

PURPOSE & NEED

KY 1450 (Blue Lick Road) is a north-south minor collector highway that generally runs parallel to I-65 to the west and KY 61 (Preston Highway) to the east. It provides regional connectivity through Bullitt County and access to residential, commercial, and industrial development throughout its length. In the section between KY 1526 (John Harper Highway) and Jeffie Lane, intermittent turn-lanes supplement the two 10-foot lanes with little to no earth shoulders.

As high-density employment, freight, and shopping centers continue to develop along the corridor, existing traffic congestion and safety issues are expected to persist and worsen. Multiple entrances to the commercial and light-industrial areas generate economic development for the community but create risks for roadway users. A lack of sidewalks and other multi-modal facilities deters the nearby residents and other users from safely connecting to commercial areas and places of worship without using cars. The bridge over Brooks Run Tributary has no shoulders, limiting non-motorist travel to and from the residential areas of the corridor. The vertical guardrail and bridge rail, combined with the lack of shoulders, contributes to feeling squeezed in when traveling over the bridge. These two issues are worsened by the high-volume of freight destined for the nearby light-industrial parks.

The purpose of this project is to improve mobility and safety along KY 1450 between KY 1526 and Jeffie Lane while accommodating all roadway users and considering the current and future mixed-use nature of the corridor.



The most notable solutions to address the issues are highlighted below:

ACCESS MANAGEMENT & CENTRE DRIVE ROUNDABOUT



A raised median along KY 1450 between KY 1526 and Centre Drive would prevent northbound vehicles from turning left into Brenton Way but still allow left turns to the Five-Star Gas Station. This median would also prevent motorists out of those same locations from turning left across heavy traffic to go north. Those motorists would use a roundabout at Centre Drive to make left turns more safely and predictably.

DUAL LEFT-TURN LANES

Motorists along KY 1526 turning left onto northbound KY 1450 towards Jeffie Lane would be provided two left-turn lanes instead of one. KY 1450 would be widened to accommodate the additional lane of left-turning vehicles. Signal timing would be updated to maximize efficiency and safety.



PARTIAL DISPLACED LEFT-TURN LANES



As an alternate to the dual left-turn lanes above, partial displaced left-turn lanes would further reduce intersection delay time in two ways. First, left turns to KY 1450 and westbound vehicles along KY 1526 towards I-65 could cross the intersection at the same time. An additional, synchronized signal would allow the left-turning motorists to “crossover” into two left-turn lanes. Even with the additional signal, vehicles would spend less time waiting. Second, motorists turning right from southbound KY 1450 onto KY 1526 would not have to stop and would merge closer to I-65. This safely reduces congestion along southbound KY 1450.