

Goals and Objectives

The establishment of regional Goals and Objectives was an important task in Phase I completed by the BAC. The adopted Goals and Objectives formed the basis for later criteria used in the Phase II assessment of alternative bridge systems.

Goal #1 – Maintain and enhance transportation capacity, safety and reliability for existing businesses, their employees, and all residents

Objectives

- Provide alternative and redundant routes for truck traffic
- Alleviate congestion and maintain an acceptable minimum Level of Service (LOS) to enhance shipment of goods and movement of employees
- Accurately measure constraints of roadways and strive to upgrade river crossings and connecting roadways to at least current minimum standards for geometry

Goal #2 – Provide enhanced access for expansion and retention of businesses, and attraction of new businesses to the region

Objectives

- Evaluate transportation improvements and alternatives for their ability to serve existing and potential future development sites
- Evaluate transportation improvements that can better tie together the BHJ region with adjacent economic market areas
- Prioritize improvements in transportation facilities and cross-river travel that can serve targeted economic development objectives for the BHJ region

Goal #3 – Draw more traffic and commerce into the Upper Ohio Valley

Objectives

- Develop transportation system improvements that will provide greater interconnection with surrounding regions, states, municipalities, and marketplaces
- Build an efficient and effective transportation network that will become a regional strength and draw additional traffic and customers into the Steubenville-Weirton marketplace

Goal #4 – Develop linkages to high capacity inter-modal transportation by strengthening the connections to river ports and railroads

Objectives

- Consider access to rail and river port facilities as a locational criterion for transportation improvements and cross-river travel routes

Goal #5 – Enhance Emergency Management Options to Provide Alternative Routes in Case of Flood, Natural Disaster or Accident

Objectives

- Redundancy of the transportation network and cross-river linkages during times of accident, flooding or other natural disaster should be a planning criterion for new major investments in infrastructure
- Roadway design standards for new travel facilities should account for the weight and size of vehicles expected to travel during times of emergency and at all other times

Goal #6 – Improve travel times throughout the region

Objectives

- Establish minimum desirable Levels of Service and adequate standards for roadway and bridge design
- Establish time of travel as a critical planning criterion for prioritizing capital improvements

Goal #7 – Ensure that the cross-river transport network from Wheeling north to Steubenville is sufficiently robust to carry all weights and sizes of commercial vehicles

Objectives

- Establish planning criteria for the larger tri-state region in concert with the states of Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania to ensure that improvements in the Steubenville-Weirton area help enhance and optimize the larger transportation network for all modes