



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet • District 3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Wes Watt**
270-746-7898 (office)
Wes.Watt@ky.gov

Southern Warren County Interstate 65 Interchange Feasibility Study Recommends KY 242 Location

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (Sept. 16, 2021) – The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) in partnership with the Bowling Green-Warren County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) announces the completion of the final report from the Southern Warren County Interstate 65 Interchange Feasibility Study. Tremendous growth in recent years in southern Warren County prompted the study that was completed in the last year by Michael Baker International. The final report recommends the KY 242 area as the preferred selection for a new I-65 interchange.

The purpose of a new interchange on I-65 in Warren County is to address the mobility and connectivity issues to I-65 from the road network in southern Warren County. The study looked at three general area alternatives for a possible I-65 interchange to serve southern Warren County. The three general areas were Carter Sims Road, KY 242 and KY 240.

Data collected from local officials, stakeholders and community feedback were included when making the final report recommendation. Findings from the study

showed KY 242 and KY 240 are feasible locations for a new I-65 interchange, but KY 242 had a greater and more immediate need.

“Growth in southern Warren County, particularly in the Rich Pond and Plano areas, demands better access to I-65 and the local roadway network to improve emergency response times and accommodate the ongoing and planned land use in the area,” said Joe Plunk, KYTC District 3 Chief District Engineer. “A new connector road will also help link two communities that have long been separated by the interstate.”

The KY 242 area is recommended to move forward in the project development phase. If growth trends in that area continue, an interchange in the KY 240 area could be considered in the future. The Carter Sims Road area was eliminated from consideration.

The next steps to move the project forward is to enter the project into the Highway Plan process to be considered for funding. The preliminary estimated costs associated with a new interchange in the KY 242 area is estimated between \$37.7 million to \$49.8 million.

Two local official and stakeholder meetings were held along with two virtual public meetings in September of 2020 and March of 2021. More than 700 citizen surveys were returned as well as a number of social media comments. The purpose of the meetings was to gather feedback from the community. To view the entire report please click this link: [Southern Warren County Interstate 65 Interchange Feasibility Study Final Report](#)