

# Oglethorpe County Long Range Transportation Study

Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
Meeting #3

February 18, 2014



# AGENDA

- Study Purpose and Update
- Plan Outcomes
- Needs Assessment and Additional Analysis
- Draft Potential Improvements
- Project Prioritization
- Discussion and Next Steps

# Study Purpose and Update



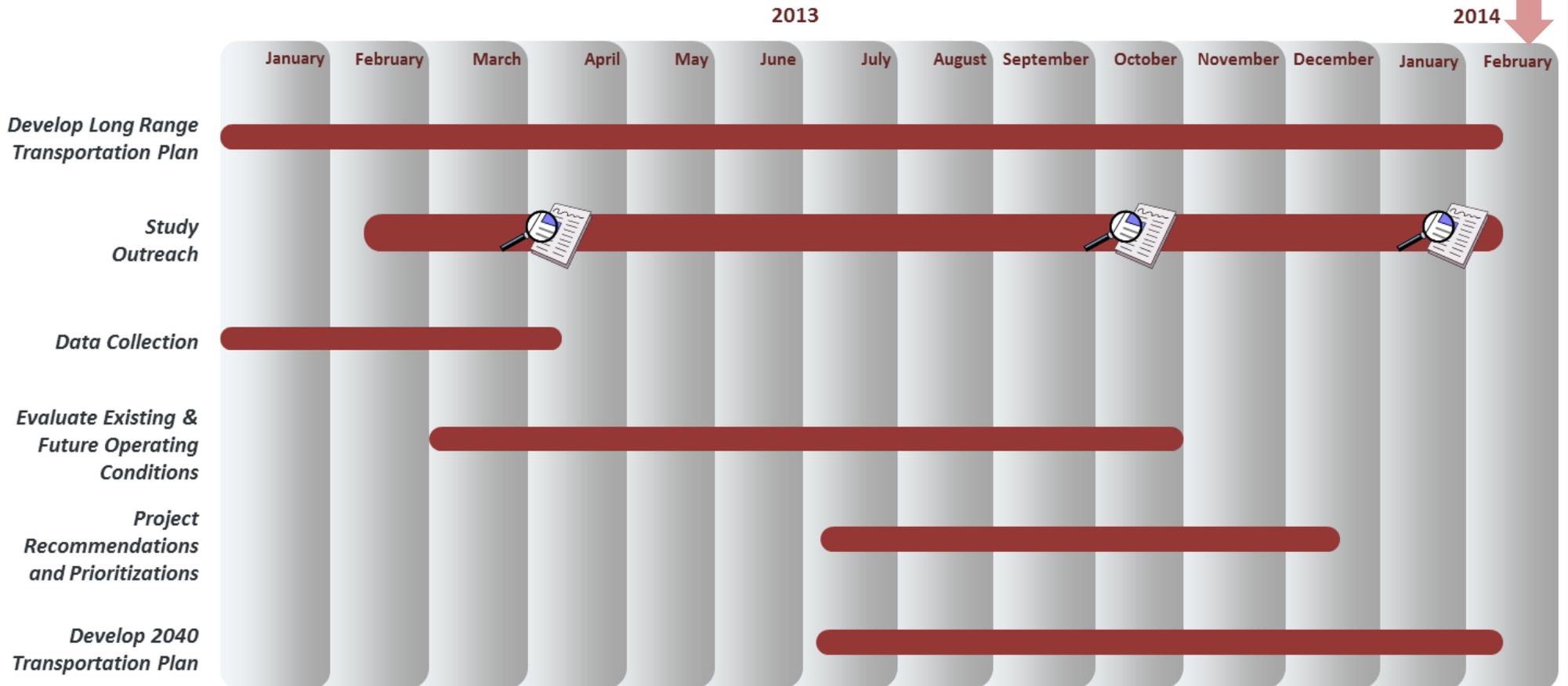
# WHY DEVELOP A TRANSPORTATION PLAN?

- Ensure that Oglethorpe County and its municipalities are able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses
- Ensure transportation priorities match community priorities
- Coordinate with other planning efforts
- Develop a listing of tiered transportation projects
- Early identification of funding issues and opportunities

# SCHEDULE

## STUDY SCHEDULE

We are here



Analysis Milestone/  
Study Outreach

# STUDY GOALS

- Goal 1:
  - Preserve the County's *rural, agricultural, natural, and environmental-sensitive* areas and enhance the character of the *historic and existing communities* in the County.
- Goal 2:
  - Optimize utilization of existing infrastructure and maintain a *safe, reliable and efficient* transportation network which will *sustain economic activity and promote economic development*.
- Goal 3:
  - Promote *environmental sustainability* through the coordination of *land use and transportation plans*.
- Goal 4:
  - Provide a range of *mobility options* and enhance *health and quality of life* for all residents.

# STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

- Stakeholder Advisory Group
- Fact Sheet
- Website

[www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy](http://www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy)

- Public Survey
  - Online Survey
  - County school system
  - 188 surveys completed



Georgia Department of Transportation

## FACT SHEET

### OGLETHORPE COUNTY LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

FEBRUARY 2013

#### OGLETHORPE LRTP STUDY OVERVIEW

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is developing a multimodal Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Oglethorpe County, Georgia. The purpose of this study is to determine the current and future transportation needs through the year 2040 for the county and to develop projects that address identified needs and promote economic vitality and quality of life.

Much of Oglethorpe County is comprised of land that is characterized as rural, with low population and employment. Understanding this, the study will focus on small scale roadway improvements, such as passing lanes, intersection improvements, and paving projects as well as multimodal improvements (including public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian, rail and freight projects) that will serve the nature of the community while ensuring mobility into the future.

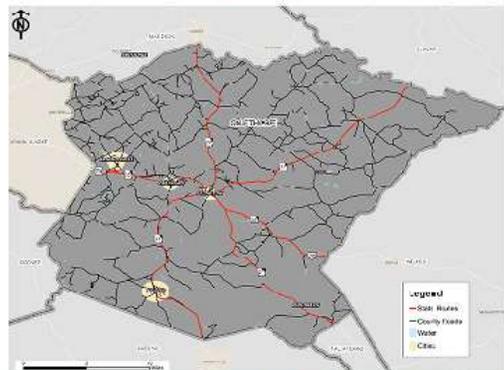
#### LRTP STUDY MILESTONES

Project Initiation	1st Quarter 2013
Stakeholder Coordination	Throughout
Development of Goals	2nd Quarter 2013
Public Survey	2nd Quarter 2013
Existing Conditions	2nd Quarter 2013
Future Conditions	3rd Quarter 2013
Environmental Analysis	3rd Quarter 2013
Recommendations	4th Quarter 2013
Final Report	1st Quarter 2014

#### WE NEED YOUR INPUT

The success of the long range planning process depends on the involvement and input of local residents, employees, business owners, and community leaders. Public outreach activities will be scheduled at key milestones in the study process to gather feedback and input from the community. A project website is available to allow the public to obtain the latest study information, submit comments, and view project documents such as online surveys and presentations, as they are developed. Please visit the project website at:

[www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy](http://www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy)



Legend:  
— State Routes  
— County Routes  
Water  
Cities

**Study Location Map**

#### CONTACT US:

For more information about the Oglethorpe County LRTP, please visit the project website at:  
[www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy](http://www.dot.ga.gov/oglethorpestudy)

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# PUBLIC SURVEY KEY OBSERVATIONS ON TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

## Priority issues

- Improve traffic operations and safety in the vicinity of the schools
- Improve roadway condition
- Some support for public transportation needs

## Priority locations

- US 78 segment
- US 78 @ Buddy Faust Road
- US 78 @ Bunker Hill Road
- US 78 @ SR 22
- Activity centers

# Plan Outcomes



# PLAN OUTCOMES - WHAT WE HEARD FROM YOU

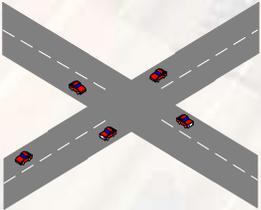
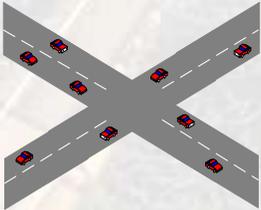
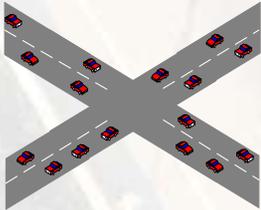
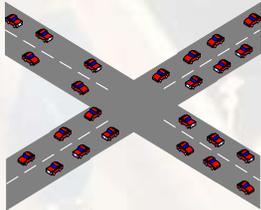
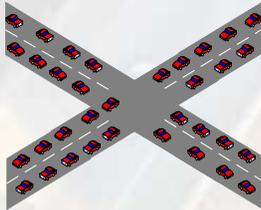
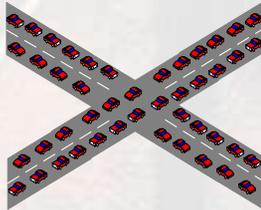
- To conduct a fresh and comprehensive assessment of the transportation system
- To fully understand current and future needs
- To develop a clear vision and ensure the plan ties into other surrounding counties and cities
- To develop a plan that is consistent with other regional efforts
- To develop a framework that is aligned with future economic development
- To identify problematic intersections and improve the operating conditions

# Needs Assessment and Additional Analysis

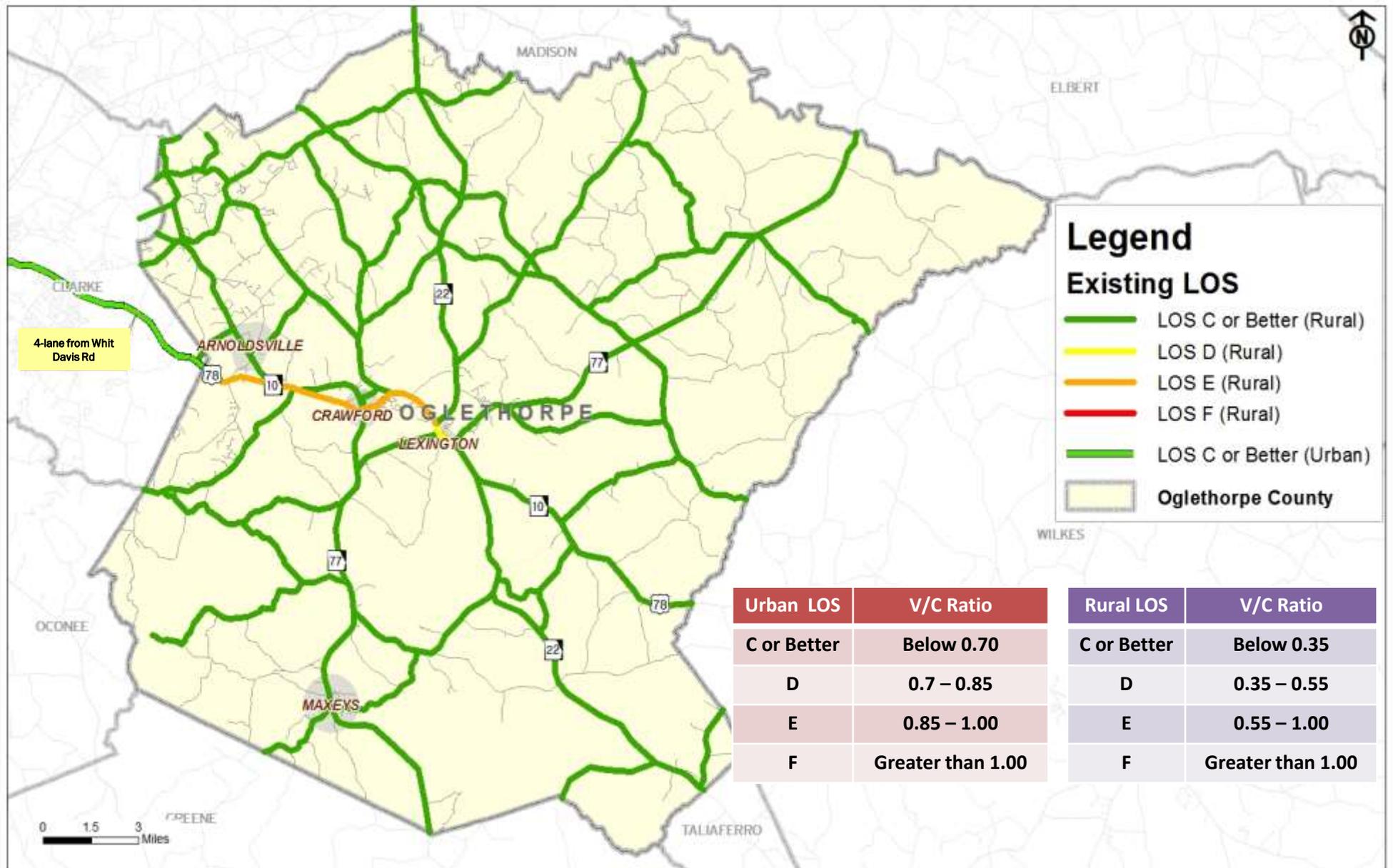


# ROADWAY OPERATING CONDITIONS

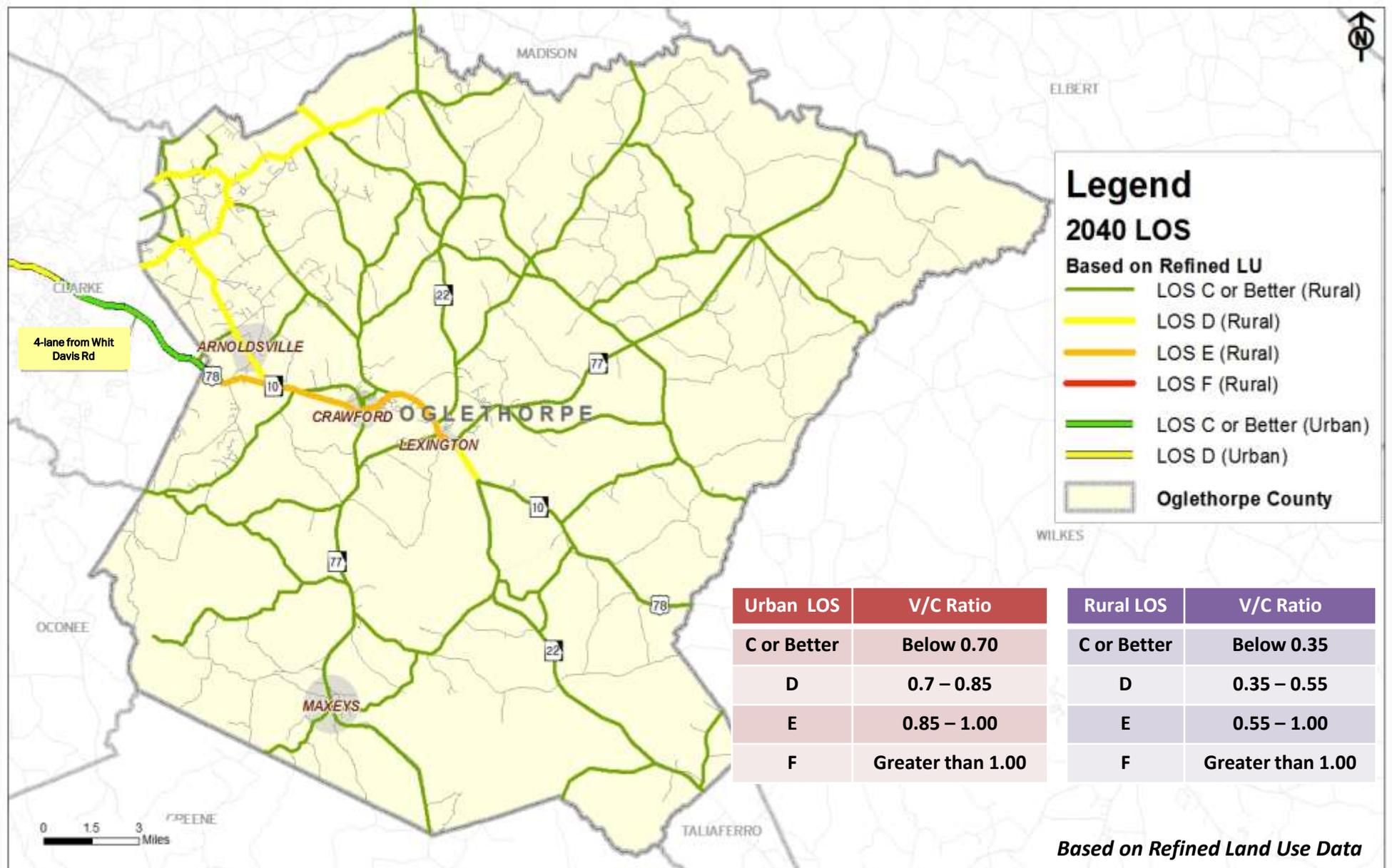
- Roadway operating conditions were evaluated using Level of Service (LOS)
- LOS compares volumes along the roadway to the capacity of that roadway
- LOS was derived using the Travel Demand Model
- Existing (2010) and Future (2040) Operating Conditions were Evaluated

LOS A	LOS B	LOS C	LOS D	LOS E	LOS F
					

# 2010 LEVEL OF SERVICE



# 2040 LEVEL OF SERVICE (EXISTING NETWORK)

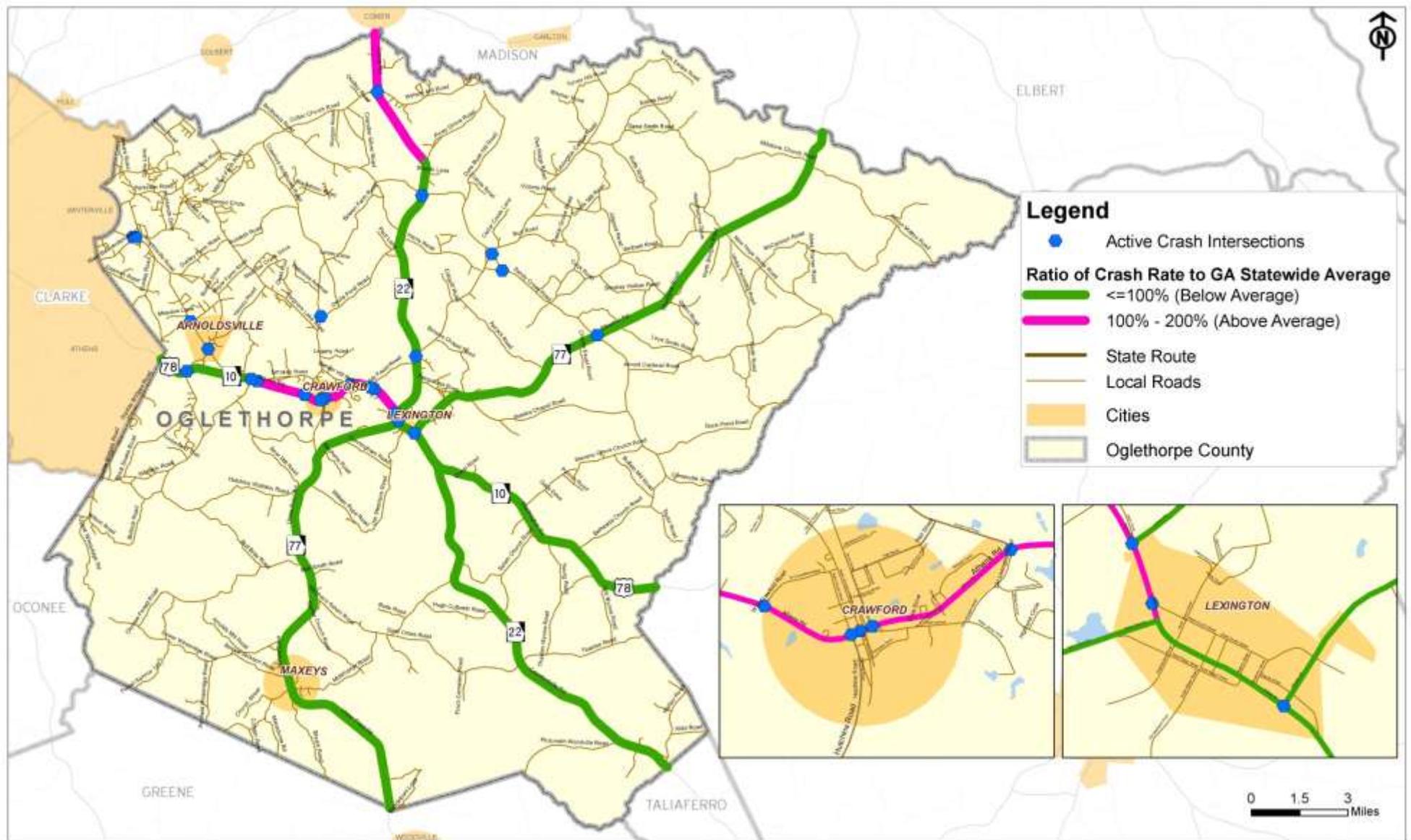


Urban LOS	V/C Ratio
C or Better	Below 0.70
D	0.7 – 0.85
E	0.85 – 1.00
F	Greater than 1.00

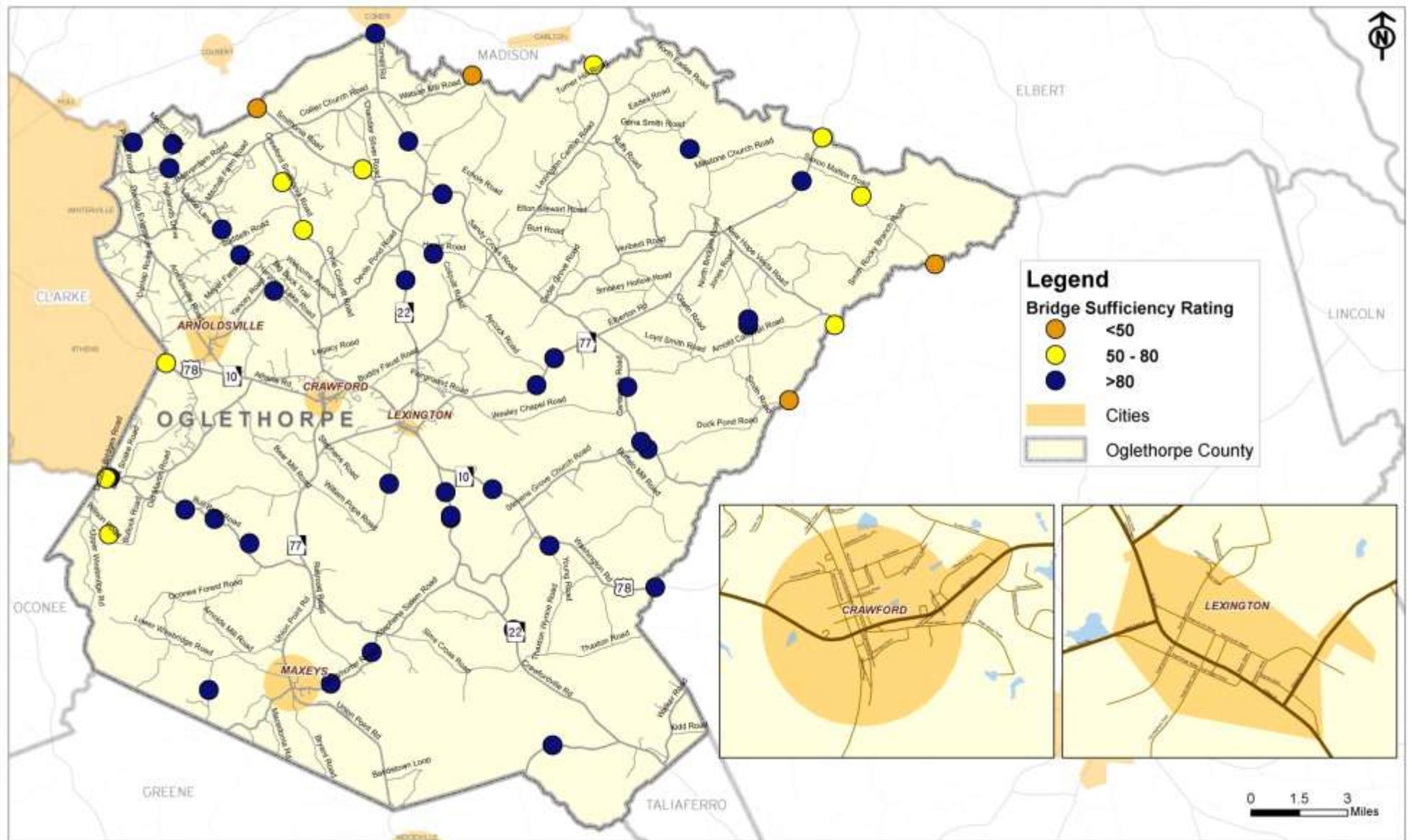
Rural LOS	V/C Ratio
C or Better	Below 0.35
D	0.35 – 0.55
E	0.55 – 1.00
F	Greater than 1.00

Based on Refined Land Use Data

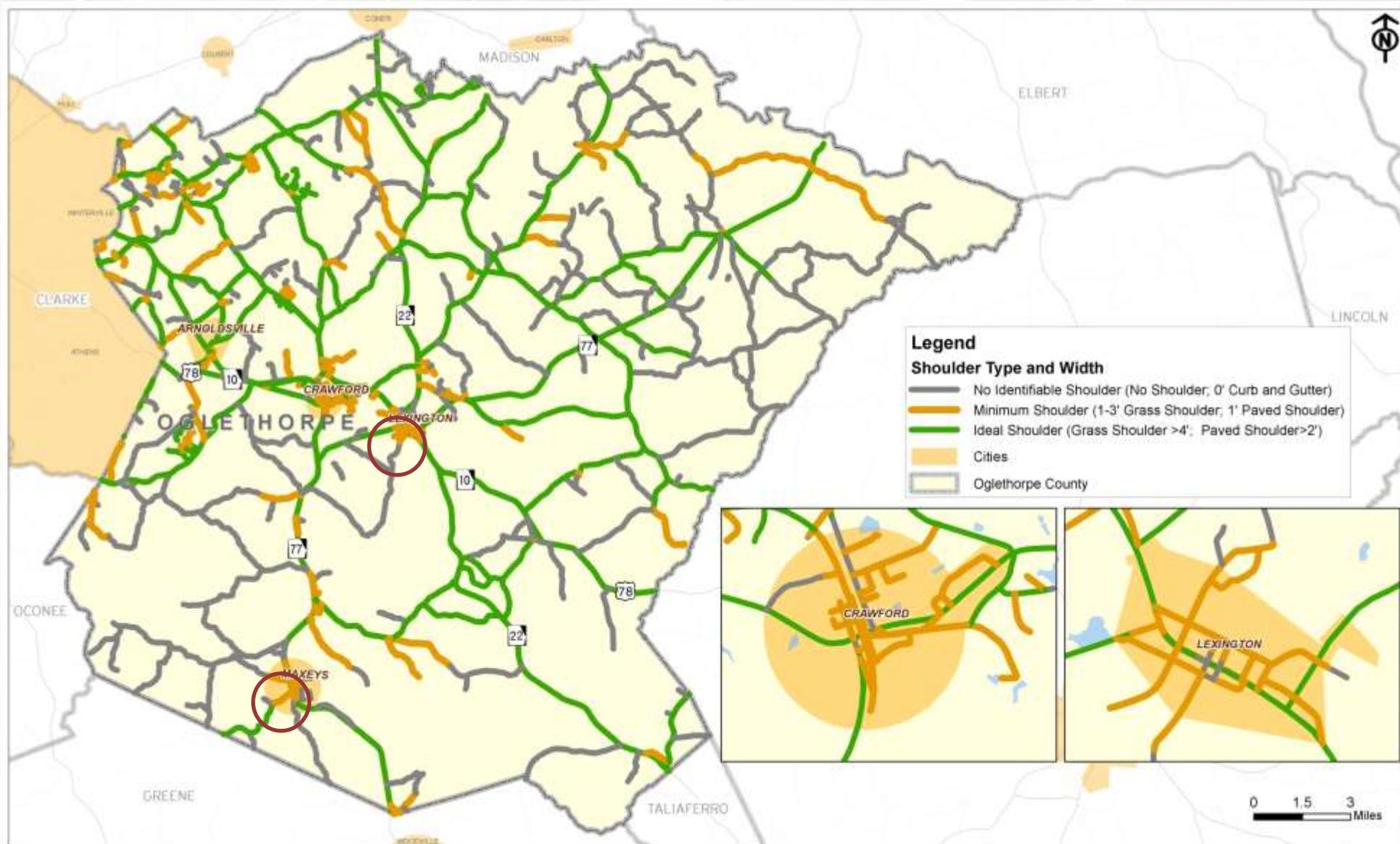
# SAFETY ANALYSIS



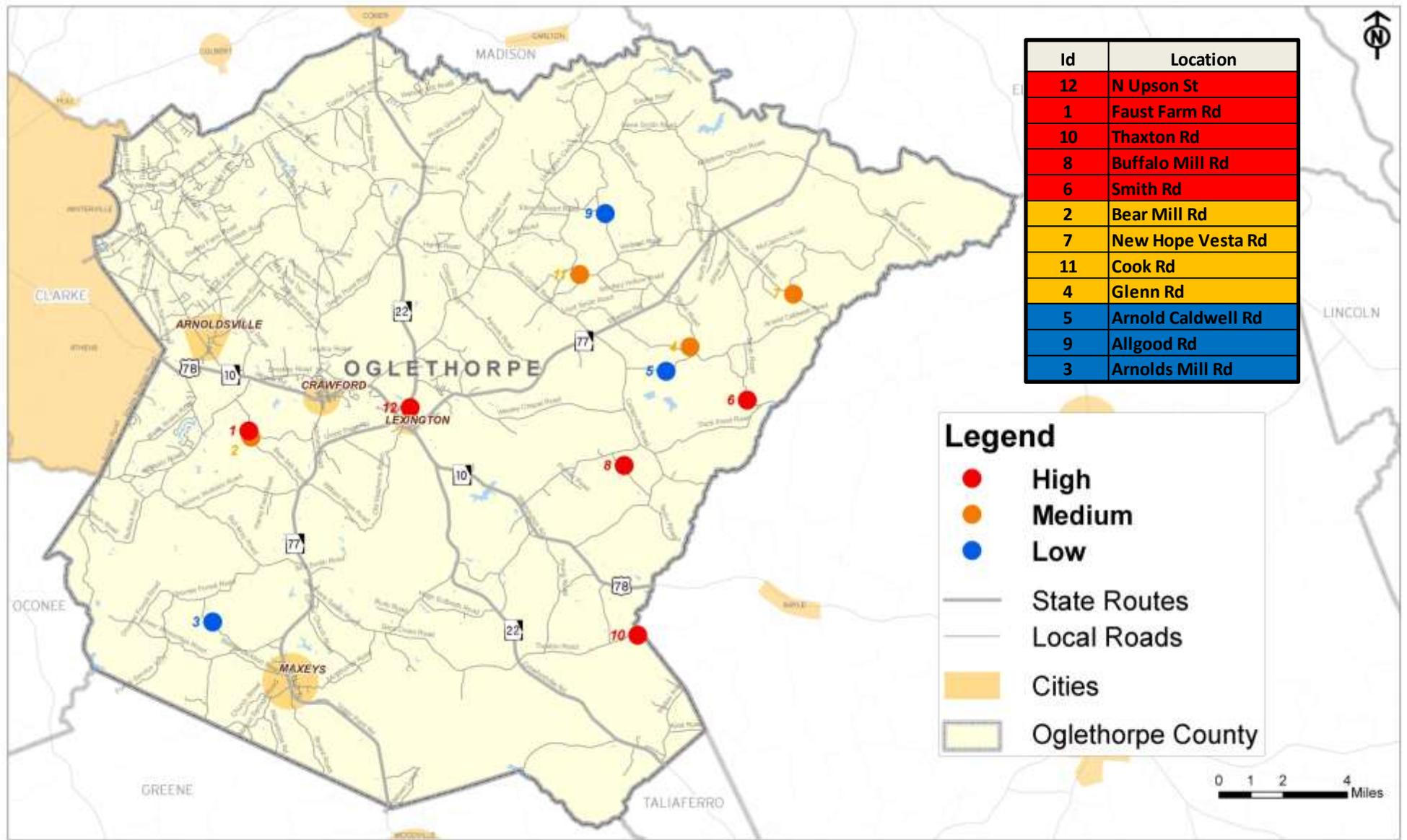
# BRIDGE ANALYSIS



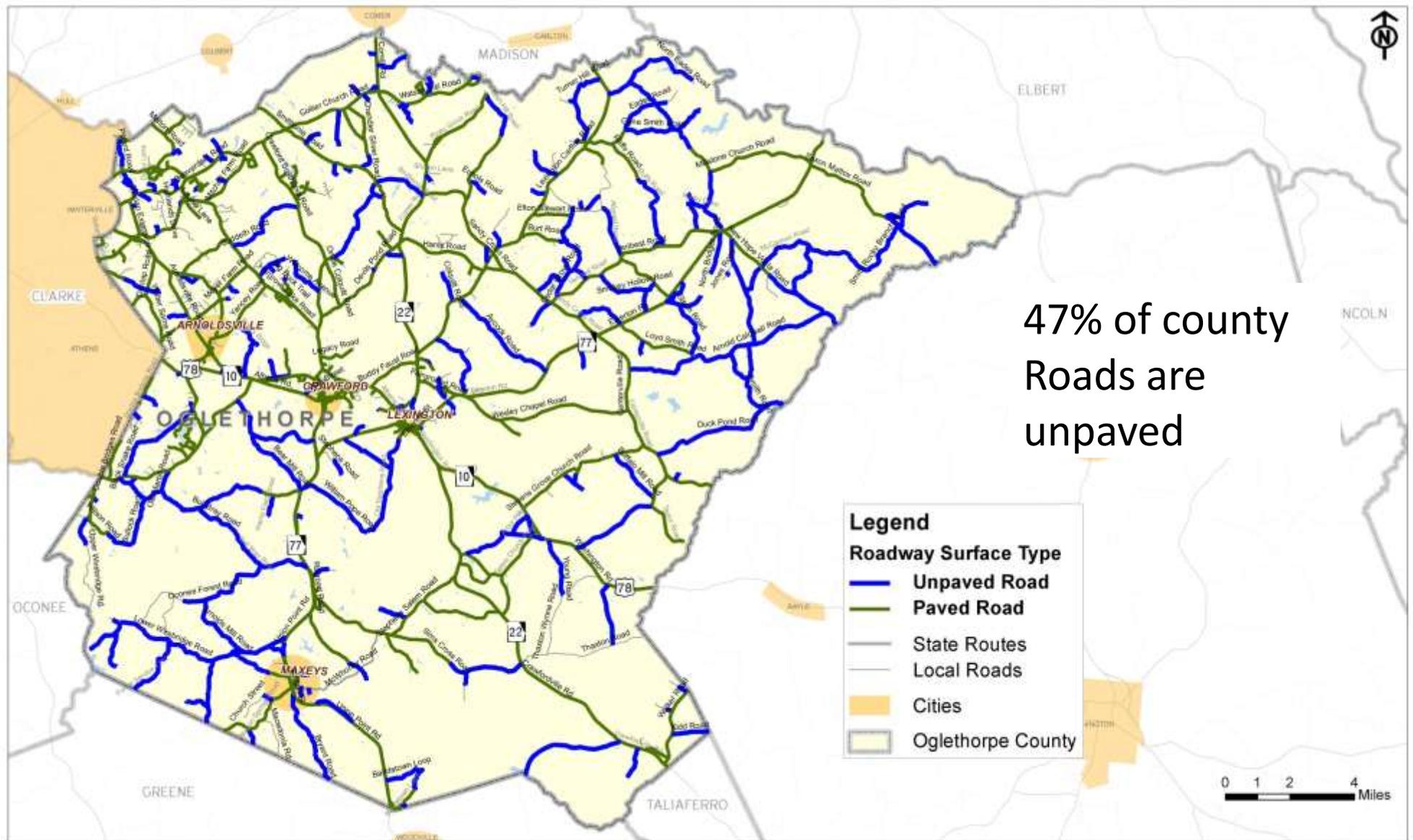
# SHOULDER TYPE AND WIDTH ANALYSIS



# FORD ANALYSIS

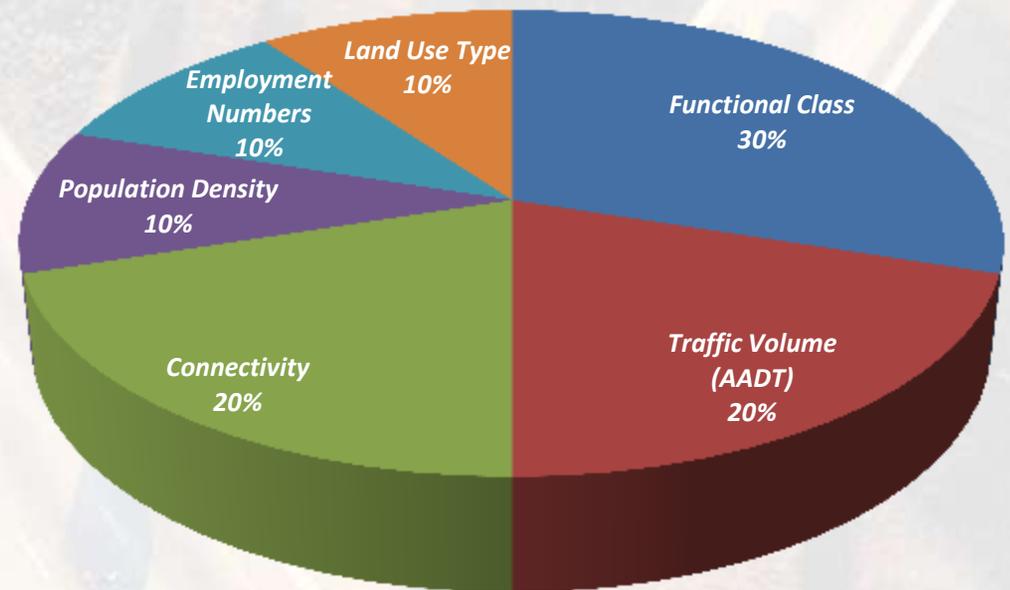


# ROAD SURFACE TYPE

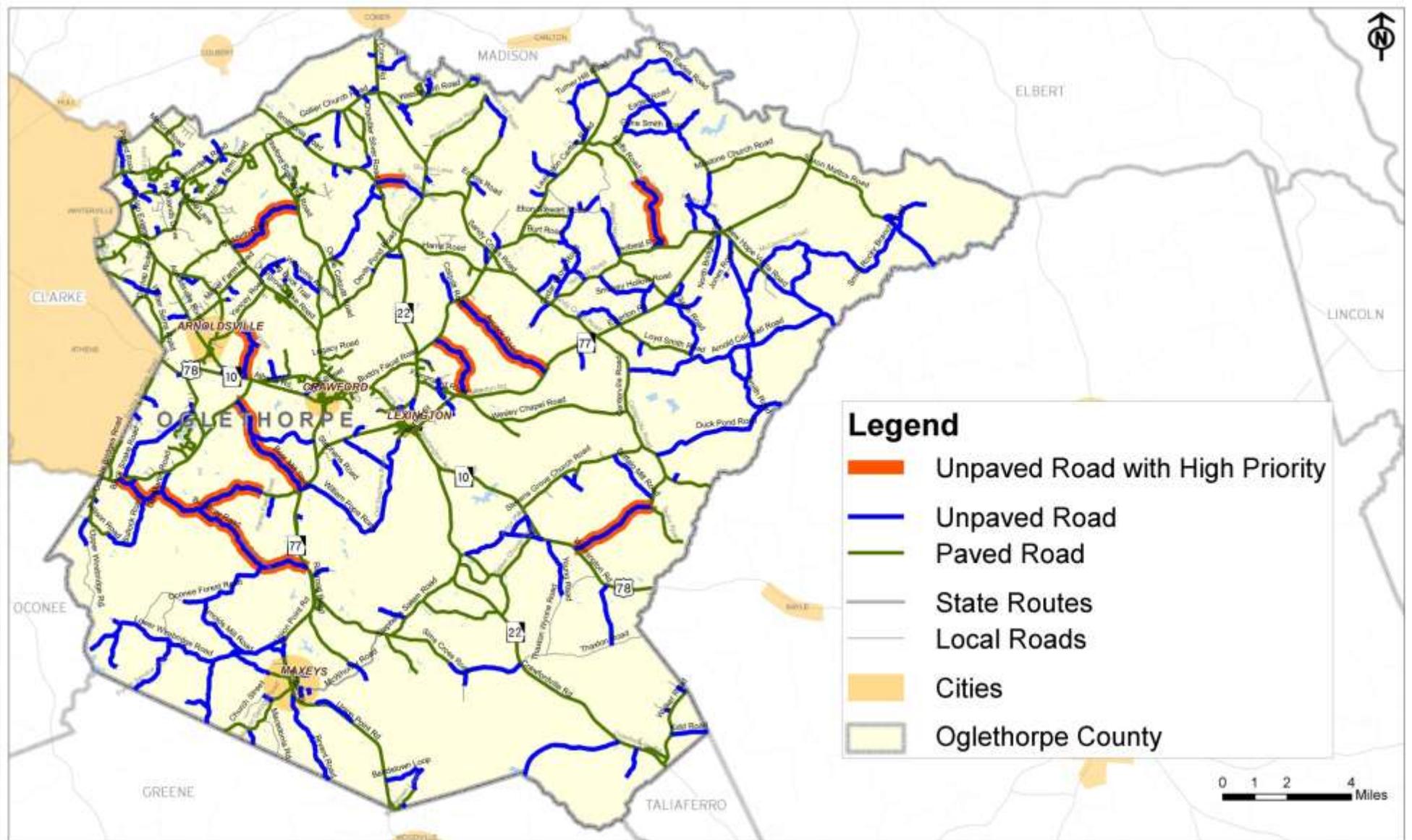


# PAVEMENT ANALYSIS

- Pavement Needs Evaluation Criteria:
  - Functional Classification
  - Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
  - Connectivity
  - Population Density
  - Employment Numbers
  - Land Use Type



# PAVEMENT ANALYSIS RESULTS



# Draft Potential Improvements



# TYPES OF IMPROVEMENT ALTERNATIVES

What are the right type of improvements in Oglethorpe County?

- Maintain and manage current facilities
- Operational / safety improvements
- Diversify modes
- Expand existing facilities
- New facilities

# DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES



# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

## ROADWAY CAPACITY

- Widening / New Construction
  - US 78 Widening
    - PI # 132660-: from CR26/Smokey Road to CR166/Whit Davis Road
  - Bypass
    - PI # 231910-: Crawford/Lexington Bypass

# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

## ROADWAY CAPACITY

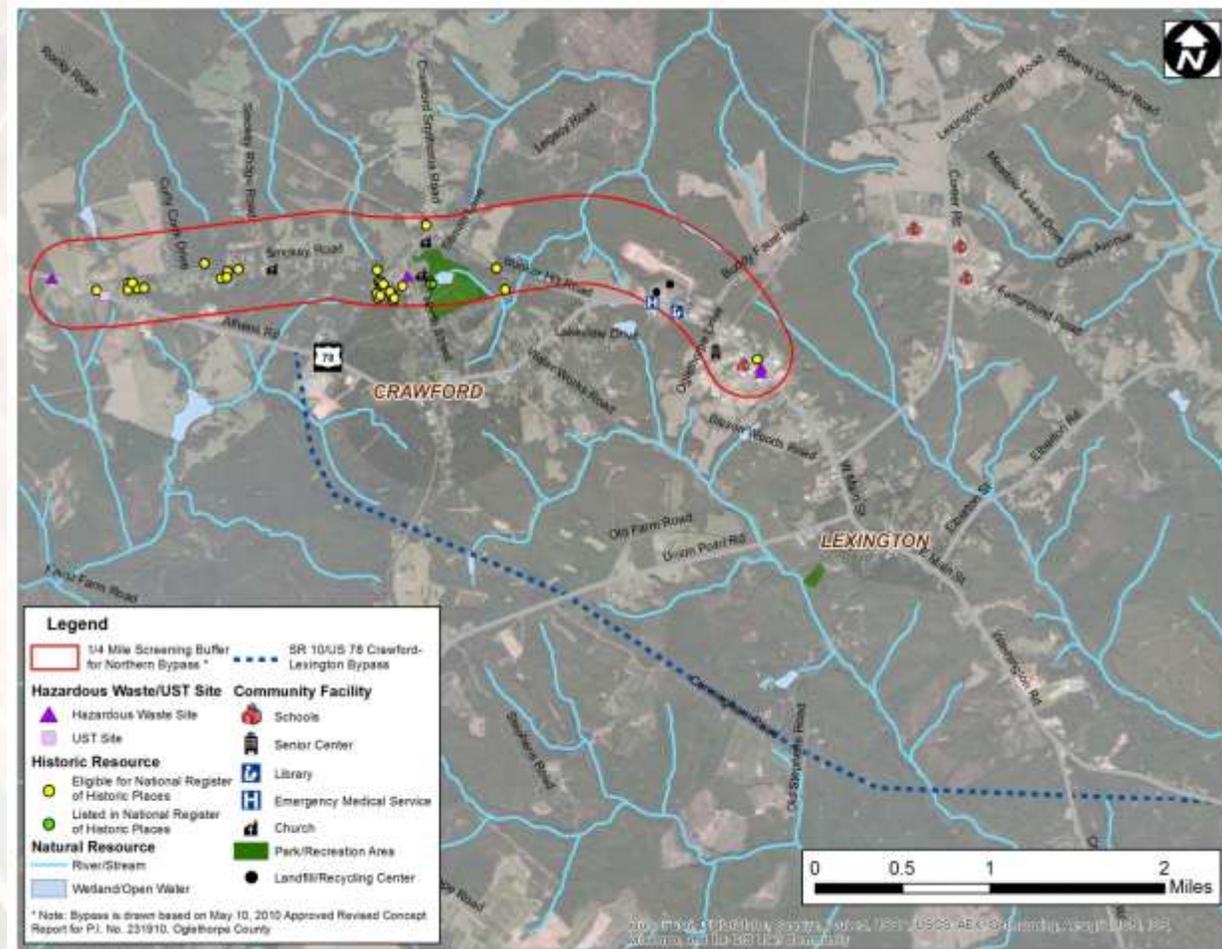
- US 78 Widening
  - Approved Northern Alignment
    - Practical Alternatives Report (PAR) completed
    - Logical Termini approved by FHWA
  - Southern Alignment
    - Considered during Alternative Analysis Process
    - Screened out due to environmental impacts

# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

## ROADWAY CAPACITY

- Local Northern Bypass
  - Moderate to high potential impact for historic resources

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING



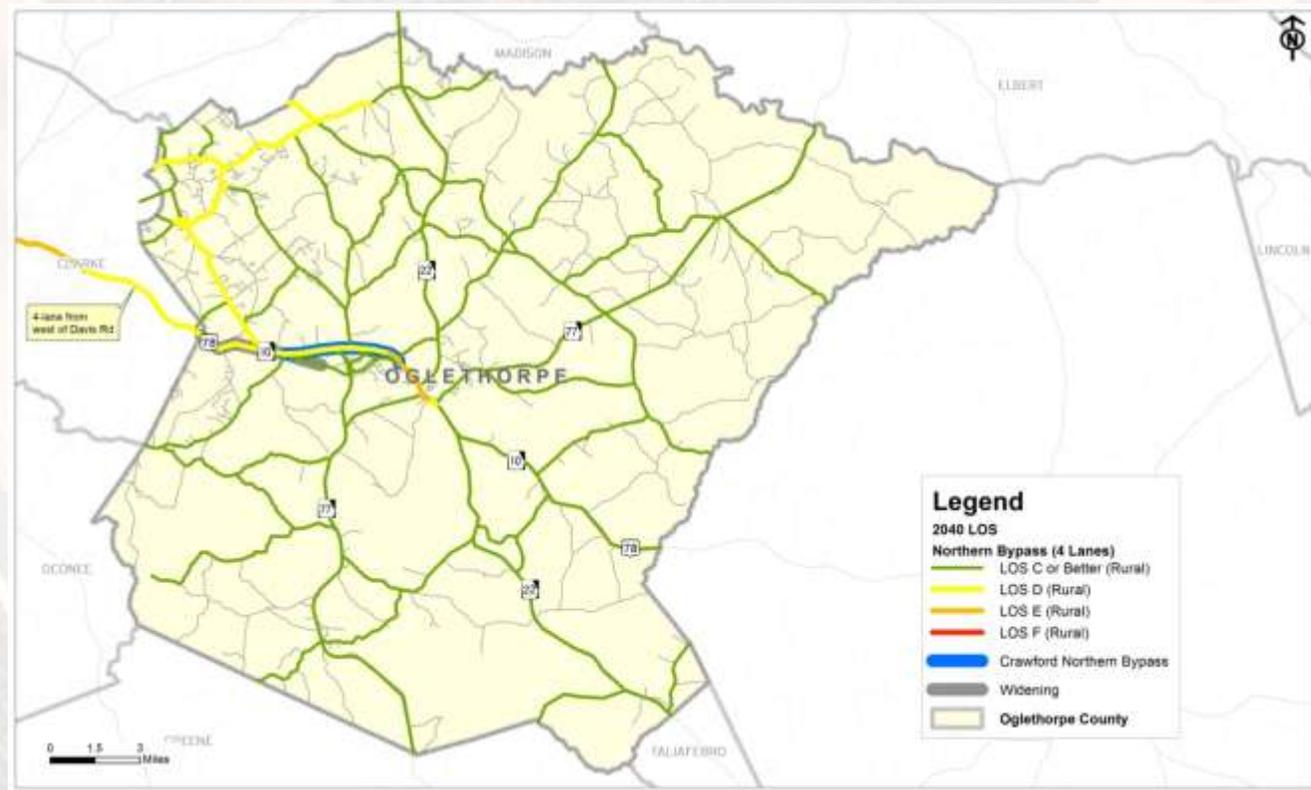
# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

## ROADWAY CAPACITY

- Local Northern Bypass

- Moderate to high potential impact for historic resources
- Level of Service: D and E (East of Northern bypass)
- Recommend further evaluation through Alternative Analysis process for PI # 231910-

### FUTURE (2040) OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS NORTHERN BYPASS: 2-LANE IN EACH DIRECTION



# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

## OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

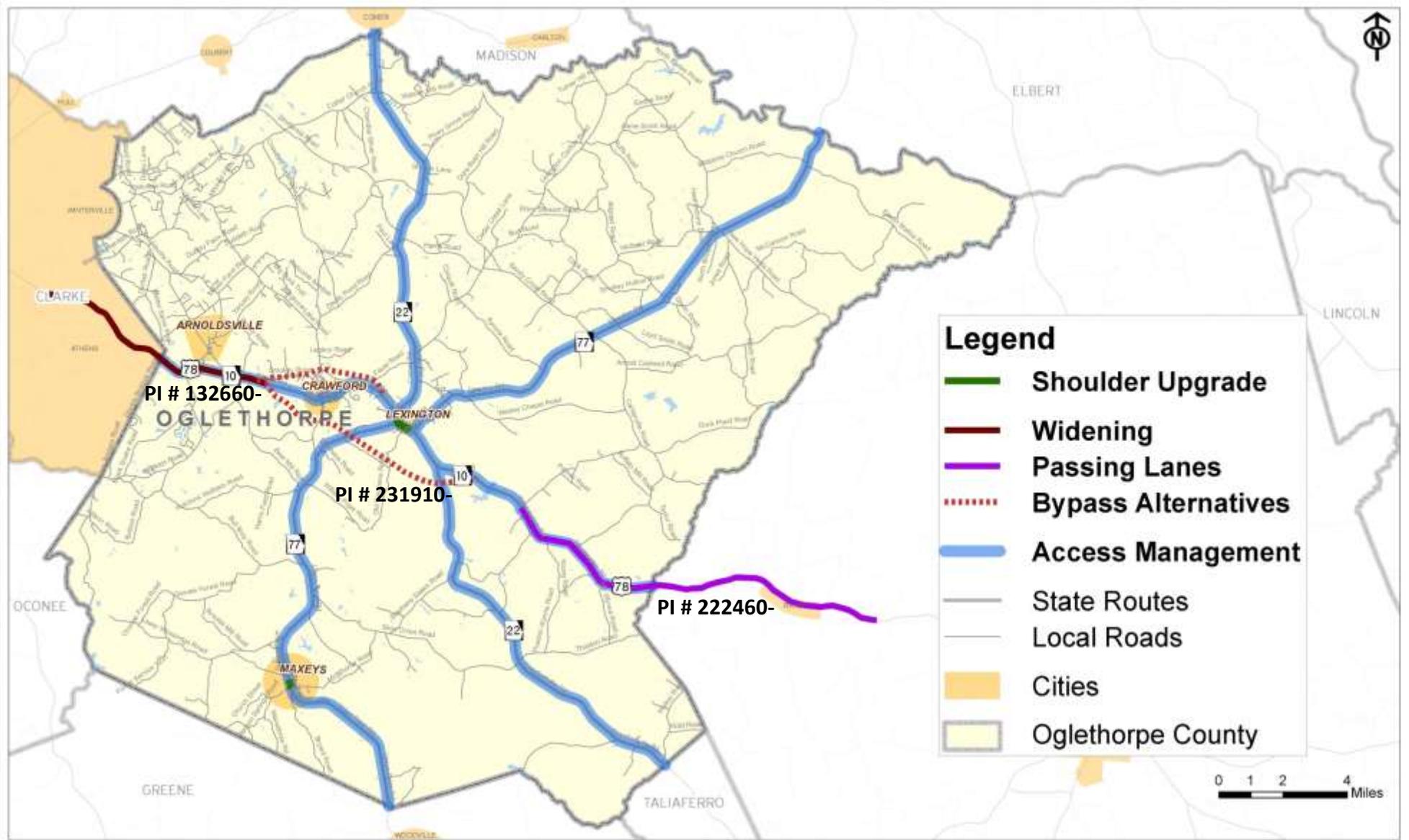
- Passing Lanes
  - PI # 222460-: US 78 from east of Stevens Grove Church Road to east of Beaver Dam Road (Wilkes County)
- Shoulder Upgrade
  - SR 77/S Main St from south of Hill Street to south of Church Street in Maxeys
  - SR 77/Union Point Street from west of Boggs Street to US 78/Atlanta Street in Lexington

# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

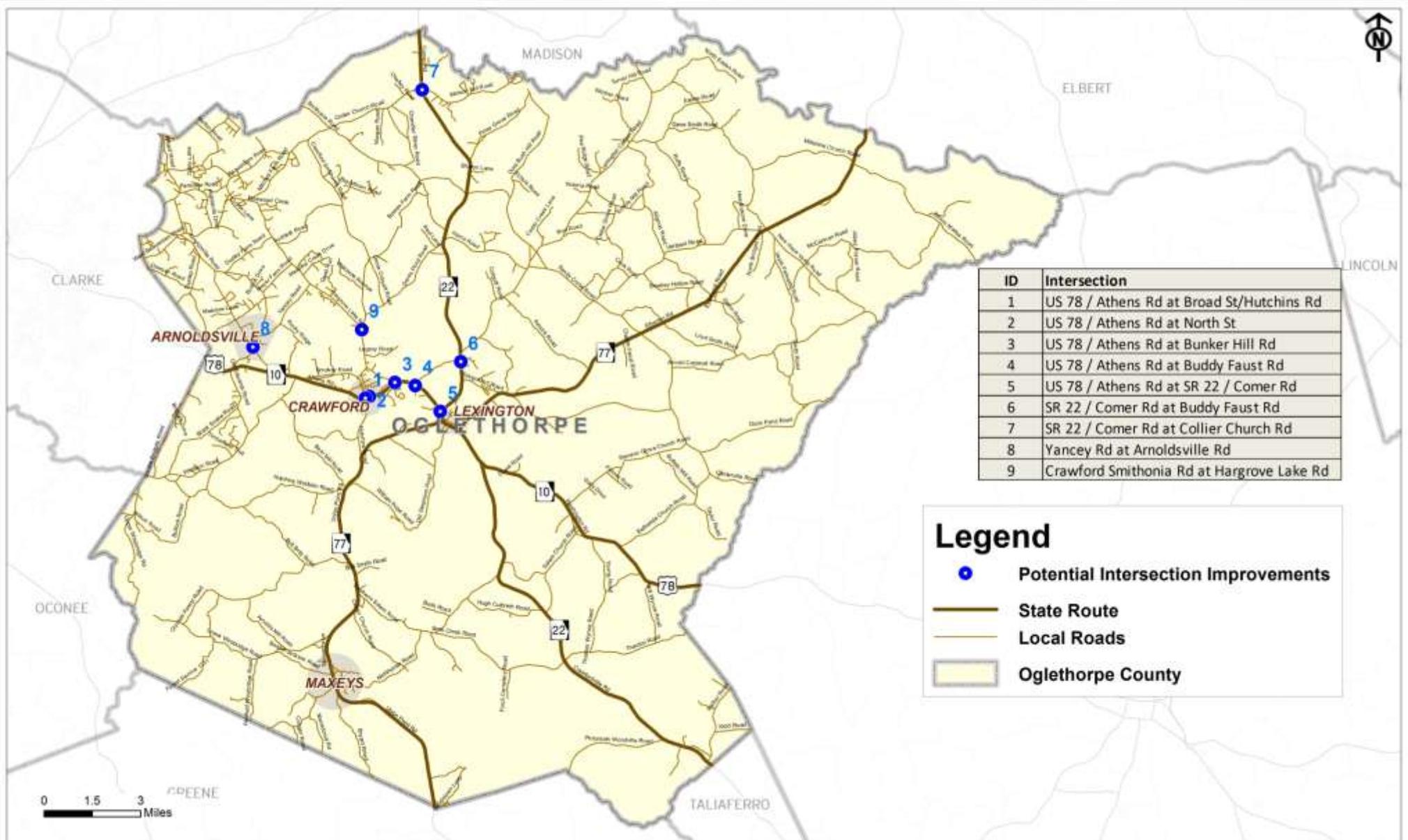
## ACCESS MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

- US 78
- SR 22 (esp. segment from Salem Church Road to Harris Road)
- SR 77 (esp. segment from Hutchins Wolfskin Road to Sandy Cross Road)

# POTENTIAL ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS



# INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS



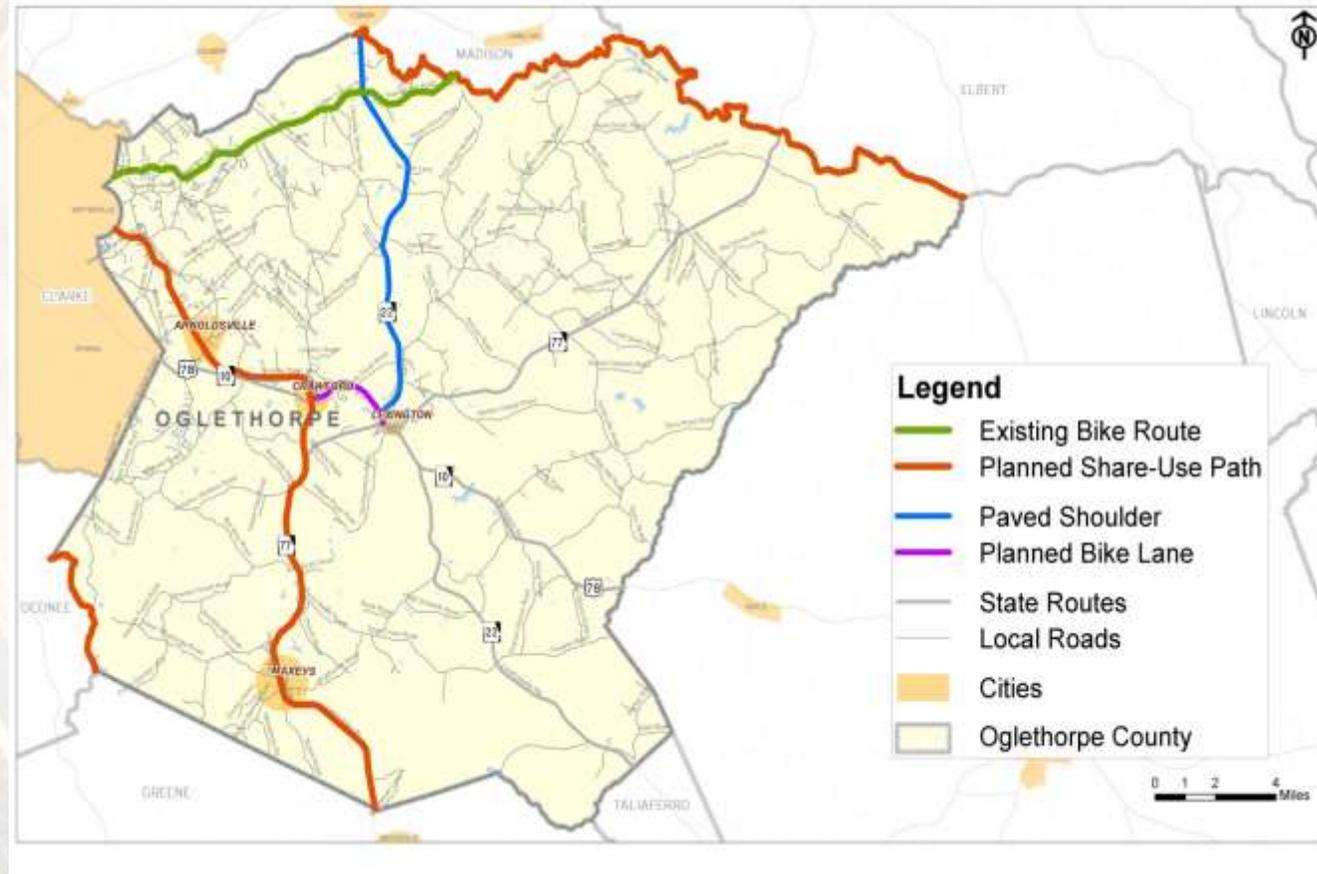
ID	Intersection
1	US 78 / Athens Rd at Broad St/Hutchins Rd
2	US 78 / Athens Rd at North St
3	US 78 / Athens Rd at Bunker Hill Rd
4	US 78 / Athens Rd at Buddy Faust Rd
5	US 78 / Athens Rd at SR 22 / Comer Rd
6	SR 22 / Comer Rd at Buddy Faust Rd
7	SR 22 / Comer Rd at Collier Church Rd
8	Yancey Rd at Arnoldsville Rd
9	Crawford Smithonia Rd at Hargrove Lake Rd

**Legend**

- Potential Intersection Improvements
- State Route
- Local Roads
- Oglethorpe County

# BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

- Paved Shoulder
  - SR 22
- Bike Lane
  - US 78
- Greenway
  - Broad River Madison
  - Elbert-Oglethorpe
  - Oconee River Clarke
  - Oconee-Oglethorpe
  - Greene
- Rail-Trail
  - Clarke-Oglethorpe-
  - Greene Firefly Trail



Source: NEGRG – Northeast Georgia Plan for Bicycling and Walking, 2010.

# BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Add Sidewalk(s)
  - US 78 from Oglethorpe Builders Supply to East Elbert in Crawford
  - East side of North Street from US 78 to Bryan Park in Crawford
  - North side of US 78 connecting school and activity centers in Lexington
- Pedestrian Signal
  - US 78/North Street Intersection in Crawford
- Restripe
  - Pedestrian Crosswalk at Depot in Crawford

# TRANSIT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Park-and-Ride/Carpool Lots in Crawford and/or Lexington
- Rideshare Programs to Match Commuters Interested in Carpooling
- Commuter Shuttle to Athens
- On-Demand Human Services Transportation

# Project Prioritization

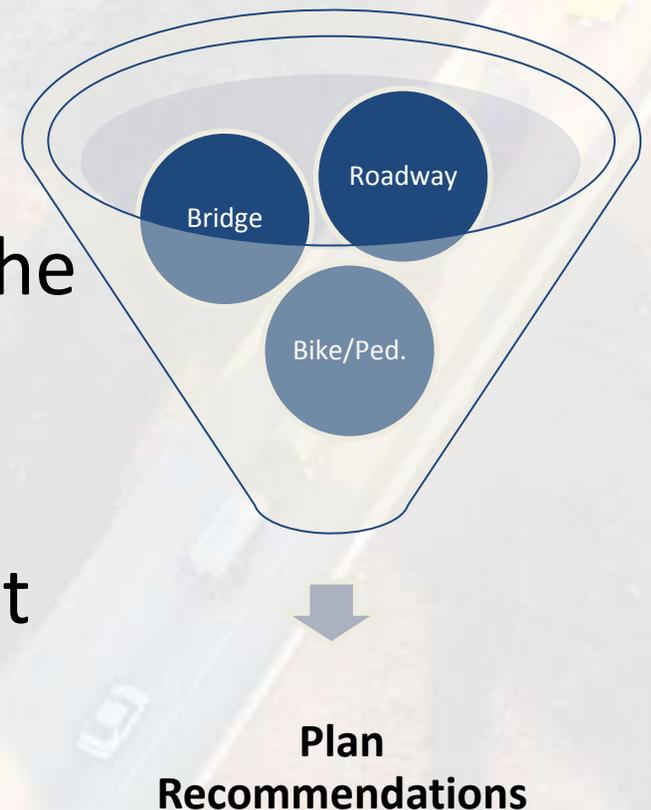


# PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

- Transportation Plan Identified Need
- Safety
- Connectivity
- Protection of Downtowns
- Project Readiness
- Supports Comprehensive Planning Efforts
- Maintains Transportation and Land Use Linkage

# PLAN PRIORITIZATION FACTORS

- Set the framework for identifying recommendations to address transportation needs.
- Include both qualitative and quantitative criteria that address the overall goals and objectives.
- Weighting of evaluation factors informs the prioritization of project recommendations in the Plan.



# Discussion and Next Steps



# NEXT STEPS

- Finalize Potential Improvements
- Provide Long Range Transportation Plan
- Provide Policy Guidance

*The plan and policy guidance will serve as “living” documents to help County protect the mobility and promote quality of life into the future.*



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Georgia Department of Transportation

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