MID-STATES CORRIDOR

SCREENING OF ALTERNATIVES REPORT

NON-HIGHWAY ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS APPENDIX

Mid-States Corridor
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study

Prepared for

Indiana Department of Transportation
Mid-States Regional Development Authority

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1. INTRODUCTION

An important component of an environmental impact statement is the evaluation of alternatives to the proposed action. This ensures that decision-makers do not bypass less environmentally impactful or lower cost strategies. This Non-Highway Alternatives Analysis reviews existing strategies, services, programs, and policies available in the Study Area that potentially could address the project's Purpose and Need. This analysis provides an overview of alternatives and how effectively each could address the Purpose and Need goals identified for the Mid-States Corridor Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

1.1 Purpose and Need

The purpose[1] of the Mid-States Corridor project is to provide an improved transportation link between the US 231/SR 66 and I-69 (either directly or via SR 37) which

1. Improves business and personal regional connectivity in Dubois County and Southern Indiana;
2. Improves regional traffic safety in Southern Indiana;
3. Supports economic development in Southern Indiana; and
4. Improves highway connections to existing major multi-modal locations from Southern Indiana.

1.2 Non-Highway Alternatives

Section 2 describes non-transportation alternatives which are available within the project Study Area. **Section 3** describes non-personal car alternatives which are available within the Study Area. **Section 4** assesses both the non-transportation alternatives and non-highway transportation alternatives for their potential to satisfy the Purpose and Need for the Mid-States Corridor EIS.

2 NON-TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

Section 2 describes non-transportation programs which can be used to support the Mid-States EIS Purpose and Need, especially the components related to economic development.

2.1 Opportunity Zones

Opportunity zones are designed to spur economic development by providing tax benefits to investors. Investors can defer tax on any prior gains invested in a Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF) until the earlier of the date on which the investment in a QOF is sold or exchanged, or December 31, 2026. If the QOF investment is held for longer than five years, there is a 10% exclusion of the deferred gain. If held for more than seven years, the 10% becomes 15%. Also, if the investor holds the investment in the

[1] See *Draft Purpose and Need Statement, Mid-States Corridor Tier 1 EIS*. Available at https://midstatescorridor.com/project-documents/.

Opportunity Fund for at least 10 years, the investor is eligible for an increase in basis cost of the QOF investment equal to its fair market value on the date that the QOF investment is sold or exchanged.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 allowed governors to nominate certain census tracts as Opportunity Zones, subject to approval from the U.S. Department of Treasury. Up to 25% of a state's low-income census tracts were eligible for designation, which permitted Indiana to nominate up to 156 census tracts as Opportunity Zones.

To be eligible as an Opportunity Zone, census tracts had to qualify as "low-income." To do so, the census tract must have met one of the following requirements:

- The tract has a poverty rate of at least 20%; or
- For a census tract in a metropolitan area, the tract's median family income does not exceed 80% of the greater of: (A) the metropolitan area median family income or the statewide median family income; or (B) For a census tract in a non-metropolitan area, the tract does not exceed 80% of the statewide median family income.

However, if the census tract is located within a high migration rural county, the tract qualifies as low-income if it does not exceed 85% (as opposed to 80%) of statewide median family income. A "high migration rural county" is any rural county that, during the 20-year period ending with the year in which the most recent census was conducted, has a net out-migration of inhabitants from the county of at least 10% of the county population at the beginning of such period.

Eight of the 12 counties in the Study Area have Opportunity Zone census tracts. Four are in Monroe County. Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Lawrence, Orange, Perry, and Pike counties each have one. Opportunity Zones within the Study Area are listed in **Table A-1** in the **Appendix** and depicted in **Figure 2-1**.

Figure 2-1 – Opportunity Zones (shown in blue) within the Mid-States Study Area

Rural Opportunity Zone Initiative

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) collaborated with Purdue Center for Regional Development (PCRD) to apply for a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG). The purpose of the project is to build the capacity of rural-based Opportunity Zones in Indiana. The goals of the RBEG are:

- Inform and educate local officials, organizations, and residents located in Indiana's Rural Opportunity Zones about the key elements of the Opportunity Zone legislation.
- Identify and recruit six Rural Opportunity Zones committed to producing an economic development prospectus to guide and attract private, public and philanthropic investments.
- Develop and market the Opportunity Zone Investment Portfolios of the targeted sites.
- Support the launch of economic development-related programs in interested Opportunity Zones.
- Develop and track key metrics to determine the impacts of the RBEG in launching economic development activities and attracting investments that improve the economic health of the targeted sites.

Of the 156 Indiana Opportunity Zones, 46 are Rural Opportunity Zones based on the OCRA analysis. The 46 communities are eligible to apply to the Rural Opportunity Zone Initiative and six will receive technical assistance and capacity-building support provided by a statewide team of university and agency professionals.

2.2 Tax Abatements

Tax abatements are a common way for local governments to attract private investment and create jobs. Within the 12-county Mid-States region, nearly all counties participate in this program, authorized in the Indiana Code (IC) 6-1.1-12.1 – Deduction for rehabilitation or redevelopment of real property in economic revitalization areas (ERA) program. For a list of total deductions in US dollars due to tax exemptions and abatement activities in each of the 12 Study Area counties from years 2011 to 2017, see **Table A-2** in the Appendix.

Eligibility

Property owners in a locally-designated Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) who make improvements to real property or install eligible new or used personal property may qualify for tax abatement. Eligible uses for tax abatement of real property include manufacturing, research and development, information technology, and logistical distribution. Real property abatements can be granted for both new construction and rehabilitation. The abatement in these cases is limited to the increase in assessed value attributable to the new construction or rehabilitation. The purchase of land does not qualify for tax abatement. Manufacturing equipment must not have been taxed in Indiana to qualify for abatement. Personal property such as laboratory equipment and computers used in experimental research is also eligible for tax abatement.

Duration of Abatement

In Indiana, business property tax abatements are approved by local city and/or county councils for a maximum of 10 years for real property and five years for personal property. Abatement that is granted for multiple years is reduced each year according to a sliding scale. Only in year one is the total amount of new assessed value exempt from property tax. In each succeeding year, the share of the previously exempted assessed value that is taxable increases, decreasing the total discount to the property owner.

In most cases the granting of tax abatement will reduce the amount of property taxes paid by the owner by approximately 50%over the full abatement period.

2.3 Tax Increment Financing

Tax increment financing (TIF) is a public financing method which subsidizes redevelopment, infrastructure, and other community-improvement projects in counties in Indiana. With a TIF, municipalities typically divert future property tax revenue increases from a defined area or district to an economic development project or public improvement project in the community. The net assessed value of the allocation area at the time the TIF District is established is known as the "Base Assessed Value (BAV)". The BAV continues to fund all taxing districts that serve the district at the rate in which they were supported at its creation. Any increases in assessed value after the allocation area is established is known as "incremental assessed value." These incremental funds are available for redevelopment projects. **Figure 2-2** displays a basic TIF model.

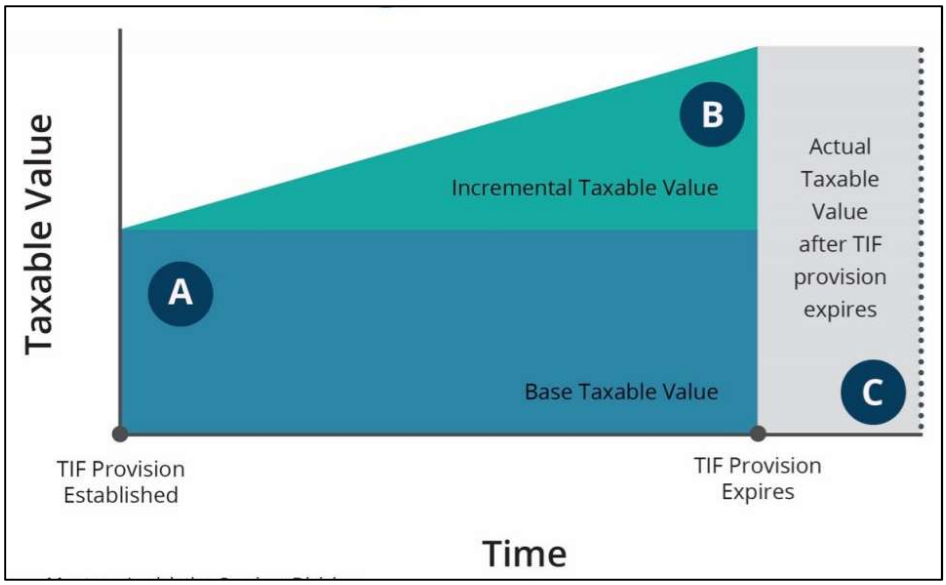

Figure 2-2. Basic TIF Model Illustration
Source: Montana Legislative Services Division

In Indiana, the tax increment generated from the TIF is available for redevelopment that is for "public uses and purposes." Public purposes can include opportunities for redevelopment by private enterprise and the clearance, planning, and redevelopment of areas in need of redevelopment. Public money may be also be spent to acquire private property under this provision. The tax increment is to be spent within the allocation area or serving the allocation area. According to IC 36-7-14-2.5, the TIF funds must benefit the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; increase the economic well-being of the unit and the state; and serve to protect and increase property values in the unit and the state. Common uses of TIF proceeds include:

- Pay expenses of Redevelopment Commission for the public improvements;
- Pay principal and interest on bonds or leases;
- Roads, streets, and sidewalks for access to new development;
- Construction of water and sewer lines;
- Acquisition of real estate;

- Parking facilities;
- Street lighting.

When the TIF expires, the distinction between base assessed value and incremental assessed value is eliminated. The total assessed value reverts to the tax base of the taxing units that serve the district. If successful, the redevelopment projects within the TIF should result in a significant increase in tax base. **Table 2-1** shows the net assessed value of property in TIF areas in the project Study Area.

Table 2-1. Mid-States Study Area Counties – Net Assessed Value of Properties in TIF Districts (2017)

County	Total TIFs	Net Assessed Value
Monroe	11	$ 1,267,839,201
Dubois	8	$ 273,779,413
Daviess	8	$ 194,102,548
Lawrence	5	$ 201,892,647
Warrick	4	$ 234,481,212
Spencer	4	$ 152,953,120
Orange	4	$ 149,393,213
Perry	4	$ 69,817,292
Pike	3	$ 21,948,379
Greene	2	$ 39,127,695
Crawford	1	$ 8,126,540
Martin	1	$ 4,016,355

Source: Interactive Map Accessed October 15, 2019 via http://gateway.ifionline.org/TIFviewer/

2.4 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)

Bank Enterprise Awards (BEA)

Investment in economically distressed communities is critical to their revitalization. Through the Bank Enterprise Award Program (BEA Program), the CDFI Fund provides monetary awards to FDIC-insured depository institutions (i.e., banks and thrifts) that successfully demonstrate an increase in their investments in CDFIs or in their own lending, investing, or service activities in the most distressed communities. BEA Distressed Communities are defined as census tracts in which at least 30%of residents have incomes that are less than the national poverty level and where the unemployment rate is at least 1.5 times the national unemployment rate. Qualifying and partially qualifying Distressed Communities tracts communities are depicted in **Figure 2-3**. Qualifying census tracts are those that meet both criteria for percent of residents with poverty level incomes and the rate of unemployment being at least 1.5 times that of the national rate. Partially qualifying tracts are those that do not individually meet these minimum criteria, but if/when combined with one or more directly contiguous tracts do meet those minimum requirements.

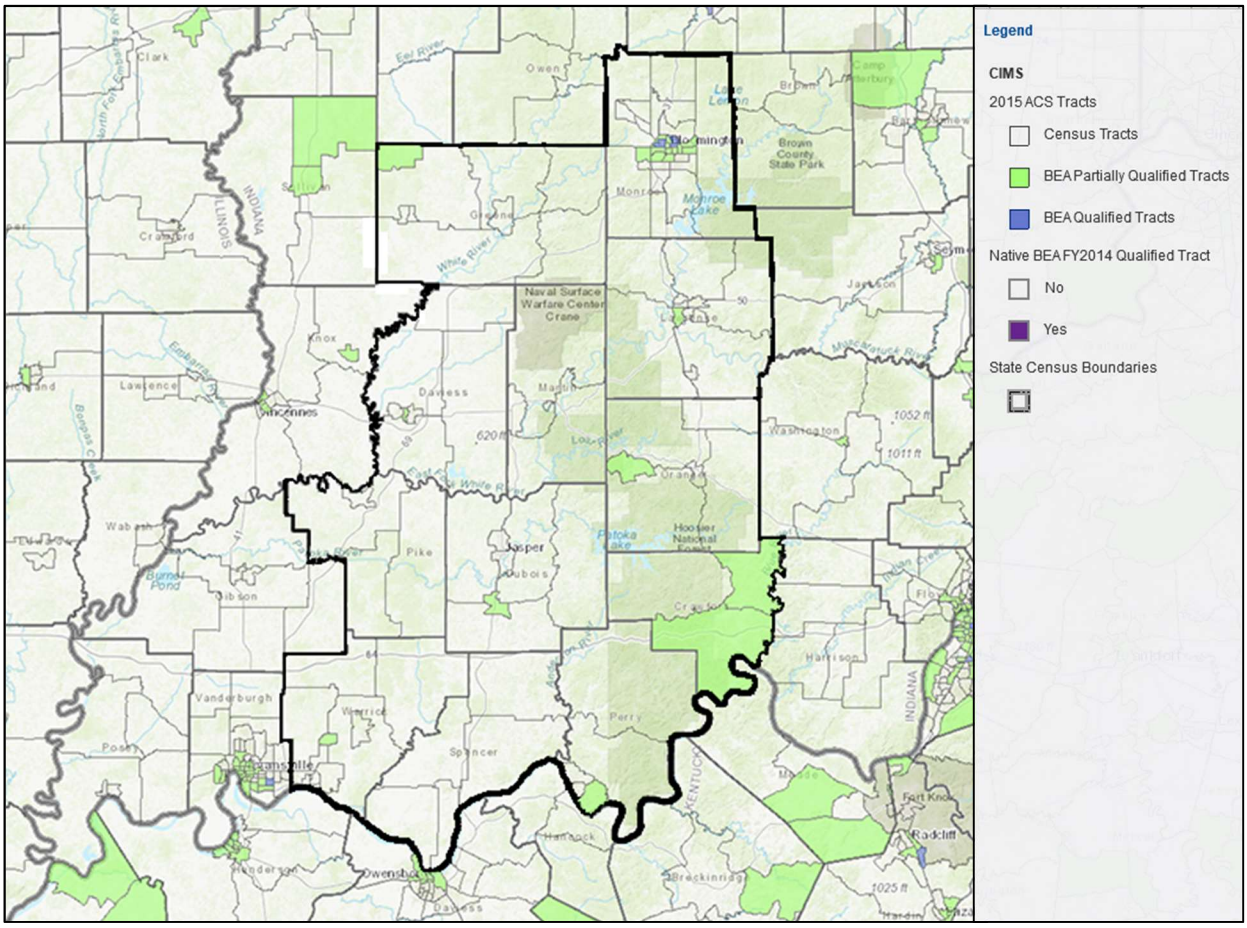

Figure 2-3. Bank Enterprise Award Program Eligible Tracts in Mid-States Study Area

Leveraging BEA Program awards increases the flow of capital to the most distressed communities and creates sound and scalable economic ripple effects. By multiplying the impact of federal investments with private dollars, the BEA Program increases investments in CDFIs, accelerates the growth of businesses, generates jobs, increases the availability and affordability of housing, improves access to financial products and services, and creates real change in the most distressed communities nationwide.

Capital Magnet Fund

Through the Capital Magnet Fund, the CDFI Fund provides competitively awarded grants to CDFIs and qualified non-profit housing organizations. These awards can be used to finance affordable housing activities, as well as related economic development activities and community service facilities.

New Market Tax Credits (NMTC)

Through the NMTC Program, established in 2000, the CDFI Fund allocates tax credit authority to Community Development Entities (CDEs) through a competitive application process. CDEs are financial intermediaries through which private capital flows from an investor to a qualified business located in a low-income community. CDEs use their authority to offer tax credits to investors in exchange for equity in the CDE. Using the capital from these equity investments, CDEs can make loans and investments to businesses operating in low-income communities on better rates and terms and more flexible features than are otherwise unavailable. In exchange for investing in CDEs, investors claim a tax credit worth 39%of their original CDE equity stake, which is claimed over a seven-year period.

NMTC Eligible Census tracts include those that have either a median family Income at or below 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) in the period of 2006-2010/2011-2015 or have a poverty rate of 20% or greater in the period of 2006-2010/2011-2015. Meeting the NMTC Severe Distress or Non-Metropolitan criteria is based on whether or not a given Census tract meets basic NMTC Eligibility, plus one of the following factors: having a median family income at or below 60% of AMI in the period of 2006-2010/2011-2015; having a poverty rate at or above 30% in the period of 2006-2010/2011-2015; having an unemployment rate of at least 1.5 times the national unemployment rate in the period of 2006-2010/2011-2015; or being in a county that is not part of a metropolitan statistical area. **Figure 2-4** shows the eligible and severe distressed tracts in the Study Area, both of which are eligible for NMTC. A list of the number of qualifying tracts per county in the Mid-States Study Area can be found in **Table A-3** in the Appendix.

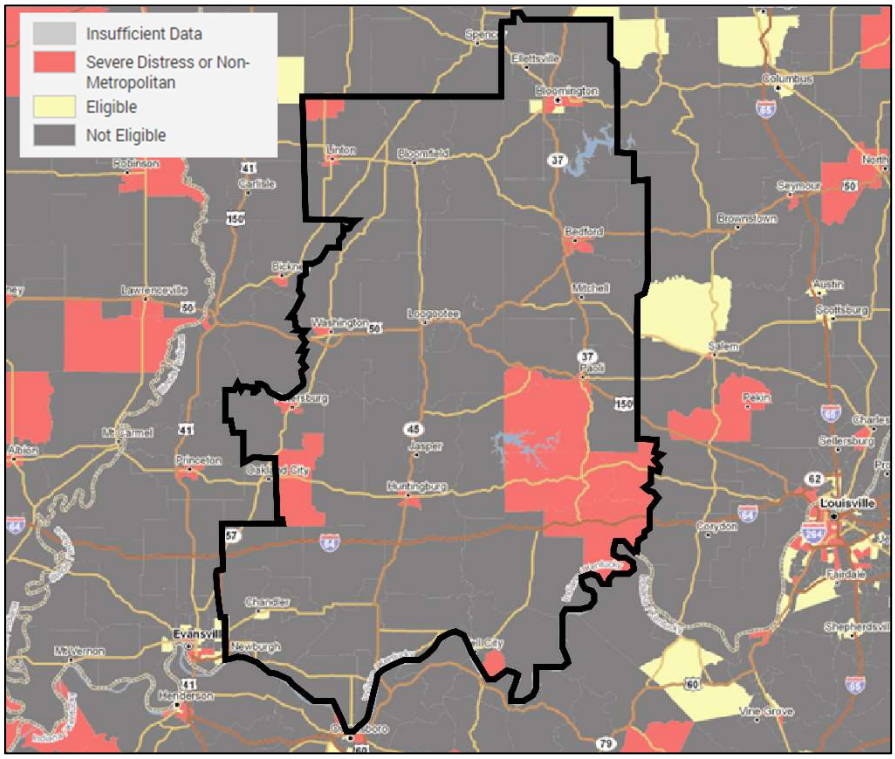

Figure 2-4. Map of NMTC eligible census tracts in Mid-States Study Area[2]

Qualified active low-income community businesses (QALICBs) receive NMTC investments. While called "businesses," QALICBs can be for-profit or nonprofit enterprises. Urban Institute calculations based on data from the CDFI Fund found that for NMTC projects reporting from 2003 to 2015, 61%went to for-profit QALICBs, and 31%to nonprofits. Tribal entities received 0.3%of investments, with the remaining projects missing or described as "other". QALICBs can be used to finance equipment, operations, or real estate. Real estate financing can purchase or rehabilitate retail, manufacturing, agriculture, community facilities (e.g., health services, museums, or charter schools), rental or for-sale housing, or combinations of these.

[2] Interactive Map Accessed October 25, 2019 via https://www.policymap.com/widget?sid=117&wkey=4D2AFE10710D41918F180775F0A353F2

2.5 Job Training

Job training plays an important role in economic development. Workforce training for in-demand skills benefits employers, workers, families, and communities. Following is a summary of job training opportunities within the Study Area.

Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF) Workforce Training Grant[3]

The Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF) is a grant program operated by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) that supports businesses efforts to train and upgrade skills of employees and increase new capital investments. The grant may be used to reimburse a portion (typically 50%) of eligible training costs over a period of two full calendar years from the commencement of the project.

Grants from the SEF must lead to post-secondary credentials, a nationally-recognized industry credential, or specialized company training for both new hires and existing workers. It must also result in an increase in wages for existing employees.

Next Level Jobs[4]

Next Level Jobs is part of Governor Eric Holcomb's Next Level Indiana agenda. It offers free statewide training in in-demand industries and reimbursements for employers of up to $50,000 to train their employees in identified high-growth fields. They offer training in advanced manufacturing, building construction, health and life sciences, IT and business services, and transportation and logistics.

Indiana Division of Workforce Development (DWD)[5]

Indiana's DWD houses several workforce and economic development programs. DWD administers programs and provides resources for employers and job seekers. DWD administers adult education programs authorized by the federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA, Title II of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998). DWD offers professional development resources and programs such as Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), the Office of Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship, WorkOne, and others.

- The Office of Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship develops and implements several work-based learning pathways for youth and adult populations. Pathways include Registered Apprenticeships, State Earn and Learn (SEALs), Adult Education with On the Job Training (OJT), Internship and Capstone Courses, Career and Technical Education (CTEs), and Job Shadowing opportunities.
- DWD operates the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program, a state-based, national non-profit organization dedicated to preventing dropouts among young people who are most at-risk to have serious barriers to graduation and/or employment. JAG's class of 2018's graduation rate was 96% and its employment rate was 65%. About 40% of JAG's 2018 class enrolled in post-secondary education.
- WorkOne offices are the regional representation of the DWD across the state. WorkOne offices provide adult education, workforce development, career services resources, and programs. The project Study Area is part of four of the 12 WorkOne regions (regions 5, 8, 10,

[3] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://iedc.in.gov/incentives/skills-enhancement-fund-sef
[4] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.nextleveljobs.org/
[5] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/dwd/2910.htm

and 11). Ten of the 12 Mid-States counties have WorkOne offices. **Figure 2-5** is a map of WorkOne region boundaries.

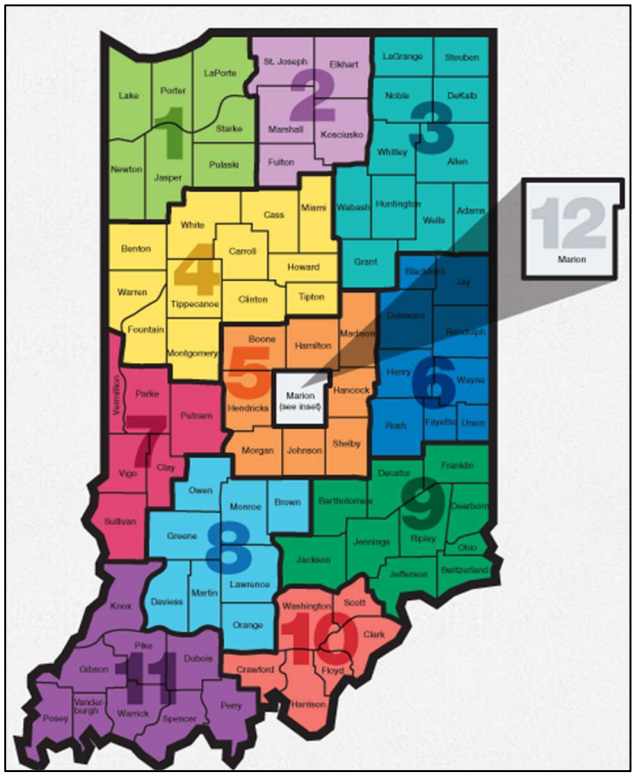

Figure 2-5: WorkOne Regions

Indiana High School Equivalency (HSE)

Indiana HSE offers an alternative to earning a high school diploma statewide. An HSE Diploma can be earned after completing a test based on five subject areas (math, reading, writing, science and social studies). Anyone 16 years of age living in Indiana for at least 30 days who do not already have a high school diploma are eligible to take the text.

Ivy Tech Community College[6]

There are three Ivy Tech Community College campuses within the Study Area (at Linton, Tell City, and Bloomington). Ivy Tech offers college courses whose credits can transfer to Indiana four-year colleges and universities. Students also may earn Associates degrees at Ivy Tech. In the region, Ivy Tech educates students in business, logistics and supply chain, public affairs and social services, information technology, arts, sciences, education, health sciences, nursing, advanced manufacturing, and engineering. Through the Workforce Ready Grant administered by Next Level Jobs Indiana, participants can receive fully funded job training for programs in EMT, HVAC, LPN, Medical Assisting, Business Administration, and IT.

North Lawrence Career Center[7]

The North Lawrence Career Center in Bedford is housed in North Lawrence High School. It serves six school districts in the area (Bedford North Lawrence, Brownstown, Medora, Mitchell, Orleans, and Shoals). These have combined to create Career Center Area 40. Students from all Area 40 schools are eligible to take advantage of any of the NLCC programs. Participating students attend the Career Center for three hours each school day and take their required academic classes at their home school. There is no charge for students to attend; however, most programs require expenditures for book rental, special clothing, and supplies. Students benefit from the quality programs offered and the chance of advanced career and technical education with dual college credits, certifications, and work-based learning opportunities. The NLCC increases workforce employability of area residents.

[6] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via http://www.stonegateeducation.com/ivy-tech-community-college--bedford.html
[7] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.nlcs.k12.in.us/programs/school-improvement/school-plans/31-north-lawrence-career-center/file

Oakland City University[8]

Oakland City University has two satellite campus within the Mid-States area; one in Bedford and the other in Rockport. The University is affiliated with the General Baptist Church. These two campuses focus on adult learning through accelerated degrees, usually completed within 18 months. Areas of study include business, logistics, criminal justice, and strategic management.

NSWC – Crane Division (Martin County) [9]

Through a $14 million annual program from the National Defense Authorization Act Section 219, Crane funds additional research, technology transition, and workforce development programs. Projects ranging from microelectronics to advanced countermeasures deployment were among those funded in the 2019 selection year.

In addition to funding research, technology transition, and workforce development programs, Crane has a local presence that focuses on high school students and the robotics fields. In collaboration with Bloomington High School South, Crane helped fund the BHHS robotics team that will design a mobile and remotely controlled robotic base structure to meet government detailed specifications. The final product the students create will be used by the U.S. Government for technology demonstration and evaluation.

The intention of this collaboration is to support a new generation and incoming workforce with the challenges of the ever-growing field of robotics. Students and Crane benefit from their connection as they enter the workforce and pursue a career in technology and Crane has a pool of local skilled workers to employ.

Vincennes University[10]

Vincennes University has one campus in the Mid-States area in Jasper. This campus partners with local manufacturing companies to advance workforce development through the Career Advanced Partnership (CAP). The partnership provides students a paid internship while enrolled at VUJ full-time. Students work two days a week at a manufacturing partner and attend classes three days a week at VUJ. Students completing the internship will earn an Associate's Degree from Vincennes University which can be support a four-year Bachelor's Degree in fields such as engineering, technology, or business.

Vincennes University also focuses on medical and healthcare related workforce training by offering specialized training for nurses, training to become a certified medical or nursing assistant, a phlebotomy technician program, a dental assistant training program, and others. Vincennes partners with local hospitals and medical services providers such as the Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center to combine in-class and experiential learning for its participants.

Conexus Indiana

Conexus Indiana was created in 2007. It is a statewide group of advanced manufacturing, education and public-sector representatives. Its mission is to accelerate, promote, and grow Indiana's advanced manufacturing and logistics industries. It is involved in workforce development from high school to adult job training. Conexus offers a two-year high school course called Hire Tech that provides high school students with an education in advanced manufacturing and logistics. The course offers students an opportunity to earn industry credentials while in high school, and the course credits can count towards a

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[8] Website Accessed October 18, 2019 via https://www.cappex.com/colleges/oakland-city-university

[9] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via http://www.radiusindiana.com/cranes-innovation-program-expands-research-and-opportunities-for-the-region/

[10] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.vinu.edu/web/jasper-campus

degree in higher education. Conexus also places high school students in a six-week summer internship program.

Conexus connects college students across the Midwest with other students and Indiana employers in a "case competition" where teams solve an advanced manufacturing business case. Conexus also hosts networking events for college students to connect with employers.

Conexus's Catapult Indiana provides entry-level workforce training program for Indiana residents with the skills and competencies for careers in manufacturing. The program partners with industry leaders to identify and meet current and emerging industry needs, build a talent pipeline, expand employment participation, and increase worker wages. Statewide more than 3,000 employees have completed training through Catapult.

Conexus supports veteran workforce development through INvets which connects Indiana companies with veterans as they exit the military. Participating companies value the skills and work ethic of veterans and find employment opportunities for them within their companies.

2.6 Improving Business Access to Capital

Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans

The Small Business Administration works with lenders to provide loans to small businesses. The agency doesn't lend money directly to small business owners. Instead, it sets guidelines for loans made by its partnering lenders, community development organizations, and micro-lending institutions. The SBA reduces risk for lenders and makes it easier for them to access capital. That makes it easier for small businesses to get loans. Small businesses loans can be made for as little as $500 to as much as $5.5 million. To receive an SBA loan, the business must have exhausted all other options and not receive funding from any other financial lender. **Table 2-2** lists the number of SBA loans by county in the study area from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

Table 2-2: Number of SBA loans by County (FY 2019)

County	Number of SBA Loans
Crawford	0
Daviess	5
Dubois	1
Greene	2
Lawrence	2
Martin	0
Monroe	16
Orange	0
Perry	0
Pike	1
Spencer	1
Warrick	17

Capital Access Program–State Small Business Credit Initiative (CAP-SSBCI)[11]

The Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 created the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) to provide direct support to states for use in programs designed to increase access to credit for small businesses. The U.S. Treasury allocated funds to the State of Indiana to provide funding for the Indiana Capital Access Program–State Small Business Credit Initiative (CAP-SSBCI). CAP-SSBCI is a small business credit enhancement program that creates a specific cash reserve fund for a lender to use as additional collateral for loans enrolled in the program by the lender. CAP-SSBCI gives businesses with access to capital by encouraging lenders who participate in the program to make loans they may not otherwise make.

[11] Website Accessed October 13, 2019 via https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sb-programs/Pages/ssbci.aspx

Under the Program, the borrower, the lender and the IEDC each contribute a percentage of the loan into the lender's dedicated reserve fund, which pools contributions (premiums) from all CAP-SSBCI loans enrolled by the lender. The lender determines whether a loan is made, the interest rate, the terms and conditions and the percentage contributed to the reserve fund. Borrower and lender each contribute between 1.0 to 3.5%of the loan amount enrolled. The borrower pays its designated percentage and the lender matches this amount (which the lender passes on to the borrower). The IEDC contributes a combined match of both the lender and borrower for a 1:1 premium match. To qualify a business must have 500 or fewer employees. The maximum loan amount is $5,000,000.

Indiana Community Business Credit Corporation (ICBCC)[12]

The ICBCC helps businesses that would normally be too risky for lenders to extend loans to access capital by taking a subordinate collateral position on projects that need at least $200,000 in funding. The participating lender takes a senior position guaranteeing 50% or more of the project. ICBCC has been helping financial institutions lend money to Indiana businesses since 1986. Loan amounts range from $100,000-$500,000. The Credit Corp can provide no more than 50% of the project financing. Conventional interest rates are used (usually several points above prime rate). The loan term ranges from 3 to 25 years. Eligible uses include:

- Primary working capital
- Subordinated working capital
- Long-term loans for new equipment
- First mortgages on existing properties as well as planned construction projects
- Second mortgages
- Leveraged buy-outs, and
- Subordinated debt/equity combinations

2.7 Revolving Loan Funds (RLF)[13]

A revolving loan fund (RLF) is a gap financing measure primarily used for development and expansion of small businesses. It is a self-replenishing pool of money. Interest and principal payments on old loans fund new ones. While the majority of RLFs support local businesses, some target specific areas such as healthcare, minority business development, and environmental cleanup.

Establishing a revolving loan fund provides access to a flexible source of capital that can be used in combination with more conventional sources. Often, the RLF is a bridge between the amount the borrower can obtain on the private market and the amount needed to start or sustain a business.

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[12] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via http://www.cambridgecapitalmgmt.com/icbcc.php

[13] Indiana RLF: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/ifa/srf/index.htm,
Monroe County Bloomington Industrial Incentive Loan Fund: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://bloomington.in.gov/council/legislation/Resolution/1991/91-34
Green County EDC RLF: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://greencountyedc.com/rsvp/incentives/
Dubois County Enterprise Loan Fund: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://duboisstrong.com/driving-business/expanding/
Crawford County RLF: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://www.crawfordcountychamber.org/revolving-loan-fund
Perry County Tell City RLF: Website accessed December 6, 2019 via https://www.pickperry.com/doing-business/incentives/

Quality RLFs issue loans at market or otherwise competitive and attractive rates. Many RLF studies have shown that access to capital and flexibility in collateral and terms is more important to borrowers than lower than market interest rates. RLFs must be able to generate enough of an interest rate return to replenish the fund for future loan allocations. With competitive rates and flexible terms, an RLF provides access to new financing sources for the borrower, while lowering overall risk for participating institutional lenders. Typical uses for RLF loans include:

- Operating capital
- Acquisition of land and buildings
- New construction
- Facade and building renovation
- Landscape and property improvements
- Machinery and equipment

Capitalizing a Revolving Loan Fund

Initial funding, or capitalization, of a revolving loan fund usually comes from a combination of public sources, such as the local, state, and federal governments, and private ones such as financial institutions and philanthropic organizations. Funding acquired for capitalization is usually the equivalent of a grant – it does not need to be paid back.

Most revolving loan funds have at least one local public source for capitalization combined with other sources. If capitalization is exclusively local, the RLF may have greater flexibility in lending, as state and federal involvement tend to include restrictions that may not fit local business needs.

State and local governments often use one or a combination of the following to capitalize an RLF: tax set-asides, general obligation bonds, direct appropriations from the state legislature, annual dues from participating counties or municipalities, and funds directed from the state lottery.

The federal government is another common source of capital. Communities may apply for funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (via the Rural Economic and Community Development Administration), Housing and Urban Development (via Community Development Block Grants), and the Department of Commerce (via the Economic Development Administration).

Standards and Results

As a public investment instrument, revolving loan funds are expected to enhance the public good – namely projects contributing to economic growth and community revitalization. Borrowers must address performance measures established by the loan administrator such as; number and type of jobs created or retained; increase in tax revenue; private funding relative to public investment; and benefits to low and moderate-income citizens, from business ownership to job opportunities. Indiana and Mid-States Study Area Revolving Loan Funds include the following:

- The State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program
- Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) Small Bond Program
- Monroe County - Bloomington Industrial Incentive Loan Fund
- Green County - Green County EDC Revolving Loan Fund
- Dubois County - Enterprise Loan Fund (ELF)
- Crawford County - Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
- Perry County - Tell City EDC Revolving Loan Fund

2.8 Start-ups, Entrepreneurship, & Innovation

Indiana is ranked number one in the Midwest (and number eight in the nation) for entrepreneur friendliness, according to the Indiana Small Business Development Center 2018 annual report. Statewide there were over 300 new business starts in 2018. Indiana was given an "A" grade for ease of starting a business by Thumbtack.[14] This success can be attributed to the many layers of support offered from the local to the state and federal level for start-ups and entrepreneurs. Below is a brief overview of those most prevalent and relevant to the Mid-States area.

Figure 2-6: Indiana's Certified Technology Parks

The Certified Technology Parks[15]

The CTP program, enabled by Indiana Code 36-7-32, was created to attract and grow high-technology businesses and promote technology transfer opportunities in Indiana. Designation as a Certified Technology Park (CTP) allows for the local recapture of certain state and local tax revenue which can be invested in the development of the park. CTPs can capture a maximum of $5 million over the life of the park in incremental sales and income taxes. To become a CTP, the applicant must prove the CTP will attract high tech companies and jobs, the local government must participate financially in the establishment of the CTP, and an Indiana institution of higher education must make a monetary or in-kind contribution to the park. **Figure 2-6** shows the location of all CTPs in Indiana. The two certified technology parks within the Mid-States Study Area are in Bloomington and Odon, Indiana.

Bloomington Technology Park – Trades District[16]

The Bloomington Technology Park comprises 65 acres in Downtown Bloomington Encompasses the Trades District. In 2011, the City of Bloomington purchased 12 acres from Indiana University to create the Trades District, a component of the 65-acre Downtown CTP. The Trade District is seen as an innovation hub and job creation center focused on recruiting and growing technology industries. The park is a mixed-use development that offers residential, commercial, and open spaces uses.

[14] Thumbtack is a website and app for finding local professionals for any product and conducts annual surveys of 7,500 business owners nationwide on issues such as business friendliness, taxes, licensing requirements, labor regulations, and how easy it is to start, operate and grow a business. Thumbtack's survey is one of the largest surveys of small businesses nationwide.

[15] Accessed October 14, 2019 via https://iedc.in.gov/programs/certified-technology-parks/home

[16] Accessed October 15, 2019 via https://bloomington.in.gov/business/districts/ctp

The Westgate @ Crane, Odon, Indiana[17]

The WestGate @ Crane CTP is a partnership between the IEDC, several county economic development corporations, NSWC – Crane Division, I-69 Innovation Corridor, Indiana Office of Defense Development, and WorkOne. Within the Mid-States 12-county region, the Martin, Greene, and Daviess County economic development corporations are partners in this CTP. Purdue University, Indiana University, and University of Southern Indiana are also partnering in this CTP. The park provides a tech start-up and incubation space, mentorship, funding, networking, workforce training, and other business support. The training courses are sponsored by Indiana University, Purdue University, and University of Southern Indiana.

NSWC Crane Technology Transfer (T2) Program (lab to market program)[18]

The NSWC Crane Technology Transfer (T2) Program seeks to license and collaborate with local individuals, companies, and academic institutions for the purpose of transferring government protected innovations for commercialization. The intent is to spur economic development to support activities of the federal government. The Federal Laboratory Consortium[19] (FLC)'s role is to promote, educate, and facilitate lab technology transfer.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) & Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

Indiana SBIR encourages research and development in small businesses that have the potential for commercialization. The STTR program expands funding opportunities in research and development through a public/private partnership between small businesses and nonprofit research institutions. STTR encourages collaboration between these two entities to create a product that can be commercialized. Within the Study Area, only Monroe County has participated in the SBIR-STTR programs since 2017. **Table A-4** in the Appendix details which companies received funding for SBIR-STTR in Monroe County.

Indiana Center for Biomedical Innovation (ICBI)[20]

ICBI supports research and development in biomedical and healthcare related technologies by providing access to a variety of funding sources for translational research, and technology development and commercialization in biomedical fields. Grants through the ICBI's Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) offers milestone-based grant support, screening and identification of potential drug molecules, development of proof of concept for drug, device, cell or gene therapy and diagnostics and further product development through the Technology Enhancement Award (TEA). ICBI provides support and guidance for SBIR/STTR applications and connections to angel and venture capital investors. Other funding and support for the biomedical and health sciences industry in Indiana include the GSK Discovery Fast Track Challenge, Johnson & Johnson Innovation Centers, Lilly Open Innovation Drug Discovery, and the Pfizer Centers for Therapeutic Innovation.

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[17] Accessed October 15, 2019 via https://westgatecrane.com/
[18] Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Home/Warfare-Centers/NSWC-Crane/Partnerships/Technology-Transfer/
[19] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/SavedNewsModule/Article/1887096/nswc-crane-employee-sees-expansion-innovation-in-technology-transfer-future/
[20] Accessed October 17, 2019 via https://www.in-bioinnovation.org/grants-funding/

Indiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)[21]

PTAC provides procurement technical assistance to help existing small businesses sell products or services to the appropriate government agency by offering confidential counseling services and workshops at no cost. The core of the procurement assistance program is counseling and education. PTAC holds events and connects businesses to workshops as well as offers individualized advice and customized bidding opportunities. The Procurement Technical Assistance Center is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the Defense Logistics Agency.

Elevate Ventures[22]

Elevate Ventures is a venture capital nonprofit that nurtures and develops emerging and existing high-potential businesses into high-performing, Indiana-based companies. Elevate provides business analysis and advisory services that connect companies with resources they need to succeed and grow for the long-term. As a nonprofit organization, Elevate receives 75% of its funding from IEDC's 21st Century Research and Technology Fund. Elevate Ventures works with first-time entrepreneurs to help them start a business, from launch to exit. Some of the industries in which Elevate has expertise include semiconductors, agriculture, IT, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, aerospace, and big data. To date, Elevate Ventures has funded 326 start-ups in 81 counties in Indiana.

Incubators and Co-working Spaces

Incubators and co-working spaces are useful resources for entrepreneurs and start-up companies that cannot or would rather not acquire their own office space. Within the Mid-States area, such resources are in Monroe and Daviess counties. A list of existing resources and spaces is in **Table A-5** in the Appendix. Other resources for start-ups and entrepreneurs include;

- **B-Start**[23] – Based in Bloomington, B-Start is a pre-accelerator program of the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) designed for Indiana University and Ivy Tech student technology startups. B-Start participants are at the earliest stage of their business development and are coached through cohort activities and individualized mentorship. These build a foundation to accelerate the growth of their startups.
- **Gayle & Bill Cook Center for Entrepreneurship**[24] – The Center is housed at Ivy Tech Bloomington and aims to develop and implement practical tools and resources for students and the community to foster entrepreneurship in Bloomington and its surrounding areas. The Center has developed six entrepreneurship courses, in-person and online as well as business consulting services, and community programs to serve the region.

2.9 Funding for Industrial Development

Several economic development incentives and tools discussed in other sections can be used to spur industrial development. These include but are not limited to the EDGE tax credit, CAP program, tech research and development funding and assistance programs, and USDA business assistance programs. The most prominent industrial business development funding in Indiana is the Industrial Development Grant Fund (IDGF), which provides funding to municipalities for infrastructure improvements.

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[21] Accessed October 17, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/indiana-ptac/781.htm
[22] Accessed October 17, 2019 via https://www.elevateventures.com/about/
[23] Accessed October 17, 2019 via http://www.b-start.org/
[24] Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.ivytech.edu/bloomington/entrepreneurship/

IDGF[25]

The Industrial Grant Fund (IDGF) assists municipalities and other eligible entities as defined under I.C. 5-28-25-1 with off-site infrastructure improvements needed to serve the proposed project site. Upon review and approval of the local recipient's application, project specific milestones are established for completing the improvements. IDGF reimburses a portion of the total cost of the infrastructure improvements. Financial assistance will be paid as each milestone is achieved, with final payment upon completion of the last milestone of the infrastructure project. Examples of eligible uses include lease purchase, construction or repair of real and personal public property; construction of airport facilities; construction of tourist attractions; and construction, extension, or completion of water and sewer lines, roads, sidewalks, rail spurs, and fiber cable. The infrastructure must have a role in retaining or creating full-time jobs.

2.10 Tax Credits and Exemptions

Tax credits and exemptions are important economic development tools that give qualifying businesses and activities financial relief which support job growth and industry innovation. Below is a brief overview of the tax credit and exemption initiatives statewide and within the Mid-States Study Area.

Tax Credit Programs[26]

- **Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) -** A refundable tax credit program that rewards companies creating jobs and contributing to the growth of Indiana's economy. EDGE credits are calculated as a percentage of payroll tax withholding for net new Indiana jobs. EDGE credits may be awarded for a period of up to 10 years.
- **Hoosier Business Investment Tax Credit (HBI)** - This program encourages capital investment in Indiana by providing a credit against a company's Indiana tax liability. The credit amount is based on a company's qualified capital investment with the final credit amount determined by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, based on an analysis of the economic benefits of the proposed investment.
- **Headquarters Relocation Tax Credit -** When a business relocates its corporate headquarters (defined as the location of the principal office of the principal executives) to Indiana, it is entitled to a credit against its state tax liability equal to half of the costs incurred in relocating the headquarters. A company must have worldwide annual revenue of at least $100 million to qualify.
- **Venture Capital Investment Tax Credit** - The Venture Capital Investment Tax Credit was established to improve access to capital to fast-growing Indiana companies by providing individual and corporate investors an additional incentive to invest in early stage firms. Investors who provide qualified debt or equity capital to Indiana companies receive a credit against their Indiana income tax liability.
- **Industrial Recovery Tax Credit (IRTC)** - The Industrial Recovery Tax Credit provides an incentive for companies to invest in facilities requiring significant rehabilitation or remodeling expense. After a building has been designated as an industrial recovery site, companies may be eligible for a tax credit calculated as a percentage of qualified rehabilitation expense.

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[25] Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://iedc.in.gov/incentives/industrial-development-grant-fund---idgf/home
[26] Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://blsstrategies.com/indiana

- **R&D Tax Credit** - The R&D tax credit provides a credit against state tax liability for qualified company research expenses.

Tax Exemptions

- **Patent Income Exemption -** Certain income derived and earned from qualified patents by a taxpayer are exempt from taxation. Qualified patents include utility patents and plant patents. Eligible taxpayers must be domiciled in Indiana and be an individual or corporation with not more than 500 employees.
- **R&D Sales Tax Exemption** - There is a 100%sales tax exemption for qualified research and development equipment and property purchased.
- **Tax-exempt Bonds** - These debt instruments, often called Private Activity Bonds, Industrial Revenue Bonds or Industrial Development Bonds, are issued by state or local governmental entities for the benefit of a private company, usually manufacturers. Interest on the bonds is generally exempt from federal income taxes for investors, which typically results in lower long-term interest rates to the borrower.

Table A-6 in the Appendix provides a list of all recipients of EDGE, SEF, HBI, and IRTC credits and exemptions within the Mid-States Study Area.

2.11 Urban Enterprise Zones[27]

The Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ) program was established under Indiana Code 5-28-15 to promote investment and increased economic activity in some of the most distressed urban areas around the state. Businesses within UEZs receive tax savings by filling out an annual registration form with the local Urban Enterprise Association (UEA). Federal and state funded job training programs often target areas in enterprise zones. Bedford in Lawrence County and Bloomington in Monroe County, Indiana are the two locations for urban enterprise zones in the Mid-States Study Area.

To qualify as an enterprise zone, the area must have at least 25% of households in poverty, population between 2,000 and 10,500, and have an area between three- and four-square miles[28]. The enterprise zone is funded by registration fees and General Assembly appropriations. The fund pays administration expenses (both internally and for UEAs) and provides grants to UEAs for brownfield remediation in enterprise zones.

2.12 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)[29]

USDA promotes rural prosperity and economic development by financing investments in rural utilities, housing, and businesses. USDA believes that when rural areas share the same level of infrastructure services as urban areas, they can make great economic contributions. USDA leverages funds, stimulates private-public partnerships, and engages in collaboration to build rural infrastructure including broadband, community facilities, safe and affordable housing, health services and facilities, and provides

[27] Accessed October 6, 2019 via https://www.iedc.in.gov/programs/urban-enterprise-zones/home
[28] Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://law.justia.com/codes/indiana/2010/title5/ar28/ch15.html. If the zone includes a parcel of property that: (A) is owned by the municipality; and (B) has an area of at least twenty-five (25) acres; the area of the zone may be increased above the four (4) square mile limitation by an amount not to exceed the area of the municipally owned parcel.
[29] Accessed October 24, 2019 via https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-strategic-plan-2018-2022.pdf

capacity building to help underserved communities become thriving communities. A matrix of the more than 30 USDA Rural development programs can be found here. https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RD_ProgramMatrix.pdf.

Programs fall into three main categories: Rural Business, Rural Housing, and Rural Utilities Services. Funds can be used for a variety of purposes, including land and buildings, machinery and equipment, working capital, infrastructure, and technical assistance/training. Each program has specific geographic and population restrictions for where funding and resources can be used.

Current program performance metrics are dependent on estimated data provided by the applicants on long-term projections of outcomes, pending funding approval. Since community needs vary widely, the rapidity of economic improvements may vary depending on applicants' capacity, industry sectors, data sharing, and performance reporting by program and/or community. There is currently no universal performance metric to measure the success of these programs or their financial investments.

2.13 Broadband Access and Development

Reliable and affordable high-speed internet connectivity is fundamental for economic activity throughout the United States. Access to high-speed internet is vital for many industries, including agricultural production, manufacturing, mining, and forestry. It acts as a catalyst for rural prosperity by enabling efficient, modern communications between rural American households, schools, and healthcare centers as well as markets and customers around the world. The Mid-States Study Area contains mostly rural areas and has limited broadband access as compared to other parts of the state (see **Figure 2-7**). Broadband access programs therefore play an important role in bringing economic opportunity to the Mid-state's Study Area.

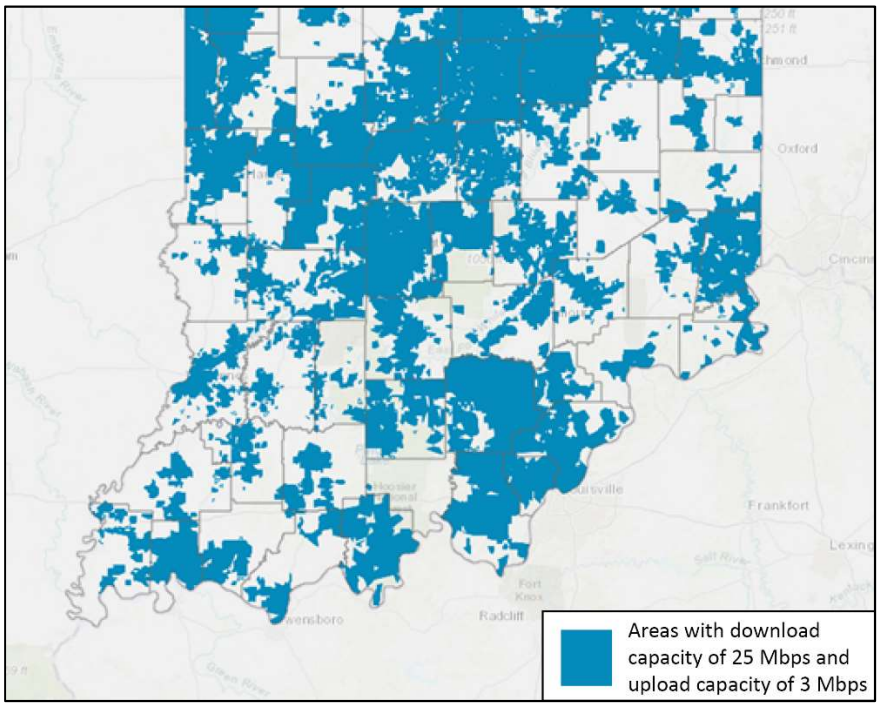

Figure 2-7: Map of Broadband Access in Study Area[30]

[30] Interactive Map Accessed October 16, 2019 via https://www.indianabroadbandmap.com/

Certified Broadband Ready Communities

The Broadband Ready Communities Development Center was created as a tool to encourage broadband development throughout Indiana by serving as an information resource and certifying local communities as being broadband ready. The Broadband Ready Communities Development Center is established by IC 5-28-28.5.[31]

The following local units of government within the Study Area have established the necessary procedures to be certified as Broadband Ready Communities.

- City of Boonville, Warrick County
- City of Cannelton, Perry County
- City of Mitchell, Lawrence County
- Town of Santa Claus, Spencer County
- City of Bedford, Lawrence County
- Crawford County
- Martin County

The Perry-Spencer Rural Telephone Cooperative is the only rural telephone cooperative within the Mid-state Study Area. Rural telephone cooperatives are eligible for several USDA grants and program assistance.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

The FCC funds nationwide rural broadband access. In July of 2019 $524 million was allocated to this program. The Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC) collects and delivers this funding through four programs. These include Schools and Libraries, Rural Health Care, Lifeline, and High Cost. All four programs serve people in rural, underserved, and difficult to reach areas. The High Cost program[32], also known as the Connect America Fund, is most closely tied to economic development. It is designed to ensure that consumers in rural, insular, and high-cost areas have access to modern communications networks capable of providing voice and broadband service, both fixed and mobile, at rates that are reasonably comparable to those in urban areas. The program fulfills this universal service goal by allowing eligible carriers who serve these areas to recover some of their costs from the federal Universal Service Fund.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)[33]

The USDA offers the ReConnect Loan and Grant Program which provides loans and grants to fund the cost of construction, improvement, or acquisition of broadband facilities and equipment in rural areas. To be eligible for a 100% loan or 50% loan / 50% grant, the proposed service area in an application must be in a rural area where 90% of the households do not have sufficient broadband access. To be eligible for a 100% grant, the proposed funded service area in an application must be in a rural area where 100% of the households do not have sufficient broadband access. Nonprofit and for-profit entities, government, Indian tribe, and limited liability companies may apply.

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[31] Accessed October 21, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/ocra/files/Broadband_Ready_Facts_2019.pdf
[32] Accessed October 21, 2019 via https://www.fcc.gov/general/universal-service-high-cost-areas-connect-america-fund
[33] Accessed October 21, 2019 via https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/program-overview

2.14 Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Initiatives

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) administers the Recycling Market Development Program[34] which administers grants to public and private businesses, local government, and non-profit organizations in Indiana that want to start projects that focus on reuse, reduction, and recycling methods that result in;

- An increase in recyclable material collection or consumption,
- A reduction in municipal solid waste shipped for final disposal,
- Improved partnerships with communities, including not only economic impacts, but increased public awareness of recycling opportunities through tangible outreach and education efforts.

Grants between $1,000 and $250,000 are awarded to chosen applicants with a 50% cash match by the applicant.

2.15 21st Century Talent Region

21st Century Talent Regions is a program intended to encourage regional collaboration as an economic development strategy. The goal is to create at least 12 regions over the next biennium. Talent Regions are areas that commit to using a systems approach to attract, develop, and connect Hoosier talent. Regions are self-defined with regard to their geography and are working toward building and implementing a plan to increase educational attainment, raise household income, and grow population. There is no cost to become a Talent Region. To become a Talent Region, a region must;

- Commit to working across geographic lines and across organizations to attract, develop, connect and retain talent;
- Organize itself with designated leader and regional participation including, but not limited to: local governments, business, K-12 education, economic development, higher education, non-profit(s), and workforce development;
- Connect with the Office of Career Connections and Talent to receive assistance in organizing efforts to attract, develop, connect and retain talent;
- Build a plan to grow population (attract and retain talent), increase educational attainment (develop talent), and raise household income (connect talent) in collaboration with the Office of Career Connections and Talent and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and with technical assistance provided by CivicLab; and
- Implement the priorities identified.

Following implementation, a region will receive a 21st Century Talent Region designation. Stakeholders involved in creating and implementing a Talent Region should include members from local governments, business, K-12 education, higher education, non-profit(s), economic development and workforce development.

The need for 21st Century Talent Regions arises out of the fact that disjointed efforts to improve quality of life minimize effectiveness and informed investments. Regional collaboration has consistently been able to make transformative progress that individual communities struggle to achieve independently. Additionally, many communities have numerous efforts to grow quality of place, increase education

[34] Accessed October 24, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/idem/recycle/2358.htm

attainment, raise household income and grow population, but they are often disconnected and are not bringing together the necessary stakeholders to achieve the desired collective community outcomes. A regional dashboard supported by IEDC and CivicLab will engage and inform decision-makers on what gaps and surpluses exist in a collective effort to attract, develop, connect and retain talent.

3 NON-PERSONAL CAR ALTERNATIVES

3.1 Transit and Passenger Rail

Transit services play a role in connecting employees to their workplaces. In the Mid-States Study Area, this connectivity is limited. Most transit systems operate infrequently, and none function as a regional commuter option that could compare to the impact that a regional highway connection would have on commuter access. There are no Amtrak[35] stations within the Mid-States Study Area. Additionally, transit systems would not support regional industry logistics operations and goods movement. Transit, while it has the potential to connect employees to places of work, does not have the scale or scope of impact necessary to achieve the goals of the Mid-States highway alternative proposed. **Table 3-1** provides an overview of the transit services operating within the Mid-States Study Area.

Table 3-1: Transit services operating within the Mid-States Study Area

System Name	County/Counties	Service Area	Service Type
Transit Authority of Stone City	Lawrence County	Bedford, Indiana	Demand response route service
Area 10 Rural Transit	Monroe and Lawrence counties	Same as counties	Fixed and demand response route service
Orange County Transit	Orange County	Same as county	Fixed and non-fixed route service
Ride Solution – Southern Indiana Development Commission	Warrick County	Same as county	Demand response route service
Warrick Area Transit System	Warrick County	Same as county	Fixed route bus system
Bloomington Transit	Monroe County	Same as county	Fixed route bus system
Hoosier Ride	Monroe, Lawrence, Orange, Spencer, Daviess counties	Bloomington, Bedford, Orleans, Paoli, Dale, Washington	Fixed route bus system
Southern Indiana Transit System – Division of Blue River Services Inc	Crawford, Harrison, Scott, and Washington counties	Same as counties	Demand response route service
Huntingburg Transit System	Dubois County	Huntingburg, IN	Demand response route service

[35] Accessed October 17, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/indot/2815.htm

Figures A-1 and **A-2** in the Appendix show the extent of Hoosier Ride and Amtrak service, further illustrating their limited availability in the Mid-States Study Area.

3.2 Freight Rail[36]

Freight rail is well-used in Indiana to transport large quantities of goods. Of the 12 counties in the Mid-States Study Area, Warrick County has the highest originating and terminating rail volume.[37] Common commodities transported along rail lines in the Mid-States Study Area include coal, grain, iron, sand, clay, soybean meal, and petroleum products. The rail companies operating in the Mid-States Study Area include the following:

- Indiana Southern Railroad
- Indiana Railroad Company
- Indiana Railroad Museum Railroad
- Dubois County Railroad
- Hoosier Southern Railroad
- Norfolk Southern Railroad

Tables A-7 and **A-8** in the Appendix list the short-range and long-range investments from the 2017 Indiana State Rail Plan Appendix.[38]

Rail freight is a consistent and efficient means of moving goods, but it only serves certain industries. These industries tend to be those which transport large volume, higher-weight goods whose movement is not highly time-sensitive.

3.3 Autonomous Vehicles

While it is likely that autonomous vehicles will eventually enter the market and greatly impact how people travel, work, and commute, they have not yet made such an impact. It is important to consider the implications of autonomous vehicles from a workforce commuting and economic development standpoint, particularly for highway alternatives in this EIS. Incorporating current INDOT design standards will be important to accommodate future use by autonomous vehicles. The project designs for the highway alternative will accommodate autonomous vehicles.

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[36] Accessed October 21, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/indot/2394.htm
[37] Indiana State Rail Plan. Accessed on October 17, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/indot/files/2017%20Indiana%20State%20Rail%20Plan.pdf
[38] Indiana State Rail Plan Appendix. Accessed on October 17, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/indot/files/2017%20Indiana%20State%20Rail%20Plan%20Appendix.pdf

4 CONCLUSION

The programs and policies identified in this report can individually and collectively support some, but not all, of the goals in the Mid-States Corridor Purpose and Need. None of the alternatives were able to address or improve highway accessibility, or highway connections to multi-modal centers.

Key Take-aways

- Scope and scale of non-highway alternatives are too limited, not regional, or don't exist within the geography of the Study Area
- Technology advancements are not yet widely available or reliable
- Coordination and capacity in the region are too limited to execute some alternatives at the level needed for effective implementation

Table 4-1 below summarizes the alternatives described in the overview, their prevalence and use in the Mid-States Study Area, their potential for additional use or expansion, and which Purpose and Need goals they support indicated by the blue shaded boxes.

Table 4-1: Summary of Non-Highway Alternatives

Alternative	Current Use in Study Area	Potential for added use/ availability	Regional Accessibility	Highway Safety	Economic Development	Intermodal Connectivity
Opportunity Zones	Limited	Limited				
Tax abatements	Some areas more than others	Moderate				
TIF	Some areas more than others	Moderate				
CDFIs	Limited	Moderate				
Job Training	High	High				
Access to Capital	Moderate	High				
Revolving Loan Funds	Moderate	High				
Start-up and entrepreneur support	Moderate	High				

Alternative	Current Use in Study Area	Potential for added use/ availability	Regional Accessibility	Highway Safety	Economic Development	Intermodal Connectivity
IDGF	Low	Moderate				
Tax credits / exemptions	Some areas more than others	Moderate				
Urban enterprise zones	Low	Low				
USDA rural development	Moderate	High				
Broadband	National	High				
Transit	Local / regional	Low				
Commuter Rail	State-wide	Low				
Freight Rail	National	Moderate				
Autonomous Vehicles	Limited to none	High (future)				
Mid-States Highway Alternatives	-	High				

APPENDICES

Table A-1. Opportunity Zone Census Tracts in Mid-States Corridor Study Area

Census Tract	County
18025952100	Crawford
18027954700	Daviess
18037953800	Dubois
18093950900	Lawrence
18105000100	Monroe
18105000401	Monroe
18105000501	Monroe
18105001101	Monroe
18117951500	Orange
18123952600	Perry
18125954000	Pike

Table A-2: IC 6-1.1-12.1 Deductions from Tax Exemptions, Deductions and Abatements in Millions of Dollars and % Change from 2016-2017
(Report on Property Tax Exemptions, Deductions, and Abatement (2018) accessed Oct. 17, 2019 via https://www.in.gov/dlgf/files/ExemptionsDeductionsReport-2018.pdf)

County	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2016-2017**
Crawford	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-
Daviess	2	2.7	3.9	4.7	5.4	5.5	4.3	-21%
Dubois	0.1	0.1	-	1.6	4.9	7.7	12.2	58%
Greene	-	-	-	-	7	10.8	11.5	6%
Lawrence	5.9	4.2	3.2	2.1	1.7	1.5	3.2	109%
Martin	3.7	3.4	7.2	6.2	5.3	4.8	4.8	1%
Monroe	46.5	31.1	39.7	25.6	18.9	9	15.1	67%
Orange	61.9	43.3	34.9	27.9	21.2	15.4	15.7	2%
Perry	5.7	4.5	3.2	3.2	2.6	2.1	7.7	262%
Pike	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spencer	2.1	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.4	7.9	455%
Warrick	6.4	5.8	7	16	15.5	14.9	11.8	-21%

Table A-3: Number of NMTC qualifying census tracts in the Mid-States Study Area

County	Number of Census Tracts Qualifying for NMTC
Crawford	3
Daviess	2
Dubois	1
Greene	3
Lawrence	4
Monroe	15
Orange	3
Perry	1
Pike	2
Warrick	1

Table A-4: Companies awarded funds via SBIR-STTR programs in Mid-state Study Area

County	City	Start-up Company	Contract Amount	Year
Monroe	Bloomington	Victor Technologies LLC	$50,000	2017
Monroe	Bloomington	The Bee Corp.	$50,000	2018
Monroe	Bloomington	Victor Technologies LLC	$50,000	2018
Monroe	Bloomington	Graspable Inc	$50,000	2018
Monroe	Bloomington	KS and Associates LLC	$50,000	2018
Monroe	Bloomington	Megadalton Solutions LLC	$50,000	2019
Monroe	Bloomington	Cloudsdeal Inc	$50,000	2019
Monroe	Bloomington	Warrant Technologies LLC	$43,044.50	2019

Table A-5: Start-up co-working and incubation spaces within Mid-States area[39]

Name	Type	Address	City	County
Roundhouse Hub	Co-working	207 E Main St	Washington	Daviess
The Lock & Key	Co-working	WestGate @ Crane Technology Park	Odon	Daviess
Workspace by Blue Burro	Co-working	113 E 6th St @ the square	Bloomington	Monroe
Switchboard	E-Platform	Virtual Networking	Bloomington	Monroe
Showers Dimension Mill	Flex Space	334 W 11th St - Trades District	Bloomington	Monroe
WestGate Academy at NSWC Crane	Incubator	WestGate @ Crane Technology Park	Odon	Daviess
BloomingLabs	Makerspace	1609 S Rogers Street, Building 4	Bloomington	Monroe
IU MILL Makerspace	Makerspace	201 N Rose Ave, Room 2260	Bloomington	Monroe
Verge Events	Start-up Group	n/a	Bloomington	Monroe

[39] Website Accessed October 16, 2019 via Iedc.in.gov

Table A-6: Business locations and expansions in the Mid-States 12-county area that received federal or state economic development funding from 2017 to October 2019

County	Company	Fund	New Jobs (expected)	Expected Qualified Investment	Year
Crawford	SIMCO of Southern Indiana Inc	EDGE	10	$590,850	2018
Daviess	Eagle Railcar Services - Washington, Indiana LLC	EDGE/SEF/IRTC	100	$6,739,200	2017
Daviess	M&C Tech Indiana Corporation	EDGE/SEF	70	$6,009,000	2019
Dubois	Rudeck LLC	EDGE	98	$4,781,800	2018
Greene	BrightVolt Inc	EDGE/SEF	30	$6,665,000	2017
Greene	Pro-Mark Building Solutions LLC	EDGE/IDGF	17	$1,565,000	2017
Greene	Integrity Defense Services Inc	EDGE/SEF	160	$1,077,128	2018
Lawrence	McWane Inc	HBI	23	$4,578,776	2017
Lawrence	CAP Group LLC	HBI	60	$6,700,000	2017
Monroe	Hanapin Marketing LLC	SEF	14	$322,617	2017
Monroe	AB Bio Technologies Inc	EDGE/SEF	33	$5,736,564	2017
Monroe	Phoenix Closures Incorporated	EDGE/HBI/SEF	75	$22,071,000	2018
Monroe	Tasus Corporation	EDGE/SEF	18	$9,200,000	2018
Monroe	PTS Electronics Corporation	EDGE	220	$2,606,000	2019
Monroe	Catalent Indiana LLC	EDGE	200	$125,782,381	2019
Orange	Jasper Seating Company Inc	EDGE/SEF	316	$3,540,000	2018
Perry	ATTC Manufacturing Inc	HBI	26	$27,327,000	2018
Perry	Mervis Metal Recovery LLC	HBI	6	$1,887,086	2018
Warrick	Alcoa Warrick LLC	EDGE/SEF	196	$38,620,000	2018
Warrick	Powerup Inc	SEF/HBI	105	$14,889,244	2019

Source: IN.gov Transparency Portal – tax grant loan contracts search. Available at https://secure.in.gov/apps/iedc/transparencyportal/searchtaxgrantloancontracts

Figure A-1: Hoosier Ride Service Map
Source: https://hoosierride.com/services/

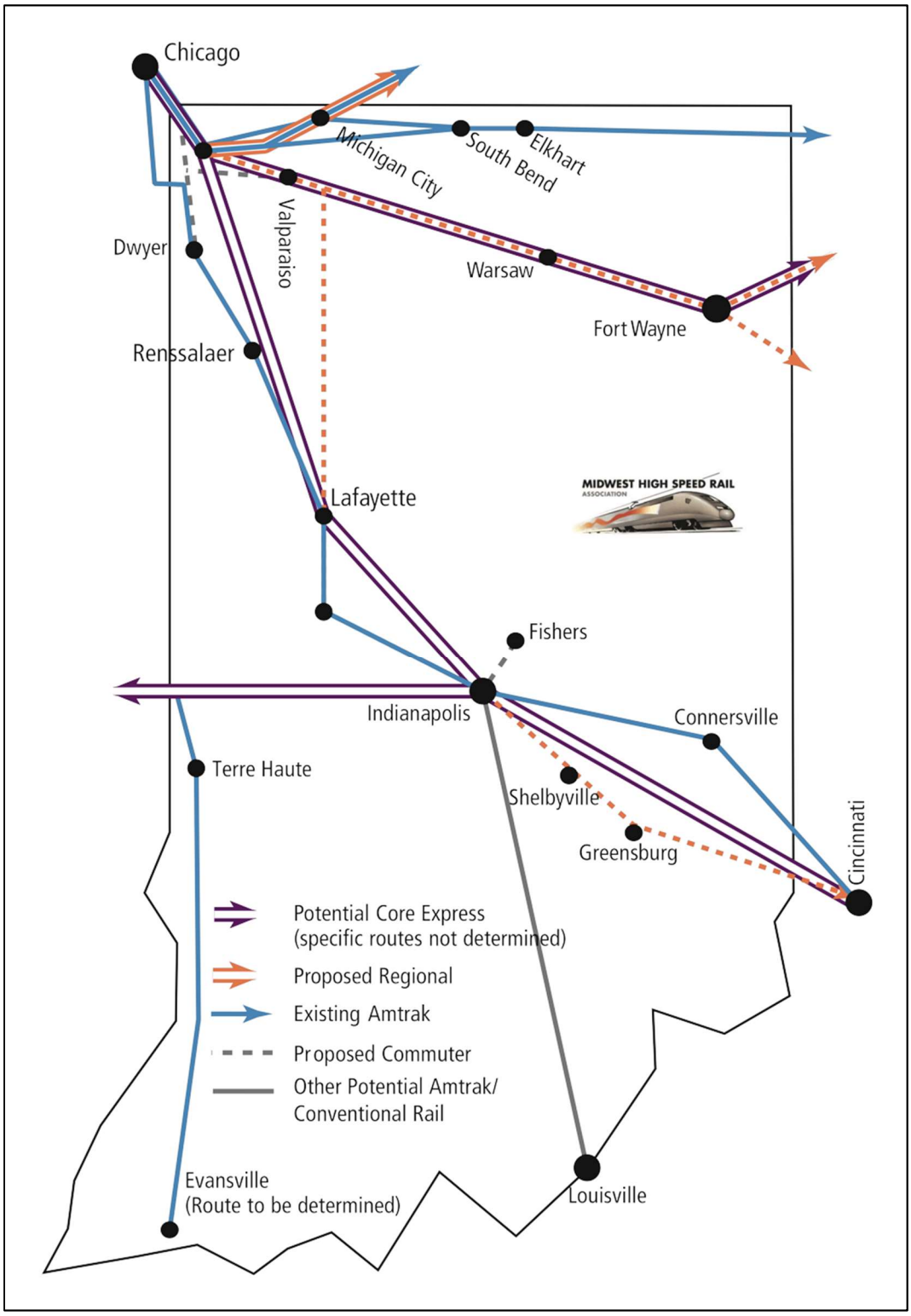

Figure A-2: Amtrak service area and stations in Indiana
Source: Indiana Midwest High Speed Rail Association

Table A-7. Short-range freight rail projects funded within Mid-States Study Area

Grantee	Funding Source	Project Type	County	Total Project cost	Grant Awarded	Project Benefit
Town of Odon	Indiana Grade Crossing Fund	Crossing Closure	Daviess	$15,000	$15,000	Crossing Safety
Warrick County	Indiana Grade Crossing Fund	Pavement Markings	Warrick	$21,014	$21,014	Crossing Safety
Pike County	Indiana Grade Crossing Fund	Crossing Closure	Pike	$10,000	$10,000	Crossing Safety
Dubois County Railroad	Indiana Grade Crossing Fund	Crossing Surface	Dubois	$18,752	$9,376	Crossing Safety
Dubois County Railroad	Indiana Grade Crossing Fund	Tie/Ballast replacement	Dubois	$348,410	$261,308	Improve Class Status

Table A-8. Long-range freight rail projects funded within Mid-States Study Area

County	Project	Cost	RR	Benefit	Source	Project Type
Warrick County	Rail to North Warrick Industrial Park from Indiana Southern RR	$1M	ISRR	Economic development, access	Conexus	Industrial Access
Daviess County	Track Infrastructure — GPC Motrin Warehouse	$2.5M	ISRR	Track build - GPC Motrin warehouse, open more markets from truck	Railroads of Indiana	Industrial Access
Spencer County	Rockport Rail to Water Connector	$500K	HOS	Economic development, access	Conexus	Multimodal
Spencer County	Intermodal yard	$2M	HOS	Intermodal transfer from truck, to rail to river	State Rail Plan Survey	Multimodal
Lawrence County	Bedford Rail Project (purchase rail property from Bedford to Mitchell from CSX) to create inland port	$1M	CSX	Economic development, access	Conexus	Multimodal, Industrial Access
Perry County	Hoosier Southern RR reconstruction from Cannelton Industrial	$500K	HOS	Economic development, access	Conexus	Rehab

	Park to Tell City river port					
Perry County	Hoosier southern RR 286 k lbs. project	$900K	HOS	State of good repair, mobility	Conexus	Rehab
Spencer County	Replace bridge at MP 11.4	$1.2M	HOS	Remove risk of failure, reduce maintenance costs and ensure 286,000 capacity	State Rail Plan Survey	Rehab
Spencer County	Replace bridge at MP 8.1	$3.5M	HOS	Remove risk of failure, reduce maintenance costs and ensure 286,000 capacity	State Rail Plan Survey	Rehab
Greene County	Install ties MP 215.0-223.5 (Indiana Railroad Company)	$1M	INRD	State of good repair, mobility, faster speeds	Conexus	Rehab
Daviess County	Install ties MP 222.3-241.5 on Chicago Subdivision	$1.8M	INRD	State of good repair, mobility, faster speeds	Conexus	Rehab
Greene County	Install ties MP 61.0-79.0 on Indianapolis Subdivision (Indiana Railroad Company)	$1.9M	INRD	State of good repair, mobility, faster speeds	Conexus	Rehab
Greene County	Install ties MP 203.5-222.3 on Chicago Subdivision (Indiana Railroad Company)	$2M	INRD	State of good repair, mobility, faster speeds	Conexus	Rehab