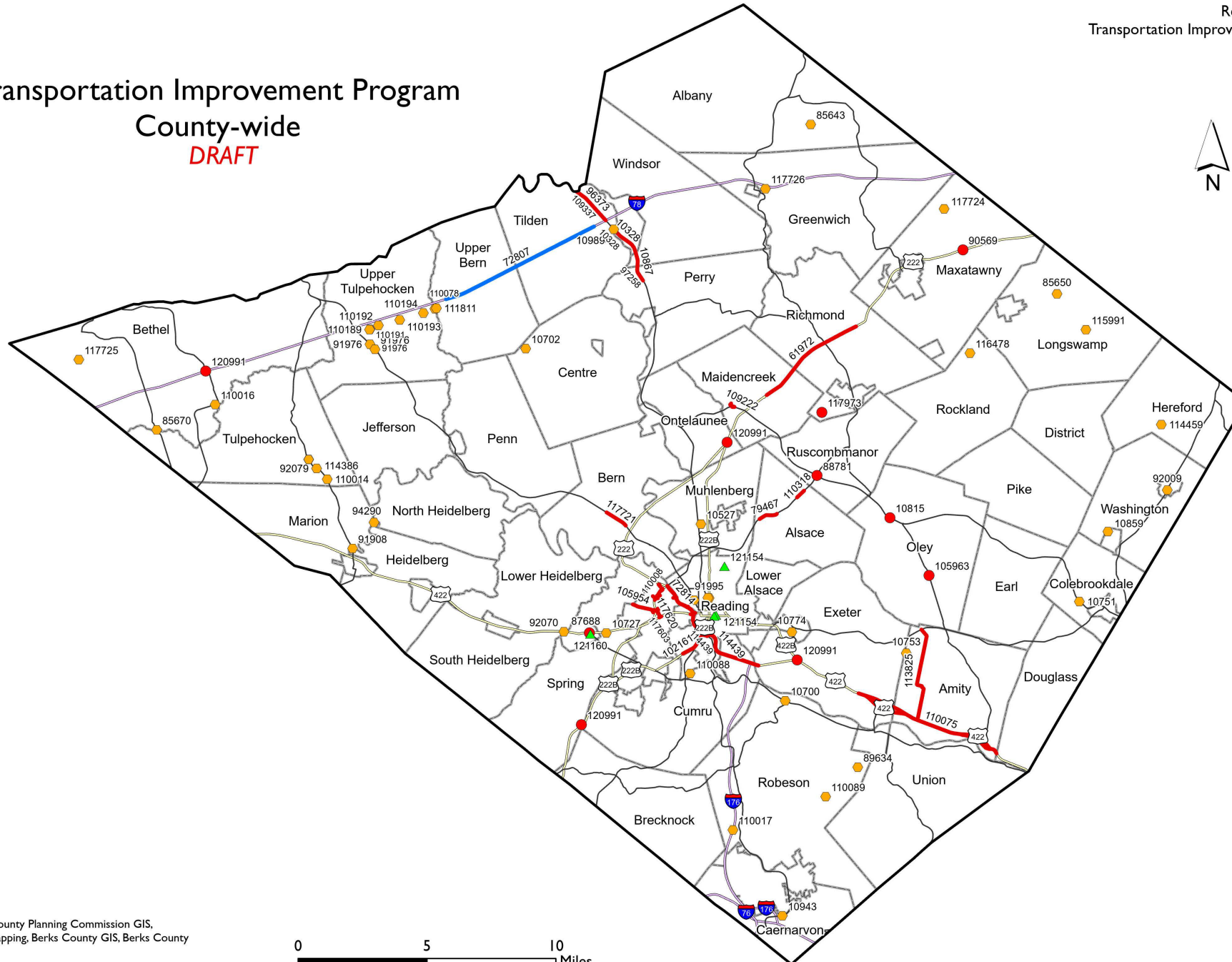
- The Reading MPO FFY 2025-28 TIP contains 112 projects with a total investment of \$365.8 Million
 - 95 Highway and Bridge projects (\$284.2 Million)
 - 17 Transit Projects (\$81.6 million)
- The document also identifies 2 projects in Berks County included in the Statewide Interstate program with a value of \$13.9 Million
- Project locations can be found on the maps on the following pages. Detailed descriptions can be found in the Public Narratives sections of the TIP document.



Transportation Improvement Program

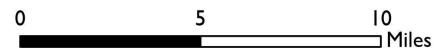
County-wide

DRAFT



- Project Type**
- Bridge
 - Highway
 - ◆ Interstate
 - ▲ Transit
 - Bridge
 - Highway
 - Interstate
 - Transit
 - Interstate
 - US Route
 - State Route
 - Municipal Boundaries

Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS,
 Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County
 DES, PennDOT

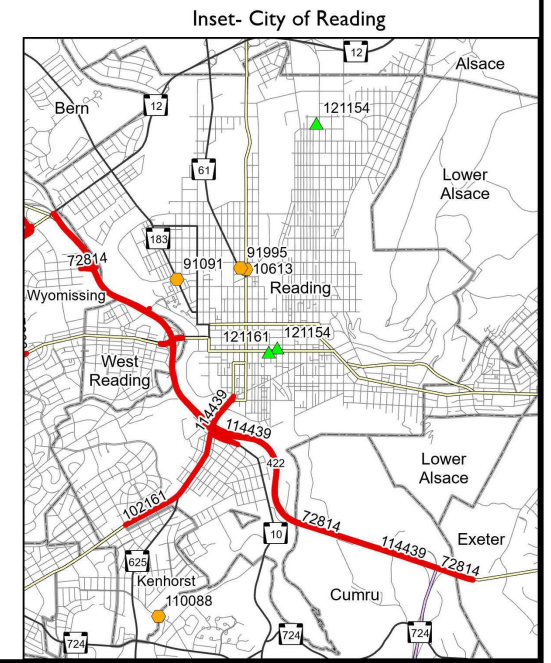
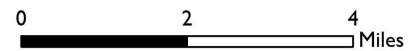




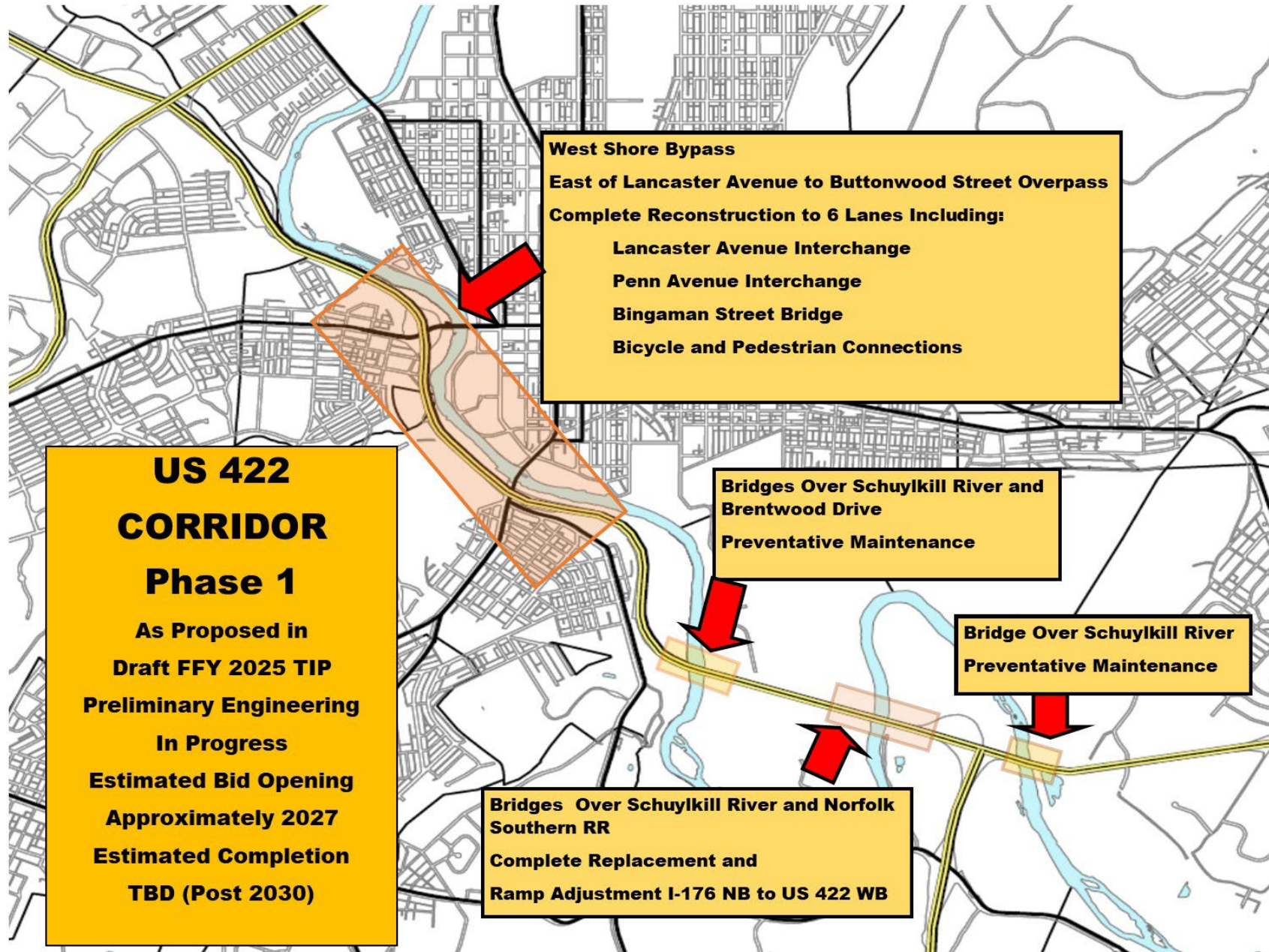
Transportation Improvement Program Metro Region DRAFT



- Project Type**
- Bridge
 - Highway
 - ◆ Interstate
 - ▲ Transit
- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- Transit
- Interstate
- US Route
- State Route
- Roads
- Municipal Boundaries



Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS, Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County DES, PennDOT



West Shore Bypass

East of Lancaster Avenue to Buttonwood Street Overpass

Complete Reconstruction to 6 Lanes Including:

- Lancaster Avenue Interchange**
- Penn Avenue Interchange**
- Bingaman Street Bridge**
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections**

**US 422
CORRIDOR
Phase 1**

**As Proposed in
Draft FFY 2025 TIP
Preliminary Engineering
In Progress
Estimated Bid Opening
Approximately 2027
Estimated Completion
TBD (Post 2030)**

**Bridges Over Schuylkill River and
Brentwood Drive
Preventative Maintenance**

**Bridge Over Schuylkill River
Preventative Maintenance**

**Bridges Over Schuylkill River and Norfolk
Southern RR
Complete Replacement and
Ramp Adjustment I-176 NB to US 422 WB**

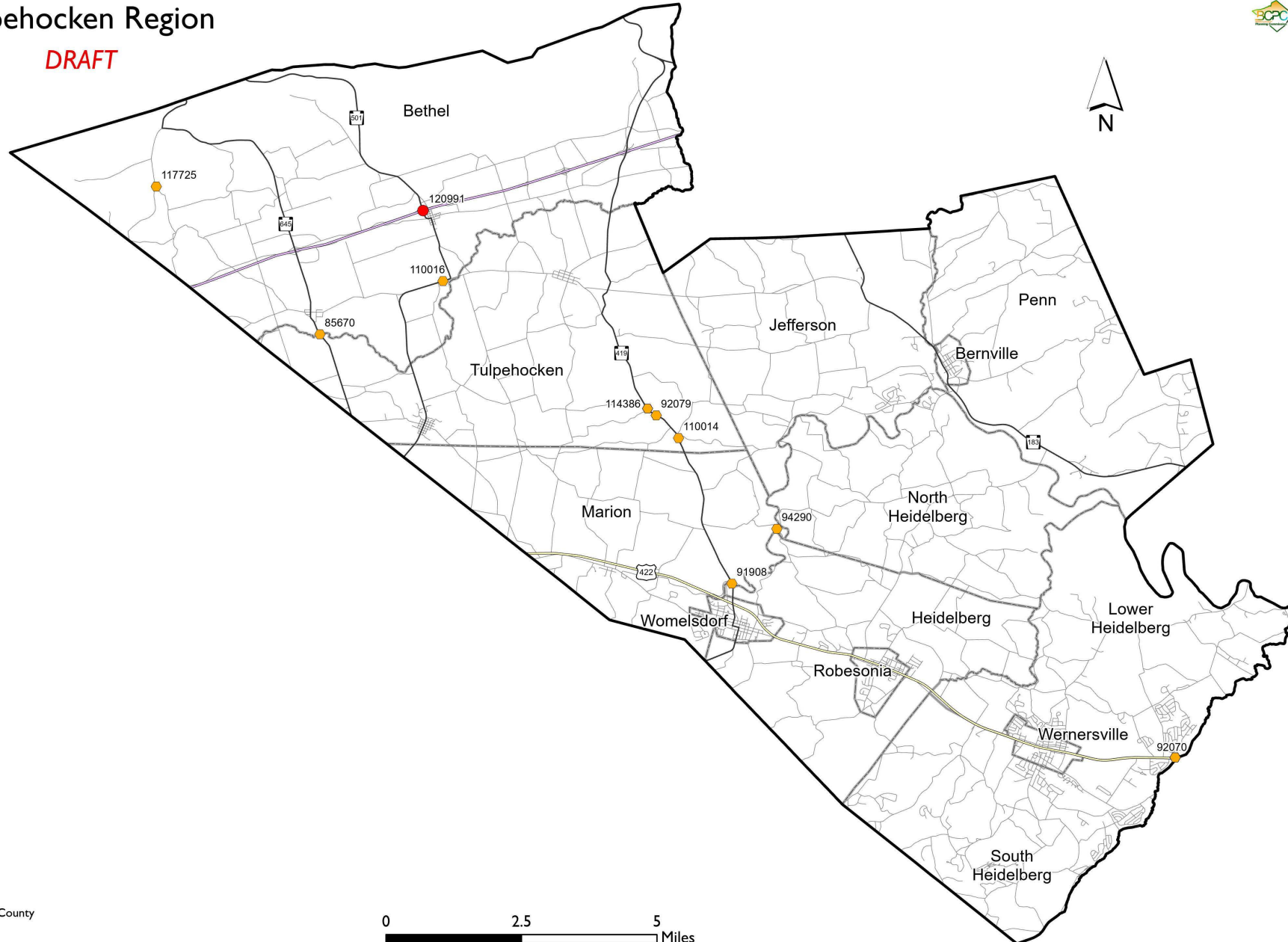
Transportation Improvement Program Tulpehocken Region

DRAFT



Project Type

- Bridge
- Highway
- ◆ Interstate
- ▲ Transit
- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- Transit
- Interstate
- US Route
- State Route
- Roads
- Municipal Boundaries

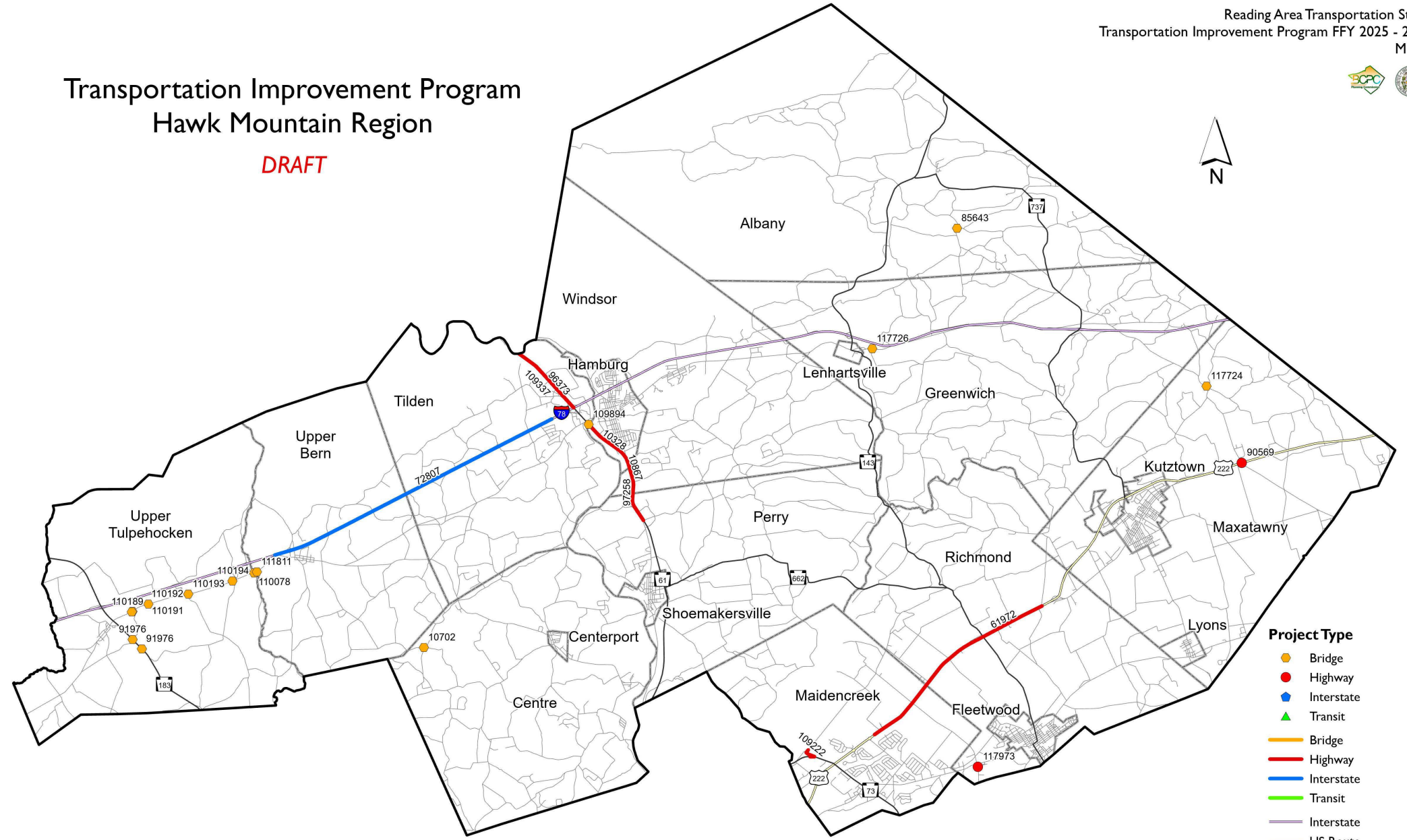


Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS,
Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County
DES, PennDOT



Transportation Improvement Program Hawk Mountain Region

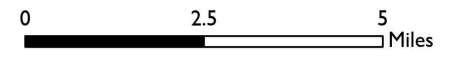
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Project Type

- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- ▲ Transit
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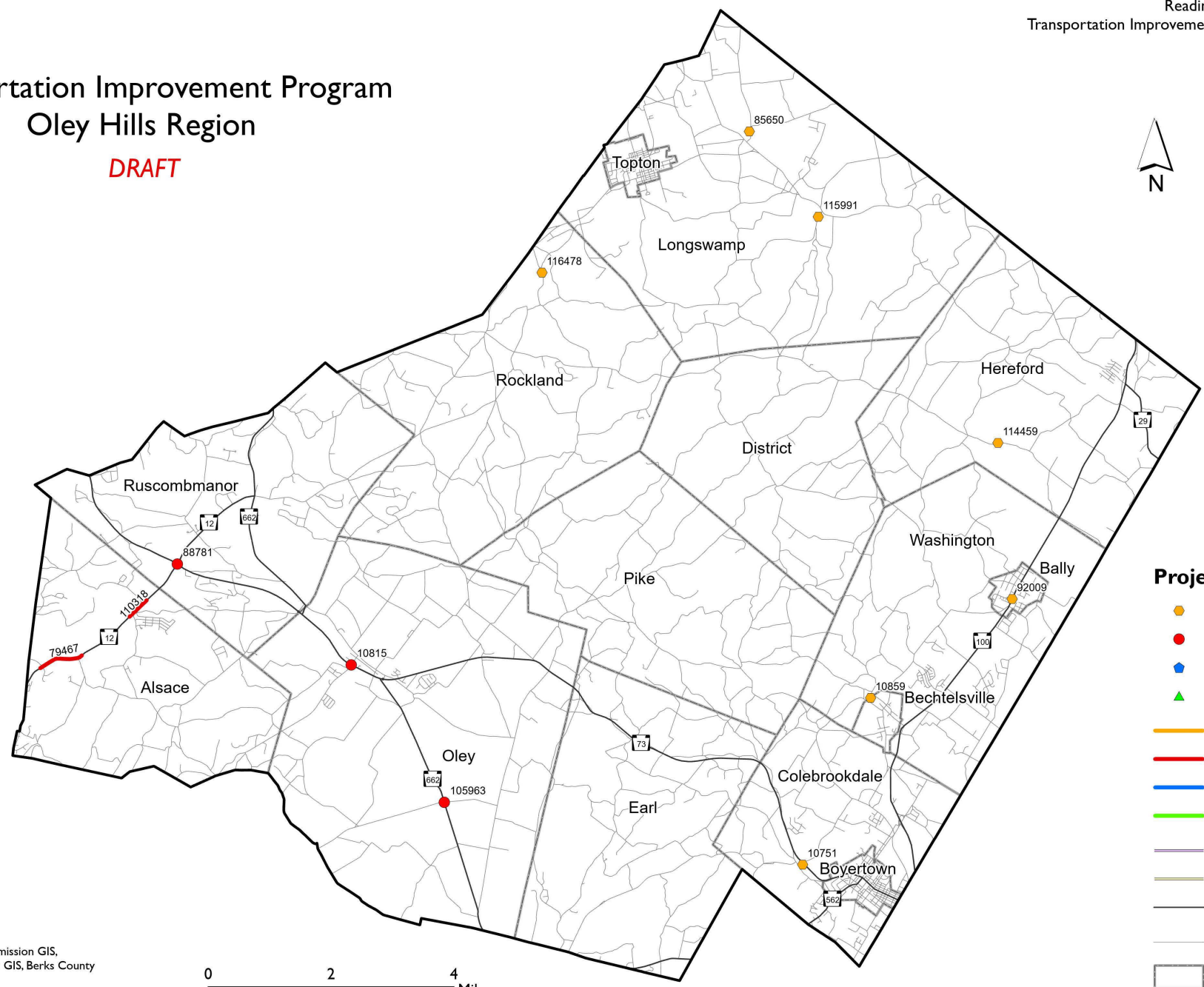
Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS,
 Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County
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Transportation Improvement Program Oley Hills Region

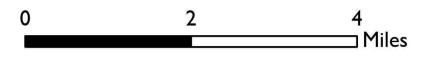
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Project Type

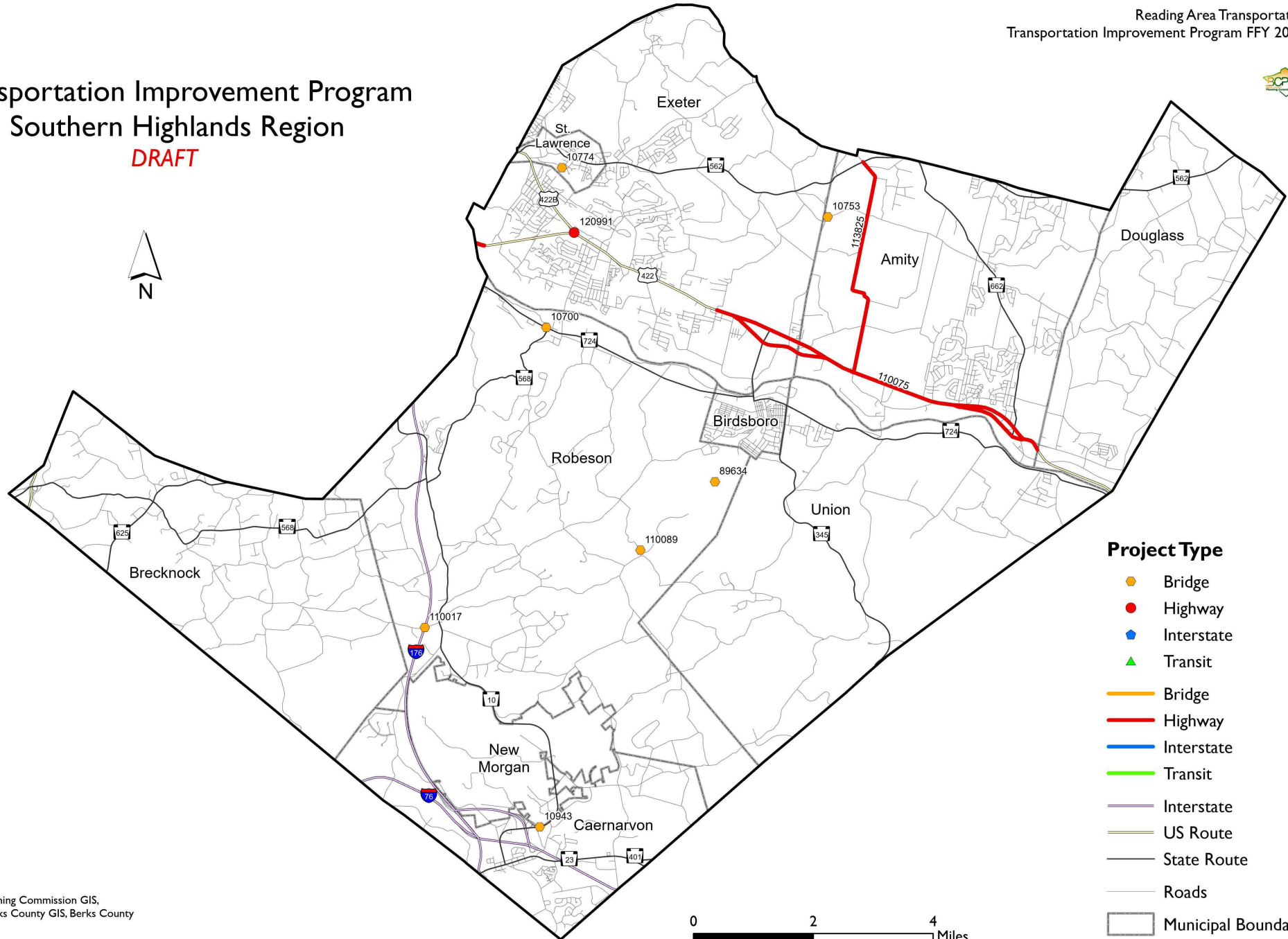
- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- ▲ Transit
- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- Transit
- Interstate
- US Route
- State Route
- Roads
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Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS,
 Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County
 DES, PennDOT





Transportation Improvement Program Southern Highlands Region DRAFT



Project Type

- Bridge
- Highway
- ⬠ Interstate
- ▲ Transit
- Bridge
- Highway
- Interstate
- Transit
- Interstate
- US Route
- State Route
- Roads
- Municipal Boundaries

Source: Berks County Planning Commission GIS,
 Berks County Mapping, Berks County GIS, Berks County
 DES, PennDOT

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN QUESTIONS??

The complete DRAFT Transportation Improvement Program can be found by clicking [HERE](#)

Questions / Comments can be submitted to planning@berkspa.gov

DRAFT FFY 2025 AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS REPORT

- Required under the Clean Air Act (CAA)
- Must demonstrate that the plans, programs and projects meet the transportation conformity requirements of the CAA and the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) in nonattainment areas
- Berks County is currently nonattainment for 1997 and 2008 8-hour Ozone standards
- The conformity determination includes an assessment of future highway emissions and must show that the required conformity tests were met for each analysis year

DRAFT FFY 2025 AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS REPORT

- Interagency consultation is used to determine applicable emissions models, analysis years and emissions tests
- Evaluation includes traffic modeling based on current highway network and planned improvements for the years 2025, 2035, and 2045
- Model outputs are run through EPA's MOVES model for estimating emissions
- Result – Draft FFY 2025 TIP is found to conform to the applicable air quality State Implementation Plan and EPA requirements
- The complete Air Quality Conformity Report can be found by clicking [HERE](#)

DRAFT FFY 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUMMARY

- Required by Executive Order 12898 of 1994 and based on Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964
- Requires recipients of federal aid to certify and ensure nondiscrimination
- Basic principles addressed are:
 - Avoid, minimize or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority and low-income populations
 - Ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process
 - Prevent the denial of, reduction of, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations

DRAFT FFY 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUMMARY

- Identifies concentrations of minority and low-income populations throughout Berks County
- Identifies locations of Bicycle Crashes involving a motor vehicle, Pedestrian Crashes and Fatalities, Bridge and Pavement Conditions (Excellent and Poor), Transit Service, and TIP and LRTP Projects and evaluates against locations of minority and low-income populations
- Report found no disproportionately high or adverse effects when considering the projects included in this program
- The complete Environmental Justice Summary can be found by clicking [HERE](#)

FFY 2025 – 2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

- A minimum 30-day Public Review and Comment Period is Required
- Copies of the Public Notice in both English and Spanish were sent by e-mail on Friday, March 22, 2024 to all Berks County municipalities, Federal and State elected officials representing Berks County, the MPO mail list, MPO committees, and all Native American tribes with historical interests in Berks County
- An advertisement in both English and Spanish was run in the Reading Eagle on Sunday, March 24, 2024.
- The Public Review and Comment Period formally began on March 24, 2024 and ends April 23, 2024 (31 days)

FFY 2025 – 2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

- Two Public Meetings will be held:
 - Monday, April 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM, in the Commissioners' Board Room, 13th Floor Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading PA 19601 This will be held both in-person and virtually. Instructions for connecting to this meeting virtually will be available at this web page: (www.berkspa.gov/departments/commissioners/meetings)
 - Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533 (In-person only)

FFY 2025 – 2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

- This presentation will be posted to our web site so that it may be viewed at any time through April 23, 2024
- Comments may be submitted either by mail to
TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
633 Court St. – 14th Floor
Reading, PA 19601
- or via e-mail to: planning@berkspa.gov

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Any comments received must be reviewed by the MPO committees prior to adoption of plans
- Responses must be issued to all comments
- Scheduled adoption by RATS on May 16, 2024
- Anticipated adoption by State Transportation Commission in August 2024
- Anticipated adoption by US DOT by September 30, 2024
- TIP Implementation begins October 1, 2024

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PARTICIPATION !!**

