### Leitchfield Small Urban Area Study

**Grayson County, Kentucky** 

# **Environmental Justice and Community Impact Report**



### **March 2009**

### **Prepared By:**

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#### 1.0 Introduction

The following document is an assessment of the community demographics and economic characteristics related to the defined project study area of the Leitchfield Small Urban Area Study. This area is depicted in Map 10.1

The resources used to compile the data contained herein are the U.S. Census Bureau, Kentucky State Data Center, local elected officials, community leaders, and field observations of the study area. The information and results are intended to assist the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet in making informed and prudent decisions in the study area, particularly as it pertains to the requirements of Executive Order 12898<sup>1</sup>, to ensure equal environmental protection to all groups potentially impacted by both short and long-term improvement strategies for the defined study area.

This report includes data tables comparing the populations of the census divisions directly in and around the study area at the county, state, and national levels. Statistics are provided for minority, elderly, and low-income populations for census tracts and block groups. For ease of analysis, maps are included that highlight areas of interest at the block group level.

#### 2.0 What is Environmental Justice?

The U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Justice (EJ) defines EJ as:

"The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Fair treatment means that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socio-economic group should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local and tribal programs and policies."

A disproportionately high and adverse effect on a minority or low-income population means an adverse effect that:

- 1. is predominately borne by a minority population and/or low-income population, or
- 2. will be suffered by the minority population and/or low-income population and is appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse effect that

<sup>1</sup> Executive Order 12898 signed on February 11, 1994 states "...each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations..."

will be suffered by the non-minority population and/or non-low-income population.

#### 2.1 Definitions

USDOT Order 5610.2 on EJ, issued in the April 15, 1997 Federal Register defines what constitutes low-income and minority population.

- **Low-Income** is defined as a person whose median household income is at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.
- Minority is defined as a person who is: (1) Black (a person having origins in any black racial groups of Africa); (2) Hispanic (a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race); (3) Asian American (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or (4) American Indian and Alaskan Native (a person having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition).
- **Low-Income Population** is defined as any readily identifiable group of low-income persons who live in geographic proximity, and if circumstances warrant geographically dispersed/transient persons who will be similarly affected by a proposed DOT program, policy or activity.
- **Minority Population** is defined as any readily identifiable group of minority persons who live in geographic proximity, and if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons who will be similarly affected by a proposed DOT program, policy or activity.

EO12898 and USDOT Order 5610.2 do not address consideration of the elderly population. However, the U.S. DOT encourages the study of these populations in EJ discussions and in accordance with EJ, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's advocacy of inclusive public involvement and equal treatment of all persons this study includes statistics for persons age 65 and over that are within the study and comparison areas.

#### 3.0 Methodology

For this study, data was collected by using the method outlined by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet document, "Methodology for Assessing Potential Environmental Justice Concerns for KYTC Planning Studies." (See Appendix B.)

The primary sources of data used in the compilation of this report were the U.S. Census Bureau's 2000 Census, Kentucky State Data Center, local elected officials, community leaders, and field observations. Statistics were compiled to present a detailed analysis of the community conditions for the project study area.

#### 4.0 Census Data Analysis

The U.S. Census Bureau defines geographical units as:

- Census Tract (CT) A small, relatively, permanent statistical subdivision of a county or statistically equivalent entity delineated for data presentation purposes by a local group of census data users or the geographic staff of a regional census center in accordance with Census Bureau guidelines. CTs generally contain between 1,000 and 8,000 people. CT boundaries are delineated with the intention of being stable over many decades, so they generally follow relatively permanent visible features. They may also follow governmental unit boundaries and other invisible features in some instances; the boundary of a state or county is always a census tract boundary.
- **Block Group (BG)** A statistical subdivision of a CT. A BG consists of all tabulation blocks whose numbers begin with the same digit in a CT. BGs generally contain between 300 and 3,000 people, with an optimum size of 1,500 people.
- Census Block (CB) An area bounded on all sides by visible and/or invisible features shown on a map prepared by the Census Bureau. A CB is the smallest geographic entity for which the Census Bureau tabulates decennial census data.

The census data tables include percentages for minority, Hispanic, elderly, and low-income populations in the United States, Kentucky, Grayson County, Census Tracts, and Block Groups Blocks located in and around the study area.

#### 5.0 Study Findings

This Environmental Justice and Community Impact Report is to be used as a component of a programming study currently being conducted by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Division of Planning for the identification of short and long-term improvement strategies for the defined small urban area of Leitchfield. This study is intended to help define the location and purpose of these projects and meet federal requirements regarding consideration of environmental issues as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

According to the 2000 Census, there are four (4) Census Tracts and eleven (11) Block Groups included in the defined study area. These are listed below. If all of the Block Groups within the Census Tract were not included in the study area, the total Census Tract population was not given. See Map 10.1 for geographic location.

Grayson County Total Population 24,053

Study Area Total Populations 12,784

Census Tract 9502

Block Group 1	1,346
Block Group 2	853
Census Tract 9503	3,744
Block Group 1	1,274
Block Group 2	921
Block Group 3	1,549
Census Tract 9504	6,081
Block Group 1	1,316
Block Group 2	1,486
Block Group 3	1,377
Block Group 4	1,239
Block Group 5	663
Census Tract 9505	
Block Group 1	760

### 6.0 Study Findings / Population by Persons of Minority Origin

As described in the Census Data Table, the White Alone population percentage for the United States was 75.10%. The population percentage for the state of Kentucky was 90.04%. The population percentage for Grayson County was 98.48%.

There are only two census tracts with a White Alone population percentage below the County percentage. These are CT 9503 with 96.26% and CT 9504 with 98.04%. However, within these two Census Tracts there are several block groups with a minority population percentage above 1.00%.

Within CT 9503 Block Group 2, the percentage of the Some Other Race Alone population was 2.17% and the Two or More Races population percentage was 2.61%. Within CT 9503 Block Group 3, the percentage of Black or African American Alone population was 5.81%.

Within CT 9504 Block Group 1, the percentage of Black or African American Alone population was 1.29%. Within CT 9504 Block Group 5, the percentage of the same population was 11.76%.

Map 10.2 displays the Black and African American Alone populations geographically.

# 7.0 Study Findings / Population by Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin

Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin may be of any race. As described in the Census Data Table, the Hispanic or Latino Origin population percentage for the United States

was 12.52%. The population percentage for the state of Kentucky was 1.40%. The population percentage for Grayson County was 0.84%.

There are only two census tracts with a Hispanic or Latino Origin population percentage above the County percentage. These are CT 9502 with 1.08% and CT 9505 with 1.12%. However, within the study are there are several block groups with a Hispanic or Latino Origin population percentage above the County level.

Within CT 9502 Block Group 1, the percentage of Hispanic or Latino Origin population was 1.34%. Within Block Group 2, the percentage was 1.76%.

Within CT 9503 Block Group 2, percentage of Hispanic or Latino Origin population was 1.52%.

Within CT 9504 Block Group 2, the percentage of Hispanic or Latino Origin population was 1.62%. Within Block Group 3, the percentage was 1.89%.

Within CT 9505 Block Group 2, the percentage of Hispanic or Latino Origin population was 1.58%.

Map 10.3 displays the Hispanic or Latino Origin populations geographically.

#### 8.0 Study Findings / Population by Persons 65 and Over

As described in the Census Data Table, the Persons 65 and Over population percentage for the United States was 12.43%. The population percentage for the state of Kentucky was 12.46%. The population percentage for Grayson County was 13.97%.

There is only one census tract with a Persons 65 and Over population percentage above the County percentage. This was CT 9503 with 14.96%. However, there are several block groups within the study area with population percentages above the County level.

Within CT 9502 Block Group 2, the population percentage of Persons 65 and Over was 16.30%. Within Block Group 3, the population percentage was 14.72%.

Within CT 9503 Block Group 3, the population percentage of Persons 65 and Over was 19.75%.

Within CT 9504 Block Group 2, the population percentage of Persons 65 and Over was 23.82%. Within Block Group 5, the population percentage was 17.65%.

Map 10.4 displays the Persons 65 and Over populations geographically.

# 9.0 Study Findings / Population by Persons Below the Poverty Level

As described in the Census Data Table, the Persons Below the Poverty Level for the United States was 12.05%. The population percentage for the state of Kentucky was 15.37%. The population percentage for Grayson County was 17.74%.

There are only two census tracts with a Persons Below the Poverty Level population percentage above the County percentage. This was CT 9504 with 18.50% and CT 9505 with 18.21%. However, there are several block groups within the study area with population percentages above the County level.

Within CT 9503 Block Group 2, the population percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Level was 20.09%. Within Block Group 3, the population percentage was 19.50%.

Within CT 9504 Block Group 5, the population percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Level was 34.24%.

Within CT 9505 Block Group 2, the population percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Level was 18.72%.

Map 10.5 displays the Persons Below the Poverty Level populations geographically.

#### 10.0 Conclusion

After an analysis of the Leitchfield SUA study area, there are several block groups that will require further evaluation in the development of a transportation improvement project with regard to race, age, and income level. The block groups with relatively high percentages have been described below and in detail in the *Study Findings* sections of this report.

The total population of Persons of Minority Origin in Grayson County was calculated as 365 or 1.52%. The Black or African American Alone population made up 56.7% of the minority population. There were two concentrations of Black or African American Alone population in the study area. This was CT 9503 Block Group 3 (5.81%) and CT 9504 Block Group 5 (11.76%). These populations would need to be taken into consideration when developing a project.

The total population percentage of Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin was 0.84%. There were several concentrations of this population in the study area. The highest percentages were found in CT 9502 Block Group 2 (1.76%); CT 9504 Block Group 2 (1.62%) and CT 9504 Block Group 3 (1.89%). These populations would need to be taken into consideration when developing a project.

The population percentage of Persons 65 and Over in Grayson County was 13.97%. This population seems to be dispersed throughout the study area. However, as shown in Map 10.4, there are three block groups that may require further evaluation in the development of a project. These are CT 9503 Block Group 3 (19.75%); CT 9504 Block Group 2 (23.82%) and CT 9504 Block Group 5 (17.65%)

The population percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Level in Grayson County was 17.74%. The population seems to be well dispersed throughout the study area. However, as shown in Map 10.5, there are three block groups that may require further evaluation in the development of a project. These are CT 9503 Block Group 2 (20.09%); CT 9503 Block Group 3 (19.50%) and CT 9504 Block Group5 (34.24%).

The LTADD staff will work with the KYTC to continue to monitor the locations indicated above as well as the surrounding study area for demographic and/or socioeconomic changes that may occur throughout the development of the project.

# **Appendix A: Planning Study Contact List**

#### **Planning Study Contact List**

Honorable Gary Logsdon Grayson Co. Judge/Executive 10 Court Square Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-3159

Mr. Roger Tomes Grayson Co. PVA 10 Court Square Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-4838

Mr. Steve Mahurin Grayson Co. Road Supervisor 655 W. White Oak Street Leitchfield, KY 42755 270-259-3093

Mr. Randall Smith, Director Grayson Co. Emergency Management 104 W Main Street Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-0096

Sheriff Rick Clemons Grayson Co. Sheriff Department 44 Public Square Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-3024

Mr. Barry Anderson, Superintendent Grayson County Schools 909 Brandenburg Rd P.O. Box 4009 Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-4011

Honorable William H. Thomason Mayor of Leitchfield 314 W. White Oak Street P.O. Box 398 Leitchfield, KY 42755-0398 270-259-4034

Chief Bart Glenn Leitchfield Police Department 314 W. White Oak Street P.O. Box 398 Leitchfield, KY 42755 270-259-3850

Chief Carl Smith Leitchfield Fire Department 314 W. White Oak Street P.O. Box 398 Leitchfield, KY 42755 270-259-4871

Ms. Sue Vincent Lincoln Trail Health Department 124 E. White Oak Street Leitchfield, KY 42754 270-259-6026

Mr. Darrell Harrell, Director Public Works 314 W. White Oak Street P.O. Box 398 Leitchfield, KY 42755 270-259-4034

Mr. Keith Jones Leitchfield Planning and Zoning 314 W. White Oak Street P.O. Box 398 Leitchfield, KY 42755 270-259-4034

Honorable Bonnie Henderson 106 Spring Street P.O. Box 10 Clarkson, KY 42726 270-242-6997

Chief Andy Cain Clarkson Fire Department P.O. Box 15 Clarkson, KY 42726 270-230-3245

Chief Dan Petterson Clarkson Police Department 106 Spring Street Clarkson, KY 42726 270-242-6997

## Methodology for Assessing Potential Environmental Justice Concerns for KYTC Planning Studies

Updated: February 1, 2002

The demographics of the affected area should be defined using U.S. Census data (Census tracts and block groups) and the percentages for minorities, low-income, elderly, or disabled populations should be compared to those for the following:

- Other nearby Census tracts and block groups,
- The county as a whole,
- The entire state, and
- The United States.

Information from PVA offices, social service agencies, local health organizations, local public agencies, and community action agencies can be used to supplement the Census data. Specifically, we are interested in obtaining the following information:

- Identification of community leaders or other contacts who may be able to represent these population groups and through which coordination efforts can be made.
- Comparison of the Census tracts and block groups encompassing the project area to other nearby Census tracts and block groups, county, state, and United States percentages.
- Locations of specific or identified minority, low-income, elderly, or disabled population groups within or near the project area. This may require some field reviews and/or discussions with knowledgeable persons to identify locations of public housing, minority communities, ethnic communities, etc., to verify Census data or identify changes that may have occurred since the last Census. Examples would be changes due to new residential developments in the area or increases in Asian and/or Hispanic populations.
- Concentrations or communities that share a common religious, cultural, ethnic, or other background, e.g., Amish communities.
- Communities or neighborhoods that exhibit a high degree of community cohesion or interaction and the ability to mobilize community actions at the start of community involvement.
- Concentrations of common employment, religious centers, and/or educational institutions with members within walking distance of facilities.
- Potential effects, both positive and negative, of the project on the affected groups as compared to the non-target groups. This may include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Access to services, employment or transportation.
  - 2. Displacement of persons, businesses, farms, or non-profit organizations.
  - 3. Disruption of community cohesion or vitality.
  - 4. Effects to human health and/or safety.
- Possible methods to minimize or avoid impacts on the target population groups.

Methodology for Assessing Potential Environmental Justice Concerns for KYTC Planning Studies
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If percentages of these populations are elevated within the project area, it should be brought to the attention of the Division of Planning immediately so that coordination with affected populations may be conducted to determine the affected population's concerns and comments on the project. Also, with this effort, representatives of minority, elderly, low-income, or disabled populations should be identified so that, together, we can build a partnership for the region that may be incorporated into other projects. Also, we hope to build a Commonwealth-wide database of contacts. We are available to participate in any meetings with these affected populations or with their community leaders or representatives.

In identifying communities, agencies may consider as a community either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a geographically dispersed/transient set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native Americans), where either type of group experiences common conditions of environmental exposure or effect. The selection of the appropriate unit of analysis may be a governing body's jurisdiction, a neighborhood, census tract, or other similar unit that is to be chosen so as not to artificially dilute or inflate the affected population. A target population also exists if there is (1) more than one minority or other group present and (2) the percentages, as calculated by aggregating all minority persons, exceed that of the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis.

Maps should be included that show the Census tracts and block groups included in the analysis as well as the relation of the project area to those Census tracts and block groups.

	Total	White Alone	White Alone (%)	Black or African American alone	Black or African American alone (%)	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone (%)	Asian alone	Asian alone (%)	Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone	Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone (%)
<b>United States</b>	281,421,906	211,353,725	75.10%	34,361,740	12.21%	2,447,989	0.87%	10,171,820	3.61%	378,782	0.13%
Kentucky	4,041,769	3,639,168	90.04%	293,915	7.27%	9,080	0.22%	28,994	0.72%	1,155	0.03%
Grayson Co.	24,053	23,688	98.48%	207	0.86%	15	0.06%	9	0.04%	-	0.00%
Tract 9501	2,593	2593	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 1	934	934	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 2	778	778	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 3	881	881	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Tract 9502	3,055	3030	99.18%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	0.16%	0	0.00%
Block Group 1	1,346	1327	98.59%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	0.37%	0	0.00%
Block Group 2	853	851	99.77%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 3	856	852	99.53%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Tract 9503	3,744	3604	96.26%	90	2.40%	6	0.16%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 1	1,274	1274	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 2	921	871	94.57%	0	0.00%	6	0.65%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 3	1,549	1459	94.19%	90	5.81%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Tract 9504	6,081	5962	98.04%	113	1.86%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 1	1,316	1299	98.71%	17	1.29%	0		0		0	0.00%
Block Group 2	1,486	1478	99.46%	8	0.54%	0		0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 3	1,377	1367	99.27%	10	0.73%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Block Group 4	1,239	1233	99.52%	0	0.00%	0		0		0	0.00%
Block Group 5	663	585	88.24%	78	11.76%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Tract 9505	2,592	2571	99.19%	0	0.00%	0		4	0.15%	0	0.00%
Block Group 1	760	760	100.00%	0	0.00%	0		0		0	0.00%
Block Group 2	1,832	1811	98.85%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	4	0.22%	0	0.00%
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census											
Summary File 3 (SF3)  Detailed Tables: P.6-Race, P.7-Hispanic or Latino by Race, P.8-Sex by Age, P.87-Poverty Status in 1999 by Age											
Detailed Tables: I	r.o-Kace, P./-H1	spanic or Latino	b by Kace, P.8-	Sex by Age, P.8	s/-Poverty S	iaius in 1999 by <i>F</i>	age				

	Some other race alone	Some other race alone (%)	Two or more races	Two or more races (%)	Hispanic or Latino Origin	Hispanic or Latino Origin (%)	Persons 65 and Over	Persons 65 and Over (%)	Persons Below Poverty Level	Persons Below Poverty Level (%)
<b>United States</b>	15,436,924	5.49%	7,270,926	2.58%	35,238,481	12.52%	34,978,972	12.43%	33,899,812	12.05%
Kentucky	22,116	0.55%	47,341	1.17%	56,414	1.40%	503,668	12.46%	621,096	15.37%
Grayson Co.	37	0.15%	97	0.40%	202	0.84%	3,360	13.97%	4,267	17.74%
Tract 9501	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	46	1.77%	447	17.24%	332	12.80%
Block Group 1	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	16	1.71%	172	18.42%	93	9.96%
Block Group 2	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	9	0.96%	92	11.83%	141	15.10%
Block Group 3	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	21	2.38%	183	20.77%	98	11.12%
Tract 9502	6	0.20%	14	0.46%	33	1.08%	419	13.72%	390	12.77%
Block Group 1	6	0.45%	8	0.59%	18	1.34%	154	11.44%	222	16.49%
Block Group 2	0	0.00%	2	0.23%	15	1.76%	139	16.30%	78	9.14%
Block Group 3	0	0.00%	4	0.47%	0	0.00%	126	14.72%	90	10.51%
Tract 9503	20	0.53%	24	0.64%	14	0.37%	560	14.96%	597	15.95%
Block Group 1	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	164	12.87%	110	8.63%
Block Group 2	20		24	2.61%	14	1.52%	90	9.77%	185	20.09%
Block Group 3	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	306	19.75%	302	19.50%
Tract 9504	0		6	0.10%	50	0.82%	834	13.71%	1125	18.50%
Block Group 1	0		0	0.00%		0.00%	118	8.97%	226	17.17%
Block Group 2	0			0.00%	24	1.62%	354	23.82%	241	16.22%
Block Group 3	0			0.00%		1.89%	101	7.33%	215	15.61%
Block Group 4	0		6	0.48%		0.00%	144	11.62%	216	17.43%
Block Group 5	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	117	17.65%	227	34.24%
The -4 0505		0.000/	1.7	0.000	00	1 100/	207	11.040/	470	10.2107
Tract 9505	0		17	0.66%	29	1.12%	307	11.84%	472	18.21%
Block Group 1	0		17	0.00%	29	0.00%	58	7.63%	129	16.97%
Block Group 2	0	0.00%	1/	0.93%	29	1.58%	249	13.59%	343	18.72%









