



Commonwealth of Kentucky  
**Transportation Cabinet**  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

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Deputy Secretary

November 21, 2003

«Mailing\_Title» «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»«Suffix»  
«Title»  
«Organization»  
«Address1»  
«Address2»  
«City», «State» «Zip»

SUBJECT: Planning Study  
Graves County  
KY 121 from 400 feet south of Harris Lane  
To KY 945  
Item No. 01-8100.00

Dear «Letter\_Title» «Last\_Name»:

We are requesting your agency's input and comments on a planning study to determine the need and potential impacts for a proposed highway project. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has assembled a study team to evaluate the proposed reconstruction of KY 121 from 400 feet south of Harris Lane to the intersection with KY 945 in Graves County. The study is currently in the initial data-gathering stage.

We ask that you identify specific issues or concerns of your agency that could affect the development of the project. This planning study will include a scoping process for the early identification of environmental issues and impacts related to the proposed project. We believe that early identification of issues or concerns can help us develop improvement recommendations that avoid or minimize negative impacts.

We respectfully ask that you provide us with your comments by January 5, 2004 to ensure timely progress in this planning effort.

During the development of this planning study, comments will be solicited from Federal, state, and local agencies, in accordance with principles set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The Federal Highway Administration is partnering with us in these efforts.



«Mailing\_Title» «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»

Page 2

November 21, 2003

Other Transportation Cabinet offices or consultants working on behalf of the Transportation Cabinet may also contact you seeking more detailed data or information to assist them in completing their environmental studies for this phase of the project.

We have enclosed the following project information for your review and comment:

- A draft statement of Study Purpose and Project Goals
- Major Issues, Project Schedule and Contacts
- Project Location Map
- Year 2002 Traffic and Level of Service
- Year 2030 Traffic and Level of Service
- Vehicle Crash Information by Crash Severity
- Topographic Environmental Footprint
- Digital Orthographic Environmental Footprint

We appreciate any input you can provide concerning this project. Please direct any comments, questions, or requests for additional information to Steve Ross of the Division of Planning at 502/564-7183 or at [steve.ross@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:steve.ross@mail.state.ky.us). Please address all written correspondence to Annette Coffey, P.E., Director, Division of Planning, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, 125 Holmes Street, Frankfort, KY 40622.

Sincerely,



Annette Coffey, P.E.  
Director  
Division of Planning

AC:RSR:RC

Enclosures

|    |                           |                     |
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**KY 121, Graves County  
From 400 feet south of Harris Lane to KY 945  
Item No. 01-8100.00**

**Draft Statement of Study Purpose**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the need to reconstruct KY 121 in Graves County from 400 feet south of Harris Lane to KY 945.

**Draft Project Goals**

- Improve Safety

Opportunities exist to improve sight distance and intersection alignment on the study route. Although crash data analysis reveals less than critical crash rate factors, two high schools, a middle school and a planned elementary school just south of the study area combined with trucks traveling between Mayfield and Wickliffe make safety the primary focus of this study.

- Relieve congestion and improve capacity

Five-lane improvements have been made to KY 121 from the Julian M. Carroll Parkway to just north of the Graves County High School entrance. Three-lane improvements are planned for KY 121 from the north end of the five-lane section to just north of the intersection with KY 1830. Opportunities exist to improve the existing two-lane section of KY 121 north of KY 1830 to accommodate existing and projected increases in traffic levels.

- Accommodate increased truck use and promote regional connectivity

Both Wickliffe and Mayfield are home to companies that generate significant numbers of trucks that travel the study corridor. KY 121 is on the National Truck Network and is the primary connector between Mayfield and Wickliffe. A Regional Industrial Park proposed north of Mayfield on US 45, if completed, could have a significant impact on traffic levels and truck percentages in the study corridor. Opportunities exist to improve the existing two-lane section of KY 121 for truck use and regional connectivity.



## Major Project Issues

- Narrow lane and shoulder widths
- Skewed alignment and less than optimal sight distance at the KY 121/KY 440 intersection
- Skewed alignment at the KY 121/KY 1276 and KY 121/KY 945 intersections
- Congestion and capacity issues with existing and projected traffic levels
- Potential increases in truck traffic due to planned industrial park in Folsomdale
- Maintaining safety through schools zones
- Environmental issues including culturally sensitive locations such as schools, churches and cemeteries; historic and archaeological sites; water and air quality; wetlands and ponds; plant and animal life including threatened and endangered species; managed land areas; farmlands; hazardous materials concerns; traffic noise; environmental justice to low income, minority and elderly populations; and other concerns

Any future roadway improvements will consider impacts to these sensitive issues.

## Project Schedule

The current schedule as listed in the FY 2003-2008 Six Year Highway Plan for this project is:

| <u>Phase</u> | <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Estimated Cost</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Planning     | FY 2003            | \$200,000             |

Only the planning phase of this project has been approved and funded. **No** design, construction or other phases are included in the Six Year Highway Plan at this time.

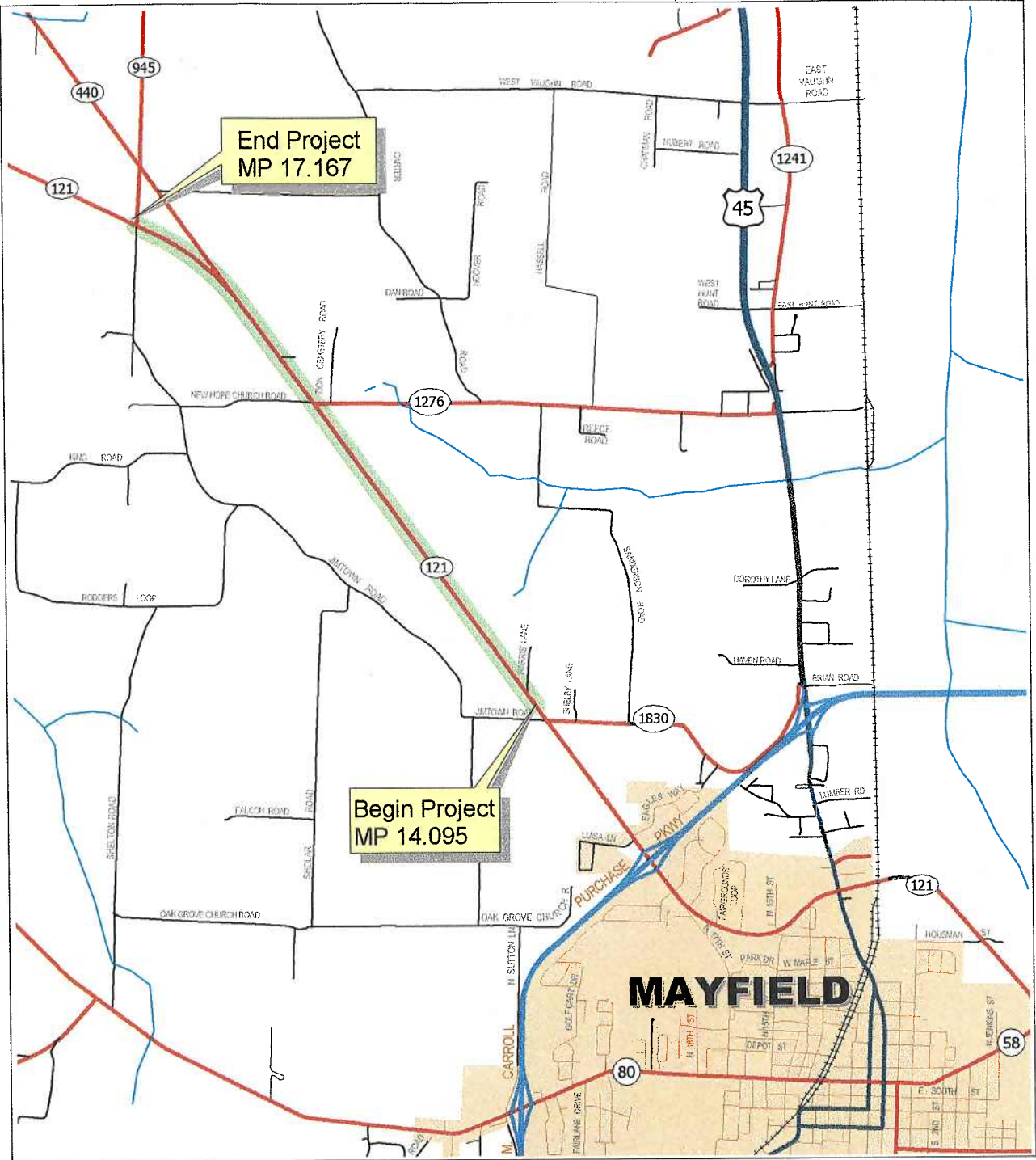
## Contacts

Address written comments to:

Annette Coffey, P.E.  
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Division of Planning  
125 Holmes Street  
Frankfort, KY 40622

Or you may contact by phone:









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4000 0 4000 8000 Feet

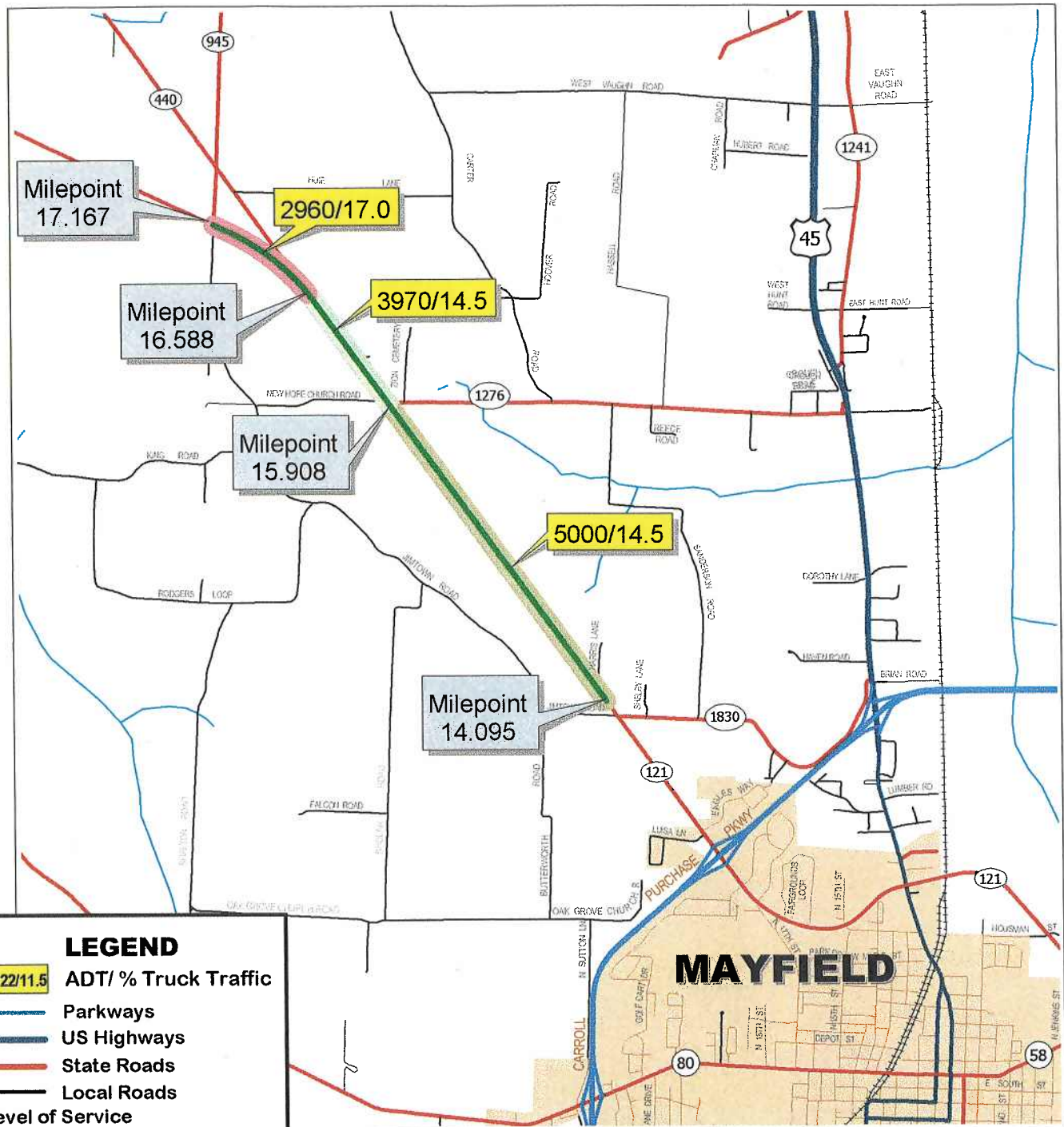


**LEGEND**

-  Project Area
-  Parkways
-  US Highways
-  State Roads
-  Local Roads
-  Streams
-  Railroad
-  Corporate Boundary



**Project Location**  
 Graves County  
 Item No. 1-8100.00  
 KY 121 From 400' South  
 of Harris Lane to the  
 KY 945 Intersection



**LEGEND**

1122/11.5 ADT/ % Truck Traffic

— Parkways

— US Highways

— State Roads

— Local Roads

**Level of Service**

C or Better

D

E

F

MP 16.588 - 17.167

MP 15.908 - 16.588

MP 14.095 - 15.908

— Streams

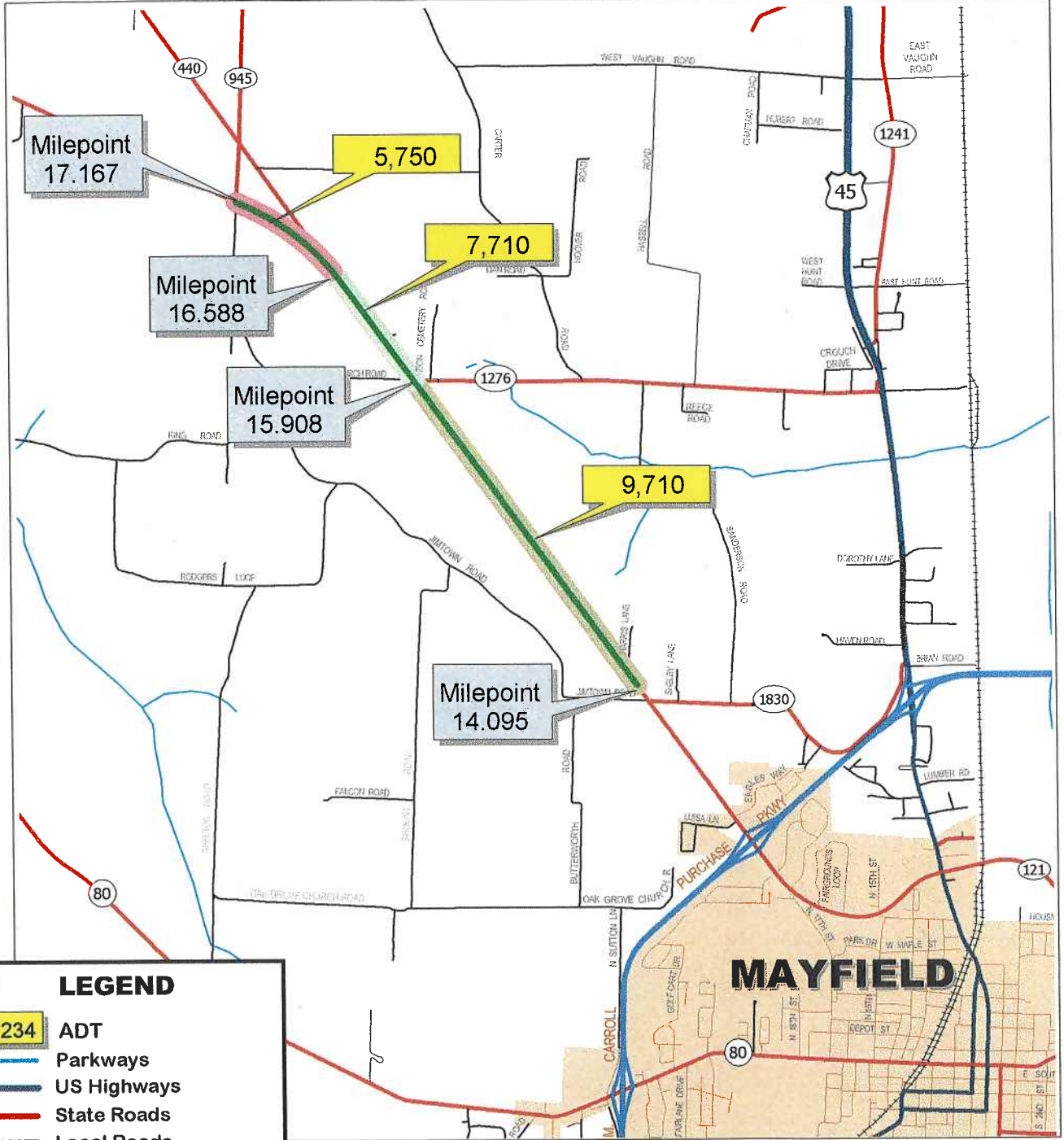
— Railroad

Corporate Boundary



**Year 2002  
Traffic and Level  
of Service**  
Graves County  
Item No. 1-8100.00  
KY 121 From 400' South  
of Harris Lane to the  
KY 945 Intersection

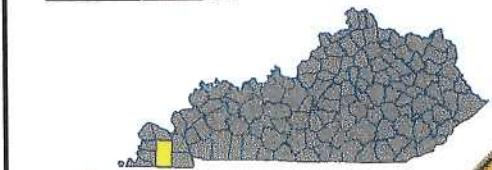




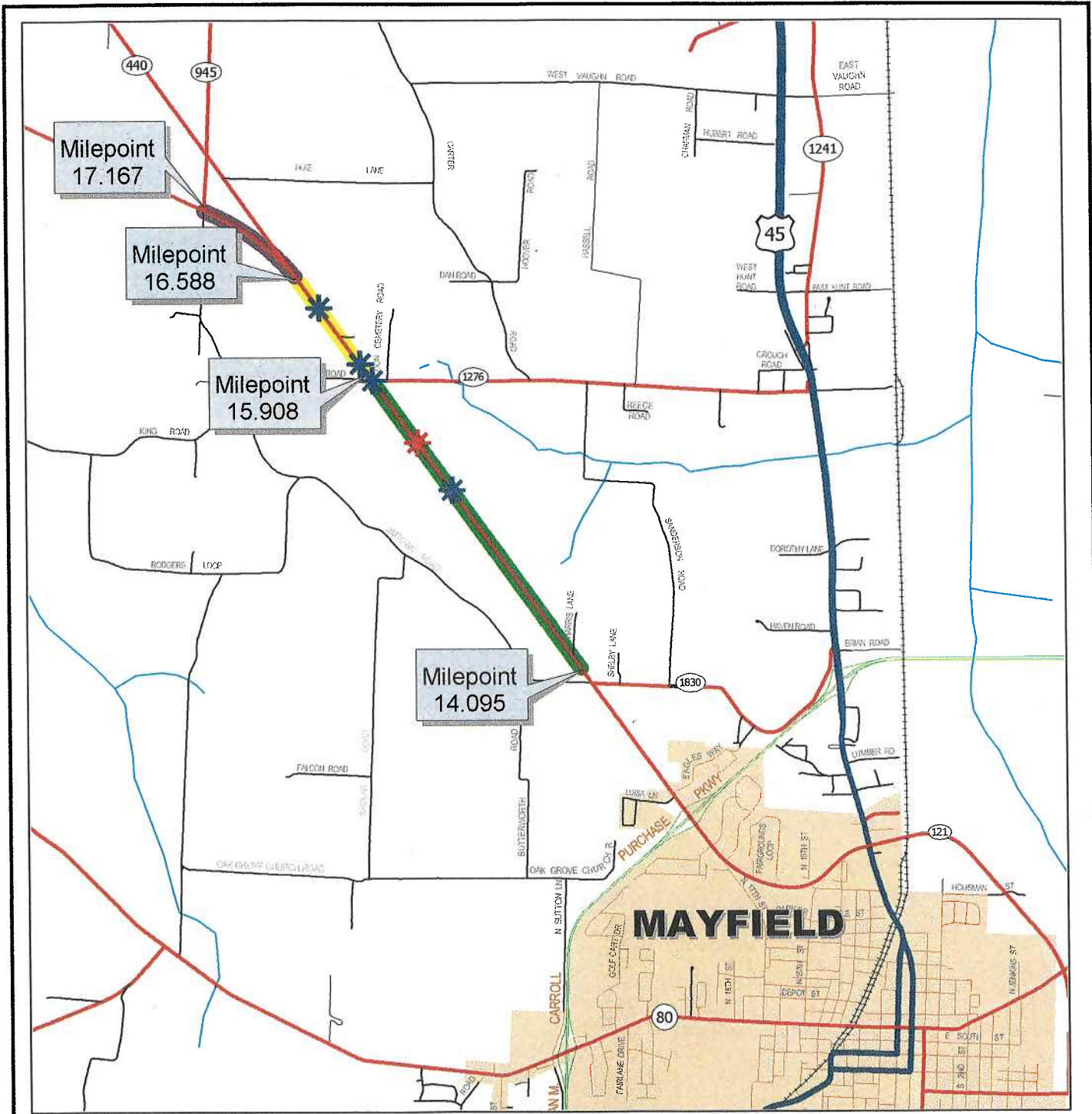
**LEGEND**

- 1234 ADT
- Parkways
- US Highways
- State Roads
- Local Roads
- Level of Service**
- C or Better
- D
- E
- F
- MP 16.588 - 17.167
- MP 15.908 - 16.588
- MP 14.095 - 15.908
- Streams
- Railroad
- Corporate Boundary






4000 0 4000 8000 Feet



**Year 2030  
Traffic and Level  
of Service  
Graves County  
Item No. 1-8100.00  
KY 121 From 400' South  
of Harris Lane to the  
KY 945 Intersection**



**LEGEND**

-  2 Crashes, CRF = 0.187
-  9 Crashes, CRF = 0.608
-  16 Crashes, CRF = 0.437
-  Fatal Crash
-  Injury Crash



**Vehicle Crash Information By Severity**  
 Jan. 1, 2000 - Dec. 31, 2002  
 Graves County  
 Item No. 1-8100.00  
 KY 121 From 400' South of Harris Lane to the KY 945 Intersection

There are no High Crash Spots in the study corridor.

