

The purpose of this comprehensive plan amendment is to protect the public health, safety, morals, convenience, order, or the general welfare and for the sake of efficiency and economy in the process of development. In 2021, the State of Indiana and City of Lebanon identified a large portion of the County for the LEAP Lebanon Innovation District, the next location of global innovation. The City has annexed a portion of this 9,000+ available. But this district is strategically situated on Indiana's I-65 Hard Tech Corridor, LEAP Lebanon offers diverse settings—megasite, advanced manufacturing, mixed-use and corporate campus—all on an SSI-certified (Strategic Site Inventory) site. This type of growth will have a significant impact to the county's agricultural land, roads, and drainage system, and well as impacting residents' quality of life. To protect and manage spin off growth from this District, the County has developed an overlay district for certain major thoroughfares and nodes as shown in Figure 1. It is anticipated that this strategy will continue to preserve the prime farmland in the rest of the County forcing any new developments to certain major thoroughfares and nodes that can handle the growth, allowing for the protection of large swaths of agriculture in the rest of the County.