

Environmental Justice Action Strategy:

*Long Range Transportation Planning (LRTP)
and
Comprehensive Plan Processes*

Lincoln, Nebraska Metropolitan Planning Organization

December 29, 2010

This memorandum sets forth the strategic approach to be employed by the Lincoln (Nebraska) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in fulfilling its Environmental Justice (EJ) agenda and implementing Federal Title VI requirements in formulating a new Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and City of Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan.

This memorandum expands upon the Environmental Justice strategy description presented in the FY 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program for the Lincoln MPO. It is divided into the following five sections:

- (1) Background and Fundamental Principles;
- (2) Population Definitions;
- (3) Environmental Justice Target Populations in the Lincoln MPO planning area;
- (4) Environmental Justice Participation Process; and,
- (5) Strategic Work Tasks of the EJ Participation Plan.

1. Background and Fundamental Principles

The term “Environmental Justice” as used in this report is grounded in the following legislative and administrative directives of the Federal Government:

Title VI, 1964 Civil Rights Act: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Title VI Regulations: “...a recipient or applicant may not make [site] selections with the purpose or effect of excluding persons from, denying them the benefits of, or subjecting them to discrimination...on the grounds of race, color, or national origin...” (49 CFR 21.5(b)(3))

Executive Order 12898, February 11, 1994: “Each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.”

Executive Order 13166, August 11, 2000: “Federal agencies shall examine the services they provide,

identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them.”

In accordance with these Federal Government directives, the Lincoln (NE) MPO views its environmental justice strategy as having the following three fundamental principles:

To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority and low-income populations;

To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision making process; and

To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

Federal regulations dealing with Environmental Justice administration stress the importance of the “effect” that actions may have on targeted populations. Programmatic documents issued by the USDOT indicate that the working definition of “adverse effects” is as follows: “Totality of significant individual or cumulative human health or environmental effects.” Interrelated social and economic effects that are assumed to be a part of this working definition include:

- air, noise, and water pollution and soil contamination;
- destruction or disruption of man-made or natural resources;
- destruction or diminution of aesthetic values;
- destruction or disruption of community cohesion or a community’s economic vitality;
- destruction or disruption of the availability of public and private facilities and services;
- vibration;
- adverse employment effects;
- displacement of persons, businesses, farms, or nonprofit organizations;
- increased traffic congestion, isolation, exclusion or separation of minority or low-income individuals within a given community or from the broader community; and,
- denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of, benefits of DOT programs, policies, or activities.

Federal program documents also provide the following dual part definition of “disproportionately high effects” as being: (1) predominately borne by a minority or low-income population; or (2) suffered by the minority or low-income population...appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse effect...suffered by the non minority or non low-income population.

2. Population Definitions

The *USDOT Order on Environmental Justice* and *Executive Order 12898* indicate that the EJ actions of the administrative organizations covered by these regulations are to address persons belonging to the following groups:

Black – A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Asian and Pacific Islander– A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands.

American Indian and Alaskan Native – A person having origins in any of the original people or North American and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Hispanic – A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

Low-Income – A person whose household income (or in the case of a community or group, whose median household income) is at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines (\$22,050 for a family of four (2010)).

Limited English Proficiency – A person whose ability to speak the English language is not proficient.

3. Environmental Justice Target Populations in the Lincoln MPO

At the writing of this document, Census 2010 has been conducted throughout the United States; however, data will not be released for several months. Rather than delaying this document to early 2011, data is being gathered using the following sources.

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY:

The US Census Bureau began collecting data on an ongoing basis in Lincoln and Lancaster County in 2005 as part of the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is conducted through a random sample of the population, not a complete count as the decennial census, and so there is a margin of error associated with the data that can be quite significant, especially for smaller populations. At the time of this writing, the smallest geography being reported is at the Place level (city or village). ACS data does not at this time provide data that can be used to show geographic distribution, however, it can give us a picture of overall changes seen in the City and County over the past 9 years. This data is provided in Table 1.

CENSUS 2000:

The PL 94-171 figures -- the Year 2000 Census initial data released by the Census Bureau for purposes of legislative redistricting -- for the greater Lincoln area were made available to the public in mid-March, 2001. The figures placed the population for the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization planning area (i.e., the entirety of Lancaster County, including the City of Lincoln) at 250,291 persons.

This data also provided up to date information regarding the status of four of the five EJ targeted population groups – i.e., the racial and ethnic categories. Year 2000 Census data on income levels was released by the Census Bureau in late 2001 and has been used in this update to evaluate the status of the fifth group – low income.

This section of the report examines the overall number of individuals within the targeted populations and their geographic distribution within the greater Lincoln area. For purposes of this analysis, the Census Bureau's definitions of race and ethnicity were used – that is, the figures reflect self categorization of race and ethnicity by the persons completing the Census 2000 form, and use the race and ethnicity categories indicated on the Census 2000 form.

The Census 2000 data collection and tabulation procedures introduced a new “race categorization” concept into the Census process. For the first time, individuals completing the Census form were allowed to indicate identification with more than a single racial group. As such, the Census PL 94-171 and subsequent data releases included tabulation of persons with “two or more races.” For the purposes of this report, both the single race categories and combined race

categories are shown where possible. Within the specific race categories targeted by the Environmental Justice criteria, the dual sets of figures are presented as separate tabulations.

Overall Race and Ethnicity Profile

Table 1 presents figures comparing the Census defined race and ethnicity groups for the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County for the years 1990, 2000 and 2009. Of the MPO’s Year 2000 population of 250,291 persons, 15,813 persons (6.3 percent) categorized themselves as being Black, American Indian and Alaskan Native, or Asian American, and 8,437 persons (3.4 percent) categorized themselves as being of Hispanic origin. An additional 4,225 persons (1.69 percent) categorized themselves as belonging to a single “Other Race” category, and 4,678 persons (1.87 percent) categorized themselves in the “Two or More Races” category.

2009 ACS estimates show significant changes for some populations. Overall, the population has grown by 12.6%. Black, American Indian and Alaskan Native, and Asian populations have all increased at 2 to 3 times this rate. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander and Other Race populations fell by ½ to ¼ respectively. As discussed earlier, the ACS data is based on a random sample and the error seen in the estimate can be very significant for smaller populations, such as those seen in the American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and Other populations. Hispanic populations grew by about 2/3. All of these increases represent a smaller percent increase than was seen in the 1990 – 2000 time period.

Table 1 Total Population by Race, City and County. Source: US Census 1990, 2000 and American Community Survey 2009

| | 1990 (Census) | | 2000 (Census) | | 2009 (ACS) | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Lincoln | Lancaster | Lincoln | Lancaster | Lincoln | Lancaster |
| Total | 191,972 | 213,641 | 225,581 | 250,291 | 254,008 | 281,531 |
| White alone | 181,320 | 202,663 | 201,322 | 225,426 | 225,629 | 252,881 |
| Black or African American Alone | 4515 | 4659 | 6960 | 7052 | 9621 | 9708 |
| American Indian and Alaskan Native Alone | 1150 | 1207 | 1537 | 1599 | 1863 | 1863 |
| Asian Alone | 3212 | 3282 | 7048 | 7162 | 8724 | 8832 |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone | 76 | 85 | 141 | 149 | 78 | 78 |
| Some Other Race | 1699 | 1745 | 4081 | 4225 | 3170 | 3170 |
| Two or More races | NA* | NA* | 4492 | 4678 | 4923 | 4999 |
| Hispanic (Independent of Race) | 3764 | 3938 | 8154 | 8437 | 13,729 | 14,088 |

*The 1990 Census did not show “Two or More races” as a selection but asked individuals to identify a single race.

For those individuals categorizing themselves in the Year 2000 Census as belonging to two or more race groups, Table 2 shows the total number of persons within each of the five tabulation categories (i.e., two, three, four, five and six), as well as the three major EJ racial groups. Table 3 offers a more detailed display of the various racial combinations for these 4,678 individuals.

Table 2. Summary Tabulations of Persons Within Two or More Race Category

| Census Tabulation Categories | Total No. of Persons Within Category | Race Group Noted By Respondent (Multiple Counting Does Occur) | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | <i>Black/African American</i> | <i>Asian/Pacific Islander</i> | <i>American Indian</i> |
| Persons of Two Races | 4,396 | 1,467 | 1,036 | 962 |
| Persons of Three Races | 258 | 190 | 74 | 159 |
| Persons of Four Races | 13 | 11 | 8 | 11 |
| Persons of Five Races | 11 | 11 | 10 | 11 |
| Persons of Six Races | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 4,678 | 1,679 | 1,128 | 1,143 |

Table 3. Persons by Race for Lancaster County, Nebraska, Year 2000 PL 94-171 Census Data

| | Total | Percent |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Total: | 250,291 | 100.000% |
| <i>Population of one race:</i> | 245,613 | 98.131% |
| White alone | 225,426 | 90.066% |
| Black or African American alone | 7,052 | 2.818% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone | 1,599 | 0.639% |
| Asian alone | 7,162 | 2.861% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone | 149 | 0.060% |
| Some other race alone | 4,225 | 1.688% |
| <i>Population of two or more races:</i> | 4,678 | 1.869% |
| <i>Population of two races:</i> | 4,396 | 1.756% |
| White; Black or African American | 1,184 | 0.473% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native | 824 | 0.329% |
| White; Asian | 779 | 0.311% |
| White; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 57 | 0.023% |
| White; Some other race | 1,099 | 0.439% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native | 122 | 0.049% |
| Black or African American; Asian | 32 | 0.013% |
| Black or African American; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 4 | 0.002% |
| Black or African American; Some other race | 125 | 0.050% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian | 9 | 0.004% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 0.000% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Some other race | 51 | 0.020% |
| Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 22 | 0.009% |
| Asian; Some other race | 68 | 0.027% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 19 | 0.008% |
| <i>Population of three races:</i> | 258 | 0.103% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native | 119 | 0.048% |
| White; Black or African American; Asian | 17 | 0.007% |
| White; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; Some other race | 45 | 0.018% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian | 12 | 0.005% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 0.000% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Some other race | 16 | 0.006% |
| White; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 16 | 0.006% |
| White; Asian; Some other race | 16 | 0.006% |
| White; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 2 | 0.001% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian | 2 | 0.001% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 0.000% |

| | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Some other race | 4 | 0.002% |
| Black or African American; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| Black or African American; Asian; Some other race | 2 | 0.001% |
| Black or African American; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 0.000% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Some other race | 3 | 0.001% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 1 | 0.000% |
| Population of four races: | 13 | 0.005% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian | 6 | 0.002% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Some other race | 5 | 0.002% |
| White; Black or African American; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; Asian; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 2 | 0.001% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.000% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Black or African American; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Population of five races: | 11 | 0.004% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 10 | 0.004% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Some other race | 1 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |
| Population of six races: | 0 | 0.000% |
| White; Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; Some other race | 0 | 0.000% |

**Table 4. Year 2000 Census Tabulations
Race and Ethnic Comparisons for County and City**

| Race/Ethnic | Population | | Total Change | Percent Change | Percentage of Total | |
|-------------------------|------------|---------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|---------|
| | 1990 | 2000 | 1990-2000 | 1990-2000 | 1990 | 2000 |
| Lancaster County | | | | | | |
| Total | 213,641 | 250,291 | 36,650 | 17.15% | 100.00% | 100.00% |
| White | 202,663 | 225,426 | 22,763 | 11.23% | 94.86% | 90.07% |
| Black/African Am. | 4,659 | 7,052 | 2,393 | 51.36% | 2.18% | 2.82% |
| American | 1,207 | 1,599 | 392 | 32.48% | 0.56% | 0.64% |
| Asian | 3,367 | 7,162 | 3,795 | 112.71% | 1.58% | 2.86% |
| Native Hawaiian | -- | 149 | 149 | NA | NA | 0.06% |
| Other (One) | 1,745 | 4,225 | 2,480 | 142.12% | 0.82% | 1.69% |
| Two or More | -- | 4,678 | 4,678 | NA | NA | 1.87% |
| Hispanic/Latino | 3,938 | 8,437 | 4,499 | 114.25% | 1.84% | 3.37% |
| City of Lincoln | | | | | | |
| Total | 191,972 | 225,581 | 33,609 | 17.51% | 100.00% | 100.00% |
| White | 181,320 | 201,322 | 20,002 | 11.03% | 94.45% | 89.25% |
| Black/African Am. | 4,515 | 6,960 | 2,445 | 54.15% | 2.35% | 3.09% |
| American Indian | 1,150 | 1,537 | 387 | 33.65% | 0.60% | 0.68% |
| Asian | 3,288 | 7,048 | 3,760 | 114.36% | 1.71% | 3.12% |
| Native Hawaiian | NA | 141 | 141 | NA | NA | 0.06% |
| Other (One) | 1,699 | 4,081 | 2,382 | 140.20% | 0.89% | 1.81% |
| Two or More | NA | 4,492 | 4,492 | NA | NA | 1.99% |
| Hispanic/Latino | 3,764 | 8,154 | 4,390 | 116.63% | 1.76% | 3.26% |

Blacks

A total of 7,052 persons (2.8 percent) in Lancaster County indicated on the Census 2000 form that they are “Black, African American or Negro.” This represents an increase of 2,393 persons (51.4 percent) in this racial category between the year 1990 and the year 2000. As a percent of the total population, Blacks increased from 2.18 percent in the year 1990 to 2.82 percent in the Year 2000. Blacks were the largest single minority population in 1990 but fell to second in 2000, with persons in the Asian and Pacific Islander category comprising the largest group at 2.92 percent. (Not included in the Year 2000 Census figures are the 1,679 persons from the “Two or More Race” category who indicated “Black” as one of their racial groups.)

A map showing the distribution of Blacks by Census tract (using PL 94-171 data) is presented in Figure 1.

Asian and Pacific Islander

A total of 7,311 persons (2.92 percent) in Lancaster County indicated on the Census 2000 form that they are “Asian Indian, Japanese, Native Hawaiian, Chinese, Korean, Guamanian or Chamorro, Filipino, Vietnamese, Samoan, Other Asian, or Other Pacific Islander.” This represents an increase of approximately 3,944 persons (112.7 percent) in this racial category between the year 1990 and the year 2000. As a percent of the total population, Asian and Pacific Islanders increased from an estimated 1.58 percent in the year 1990 to 2.92 percent in the year 2000. (Not included in any of the Year 2000 figures are the 1,128 persons from the “Two or More Race” category who indicated “Asian or Pacific Islander” as one of the racial groups.)

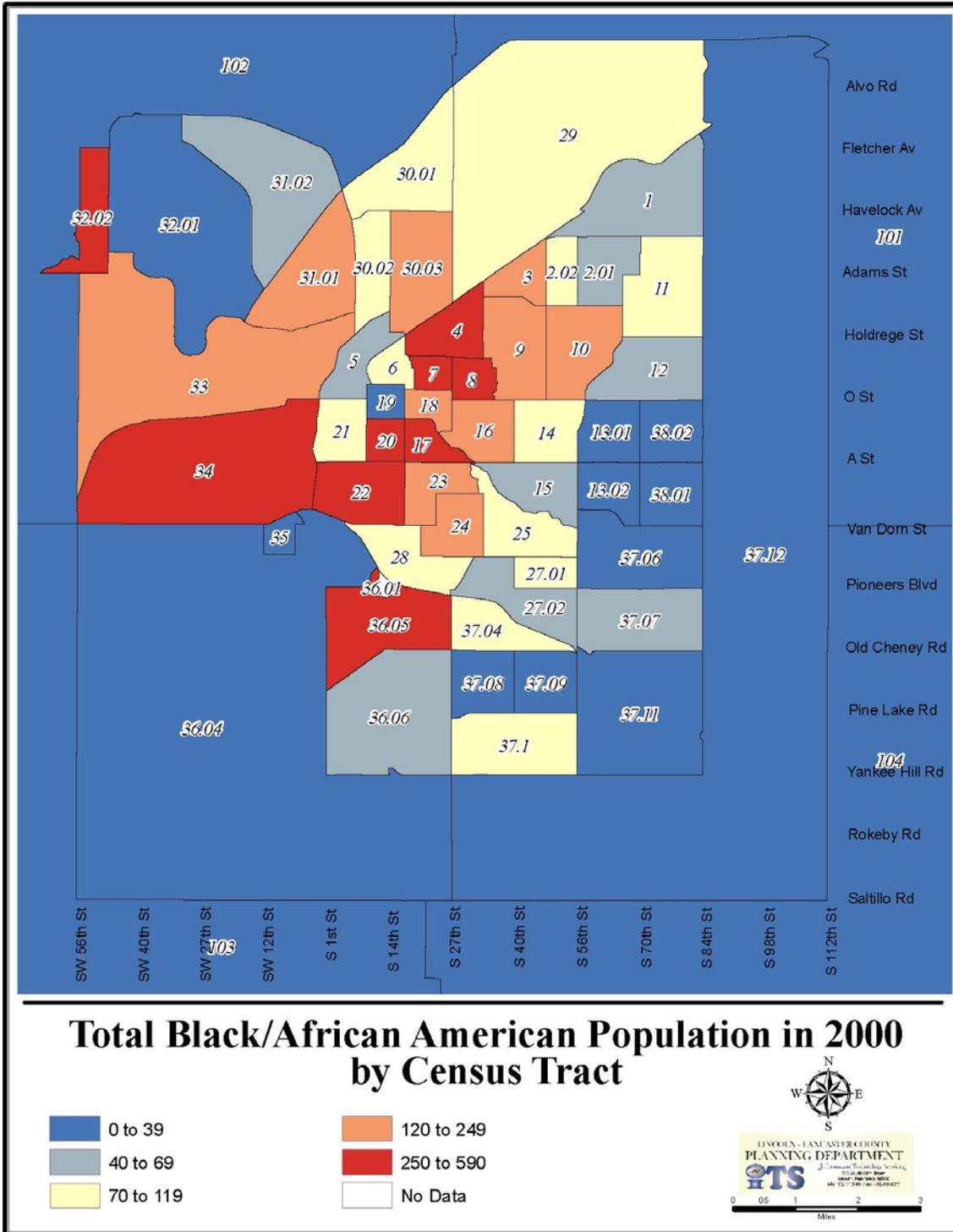
A map showing the distribution of Asian and Pacific Islanders by Census tract (using PL 94-171 data) is presented in Figure 2.

American Indian and Alaska Native

A total of 1,599 persons (0.64 percent) in Lancaster County indicated on the Census 2000 form that they are “American Indian or Alaska Native.” This represents an increase of approximately 392 persons (32.5 percent) in this racial category between the year 1990 and the year 2000. As a percent of the total population, American Indians and Alaska Natives increased from an estimated 0.56 percent in the year 1990 to 0.64 percent in the year 2000. (Not included in any of the Year 2000 figures are the 1,143 persons from the “Two or More Race” category who indicated “American Indian or Alaskan Native” as one of the racial groups.)

A map showing the distribution of American Indian and Alaskan Natives by Census tract (using PL 94-171 data) is presented in Figure 3.

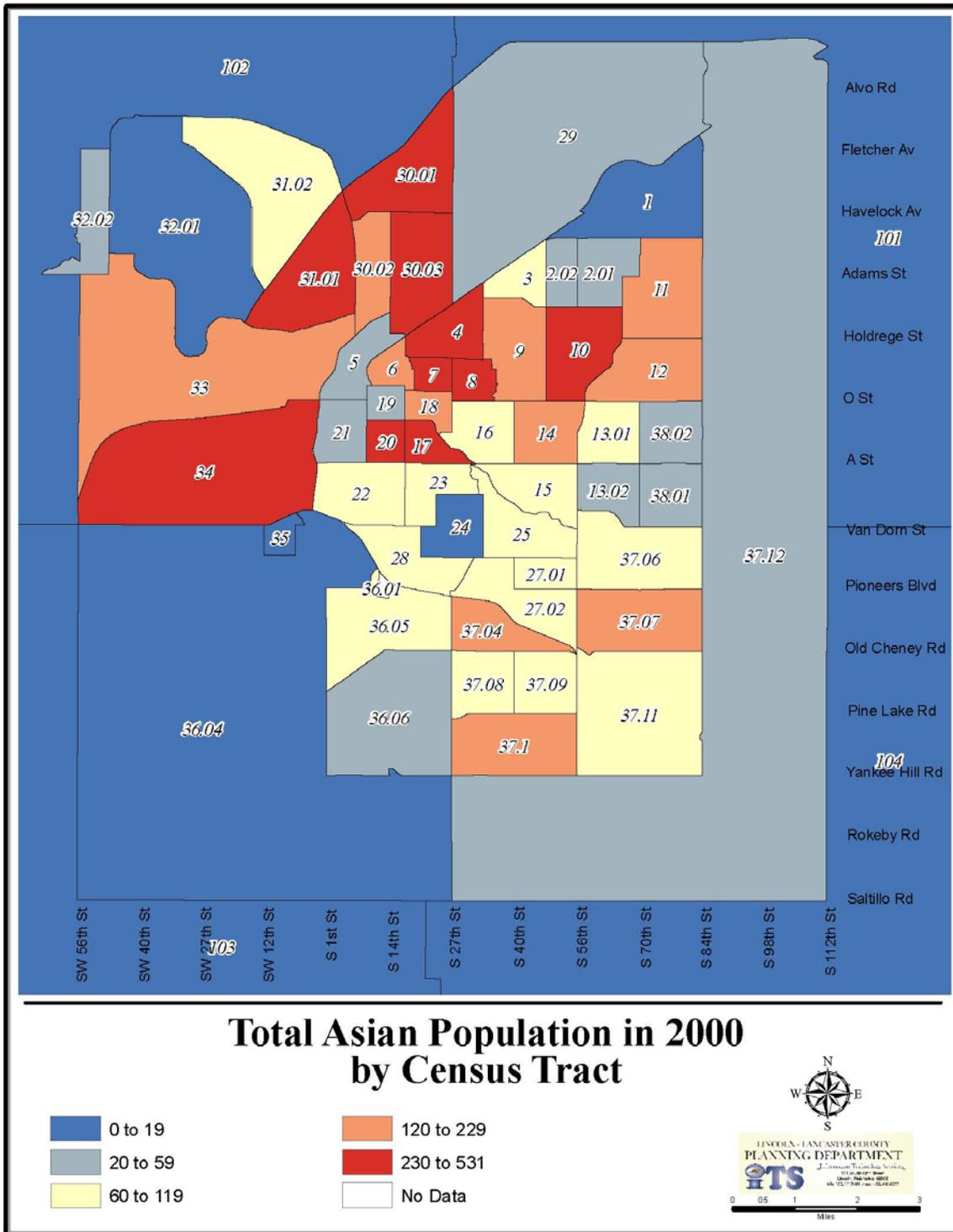
Figure 1



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November 30, 2010

Figure 2



m:\plan\census\mxd\TotalAsian2000.mxd

November 30, 2010

Hispanic

A total of 8,437 persons (3.37 percent) in Lancaster County indicated on the Census 2000 form that they are “Spanish/Hispanic/Latino.” This represents an increase of 4,499 persons (114.3 percent) in this ethnic category between the year 1990 and the year 2000. As a percent of the total population, Hispanics increased from an estimated 1.84 percent in the year 1990 to 3.37 percent in the year 2000.

A map showing the distribution of Hispanics by Census tract (using PL 94-171 data) is presented in Figure 4.

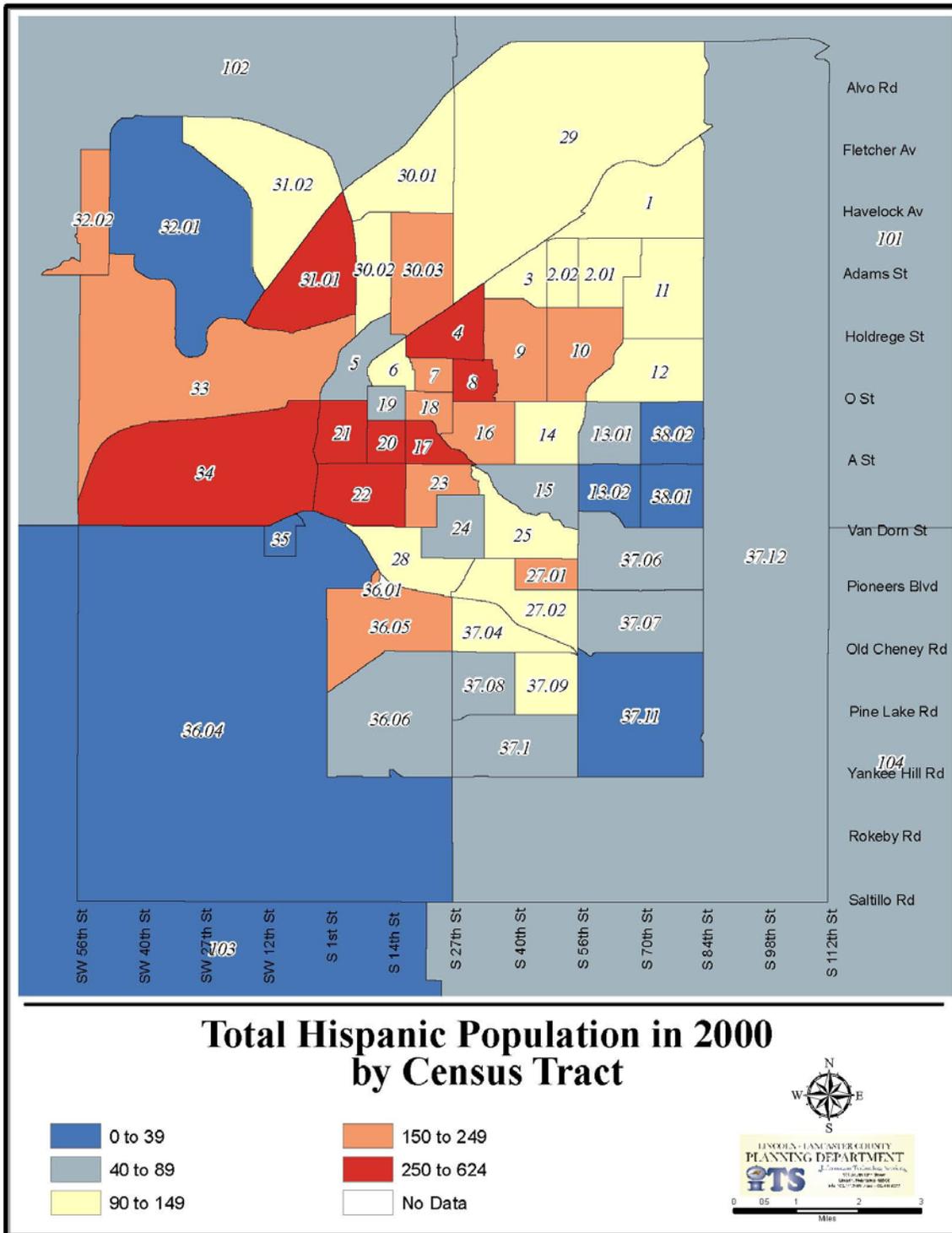
Low Income

Figures for the Lincoln MPO area from the 2000 Census placed median household income at \$41,850, median family income at \$53,676, and per capita income at \$21,265. Among persons for whom poverty status was determined, approximately 9.5 percent County-wide were categorized as having incomes below the poverty level. This varied from 10.1 percent within the City of Lincoln to 4.5 percent for areas outside of Lincoln but within Lancaster County. Across the entire County, 78.7 percent of these persons were “White,” 7.4 percent “Black,” 1.8 percent “American Indian,” 3.9 percent “Asian or Pacific Islander,” 3.6 percent “Other Races”, 4.6 percent “Two or More Races”, and 6.6 percent “Hispanic or Latino”. Note: Persons indicating ethnic identity of “Hispanic or Latino” are also counted under one of the racial groups, hence the total percentage greater than 100%.

Figures 5 (Median Household), 6 (Median Family), and 7 (Per Capita) display 2000 income level indicators by census tract for the metropolitan area. (A number of tracts do not contain median household and median family income level data. These tracts contain persons living in “group quarters,” such as prisons or dormitories. Persons living in such facilities are not considered by the Census Bureau as belong to “households” or “families” for purposes of income calculation.)

Based upon our understanding and knowledge of Lincoln-area demographic and development trends and patterns during the 2000s, it would seem rational and prudent to utilize this information in determining the overall level and geographic distribution of low income persons in the Lincoln area until such time are more recent Census data are released. If distribution of income levels, for example, were to have remained approximately the same, the number of people estimated to be currently living below the poverty level in greater Lincoln-area would be 25,654 persons. The geographic distribution – again for purposes of formulating a new LRTP – would be assumed similar to that shown in Figures 5, 6, and 7.

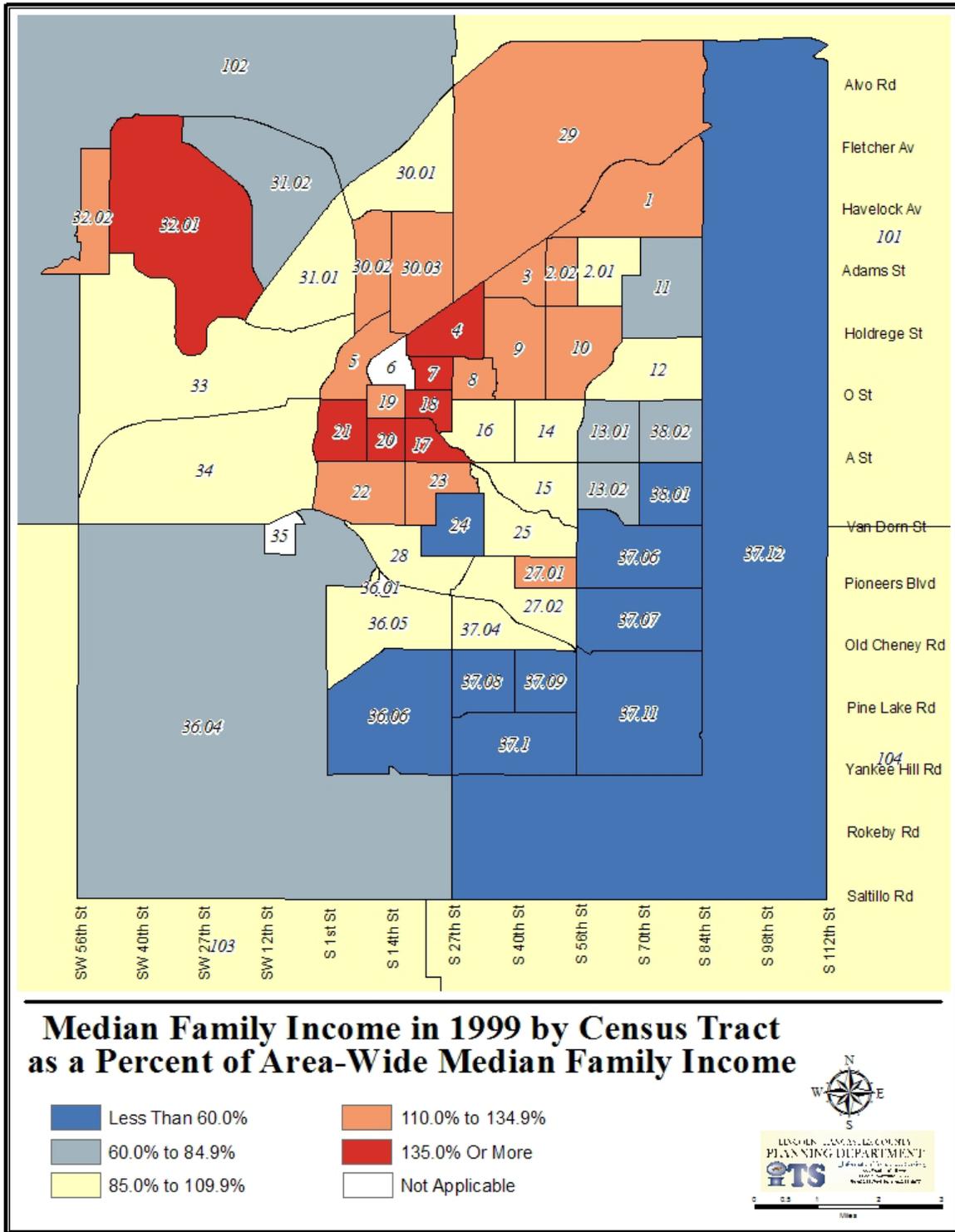
Figure 4



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November 30, 2010

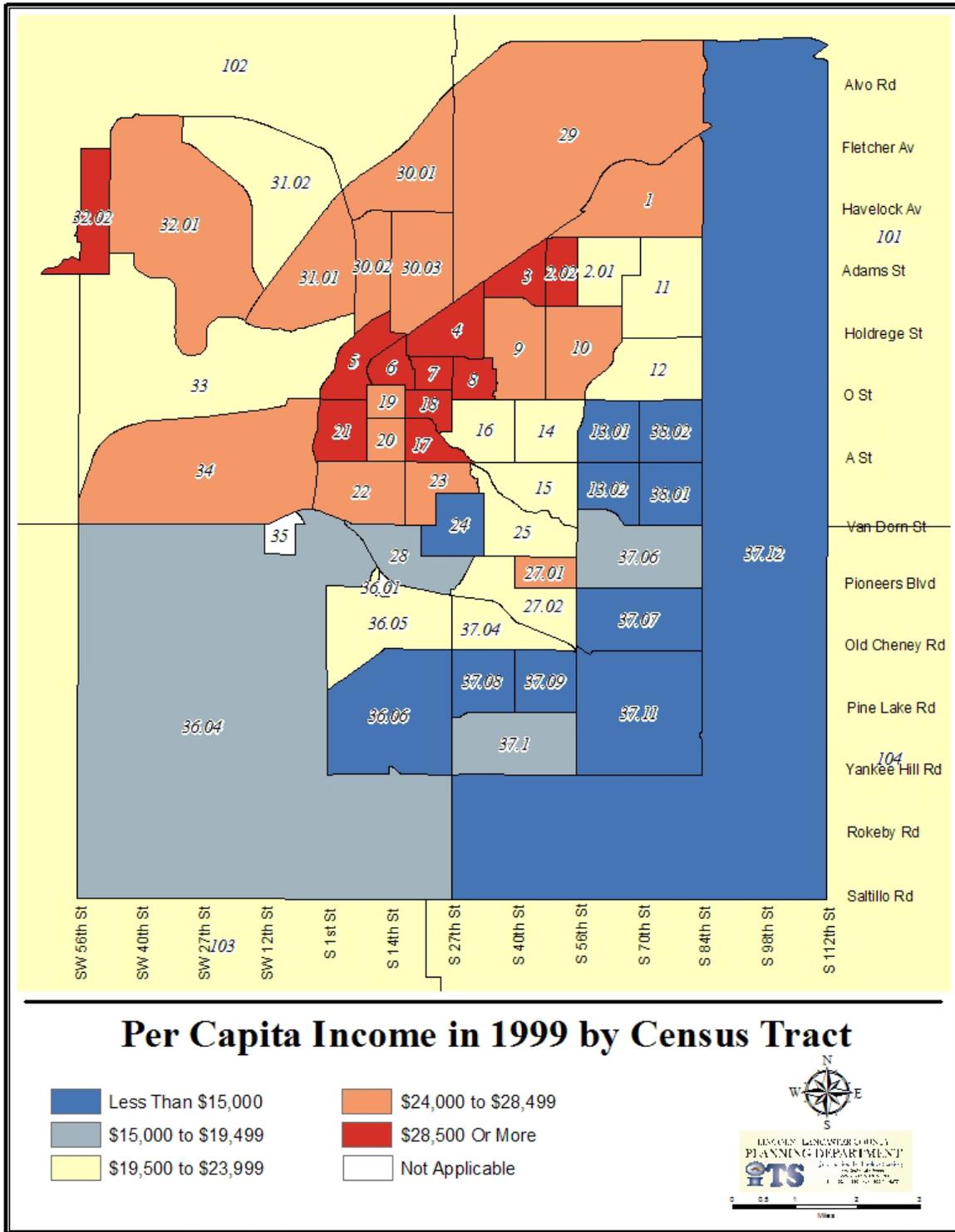
Figure 6



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November 30, 2010

Figure 7



Limited English Proficiency Populations

Two plans have been developed to assess and address the needs of those with limited English proficiency (LEP): the Equity, Access and Diversity Plan developed by the Human Rights Commission, and the Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plan developed by StarTran Municipal Bus Service, Public Works and Utilities Department. These plans assess the need for non-English publications and information, identify cooperating government and non-profit organizations, and describe specific strategies for meeting the needs of persons with LEP. In all phases of transportation planning the strategies described in these publications will be considered and used as appropriate. Both reports are attached to this document as Appendices A and B.

DRAFT

Environmental Justice Participation Process

Changes to our human environment necessitate a continuous planning and review process that involves ongoing evaluation and refinement of policies, programs and plans. Public participation is utilized to gather information from the public when new projects or system changes are proposed in a geographic region.

The Environmental Justice participation process is designed to offer residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County opportunities to become informed, participate and provide comments on the transportation system planning process.

The Lincoln MPO's EJ public participation strategy is structured around four phases:

Phase I: Listening to the public and learning about the issues and concerns related to transportation;

Phase II: Exploring and creating solution ideas;

Phase III: Developing and evaluating alternatives in accordance with the fundamental principles; and

Phase IV: Finalizing the Long Range Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Plan.

The Lincoln MPO has developed an action strategy that offers the affected residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County the opportunity to speak out on transportation issues and needs during all phases of the decision making process and is outlined below.

Strategic Work Tasks of the Environmental Justice Participation Plan

The action strategy provides for the following:

- a. Opportunities for Early and Continuing Participation, including Needs Identification;
- b. Communication, Information and Materials in Formats other than English;
- c. Timely Public Notice and an Adequate Review Period;
- d. Accessible Meetings at Convenient Times and Places;
- e. Encouraging and Developing Partnerships for Minority Participation;
- f. Integrate EJ Travel/Mobility Concerns in LRTP Planning Analysis Phase; and
- g. Involve LRTP/MPO Process Participants
- h. Documentation of Public Comments and EJ Efforts.

Opportunities for Early and Continuing Participation, including Needs Identification

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Decennial Census Participation - The Lincoln MPO assisted the U.S. Census Bureau in promoting participation by EJ targeted communities during the Year 2010 Census. This included assignment of staff and the funding through the Mayor's Diversity Fellowship of positions to work in local neighborhoods to conduct community outreach. Assisting the Census Bureau improves the MPO's capacity to ensure a fuller understanding of the size, demographic character and geographic distribution of minority and low-income populations and of their potential transportation needs.

Comprehensive Plan Announcements - Will be e-mailed to interested individuals, stakeholders, human service agencies, community groups, city, state and federal agency representatives and elected officials prior to each public event. The announcements will encourage participation, promote education about the planning process, and provide timely notice of public events.

Non-English Material - 'Comprehensive Plan Flyers' will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic and distributed via email and through community partnerships in places accessible to minority communities. The 'Flyers' will be used to encourage participation, promote education of planning process and provide timely notice of public events. Newsletters will be published quarterly in English and Spanish and distributed through the website and email systems. Key Newsletters will also be printed and distributed at open houses and through community partners.

Community Involvement Events - Workshops will be held in accessible neighborhood locations throughout the City and County. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and needs identification.

Focused Community Involvement Events - Open Houses will be held in accessible neighborhood locations with minority and low-income populations. Non-English handouts and materials, translation and interpretation of results will be made available to participants. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and needs identification for minority and low-income populations.

Traveling Displays - Exhibitions and displays showing "Conceptual Alternatives" will be placed at Community Centers, Senior Centers, and Libraries throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County, with mail-in feedback forms available for individuals to provide their comments and thoughts. Non-English materials will be provided. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback.

Internet Website - Update-to-date information provided on Web Site, including Non-English Material, Meeting Schedules and full materials, Current Work Tasks and Community Comment Board. A depository for all information relating to the planning process.

Mayor's Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) - The Mayor's Multicultural Advisory Committee is composed of individuals representing various racial and ethnic communities in the Lincoln area. An on-going partnership will be established with MAC for guidance and feedback on the public participation process. This will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback on planning process and specific plan recommendations.

Media - Press Releases; 5 City TV (Local Government Channel) Public Service Announcements (PSAs), Radio, News Coverage, Advertising in local newspapers: Lincoln Journal Star, the Voice (Hickman), The News (Waverly), and Newspaper PSAs. Developed to ensure full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities.

Travel and Mobility Community Survey - Will include provisions for special focus areas and Non-English speaking persons. Developed to document impacts on all potentially affected communities. An over-sampling of neighborhood areas with high incidents of EJ community members is being undertaken to ensure a fuller understanding of the transportation concerns facing these target groups.

Communication, Information and Materials in Formats other than English

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Media - Press Releases; 5 City TV (Local Government Channel) PSAs, Radio, News Coverages, Advertising in local newspapers: Lincoln Journal Star, the Voice (Hickman), The News (Waverly), and Newspaper PSAs. Developed to ensure full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities.

Comprehensive Plan Announcements- Will be e-mailed to interested individuals, stakeholders, human service agencies, community groups, city, state and federal agency representatives and elected officials prior to each public event. The announcements will be used to encourage participation, promote education about planning process and provide timely notice of public events.

Non-English Material - 'Comprehensive Plan Flyers' will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic and distributed via email through community partnerships in places accessible to minority communities. The 'Flyers' will be used to encourage participation, promote knowledge of the planning process and provide timely notice of public events. Newsletters will be published quarterly in English and Spanish and distributed through the website and email systems. Key newsletters will also be printed and distributed at open houses and through community partners.

Focused Community Involvement Events - Open Houses will be held in accessible locations with low-income and minority populations. Non-English handouts and materials, translation and interpretation of results will be made available to participants upon request. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and needs identification for minority and low-income populations.

Travel and Mobility Community Survey - Will include provisions for special focus areas and Non-English speaking persons. Developed to document impacts on all potentially affected communities.

Traveling Displays - Exhibitions and displays showing "Conceptual Alternatives" will be placed at Community Centers, Senior Centers, and Libraries throughout City and County, with mail-in feedback forms available for individuals to provide their comments and thoughts. Non-English materials will be provided. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback.

Public Comments in Non-English languages - Will be translated in to English and incorporated into planning process.

Develop List of Interpreters and Translators to assist Lincoln MPO EJ outreach activities.

Timely Public Notice and an Adequate Review Period

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Planning Commission - Notices for Public Hearings on the LRTP and Comprehensive Plan will be provided in a number of formats, including non-English formats and within targeted geographic areas of the community.

Comprehensive Plan Committee - Notices for Public Meetings on the LRTP and Comprehensive Plan will be provided in a number of formats.

Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) - Partnership with MAC for guidance and feedback on public

participation process. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback on planning process.

Comprehensive Plan Announcements - Will be emailed to interested individuals, stakeholders, human service agencies, community groups, city, state and federal agency representatives and elected officials prior to each public event. The announcements will be used to encourage participation, promote knowledge of the planning process and provide timely notice of public events.

Non-English Material - 'Comprehensive Plan Flyers' will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic and distributed via email and through community partnerships in places accessible to minority communities. The 'Flyers' will be used to encourage participation, promote knowledge of planning process and provide timely notice of public events. Newsletters will be published quarterly in English and Spanish and distributed through email and the website. Key Newsletters will be printed and distributed through open houses and community partners.

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Traveling Displays - Exhibitions and displays showing "Conceptual Alternatives" will be placed at Community Centers, Senior Centers, and Libraries throughout City and County, with mail-in feedback forms available for individuals to provide their comments and thoughts. Non-English materials will be provided. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback.

Internet Website - Update-to-date information provided on Web Site, including Language Translated Material, Meeting Schedules and full materials, Current Work Tasks and Community Comment Board. A depository for all information relating to the planning process.

Accessible Meetings at Convenient Times and Places

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Traveling Displays - Exhibitions and displays showing "Alternatives" will be placed at Community Centers, Senior Centers, and Libraries throughout City and County, with mail-in feedback forms available for individuals to provide their comments and thoughts. Non-English materials will be provided. Non-English materials will be provided. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback.

Community Involvement Events - Workshops will be held in accessible neighborhood locations throughout the City and County. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and needs identification.

Focused Community Involvement Events - Open Houses will be held in accessible neighborhood locations with low-income and minority populations. Non-English handouts and materials, translation and interpretation of results will be made available to participants upon request. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and needs identification for minority and low-income populations.

Non-English Material - 'Comprehensive Plan Flyers' will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic and distributed via email and through community partnerships in places accessible to minority communities. The 'Flyers' will be used to encourage participation, promote education of planning process and provide timely notice of public events. Newsletter will be published quarterly in English and Spanish and distributed via email and the website. Key Newsletters will be printed and distributed at open houses and through community partners.

Planning Commission and Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee – As a focus of much of the transportation planning process, the City-County Planning Commission and Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee are key participation components. Examples of activities to further involvement among targeted EJ communities includes purposeful distribution of meeting times and locations, securing translators for meeting and event interpretation as requested, highlighting issues and concerns of EJ specific communities, and maintaining translated materials on the groups' respective websites

Encouraging and Developing Partnerships and Minority Participation

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Comprehensive Plan Committee - Notices for Public Meetings on LRTP will be provided in a number of formats.

Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) - Partnership with MAC for guidance and feedback on public participation process. Will provide continuing opportunities for participation and feedback on planning process.

League of Human Dignity - Will present information and seek guidance and feedback on public participation process.

New Americans Task Force - Will present information and seek guidance and feedback on public participation process.

Focused Community Involvement Events - Open Houses will be held in accessible locations with low-income and minority populations. Non-English handouts and materials, translation and interpretation of results will be made available to participants upon request.

Non-English Material - 'Comprehensive Plan Flyers' will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic and distributed via email and through community partnerships in places accessible to minority communities. The 'Flyers' will be used to encourage participation, promote education of planning process and provide timely notice of public events. Newsletters and published quarterly in English and Spanish and distributed via email and the website. Key Newsletters are printed and distributed at open houses and through community partners.

Integrate EJ Travel/Mobility Concerns in LRTP Planning Analysis Phase

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

The MPO has undertaken a process to develop a transportation modeling software package that is compatible

with GIS software. This package has the capacity to evaluate the spatial relationships between census tracts identified as having an increased number of EJ target populations and various transportation concerns. Through processes currently being developed, these specific census tracts will be analyzed to determine the relationship between them and projected locations of travel, proposed or planned transportation investments, and the coverage of these tracts by alternative travel mode options. Travel time will be analyzed to compare target and non-target areas as well.

GIS staff will cooperate with Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department – Air Quality personal to assess the overall effects on air quality.

Natural Resource GIS information will be compared to transportation alternatives to assess the relative impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

Documentation Format – Review of the travel and mobility concerns completed in the LRTP EJ analysis will utilize a combination of textual, graphic and mapping techniques that offer a clear range of understanding to a broad range of communities, including targeted EJ segments.

Survey Results Overview – An analysis of two separate surveys conducted by Sigma Group has been completed and is reported in the Report on Effectiveness of Environmental Justice Outreach. Continuing efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of outreach activities will be conducted throughout the planning process and into the future.

Involve LRTP/MPO Process Participants

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Outreach to Cities and Villages - Contact via email with village and city clerks, presentation at Lancaster County Board joint meeting with Village and City Officials, and continued presentations to villages and other cities as requested.

Regular Joint-Elected Official Hearings - ‘Commons’ meeting with City Council, County Board and Mayor.

Technical Resource Team - Regular meetings with City and County agency representatives.

MPO Technical Committee - Regular meetings with City, County, State and Federal representatives.

MPO Officials Committee - Appointed/Elected Committee.

Staff Training - Attendance at EJ/Title 6 training provided by FHWA.

Documentation of Public Comments and Environmental Justice Efforts

STRATEGIC WORK TASKS

Copy of all translated and interpreted material.

Documentation of all public comments.

Document outreach activities.

Maintain list of individuals interested in Lincoln MPO outreach activities.

Maintain list of Primary/Stakeholder community contacts.

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