

Linn County Road Department

Title VI Annual Accomplishment Report

Year 2023/2024

Prepared by:

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Introduction

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires recipients of federal highway funds to prepare an annual report to clarify accomplishments, roles, responsibilities and procedures established to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 23CFR 200.9 (b) (10)

It is Linn County's policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, income level or Limited English Proficiency as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of the programs or activities it administers.

The Linn County Road Department is a recipient of federal assistance and administers federally funded projects as a Certified Local Public Agency (LPA) through the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Local Agency Certification Program.

In August 2014, Master Certification Agreement (MCA) Number 29107, between Linn County and ODOT, was executed to allow Linn County Road Department full certification to deliver federally funded projects in roadway design; bridge design; advertising, bid and award; and construction contract administration. In April 2016, Certification Agreement Number 30919 was executed to allow Linn County full certification to deliver federally funded projects in direct appoint consultant selection procurement.

This Annual Accomplishment Report covers Linn County's fiscal year from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The Linn County Road Department Title VI Plan, the Linn County Title VI Public Notice and the Linn County Road Department Complain Form are available on the Linn County Road Department website at <https://www.linncountyor.gov/roads/page/title-vi-program>.

Organization and Staffing

The Linn County Engineering Department develops and administers federally funded projects and county capital projects. The County Engineer oversees the County's engineering and capital improvement projects. The Engineering Department is comprised of the County Engineer, two Civil Engineers and two Senior Engineering Technicians.

The County Engineer, Daineal Malone, PE, has been designated as the Title VI and Title II Program Coordinator by the Linn County Roadmaster.

Planning

Linn County develops and considers projects based on cooperative working relationships with cities, planning organizations (AAMPO and CWACT), road safety concerns, working with the public, and demographic data.

Projects and project need are primarily identified through the development of the current Linn County Transportation System Plan that was completed and adopted in 2018. County demographic data was applied to the development of that plan. Similarly, other Linn County Projects were also selected by identification of projects through the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) Transportation Improvement Program and other Cities' Plans which also considered demographic data.

The selection of projects was based on the plans and subsequent meetings with each City which included open public meetings as appropriate.

Linn County Road Department Engineering Staff have been working with the City of Albany and

AAMPO to develop improved roadways to accommodate pedestrian, bicycles and ADA. An application was prepared and submitted for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding for improvements of Goldfish Farm Road on July 26, 2019. The project was awarded STBG funding in the amount of \$1,218,600. This project is planned for completion in 2025.

Linn County Road Department Engineering Staff have been working with the City of Tangent and AAMPO to develop improved roadway to accommodate pedestrian, bicycles and ADA. An application was prepared and submitted for STBG funding for improvement of Tangent Drive in July 2019. The project was awarded STBG funding in the amount of \$884,750. This project is planned for completion in 2026.

Linn County Road Department Engineering Staff have been working with the City of Lebanon, and other cities, regarding property development applications to ensure that the design meets the needs of the public.

Linn County Engineer meets with the Cascade West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACTION) and the AAMPO Technical Advisory Committees in regards to development of projects.

The Linn County ADA Transition Plan was completed and submitted to the ODOT Title VI/EJ/ADA Program Manager on July 1, 2020 and was approved. The county is in the process of updating the ADA Transition Plan and will be completed in 2024.

Demographics

Based on the 2020 United States Census, Linn County's population is 131,496.

The majority of the population within the County, roughly 84 percent, is Caucasian. American Indian/Alaskan Native make up less than percent, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander make up less than 1 percent, Black or African American make up less than 1 percent, Asian make up 1 percent and Hispanic or Latina make up 10%.

English is the primary language spoken by about 92 percent of the County's population.

Approximately 24 percent of residents within the County are under the age of 19 and about 20 percent are 65 years and older. There are marginally more females in the region (51 percent).

The median household income, \$70,548, is slightly lower than the statewide average of \$80,160.

Figure 1. below illustrates the percent of individuals whose ratio of household income to poverty level in the past 12 months was less than 2. As shown on the map, the majority of the low income population is located around Lebanon, Sweet Home and Harrisburg.

The percentage of population where language, other than English, is spoken at home is 6%, which is a little lower than the statewide average of 15%. **Figure 2.** illustrates the percent of households in which no one age 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only. The majority of the population speaking other than English is located around rural Lebanon, Sodaville, and east Albany.

The percentage of population with a disability, under the age of 65 is 13%, is lower than the statewide average of 15%. As shown in **Figure 3.**, the highest populations with disabilities are located east of Interstate 5 between Lebanon to the Lane County border and Sweet Home area.

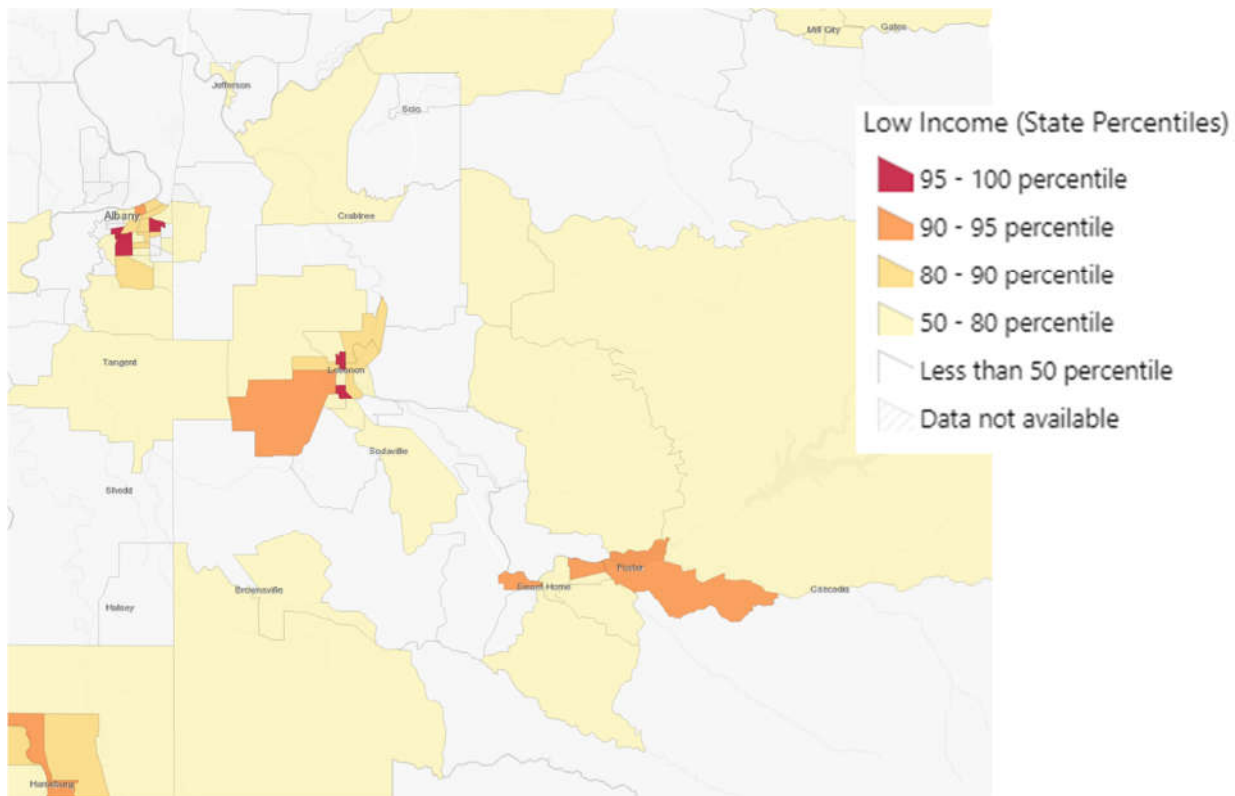


Figure 1. Low Income Percentiles

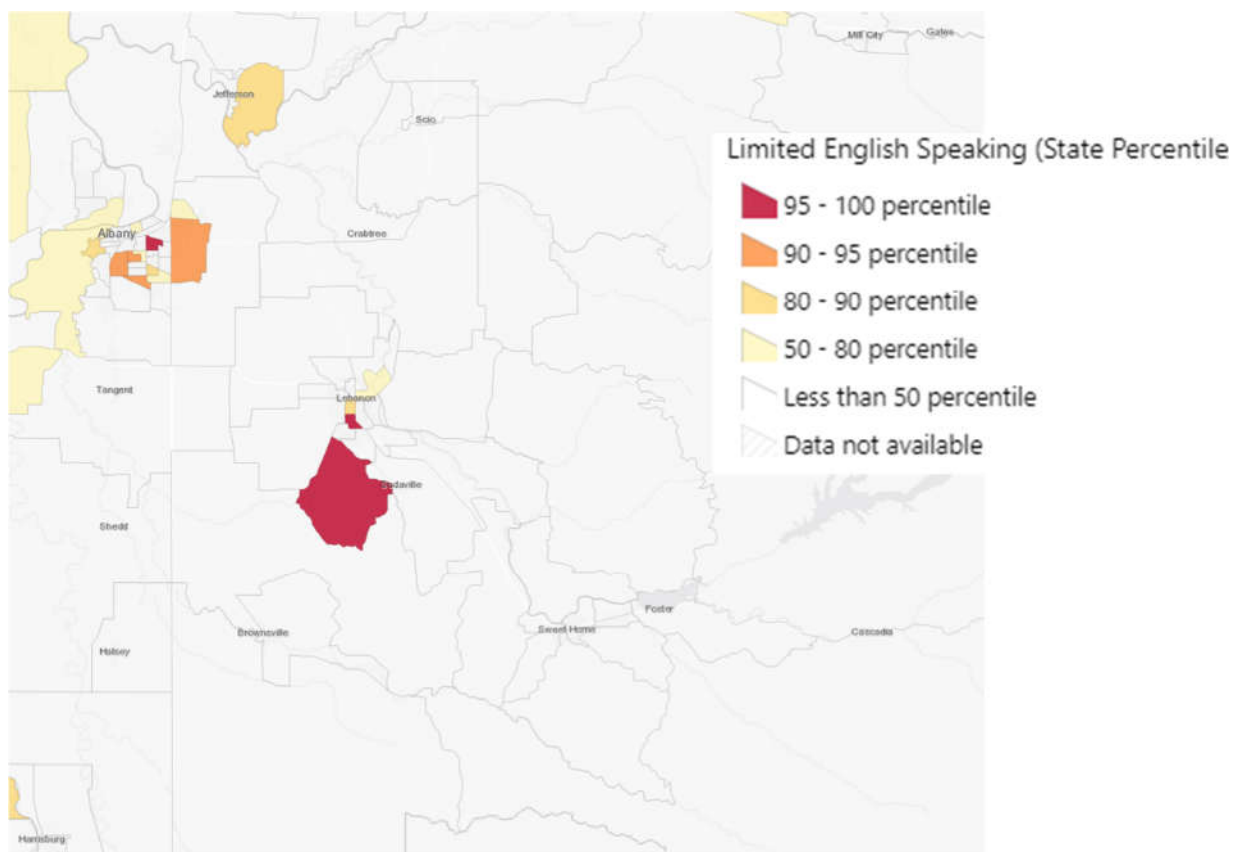


Figure 2. LEP Percentiles

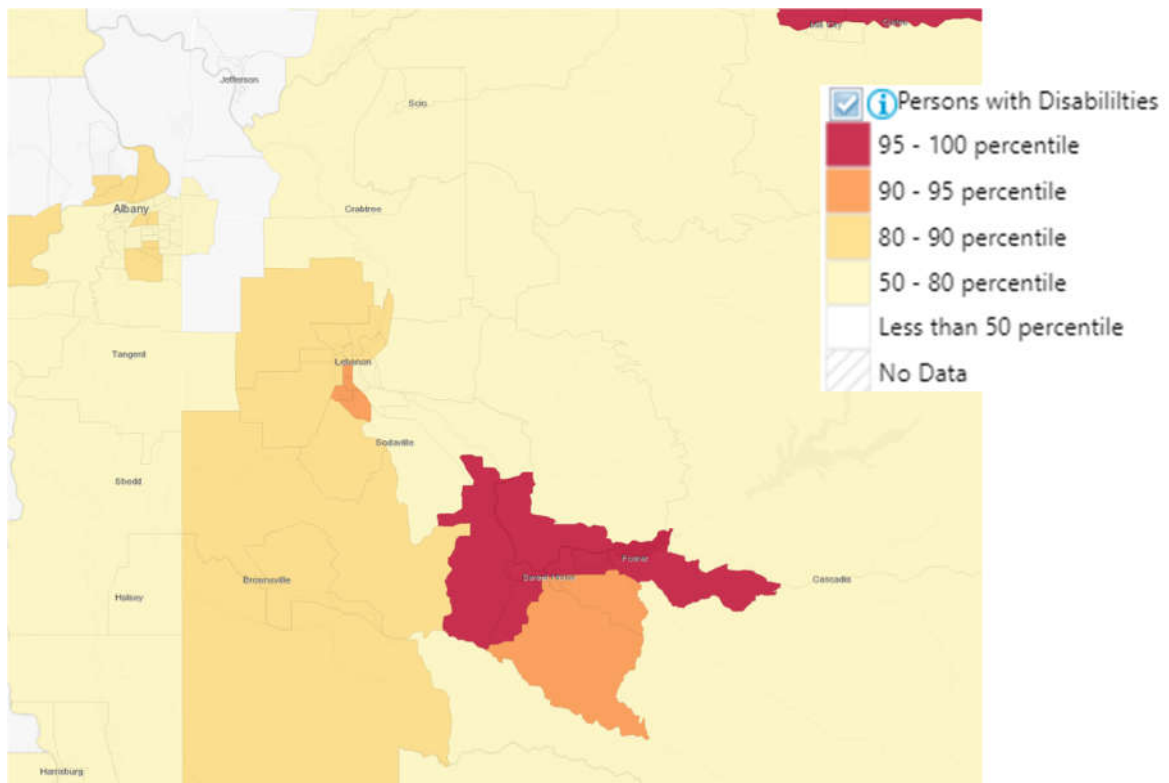


Figure 3. Persons with Disabilities Percentiles

These three above figures were derived from the EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. They reflect the percentiles compared to the States' average for low income (**Figure 1.**), limited English speaking (**Figure 2.**) and persons with disabilities (**Figure 3.**).

Public Outreach/Involvement

Public Outreach is included for the delivery and design of all projects. This includes written notification to local residents and businesses within, or near, the project limits. This also includes public meetings with the Linn County Commissioners for steps taken for delivery of all projects. Notification to the public and a public comment component is provided for these meetings.

During development of project lists and during the preliminary phase of a project, Linn County will hold public meetings to provide public involvement and input in order to encompass community input into the project selection and design, as appropriate.

A public outreach component is part of the meetings held by the Cascade West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT) and CWACT Technical Advisory Committee and also the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) and AAMPO Technical Advisory Committee. Technical Advisory Committee meetings are held monthly. Dates and agendas are posted to AAMPO's website and sent out via email to all interested parties list one week before the meeting. Technical Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and have time allotted for public comments.

Linn County website provides a "Latest News" page for County information and a monthly newsletter.

The Linn County Road Department also has a website that provides information regarding projects, the Linn County ADA Transition Plan, the Linn County Transportation System Plan and the Linn County Road Department Civil Rights Program. The previous annual reports are also published on our website. The website can be found at: <https://www.linncountyor.gov/roads/page/civil-rights-program>.

Projects

The County has \$33,364,064 programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) through ODOT (which includes ODOT and Western Federal Lands (WFL) funding), \$3,135,312 programmed directly through WFL, \$2,103,350 programmed through AAMPO using STBG funding, and \$2,714,409 through Business Oregon (BO) and the State Fund Exchange (FE). See Appendix A for a map of the project locations. The following table identifies programmed projects and the phases they are in for this reporting period:

Project No.	Project Name	Project Cost	Phase
STIP			
KN20306	Folsom Road: Mill Creek Bridge	\$1,256,800	Complete
KN21472	Seven Mile Lane Left Turn Lane	\$477,252	Construction
KN21900	North River Drive Public Access Improvements	\$3,143,555	Design
KN21999	Peoria Road: Slough Bridge	\$3,206,400	Design
KN22000	Goldfish Farm Rd: Cox Creek Bridge	\$3,256,900	Design
KN22006	Sand Ridge Road: Butte Creek Bridge	\$2,755,907	Preliminary
KN23134	Murder Creek (Nygren Road) Bridge	\$977,500	Programmed
KN23138	South Santiam River McDowell Creek Bridge	\$726,600	Programmed
KN23140	Truax Creek (Clover Ridge Road) Bridge	\$3,133,600	Obligated
KN23143	Cox Creek (Waverly) Dr Bridge (City of Millersburg)	\$4,549,600	Preliminary
KN23146	Muddy Creek (Bowers Drive) Bridge	\$2,854,700	Design
KN23557	Upper Calapooia Drive Improvements (5 Bridges)	\$7,025,250	Programmed
WFL FUNDING			
ORLINN35(1)	North River Drive Improvement	\$3,135,312	Design
STBG			
CR2102	Goldfish Farm Road Improvement	\$1,218,600	Design
CR2301	Tangent Drive Improvement	\$884,750	Design
OTHER FUNDING			
CR1704	Seven Mile Lane Left Turn Lane (BO)	\$175,000	Construction
CR2102	Goldfish Farm Road Improvement (FE)	\$2,077,440	Design
CR2301	Tangent Drive Improvement (FE)	\$461,969	Design

Environmental studies and cultural resource (archaeological and historical) surveys are conducted and any right of way needing acquired is minimized, as much as practical, during the preliminary engineering phase of each project to ensure environmental impacts do not disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations and to ensure compliance with ADA requirements.

Accomplishments

General

This past reporting period the Folsom Road, Mill Creek Bridge replacement was under construction and has since been completed.

The City of Scio constructed three ADA ramps within Linn County jurisdiction with funding obtained from two Safe Routes to School grants.

The Linn County Road Department Title II Program webpage was updated to include a Request for Accommodations Form for the public to request a barrier removal.

ADA Transition Plan

The Linn County Road Department is developing and will implement the 2024 ADA Transition Plan update.

Within this reporting period, the County evaluated County maintained pedestrian facilities within the public ROW to determine ADA compliance. The evaluation assessed curb ramps, sidewalks, pedestrian hazards, crosswalks, pedestrian pushbuttons and on-street parking for accessibility barriers.

The County has inventoried:

- 248 existing curb ramps (100%);
- Zero existing roadside miles of sidewalk;
- Zero pedestrian hazards or barriers;
- 58 marked crosswalks (100%);
- 4 push buttons (100%); and
- Zero on-street parking stalls (none currently in our inventory).

The County has inspected for compliance:

- 248 curb ramps (all have been visually inspected and categorized. Physical inspections will be ongoing); and
- 4 push buttons.

The County has identified 5 new ramps constructed to ADA compliance.

The County has identified zero barriers removed.

The curb ramp and pedestrian signal push buttons inventories are identified on an internal GIS mapping portal. At this time, there is no public access to the mapping portal, but we are working on developing the application prior to public use. The County will supplement the GIS inventory over time to include sidewalks.

Education and Training

Linn County staff attended and participated in the following training opportunities that included Civil Rights information:

- ADA Inspector Certifications
- Civil Rights Training for Certified Local Public Agencies

Complaints

The Linn County Road Department received no formal or informal Title VI complaints during this reporting period. The Linn County Title VI complaint procedures are identified in the Linn County Title VI Program Management Guidance Document located on our website. A complaint form is also available on our website.

Goals for Upcoming Year

Make necessary updates to the Linn County Title VI Plan and the ADA Transition Plans and website(s).

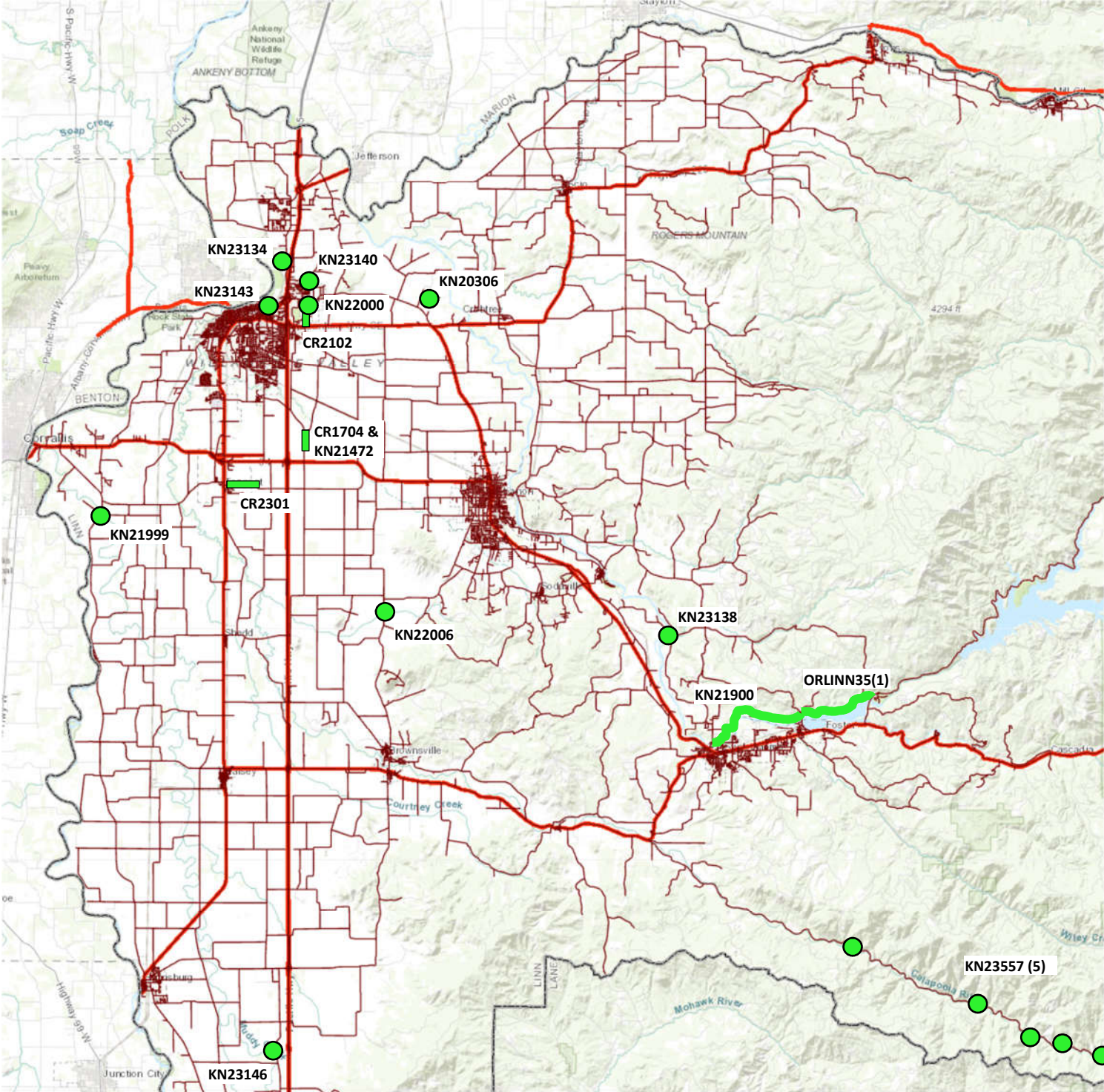
Continue to provide internal and external Title VI training opportunities for County staff, contractors, and stakeholders.



Continue ADA facility inventory and inspections.

Continue outreach with the City of Scio, City of Lebanon, City of Brownsville, City of Harrisburg, City of Albany, City of Millersburg, and City of Sweet Home and other small communities in regards to development and implementation of projects that directly, or indirectly, pertain to the Linn County

Transportation System Plan, Safe Routes to School implementation plan and ADA improvements within Linn County road right of way.

Appendix A
Funded Project Site Map



-  BRIDGE PROJECT
-  ROADWAY PROJECT