

“A Community that preserves its agricultural & historical heritage and provides for economic and industrial growth through sound infrastructure, diversified affordable housing, up-to-date schools, and modern social, cultural, and recreational facilities while respecting our natural resources.”



FAYETTE COUNTY

Comprehensive Land Use Strategy Plan
2006

Fayette County
Ohio

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Development of the Fayette County Comprehensive Land Use Plan was a collaborative effort undertaken by the OSU Extension Office, Subcommittee group members, the Fayette County Commissioners and EMH&T, Inc. The subcommittees are listed below and the members of each would like to recognize Scott Cormany for the mapping provided as part of this Comprehensive Land Use Strategy Plan.

In addition, all those involved in the creation of this document would like to extend their gratitude to Pat Brinkman of the OSU Extension Office for her tireless efforts.

Thanks to all the subcommittee members for their reports and their input as they provided the framework for this document.

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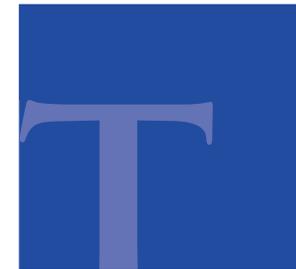


TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|----|---|----|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | i | 4.0 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION | 13 | 7.0 EDUCATION | 33 |
| VISION STATEMENT | iii | 4.1 Vision | | 7.1 Vision | |
| SUBCOMMITTEE FRAMEWORK | v | 4.2 Background | | 7.2 Background | |
| COMMUNITY PROFILE | vii | 4.3 Goals and Strategies | | 7.3 Goals and Strategies | |
| | | 4.4 Historic Preservation Policies | | | |
| 1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE | 1 | 5.0 NATURAL RESOURCES | 17 | 8.0 GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE | 37 |
| 1.1 Vision | | 5.1 Vision | | 8.1 Background | |
| 1.2 Background | | 5.2 Background | | 8.2 Growth Management Goals | |
| 1.3 Transportation Facilities: Roadways | | 5.3 Streams and Watersheds | | 8.3 Agricultural / Farmland Preservation | |
| 1.4 Transportation Facilities: Airport | | 5.4 Ponds | | 8.31 Vision | |
| 1.5 Transportation Facilities: Railroads | | 5.5 Railway Beds | | 8.32 Background | |
| 1.6 Utilities: Water Supply and Wastewater | | 5.6 Aquifers | | 8.33 Agricultural / Farmland Goals | |
| 1.7 Utilities: Stormwater | | 5.7 Floodplains | | 8.4 Housing | |
| 1.8 Transportation System Policies | | 5.8 Forests | | 8.41 Vision | |
| 1.9 Water and Sewer Policies | | 5.9 Prairies | | 8.42 Background | |
| 2.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | 9 | 5.10 Stream Corridors | | 8.43 Housing Goals | |
| 2.1 Vision | | 5.11 Quarries | | 8.5 Policies | |
| 2.2 Background | | 5.12 Wetlands | | 8.6 Current Land Use Pattern | |
| 2.3 Goals and Strategies | | 5.13 Wildlife Areas | | 8.7 Future Land Use Pattern | |
| 2.4 Policies | | 5.12 Natural Resource Policies | | | |
| 3.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY | 11 | 6.0 PARKS AND RECREATION | 25 | 9.0 GLOSSARY | 47 |
| 3.1 Vision | | 6.1 Vision | | 10.0 APPENDICES | 49 |
| 3.2 Background | | 6.2 Background | | 10.1 Framework for the Creation of the Fayette County Parks & Recreation District | |
| 3.3 Goals and Strategies | | 6.3 Goals and Strategies | | 10.2 Infrastructure Inventory | |
| | | 6.4 Recommendations | | 10.3 Health and Safety Resource Inventory | |
| | | 6.5 Countywide Trail System Defined | | | |
| | | 6.6 Recreation Policies | | | |
| | | 6.7 Park Inventory | | | |



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the future, Fayette County will continue to be an attractive place to live with an excellent quality of life maintained through effective land use, sound financial and social decisions, and supported by a strong and diversified economic base that brings prosperity to all its residents. Fayette County will maintain a balance between the preservation of its traditional rural environment and an expanded economic base with industrial, commercial, and retail centers for its residents.

Fayette County will have a varied land use pattern which accommodates the needs and interests of all community residents. Growth will be guided into those areas that have the infrastructure to support it without placing an undue burden to taxpayers. The highway and road system development will be carefully planned and financed through the wise use of capital improvement funds. Water and sewer will be provided in cooperation with existing utility systems to ensure the efficient and effective use of financial resources.

Fayette County will preserve and protect its agricultural land, open space, streams, rivers and ground water supply to the extent that it is consistent with the desires of our residents and to the extent that we can create a secure financial future for all residents.





VISION STATEMENT

The Fayette County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a vision of what Fayette County is to be in the future according to the citizens of Fayette County. When we fail to plan for the future, in reality we are planning to fail. Thus, the people of Fayette County have worked together to develop a Comprehensive Land Use Plan which addresses the issues of future land use in the county. The last Comprehensive Land Use Plan was developed and adopted in 1996. This plan was developed by experts who live and work outside the county. Few citizens have been aware of the plan and its contents. The Commissioners saw the need for a new plan in 2003. They wanted the plan to reflect the desires and values of the citizens of Fayette County. Ohio State University Extension Fayette County offered their help and expertise in developing a new Comprehensive Land Use Plan that would involve the active participation of the citizens in creating the different sections of the plan.

According to William I. Goodman, a well-known author on the subject of comprehensive planning, there are six basic requirements the plan should fulfill:

1. The plan should be comprehensive.
2. The plan should be long-range.
3. The plan should be general.

4. The plan should focus on physical development.
5. The plan should relate physical design proposals to community goals and social and economic policies.
6. The plan should be first a policy instrument, and only second a technical instrument.

PUBLIC PROCESS

Fayette County used a citizen-based approach and educational process to develop this Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Through the active involvement of the citizens of Fayette County this document will reflect the ideas and values of the people of Fayette County. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan will act as a planning document for future land use decisions based on the consensus of the citizens of Fayette County.

Ohio State University Extension Fayette County held some educational meetings about different aspects of land use. The



elements of a comprehensive plan may vary from county to county. During these meetings recent surveys of the adults and youth of Fayette County were examined to determine what issues and values were important. The group found that Fayette County residents value and desire preservation of the agricultural base in the county. They also value good jobs and sound diverse economic activity. Families and their educational needs are important components that need to be addressed as we look at the overall picture of the future for Fayette County. Surveys found that people desired more recreational activities and programs to be available.

Other meetings examined Census data and data from the OSU Extension Data Center relating to the county. Fayette County is classified as a rural county with a population of 28,433 and a projected population of 30,288 in 2030. In 2001 the personal income per capita reached \$23,505 which is \$5,194 lower than the state of Ohio. The poverty rate in 2002 was 10.7% which was slightly higher than the Ohio average of 10.2%. In 2001 more persons were employed in the manufacturing industry with the largest payroll, and the retail trade industry had the largest number of establishments. In 2000 and 2001 Fayette County had a net increase in the number of businesses started. In 2002 Agricultural cash crop receipts totaled \$49,894,000, while livestock cash receipts were \$63,206,000. Total farm acreage of 217,000 acres was divided among 480 farms with an average acreage of 452 acres in 2003.

A meeting inviting all city and county elected officials and other interested citizens was held to determine interest in working on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. People were selected by the Commissioners to serve on a Comprehensive Land Use Commission. These people collaborated to develop a Vision statement and subcommittees which would work on the different aspects of the Comprehensive Plan.

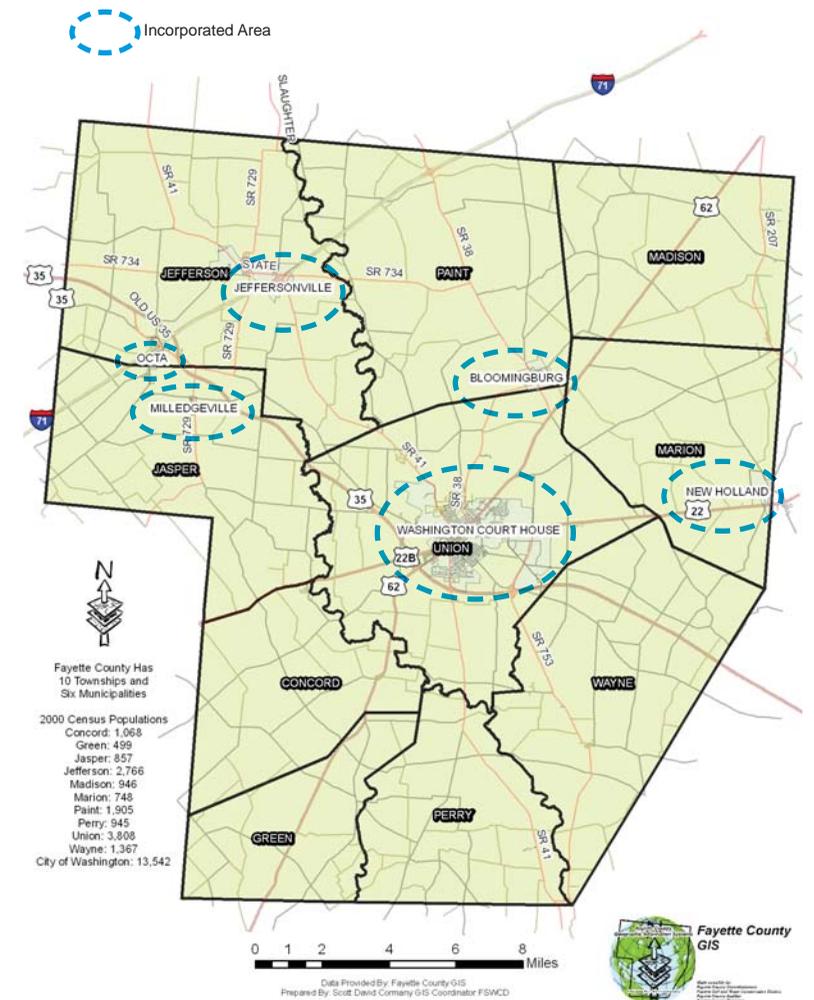


Nine subcommittees were chosen. These included Agriculture/Rural, Natural Resources, Health & Safety, Infrastructure, Education/Schools, Economic/Industrial, Social/Recreation, Housing, and Historical & Cultural Preservation. Members of the Comprehensive Land Use Commission served as co-chairs on the subcommittees and reported monthly to the Commission. Each subcommittee recruited interested and knowledgeable people from the County to serve on their subcommittees.

At least 120 people have actively participated in subcommittees examining the issues dealing with that subject area. Each subcommittee has developed a vision statement, goals and objectives and an action plan. They have examined the current situation and decided on goals and objects to reach their action plan for the future. Each subcommittee turned in a report with these recommendations. The Commission then studied these reports and using the maps from each report developed a consensus which became the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Hearings will be held on this plan and corrections and/or revisions may be made following these hearings. After this time the Commissioners will decide as to whether to adopt the Plan.

JURISDICTIONAL AREA

The Fayette County Comprehensive Land Use Strategy Plan has jurisdiction within all non-incorporated areas of Fayette County. Incorporated areas of the County were not included in the overall study area. Adjacent relationships were considered when outlining future land uses within the county.



References:

Goodman, William I., and Freund, Eric C.(1968). Principles and Practices of Urban Planning. Chicago, IL. International City Managers Association. p.1.

NINE SUBCOMMITTEES: STRUCTURE OF THE PLAN



We value quality educational systems that challenge the student at whatever level he/she is to achieve his/her highest potential.

We value having a work ethic, which results in civic involvement and accountable government with community pride.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL NEEDS

HOUSING

We value families seeking to maintain a family atmosphere, family environment, and friendly, safe neighborhoods.

NATURAL RESOURCES

FAYETTE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE STRATEGY PLAN 2006

AGRICULTURE

HOUSING and AGRICULTURE ARE COMBINED INTO THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE SECTION OF THIS DOCUMENT

We value maintaining a quality environment with appreciation of our land and resources.

HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICES

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

ECONOMICS AND INDUSTRY

We value preserving our agricultural base to maintain our rural environment and lifestyle.

We value small town values with world-class possibilities.

We value ensuring sound diverse economic activity through managed growth and development.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Community Profile portion of this plan documents the current demographic conditions of Fayette County. This documentation provides a current 'snap-shot' of the County and identifies historic trends that may be evaluated by decision makers in an attempt to gauge future trends. Much of the demographic data was taken from the 2000 Census data information prepared by the State of Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research. Additional data and figures may also be obtained through The Ohio State University Extension Data Center.

Ohio County Profiles

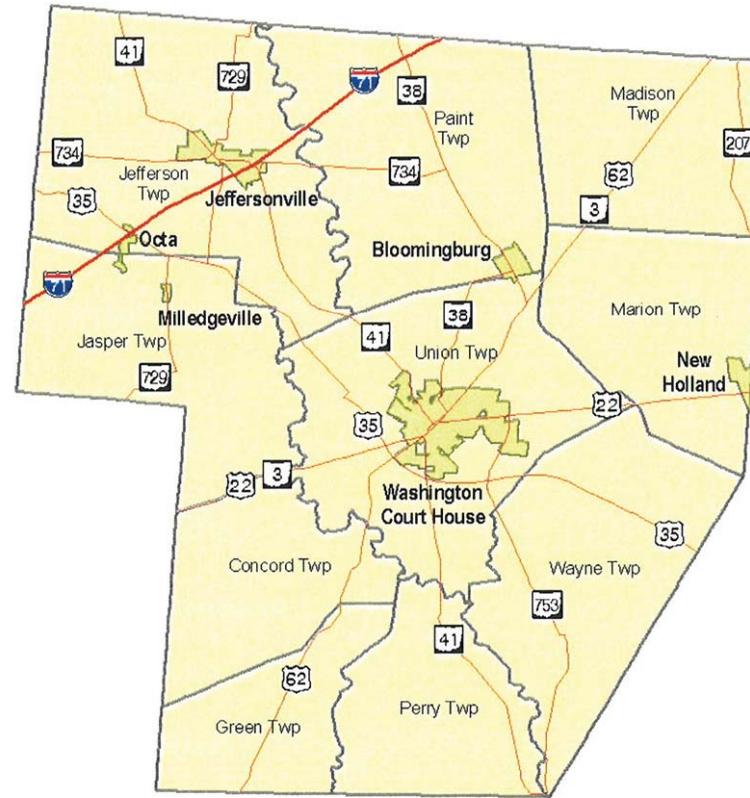
Prepared by the Office of Strategic Research



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Fayette County

Established: Act - March 1, 1810
2004 Population: 28,134
Land Area: 406.6 square miles
County Seat: Washington CH City
Named for: Marquis de LaFayette, French General, Revolutionary War



0 4 8 Miles

Taxes

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Taxable value of real property | \$417,163,040 |
| Residential | \$253,393,360 |
| Agriculture | \$79,516,890 |
| Industrial | \$18,748,430 |
| Commercial | \$65,501,400 |
| Mineral | \$2,960 |
| Ohio income tax liability | \$12,362,098 |
| Average per return | \$941.37 |

Land Cover

| | Acres |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Total | 260,799.1 |
| Urban (open impervious surfaces) | 2,382.7 |
| Agriculture/Open Urban Areas | 244,553.3 |
| Shrub/Scrub | 1,218.1 |
| Wooded | 11,541.7 |
| Open Water | 397.7 |
| Non-forested Wetlands | 536.8 |
| Barren | 168.8 |

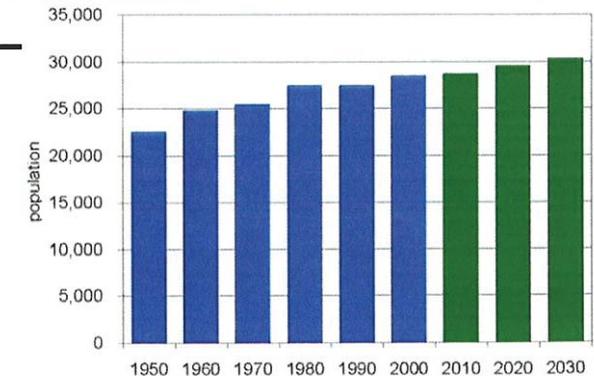
Largest Areas Census 2000 Estimate 2004

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|
| Washington city | 13,524 | 13,302 |
| Union twp UB | 3,808 | 3,746 |
| Jefferson twp UB | 3,808 | 1,471 |
| Wayne twp | 1,367 | 1,363 |
| Jeffersonville village | 1,288 | 1,254 |
| Concord twp | 1,068 | 1,063 |
| Paint twp UB | 1,031 | 1,042 |
| Madison twp | 946 | 950 |
| Perry twp | 945 | 944 |
| Bloomingburg village | 874 | 856 |

UB: Unincorporated Balance

Total Population

| Census | 1900 | 1910 | 1920 | 1930 | 1940 | 1950 | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | Estimated | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | Projected | 2010 | 2020 | 2030 |
|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|------|
| | | 21,725 | 21,744 | 21,518 | 20,755 | 21,385 | 22,554 | 24,775 | 25,461 | 27,467 | 27,466 | 28,433 | 28,222 | 28,188 | 28,195 | 28,134 | 28,675 | 29,567 | 30,288 | |
| 1800 | 1,854 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1810 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1820 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1830 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1840 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1850 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1860 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1870 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1880 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1890 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Ohio County Profiles

Fayette County

| Population by Race | Number | Percent |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Total Population | 28,433 | 100.0% |
| White | 27,214 | 95.7% |
| African-American | 602 | 2.1% |
| Native American | 47 | 0.2% |
| Asian | 145 | 0.5% |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0% |
| Other | 124 | 0.4% |
| Two or More Races | 301 | 1.1% |
| Hispanic (may be of any race) | 281 | 1.0% |
| Total Minority | 1,369 | 4.8% |

| Educational Attainment | Number | Percent |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| Persons 25 years and over | 18,954 | 100.0% |
| No high school diploma | 4,032 | 21.3% |
| High school graduate | 9,019 | 47.6% |
| Some college, no degree | 3,016 | 15.9% |
| Associate degree | 850 | 4.5% |
| Bachelor's degree | 1,471 | 7.8% |
| Master's degree or higher | 566 | 3.0% |

| Family Type by Employment Status | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Total Families | 7,832 | 100.0% |
| Married couple, husband and wife in labor force | 3,549 | 45.3% |
| Married couple, husband in labor force, wife not | 1,267 | 16.2% |
| Married couple, wife in labor force, husband not | 437 | 5.6% |
| Married couple, husband and wife not in labor force | 951 | 12.1% |
| Male householder, in labor force | 367 | 4.7% |
| Male householder, not in labor force | 109 | 1.4% |
| Female householder, in labor force | 785 | 10.0% |
| Female householder, not in labor force | 367 | 4.7% |

| Household Income in 1999 | Number | Percent |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Total Households | 11,005 | 100.0% |
| Less than \$10,000 | 1,017 | 9.2% |
| \$10,000 to \$19,999 | 1,511 | 13.7% |
| \$20,000 to \$29,999 | 1,775 | 16.1% |
| \$30,000 to \$39,999 | 1,645 | 14.9% |
| \$40,000 to \$49,999 | 1,408 | 12.8% |
| \$50,000 to \$59,999 | 1,159 | 10.5% |
| \$60,000 to \$74,999 | 1,149 | 10.4% |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 788 | 7.2% |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999 | 358 | 3.3% |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999 | 84 | 0.8% |
| \$200,000 or more | 111 | 1.0% |
| Median household income | \$36,735 | |

| Population by Age | Number | Percent |
|-------------------|-------------|---------|
| Total Population | 28,433 | 100.0% |
| Under 6 years | 2,222 | 7.8% |
| 6 to 17 years | 4,978 | 17.5% |
| 18 to 24 years | 2,279 | 8.0% |
| 25 to 44 years | 8,095 | 28.5% |
| 45 to 64 years | 6,793 | 23.9% |
| 65 years and more | 4,066 | 14.3% |
| Median Age | 37.5 | |

| Family Type by Presence of Own Children Under 18 | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Total Families | 7,832 | 100.0% |
| Married-couple families with own children | 2,622 | 33.5% |
| Male householder, no wife present, with own children | 294 | 3.8% |
| Female householder, no husband present, with own children | 736 | 9.4% |
| Families with no own children | 4,180 | 53.4% |

| Poverty Status in 1999 of Families By Family Type by Presence Of Related Children | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Total Families | 7,832 | 100.0% |
| Family income above poverty level | 7,232 | 92.3% |
| Family income below poverty level | 600 | 7.7% |
| Married couple, with related children | 105 | 17.5% |
| Male householder, no wife present, with related children | 62 | 10.3% |
| Female householder, no husband present, with related children | 267 | 44.5% |
| Families with no related children | 166 | 27.7% |

| Ratio of Income in 1999 To Poverty Level | Number | Percent |
|--|--------|---------|
| Population for whom poverty status is determined | 27,822 | 100.0% |
| Below 50% of poverty level | 1,225 | 4.4% |
| 50% to 99% of poverty level | 1,585 | 5.7% |
| 100% to 149% of poverty level | 2,577 | 9.3% |
| 150% to 199% of poverty level | 2,735 | 9.8% |
| 200% of poverty level or more | 19,700 | 70.8% |

| Residence in 1995 | Number | Percent |
|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Population 5 years and over | 26,576 | 100.0% |
| Same house in 1995 | 15,026 | 56.5% |
| Different house, same county | 7,129 | 26.8% |
| Different county, same state | 3,233 | 12.2% |
| Different state | 949 | 3.6% |
| Puerto Rico or U.S. islands | 5 | 0.0% |
| Foreign country | 234 | 0.9% |

Ohio County Profiles

| Travel Time To Work | Number | Percent |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Workers 16 years and over | 13,433 | 100.0% |
| Less than 15 minutes | 5,117 | 38.1% |
| 15 to 29 minutes | 3,812 | 28.4% |
| 30 to 44 minutes | 1,917 | 14.3% |
| 45 to 59 minutes | 943 | 7.0% |
| 60 minutes or more | 1,218 | 9.1% |
| Worked at home | 426 | 3.2% |
| Mean travel time | 24.4 minutes | |

| Housing Units | Number | Percent |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| Total housing units | 11,904 | 100.0% |
| Occupied housing units | 11,054 | 92.9% |
| Owner occupied | 7,365 | 61.9% |
| Renter occupied | 3,689 | 31.0% |
| Vacant housing units | 850 | 7.1% |

| Year Structure Built | Number | Percent |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Total housing units | 11,904 | 100.0% |
| Built 1995 to March 2000 | 1,027 | 8.6% |
| Built 1990 to 1994 | 702 | 5.9% |
| Built 1980 to 1989 | 1,111 | 9.3% |
| Built 1970 to 1979 | 1,877 | 15.8% |
| Built 1960 to 1969 | 1,294 | 10.9% |
| Built 1950 to 1959 | 1,541 | 12.9% |
| Built 1940 to 1949 | 1,114 | 9.4% |
| Built 1939 or earlier | 3,238 | 27.2% |
| Median year built | 1960 | |

| Value for Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units | Number | Percent |
|--|-----------------|---------|
| Specified owner-occupied housing units | 5,991 | 100.0% |
| Less than \$20,000 | 53 | 0.9% |
| \$20,000 to \$39,999 | 248 | 4.1% |
| \$40,000 to \$59,999 | 665 | 11.1% |
| \$60,000 to \$79,999 | 1,578 | 26.3% |
| \$80,000 to \$99,999 | 1,597 | 26.7% |
| \$100,000 to \$124,999 | 683 | 11.4% |
| \$125,000 to \$149,999 | 526 | 8.8% |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999 | 468 | 7.8% |
| \$200,000 to \$249,999 | 58 | 1.0% |
| \$250,000 to \$499,999 | 92 | 1.5% |
| \$500,000 to \$999,999 | 12 | 0.2% |
| \$1,000,000 or more | 11 | 0.2% |
| Median value | \$85,800 | |

| House Heating Fuel | Number | Percent |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|
| Occupied housing units | 11,054 | 100.0% |
| Utility gas | 4,912 | 44.4% |
| Bottled, tank or LP gas | 1,562 | 14.1% |
| Electricity | 3,179 | 28.8% |
| Fuel oil, kerosene, etc | 1,074 | 9.7% |
| Coal, coke or wood | 228 | 2.1% |
| Solar energy or other fuel | 73 | 0.7% |
| No fuel used | 26 | 0.2% |

Fayette County

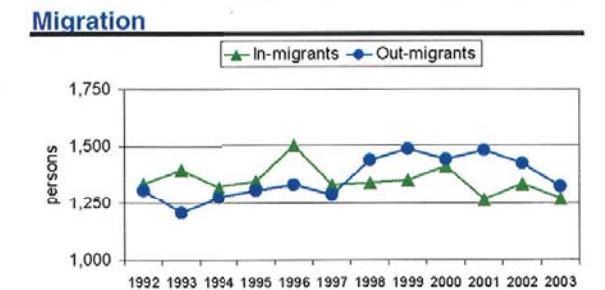
| Gross Rent | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Specified renter-occupied housing units | 3,453 | 100.0% |
| Less than \$100 | 33 | 1.0% |
| \$100 to \$199 | 201 | 5.8% |
| \$200 to \$299 | 228 | 6.6% |
| \$300 to \$399 | 495 | 14.3% |
| \$400 to \$499 | 716 | 20.7% |
| \$500 to \$599 | 757 | 21.9% |
| \$600 to \$699 | 486 | 14.1% |
| \$700 to \$799 | 154 | 4.5% |
| \$800 to \$899 | 59 | 1.7% |
| \$900 to \$999 | 24 | 0.7% |
| \$1,000 to \$1,499 | 25 | 0.7% |
| \$1,500 or more | 7 | 0.2% |
| No cash rent | 268 | 7.8% |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Median gross rent | \$489 |
| Median gross rent as a percentage of household income in 1999 | 23.0 |

| Selected Monthly Owner Costs for Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Specified owner-occupied housing units with a mortgage | 3,894 | 100.0% |
| Less than \$400 | 145 | 3.7% |
| \$400 to \$599 | 662 | 17.0% |
| \$600 to \$799 | 1,000 | 25.7% |
| \$800 to \$999 | 880 | 22.6% |
| \$1,000 to \$1,249 | 632 | 16.2% |
| \$1,250 to \$1,499 | 348 | 8.9% |
| \$1,500 to \$1,999 | 179 | 4.6% |
| \$2,000 to \$2,999 | 38 | 1.0% |
| \$3,000 or more | 10 | 0.3% |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Median monthly owners cost | \$825 |
| Median monthly owners cost as a percentage of household income | 20.5 |

| Vital Statistics | Number | Rate |
|--|--------|------|
| Births / rate per 1,000 population | 381 | 13.5 |
| Teen births / rate per 1,000 females 15-19 | 54 | 59.6 |
| Deaths / rate per 1,000 population | 343 | 12.2 |
| Marriages / rate per 1,000 population | 231 | 8.2 |
| Divorces / rate per 1,000 population | 160 | 5.7 |



Ohio County Profiles

Agriculture

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Land in farms (acres) | 217,000 |
| Number of farms | 480 |
| Average size (acres) | 452 |
| Total cash receipts | \$60,379,000 |
| Per farm | \$125,790 |

Education

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Public schools | 16 |
| Students (Average Daily Membership) | 4,984 |
| Teachers (Full Time Equivalent) | 305.2 |
| Student-teacher ratio | 16.3 |
| Expenditures per student | \$7,577 |
| Graduation rate | 84.5 |
| Non-public schools | 0 |
| Students | 0 |
| 4-year public universities | 0 |
| Branches | 0 |
| 2-year public colleges | 1 |
| Private universities and colleges | 0 |
| Public libraries | 1 |
| Branch libraries | 1 |

Transportation

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Registered motor vehicles | 34,380 |
| Passenger cars | 19,763 |
| Noncommercial trucks | 7,186 |
| Total license revenue | \$948,289.78 |
| Interstate highway miles | 14.65 |
| Turnpike miles | 0.00 |
| U.S. highway miles | 77.70 |
| State highway miles | 89.81 |
| Commercial airports | 1 |

Voting

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Number of precincts | 38 |
| Number of registered voters | 16,094 |
| Voted in 2004 election | 11,954 |
| Percent turnout | 74.3% |

Health Care

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Physicians (MDs DOs) | 23 |
| Registered hospitals | 1 |
| Number of beds | 80 |
| Licensed nursing homes | 6 |
| Number of beds | 469 |
| Licensed residential care | 1 |
| Number of beds | 72 |

State Parks, Forests, Nature Preserves, And Wildlife Areas

| | |
|------------|--------|
| Facilities | 4 |
| Acreage | 586.83 |

Fayette County

Communications

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Television stations | 0 |
| Radio stations | 1 |
| Daily newspapers | 1 |
| Circulation | 6,000 |

Crime

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total crimes reported in Uniform Crime Report | 1,396 |
|---|-------|

Finance

| | |
|---|-----|
| FDIC insured financial institutions (HQs) | 0 |
| Assets | \$0 |
| Branch offices | 8 |
| Institutions represented | 7 |

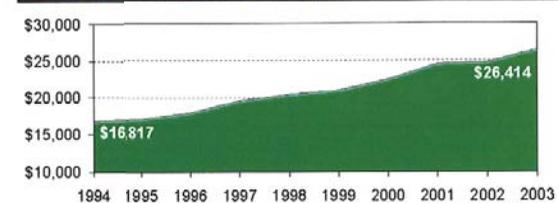
Transfer Payments

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Total transfer payments | \$146,085,000 |
| Payments to individuals | \$139,210,000 |
| Retirement and disability | \$54,508,000 |
| Medical payments | \$64,440,000 |
| Income maintenance (Supplemental SSI, family assistance, food stamps, etc) | \$12,563,000 |
| Unemployment benefits | \$4,514,000 |
| Veterans benefits | \$2,954,000 |
| Federal education and training assistance | \$132,000 |
| Other payments to individuals | \$99,000 |
| Total personal income | \$744,732,000 |
| Dependency ratio | 19.6% |

Federal Expenditures

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Direct expenditures or obligations | \$171,060,934 |
| Retirement and disability | \$59,925,928 |
| Other direct payments | \$31,874,695 |
| Grant awards | \$74,956,604 |
| Highway planning and construction | \$37,528,457 |
| Temporary assistance to needy families | \$2,225,582 |
| Medical assistance program | \$22,531,448 |
| Procurement contract awards | \$1,094,274 |
| Dept. of Defense | \$0 |
| Salary and wages | \$3,209,433 |
| Dept. of Defense | \$0 |
| Other federal assistance | \$62,736,527 |
| Direct loans | \$4,236,366 |
| Guaranteed loans | \$25,957,011 |
| Insurance | \$32,543,150 |

Per Capita Personal Income



Ohio County Profiles

Civilian Labor Force

| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Civilian labor force | 14,900 | 15,500 | 15,300 | 15,600 | 16,100 |
| Employed | 14,300 | 14,800 | 14,400 | 14,700 | 15,200 |
| Unemployed | 600 | 600 | 900 | 900 | 900 |
| Unemployment rate | 3.9 | 4.1 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.7 |

Employment and Wages by Sector

| NAICS Industrial Sector | Average Annual Employment | | Total Wages (in thousands of dollars) | |
|--|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| Total covered under Ohio UC Law | 10,908 | 11,025 | \$280,244 | \$296,584 |
| Private Sector | 9,354 | 9,468 | \$233,987 | \$249,123 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Mining | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Utilities | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Construction | 286 | 282 | \$8,329 | \$8,423 |
| Manufacturing | 2,806 | 2,693 | \$100,499 | \$101,582 |
| Wholesale trade | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Retail trade | 2,503 | 1,987 | \$46,604 | \$36,681 |
| Transportation and warehousing | -1 | 809 | \$0 | \$23,173 |
| Information | 55 | 55 | \$1,627 | \$1,906 |
| Finance and insurance | 330 | 332 | \$11,230 | \$10,708 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 144 | 153 | \$2,365 | \$2,492 |
| Professional and technical services | 132 | 118 | \$3,454 | \$3,076 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Administrative and waste services | 179 | 159 | \$2,955 | \$2,703 |
| Educational services | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Health care and social assistance | -1 | -1 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 66 | 62 | \$1,260 | \$1,119 |
| Accommodation and food services | 996 | 1,003 | \$10,098 | \$10,644 |
| Other services, except public administration | 246 | 232 | \$4,101 | \$4,561 |
| State and Local Government | 1,554 | 1,557 | \$46,257 | \$47,461 |
| State government | 54 | 55 | \$2,182 | \$2,341 |
| Local government | 1,500 | 1,502 | \$44,075 | \$45,120 |
| Federal Government | 63 | 61 | \$2,347 | \$2,405 |

-1 or \$0 indicates suppression for confidentiality

Starting and Active Businesses

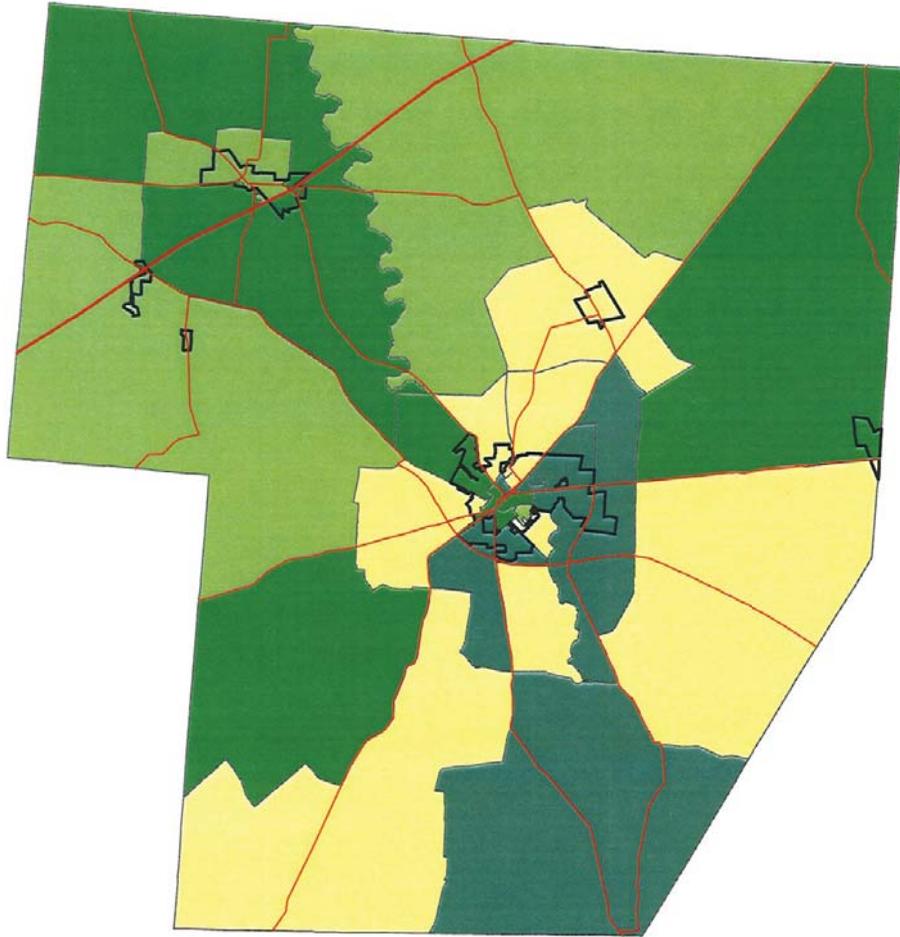
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Business starts | 51 | 43 | 59 | 63 | 54 |
| Active businesses | 529 | 513 | 545 | 549 | 555 |

Residential Construction

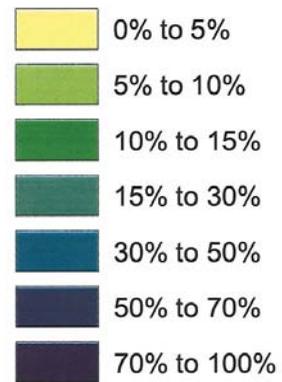
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total units | 105 | 95 | 132 | 100 | 162 |
| Total valuation (000) | \$13,210 | \$8,865 | \$12,248 | \$13,114 | \$17,145 |
| Total single-unit bldgs | 105 | 93 | 132 | 94 | 144 |
| Average cost per unit | \$125,808 | \$94,464 | \$92,787 | \$136,534 | \$108,991 |
| Total multi-unit bldg units | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 18 |
| Average cost per unit | \$0 | \$40,000 | \$0 | \$46,667 | \$80,556 |

Major Employers

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Fayette County Memorial Hospital | Service |
| Miami Trace Local Bd of Ed | Gov't |
| Saint-Gobain/Calmar Inc | Mfg |
| Sugar Creek Packing Co | Mfg |
| Wal-Mart Stores Inc | Trade |
| Washington CH City Bd of Ed | Gov't |
| Yamashita Rubber/YUSA Corp | Mfg |

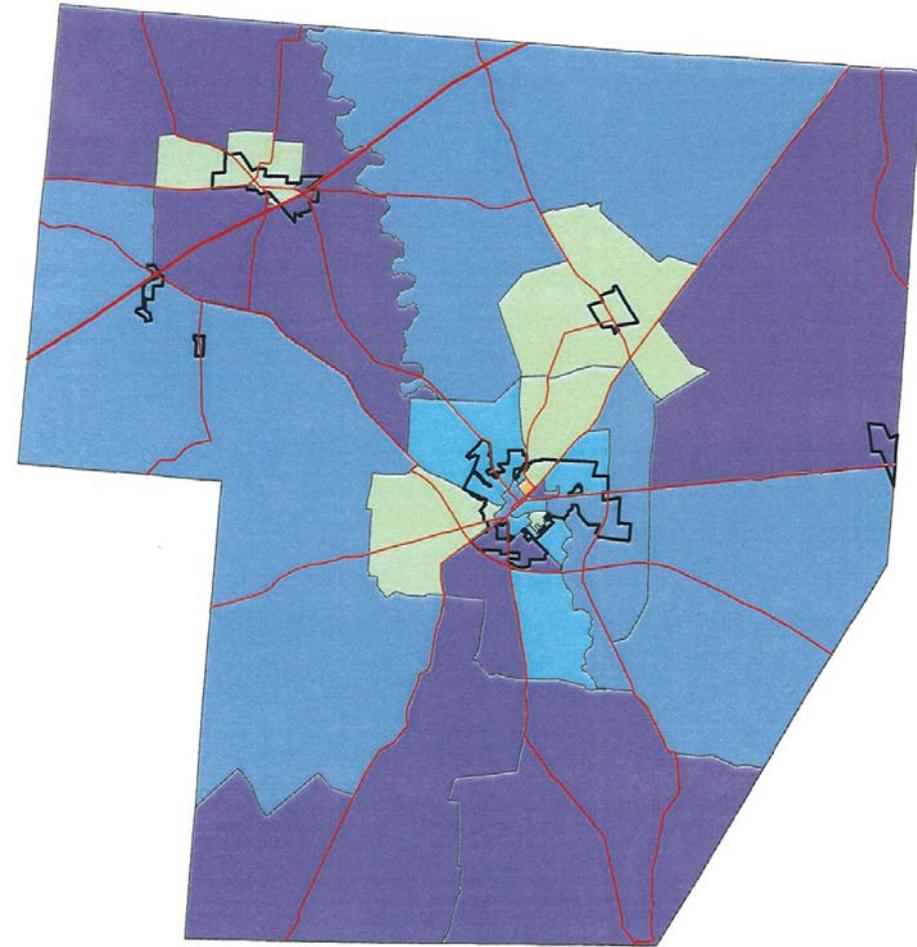


Percent of Persons 25 and Older
With a Bachelor's Degree or Greater
2000

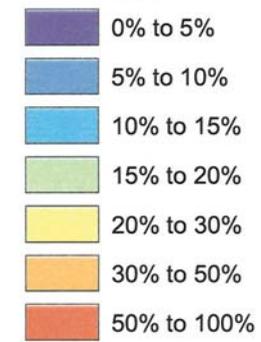


Ohio -- 21.1%
Fayette -- 10.8%

Source: Summary File 3, Census of Population and Housing,
U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.



Percent of Persons Living In Poverty
2000



Ohio -- 10.6%
Fayette -- 10.1%

Calculation based on population for
whom poverty status is determined.

Source: Summary File 3, Census of Population and Housing,
U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

| People QuickFacts | Fayette County | Ohio |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| Population, 2005 estimate | 28,199 | 11,464,042 |
| Population, percent change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2005 | -0.8% | 1.0% |
| Population, 2000 | 28,433 | 11,353,140 |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | 3.5% | 4.7% |
| Persons under 5 years old, percent, 2004 | 6.5% | 6.4% |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2004 | 24.3% | 24.3% |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2004 | 14.4% | 13.3% |
| Female persons, percent, 2004 | 50.7% | 51.3% |
| White persons, percent, 2004 (a) | 96.1% | 85.2% |
| Black persons, percent, 2004 (a) | 2.4% | 11.9% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2004 (a) | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2004 (a) | 0.6% | 1.4% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent, 2004 (a) | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2004 | 0.9% | 1.2% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2004 (b) | 1.4% | 2.2% |
| White persons, not Hispanic, percent, 2004 | 94.9% | 83.3% |
| Living in same house in 1995 and 2000, pct age 5+, 2000 | 56.5% | 57.5% |
| Foreign born persons, percent, 2000 | 0.9% | 3.0% |
| Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2000 | 2.7% | 6.1% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | 78.7% | 83.0% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | 10.7% | 21.1% |
| Persons with a disability, age 5+, 2000 | 5,149 | 1,909,489 |
| Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2000 | 24.4 | 22.9 |
| Housing units, 2004 | 12,272 | 4,966,746 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 66.6% | 69.1% |
| Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2000 | 17.3% | 24.1% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$85,800 | \$103,700 |
| Households, 2000 | 11,054 | 4,445,773 |
| Persons per household, 2000 | 2.51 | 2.49 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$18,063 | \$21,003 |
| Median household income, 2003 | \$39,082 | \$43,119 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 2003 | 10.6% | 10.6% |
| Business QuickFacts | Fayette County | Ohio |
| Private nonfarm establishments, 2003 | 680 | 270,255 |
| Private nonfarm employment, 2003 | 10,775 | 4,770,283 |
| Private nonfarm employment, percent change 2000-2003 | 12.2% | -4.6% |
| Nonemployer establishments, 2003 | 1,285 | 648,904 |
| Manufacturers shipments, 2002 (\$1000) | 748,329 | 243,903,865 |
| Retail sales, 2002 (\$1000) | 466,004 | 119,778,409 |
| Retail sales per capita, 2002 | \$16,532 | \$10,497 |
| Minority-owned firms, percent of total, 1997 | F | 6.3% |
| Women-owned firms, percent of total, 1997 | 15.4% | 26.2% |
| Housing units authorized by building permits, 2004 | 162 | 51,695 |
| Federal spending, 2004 (\$1000) | 142,484 | 73,195,290 |

| Geography QuickFacts | Fayette County | Ohio |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 407 | 40,948 |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 69.9 | 277.3 |
| FIPS Code | 47 | 39 |
| Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area | | |
| (a) Includes persons reporting only one race. | | |
| (b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories. | | |
| FN: Footnote on this item for this area in place of data | | |
| NA: Not available | | |
| D: Suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information | | |
| X: Not applicable | | |
| S: Suppressed; does not meet publication standards | | |
| Z: Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown | | |
| F: Fewer than 100 firms | | |
| Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts | | |



1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

FOR AN EXTENSIVE INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE PLEASE REFERENCE THE APPENDIX OF THIS DOCUMENT.

1.1 VISION STATEMENT

To create and maintain a safe, efficient infrastructure system for all residents and businesses of Fayette County.

1.2 BACKGROUND

Transportation issues are important to Fayette County because they affect each and every resident. Our system of highways and local roads, not only carries each of us to our daily destinations, but provides the necessary network for our businesses to operate. The efficient transportation of goods and services is a necessity for a thriving local and regional economy. We are a mobile society, and for the foreseeable future, will remain that way.

Transportation issues do not limit themselves to roadways. Other modes of transportation are also vital to our economy and our way of life. Railroads and air transportation are very much a part of our transportation system in Fayette County; adding to the prosperity of our economy and residents. Other methods of transportation, such as water based, bicycling or walking, are often overlooked but are still important to any community. These methods of transportation can also be considered recreational and for purposes of this document, will be discussed in another section of the plan.

Transportation facilities, which are typically considered infrastructure, are not the only type. The utilities that service our homes, business, schools, churches and public facilities are also considered infrastructure. These utilities are extremely important to our health and safety as well as enhancing our quality of life. The most commonly considered utilities are water supply and

sewage collection. A properly designed, operated and maintained water supply and sewage collection system is vital to any urban or suburban community. Stormwater facilities, such as storm sewers, detention basins and designed watercourses for controlling runoff and flood waters are also considered a utility; and since the introduction of NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permitting by the Ohio EPA stormwater management and maintenance will become even more prevalent. Farm drainage and/or subsurface drainage, while being associated with stormwater, will be considered under the agricultural and natural resources sections of the plan.

Other public/quasi public utilities that are important to our quality of life are electric service, gas service, telephone, cable television and high speed Internet service. For purposes of this section, while important, these utilities will be considered more incidental and not covered in this document.

1.3 TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES: ROADWAY

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. To provide proper maintenance, necessary improvements and expansions to the existing highway system that meet the needs of today as well as the future.
 - a. Continue necessary maintenance, rehabilitation or replacement of all structurally deficient or functionally obsolete structures (i.e., bridges, culverts, etc.)
 - b. Continue roadway maintenance with the most applicable, cost effective treatment system available. (i.e., asphalt paving, chip seal, micro-surfacing, base stabilization, etc.)

c. Systematically improve roadways, with deficient geometrics to acceptable ODOT and AASHTO standards.

d. Coordinate and cooperate with other local and state governmental agencies in multi-jurisdictional projects.

e. Utilize all available local, state and federal funding sources for roadway improvements.

f. Investigate innovative alternative financing mechanisms that may be applicable to highway projects.

g. Ensure that all roadways meet necessary capacities and levels of service; and those that do not are prioritized for improvements and the necessary funding.

h. Where feasible, consider aesthetics during design and construction in order to maintain the area's natural beauty and preserve the rural look of the roadway system.

i. Adopt and maintain a program for the development of adequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities within urban areas, suburban developments and to destinations of interest.

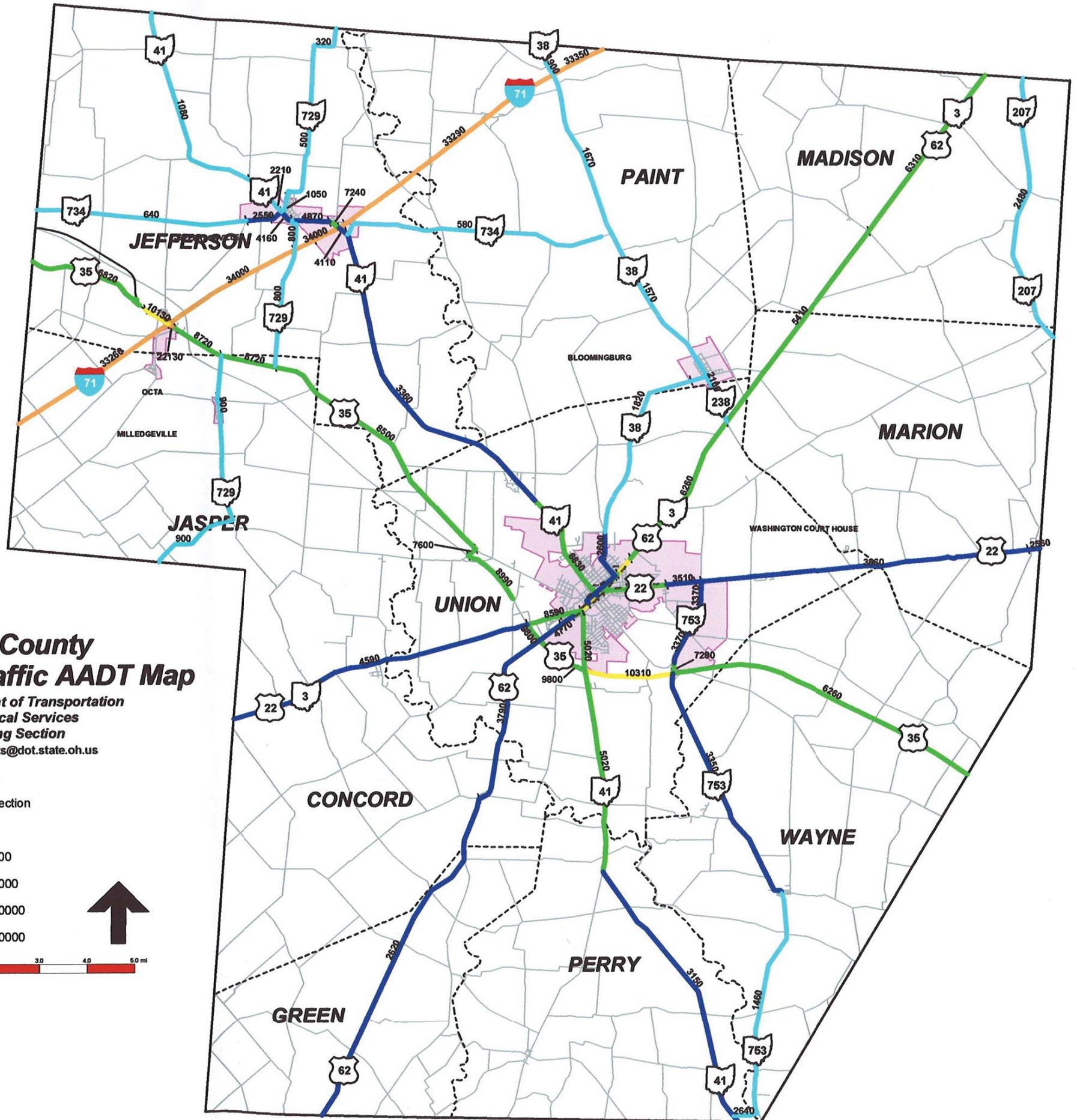
j. Work with the Department of Economic Development and other agencies to plan, design, administer and/or construct roadway improvements that will improve economic prosperity in the county and promote economic growth.

2. Adopt and administer local access management regulations

a. Compose a fair, safe, enforceable set of regulations for accessing local roadways; ensuring compatibility with all existing land use, zoning and planning regulations.



Washington Court House



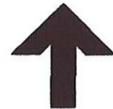
Fayette County 2001 Traffic AADT Map

Ohio Department of Transportation
Office of Technical Services
Traffic Monitoring Section
ODOT.Traffic.Counts@dot.state.oh.us
614 - 466 - 3727

99999 Total AADT

Traffic Volume by Section

-  0 to 2500
-  2500 to 5000
-  5000 to 10000
-  10000 to 20000
-  20000 to 50000



- b. Administer regulations equitably in order to provide safe access to county and township roadways.

3. Adopt and administer a progressive set of subdivision regulations that allows proper development, yet protects the current infrastructure and environment.

- a. Revise standards for the design and construction of new streets bringing them in line with modern engineering practices and design standards.
- b. Inspect the construction of all new streets to ensure improvements meet county standards.
- c. Ensure that all necessary improvements to existing county and township roads are incorporated into the subdivision improvement plans.
- d. Assist and recommend future street layouts to the Fayette County Planning Commission.
- e. Cooperate with various public and private agencies to promote the development of bike paths or bike lanes and pedestrian facilities in new developments.
- f. Control the splitting of frontage lots requiring access to existing county and township roadways.

4. Pursue the State Route 753 by-pass project.

- a. Cooperate with the city to secure financing for right-of-way acquisition.
- b. Explore alternative financing with ODOT and the Ohio Department of Development.

1.4 TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES: AIRPORT

The Fayette County Airport is located two (2) miles north east of the City of Washington Court House between US 62 and Rt. 38, on what is commonly referred to as the “County Farm”. Originally dedicated in 1966, it was one of the first airports built in Ohio. It has undergone several expansions since its original construction and now boasts of one of the longest runways in the area at 5100 feet in length, easily handling turbo prop traffic and small corporate jets. The airport handles approximately 7000 operations per year, ranging from military to general aviation. Plans are underway to increase the airport reference code to B-II from its current A-I designation. Services available at the site include fuel sales, mechanic services, flight instruction, aircraft sales and storage, pilot services, and ground transportation.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES:

1. To improve safety at the Fayette County Airport and increase its ability to service the public in both recreational and business uses.
 - a. Complete the airport master plan in order to increase eligibility for certain types of funding and to provide an informational working document to potential users.
 - b. Utilize allocated grant monies and competitive grant monies through all state and federal sources
 - c. Implement pro-active zoning around the airport that protects the airspace but allows for future development.
 - d. Acquire additional land necessary for approach lighting and runway expansion to increase safety and the usability of the airport for larger aircraft.

- e. Expand the existing ramps and parallel taxiways to improve safety
- f. Continue with the obstructions removal program including the airport management office and necessary existing hangars
- g. Construct a new access road to the office and hangar area that meets modern design standards and allows the free flow of traffic.
- h. Continue the construction of hangars with lease agreements that are beneficial to Fayette County.

1.5 TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES: RAILROADS

A hundred years ago, Fayette County was crisscrossed by railroads, which were owned by several different companies. The rail lines intersected at various locations within the limits of the City of Washington Court House.

Today only two (2) rail lines remain active in Fayette County. The old CSX line, now owned by the Indiana-Ohio Railroad, a subsidiary of Rail America, parallels US 22 from the west into downtown Washington Court House and exits the county to the north, parallel to US 62. A spur services the industrial park on the east side of Washington Court House. The other active line runs from Washington Court House, north through Jeffersonville into Springfield, Ohio. It is owned by the West Central Ohio Port Authority, but operated by the Indiana and Ohio Railroad.

There are approximately 33 miles of mainline track remaining in Fayette County, 13 miles owned by the Port Authority and the

remaining is owned by the Indiana & Ohio Railroad. The Indiana & Ohio line carries daily traffic, whereas the Port Authority line is used only on an as needed basis. The majority of the tracks that once traversed the county have been removed and the rights-of-way sold for other purposes, most notably to Dayton Power & Light for electric transmission lines and to the Fayette County Triangle Trails Group for future construction of an inter county bike path.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Increase awareness and safety at all railroad crossings.
 - a. Cooperate with the owners of all existing railroads for necessary maintenance, signing, replacement, brush removal and/or removal of existing crossings.
2. Pursue railroads as an alternative to roadways for moving freight within and through Fayette County.
 - a. Promote the use of rail to industrial users and developments as a tool for economic development.
 - b. Cooperate with the railroads in expanding the availability of rail service.

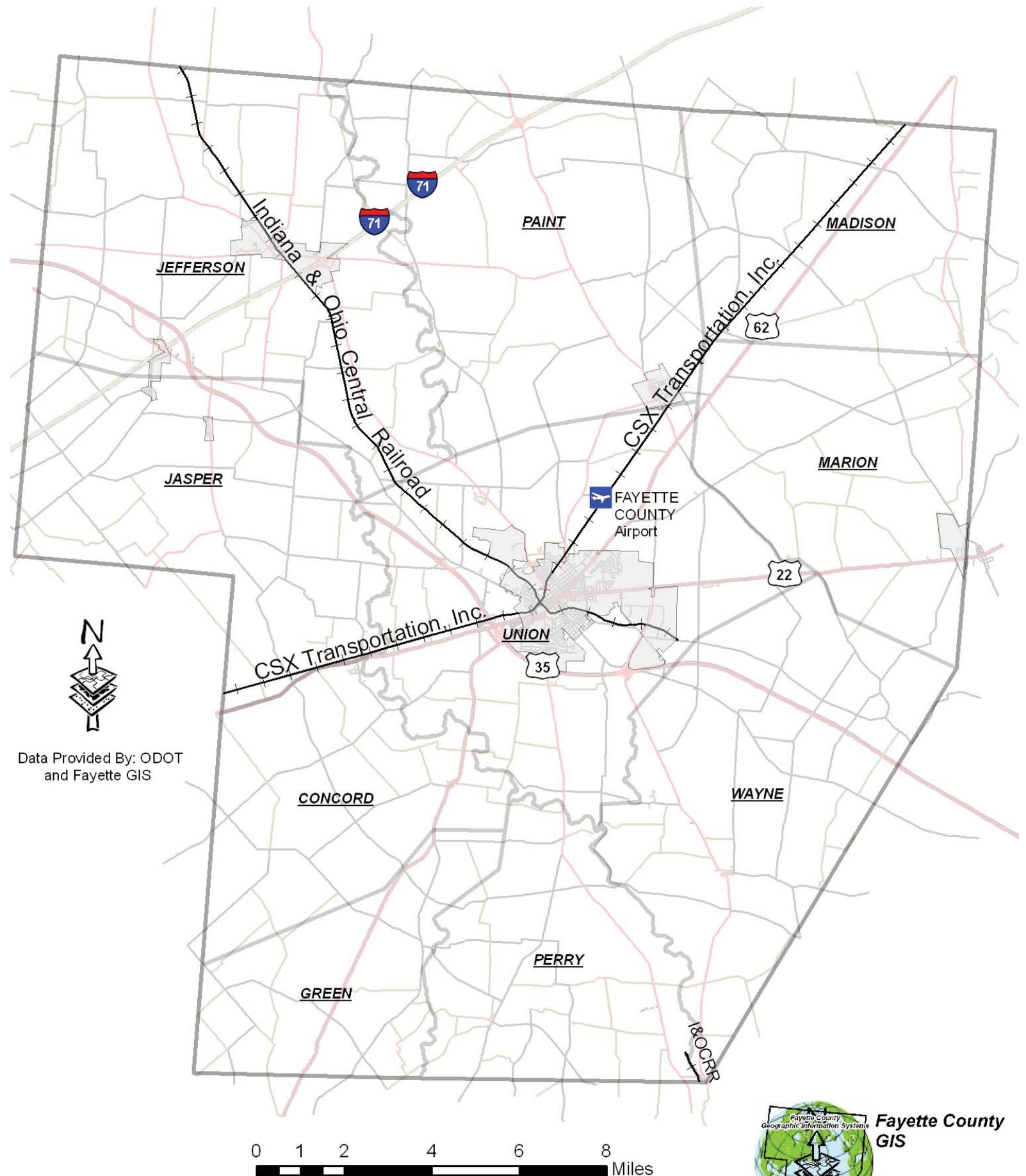
1.6 UTILITIES: WATER SUPPLY & WASTEWATER

It is generally agreed that the presence of publicly owned water and wastewater facilities are the most important component in determining an area's ability to support any type of development. The planning of these facilities, in compatibility with this land use plan, is necessary in ensuring that all development is shaped according to this vision of the future.

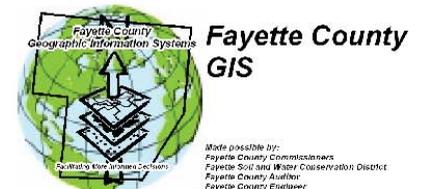
Public water and sewer service is an absolute necessity for a thriving community. Maintaining the public's health, welfare and safety is the reason that any political subdivision invests in construction and operation of any publicly owned treatment works. Proper planning and operation of the plant allows a community to prosper without exceeding the community resources or the land's ability to sustain it.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

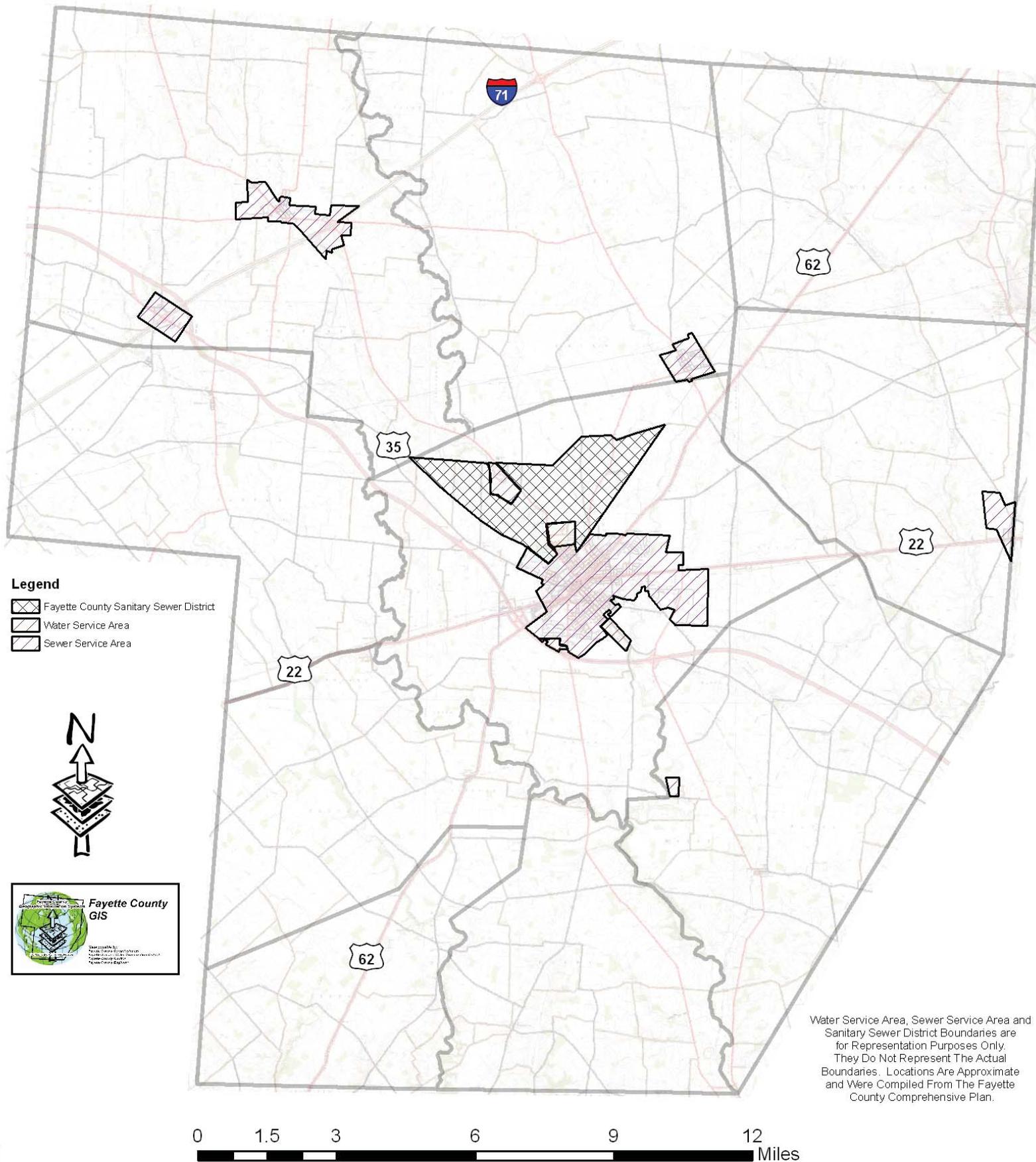
1. The safe and efficient operation of all existing facilities and to maintain affordable services for all residents and businesses.
 - a. Follow all EPA rules and guidelines and meet all effluent limits and treatment standards.
 - b. Investigate viable cooperative agreements with other service providers to reduce costs and improve service.
 - c. Provide adequate protection for all water supply and treatment facilities.



Data Provided By: ODOT and Fayette GIS



Prepared By: Scott David Cormany GIS Coordinator FSWCD



d. Create a schedule for replacement of dilapidated distribution and collection lines in order to limit the potential for emergency interruptions of service and possible contamination.

e. Identify and correct inflow and infiltration problems in the collection system.

f. Determine if combining with the Village of Bloomingburg could lead to greater service opportunities for the Route 62/238/38 intersection.

2. Expand service capabilities in potential growth areas while discouraging 'Publicly Owned Treatment Works' in agricultural preservation areas.

a. Limit the effort to create new service areas with large on site systems or package plants.

b. Steer development and expansion to areas with existing water and sewer service.

c. Cooperate with existing providers to provide incentives or creative financing packages that would encourage proper development.

d. Encourage connection to existing POTW systems and abandonment of on site systems where possible, to eliminate hazards and to increase the health and welfare of the users as well as the environment.

e. Maintain up to date standards and local regulations for planning, design and construction of facilities.

f. Adopt clear policies for reimbursing private water and sewer extensions where applicable.

1.7 UTILITIES: STORMWATER

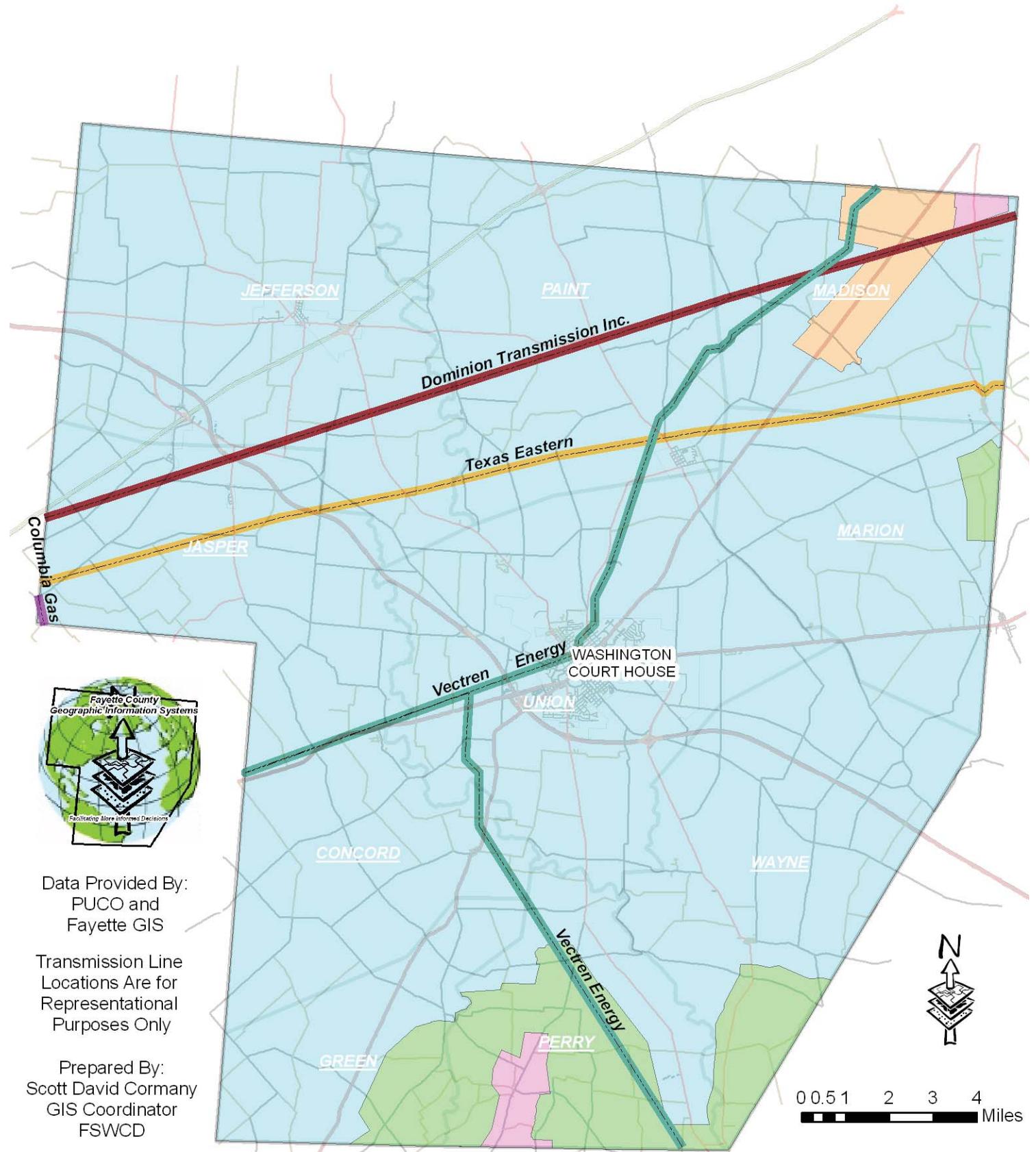
Stormwater runoff, caused by any rainfall event, has come to the forefront of priorities for many communities over the past couple of decades. The management and control of stormwater, once barely a consideration, is now being regarded as a utility by many urban and suburban areas. Rural areas are greatly impacted by stormwater as well and the issues and problems it causes. No matter where you live and work, stormwater affects property, infrastructure and safety. This realization has caused communities to look at it in a new light.

Fayette County has always been impacted by localized flooding of ditches, creeks and low lying areas. Since we are predominantly rural, and our flood plains are clear of buildings, most damage is restricted to crop land and soil loss. Nevertheless, as the County develops stormwater management will play a larger more prominent role in protecting our environment and natural resources.

Source: Service Areas and Sewer District Digitized From Fayette County Comprehensive Plan (Woolpert), Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Geological Survey. Map Compiled By: Scott David Cormany GIS Coordinator Fayette Soil and Water Conservation District

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Minimize the impacts of all development on the natural watercourses in the county.
 - a. Ensure that all proposed developments conform to all local, state and/or federal rules and regulations.
 - b. Develop stormwater requirements as part of the subdivision regulations that allow for development but control the release of storm runoff.
 - c. Preserve natural wetland areas for the detention and storage of stormwater.
 - d. Institute best management practices for erosion and sediment control in conjunction with any type of development.
 - e. Minimize the amounts of impervious areas within developments and maximize the grounds natural ability to absorb stormwater.
 - f. Ensure that all existing drainage patterns and watersheds are maintained at predeveloped conditions.
2. Control flooding.
 - a. Minimize building construction and the placement of any embankment within designated flood plains.
 - b. Implement stormwater detention regulations for all developed sites to control the acceleration and volume of runoff.
 - c. Develop a program within the county in conjunction with other state or local agencies that allows for the cleaning and removal of debris from natural streams and creeks.



Electric Providers

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Columbus Southern Power | Ohio Edison |
| Dayton Power & Light | South Central REA |

Transmission Lines

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Columbia Gas | Texas Eastern |
| Dominion Transmission Inc. | Vectren Energy |

1.8 TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM POLICIES

- Improvements to the highway network shall correspond to and support the overall land use plan.
- Limit transportation improvements in Critical Resource and Agricultural areas to maintenance and upgrading of substandard roads and under-capacity bridges.
- Assign a high priority to the maintenance and enhancement of the existing County road system. Particular emphasis will be given to upgrading roads which do not meet their functional classification.
- Continue to work towards a transportation systems management program to ensure that transportation planning and traffic operations are achieved with the help of the State and all other Fayette County Municipalities.
- The Countywide cooperative shall address efforts to coordinate traffic counts, site-specific traffic impact analysis, traffic modeling, construction and maintenance, as well as traffic signs, signalization and pavement markings.
- Design new transportation improvements in a manner that limits disruption to farms, existing land uses, historical sites and buildings, as well as important natural, environmental, and scenic features.
- Identify the location and alignment of new roads in advance of future need to coordinate establishment of right-of-way requirements and access control.
- Incorporate safe and comfortable pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the design of new roads and the upgrade of those roads designated as scenic byways.
- Incorporate sidewalks and/or pedestrian pathways to encourage

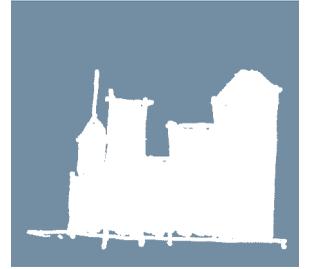
walking and bicycle use in the design of local and collector streets within new development.

- Ensure that the planning of sidewalks and pedestrian pathways facilitates connections between developments.
- Consider the roadway's existing and projected traffic volumes, level-of-service, and planned land use patterns when prioritizing highway improvements.
- Actively support efforts to retain and improve rail freight service to County industries and to support the designation of industrial land uses along the rail lines, where appropriate.
- Encourage the development of rail, trucking, and other transportation modes that will enhance development of a broad base of industrial, commercial, and office uses.
- Support the development of a Countywide pedestrian and bicycle plan in an effort to take a proactive approach in identifying trail and route alignments to protect the rights-of-way.
- Support efforts to pursue state and federal funding for non-highway transportation improvements.
- Create an access management plan that encourages appropriate and safe access on State and County roads.
- Maintain the aesthetic character of rural roads through the designation of a Scenic Byway Plan.

1.9 WATER AND SEWER POLICIES

- All branches of the County government will be expected to comply with the Water and Sewerage Plan and its policies.

- Limit the design of public water and sewer facilities to meet the needs of existing populations and those areas designated for future growth.
- Encourage cooperation between the County and the municipalities in joint planning of future water and sewerage services.
- Extension and interconnection of existing water and sewerage systems will be preferred to establishment of new systems in order to maximize economies of scale and system flexibility. Necessary upgrades to existing water and sewer systems are contingent upon consumer demand to ensure affordability for all customers within the upgrade tributary.
- Protect public water impoundments, intake areas, and well fields from the danger that various land uses, including agricultural and recreational, represents to the quality and quantity of water in such areas. Groundwater and surface water resources will be managed aggressively to provide for continued use by future generations.
- Discourage additional growth on well and septic systems within any Critical Resource Area. Additional growth within Critical Resource Areas shall be limited to 25-50 acre lots or, where appropriate, conservation developments.
- Maximize interjurisdictional cooperation and coordination in the planning and provision of public water and sewer services.
- Alternative technologies, with respect to the disposal and treatment of both municipal and private wastewater, should only be used with the approval of the County Health Department, Sanitary Engineer, and where there is compliance with all other Plan policies.



2.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2.1 VISION

The citizens of the Fayette County community will work to maintain and grow a diversified county-wide economic base that includes commercial and industrial business opportunities. The community will strive to foster and maintain good growth planning that takes into account sufficient utilities, redevelopment, and revitalization. Adequate housing, available commercial and industrial property will be provided while preserving open space for future generations.

2.2 BACKGROUND

Traditionally, Fayette County's economy has been rooted in agriculture. While that tradition continues today, Fayette County has also attracted new industry and business sectors to the area. The Fayette County industrial landscape is comprised of many different businesses, many of which focus in the areas of manufacturing and distribution. Many industries and businesses have chosen to serve these markets from Fayette County. Spurred by the desire to serve these markets, industries have located close to major State Routes, Limited-Access highways, as well as rail lines in Fayette County. As a result, the majority of industrial land-use occurs in or around incorporated areas next to State Routes, Limited-Access highways, and/or rail lines.

2.3 GOALS and STRATEGIES:

1. Redevelopment and revitalization of under utilized or former commercial and industrial properties
 - a. Develop relationships with property owners and/or listing agents of properties and enforce property maintenance standards for vacant facilities
 - b. Utilize Brownfield Redevelopment incentives and tax credits to clean up vacant commercial, industrial, or highway service sites

2. Promote the retention and expansion of businesses currently located within Fayette County.

- a. Maintain a data base of local industries that includes contact information, company history, and product or service provided
- b. Schedule annual visits to companies to monitor concerns and promote community involvement

3. Designate land for future economic development that does not conflict with the surrounding community

- a. Promote community partnerships for the purpose of economic development planning
- b. Update land use plan every 2-5 years with public input

4. Focus future economic development efforts on businesses that enhance the current industrial climate of Fayette County.

- a. Determine the types of industry that would benefit by locating near companies already in Fayette County.
- b. Market specifically to that segment of industry

5. Revisit the current zoning code and update as needed

- a. Clarify uses for each zone in order to minimize conflict
- b. Work to make the process easier for businesses to determine their zoning,
- c. and allow for the involvement of the citizens

5. Investigate opportunities for tourism in Fayette County

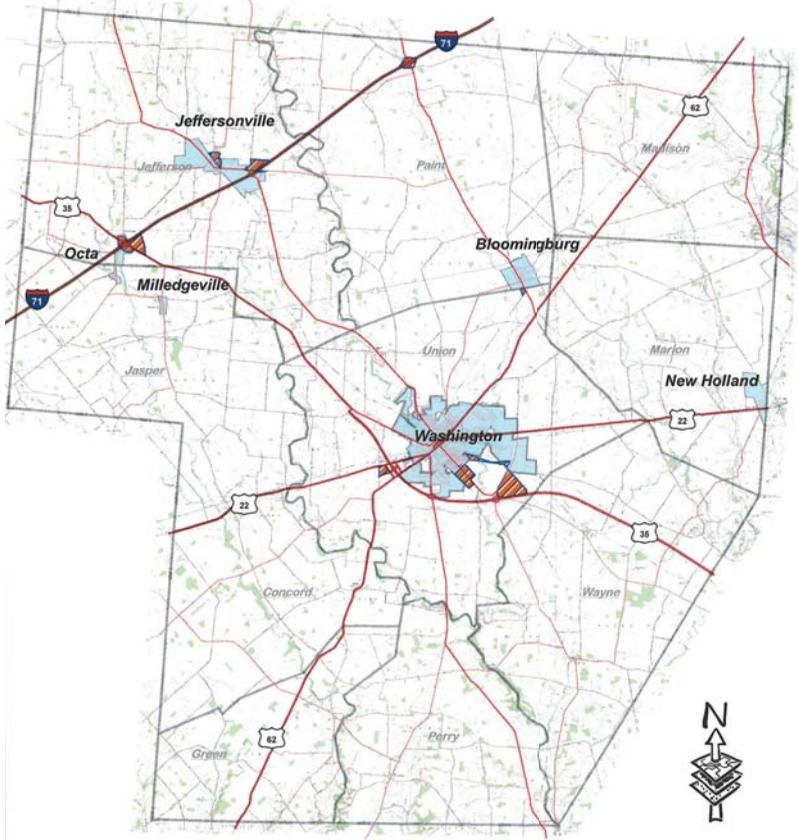
a. Incorporate historic and cultural resources into tourism materials.

b. Pursue opportunities for regional parks and bikeway systems to play a role in attracting individuals to Fayette County.

2.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

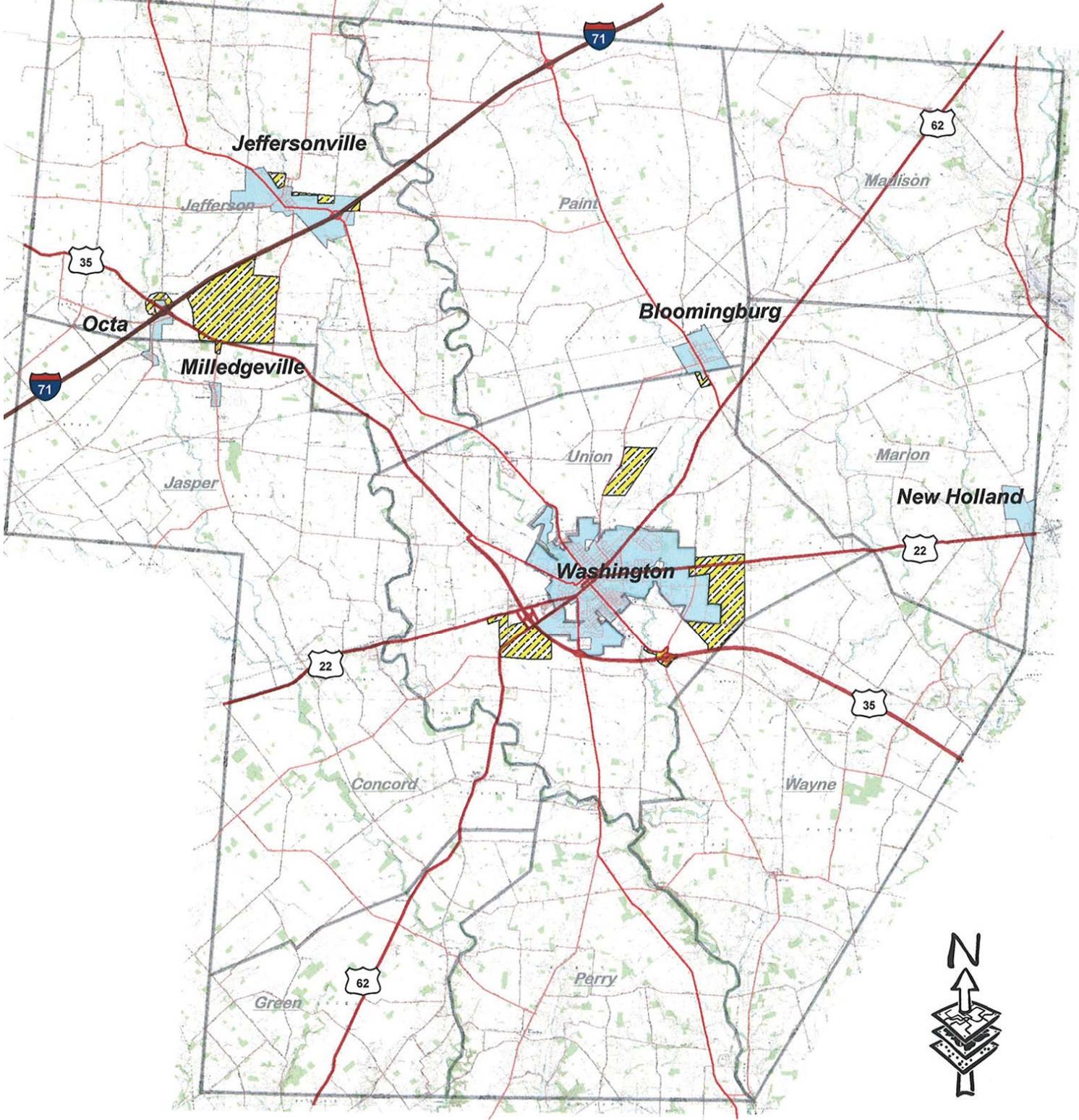
- Encourage the development of sufficient commercial, office, and industrial space to meet the needs of the existing and projected population.
- Locate industrial and commercial development in clusters, rather than in isolated, scattered locations, emphasizing appropriate landscaping and buffering.
- Promote the identity of individual communities and reinforce the existing design patterns within the community when locating new commercial and employment facilities.
- Designate enterprise areas in selected Fayette County communities to encourage revitalization of older commercial and industrial employment areas through the use of redevelopment initiatives and appropriate economic incentives.
- Support efforts to provide state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure.
- Encourage municipalities throughout the County to establish ongoing downtown revitalization programs.

CURRENT BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS



| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
|  | Business and Industrial Areas |
|  | Incorporated Boundaries |
|  | Townships |

FUTURE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS



| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | Future Business and Industrial Areas |
|  | Incorporated Boundaries |
|  | Townships |



Basemap provided by: USGS, USDA, US Census. Prepared by: Scott David Cormany GIS Coordinator FSWCD



3.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

FOR AN EXTENSIVE INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCES PLEASE REFERENCE THE APPENDIX OF THIS DOCUMENT.

3.1 VISION

Fayette County will provide a safe, secure, and healthy environment for all its citizens at home, work, and play.

3.2 BACKGROUND

Up-to-date public safety forces and quality health care help ensure a high quality of life in a community. The health and safety services provided in this county are important deciding factors in attracting and retaining businesses and residents. The county needs to know the type and level of services that are currently available to its residents and what additional facilities, personnel, and services are needed to provide current and future residents with the best quality of life possible.

Public safety in Fayette County is provided by the combined efforts of the city police department, county sheriff department, city fire department, township fire departments, and emergency medical services (EMS). Health services are provided by many entities including Fayette County Memorial Hospital, Fayette County Health Department, several primary care providers (physicians and nurse practitioners), eight nursing homes, Hospice, as well as several grant-funded programs. This section will discuss the background and current status of the health and safety forces currently available to the residents of Fayette County and examine issues that will impact the deliverance of continued and improved services in the future.

3.3 GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Assure the safety, security, and welfare of all citizens and property.
 - a. Ensure that adequate access for emergency vehicles is provided to all structures in the design of all new development.
 - b. Encourage the development and operation of crime prevention measures such as neighborhood watches and crime prevention surveys.
 - c. Provide appropriate shelter for victims of domestic violence.
 - d. Provide adequate services for the homeless.
 - e. Encourage continued support for governmental and privately funded well designed housing developments for low income families.
 - f. Become certified as a “storm ready” community.
2. Protect the quality of the environment.
 - a. Coordinate and enforce standards between the city and the county for noise and air quality.
 - b. Enforce the standards for use, storage, and destruction of hazardous materials.
 - c. Evaluate environmental concerns through unbiased, well-designed studies.
 - d. Consider imposing mitigation measures on land use pro-

posals which could potentially have a significant adverse impact on the ground water system.

e. Consider increasing the application fee for the site evaluation for all new private water and sewage systems.

3. Assure the availability and rapid response of emergency responders (fire, law enforcement, and EMS).

a. Continue cooperation with other jurisdictions to coordinate cost-effective delivery of services to the community.

b. Consider public safety and crime prevention in the design of all new development (i.e. sidewalks, lighting, etc.).

c. Provide appropriate training facilities for emergency responders.

4. Maintain public safety facilities (for fire, law enforcement, and EMS) to meet community needs.

a. Evaluate alternative sources of revenue for volunteer agencies.

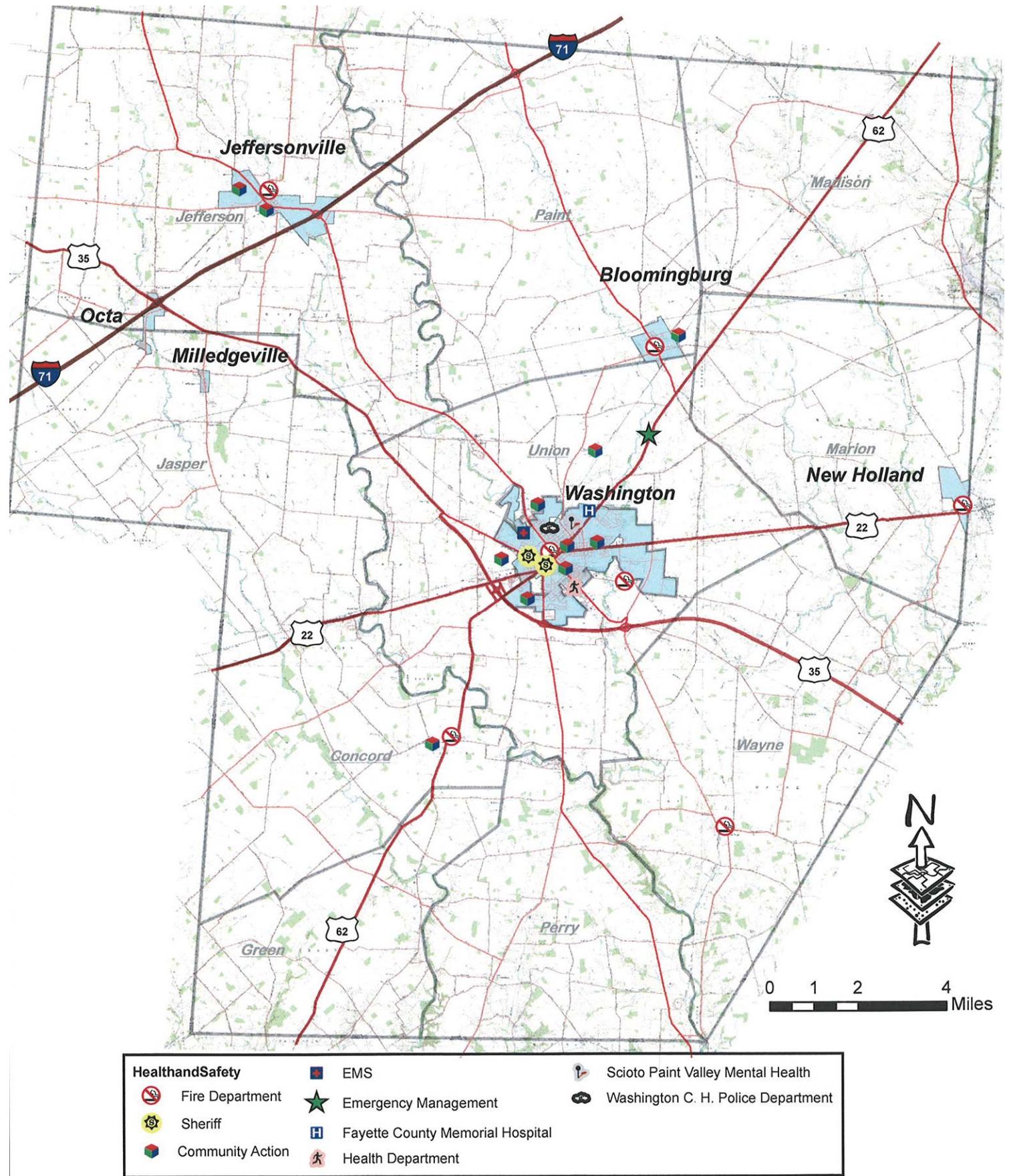
b. Consider the county's land use plan and projected growth when planning and designing the number, size, and location of public facilities in the future.

c. Support the development of new prison facilities either independently or in cooperation with other counties.

5. Preserve and enhance public and individual health.

a. Promote organized recreational activities for all ages.

- b. Encourage the development of planned biking and walking trails.
 - c. Recommend that all new public facilities be smoke free.
6. Assure availability of and access to healthcare for all citizens.
- a. Encourage businesses to make health insurance that is accepted at local health care facilities available to employees.
 - b. Explore grants to provide low cost transportation to health care facilities in this county and in surrounding areas for the elderly throughout the county.
 - c. Encourage sufficient services and provider locations to meet the identified health care needs of the county.



Locations of facilities were adjusted for representational purposes. Basemap Provided By: USDA, USGS, US Census
 Prepared By: Scott David Cormany GIS Coordinator FSWCD



4.0 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

4.1 VISION

Increase awareness & appreciation for the historic and cultural resources within Fayette County.

4.2 BACKGROUND

Native Americans passed through and camped in Fayette County. Several Indian Mounds are documented, although no known Native American Tribes inhabited Fayette County.

Originally, Fayette County was part of Ross County and known as the “Little Swamp.” Fayette County was part of the Virginia Military Lands given to men who served in the Virginia State Troops as part of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Thus, some of the first settlers to Fayette County were of English ancestry.

Farming has always been the main industry of the county. Raising Standardbred horses for harness racing was and is a renowned part of the agricultural community in Fayette County.

Many people in Fayette County became a part of the Underground Railroad helping escaped slaves get to Canada. Bloomingburg Presbyterian Church played a role in the Anti-Slavery Society. Many homes in the county provided safe passage. These are documented in records with pictures or drawings available of the homes.

As Fayette County grew in numbers so did little towns and whistle stops along the railroad tracks. At one time Fayette County had 74 towns and 36 whistle stops. With the need to provide education for the county many one room school houses were built throughout the county. Records are available with the one room school houses documented.

Fayette County has had three Courthouses. The first one burned down in 1828 and the second one was torn down in 1885. The present Court House was dedicated in 1885. Detailed information on the Court House and its grounds will be available soon.

National Register List

Washington Court House and Fayette County has had a number of homes and buildings recorded into the National Register with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. Listed on the National Register are:

Burnett, William, House (gone)

Fayette County Courthouse

Jackson Mound, Pancoastburg

Judy Chapel, Washington Cemetery, Washington Court House

Kelley, Burney, House, East Street, Washington Court House

Light, Jacob, House, East Street, Washington Court House

Mark Road Bridge, Mark Road, near Staunton

McCafferty, William, Farmhouse, McCafferty Road, near Pancoastburg

Rawlings—Brownell House, Rawlings Street Washington Court House

Robinson—Pavey House, Highland Avenue and Court Street, Washington Court House

Sharp, Morris House, (Fayette County Museum), US Route 62 and State Route 22 Washington Court House

Smith, Edward Jr., Farm, US Route 62, Washington Court House

Sollars Farmstead, on Route 41 South, Washington Court House

Commercial Historic District, Between Market and East Streets and Hinde and North Street, Washington Court House

Woodlawn Farm, Prairie Road, Washington Court House

A walking tour of Historical Houses in Washington Court House is available through the Chamber of Commerce. Another walking tour is being written on the churches in the downtown area of Washington Court House.

Many Historical homes and sites are in danger of being lost. This committee has developed a vision and goals that we think will help the county in providing information about the history of Fayette County and preserving our historical and cultural homes and sites for future generations.

Historical Fayette County Information:

Materials gathered from subcommittee include:
Information and map where all one-room schoolhouses were in the county
Walking Tour of Downtown Historical Buildings and Homes
Existing Ohio Underground Railroad Sites in the county (Map and pictures / drawings)
Map of all whistle-stops and small villages in county
Indian Mounds in the county

Court House Square Project (Information on the Court House)
 List of National Register Historical sites in the county and map with locations
 Cemeteries (map)

4.3 GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Preserve Historical Homes and Sites

| | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 1 | Cemeteries | |
| 2 | Court House | Downtown WCH |
| 3 | St. Colman Catholic Church | 219 S. North Street |
| 4 | Grace United Methodist Church | 301 E. Market Street |
| | Historical Houses on walking tour in Washington Court House | |
| 5 | Sollars House | Rt. 41 S |
| 6 | Hegler House | Old US Rt. 35 S. |
| 7 | Haigler House | Inskeep Road |
| 8 | Hukill House | Old US Rt. 35 S. |
| 9 | Brock House | Praire Road |
| 10 | Lampe House | |
| 11 | Wendle House | Praire Road |
| 12 | Underground Railroad Sites | |
| 13 | Eyman Woods | Old US Rt. 35 S. |
| 14 | Coil Campgrounds | Palmer Road |
| 15 | Waterfalls on Rattlesnack Creek | |
| | Signs designating School sites | |
| 16 | Washington Middle School | 318 N. North Street |
| 17 | Bloomington Academy | 103 Main Street |

2. Educate the community with information assembled by the committee students in Fayette County could learn about the historical heritage and sites in Fayette County.

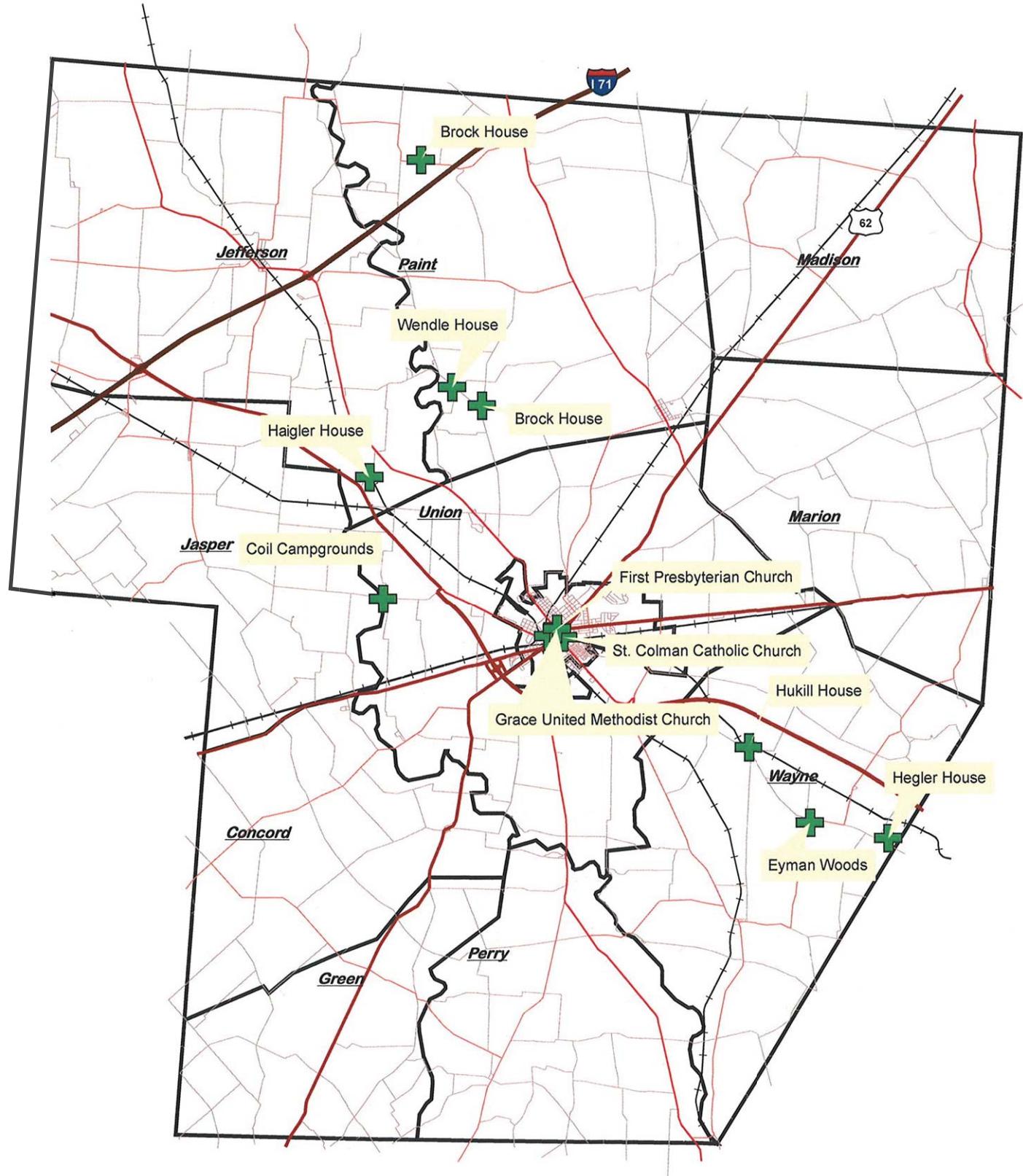
- a. Develop a speakers' bureau or list.
- b. Develop a teaching resource unit of materials.

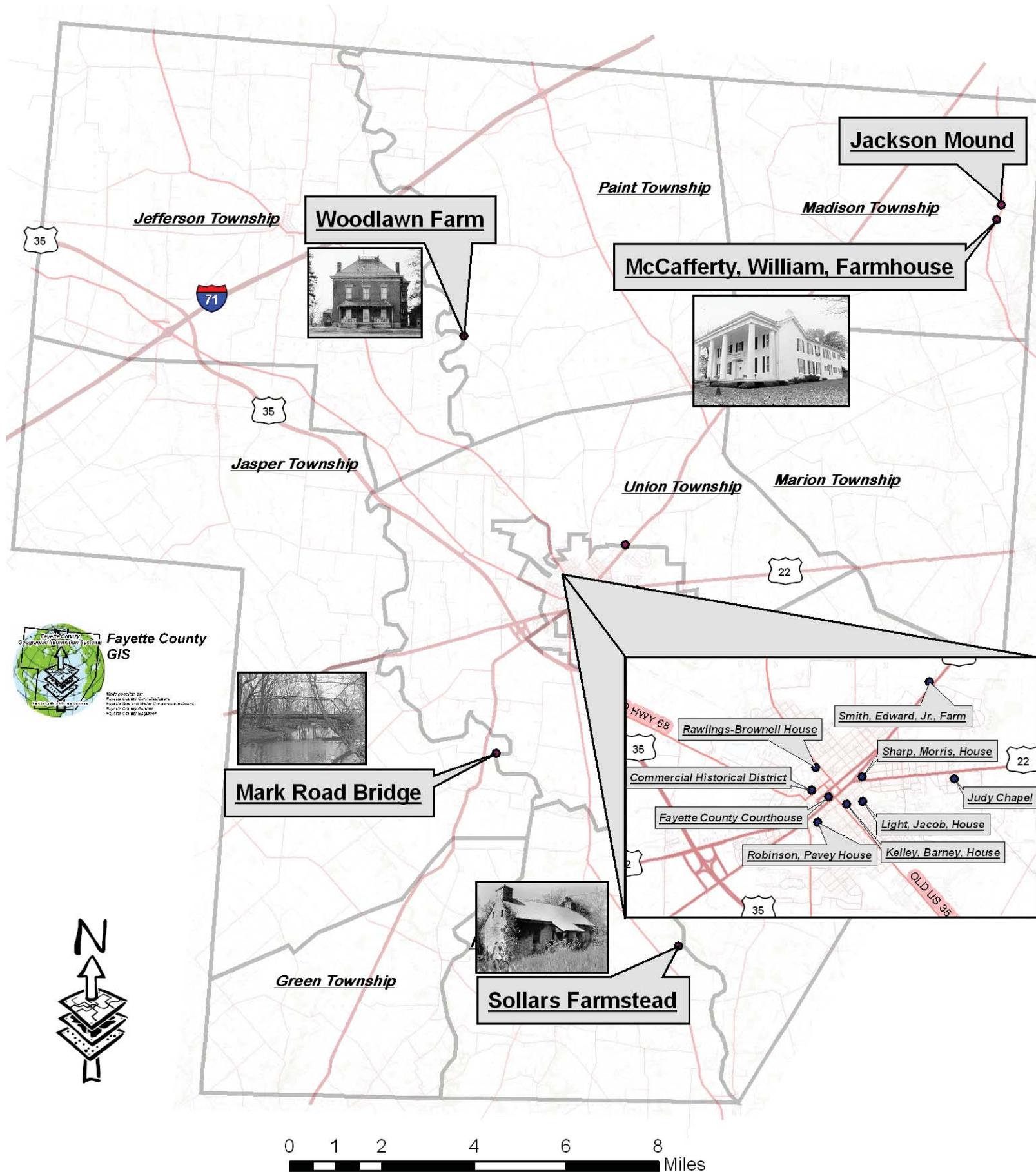
3. There would be a map that would be a self-guided tour of the historical sites in the county.

- a. Develop a printed resource map (Get grant from Travel and Tourism)

4. Volunteers would be appointed to serve as a Historical Preservation Review Board – one for the city and one for the county. The board would establish policies. The Board would put together a list of properties and sites of historical heritage. This could be compiled by information the committee is collecting and putting together.

- a. Encourage Commissioners and City Council to set up and appoint volunteers to serve on a Historical Preservation Review Board.





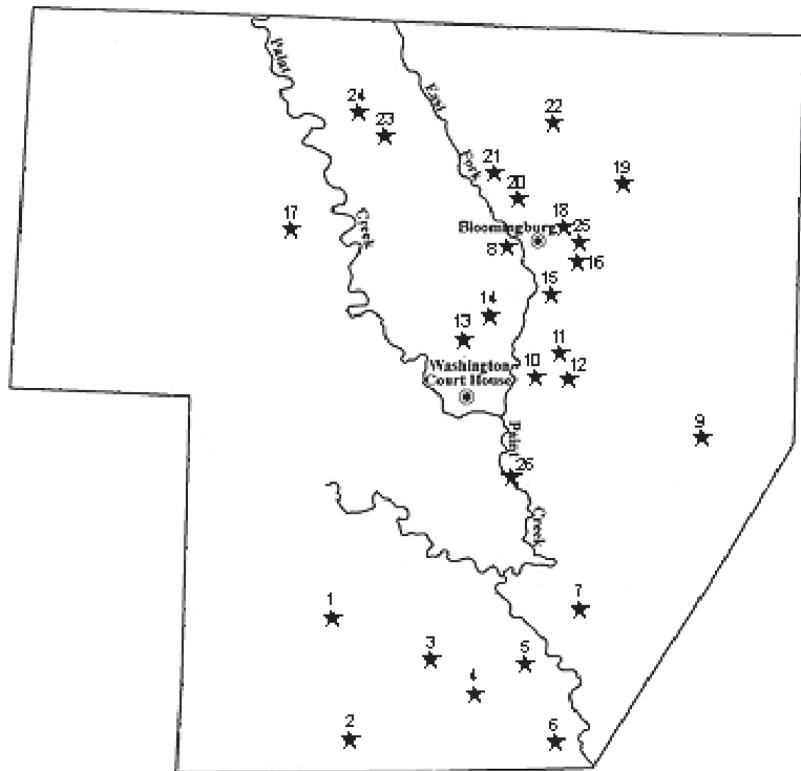
Fayette County GIS
 Prepared by:
 Fayette County GIS Unit
 1000 North Main Street
 Fayette County, Ohio
 43004-1000

5. Mark Historical homes and places throughout the city and county. Present certificates to owners.
 - a. Get a grant from Travel and Tourism to provide funds for markers.

4.4 HISTORIC PRESERVATION POLICIES

- Develop and adopt the appropriate planning and implementation tools to permit the effective preservation of significant historic resources.
- Encourage the design of new construction to be harmonious with existing historic structures.
- Encourage the protection of rural historic structures in the context of their natural settings.
- Undertake an evaluation of known archeological and/or historic resources as part of all proposed developments.
- Evaluate heritage tourism opportunities and capitalize in regard to future economic development opportunities.
- Promote private / public partnerships that seek to conserve the significant historic resources in the County.
- Encourage the appropriate adaptive reuse of historic structures.
- Explore methods for strategically purchasing critical historic structures.

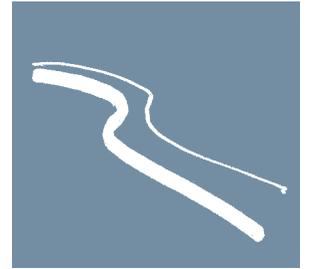
Underground Railroad Sites



Data Compiled by Reasearch Hisroty Class, Washington H. S.- 1998-2008
 Students: Derek Stockwell, Darci Mossbarger
 Teacher: Paul LaRue

- 1) Henry Doster- Gone
- 2) Jacob Todhunter- gone
- 3) Ebenezer / Thomas McElory- Intact
- 4) Augustus West- Partial Intact
- 5) Alexander N. Beatty- Intact
- 6) Robert R. Templeton- Intact
- 7) William L. Ghormley- Intact
- 8) James M. Edwards- Intact
- 9) Jacob Puggsly- Gone
- 10) Moses V. Rawlings- Intact
- 11) Jeremiah Hopkins- Gone
- 12) George Stewart- Gone (Original site)
- 13) John L. VanDeman- Gone
- 14) Samuel Wilson- Gone
- 15) Gorge S. Gillespie- Gone
- 16) James Alexander- Intact
- 17) James M. Conner- Gone
- 18) Dr. Hugh C.. Stewart- Intact
- 19) William Ustick- Intact
- 20) Colonel James Stewart- Intact
- 21) Robert / Adam Steele- Intact
- 22) George S. Fullerton- Gone
- 23) David C.. Eastman- Gone
- 24) Hugh Roebuck- Gone
- 25) Bloomingburg Presbyterian Church- Intact
- 26) Paint Creek- Intact





5.0 NATURAL RESOURCES

5.1 VISION

To protect the natural resources of Fayette County in a manner that pays tribute to its past, present and future.

5.2 BACKGROUND

Although the dominant environmental resource is Agriculture, there are other natural resources in Fayette County that need protection and conservation if they are to be maintained as part of the comprehensive development pattern. Listed in this section are those natural resources that require protection to ensure the long term health of the County and its residents.

5.3 STREAMS AND WATERSHED

The natural hydrologic cycle is impacted by all types of land use within the county. Stormwater runoff transports sediment, pesticides, and detrimental nutrients into local waterways contributing to the overall degradation of the county watersheds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Determine the budget necessary to study the watersheds within the county and create a baseline study to measure the current health of the counties surface water.
- Coordinate efforts with municipalities to develop stream and riparian corridor protection guidelines.
- Coordinate efforts with local jurisdictions and associations to develop a comprehensive stormwater management plan for the county.

5.4 PONDS

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Protect existing ponds from the introduction of non-native species of fish.
- Utilize the natural and man made ponds as a source of recreation.
- Recognize that ponds provide food and habitat for migrating bird populations.
- Recognize that the high water table in some of the areas of the county will affect the construction of ponds.

5.5 RAILWAY BEDS

Railway beds are a resource within the community and must be recognized as such. The existing railway beds, transformed into bike trails are a key part of an overall Park and Recreation (Section 6.0) planning for the county. As residents use the trails they are placed in areas that will hopefully increase their awareness and appreciation for the natural resources of the region.

Existing Rails-to-Trails in central Ohio have a history of minimal human conflict problems, clean byways and increased economic opportunities in the communities through which the trails pass.

The Triangle Trail in Fayette County has improved drainage for adjacent properties which border the railway beds being converted to a trails system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Convert abandoned railway beds to bikeways in a manner fitting with the Rail-to-Trails program.
- Continue to develop bikeways within the county with the Tri-County Triangle Trail organization.
- Ensure that all Rails-to-Trails planning does not adversely impact local landowners.

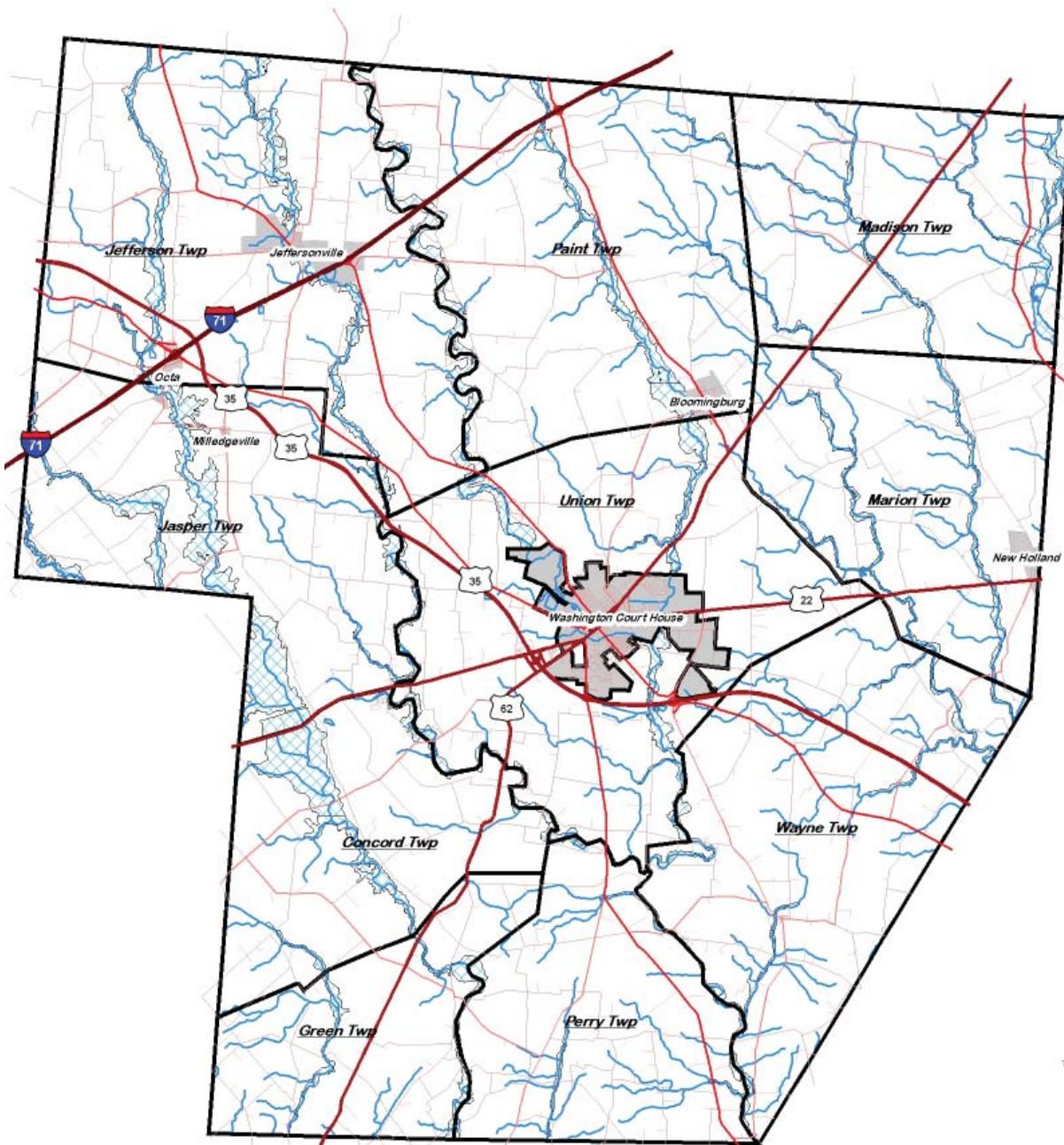
5.6 AQUIFERS

There are basically two types of aquifers located in Ohio, sand and gravel and bedrock aquifers. Over 40 percent of Ohio's residents depend on ground water. It is estimated that 730 million gallons of water a day are pumped from Ohio's aquifers.

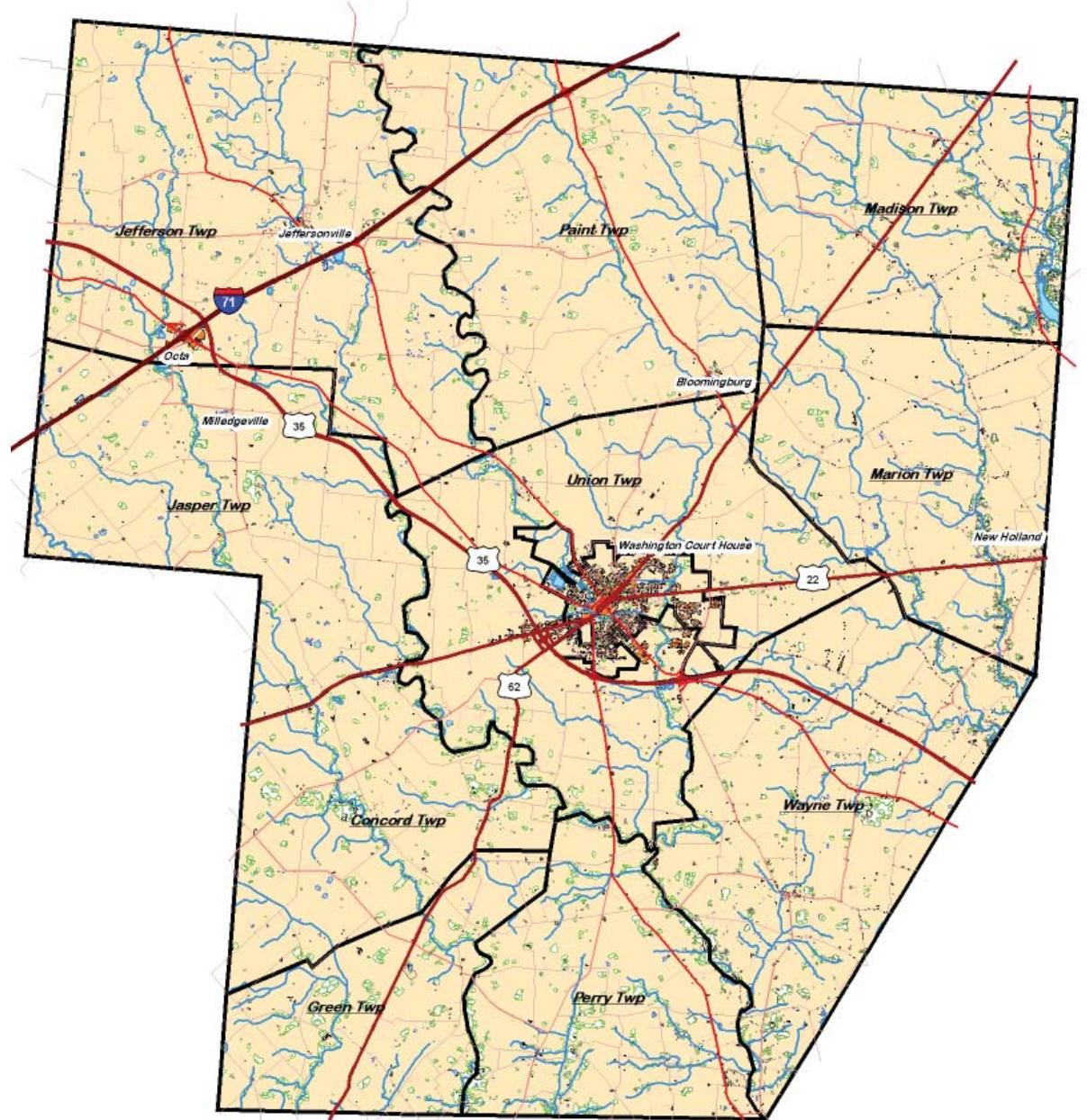
Approximately 50 percent of the population of Fayette County obtains their water from wells.

RECOMMENDATIONS

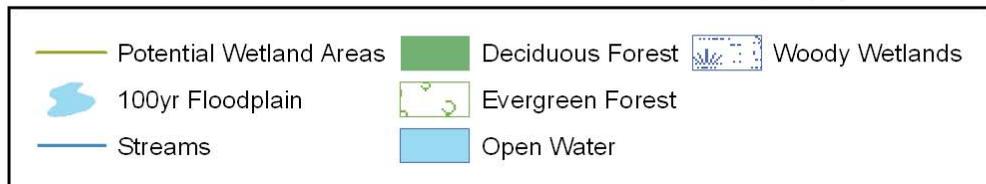
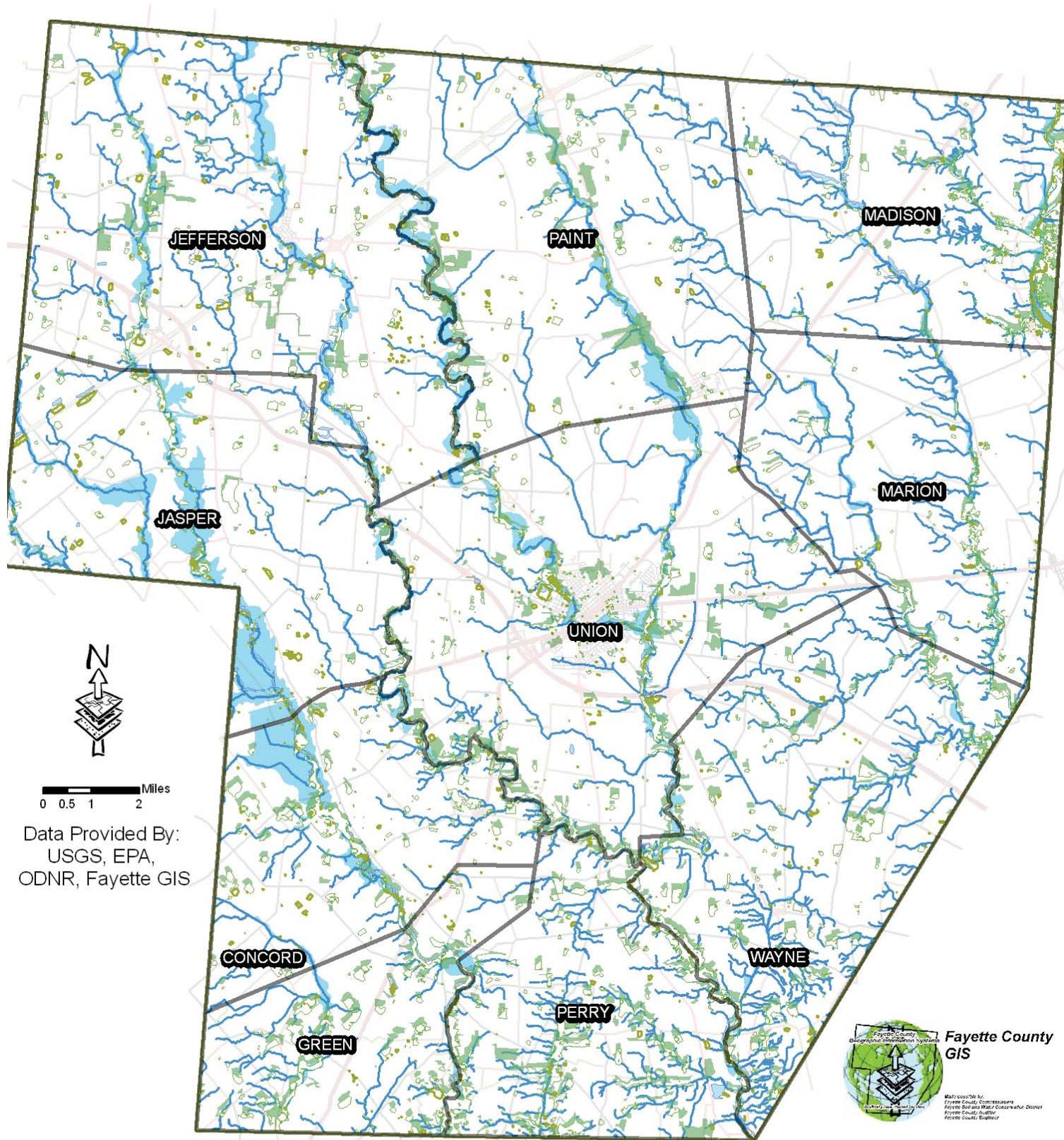
- Cap wells that are no longer in use, using approved methods.
- Ensure that wells are installed correctly.
- Test water to ensure the health of the aquifers.
- Determine appropriate usage rates and monitor to ensure that they are not surpassed.
- Watch for illegal dumping in wells.
- Ensure that there is no deep well injection taking place.



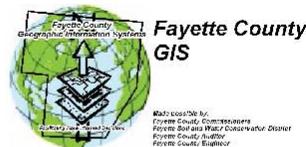
 ODNR 100yr Floodzones



| ODNR 1994 Land Cover | | |
|---|---|---|
|  Urban |  Shrub/Scrub |  Non Forested Wetlands |
|  Ag/Open |  Wooded |  Barren |
| |  Open Water | |



Prepared By: Scott Davis County GIS Coordinator/FSWCD



Map created by:
Fayette County Commissioners
Fayette Soil and Water Conservation District
Fayette County Auditor
Fayette County Engineer

- Encourage the use of back flow devices for producers.
- Develop and adopt development guidelines for aquifer protection especially in areas that will undergo redevelopment first.
- Investigate grant opportunities that will aid in the protection of the aquifers in the county.
- Enhance documentation required by the water withdrawal facility registration program.
- Ensure that the development that occurs at the Route 38 / Interstate 71 interchange does not withdraw water at a rate above what the underground water supply can support.

5.7 FLOODPLAINS

Floodplains must be protected to ensure the overall health of the watersheds in Fayette. The filling of floodplain land affects the nature of the water flow and increases downstream flooding. Guidelines must be developed that will supported the mandates of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Environmental Protection Agency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promote the protection of floodplains in Fayette County.
- Prohibit building in and filling in the floodplain.
- Increase buffers in flood prone areas
- Deed full disclosure of all flood risk associated with a property
- Advocate EMA preparedness

5.8 FORESTS

Of the 88 counties in Ohio, Fayette has preserved the least of its wood lots. It is imperative that existing woods be protected and that ordinances are codified that require appropriate amounts of tree planting in redevelopment areas. Forest segments should not be clear-cut but managed for sustainable timber production that insures lumber profits in the future as well as a healthy habitat to sustain forest wildlife and prevent erosion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Programs and policies should be used to protect the existing woods and enhance areas around these woods.
- Construction of new houses and businesses should be discouraged in woods or forests.
- Existing programs should be used and new programs developed to start new wooded or forested areas.
- County Park System needs to be developed to protect and maintain forests and woods.
- A decision needs to be made if woods/forests are for production or conservation.
- Education must be extended to the citizens of the county to help them understand the true importance of woodlands, wood lots, and the trees within all riparian corridors.

5.9 PRAIRIES

Fayette County has prairie soils that long ago supported prairie plants. During the centuries long drought period known as the Xerothermic Interval, prairie grasses and other forbs grew extensively in the rich Brookston and Midwell soils found in the Southwest Ohio Prairie Region.

When the early settlers arrived, the prairie grasslands were important for grazing and then for farming with the advent of the steel plow. At the turn of the century, 1800-1900, drainage tile was installed to make the heavy soils productive for grain farming. Today the Brookston and Midwell soil series, where systematic tile drainage has been used, are some of the most productive soils in the county.

Where remnant prairie plants still exist (abandoned cemeteries or rail right of ways), they should be preserved and managed. Prairie habitats would make excellent wildlife conservation areas and could be established along rails-to-trails systems in the county at a reasonable cost and minimal maintenance.

Prairie habitat native to the region should be recognized, maintained and encouraged for areas in the county- especially to promote environmental diversity and as a source of open space aesthetics for cluster development in rural areas. Prairie development as a habitat for native songbirds and game populations should be established when possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promote the protection of remaining prairie within the county.
- Encourage the use of prairie planting as aesthetic treatments along roadways.
- Advocate the use of prairie planting as a component of the open space aesthetics for cluster development.
- Deed full disclosure of all flood risk associated with a property

- Advocate EMA preparedness

5.10 STREAM CORRIDORS

With increasing focus on watershed health and protection, stream corridors of all sizes have drawn increasing scrutiny. Clearing to their banks and channelizing them is cause for great concern within a highly agricultural county as the natural state of a waterway is all that protects it, and the overall watershed, from agricultural runoff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The county should establish for all tributaries, filter strips comprised of grasses and at least 30 feet in width to be maintained along each side of the tributary as measured from the top of the bank.
- Adopt effective countywide erosion and sedimentation control methods which also limit chemical runoff from agricultural lands, commercial and residential developments and golf courses.
- Those waterways that are directly used as a source for drinking water should be checked regularly for point source and non point source pollution levels.
- Government programs such as CREPS and CRP which pay producers to install grass and tree buffers should be promoted by the county.

5.11 QUARRIES

It is especially important that highly permeable geologic deposits be protected due to high sensitivity and potential ground water contamination.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Land suitable for rock quarries should have a suitable zoning classification that prohibits congestion and environmental harm to residential areas located nearby.

5.12 WETLANDS

Existing wetlands, which effectively prevent runoff from adjacent fields, filter water overflow into the aquifer, or provide good wildlife habitat, especially for endangered or threatened wildlife species, should be maintained by the county.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Wetland construction should be under guidelines from NRCS. Landowners and farmers should be encouraged to enroll their land in the CRP and WRP programs.
- Rural development seeking EPA approved treatment facilities should be encouraged and aided by the county to use effective wetland treatment areas, which may provide not only proper waste diffusion, but also areas of wildlife habitat for public access.

5.13 WILDLIFE AREAS

At one time Fayette County was known for its pheasant hunting. The crop rotation of corn, soybeans, wheat, hay and pasture has become far less varietal as it is now only corn and soybeans. Fence rows have been removed to make fields bigger in hopes of greater agricultural efficiency. Due to all these factors combined - Fayette is in great need of areas that encourage the protection and cultivation of its natural wildlife. Now areas for pheasant are few and many other species have been denied those natural passages that were once present along streams and in fence rows. Large expanses of open plain are conducive to certain types of life, but pheasant, hawk, coyote, heron and many other Ohio species, do not call it home.

Wildlife areas, especially those containing wetlands, trees, walking trails, etc. near the rails-to-trails systems should be acquired for the benefit of the public, present and/or future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Existing wildlife areas should be preserved in perpetuity.
- The county should acquire wildlife areas owned by the Division of Wildlife if they are to be sold by the state.
- A county Park/Wildlife system needs to be developed to protect and maintain wildlife areas.
- The County should purchase or lease wildlife observation areas, wetlands, walking trails and butterfly gardens.

5.14 SUBSURFACE WATER FLOW (DRAINAGE)

The clean water act and the NPDES regulations are a component of every counties water resource protection guidelines. Drainage into subsurface flow is completely dependent upon the current and future development choices that the County makes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Protect existing drainage in developing areas by use of easements and by requiring the developer to provide proper drainage improvements within the new construction area.
- Ensure that all Clean Water Act /NPDES regulations are followed.
- Encourage the use of flow control devices to regulate the flow in times where drainage is not needed.
- In areas in need of improved agricultural drainage, group projects addressing the entire watershed should be encouraged.

5.15 NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES

WETLAND PROTECTION POLICIES

- Require that all rezonings submit an environmental analysis of the site to ensure that all wetlands are protected as outlined by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
- Develop a countywide wetland map from the latest wetland information available.

- Determine if a countywide wetland mitigation bank would be appropriate for Fayette.

OPEN SPACE POLICIES

- Develop a conservation easement program to protect critical resource areas and other important open space.
- Consider strategic purchases of critical open space areas to preserve these areas and to provide important trail and habitat linkages.
- Study the appropriate mechanisms to limit development in critical resource areas and transfer development to areas that the County has designated as more appropriate.
- Develop a continuous greenway system.
- Encourage the development of a balance of neighborhood, community and County district parks.
- Continue to cooperate with local jurisdictions and associations in the provision of park and recreation services to avoid duplication of efforts and encourage maximum use of available resources.
- The county should adopt a park dedication fee-in-lieu-of dedication policy to fairly distribute the cost of acquiring parkland prior to development as opportunities occur.
- Encourage multi-use trails within major roadway corridors.
- Encourage appropriate conversions of railway abandonments to the greenways and trails system.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

- Growth that occurs after the adoption of these policies will develop in such a way that Fayette County's critical resource areas are protected.
- Strongly discourage random-pattern and sprawl development.
- Promote a stewardship ethic for the land and water through extensive outreach and educational efforts.
- Development activities and protection of our natural environment will be compatible in Fayette County. Development activity shall recognize the limitations of the natural environment with respect to the climate, soils, topography, substrata, and surface and groundwater resources.
- Require environmental impact assessments for developments over 20 acres or within areas defined as critical resources.
- Create guidelines for the protection of all riparian corridors within the County including major floodplains and stream valleys.
- Conserve the natural character of the area and protect sensitive areas through the use of conservation
- Promote and encourage water conservation.
- Encourage inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination of environmental protection policies.
- Implement policies that incorporate high standards of

landscape and buffering to protect mature or otherwise significant vegetative specimens.



6.0 PARKS AND RECREATION

6.1 VISION

To create a system of well programmed parks and enriching recreational experiences appropriate for the citizens of Fayette County.

6.2 BACKGROUND

Parks and Recreation play a key role in the development of a Comprehensive Plan. The recreational amenities that a community provides its residents are an indicator of the priority placed on the health and welfare of its citizens. Providing parks and recreational opportunities is good business. Companies evaluate development sites in terms of many factors, one of them being the availability of recreational amenities in the region. Therefore the comprehensive development of greenways, trails, parks, and preserves is key to the future of Fayette County.

The parks and recreational areas of Fayette County are found in two basic areas. The majority of the parks are located within the City of Washington Court House and it is important to note that they are not under county control and any connection to and redevelopment of them will be achieved through a county/city coordinated effort. Some are located in the surrounding villages and at the County Schools. Deer Creek State Park is also in Fayette County, but because of its location on the far eastern side of the county it isn't always perceived as a county resource.

With the County school system closing many of its outlying elementary schools, the playgrounds for children in these areas are being lost. Parents must now find a way for their children to travel several miles in some cases to get to baseball / softball games and practices. It seems the days of "sand lot" ball games are lost.

Organized Social / Recreational Activities available in the county besides the school activities include: T-Ball, Little League Baseball,

Police Athletic League (Baseball and Basketball), Softball, Church Softball League, Pony League Football, roller skating and Inline Hockey teams, gymnastics and gymnastics' teams, youth dance lessons, Fayette Community Concerts. The YMCA has youth indoor soccer, youth fall basketball, youth cheer leading, flag football, golf camp, adult and youth co-ed sand-pit volleyball, swimming lessons and swimming team.

6.3 GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Provide recreational opportunities for the County residents.
 - a. Map areas that are classified as critical resource areas and allocate them for passive recreation.
 - b. Provide county facilities for active recreational needs dependent upon the countywide needs assessment (guidelines provided in Appendix 10.1)
 - c. Require an open space dedication as part of all developed residential subdivisions based on the total number of lots.
2. Create a Parks and Recreation Master plan for Fayette County.
 - a. Create the Fayette County Parks and Recreation District with representatives from each school system, city and village that will comprise the FCP&RD Board



b. Consult with the resources provided in Appendix 10.1 to develop a Mission Statement and Values that will guide all decisions made by the FCP&RD board.

c. Utilize the resources provided in Appendix 10.1 to carry out a countywide needs assessment prior to the designation of any County park or recreational improvement.

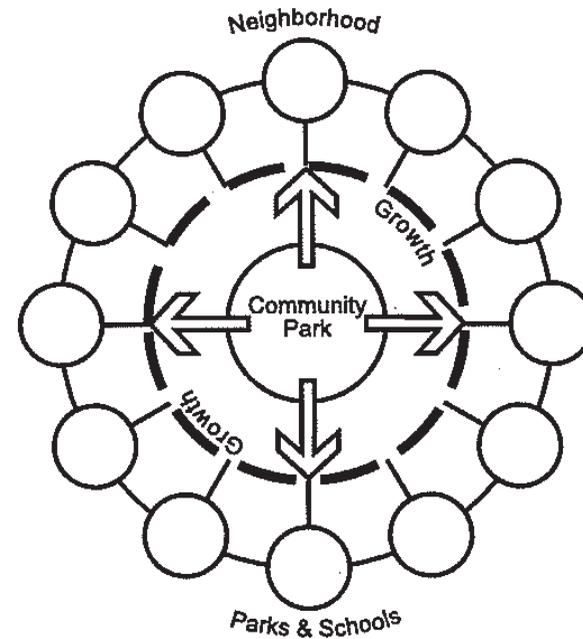
c. Facilitate the search for grants and governmental money that can be applied towards the planning, development and maintenance of those programs and facilities outlined by the FCP&RD board.

d. Ensure that future planning facilitates connections between existing regional state parks and those facilities in and around Fayette County and to facilities in Washington Court House (Deer Creek State Park and Paint Creek State Park).

Without strong leadership, defined plans, and specific goals, the future of parks and recreation in Fayette County will continue as it has. A countywide commitment to providing appropriate recreation opportunities is paramount to healthy growth and economic development. Preservation of existing open space and critical resource areas is the first step in placing recreation as a key component within the planning of the county.

The current trail system and its planned connections will play a key role in the connection of open spaces within regions and one day the entire county.

A Park District will prove to be vital to the county as more



THE CENTRALIZED GROWTH MODEL

The centralized model would consist of a single major community-level park that is large enough or can expand to contain all community-level activities.

The centralized model is the manner in which many smaller geographic areas functioned with one central park serving as the central place for all community-level recreation. The advantage of the centralized model is the efficiency of management and maintenance. The disadvantage of this model is Fayette County is too large an area to be served by one central recreational hub.

development opportunities present themselves to the county. To maintain a competitive economic climate in which Fayette has the benefit of selecting appropriate development opportunities - there must be several to choose from. A Master Plan and an active County Park Board would be the first step in developing the kind of future we desire for Fayette County.

6.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Determine the recreational needs of the county through a stepwise needs assessment.
- Provide safe routes to schools through trails, sidewalks and bikeways.
- Consider economic development opportunities surrounding trail use and development.
- Determine if the Dunlap Farm could be used as a multi-use recreation facility that would accommodate cycling, horseback riding and ATV / snow mobile use.
- Determine if the Dunlap Farm could accommodate a recreation center that could provide additional recreation space suited to the needs of both the local high schools (cross county track, basketball courts and a weight room)
- Complete the recreational trails that would connect Fayette to Greene, Ross and surrounding counties.
- A small park with tennis courts, basketball courts and playground equipment be developed in the southwest area of town.
- Miami Trace High School should have tennis courts on site.

6.5 COUNTYWIDE TRAIL SYSTEM

The Basic Elements

The development of a system of trails within the county is more than just connecting dots and drawing lines on a map. It is understanding who will be using the trail, for what purpose, what the origins and destinations are, and determining how the plan can provide a complete trail system connecting destinations and other trail systems. Additionally, the plan needs public input to be successfully developed. It's necessary to understand who might be using specific elements of the trail, for what purpose, and in what volume.

As trails develop throughout the Fayette County community, usage will increase. Many trails will become busy at certain times or along certain sections. Often, neighborhoods or residents initially opposed to a potential nearby trail become the most regular users. Trails and sidewalks built along roads where few pedestrians or bicyclists were present previously become busy. Fitness and wellness concerns have led to significant amounts of trail based exercise, from leisurely lengthy walks, to strenuous workouts by all age groups. Many times a variety of different users are mixed on the same trail. Bicyclists and inline skaters, sometimes in groups, use trails for workouts. Families, including children still with training wheels on bikes or parents pushing strollers, share trails with those riders or runners looking for a lengthier workout. This leads to a trail system that provides for a myriad of users with a variety of needs. As a result, it is necessary to develop a system that brings the various elements all of the users together.

Users

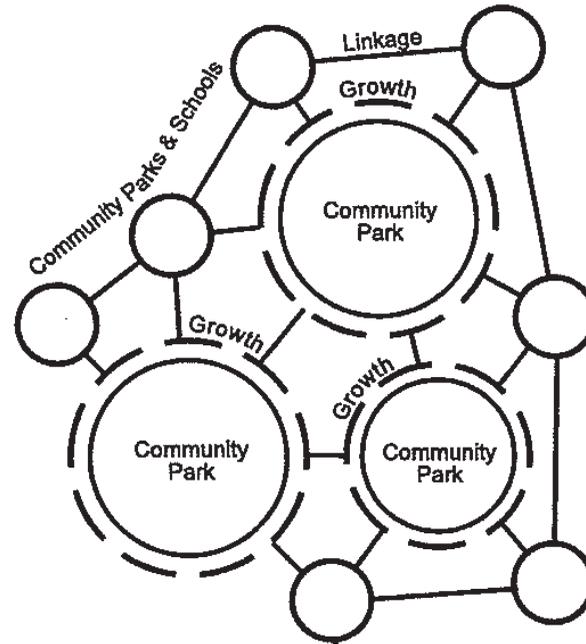
Trails are often designed for bicycle users and they are frequently one of the main users. Bicyclists generally have a specific destination in mind, such as a park or school, or are looking for a relatively long route along a larger system. The main function of a bicycle trail system is to provide for recreational use. Most users are content with a short trip, starting and ending at an origin; typically home. Other riders are looking for more strenuous activity and may plan a lengthier distance. This may include trips into adjacent communities or rides on a regional trail system. Pedestrians frequently use the same trail system although their trips are typically shorter. Residents will also use a sidewalk as a method of activity. Trails and/or sidewalks can connect origins and destinations, but there is a limitation on distances most people will walk. Rollerblade users also use the trail system for fitness purposes. These users will frequently take trips of several miles, and require a smoother surface and less interaction with streets and other conflicts.

Surface smoothness, lack of conflicts, width, grades, and other elements are all a reflection on who will be using the trail and for what purpose. If the purpose is to get to a specific destination, then the trail system must reflect not only a connection between the origin and destination, but also the elements at the destination. For example, if the destination is a park, the trail should connect to the park trail system. Or, if the destination is a YMCA, or any other community facility, the trail should connect to the main pedestrian entrance and bike racks should be provided. There must be coordination with schools, commercial establishments, and even employment areas. Thus, a trail for a destination purpose must be designed to complete that purpose. Much of the use of trails today is by individuals interested in wellness and fitness. Walking has become a preferred method of fitness for many, especially those who are advanced in age. While a walking trail through a park on a gravel surface might suit an individual using walking as a fitness

THE DISPERSED GROWTH MODEL

The dispersed model by comparison would distribute Fayette County's major park facilities throughout the community. The advantage of the dispersed model is that with proper planning, all residents within major population centers enjoy convenient access to a major community park. There also may be multiple sites for special uses distributed throughout the system that take advantage of existing natural assets and provide equity in type, location, and service level across the entire community.

Fayette's growth pattern leads in the direction of the dispersed model with a strong emphasis on connectivity via the waterways, open space and existing bike trails as the major component of a Greenway and Open Space Framework. Ideally, the park system will ultimately have a wide variety of community-level facilities that are equally distributed throughout the County. This model can be analyzed within the County's Development Zones 1-6 for population projections and a discussion of opportunities that exist within each zone.



mode, seniors using a short walking route are looking for a smooth surface, lack of conflicts with bicycles and inline skaters, limited grades, and especially a short loop route. The trail system must also reflect on the potential for other types of modes other than the obvious three that are normally considered; pedestrians, bicycles, and inline skaters. In some areas, wheelchairs will be mixed in with the users. Skateboards, strollers, and other methods may also frequently be mixed and should always be considered.

The System as a Whole

It is important to develop a system of trails and sidewalks. The trail system should connect destinations with the users and may also be used to connect various destinations. Connections between parks, schools and neighborhoods that contain trails are good examples. Continuity with the regional system, such as the development of the trail along rivers, is also desirable.

Ultimately, the trail plan must fit into Fayette County's existing framework. Future needs must be developed in line with any expenditures that have already been made throughout the community. Parks can become part of the larger trail system that diverts trail users from using a system that runs along County streets to one running through open spaces.

Existing System

Determination of what trails / sidewalks already exist in the county and its incorporated areas. Sidewalks can be considered but if a high level of bike traffic is to be expected then widening the walk from its typical 4 or 5 feet to 8 foot width should be considered to increase long term use and safety needs. Some existing sidewalk sections can be incorporated into the

trail system where designated. Many sections of sidewalk can be temporarily used as part of the trail system until funding and/or community desire dictate full development into the trail system. Other sections of existing sidewalks will not be a part of the trail system, but still serve desirable purpose of providing a route for pedestrians outside of vehicular traffic circulation.

Public Involvement

Fayette County has yet to engage the public on the specific issue of trails. The general needs assessment that will provide pivotal information to the county to support the creation of the Fayette County Parks & Recreation District will also provide key information about the communities' view of trails.

Compiling the results from other communities they are typically organized along several common themes:

- Trails are important and desirable in a community.
- Trails must be planned for comprehensively in order to create a network that interconnects parks, natural areas, neighborhoods, and other community resources.
- All trails should be wide enough to permit multiple uses.
- Off-road trails are preferred over bike lanes within the right of way.
- Good design, location and maintenance are key to frequent use.
- Education of the community is key in the development of public support for future trail projects.

Design Requirements

The typical section is approximately 8 feet in width and should provide a basic clear zone and shoulder on either side. Maximum grade is 8% with a landing area near intersections. Recognizing that inline skaters may also be using the trail, grades and curves are a special consideration. Within Fayette County off-street bike trails are preferred to on-road bike systems or bike lanes. An off-road trail provides for two-way traffic for pedestrians, bicycles, and other users while on-street bike lanes have a component on each side of the street reflecting the needs of both. Pedestrians and bicycles would also be opposing each other continuously to comply with regulations. In addition, bike lanes are confronted with parked vehicles, and there is constant conflict with motorized traffic, especially at intersections.

Maps, provided by Fayette County, are essential for residents and others to have an understanding and access to the system. Appropriate signage along the trails is also necessary so that users do not have to frequently consult a map for exact location within the system.

Maintenance

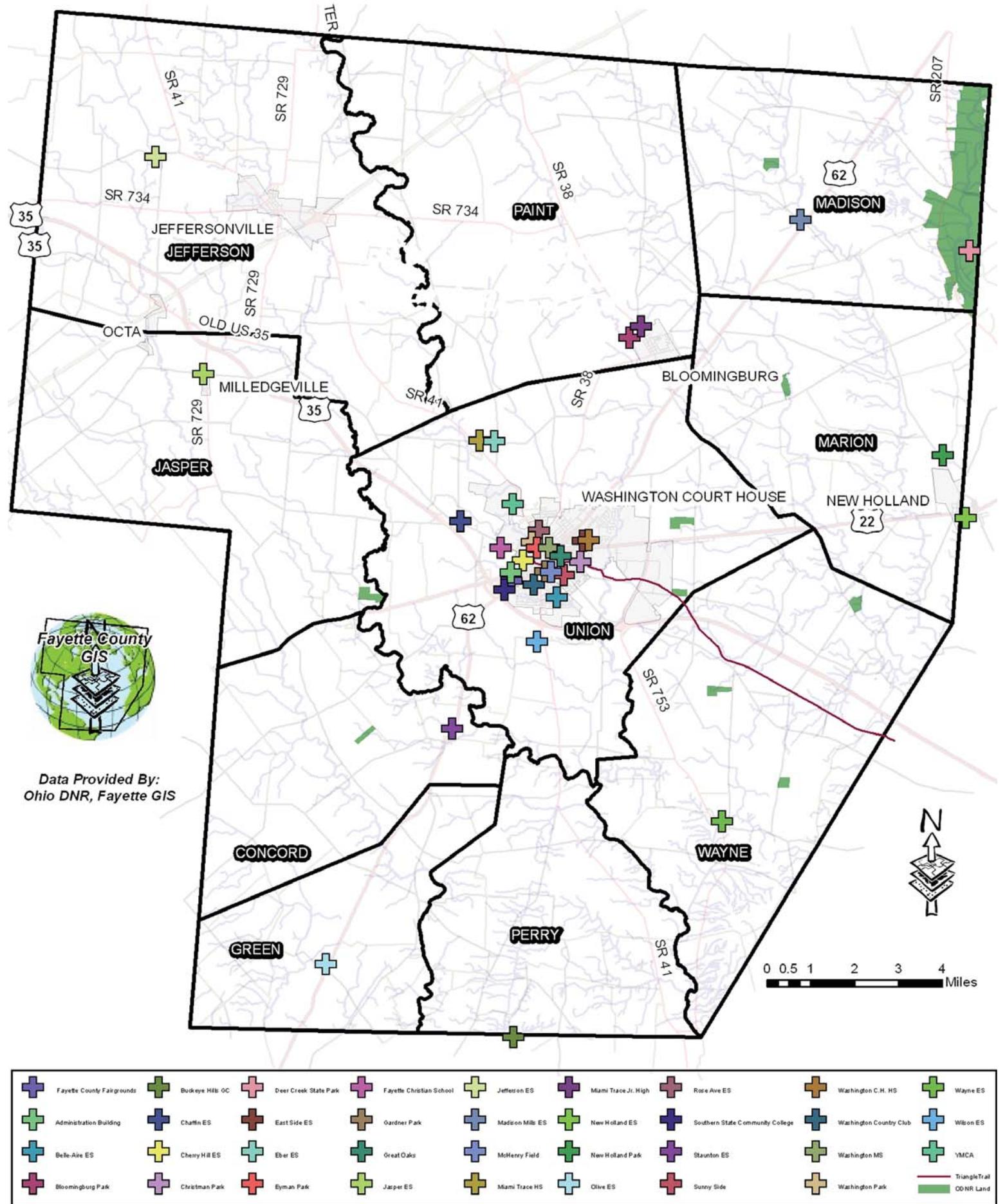
An often overlooked consideration in developing a trail plan is maintenance. The determination needs to be made of the importance of clearing, sweeping and plowing the trail system. Although litter is seldom left behind by trail users, trail systems accumulate debris from bicycle riders, motorists on adjacent streets, and sometimes pedestrians. A continual effort to pick up trash along the trails and especially to remove animal waste is essential in maintenance efforts. It is also necessary to recognize that trails will need periodic surface restoration and a growing trail

system will require greater funding for maintenance. Due to these potential additional costs, it may be desirable to establish a trail maintenance fund within the County's budget.

Implementation / Evaluation

Implementation should be based on funding, priorities, and obvious connection needs. The design philosophy of the Fayette County trail system can be based on a series of destination connections. Eventually, these destination connections can be tied together with additional lengths of trails that will provide Fayette County residents with longer trip opportunities. Missing connections where there is no existing trail or sidewalk, locations where the trail is a critical element in a neighborhood loop for recreation, or a major desire line need to be highest priority. The volume of use anticipated on an existing sidewalk can be used to help prioritize those conversion segments and also to establish priorities between updating sidewalks to trails or adding trails where none exist. It is possible that some sidewalk segments may be adequate for a considerable period of time and would receive a low priority. Ultimately, priorities will be affected by the available funding sources. Fayette County can use a number of methods to finance trails. Trails have been funded through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and as part of many street improvements. Specific developments can provide funding sources since the trails can be incorporated into development plans along with opportunities to secure monies from ODOT. Overall the development of a framework for a well defined trail system will provide for more favorable grant and funding applications.

It is important to note there will always be the need to utilize public involvement throughout the implementation process. This can be done through continued public workshops or public



meetings, or the development of a special advisory committee to work on alternative funding sources and implementation of the final plan recommendations. It is recommended that this plan be evaluated and/or updated every five years.

6.6 RECREATION POLICIES

- Develop a conservation easement program to protect critical resource areas and other important open space.
- Consider strategic purchases of critical open space areas to preserve these areas and to provide important trail and habitat linkages.
- Study the appropriate mechanisms to limit development in critical resource areas and transfer development to areas that the County has designated as more appropriate.
- Develop a listing of low cost Federal and State conservation practices available to local officials that can be implemented during development.
- Support the development of a County-wide green way system.
- Encourage the development of a balance of neighborhood, community and County district parks.
- Continue to cooperate with local jurisdictions and associations in the provision of park and recreation services to avoid duplication of efforts and encourage maximum use of available resources.

- The county should adopt a park dedication fee-in-lieu-of dedication policy to fairly distribute the cost of acquiring parkland prior to development as opportunities occur.
- Encourage appropriate conversions of railway abandonment's to the greenways and trails system.

6.7 PARK INVENTORY

The following is an inventory of the parks in the County, including those located within the incorporated areas. Although those in the cities do not fall within the study area, they are pivotal in the overall park planning for the county. A countywide system must take all parks and their program elements into account in order to allocate new parks in appropriate locations and with appropriate elements.

Chrisman Park

New playground equipment was installed approximately four years ago. This included a new gym set with swings and slide. A three court volleyball courts with sand was put in 5 years ago. Electrical service was upgraded to handle the loads for picnics and lighting. The bike path was connected to the east side of the park making a loop from the dead end of Sycamore St. behind the wastewater treatment plant to the back of the cemetery. New picnic tables and benches have also been installed and replaced as needed.

Rawlings St. Park

New fence around the park was installed in 2004. Several of the playground toys have been replaced because of age and safety conditions. Some of the spring toys have been removed.

The basketball court will need some repair in the near future.

Washington Park (swimming pool area)

A new smaller gazebo type shelter house was constructed near the creek in the Washington Park area. This shelter house was intended for smaller groups that wish to use the park and not take space from the larger shelter. Electric service was upgraded at the larger shelter house to accommodate increased loads of lighting and outlets. New picnic tables are constructed every year to replace older ones that have deteriorated with time. There is a sand volleyball court in this park as well. This park is where the City swimming pool is located. During the past several years the Ohio Department of Natural Resources has held a fishing derby at one or both of the ponds. ODNR stocks the ponds with fish just before the derby to be sure the kids have something to catch.

Eyman Park:

In 2004 a skate park was installed over an existing tennis court. This skate park is complete with jumps and ramps. A new layer of asphalt was overlaid on the court to provide a safe rolling surface. In 2003 new playground equipment was installed in this park. Several of the existing toys have been removed for safety reasons due to the age of the toy. Eyman Park is staffed during the summer months with YMCA and city personnel to distribute games and organize play at the park. There have been in the past several community concerts in the park during the summer months as well. This has been a coordinated effort with community business, WVNU radio and the City.

This park includes two ball diamonds, horseshoe pit, basketball court, two tennis courts, miscellaneous playground equipment (swings and slides, and other toys) and some walking paths which connect with Washington Park (swimming pool area).

Most of the improvements in the City parks have happened in the last 7 years. Before that it was a “maintenance only” issue. The bike/walk path is a big improvement for the residents of our community at the present time it links Washington Park with Eyman Park, Gardner Park (except around railroad tracks) and Chrisman Park. It is not assigned to any one park.

OTHER RECREATIONAL SITES IN THE CITY

Little League

Washington Little League maintains two baseball diamonds on the edge of the city off State Route 38.

Police Athletic League

The Police Athletic League maintains a baseball diamond off old Route 35 northwest at the edge of the city.

Washington Country Club

Washington Country Club has a 9-hole golf course, tennis court and a country club building.

Washington Court House City Schools

Belle-Aire, Cherry Hill, and Rose Elementary Schools:

All have playgrounds that are maintained by the school district.

Washington Senior High School:

Washington Senior High School has an indoor basketball/Volleyball court. A baseball diamond, softball diamond, field house with weight room, running track with track events areas, and practice areas including football practice field are located at Washington Senior High School. These facilities are usually unavailable to the public because of constant use by the students and sports programs of the school.

Gardner Park is maintained by Washington Court House City School and contains a football stadium with concession stands that is used for football and soccer. Gardner Park also contains two tennis courts, a field house, and an open grassy area which is used for football practice (7th and 8th grade) and for T-ball.

Washington Middle School:

Washington Middle School has a basketball/volleyball court.

In the County:

The recreation areas in the county are mainly found in the areas occupied by an elementary school. Some of the schools have been sold to private individuals or businesses and can no longer be used for recreation.

Wilson, Chaffin, Eber Schools:

These schools are found within 3 miles of the corporation limit of the City of Washington Court House. They are located on the north, south, and western side of the City. These schools were once elementary or primary schools equipped with playground areas. The playgrounds have or had ball diamonds, swings, teeter-totters and other equipment and are maintained by the Miami Trace School system.

Olive School:

Located near the southern edge of Fayette County on US. Route 62 SW was sold by the Miami Trace School system several years ago to private individuals. The playground area is still there although the equipment has been removed.

Good Hope Elementary:

This is currently an active school in the Miami Trace school system. It is found in a small community in the southeastern part of the county. It is equipped with all of the standard playground equipment including a softball field. This area is maintained by Miami Trace school system. Good Hope School has a Gym that is used for some off-season basketball games.

Madison Mills School:

Located in the northeast part of the county near the Madison county line. This school has a playground area.

Village of Milledgeville:

A playground and softball field is at the former location of Jasper School in the northwestern part of the county in the Village of Milledgeville, near the Greene County line. The village of Milledgeville purchased the property, when Miami Trace Local Schools sold the elementary school. The village has maintained the recreation area. The future plans for the area have not determined.

Bloomingsburg School:

Located on the north central part of the County within seven miles of the City of Washington Court House in the Village of Bloomingsburg. This school has a gym that is used for out of season basketball games or volleyball games. There is an outside basketball court that is also available to the public.

New Holland School:

New Holland School has a small softball field and some other playground equipment. This school is located on the western

side of Pickaway County. While not in Fayette County it is maintained by the Miami Trace School system. It is one of the elementary schools used by Miami Trace.

Miami Trace High School:

Miami Trace High School has indoor basketball/volleyball courts. A baseball diamond, softball diamond, field house with weight room, running track with track events areas, and football stadium which is used for football and soccer is also located at Miami Trace High School. These facilities are usually unavailable to the public because of constant use by the students and sports programs of the school.

Village of Bloomingburg:

In the Village of Bloomingburg, the Bloomingburg Lions Club has a park area. The park area consists of a small baseball field and a picnic area.

Village of New Holland:

The New Holland Lions Club has a park on the northern side of the Village. This park has three baseball fields and some playground equipment. There is a small pond in the area that is under heavy fishing pressure by the local citizens. Two shelter houses are also found in the park. The park hosts the Windmill Days festival held by the Village over the Labor Day weekend.

Jeffersonville School:

Located in the largest village in Fayette County, the school has ball field and playground equipment. A gym is also used for basketball games during the winter months. The YMCA uses the area for soccer games held in the northern part of the county.

Village of Jeffersonville:

The Village of Jeffersonville has a swimming pool that is available to the community by purchasing a pool ticket. There are plans in the works to build a skateboard park in this same area. At present there is no picnic area available here.

Madison Mills:

The Tri-County League has a nice ballpark that has youth baseball during the summer at Madison Mills.

Bike paths:

The Triangle Trails committee has been acquiring the old railroad beds that once connected Washington Court House and the City of Chillicothe.

Deercreek State Park:

Deercreek State Park is located in the far eastern reaches of Fayette. There is one picnic area in Fayette County. The Fayette/Pickaway line runs through the park. Deercreek has organized nature walk trails, mountain bike trails and other hiking trails. Trails exist for four wheeler use and horse back riding. Fishing, boating and water skiing area available at the lake for the enjoyment of the public. There is a public golf course on the north side of the lake.

Buckeye Hills Golf Course:

Buckeye Hills Golf Course is an 18 hole course in the southern part of the county.

Future Plans

YMCA:

A new YMCA is currently under construction on the Dunlap Farm in the City of Washington Court House. The plans show an indoor pool, weight room and other indoor equipment.

Dunlap Farm:

This is the area around the YMCA future site. The general plans for this area by the City show soccer fields, baseball and softball fields cross country track and other outdoor activities. New tennis courts are also planned for the future. Other activities could be implemented as the public demand and funds are available such as a Band Shell for concerts.

Bike/Walking Trails:

The Triangle Trails committee will continue to work on the old railroad beds that once connected Washington Court House and the City of Chillicothe that will become the bike/walking trails.

Washington Court House City Schools

A levy was passed in May 2005 providing Washington Court House City Schools with funding for building new school buildings supplemented by the state. Plans include demolishing Rose Avenue and Eastside Elementary Schools and the gym at Washington Middle School. It is not known at this time as to whether playground equipment will still be located at the Rose Avenue and Eastside Elementary Schools' sites.

Additional Needs:

Madison Mill

Upgrade of the existing playground, baseball and soccer facilities and expansion of the parking for these facilities.

Jeffersonville

Need for a playground area and playground equipment

Bloomington

Upgrade of ball fields

Octa/ Milledgeville

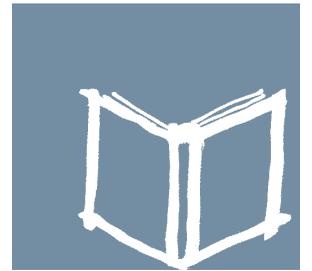
Development of playground and parks for the use of both communities

New Holland

Development of soccer fields and upgrade of existing playground equipment.

Washington Court House

Rawling Street Park - basketball and volleyball courts
Chrisman Park – Upgrade of basketball courts
Eyman Park – Upgrade of basketball courts



7.0 EDUCATION

7.1 VISION

Fayette County will continue to develop and maintain up-to-date educational institutions, taking into consideration local input, the best use of land, serviceability and financial support to provide the best educational opportunities for all members of the community.

7.2 BACKGROUND

The issues facing Fayette County to continue the up-to-date educational institutions include: the changing family unit and how its make-up affects education; the changing employment demands of the community, which are at the heart of our economic development; the changing tax policy to insure fairness to all who utilize our educational institutions; and oversee our aging facilities, which challenge our equal opportunity education, and technological interaction.

As far as background information is concerned, the Washington Court House City School district was formed in 1828 with what is now the Washington Middle School constructed in 1913; the Washington High School constructed in 1919; Cherry Hill School constructed in 1912; Rose Avenue School constructed in 1924; Eastside School constructed in 1958; Belle-Aire School constructed in 1958; and Sunnyside School constructed in 1939. As of January 1, 1956, the Miami Trace Local School District was formed and was approved by the voters and became effective for rural Fayette County. Miami Trace High School was constructed in 1962; Miami Trace Junior High School at Bloomingburg was constructed in 1919; Wilson Elementary School was constructed in 1917; Wayne Elementary School was constructed in 1919; New Holland elementary School was constructed in 1928; Madison Mills Elementary School was constructed in 1922; and Jeffersonville Elementary School was constructed in 1924. During the last two

decades of the 20th Century Fayette Christian School, Great Oak Joint Vocational School, Southern State Community College Branch, and the special services for education were established and located here in Fayette County. Please review the Fayette County educational Institutional Directory as of January 1, 2005, that is included in this report.

The following members of the community met over a twelve-month period to formulate this report: Co-chairmen, John Wead and Rob Herron, and members, Carman A. Frogale, Dr. Lawrence Dukes, Dan Roberts, Debbie Black, Richard Owens, Pam Feick, Keith Brown, Paul McClish, and Ron Lott. The committee would like to take this opportunity to dedicate this report in memory of Carman A. Frogale, who not only served on this committee, but, also, served the educational systems of Fayette County, Ohio, for over 30 years. In dedicating this report to Carman A. Frogale, we wish to recognize our community's appreciation for his service over these decades.

7.3 GOALS AND STRATEGIES

1. Education is a lifelong pursuit and should reflect the individual needs of students, and the community

a. To prolong the early enthusiasm for learning throughout the educational process by more hands-on teaching and integration of fields of knowledge.

b. To support parental involvement in the learning process with their children.

c. To provide a broader range of opportunity to participate in drama, sports, and variety of performing arts and activities.

e. To recognize educational institutions as a viable choice in the community.

f. To align teacher with students to foster students' abilities and expression while letting standards maintain themselves.

g. To foster continuing education with classes for adults and senior citizens.

h. To learn how to evaluate information from written publications, television, radio, and the internet to discern their truth.

i. To re-train the workforce to meet the economic needs of the community.

j. To foster family support and personal improvement by utilizing our community's mental health, social services and spiritual counseling groups.

k. To promote social services for parents, students and teachers.

2. Encourage community partnerships for the purpose of educational progress in public, private, and optional educational institutions.

a. To recognize the interdependent nature of strong schools, enriching economic development, and good medical care.

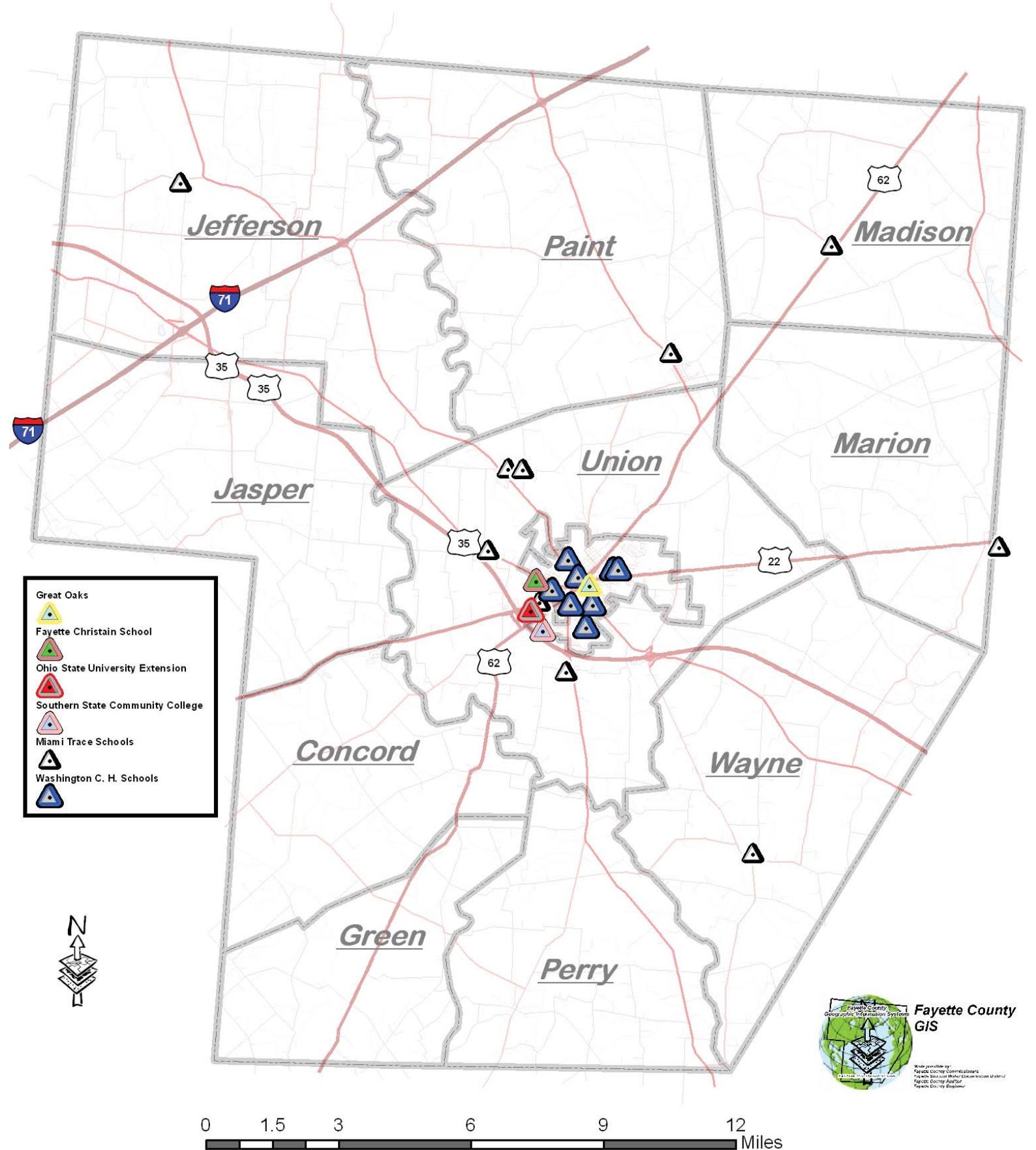
b. To coordinate remedial, special needs and gifted service programs to best serve the student.

CURRENT SCHOOL LOCATIONS

- c. To develop educational support systems in our community.
- d. To appreciate and maintain the unique qualities of our separate school districts.
- d. To respond to the needs of a changing economic and employment environment in order to train a viable workforce.
- e. To share information by utilizing varied media, technological, satellite systems.
- f. To foster interaction among educational personnel with students and parents in an educational process.
- g. To partner programs with public, private and optional schools for a wider variety of curriculum.
- h. To promote interaction among senior citizens, students and teachers of our community.
- i. To support the continuing education of all educational personnel.

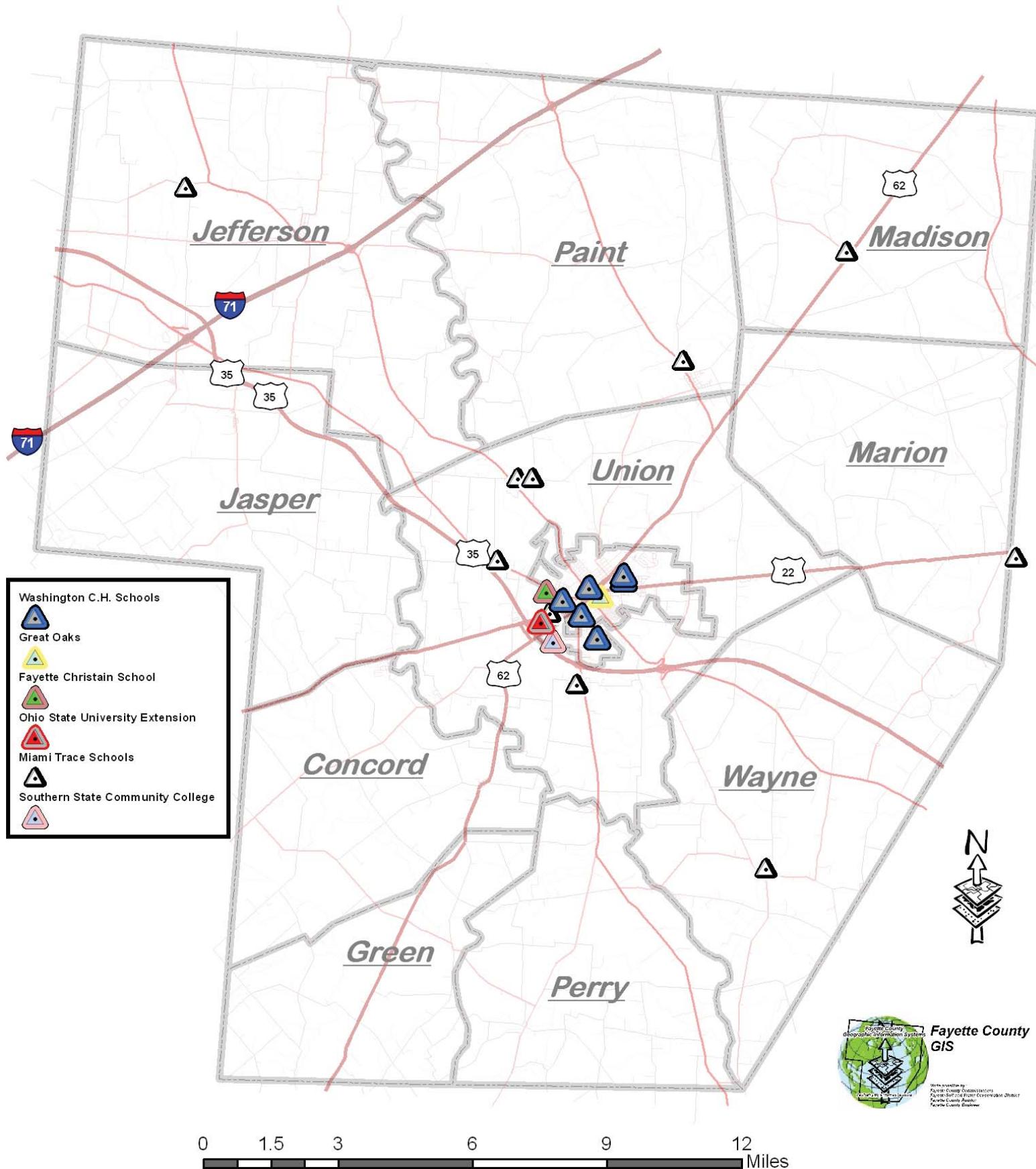
3. Revitalize and develop up-to-date educational facilities that provide a safe and stimulating environment

- a. To advance our educational facilities for utilization of the technological pursuit of academic excellence.
- b. To locate educational facilities in a healthy and safe environment.
- c. To offer an equal opportunity education through our educational facilities.
- d. To reflect the pride we have in our community through our care and upkeep of our educational facilities.
- e. To house remedial programs to aid the changing family unit dynamics in the community.
- f. To emphasize small class size of 20 or less.
- g. To centralize the location of facilities in order to reduce travel time and cost, without losing each facility's uniqueness.
- h. To coordinate new housing sites with educational facilities through proper planning authorities.



Source: Digitized From Paper Maps, Basemap Data Provided By: The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Geological Survey. Map Compiled By: Scott David Cormany GIS Coordinator Fayette Soil and Water Conservation District

FUTURE SCHOOL LOCATIONS



i. To protect the integrity of all educational facilities in order to provide a healthy and safe environment.

4. Take advantage of / encourage improvements in the financial resources available.

a. To facilitate community education and discussion of funding problems, needs and inequities of our educational institutions.

b. To recognize that approximately 70% of the local real estate taxes are for educational support.

c. To encourage our legislature to equalize tax policy by introducing a sales tax and/or income tax, as a choice of educational funding, to support our educational institutions.

d. To advocate no state or federal governmental mandates without 100% funding.

e. To partner with present and developing businesses to financially support our educational institutions.

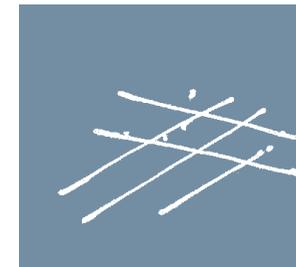
f. To encourage participation in present and continuing education programs for the community population for more awareness of the financial needs of our educational systems.

g. To attract new businesses that will pay high enough wages to stop the workforce from driving out-of-town to make a decent income and stay in our community to support the educational institutions.

h. To prevent noxious environmental companies from developing in our community in order to keep our community attractive.

i. To utilize all state and federal funds available for educational systems.

j. To realize how strong educational systems attract stronger businesses and strengthen the family unit.



8.0 GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE

8.1 BACKGROUND

In the past decade, Fayette County has shifted its focus. Watching the character of rural Fayette change has activated the decision makers in the community to take a proactive role in the future development patterns of their county. With input from all 9 subcommittees a listing of development desires have been compiled. Leading the list is the protection of agricultural land, with issues of infrastructure, economic development and housing following close behind. Although listed separately, this chapter summarizes that all development pattern issues are linked and must be undertaken in a comprehensive manner to truly affect the nature of land use in Fayette County therefore Agricultural preservation and Housing have been included in this chapter because the development pattern of one is linked to the other.

Important to all communities is the concept of growth management. Its effectiveness lies in its use as a tool to guide all types of development. It can be used county wide to control the timing, location and character of land development. When used to frame all land use decisions, growth management can prevent sprawl, and can reduce development costs associated with the provision of utilities to outlying areas. One major tenet of growth management supports compact residential communities over those utilizing large tracts of land. In this manner, the same amount of homes can be provided on substantially smaller quantities of land - leaving more acreage for agricultural use, the protection of critical resources, and economic development endeavors.

8.2 GROWTH MANAGEMENT GOALS:

1. Maintain the rural character of the county.
 - a. Identify scenic roadways within the county.

- b. Propose the appropriate zoning changes that protect view sheds along rural roadways.
 - c. Develop a scenic byway overlay that codifies those changes that will protect rural roadways.
2. Protect and increase access to the natural resources within the county.
 - a. Create a critical resource map for the county that identifies natural resources.
 - b. Undertake to increase access to the county natural resources for those in and around the county.
3. Develop a preliminary Land Use Classification.
 - a. Outline Land Use Classes to use in the development of a county map.
 - b. Develop Land Uses that will encourage the redevelopment of the Fayette County zoning code.

8.3 AGRICULTURAL / FARMLAND PRESERVATION

8.31 VISION STATEMENT

"Preserve our agricultural heritage while promoting managed housing and economic growth and development while maintaining our rural environment and lifestyle."

8.32 BACKGROUND

Fayette County has a long rich agricultural heritage. Historically, the predominant land use has been for agriculture. In 2003,

acreage used for agriculture production was 217,000 acres. Corn and soybeans are the primary crops grown with smaller amounts of wheat, hay, and pasture. Fayette County has been known for raising high quality livestock throughout its history. While livestock numbers have reduced, Fayette County is still home to top quality livestock operations raising beef and dairy cattle, hogs, horses, and sheep. Fayette County has the largest average farm size of any county in Ohio at 452 acres per farm with 480 farms in 2003. While actual farm numbers have decreased over the years, the production per acre has dramatically increased due to improved farming methods.

Agriculture will continue to be an important part of the county's culture. The biggest challenge to Agriculture in Fayette County is the continued loss of farmland to housing and development. Our committee encourages growth and development around municipalities where sewer and water infrastructure make it economically feasible for housing and industry.

We understand that economics will ultimately define the uses of our resources. It is our desire to bring industry that will be synergistic with modern production agriculture. Any such businesses should be developed in areas that will least impact existing homes and rural roads. Growth of heavy industry or business that will require use of heavy trucks or equipment should ultimately attempt to locate as near improved county roads or state highways as is practical.

We believe that with the proper management and good animal husbandry methods that rural communities can have both livestock and a safe clean environment. We support the development of local agribusiness and processing plants to provide employment and local market access. We encourage the county to maintain a base of 217,000 acres for agriculture production by discouraging housing and development growth in agricultural areas.

To ensure that the preservation of farmland within Fayette County is truly adopted by the community, a Farmland Preservation Plan must be created. This plan can function as an independent document, but it is intended that it be inserted into this Comprehensive Land Use Strategy Plan.

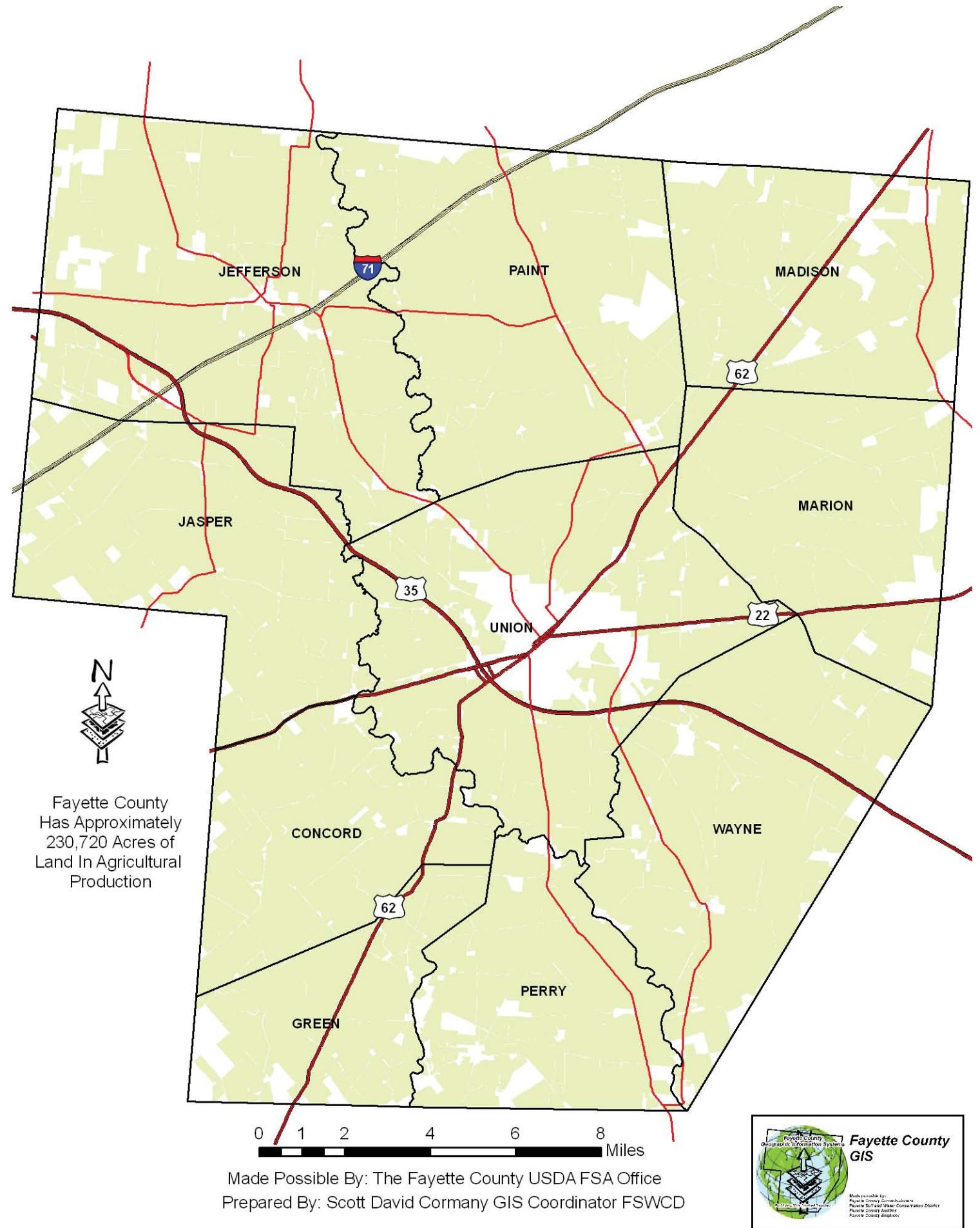
It is recommended that productive farm soils be kept in agriculture that benefits the landowner, environment, and the community nearby. Programs available such as the purchasing of development rights, agriculture, security areas, and federal and state incentives that encourage keeping land in responsible farms should be supported.

Proper drainage of a watershed and its soils should be put in place to allow farmland to remain productive. Any new residential or commercial construction next to farmland should not be allowed unless proper drainage of adjacent farmland will not be adversely affected by all future construction on the particular lot or lots. The county will make a coordinated effort to protect prime farmland through policies that encourage cluster development, and protect floodplains from development and loss of topsoil (buffer strips promoted). Development should be directed towards existing infrastructure, and away from large areas of productive farmland.

Farm security areas will be designated by the county as being highly productive farmland worthy of special preservation efforts.

8.33 AGRICULTURAL / FARMLAND PRESERVATION GOALS

1. Preserve and enhance the agricultural economy of Fayette county.
 - a. Develop a Farmland Preservation Plan for Fayette County.
 - b. Encourage residential conservation and cluster style development patterns.
 - c. Encourage the farming community to investigate farmland protection programs.
 - d. Encourage growth around Washington Court house, Jeffersonville, Bloomingburg and the interstate interchanges.
 - e. Encourage the development of Agricultural Businesses and Agriculture that follow the Ohio Revised Code.



3. Revise the Zoning Code to support the desired changes in county land use patterns.

- a. Eliminate lot splits that conflict with the preservation of the rural character of the county.
- b. Advocate more flexible zoning classifications that allow cluster style neighborhoods with a high overall density in areas with public water and sewer.
- c. Advocate the creation of rural design guidelines that will outline the use and maintenance of rural properties.
- d. Ensure that there is a process for the review and approval of plans that protect critical resource areas.
- e. Ensure that there is a process for the enforcement of zoning regulations.

8.5 POLICIES

GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE

- Minimize development within areas of our best agricultural lands to preserve critical masses of farmland.
- Foster the formation of mixed-use towns, urban centers, and residential areas that foster a pedestrian-friendly environment and respect Fayette County's growth ethic.
- Direct new development toward designated urban areas to prevent sprawl development patterns and allow for the cost-efficient provision of public services and facilities to County residents.

- Locate higher-density development near commercial and employment centers with access to major thoroughfares.
- Encourage the creation of local employment opportunities in combination with residential and commercial development to give residents the opportunity to live and work in their community.
- Locate commercial and industrial centers in clusters rather than in isolated, scattered locations.
- Discourage strip commercial development.
- Locate major commercial and industrial areas where there is direct access to existing or planned major transportation facilities and create ordinances that support the requirement of infrastructure upgrade to be incurred by the private developer.
- Develop a land use management system for the County, which includes the annual monitoring of land use for comprehensive planning, zoning, and land usage designations along with County wide Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations that provide the County with enforcement capacity.
- Develop the urban areas in a coordinated and phased manner that reflects sound fiscal management goals in the provision of public services, utilities, and facilities.
- Flexibility will be encouraged throughout the development process to encourage mixed-use development patterns as well as to promote innovative design concepts that protect environmental resources and seek adaptive reuse of cultural resources throughout the urban areas of the county.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION POLICIES

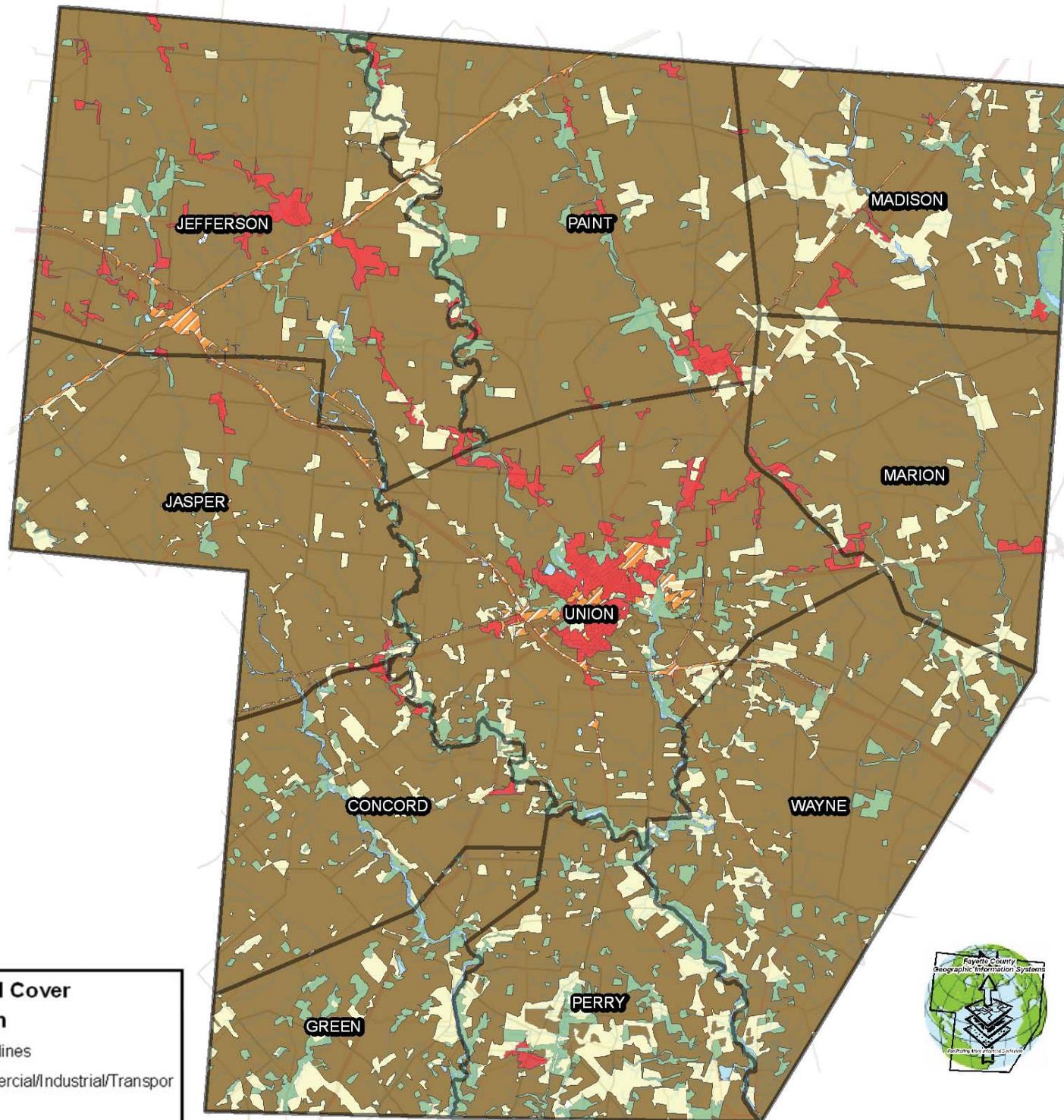
- Encourage the development and implementation of an aggressive program to preserve agricultural uses in those areas identified for agricultural preservation.
- Support legislation that permits transfer of development rights (TDR), lease of development rights (LDR), agricultural security areas (ASA), tax relief, and authority for county governments to utilize storm water management districts, and other farmland preservation and planning initiatives.
- Actively promote agricultural businesses and industries in order to support Fayette County's farming economy and farming communities. Agricultural businesses shall be protected from intruding land uses.
- Enhance the existing agricultural preservation program by identifying priority agricultural preservation areas outside of designated municipal and/or unincorporated urban service areas, which will assist in the protection and retention of the County's agricultural industry resource base.
- Encourage the creation of a comprehensive listing of conditional uses appropriate within Agricultural zoning and include those uses that will promote Agriculture at the forefront of the Counties Economic Development.
- Prepare an Action Program to identify and promote agricultural support industries and the growing agri-tourism industry.

- Discourage lot splits and five acres through an update in Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations and encourage patterned development.
- Investigate the use of tax abatements as an economic development incentive for new investments in agriculture.
- Partner with the Fayette County GIS division and undertake a Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) model.

HOUSING POLICIES

- Continue to support the leadership necessary to increase opportunities for citizens of Fayette County who cannot purchase or rent a safe, sound, and sanitary home large enough to meet their needs at a price or rent which they can afford.
- Expand existing regulations to permit a greater diversity of housing types to meet the needs of all economic levels and living styles.
- Strongly encourage that new residential units be smaller lot single family detached, single family attached, or multiple family units oriented in smaller clusters, close to existing services.
- Advocate the development of Conservation Development and Cluster Housing developments where appropriate.
- Provide incentives for the construction of clustered units, conservation style development, zero-lot line unit types, attached units and multi-family dwelling unit types.

- Provide incentives for increasing the use of the existing mixed-use & mixed density regulations to promote more efficient, compact nodes of development where appropriate.
- Strengthen the County's ability to manage growth through the development of a county wide zoning strategy consisting of:
 - o Promotion of a single text zoning ordinance which could be applied to and administered county wide; and/or,
 - o Development of an overlay zoning system whereby the urban, agriculture and sensitive lands would require county oversight; and/or,
 - o Establishment of a review and comment agreement between adjoining municipalities, townships, and counties.
- Partner with local jurisdictions to create a unified and comprehensive code enforcement system to insure that existing homes remain in sound repair.
- Promote the provision of recreational opportunities within walking distance of all housing developments or existing neighborhoods.



| 1994 Land Cover | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Description | |
| | Bare/Mines |
| | Commercial/Industrial/Transportation |
| | Crop |
| | Deciduous Forest |
| | Evergreen Forest |
| | Open Water |
| | Pasture |
| | Residential |
| | Urban/Recreational Grasses |
| | Woody Wetlands |



8.6 CURRENT LAND USE PATTERN:

Shown on the map to the left, land use patterns are designated only by their current condition, not projected use.

8.7 FUTURE LAND USE CATEGORIES

Future land use categories are described below and generally designated in map form on the following pages.

AGRICULTURE:

Allocated to all lands not currently designate as a non-agriculture land uses.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION (AP):

This land use category is contingent upon a farmland preservation study, as those prime agricultural land have yet to be identified. Lands designated as AP will be refined on the map to illustrate the results of the Plan as it will determine which lands are most suitable for Agricultural preservation. This land use class does overlap with the CR designation (Critical Resources). For the sake of plan agreement it must be noted that there will be lands capable of agricultural production that will be designated as CR. This is in no way an attempt to under represent the County's farmland. CR designation will be tested and either verified or refuted by the Fayette Farmland Preservation Plan. Land use color yet to be determined for this classification. This classification will only be used upon the completion of a Farmland Preservation Study that will enable the County to protect those areas found to be the highest value farmland.

HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL (HC):

The most intense commercial classification, Highway Commercial will provide both community retail and highway oriented retail for Fayette County. This use has been mapped in areas outside of the CSA but within a 20 year development schedule.

INCORPORATED (IN):

Used to represent incorporated municipal boundaries within Fayette County.

INDUSTRIAL (I):

Established to accommodate a mix of manufacturing, fabrication, assembly, and storage activities, this land use designation has been programmed for areas scheduled to be in the CSA within the 20 year development window.

OPEN / GREEN SPACE / CRITICAL RESOURCE (OS):

Open space refers to land that is to be set aside to aid in the conservation and protection of valuable natural features. Their designation as Open Space serves a vital role in the health of the county because it provides habitat for wildlife, scenic views, active and passive recreational opportunities. Open Space classification can also be paired with areas of historic or cultural value to create yet another enrichment opportunity for those living and visiting Fayette County. This land use classification includes the 100 year flood plain, slopes greater than 25 percent, wetlands, significant stands of trees, stream buffers and flood prone soils. Any non-recreational / open space development in the CR category is strongly discouraged.

OTHER (OT):

This last classification is reserved for landfills, quarries, sand and gravel excavation. Land use color yet to be determined for this classification.

PUBLIC FACILITIES (PF):

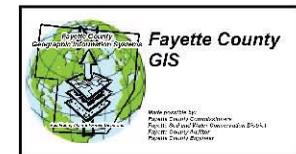
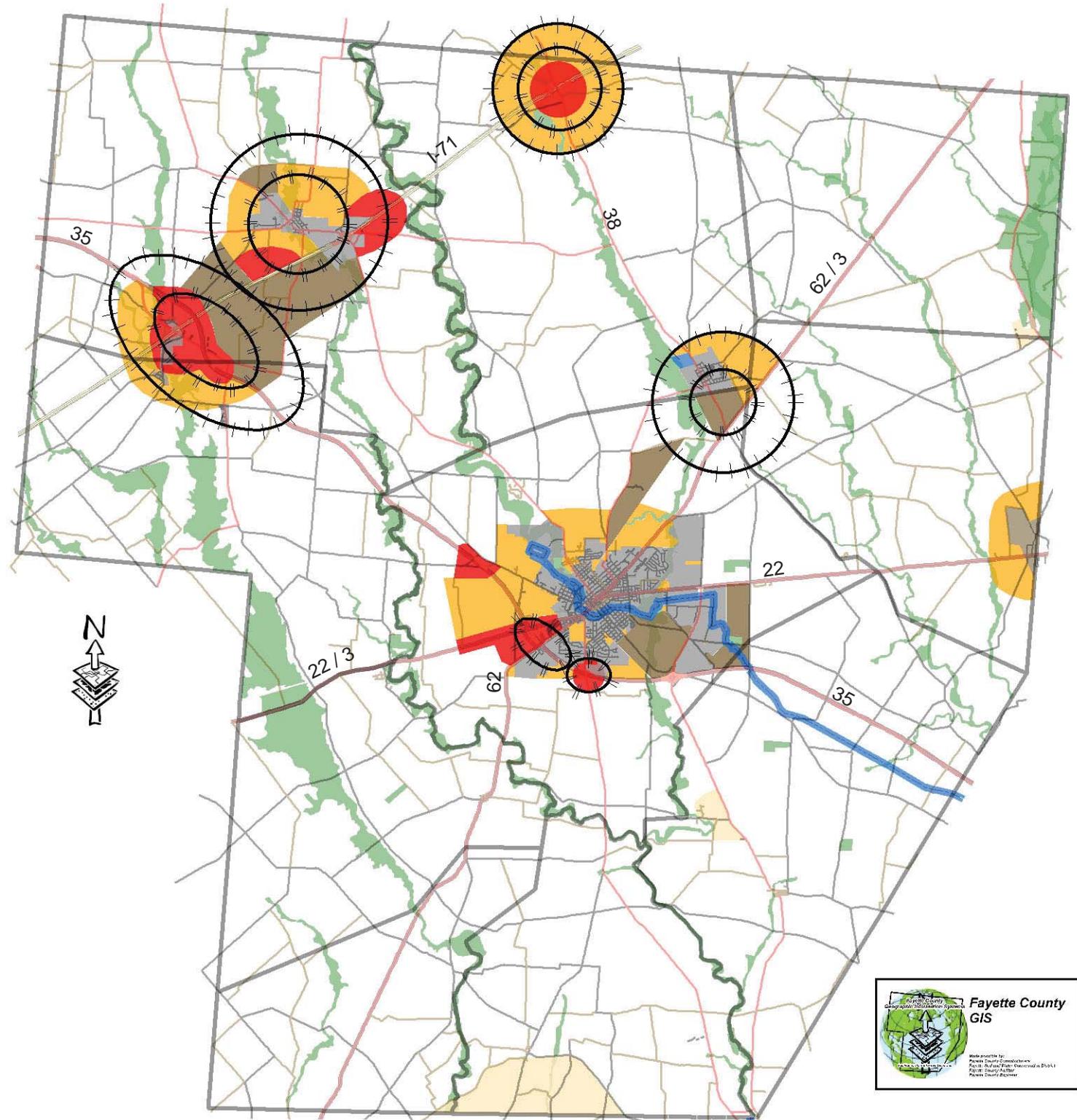
Used to define areas for government activities including, but not limited to; public schools, fire stations, water treatment, solid waste treatment, police stations, libraries and other governmental offices.

RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR):

The rural residential land use classification is for land outside of the County Service Area (CSA) and not included in either the AP or the CR designation. The acreage classified as RR is limited to 1 (one) dwelling unit per 2 (two) acres with the final determination of building site suitability to be determined by the Fayette County Board of Health.

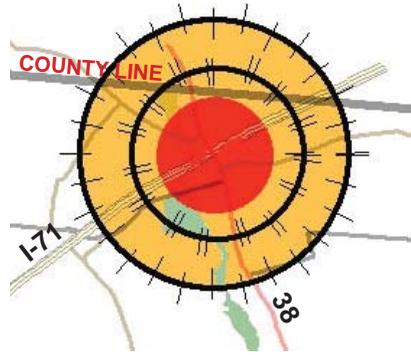
SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (SR.):

Intended to accommodate transitional residential uses for land located within the existing and proposed county service areas. The recommended base density for SR. land with public services is 4 (four) dwelling units per acre.



THE 6 DEVELOPMENT ZONES:

While projected land uses are designated for parts of the County, it is important to recognize each of the focus areas independently. Each is an area that will undergo the most dramatic change of the next 20 years. As each of the 6 focus zones responds to development pressures, the land uses as they are shown today may shift to better fit the needs of the County. Overall, it is important that they be discussed in finer detail due to their key importance in the long range growth of Fayette County.

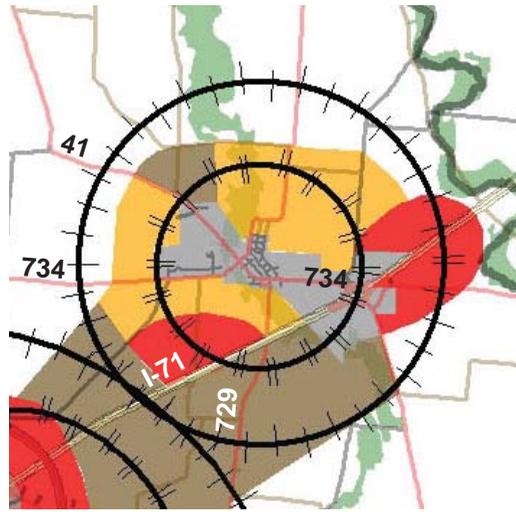


ZONE 1:

As the northern most area, zone 1 is the gateway into the county from the north as you travel south on Interstate 71. The first 10 years of development will be dominated by Highway Commercial along with a small amount of Suburban Residential. The next 10 years are projected to be entirely Rural Residential.

ZONE 1 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:

With the development of Highway Commercial in the core of Zone 1 it will be important to carefully consider the edge of the Highway Commercial land use and how it relates to the Suburban Residential. The zoning code must require buffering and appropriate setbacks in order to ensure that the residential neighborhoods are not adversely effected.

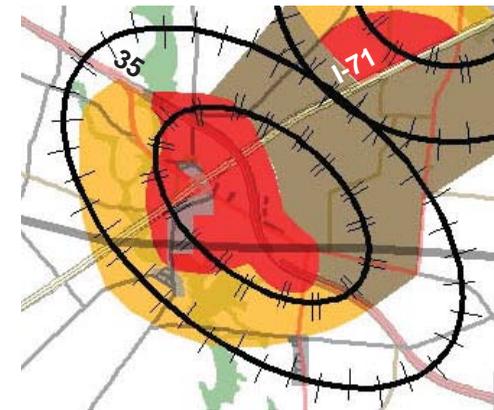


ZONE 2:

Around Jeffersonville, Zone 2 is a mixture of Highway Commercial, Suburban Residential, and Industrial land uses.

ZONE 2 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:

The Highway Commercial can create a gateway to the Zone 2 as you move in and through incorporated Jeffersonville. It is imperative that the waterway to the north is protected and the Highway Commercial maintains an appropriate buffer zone from this Critical Resource area.

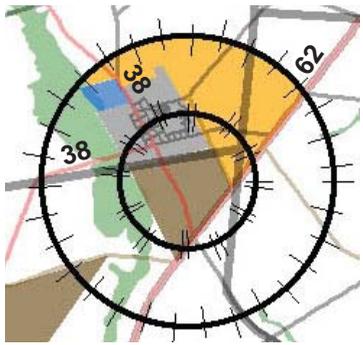


ZONE 3:

Located directly south of Zone 3 this area is again a mixture of Highway Commercial, Suburban Residential, and Industrial land uses. In this zone Highway commercial surrounds almost all of the incorporated area of Octa.

ZONE 3 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:

There is waterway that travels through the area and both Highway commercial and Suburban Residential are planned in areas that will impact this natural resource. Again, concessions should be made to protect the waterway and utilize it as an amenity.



ZONE 4:
Organized around Bloomingburg, Zone 4 will add a Public Facility land use along with a large industrial area and even larger suburban residential area.

ZONE 4 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:
The industrial area alone roughly equals the incorporated acreage of Bloomingburg so care must be taken to manage the growth of zone 4 in a manner that will expand upon the best parts of the area.



ZONE 5:
With only a 10 year window projected, zone 5 will add Highway Commercial to the 35 corridor that travels around Washington Court House.

ZONE 5 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:
Although the acreage is not within incorporated Washington Court House, it should still be developed in a manner that coincides with the design desires of the city.



ZONE 6:
The smallest of the 6 it will be dominated by Highway Commercial at the intersection of 35 and 41.

ZONE 6 DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS:
Located on the southern edge of Washington Court House, this area will provide a gateway into the city from the more rural areas in the southern parts of the county.



9.0 GLOSSARY

Overview

Comprehensive plans are technical documents that establish public policies and programs to help a community manage its future. But reading such technical language can be distracting and negatively affects a plan's success because of poor communication. That is why this glossary is provided - to aid the reader in understanding the jargon and concepts presented in the Fayette County Plan.

Agribusiness

A classification of private enterprises that are directly linked to agriculture. Examples include but are not limited to grain mills, implement sales, butchering, dairy production, nurseries, landscape contractors, orchards and farmers markets.

Agricultural Character

The historic pattern defined by smaller sized farms, family farms, farm fields delineated by fence rows and traditional farm architecture.

Agricultural Protection Zoning

A zoning classification that protects agricultural operations by discouraging the development of residential subdivisions and other incompatible uses. As a component of the Zoning code such districts could provide the County with a tool to protect agricultural land use.

Aquifer

An underground bed or stratum of earth, gravel or porous stone that contains water.

Build-Out

Build-out is the point at which a community's total land area is

completely developed.

City

A city is an incorporated community under the Ohio Revised Code with a population of at least 5,000 persons.

Commercial Development

Commercial development is defined as typical commercially-related uses, such as retail, auto-oriented businesses, personal services and professional offices.

Conservation Easement

An easement precluding future or additional development of the land.

Density, Residential

Residential density is a measure of the amount of housing on a parcel. It is measured in dwelling units. A density of 4.0 dwelling units per acre is translated into a 10,890 square-foot lot.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

Floor Area Ratio measures gross floor area of nonresidential structures proportionally to the size of parcel on which the structure is located. If a one-acre site has a FAR of 0.25 then a building with a gross floor area of 10,890 square feet would meet this standard ($43,560 \times 0.25 = 10,890$). FAR is a means of measuring the intensity of development.

Goal

Is a broad policy statement that indicates preferences for specific subject areas or planning values.

Greenspace

Areas not built upon, such as woodlands, wetlands, fields, meadows, stream corridors, fence rows, species habitats, lawns and landscape. The term "greenspace" is interchangeable with the term "open space".

Land Use

The way in which land is used or occupied by people.

Leap-Frog Development

The development of new areas that are removed from existing developed areas and therefore not adjacent. Such development is costly to serve with public utilities and extends urbanized areas farther away from the denser core of a community.

Light Industrial Development

Light industrial development is defined as comprising uses that are non polluting and low impact, such as research and development, high tech manufacturing, light assembly, and warehouse and distribution.

Natural Resources

Elements of the physical environment such as forests, meadows, wetlands, minerals, water, air, plants and animals in their natural habitat.

Objective

Is a refinement of a goal and indicates a policy direction and action to implement the related goal.

Residential Density, Gross

Gross residential density is a measure of total residential units compared to the total site.

Residential Density, Net

Net residential density is a measure of the total residential units compared to the total site minus land set aside for roads, parks and greenspace.

Rural

A sparsely developed area where the land is predominantly undeveloped or primarily used for agricultural purposes.

Rural Landscape

The rural landscape is defined as the physical attributes that define a historic rural landscape, including woodlands, riparian corridors, farm fields and fence rows.

Sprawl

An uncontrolled or unmanaged form of urban/suburban growth that uses land inefficiently and which results in traffic congestion, land use conflicts, excessive infrastructure costs and environmental impacts.

Strategy

A strategy details the steps necessary to initiate and complete an objective.

Tax Implications

The tax base and fiscally-related issues that impact a community's and school district's revenue stream and which

define its economic incentives (i.e., tax abatement, tax increment financing, industrial revenue bonds, etc.).

Utility Services

The various utility services that support development, including sanitary sewers, water, stormwater, natural gas, electricity, telephone, cable television, cellular telephone and fiber optics.

Village

As defined by the Ohio Revised Code a village is an incorporated or unincorporated community with a population of less than 5,000 persons.

Wetlands

Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and that under normal circumstances do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.



10.0 APPENDICES

- 10.1 FRAMEWORK FOR THE CREATION OF THE FAYETTE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT.**
- 10.2 INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY**
- 10.3 HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCE INVENTORY**

10.1 FRAMEWORK FOR THE CREATION OF THE FAYETTE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT (FCP&RD)

The following text constitutes representative examples of statements and organizational thoughts that can be used to begin the formulation of the Fayette County Parks & Recreation District. None of the following is meant to represent the seminal text for the District – but is only intended to offer a template.

The Vision, Mission, Values and Critical Issues are a compilation of several other Countywide Parks & Recreation Districts

Vision Statement

The Fayette County Parks & Recreation District will collectively act on behalf of the citizens of the County to fulfill their active and passive recreational needs.

Mission

Short Version: To provide the citizens of Fayette County with enjoyable recreational experiences.

Long Version: The Mission of the FCP&RD is to ensure high quality programs, facilities and open spaces that will provide safe, quality experiences along with a broad base of recreational opportunities for the residents of Fayette County

Values

- We believe in honesty, integrity, cooperation, and collaboration in the work of the district.
- We believe in programs, facilities and open spaces that bring our community together.
- We believe in safety, cleanliness, and attractiveness of facilities that are accessible to all.
- We believe that we must continue improvement to enhance the community's quality of life.

In order to implement the vision and mission statements the following critical issues must be addressed:

Critical Issues:

1. Educating the public about the FCP&RD;
2. Implementing a communication structure that is geographically based;
3. Establishing efficient and effective operating resources;
4. Prioritizing a list of potential improvements;
5. Promoting intergenerational activities;
6. Creating an environment for collaboration among community members, municipalities and developers;

Critical Issue 1:

Educating the public about the Fayette County Parks & Recreation District

- Use cable television to publicize the District's agenda
- Use public service announcements to inform the public about the District
- Use the newspaper to publicize activities
- Use a newsletter to inform the public
- Develop a marketing plan that discusses what the District is and what it does
- Use local newspapers to inform the public

Critical Issue 2:

Implementing a communication structure that is geographically based

- Build trust with special interest groups through two-way communication
- Establish three advisory groups that are geographically based (North, Central, South, See Graphic A1)
- Use board members and district staff as liaisons to each of the groups
- Respond to feedback from the public as it is received
- Invite citizens to regular board meetings

Critical Issue 3:

Establishing efficient and effective operating resources

- Demonstrate to the public that “more” can be done with the same amount of resources
- Convince the public that in the long term a levy is necessary
- Identify current resources and review how effectively they are used
- Work on these needs simultaneously

the real need – not the perceived ones. Public process is key in the development of a county plan that fulfills a variety of needs for a variety of age ranges.

THE PROCESS:

Suggested method used in the needs assessment:

1. Outline focus groups within the community that must be engaged as part of the process.
2. Engage the focus groups and invite the general public to a meeting in which the goals of the needs assessment can be discussed.
3. Create the questionnaires and mail them out to the focus group members and community members totaling 2,500.
4. Determine other key facilities within the county (that are not a key focus group) and distribute questionnaires to them.
5. Generally a response rate ranging from 10% to 12% is typical. So the overall distribution of questionnaires needs to be large enough to yield an appropriate number of respondents (300 being a typical goal)
6. Compile the responses into data that can be used to determine county needs.

Projected major findings based on other countywide needs assessments. The following results must be tested to determine their applicability to Fayette County.

- Family oriented activities were found to be popular
- Both athletic and non-athletic activities were considered popular
- Environment/nature-centered activities were popular
- Culture and fine arts activities were considered popular
- There is a need for more opportunities for outdoor recreation and sports
- There is an interest in both a family aquatic center as well as an indoor recreation center
- The most important reason for non-attendance is safety concerns
- Inconvenient timing of events is an important reason for non-attendance
- Local newspapers and the cable television stations can be effective means of informing the community about programs and activities
- Safety in the parks is a major concern to the residents
- There is a perception that the municipalities do not serve all the demographic groups equally
- The respondents provide a positive assessment of the location of the facilities and their ease of access
- There is a sense of confusion about which municipality is responsible for which recreation activity (which are city and which are county).

- The municipalities need to keep the community better informed
- The community placed a great deal of importance on the conservation, preservation and maintenance of open spaces and greenspaces

The following responses to other countywide needs assessments provide a window into the results that Fayette County may find. Again, these represent other counties and to accept them as appropriate for Fayette would not ensure a best fit for the county residents when making long term parks and recreation decisions.

Moderately popular activities – ranging from most popular to least popular

- Basketball for adults
- Roller blading
- Outdoor soccer
- Venue for ice skating lessons and ice hockey
- Outdoor natural areas appropriate for bird watching
- Youth tackle football
- Preschool programs
- Snorkeling and scuba diving
- Facility for indoor soccer
- Facility for martial arts education and training
- Courts sufficient enough to support a tennis league
- Recreational programs for toddlers
- Facilities for gymnastics training and practice
- Pool facilities for lap swimming
- Open areas for flag football
- Indoor rock climbing
- Open spaces for cross-country skiing

Possible reasons that the county residents do not frequent existing parks and recreational areas organized from most important reason to least important.

- Parks do not suit needs.
- Location of current parks and recreational areas are few and far between.
- Safety concerns do not make parks attractive
- Inconvenient timing or lack of events
- Better recreation facilities elsewhere
- The facilities are too crowded
- There are better private recreation opportunities
- Inadequate maintenance of facilities
- Inadequate parks and recreation leadership
- Too expensive
- Getting to the facilities is difficult

Determine the popularity of the current parks in the county.

Chrisman Park
Rawlings St. Park
Washington Park (Pool area)
Eyman Park
Little League fields off State Route 38
Police Athletic League
Washington Country Club

Washington Court House City Schools
Belle-Aire
Cherry Hill
Rose Elementary
Washington Senior High School
Gardner Park
Washington Middle School

County Resources

Wilson School
Chaffin School
Olive School
Good Hope Elementary
Madison Mills School
Village of Milledgeville
Bloomingburg School
New Holland School
Miami Trace High School:
Village of Bloomingburg
Village of New Holland
Jeffersonville School
Village of Jeffersonville
Madison Mills
Bike paths
Deercreek State Park
Buckeye Hills Golf Course

Potential new activities that the citizens may want to see in Fayette County organized from most frequently requested to least frequently requested.

- Parks along rivers and waterways
- Bicycle Trails
- Hiking trails
- Preserved wooded / natural areas
- Indoor recreation center
- Baseball diamonds
- Exercise and fitness centers
- Family aquatic center
- Indoor pools
- Lighted baseball fields
- Soccer fields
- Golf courses

- Lighted softball fields
- Lighted basketball courts
- Nature / interpretive centers
- Indoor ice rinks
- Lighted soccer fields
- Tennis courts
- Lighted tennis courts
- Living history centers
- Football fields
- Indoor walking / running tracks
- Indoor multi-use court facilities
- Indoor climbing walls

The following are a list of potential questions that can be used to determine the personal attitudes toward recreation. Respondents should be asked how they feel about each phrase and to indicate that feeling along a range from strongly agree to strongly disagree.

- The public parks and recreation providers are responsive to the recreation needs of the community
- I am satisfied with the public parks and recreation opportunities I receive for my tax dollars
- Recreation agencies are important providers of recreation for my family
- Recreation agencies are important providers of recreation for me
- The quality of program leadership is good
- The office staff of the public parks and recreation providers

are courteous and helpful

- The park facilities are well maintained
- I am aware of the programs and activities
- I am willing to support new programs by user fees
- Public parks and recreation opportunities are an important factor in my decision to reside in Fayette County
- The providers offer a variety of programs
- The fees of the public parks and recreation providers are a good value
- I feel safe in the parks
- The public parks and recreation activities are primarily tailored for the adults
- I am satisfied with the public parks and recreation opportunities offered
- The public parks and recreation providers do a good job of informing residents of their activities
- The public parks and recreation providers should acquire more land for future recreation activities
- The public parks and recreation providers offer enough activities for senior citizens
- Transportation to the parks and recreation facilities is a problem

- The school properties should be used for recreation on weekends and after school hours
- There should be additional recreation programs for teens
- There should be additional programs for pre-schoolers
- The activities are primarily tailored for the youth
- The public parks and recreation providers' facilities are conveniently located
- Conservation of the environment is a priority to me
- It is important to maintain open spaces with natural habitat
- The public parks and recreation providers should acquire land to preserve open space
- The different county and city parks and recreation agencies should consolidate into one agency
- There is a need to ensure that developers offer greenspace in the new subdivisions
- It is important that there are activities where the whole family can participate
- The providers should increase collaboration with local businesses
- The providers should modernize the equipment at their various facilities
- The providers should periodically conduct brief satisfaction surveys of users

- There are enough special events in the area
- There is a confusion about which agency is responsible for what parks and recreation activities
- There is a lack of enough cultural and arts recreation in Fayette County
- There is a need for a stronger coaching program
- There is a need for additional lighting at parks and facilities
- More activities for people with disabilities
- There is a need for more non-supervised activities
- There is adequate parking at parks and facilities
- There is sufficient public greenspace
- There should be a centralized information source about recreation opportunities
- I am willing to fund new parks and recreation facilities and programs through a tax levy
- Restrooms have become places for undesirable activities

10.2 INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY

Currently Fayette County contains 694.29 miles of roadway. Responsibility is broken down as follows:

a. Interstate Highways (I-71) - 14.65 Miles - Ohio Department of Transportation Maintenance.
Interstate 71 is a multilane divided highway designed to carry interstate traffic at high speeds with limited access. I-71 has exit / entrance ramps at 3 locations in Fayette County. It is designed and constructed to current accepted standards for geometric and pavement composition for the both the existing and projected traffic volumes.

b. US and State Routes (US 35, US 22, US 62, SR. 41, SR. 753, SR. 734, SR. 207, SR. 729, SR. 38, SR 238) - 158.56 Miles - Ohio Department of Transportation Maintenance.

US 35 is a four-lane divided highway similar to an interstate highway in its design and function. The remainder of US Routes and State Routes are two lane roadways, generally have acceptable roadway widths and pavement composition to accommodate the existing traffic. Typically, they carry intrastate traffic and access is allowed but is controlled by regulations of the Ohio Department of Transportation.

c. County Roads - 312.94 Miles - Fayette County Engineer's Office Maintenance.

County roads have an average pavement width of approximately 18 feet but vary widely from road to road. The minimum acceptable safe roadway width is generally considered 20 feet for rural roadways. The vast majority of county roads do not have adequate pavement composition to carry the existing traffic. There are two reasons for this problem. First, is the fact that nearly all county roadways were established before motor vehicles were invented. Since they carried slow moving wagons that are comparably light,

there was no need for any considerable pavement buildup or substantial width. Obviously, today conditions have changed. The need to accommodate heavy, fast moving vehicles in constantly increasing . The second reason is funding. With more highway miles and a small fraction of the Department of Transportation funding, counties struggle to maintain the existing system and cannot typically afford to upgrade all of their roadways to accepted standards. Access to county roads is permitted by the County Engineer's office by the authority of the Board of County Commissioners through regulations adopted and administered through the County.

d. Township Roads - 208.14 Miles - Individual Townships Maintenance

1. 18.62 Miles - Concord Township
 2. 15.14 Miles - Green Township
 3. 15.32 Miles - Jasper Township
 4. 34.91 Miles - Jefferson Township
 5. 15.32 Miles - Madison Township
 6. 23.17 Miles - Marion Township
 7. 19.18 Miles - Paint Township
 8. 20.91 Miles - Perry Township
 9. 27.26 Miles - Union Township
 10. 18.31 Miles - Wayne Township
- Average 20.8 miles per Township

Township roads average just 15 feet in width but vary widely from one road to the next. Pavement composition is usually lacking sufficient build up to carry the existing traffic for the same reasons as county roads. This causes premature deterioration of the pavement and the sub-grade, which is similar to the problems that the county roads experience. Access to Township roads is permitted by the County Engineer's office by the authority granted

by each Township. Subdivision streets, once accepted, become the maintenance responsibility of the township unless the street is within an incorporated city or village, who would assume maintenance.

- e. City and Village streets - 82.38 Miles
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Jeffersonville | 7.85 Miles |
| Bloomingsburg | 5.50 Miles |
| Octa | .65 Miles |
| Milledgeville | .65 Miles |
| New Holland | .73 Miles |
| Washington Court House | 67.00 Miles |

City and Village streets vary widely in their function and use. Downtown City streets can be very high volume while some of the residential areas may have only a few cars per day. The roadway widths, pavement composition and traffic control devices reflect the level of service required to be met. The city and village streets are maintained by the individual incorporated entity.

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Functional classification is the process by which roads, streets and highways are grouped into a hierarchy according to the type of service they are intended to provide. It is recognized that each roadway typically serves a variety of functions. The individual roadways create a network by which all vehicular travel moves. The functional classification helps to define the role each individual roadway or segment plays within the network.

Functional classifications are important to us at the local level for several reasons. They are used as a tool for roadway design and maintenance. They establish standards for lane and shoulder widths, vertical and horizontal alignments as well as suggested

design speeds. The functional classification system is used to determine which roadways are eligible for certain types of federal funding. Functional classifications are also an important tool in deciding allowable points of access. Fewer access points are typically allowed on certain types of roadways, such as arterials, because they create problems with both safety and the efficient movement of traffic. Local roads on the other hand are more conducive to curb cuts or access points since they typically have lower speeds and traffic volumes.

The following are descriptions that ODOT uses for the State of Ohio. Along with each are the Fayette County roadways that fall into each classification in the system.

INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

Interstate 71

Interstate highways are divided, multi-lane, high-speed roadways with full access control. They are accessed by interchanges, and intersecting roadways continue by grade separations. They are designed for high traffic volumes and serve through movements between cities and major points of destination.

PRINCIPAL ARTERIALS - RURAL

US 35

Principal arterials serve statewide on interstate travel as well as major activity centers and highly urbanized areas. They are usually characterized as divided multilane with high speeds and high traffic volumes. Rural freeways often fall into this category.

Minor Arterials - Rural

US 62, US 22

Minor arterials typically connect small cities and towns, as well as other traffic generators, and form a network for interstate and inter-county travel. They are usually high speed, sometimes multilane, undivided with less traffic volumes than principal arterials.

Collector Roads - Rural

Generally collector roads serve a smaller geographic area as they carry county travel rather than inter-county as arterials and the distances traveled are shorter. Traffic volumes are also generally lower than arterials. Collectors roads are further divided into two sub-groups: major and minor collectors.

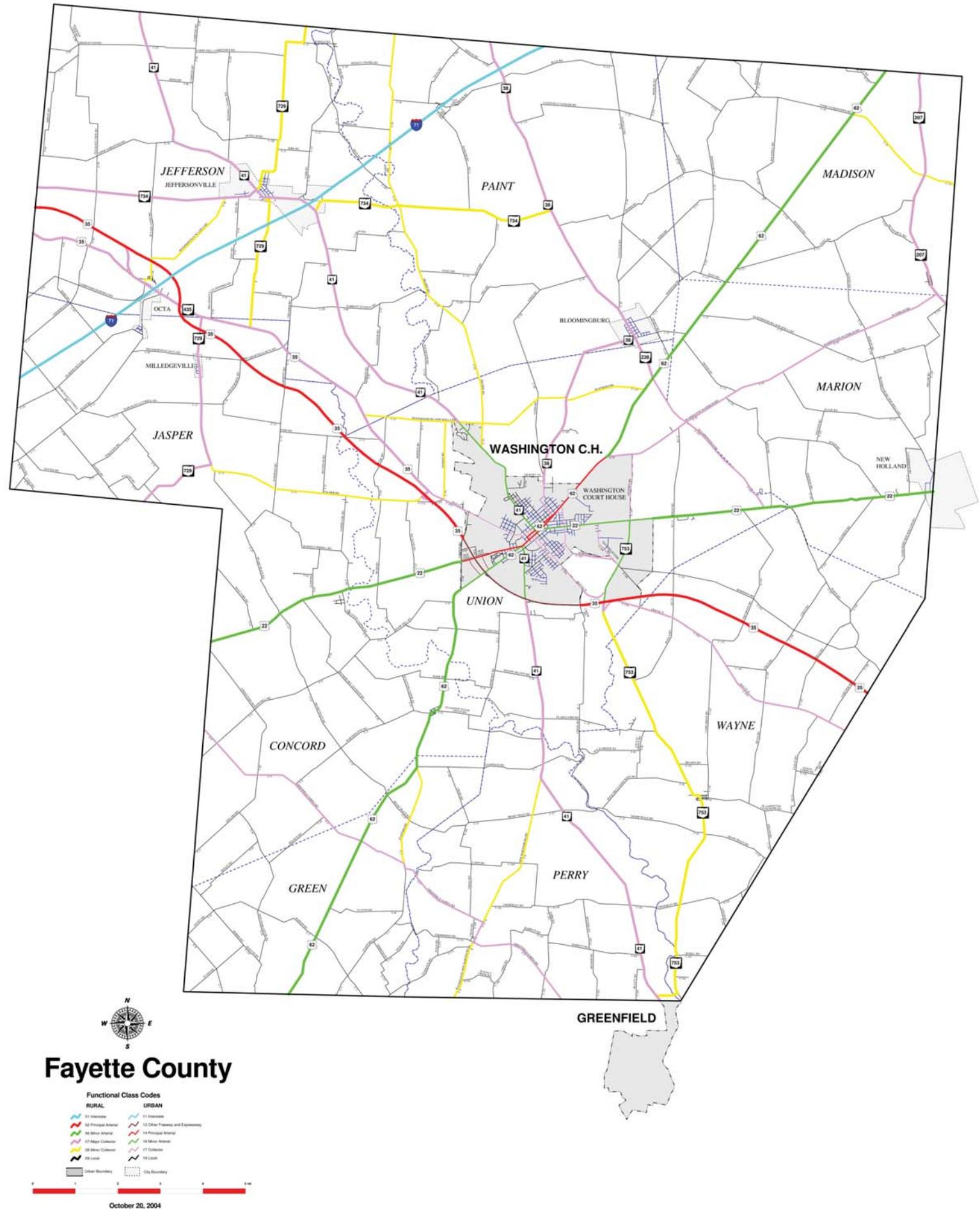
Major collectors

SR. 41, SR 38, SR. 207, SR 238, SR 729, Washington-Waterloo Road, Old US 35, Greenfield-Sabina Road, Old Springfield Road, Stuckey Road

These routes provide travel to urbanized areas and local traffic generators not serviced such as schools, parks, industrial areas, etc. by arterials.

Minor collectors

SR.. 753, SR. 734, Washington-New Martinsburg Road, Stafford



Road, Palmer Road, Yeoman Road, Bloomingburg-New Holland Road, Prairie Road, Cook-Yankeetown Road, Matthews Road, Jeffersonville-West Lancaster Road. These roads typically provide service to smaller communities and generators, and collect traffic from local roads.

Local Roads

All remaining county roads and all township roads.

The purpose of local roads is to provide access to all adjacent property and to serve travel over short distances. Local roads are not intended to carry large volumes of traffic rather they provide access from all destinations to collectors and arterials. They are meant to provide access to the adjacent property. The majority of road mileage in Fayette County falls under this category.

The vast majority of roadways in Fayette County, excepting interstate (I-71) and principal arterials (US 35), do not meet the requirements of current geometric design standards. This is not unusual since nearly all of the roadways have “evolved” over time, from dirt and gravel paths into the paved roadways we have today. This situation is not critical at this time because the traffic volumes are low. Roadway capacity is acceptable and the accident rate is not unreasonably high. But as the County develops and traffic increases, additional measures must be put in place to bring these substantial roadways closer to compliance with the accepted standards; otherwise the accident rates and capacities on our rural roads will worsen to the point of crisis.

The following information summarizes the availability of public water and sewer in specific areas of the county.

City of Washington Court House

The city of Washington Court House provides potable water to its residents and businesses from two (2) (80 million gallon capacity,

200 million gallon capacity) reservoirs are filled by pumping surface water from Main Paint Creek and is supplemented as necessary by four groundwater wells and contain a nine to ten month supply. The city uses lime softening for treatment to meet the average daily demand of 1.6 mgd. Once treated it is distributed throughout the system through approximately 90 miles of waterline. The water treatment plant has the capacity to treat 3.0 mgd, and has three (3) elevated storage tanks with a combined capacity of 2.25 million gallons.

The City of Washington Court House collects an average of 2.90 mgd from 83 miles of sewer lines for treatment at its wastewater treatment plant. A recent expansion has brought the capacity to 6.0 mgd. The plant is a single stage activated sludge treatment plant. Inflow and infiltration have been a significant problem in past years, mostly attributable to the age of the collection system. The city has nine (9) lift stations in operation throughout town. The effluent is release into Paint Creek on the south side of town and sludge is land applied in various permitted fields around the county. The city is currently under a consent order from the OEPA.

Fayette County Sewer District

The Fayette County Sewer District was created by the County Commissioners in 1972, encompassing all of the unincorporated areas of Fayette County and includes portions of the Village of Octa. Subsequently the Rattlesnake Improvement Area and the Culpepper Water Improvement Area were established within the framework of the County Sewer District.

Rattlesnake Improvement Area

The Rattlesnake Improvement Area is located at the interchange of I-71 and US 35 and covers approximately three (3) square miles. It services the businesses around the interchange as well as the

community of West Lancaster. Three (3) ground water wells with a total capacity of 700 gpm pump to an ion-exchange softening plant and then to a 300,000 gallon elevated storage tank. The water is distributed throughout the area with approximately two (2) miles of waterline. Current usage is approximately 100,000 gpd but the plant has the capacity to treat approximately 150,000 gpd.

The Rattlesnake Wastewater Treatment Plant treats an average of 120,000 gpd, but is rated and has the capacity to treat 500,000 gpd. It is an extend aeration type plant which utilizes an oxidation ditch and two primary clarifies. Effluent is released into Rattlesnake Creek and all sludge is land applied.

Culpepper Water Improvement Area

The Culpepper Water Improvement Area is located just north of the City of Washington Court House between the Port Authority Railroad to the west and the Indiana & Ohio Railroad to the east. The existing water supply system serves around 90 homes in the Leslie Trace Subdivision. Two ground water wells with a combined capacity of 270 gpm pump water to a 4000 gallon at grade pressure tank before it is sent out into the distribution system. The water is chlorinated but receives no other treatment. The distribution system is 4” pvc approximately 50 years old and has no fire hydrants since sufficient pressure and flow are not available for fire suppression. Currently the homes are not metered so all users pay a flat rate.

The residents of the Leslie Trace Subdivision are serviced by a small package plant located near Paint Creek. The plant provides marginal yet adequate treatment. All effluent is discharged into a lagoon adjacent to the creek; therefore, the plant is not permitted through the Ohio EPA.

Village of Bloomingburg

The Village of Bloomingburg, a community of 874 residents, is serviced by two (2) ground water wells with a combined capacity of 300 gpm which pumps to an iron filtration and chlorination plant and then to a 125,000 gallon elevated storage tank. Current usage is around 90,000 gpd, but the plant has a capacity to treat approximately 200,000 gpd. The majority of the distribution system is approximately 70 years old.

The Village of Bloomingburg is in the process of upgrading its wastewater treatment plant from a capacity of 160,000 gpd to 200,000 gpd. When complete it will consist of an oxidation ditch, and primary settling. Construction is planned to be completed in 2008. The plant currently treats 90,000 gpd and effluent is released into Paint Creek. Inflow and Infiltration has been a recurring problem with the system due to its age and condition but is being addressed. Bloomingburg is currently under orders by the OEPA.

Jeffersonville

The Village of Jeffersonville, a community of 1300, owns and operates its own treatment facility. Six wells with a combined capacity of approximately 300 gpm, pump water to an iron removal and chlorination facility and then on to two (2) elevated storage tanks, one 500,000 gallons and one 75,000 gallon. They also utilize a 125,000 gallon clear well. The average daily use is 160,000 gpd, but the plant has the capacity to treat 260,000 gpd. The Village of Jeffersonville is currently in the construction phase of upgrading its wastewater treatment plant which is located southeast of town. The treatment capacity when complete will be 500,000 gpd with 2.0 mgd peak flow. The current flow into the existing lagoon type system is 220,000 gpd. The new plant will be an oxidation ditch, with settling and disinfection. Effluent from the plant will discharge into Sugar Creek. The village is currently under order from OEPA.

Clairmont Village

Clairmont Village is an estate style subdivision of approximately 20, one (1) acre lots with single family homes located about five (5) miles south of Washington Court House. Each home has an individual well but the entire community is serviced by a small package plant for its wastewater treatment. The average daily flow through the plant is 3000 gpd but the system can handle a design flow of 14,000 gpd. Inflow and infiltration is a problem during rainfall events. The effluent from the plant is released into Paint Creek.

Fayette Village

Fayette Village, a planned development, sited on all four (4) corners of the State Route 38 interchange with Interstate 71, has a partially completed water supply/distribution system and wastewater treatment plant. Neither system is operational; as the water system is approximately 40% complete and the wastewater collection and treatment system is just 2% complete. The development is currently inactive and ownership is private.

The water system is supplied by three (3) ground water wells with a combined capacity of 1.28 mgd. The treatment plant, which will consist of iron removal and softening, is designed for .28 mgd and can meet a peak demand of .56 mgd. The water is stored in a .50 million gallon elevated storage tank. None of the distribution has been installed.

The wastewater treatment plant is designed as an extended aeration activated sludge system with a capacity to treat .30 mgd. The design is such that it is easily expandable to .60 mgd. None of the collection system has been installed.

Future Areas of Development

The Economic Development Committee focused on three areas of economic growth within Fayette County. An Important factor the Committee focused on is the availability of utilities and the expansion and/or upgrade of the current utilities. Broadband access, as well as the extension of fiber optic lines was deemed a priority by the Committee for any future economic development. Taking into account all areas of Fayette County, the Committee pinpointed the following growth areas:

Village of Jeffersonville / Jefferson Township

The area around the interchange of State Route 41 and Interstate 71 will provide business development opportunities for the village and township. The present location of municipal utilities, transportation access, and existing businesses and uses were the leading indicators of future growth for this region of Fayette County. Highway Service, Commercial, and Industrial uses will center on the interchange, as well as the areas around Carr Rd., St. Rt. 41, and St. Rt. 734. Access to the Indiana and Ohio Railroad along St. Rt. 41 just north of the Village may spur some minor industrial growth in the future.

Jefferson Township's economic growth area will most certainly emanate from the U.S Route 35 and Interstate 71 interchange vicinity. Ample services and excellent transportation opportunities will positively drive the future development of the area. The west side of Interstate 71 has numerous available commercial and highway service lots with utilities and highway access with room to expand. The majority of the land just northeast of the interchange has been recently designated for industrial use and will be developed as such in the near future. The area along Old U.S. Rt. 35 AND St. Rt. 729, just south of the industrial property may see development through the Highway Service, Commercial, or Industrial zoning designations. Some of this property is in Jasper Township and not

currently served by municipal utilities.

City of Washington Court House / Union Township

Union Township is our most urban township and is home to our County Seat, the City of Washington Court House. Many of the Union Township's Commercial, Industrial, and Highway Service Areas coincide with similar uses in and around the City of Washington Court House. U.S. Route 35 travels through Union Township and borders the City to the south. The highway is a catalyst for development and in some cases a border that can separate conflicting land uses.

The intersection of U.S. Rt.. 35, and St. Rt's 22 and 62 currently is serviced by all utilities and has been developed with many Commercial, Highway Service, as well as Industrial properties. As infrastructure improvements are made to the region, Commercial uses will become more prevalent in the area of 22, Jamison Road, and 62.

The vicinity in and around the City's industrial park will experience the most industrial growth in the years to come. The City's industrial park is fully serviced with all utilities, as well as rail and should be used to its full potential in order to benefit the community. This area stretches from the City corporation line on South Fayette Street/Old U.S. Rt.. 35 south to U.S. Rt.. 35, north along St. Rt.. 753, and east of the City's current industrial park towards Bogus Road. Industrial, Commercial, and Highway Service uses will mostly expand into the area surrounding the St. Rt.. 753 U.S. Rt.. 22 intersection. Some Highway Service uses may be permitted south of U.S. Rt.. 35 along St. Rt.. 753, but should be limited to within close proximity to U.S. Rt.. 35 due to the increased number of residential properties further south along St. Rt.. 753.

The Fayette County Airport just north of the City is currently zoned industrial, but remains undeveloped. The industrial district en-

compasses the airport, as well as the Rail America railroad that is parallel to the airport. This area will remain Industrial and may be developed in the future.

Interstate 71 & State Route 38/ Village of Bloomingburg

Currently the 71/38 region is not serviced by municipal utilities, therefore development on any larger scale would not be possible without major infrastructure work. The area has the benefit of access to, and visibility along Interstate 71. The intersection is not close to any population base and would be best utilized under the Commercial and Highway Service uses.

The Village of Bloomingburg is currently served by municipal utilities that could be upgraded to facilitate future development. Development opportunities exist along the RailAmerica rail line that borders the Village to the south. This rail access could be useful to the future expansion of existing business or the attraction of new business to the area.

10.3 HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCE INVENTORY

HEALTH

Fayette County Health Department

The Fayette County Health Department, located at 317 South Fayette Street in Washington Court House, is dedicated to promoting environmental and personal health through health promotion, disease detection, disease prevention, education, and regulation. The earliest records of the Health District date to 1920. In 1936 the City of Washington Health Department combined with the Fayette County General Health District to form the Fayette County Combined General Health District of the City of Washington and Fayette County. That remains the "official" name of the health district today. Over the years the offices became known as the Fayette County Health Department. Ohio Law, however, allows only municipalities to have health departments, which are a subdivision of the city government. County Health offices are "Health Districts" which are much more autonomous.

Health Department divisions include:

- Vital Statistics Division (Registrar and Deputy Registrar)
- Environmental Division
- Nursing Division
- Administrative Division (Health Commissioner, Deputy Health Commissioner, and fiscal Officer)

The Health Department also administers successful grants including the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program), Public Health Infrastructure, Help Me Grow, ACE (Abstinence Committed Education), Radon Grant, Tobacco Grant.

Nursing Division

The Nursing Division is responsible for providing public health nursing and health promotion services to all residents within the jurisdiction of the Fayette County Health District. Its primary goals are to promote healthy lifestyles and to address chronic, acute,

and communicable diseases. This division provides immunizations, conducts family planning and immunization clinics, and tracks and investigates communicable diseases. They also staff the Care Van that travels throughout the county to provide easy access to immunizations and health screenings. In addition, the nursing staff contracts with the Washington and Miami Trace School Districts to provide all nursing services to the schools.

Environmental Services

The Environmental Services staff consists of an Environmental Director, a Sanitarian in Training, and an Environmental Clerk. Its purpose is to protect and promote the public health and safety by public education and enforcement of local and state rules and regulations. This is accomplished by a variety of inspection and monitoring programs such as the inspection of schools, food service operations, swimming pools, spas, tattoo/body piercing operations, jails, manufactured home parks, recreational vehicle parks, camps, nuisances, premise code violations, demolition disposal facilities, infectious waste generators, solid waste disposal facilities, and waste transfer stations. The installations and alterations of water supply and sewage disposal systems are permitted and inspected to assure compliance with all state and local laws, rules and regulations. The Health Department is also responsible for administering the rabies program. Its purpose is to investigate all animal bites and promote rabies prevention.

As a statutory requirement, the Health Department investigates all nuisance complaints. The most common complaints involve improper storage of trash, domestic animal waste, rodents, insects, un-maintained structures, and living conditions.

The work for the Environmental Health Staff will grow as Fayette County continues to grow. The continual growth of Washington Court House and Fayette County in the future will result in additional restaurants and school buildings. All of these facilities

will need to be inspected. Total inspections and their frequency will increase.

Rules are often revised, resulting in more work for the department. For example, new sewage rules for 2005 will require sewage systems to be inspected twice with the possibility of even more inspections. Another new requirement is for sewage installers to be registered by passing some type of testing. Currently, many sewage systems are discharging into field tiles and streams in Fayette County. These systems, along with the systems that were installed with a grant from the OHEPA., will have to be inspected annually.

The future will bring required updated training workshops for people in many of the programs including but not limited to restaurants, retail establishments, wells, and sewage disposal systems. New staff will be needed in the near future to meet these demands.

Fayette County Memorial Hospital

The Fayette County Memorial Hospital (FCMH) is located at 1430 Columbus Avenue and occupies approximately 20 acres of land. FCMH was initially opened in May 1950 as a 35 bed Hospital and it was originally built through a combination of federal Hill Burton funds, County revenue bonds, and a general community fund raising campaign.

The need for the Hospital was evident as it quickly expanded services and beds - growing to the current license capacity of 70 beds by 1953. Since then, several remodeling and additional building expansions have been completed to keep the hospital compliant with regulatory changes as well as up-to-date with changing healthcare trends and patient needs.

Today, the Hospital campus includes the original inpatient acute

care services as well as a Level 3 Emergency Department, multiple specialty care outpatient clinics, and two separate medical office buildings which were completed in 1995 and 2004 respectively. The medical office buildings are occupied by 16 primary care physicians along with Hospital based services for physical therapy, home health, and business health / occupational medicine services. Additionally, the newest facility includes program space for Renal Dialysis and Urgent care providers.

FCMH offers a full range of modern diagnostic services including a full service automated Laboratory as well as a modern imaging department which includes mammography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computerized tomography (CT), bone densitometry, nuclear medicine and ultrasound scanning. Cardiopulmonary services include blood gas analysis, echocardiography, Holter scanning and pulmonary function testing services.

Additionally, FCMH offers family-centered maternity care through its Birth Center. This homelike atmosphere and attractively furnished unit enables patients to receive labor, delivery, recovery, and postpartum care all in the same room. The FCMH campus also includes an eight bed Intensive Care Unit which was added in 1970 and has been kept up-to-date with new monitoring equipment and critical care ancillary services.

Also, FCMH maintains a high-tech Surgical Department within the Hospital proper, equipped to accommodate and provide care for inpatients as well as ambulatory outpatients who return home for recovery shortly after their surgical procedure is completed (same-day).

FCMH maintains a workforce of 260 full-time equivalent employees (310 total employees) of which 95 % reside within the county boundaries. Equally, the Hospital maintains an Active Medical Staff consisting of twenty (20) physicians including the specialties of family practice medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, general

surgery and obstetrics. Additionally, over 15 medical sub-specialists practice on a regular basis within the Hospital specialty clinic and the full medical staff roster includes another 75 practitioners who provide consulting or courtesy staff services for the Hospital.

The Hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, maintains a license for Obstetrical services by the State Department of Health, and is accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks as well as certified by the College of American Pathologists for laboratory services. Overall management of the Hospital is provided through an affiliation agreement with the Mount Carmel Health System.

FCMH has followed the trend of most other hospitals and now provides more care from an outpatient versus inpatient care perspective. The facility provides direct care for approximately 1500 inpatient admissions per year along with 45,000 outpatient visits - including emergency department and specialty care clinic visits. Additionally, the hospital conducts 1500 total surgeries per year with almost 70 % of those being performed on an outpatient basis. Approximately 50 % of the hospital's patients reside in the City of Washington, 40 % reside within Fayette County surrounding communities and 10 % reside outside the boundaries of Fayette County.

Projections of the above statistics for the next five and ten year periods are as follows:

| | <u>2004</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Admissions | 1,500 | 1,700 | 1,900 |
| Outpatient Visits | 45,000 | 50,000 | 55,000 |
| Surgical Procedures | 1,400 | 1,600 | 1,800 |

One of the major issues facing the hospital in the next five years will be the recruitment and retention of primary care physicians and specialists. Plans currently include the additional of several physicians to the active medical staff in anticipation of expected

retirements in the near future. Similarly, efforts are underway for the expansion of several specialty clinic offerings including Ophthalmology, ENT, Neurosurgery, and Orthopedics.

Equally, the continued need to provide cost effective, quality care while dealing with changing governmental regulations and shrinking reimbursement shall remain a challenge. Likewise, technology remains ever-changing - not only in diagnostic and therapeutic offerings, but also in the explosion of information technology, automated medical records systems, and Tele-medicine applications.

In this regard, the hospital is currently reviewing options to upgrade its existing building structures due to both functional age as well as matching departmental layouts for better functional integration of services. The options include expansion for diagnostic and therapeutic services as well as planned additions of new services to complement the existing core of the hospital as well as facilities to enhance and continually attract a competent workforce for the hospital.

SAFETY

Law Enforcement-Fayette County Sheriff's Office

The Fayette County Sheriff's Office, a full service law enforcement agency, is located at 113 Market Street in Washington Court House. This department provides law enforcement for all the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county outside the Washington Court House city limits, and provides jail services to the city and county. The Fayette County Sheriff Office has an unmanned office (room) located in the Jefferson Township Fire Department Building at 28 South Main Street, Jeffersonville. A Substation in the location of Interstate 71 and US 35 would be nice to have as the area grows; however, staffing the facility could be a problem. The

Sheriff's Office personnel are assigned to four divisions: Patrol, Communications, Auxiliary, and Corrections.

Patrol

Fayette County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division provides law enforcement services to all unincorporated areas of the county, including contracted services to all incorporated villages. Patrolling over 400 miles of roadways, deputies are primary responders to all types of calls for service. Nineteen patrol deputies work eight-hour shifts, 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Of the 19 deputies, one serves as patrol commander and four as shift supervisors. Duties include service of civil process, responding to and investigating criminal complaints, and traffic enforcement. Additional duties cause some deputies to maintain dual roles. These additional services include crime prevention, DARE, sexual offender registration, and carrying concealed weapons permit application.

Over the next 5 to 10 years, Fayette County will realize the impact of the expanded Route 35 corridor. It is anticipated that the new four-lane, limited access highway will cause a surge of residential and business development, which will result in increased vehicular traffic and associated crimes. The demand for services will increase accordingly. A dramatic increase in calls for service is expected as more urban residents migrate to rural areas, bringing with them the crime levels found in urban communities.

The Investigative Unit of the Patrol Division is comprised of an inspector who serves as the senior detective. Additional units are assigned including one full-time and one part-time detective who share patrol responsibilities. Patrol deputies initially respond to serious crimes with detectives being summoned based on the nature of the call. Detectives continually must learn new skills in investigative techniques and equipment/technology

advances. Joint investigations are conducted with the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Ohio Bureau of Investigation and Identification, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other law enforcement agencies. As the community continues to grow from new businesses and residential developments, the demands on the Investigative Unit will dramatically increase over the next decade. Home burglary, robbery, and acts of violence will burden the resources of the Sheriff's Office under current manpower limitations.

A special unit within the Patrol Division is the Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team. This is a highly trained specialized unit that provides in-depth forensic investigations of traffic crashes. Elements of a crash are mathematically calculated to reconstruct the specific time and place of a crash to 1/10th of a second. Training to become a reconstructionist is time consuming and very demanding. Three years of progressive training programs are required to become certified and proficient in the field. The team is composed of one full time patrol unit and is supervised directly by the patrol commander.

Communications

Seven trained and experienced Telecommunications operators operate the Communications Center. Two workstations are equipped with modern emergency communication equipment including the county's Public Answering Point for the 9-1-1 emergency systems. The Communications Center provides emergency communication to all emergency services, excluding the Washington Court House Police and Fire Departments. The operators are trained in police, fire, and medical dispatching. The operators facilitate an average of 700 calls for service monthly and thousands of phone and walk-in inquiries monthly.

Within the immediate future, the communications center will be upgraded with equipment to track and identify the location of

cellular phone calls. This technology will enable the emergency responders to locate scenes quicker. As new technologies are developed, the department must be positioned to obtain and implement the new advances. Training requirements will dictate training programs, limiting the traditional on-the-job training and expanding certified training programs designed for emergency communication operators.

Auxiliary Unit

The Fayette Sheriff's Office incorporates the use of civilian volunteer manpower to supplement the full time staff. The Auxiliary Unit comes under the command of the Patrol Commander and currently numbers 47 members. The Auxiliary deputies assist with all aspects of the office as well in the Special Units of the S.T.A.R. (Sheriff's Tactically Armed Response) Team, Emergency Response Team, and Mounted Horses Unit.

The Fayette County S.T.A.R. Team (Sheriff's Tactically Armed Response Team) was established in 1997 due to the increasing number of incidents that required special tactics. Intense training of the 12 deputies is provided to safely and efficiently deploy S.T.A.R. team members into high-risk missions such as drug raids, dealing with barricaded persons, and jail extrication of violent and disruptive prisoners.

The Emergency Response Team was instituted in 1973 when the auxiliary unit purchased a gas powered "Jaws-Of-Life" rescue tool. When Fayette County founded its rescue team, it was the only rural unit in southern Ohio and the only rescue unit in the state operated solely by law enforcement personnel. As a result, the unit often was called upon by adjoining counties to perform rescues at auto and truck accidents, sometimes traveling as far as 50 miles. In subsequent years, the "Jaws-Of-Life" equipment has been upgraded with modern devices and technology to meet the demands of today's modern vehicle design. In recent years,

various fire departments serving the area have trained their personnel in emergency extrication. The team, comprised of 11 full time and auxiliary personnel, is "on-call" 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. All members of this team respond on a voluntary basis and work closely with the EMS and all fire departments in the county. These dedicated officers receive continuous updated training on techniques of all types of rescues. Today the rescue unit has over \$70,000 in rescue equipment, most of which has been purchased by the Sheriff's Auxiliary and through corporate and individual donations. Because of these generous donations, this service is provided free of charge.

The Mounted Horse Unit, currently consisting of three certified officers and two certified horses, was instituted in the spring of 1997 to meet the needs of search and rescue, crowd control, and specialized patrol functions. Auxiliary deputies volunteer training time and absorb costs associated with training, caring for and feeding the horses, tack, and needed equipment. Mounted Units are also available for assistance to surrounding law enforcement agencies.

The Auxiliary Unit and the Special Units provide a much needed service to the community. As the community develops and expands, the call for service upon these units will increase. Increased drug trafficking will continue to plague the area with demonstrated associated violence will increase the demand for the S.T.A.R. team. Over the next 5 to 10 years, the anticipated vehicular traffic through the county will cause an increased need for emergency response equipment and personnel to be deployed for rescue purposes. Rescue equipment and training must be upgraded as vehicle designs change.

Corrections

The Corrections Division, commonly known as the Fayette County Jail, serves both the Sheriff's Office and Washington Court House

Police Department. It has been in operation at its present site on the courthouse grounds in Washington Court House since 1884. In 1996 a "wrap-a-round" addition was constructed which increased the housing capacity of the facility. Housing an ever-increasing inmate population has been a continuing challenge for the eight deputies assigned to corrections. Based on recommended square footage guidelines of the Ohio Minimum Jail Standards, the Fayette County Jail's population should be 28 inmates. However, the jail is grand fathered under most standards and has bed space available for 48 inmates, with an additional 10 cots provided for overcrowded conditions. Although the square footage recommendation is not met, the corrections staff maintains the requirement of no more than 12 inmates per shower and toilet facility in each confinement area. Approximately 200 individual, sentenced by area courts are awaiting incarceration. Violent offenders and those ordered by the court to immediately commence their sentence are promptly provided bed space. Following the implementation of new sentencing guidelines of Senate Bill 8 in 1997, the Fayette County Jail, like many other county jails, has become burdened with housing low-level felonies which have caused overcrowding.

In addition, state standards and mandates require medical care, mental health services, drug and alcohol counseling, basic education programs, and recreation programs be provided to inmates. The current jail facility was not designed for such programs and cannot accommodate the mandated programs to the same level as newly constructed facilities. Drug and alcohol programs are provided with voluntary participation. Volunteers provide GED training. Medical care and mental health services are contracted out and are major items in the jail's budget. Inmates who are incarcerated more than 10 days are required to undergo a complete history and physical exam. A qualified health care professional visits the jail facility on a scheduled basis to examine inmates upon request. The exam room is a converted space under the stair well. Expenses above and beyond the medical contract, including prescriptions, come from the Sheriff's budget.

Ten years can bring a multitude of change to corrections. Unfortunately, as the attitude towards punishment changes and new mandates are regulated by state or federal standards or dictates of the courts, no additional funding is being made available. Local jurisdictions are finding it necessary to seek local tax levies to generate needed monies to operate jails. The Fayette County Jail operates in a 120 year old facility. Alternatives and creative sentencing must be implemented to address the overcrowded conditions. Long term planning must be initiated to construct and operate a modern corrections facility. Within the next few years, additional jail staff will be needed to accommodate mandated programs, alternative sentencing programs, and work release programs.

Other functions of the Sheriff's Office

In 1997, the Sheriff's Office began providing full time court security for the Common Pleas and Juvenile/Probate Divisions of the courts. A full-time deputy provides bailiff services to the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

Civil Process and Court Services is a statutory function of the Sheriff's Office. Serving court papers, either civil or criminal, requires numerous manpower and man-hours. Unfortunately, due to manpower shortage and financial restraints, the Sheriff's Office is unable to assign a full time staff person to perform the varied functions. Personnel assigned to fiscal and communications perform dual roles by adding the paperwork from civil processing. Patrol units spend much of any assigned shift serving thousands of papers yearly.

The Ohio Supreme Court, in efforts to address the ever-present concerns of court security has mandated various measures to ensure safe and orderly courtrooms. Over the next ten years, new technologies will be developed to assist in this effort. Fayette County must be in a position to implement the modern technologies

in a cost effective manner. Ever increasing case loads, reflective of the county's growth, will continue to burden the courts requiring increased manpower from the Sheriff's Office. In the foreseeable future, designated personnel will be needed to process, including serving the numerous papers generated by the courts.

Law Enforcement-Washington Court House Police Department

Washington Court House Police Department

The Washington Court House Police Department, located at 130 North Fayette Street in Washington Court House, provides law enforcement to the city proper of Washington Court House. The department consists of the following:

- Administration
- Patrol
- Investigations
- Corrections-when related to the temporary holding facility
- Communications
- K-9 Units
- D.A.R.E.
- Auxiliary personnel

Currently 22 sworn officers (one chief of police, two lieutenants, five sergeants, and 14 patrolmen), five dispatchers, one secretary, and 13 auxiliary patrolmen man the department. The department is split into two divisions, one being operations and the other being administration.

The Operations Division's responsibilities are to (1) receive and document all incoming calls for service, (2) respond to calls for service (criminal, domestic, and traffic), (3) enforce criminal and traffic laws, (4) utilize proactive crime prevention techniques, and (5) maintain the temporary holding facility. The basic work schedule consists of four platoons comprised of one sergeant, three patrol officers, and one dispatcher assigned to five 8-hour shifts per week. The current system does allow for a late split patrol officer

and dispatcher for increased coverage during busier times of the day. These two work four 10-hour days.

The Administrative Division's responsibilities deal primarily with long term investigations, undercover operations, and the D.A.R.E. Program. The basic work schedule for people in this division is five 8-hour shifts per week. However, specific hours are flexed due to the nature of undercover work and special programs such as D.A.R.E. They are always on call when needed to respond to a crime scene or possible covert operations.

Jail services offered by the department consist of a six hour holding facility with a capacity of 12 inmates at the same time. The department contracts with the Fayette County Sheriff for full jail services for inmates who need held for more than six hours.

Other services of the Washington Court House Police Department include D.A.R.E., the K-9 Unit, fingerprinting, and local record arrest checks.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education is intended to assist parents and schools in teaching children to avoid drug abuse and training them to avoid violence in response to problems they may face. This department's role is to assist parents to protect their children. The partnership formed between the police, parents, and schools can help make a better community in the future. More than 3000 students have graduated from the program and have learned to empower themselves to resist drug abuse and violence. The D.A.R.E. program helps students gain confidence and self esteem to help them meet the challenges of life.

The police K-9 team consist of a trained police dog and an experienced police officer as handler and partner for the dog. They work daily on patrol in the city and are called upon to assist in investigations where searches may be needed. Police dogs are traditionally trained in patrol, drug detection, and sometimes bomb

detection. The Washington Police Department was the first law enforcement agency in the county to obtain and utilize a police dog team. The K-9 team has proven their worth in suspect detection/ apprehension and drug interdiction efforts.

The police department provides free fingerprinting for prospective employees when fingerprinting is required for employment. Current laws in the State of Ohio require fingerprinting for applicants in specific career fields. This is a public service to city residents and employers.

Local arrest record checks are available (to those with waivers for release of information) to assist employers and landlords. This service is provided to provide a quality of life in the workplace and city neighborhoods. This service enables employers and property owners to know what type of person is being placed in the workplace or neighborhood.

The police department is faced with 3 major challenges currently and in the future. First, The department has outgrown its current building and the building is structurally deteriorating. The building is faced with plumbing problems, electrical problems, and lack of storage space. Secondly, the department is short staffed. As of February 2005, the department was not fully staffed with patrol officers, which requires overtime pay and a modification to the desired shift make-up. The final issue, faced by every law enforcement agency, is constant in-service training. Laws are always being updated and modified by state and local legislature. Everyone in the department must keep abreast of these changes. Such training requires money and additional scheduling of personnel to attend in-service sessions.

Fire and Rescue-Township and Municipal Fire/Rescue

Fire protection for county resident living outside of Washington Court House is provided by various township and municipality fire

departments:

- Bloomingburg, located at 62 Main St., Bloomingburg (serving Paint, Madison, and part of Marion Townships)
- New Holland, located at 10 E. Front St., New Holland (serving most of Marion Township)
- Jeffersonville, located at 28 South Main Street, Jeffersonville (serving Jefferson and Jasper Townships)
- Concord-Green, located at 2626 Worthington Road, Washington Court House (serving Concord, Green, and Perry Townships)
- Wayne, located at 7218 Rt.. 753, Washington Court House (serving Wayne Township)
- Union, located at 1376 Robinson Road, Washington Court House (Union Township does not have a fire department, only a building). Washington Court House provides fire protection to Union Township on a contractual basis and houses equipment at the Union Township Fire Station.

Township Fire Departments are manned by trained volunteers. Emergency calls are received through the Sheriff Department and passed on to the Washington Court House Fire Department and the Township Trained Volunteers.

Washington Court House Fire Rescue Division has a Mutual Aid Agreement with the volunteer township fire departments in the county and any fire department in any county contiguous with Fayette County. Adjoining townships have Mutual Aid Agreements between their volunteer fire departments.

The most important issues the department foresees as being at the

forefront now and during the next 5 to 10 years as new businesses and housing units come into the area are manpower and equipment issues.

Having readily available water is a challenge when fires occur out in the county. Currently water has to be trucked to the fire. Houses in cul-de-sacs present additional problems because of the layout and width of the access road. Fire trucks have difficulty turning around in the road. Delays also occur when one truck is leaving to get water and another is arriving with a load at the same time. The one arriving with water has to wait for the other one to leave since both trucks will not fit side by side on the road. Long driveways to residences and farms create just as much a problem as cul-de-sacs. Rather than have single-family houses spread throughout the county or in cul-de-sacs (as they are currently designed), it would be better to have subdivisions in the county with a single water source.

Bloomingburg Fire Department is in need to a new firehouse and equipment. Other Township Fire Departments could use new equipment.

Fire and Rescue-Washington Court House Fire/Rescue

A fire department in Washington Court House was first established in 1833 when eight feet long by 14 feet wide and eight feet high building was constructed to house a Babcock fire engine which was a hand pump. The next year, the engine was put in proper condition and 10 ladders were added to use in fighting fires. During the intervening years, equipment was upgraded to a steam fire engine and later to a motorized engine. In 1919, the old firehouse was torn down and the present fire station was built at 136 North Fayette Street. In 1963, extensive remodeling including the addition of two bays, a dormitory, and a latches was completed.

The following is a list of the current equipment and its year made:

- 1979 American LeFrance Pumper 800 gallon tank
- 1983 American Le France Aerial Ladder 150 gallon tank
- 1987 Ford Mini Pumper 200 gallon tank
- 1990 Chevy pickup Grass Unit 250 gallon tank
- 1993 Pierce Arrow Pumper 2500 gallon tank
- 1998 Chevy Step Van Rescue Air Wagon
- 1999 Emergency One Rescue Pumper 1000 tank

One chief, one prevention chief, three captains, nine firefighters, 14 paid call volunteers, and an administrative secretary man the Fire Department. The department has a four man crew on duty on a typical day consisting of one captain and three firefighters. The department has established agreements within Fayette County and surrounding areas.

The functions of the department consist of:

- Containing and extinguishing fires, saving lives and property
- Providing extrication
- Being EMS First Responders
- Conducting search and rescue (including confined space, water, farm, trench, and heavy rescue)
- Containing hazardous materials

The fire department currently needs its ladder truck and pumper replaced. It is also in need of a new building facility.

Fire and Rescue-Emergency Medical Squad (EMS)

The Fayette County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) started in 1976 with a Pontiac Hearse and 30 volunteers. Today, there are over 50 volunteers, 10 full time and 20 part time paid staff. With bases in Washington Court House (115 East Temple Street), Jeffersonville, New Holland, six type III squads, one medic vehicle the Fayette County EMS offers around the clock pre-hospital medical care.

The county owns and maintains the building facilities for the EMS while user fees fund operating costs and capital purchases. Currently, the population of defined government units determines the location of the squad bases. The majority of the population is in the city and therefore, most of the squads are based there. Even though Jeffersonville's population is not very high compared to Washington Court House, the number of runs is higher than expected due to being adjacent to I-71. Any development of the land around US 35 at Jeffersonville will most likely further increase the number of runs from this base.

The number of calls for service has increased over the past years. In 1996 the average number of patient contacts per day was 6.39, in 2004 the average was 9.76 per day, and projected by the year 2023 the average would be 16.09 per day. The number of volunteer personnel has decreased over the last five or six years and has created some problems covering backup calls for service which has resulted in numerous instances where less than desirable response times have resulted.

The Fayette County EMS Board feels that the response times are too long for proper emergency patient care. They indicated their desire to increase funding to add more personnel and equipment. By adding more personnel the response times could be reduced to an acceptable level.

A major goal of the EMS is to provide rapid response (arrival within five to ten minutes from time of call). Up until 2004, most of the staff was unpaid volunteers. Currently, there are 10 full-time and 20 part-time paid staff and 50 volunteers who are paid \$5 per run. However, maintaining a full staff will continue to be a challenge in the future as the number of runs increases.

The Fayette County EMS would like to provide more rapid response (arrival within three to seven minutes from time of call).

The projected increase in the number of calls will necessitate buying additional equipment and vehicles and adding three more stations. These would possibly be located in the area of Bloomingburg, Good Hope, and Green Township.

Fayette County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)

The mission statement for the Fayette County Emergency Management Agency and the Local Planning Committee is "Fayette County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and the Local Planning Committee (LEPC) is taking a 'systematic approach' to coordinate the emergency services (law enforcement, fire and rescue, EMS, Red Cross, health, etc) by unifying all emergency services within the city and county to save lives and property. This approach will enhance us to become more effective in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery as a united work force during adverse circumstances for the citizens of Fayette County." Fayette County Emergency Management Agency is located in the lower area of the County Administration Building. The "Paul E. Emergency Operation Center (EOC) is located on Route 62 North. The EOC is designed to serve as the operation base for emergency coordination efforts during a major incident/event. Emergency response agencies will send representatives to coordinate their departments and responders. There are five (5) response groups: 1- Executive, 2- Assessment, 3- Communications, 4- Operations, and 5- Public Information.

Within Fayette County there are fifteen (15) outdoor weather warning systems. When bad weather is received (National Weather Center, Wilmington, Ohio) sirens, radio broadcasts, cable override, and public address systems may be used to provide warnings to schools, nursing homes, major industries, institutions, and places of public assembly. Beginning with the "Annual Tornado/Flood Safety Awareness Week" in March through October, all (outdoor warning sirens and indoor monitors) weather systems are tested for operational concerns, unless threatening conditions

should occur. Forward planning for additional outdoor warning systems would include the Waterloo area, Culpepper/Miami Trace High School, Madison Mills, Jasper Mills, Milledgeville/Octa, and North Jeffersonville areas.

Our major goal is to become a "storm-ready" community.

Ongoing training is provided for responders which include "Hazard Materials," "Weather Spotters," "Fire," "NIMS," "WMD," and others to assist all responders to keep qualified in their area of responses.

Fayette County Community Action

Fayette County Community Action oversees many different grants and programs that serve the health and safety needs of the lower income population in Fayette County. The main office is located at 324 East Court Street, Washington Court House. Below is a list of services and locations Community Action oversees:

- Head Start – Educational program for preschoolers (must be income eligible) North Fayette Street, Washington Court House and 41 Colonial Drive, Jeffersonville
- Homeless Shelter – North Hinde Street, Washington Court House
- Weatherization Program – County Farm, Route 38, Washington Court House
- Dental Clinic – Commercial Avenue, Washington Court House
- Project Care – (Pre-natal Care) 1351 Leesburg Avenue, Washington Court House
- Fayette Inn – 2825 US Rt. 22 SW, Washington Court House

- Delaware Street Substation (Trailer) – Self-Help Housing, 1217 Forest Street, Washington Court House
- Visitation Center works with Children Services – North Main Street, Washington Court House
- Transportation Program – 324 East Court Street, Washington Court House

Future needs of Community Action services include:

Dental Clinic needs additional office area and space for dental services

Weatherization program is stored at the County Home Buildings but really needs a warehouse which would allow them to provide better services. Additional funds are also needed.

Transportation Program needs additional funds for gasoline and to provide transportation for out of county medical appointments. Transportation is also in need of a garage to house transportation units.

A general garage is needed for Head Start transportation units and Transportation units (listed above).

Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health

Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health is located at 1300 East Paint Street, Washington Court House. Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health provides outpatient counseling services, community support services, emergency services, psychiatric services, partial hospitalization services, substance abuse services, and residential/transitional services. The building they occupy is owned by the County Commissioners. The building is too small for their current

case load and more parking is needed. A larger building will be needed in the future with more parking. Additional funding is also needed as state budget cuts continue to make it difficult to provide all the services needed.

Fayette County Red Cross

The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services that are consistent with its congressional charter and the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

American Red Cross is a non-profit organization which depends on the generosity of the populace for support. Supplementary income is provided locally by United Way of Fayette County, investments, product sales, and county-based foundations.

Services available from American Red Cross in Fayette County are as follows:

Disaster Services

Provide immediate assistance for families affected by natural disasters including residential fires and any other community-wide occurrence, e.g. terrorist attack, chemical spill, etc. Ensure ARC in Fayette County is prepared to respond to major disasters through recruitment and training of volunteers and regular testing of response systems. All disaster relief services are provided free.

Community Disaster Education

A concerted effort is made each year to reach the community with disaster preparedness information. Informative programs are provided free of charge to groups and schools. Materials are also

provided free with the possible exception of when a teacher /school orders a massive amount of a specific item.

Blood Services

Recruit individuals to donate blood and blood products to answer ongoing emergency needs. Blood products are provided to hospitals on a cost basis which includes staff and testing costs as required by the federal government

Military, Veterans, And Community Services

Provide worldwide emergency communications and assistance to families of the armed forces. Assist families separated by war, civil unrest, or natural disaster by providing tracing and emergency communication. Military communication services are provided free.

Health and Safety Services

Provide First Aid/CPR (with FREE AED training offered with CPR classes), water safety, and HIV/AIDS education and training. Health and Safety classes have a minimal fee to cover the cost of materials which includes participant manuals, sanitizing or replacing manikin parts as required.

Changes in the immediate future include the addition of two grant funded positions to review and renew disaster support, supply, and storage agreements with local entities. At-risk population will be targeted with materials and education. Temporary office space will be developed to house these two positions. Support of American Red Cross in Fayette County will determine what future growth in staffing and space will be necessary.

American Red Cross in Fayette County can be reached at 740-335-3101. Four voice mail boxes are available at this number which directs clients to available services.

