

# ERPC MPO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REPORT

SFY 2021  
April 2021



ERIE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
2900 COLUMBUS AVE.  
SANDUSKY, OH. 44870  
419.627.7792



### INTRODUCTION

As a public agency receiving federal funds and making recommendations on federal expenditures, ERPC is affected by Environmental Justice requirements for ensuring that federal funds are used fairly and without discrimination. The basis for Environmental Justice is Executive Order 12898 and is defined as to “identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.

Concern for environmental justice should be integrated into every transportation decision—from the first thought about a transportation plan to post-construction operations and maintenance. Properly implemented, environmental justice principles and procedures improve all levels of transportation decision-making. This approach will:

- Make better transportation decisions that meet the needs of all people.
- Design transportation facilities that fit more harmoniously into communities.
- Enhance the public-involvement process, strengthen community-based partnerships and provide minority and low-income populations with opportunities to learn about and improve the quality and usefulness of transportation in their lives.
- Improve data collection, monitoring and analysis tools that assess the needs of, and analyze the potential impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- Partner with other public and private programs to leverage transportation agency resources to achieve a common vision for communities.
- Avoid disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- Minimize and/or mitigate unavoidable impacts by identifying concerns early in the planning phase and providing offsetting initiatives and enhancement measures to benefit affected communities and neighborhoods.

Demographic information was compiled from the 2019 Five Year American Community Survey Census data. To calculate county average levels with the available data, demographic data on a census tract level was utilized. The data was reviewed to identify areas where the targeted populations were significantly higher than the county average. These target areas have been mapped along with capacity expansion projects, maintenance projects, and transportation enhancement projects to aid in the impact analysis. Subjective analysis for each project includes completing an environmental justice analysis matrix considering potential impacts that a project could have on an identified environmental justice area. The identification of targeted population areas median averages were calculated as poverty totaling 12.3%, minority totaling 16.3%, 65 years and older totaling 22% , disability totaling 15.7%, limited English proficiency totaling 2.8%, and zero vehicle household totaling 6.3% in the county based on regional averages.



## SFY 2021 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REPORT

The following impacts are considered in determining if projects significantly have negative impacts on the targeted populations:

- Bodily impairment, infirmity, illness, or death
- Air, noise, and water pollution and soil contamination
- Destruction or disruption of man-made or natural resources
- Destruction or diminution of aesthetic values
- Destruction or disruption of community cohesion
- Destruction or disruption of a community's economic vitality
- Destruction or disruption of the availability of public and private facilities and services
- Vibration
- Adverse employment effects
- Displacement of persons, businesses, farms, or nonprofit organizations
- Increased traffic congestion
- Isolation
- Exclusion or separation of minority or low-income individuals within a given community or from the broader community
- The denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of, benefits of DOT programs, policies, or activities

In order to analyze EJ impacts for the projects in the ERPC MPO region, staff reviewed the projects using the long range travel demand model for the Sandusky Urbanized Area that was developed by the Modeling and Forecasting Section of ODOT's Office of Statewide Planning and Research. The model aided in quantitatively evaluating the effectiveness of the projects and their impact potential to the targeted populations. The MPO region was divided into over 400 traffic analysis zones (TAZs) based on the review of census data, residential patterns, employment, education, recreational locations, and travel characteristics. Travel times were used to analyze the results of project implementation in order to assess accessibility to the generator zones for both targeted and non-targeted populations. Travel times to identified destinations for eleven EJ traffic analysis zones (where poverty, minority, 65 years and older, limited English proficiency, disability, and households with no vehicles available were two times above the county averages) were compared against five non-EJ TAZs. Results show an average decrease in travel times (-0.2 minute) for EJ target zones as compared to average travel times for those non-EJ zones. Programmed projects improved travel times for those identified EJ target areas and did not negatively affect the target groups. The total average travel time difference for all EJ and non-EJ areas show an overall decrease of 18 seconds. 78% of projects in the TIP for FY 2021-2024 for the ERPC MPO region can be considered system preservation projects while the other 22% are all projects that include sidewalk installations, intersection realignments and other safety upgrades. Preservation type projects include resurfacing, culvert replacement, signal projects and overall general maintenance of the transportation system. These types of projects have little or no adverse impact on the population. The factors listed above were considered upon review of the projects to measure the impact upon the targeted areas.

Upon staff review, both quantitatively (as explained) and subjectively, it is believed that no disproportionately high and adverse effects on EJ populations are encountered as a result of the proposed projects listed in this TIP. Additionally, the ERPC staff and its committees consider any adverse effects that a proposed project could have to ensure that they are not predominately borne by EJ populations.



## SFY 2021 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REPORT

Maps on the following pages show target areas within the MPO region and associated highway projects that have been identified in the MPO’s TIP SFY 2021-2024. Additionally, tabulation of the proportion of all proposed project costs in target EJ areas against total investment was completed and is presented below.

Investment in Target Areas (*Total project costs for all mapped ERPC projects in the TIP)	% of Population	Dollars Programmed*	% of Program	# of Projects
Environmental Justice Area	23.7%	\$25,733,391	42.1%	11
Non-Environmental Justice Area	76.3%	\$35,380,782	57.9%	36

Additionally, staff also measures the amount of negative impact for those projects listed in the TIP by estimating the amount of real estate actions that may be imposed upon the identified target areas. It is estimated that only five project (or 3% of total programmed dollars) fall into this category. The projects are listed below:

PID 105034: Located at Strub Road and Perkins Avenues, the project involves sidewalk installation that will provide safer commutes for school children and other non-motorists.

PID 107278: Located at Perkins Avenue and PID 108035 located at US 6, both projects involve bridge preservation which will result in improved safety for all users of the structures.

PID 110337: Located at US 250 and Strub Road, the project involves asphalt, concrete resurfacing improvements and adding a west bound turn lane from US 250 onto Strub Road with ADA compliant sidewalks. The projects will provide safety benefits for both motorist and non-motorists.

PID: 114056: Located at US 6, the project involves installing a roundabout at Cedar Point Drive, turn lanes at Sycamore Line and replacing the signal at Remington Avenue. The project was identified in the US 6 Corridor Study and is anticipated to improve safety conditions for all users.

Staff concluded that all projects that were identified above were considered safety related improvement projects and concluded that no significant negative impacts would occur to the identified target areas.

In summary, the MPO’s various committees and staff are dedicated to identifying any adverse or negative impacts to a population as a result of a project, and will consider possible alternatives should disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects be of concern. The committees and staff are dedicated to identifying any adverse or negative impacts to a population as a result of a project, and will consider possible alternatives should ‘disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects’ be of concern.



Appendices:

Appendix A.....SFY 2021—2024 Transportation Improvement Program Project Listing

Appendix B.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Minority Status

Appendix C.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Poverty Status

Appendix D.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and 65 Years and Older Status

Appendix E.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Disability Status

Appendix F.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Limited English Proficiency Status

Appendix G.....Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Zero Vehicles Available Households



## Appendix A

# SFY 2021–2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Listing

SFY 2021-2024 STIP Projects							
ERPC MPO Area							
PID	Project Name	Preservation/Expansion	R/W Amount	EJ Target Area	R/W	SFY	Project Cost
87704	ERI SR 0002 30.41 PM 2	Preservation				2023	\$1,587,650.00
90932	D03 SRTS Vermilion Inf.	Expansion				2021	\$505,414.25
94393	ERI SR 0113 06.84	Preservation	\$265,286.80		yes	2021	\$6,877,091.00
98575	LOR US 0006 00.00	Preservation				2022	\$1,989,104.00
100081	D03 BH FY2021 (B)	Preservation				2021	\$268,757.00
100938	ERI SR 0002 20.02	Preservation				2024	\$10,059,950.00
101445	ERI SR 0060 08.98	Preservation				2021	\$1,007,824.00
101449	D03 CULVERT FY2021	Preservation	\$20,000.00		yes	2021	\$1,041,240.00
103704	ERI US 0006 03.64	Preservation		X		2022	\$762,322.00
104261	D03 MOW FY2021-22 (C)	Preservation		X		2021	\$594,500.00
104279	D03 SYSSIGN FY2022	Preservation				2022	\$478,000.00
105033	ERI CR 0505 00.00 (Meigs St)	Preservation				2022	\$1,296,373.78
105034	D03 SRTS Perkins Township Inf	Expansion	\$67,858.45	X	yes	2021	\$1,162,200.00
105447	D03 SMOOTH FY2023	Preservation				2023	\$3,212,500.00
105584	D03 BP ERI Paint	Preservation		X		2022	\$2,863,255.00
106342	D03 SRTS Milan Inf	Expansion	\$1,000.00		yes	2021	\$504,476.00
107223	ERI US 0006 16.07 Phase 2	Preservation				2021	\$1,633,921.00
107278	ERI CR 0005 02.92 (Perkins Ave)	Preservation	\$4,000.00	X	yes	2023	\$1,280,500.00
108006	D03 LG FY2022(A)	Preservation				2022	\$141,000.00
108025	D03 MOW FY2023-24 (C)	Preservation				2023	\$717,500.00
108029	D03 SYSSIGN FY2024	Preservation				2024	\$600,000.00
108035	ERI US 0006 18.02	Expansion	\$60,000.00		yes	2024	\$3,199,000.00
109239	ERI SR 0099 01.94	Preservation				2021	\$1,113,755.00
109523	ERI SR 0004 10.66 Hayes Ave	Preservation		X		2021	\$1,540,301.12
109649	ERI CR 0058 00.00	Expansion				2021	\$396,200.00
110322	ERI CR 0504 00.49 (Monroe St)	Preservation		X		2021	\$1,044,212.12
110337	ERI CR 0007 03.07 (Strub Rd)	Expansion	\$452,669.63	X	yes	2021	\$905,603.89
110361	LOR CR 624 0.990 (Sunnyside Rd)	Preservation				2022	\$1,032,007.60
110898	ERI SR 0004 04.65	Expansion	\$63,000.00		yes	2023	\$2,882,650.00
111437	ERI SMOOTH FY2021	Preservation				2021	\$1,951,505.00
113282	ERI/HUR SR 0113/0013 20.18/04.13	Preservation	\$100,000.00		yes	2024	\$375,000.00
113409	ERI SR 0002 10.88	Preservation				2021	\$174,989.74
113887	D03 OVERLAY FY2024	Preservation		X		2024	\$12,200,000.00
113958	ERI CR 0503 00.81 E Water St	Preservation		X		2024	\$593,096.25
113960	ERI Vermilion Road 4A	Preservation				2024	\$1,305,029.00
114056	ERI US 0006 09.07	Expansion	\$1,216,600.00	X	yes	2024	\$2,787,400.00
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$2,250,414.88</b>	<b>\$25,733,390.38</b>			<b>\$61,114,172.50</b>



## Appendix B

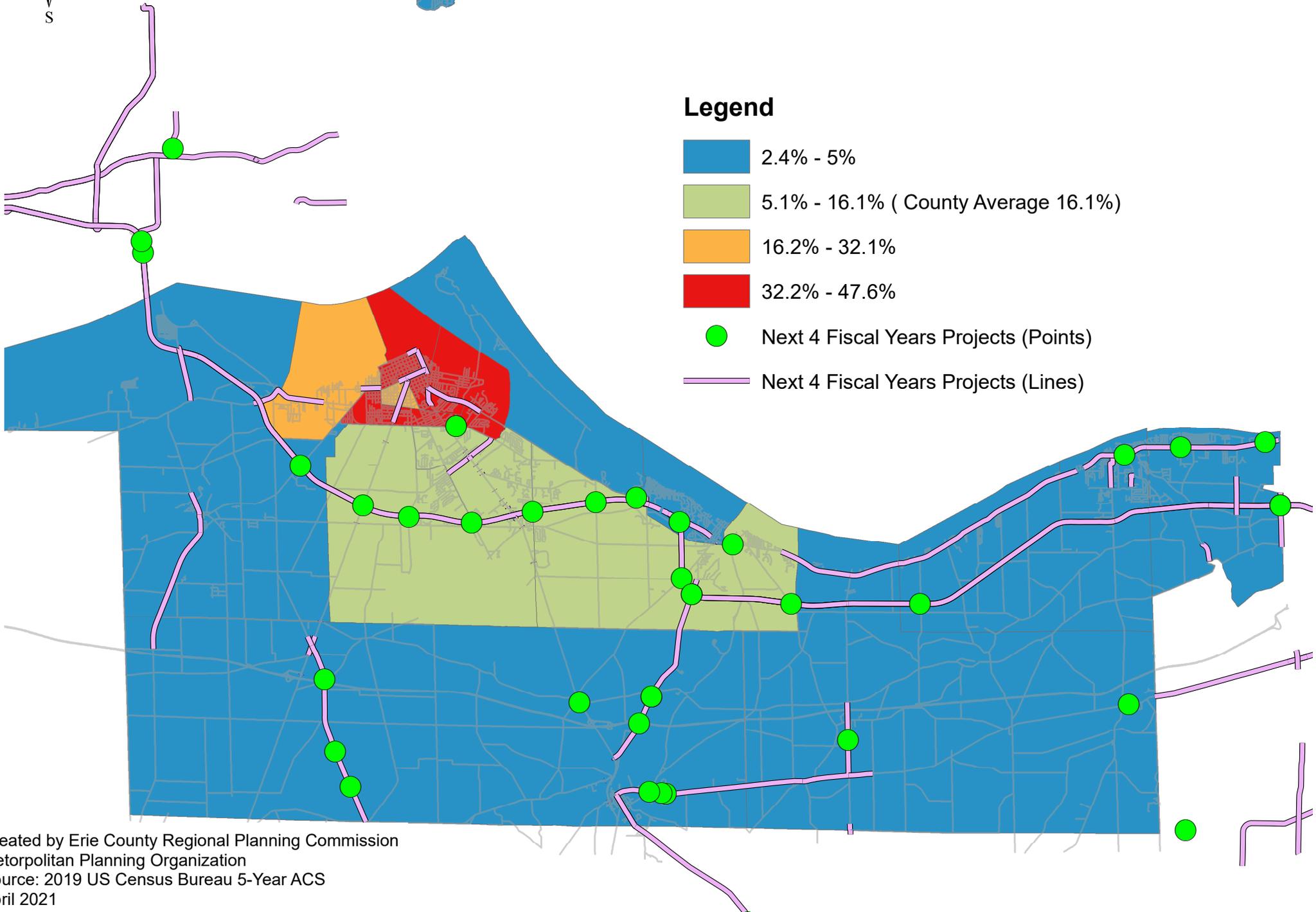
### Map of SFY 2021-2024 TIP Projects and Minority Status



# Percent Minority Population

## Legend

-  2.4% - 5%
-  5.1% - 16.1% ( County Average 16.1%)
-  16.2% - 32.1%
-  32.2% - 47.6%
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)





## Appendix C

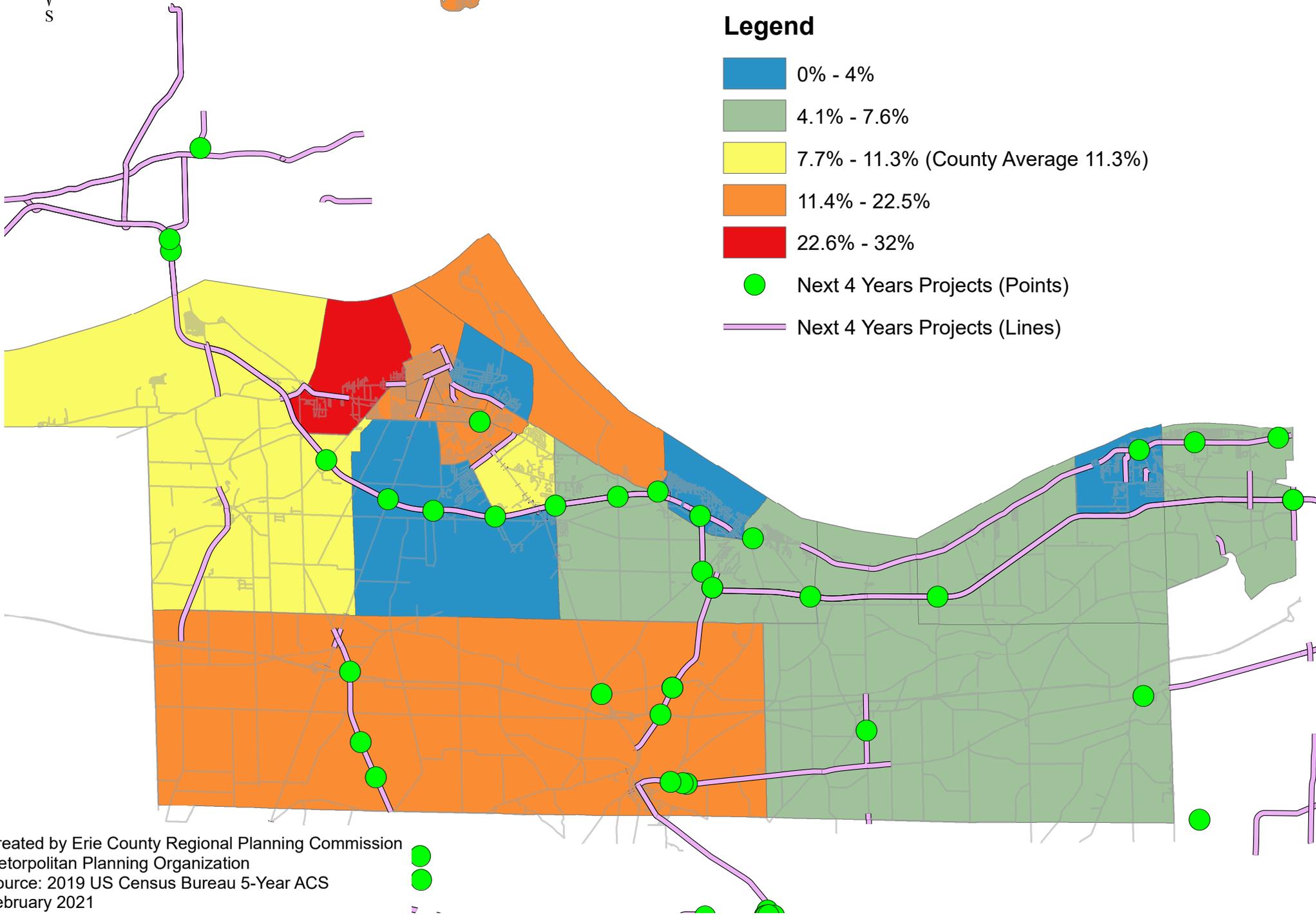
### Map of SFY 2021-2024 TIP Projects and Poverty Status



# Percent of Households Below the Poverty Level

## Legend

- 0% - 4%
- 4.1% - 7.6%
- 7.7% - 11.3% (County Average 11.3%)
- 11.4% - 22.5%
- 22.6% - 32%
- Next 4 Years Projects (Points)
- Next 4 Years Projects (Lines)

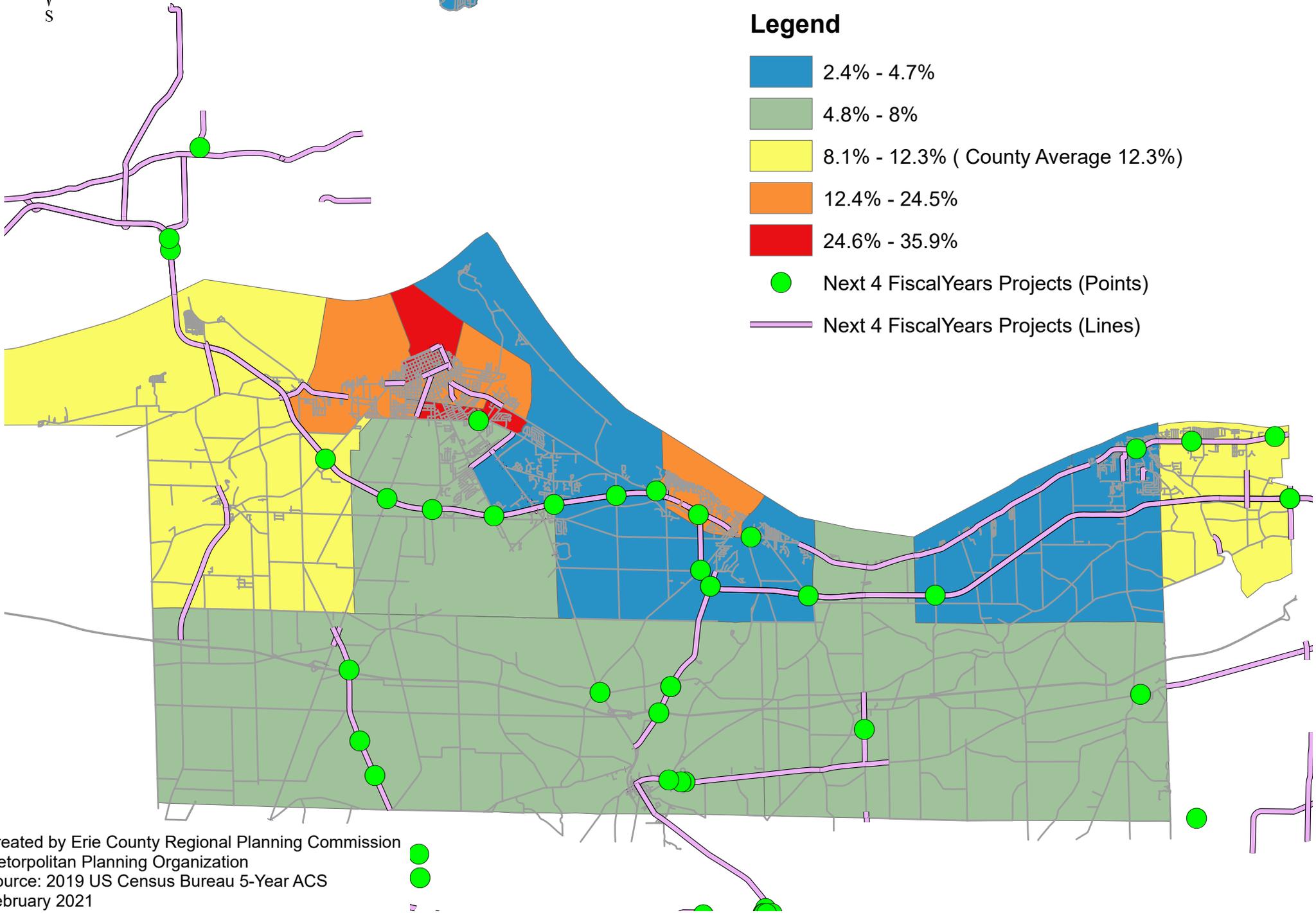




# Percent of Population Below Poverty Level

## Legend

-  2.4% - 4.7%
-  4.8% - 8%
-  8.1% - 12.3% ( County Average 12.3%)
-  12.4% - 24.5%
-  24.6% - 35.9%
-  Next 4 FiscalYears Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 FiscalYears Projects (Lines)





## Appendix D

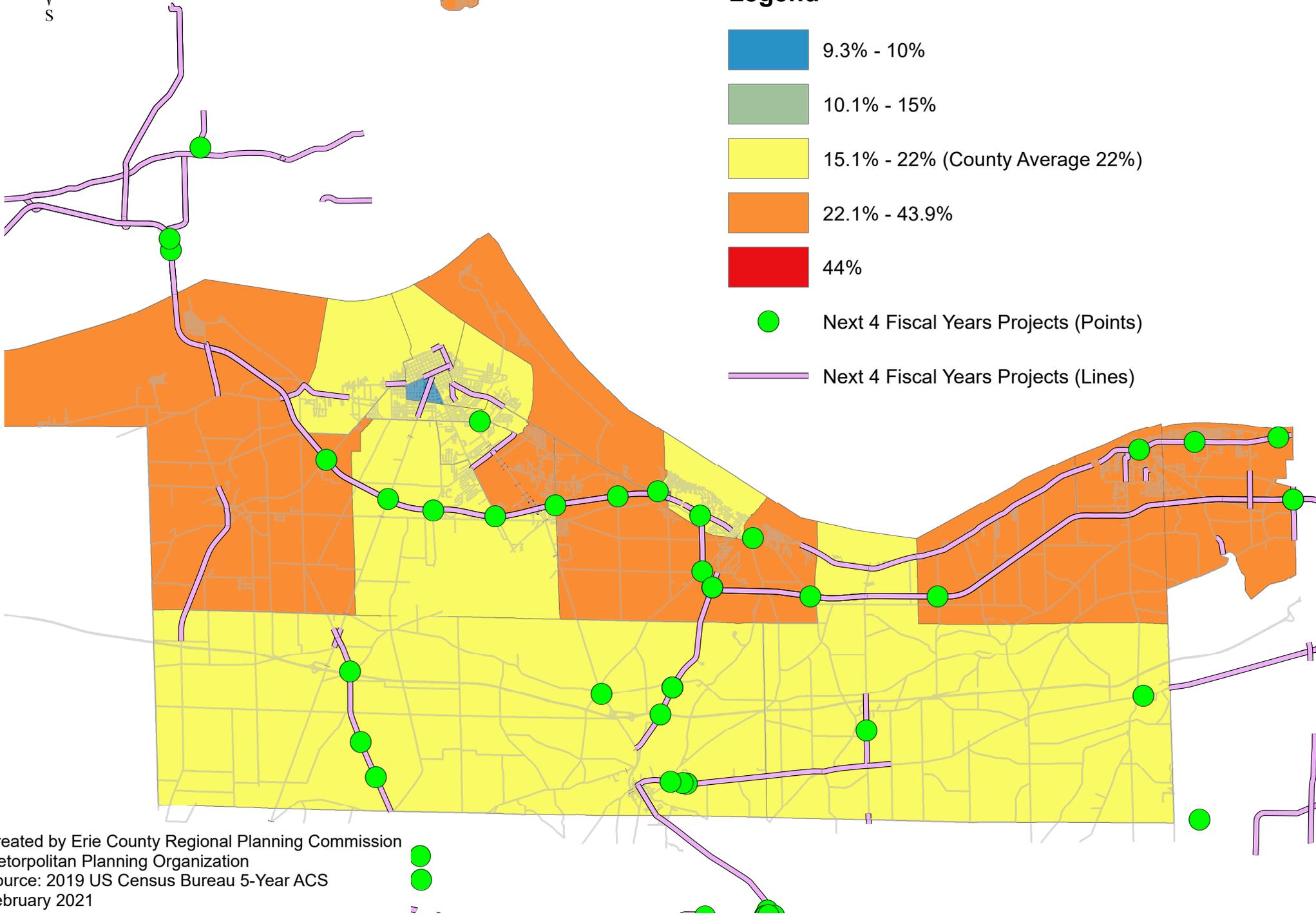
# Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and 65 Years and Older Status

# Percent of Population 65 years and older



## Legend

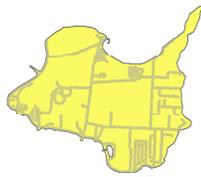
-  9.3% - 10%
-  10.1% - 15%
-  15.1% - 22% (County Average 22%)
-  22.1% - 43.9%
-  44%
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)





## Appendix E

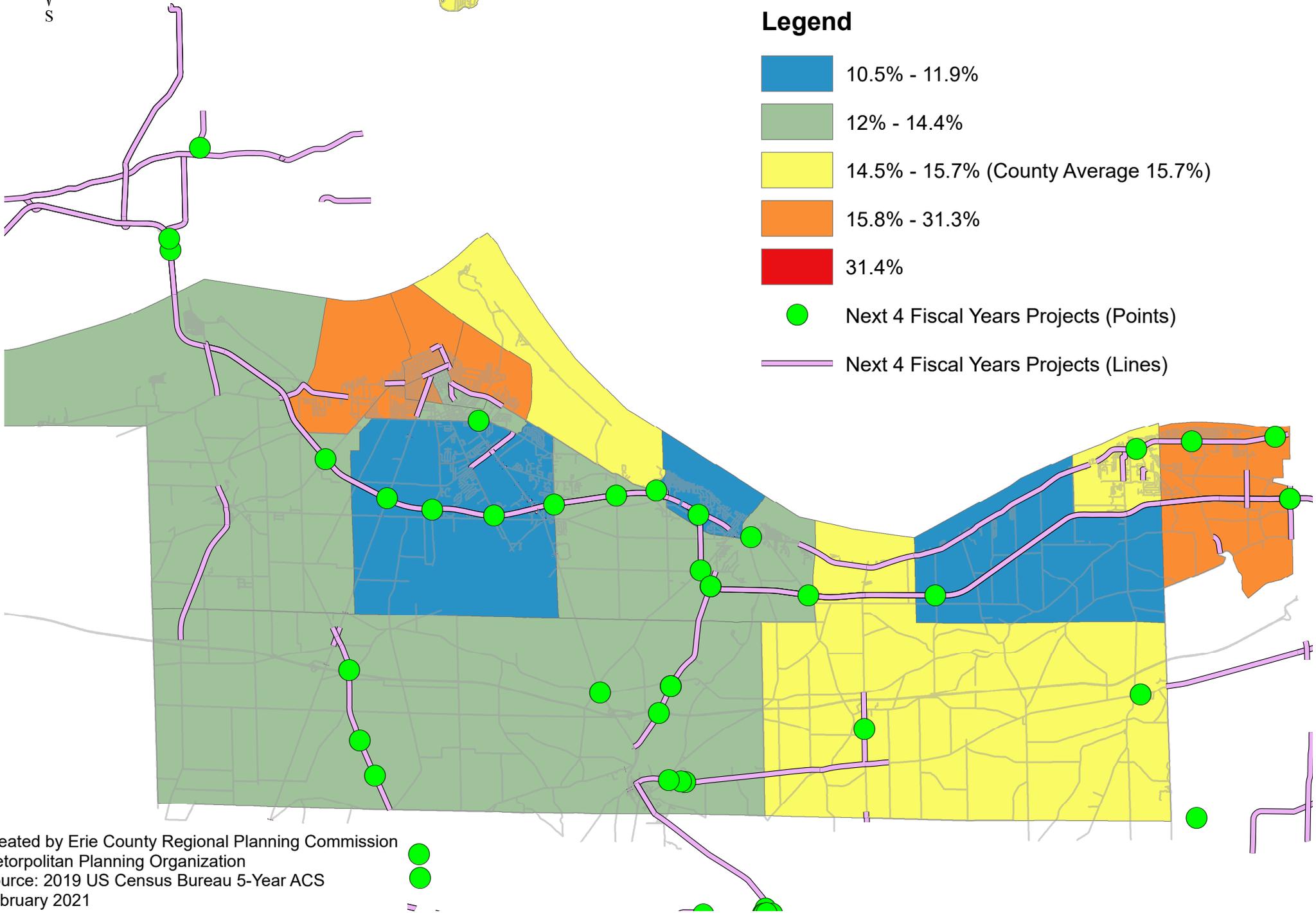
### Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Disability Status



# Percent of Population with Disability

## Legend

-  10.5% - 11.9%
-  12% - 14.4%
-  14.5% - 15.7% (County Average 15.7%)
-  15.8% - 31.3%
-  31.4%
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)





## Appendix F

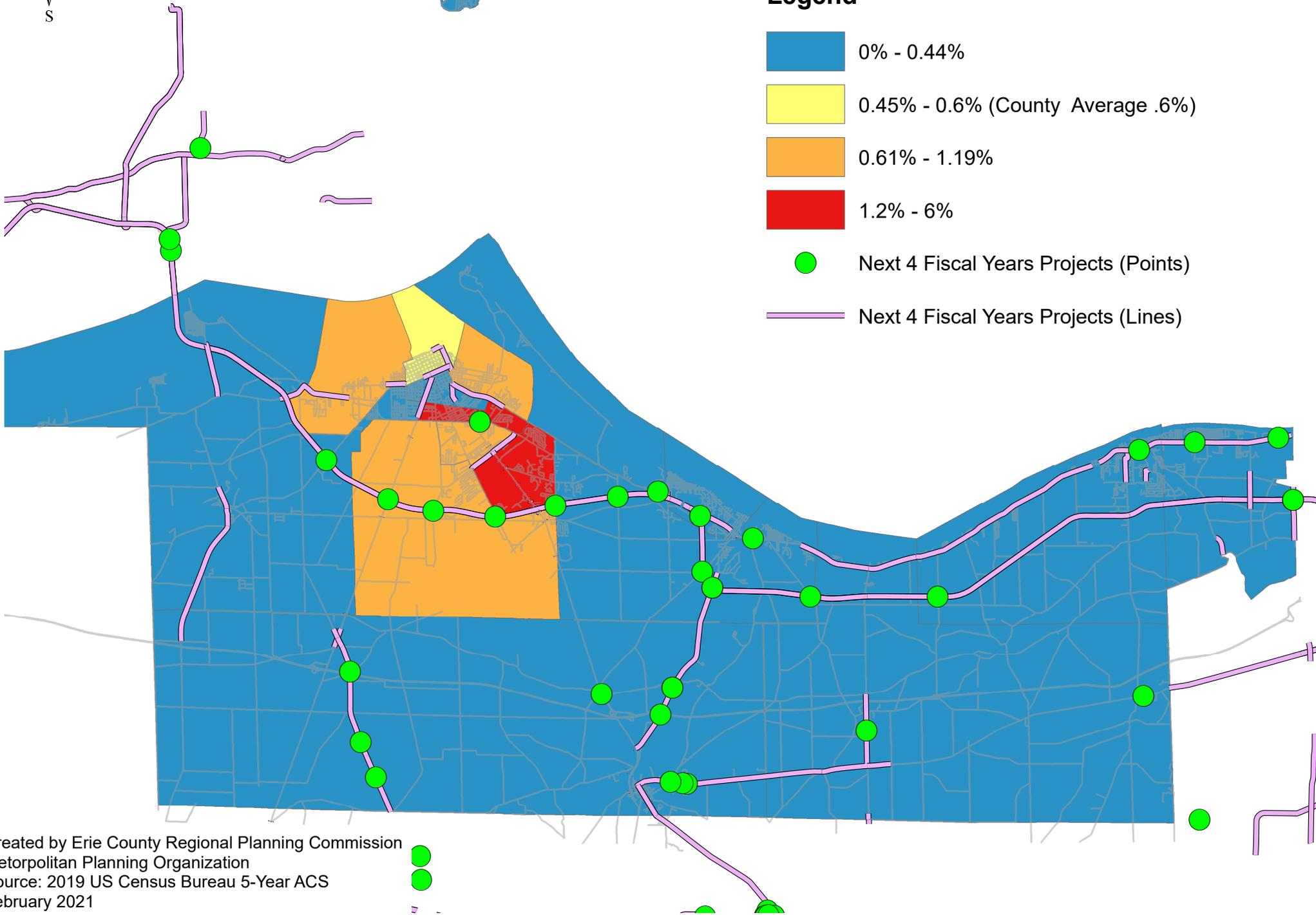
# Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Limited English Proficiency Status



# Percent of Households - Limited English Proficiency

## Legend

- 0% - 0.44%
- 0.45% - 0.6% (County Average .6%)
- 0.61% - 1.19%
- 1.2% - 6%
- Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
- Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)

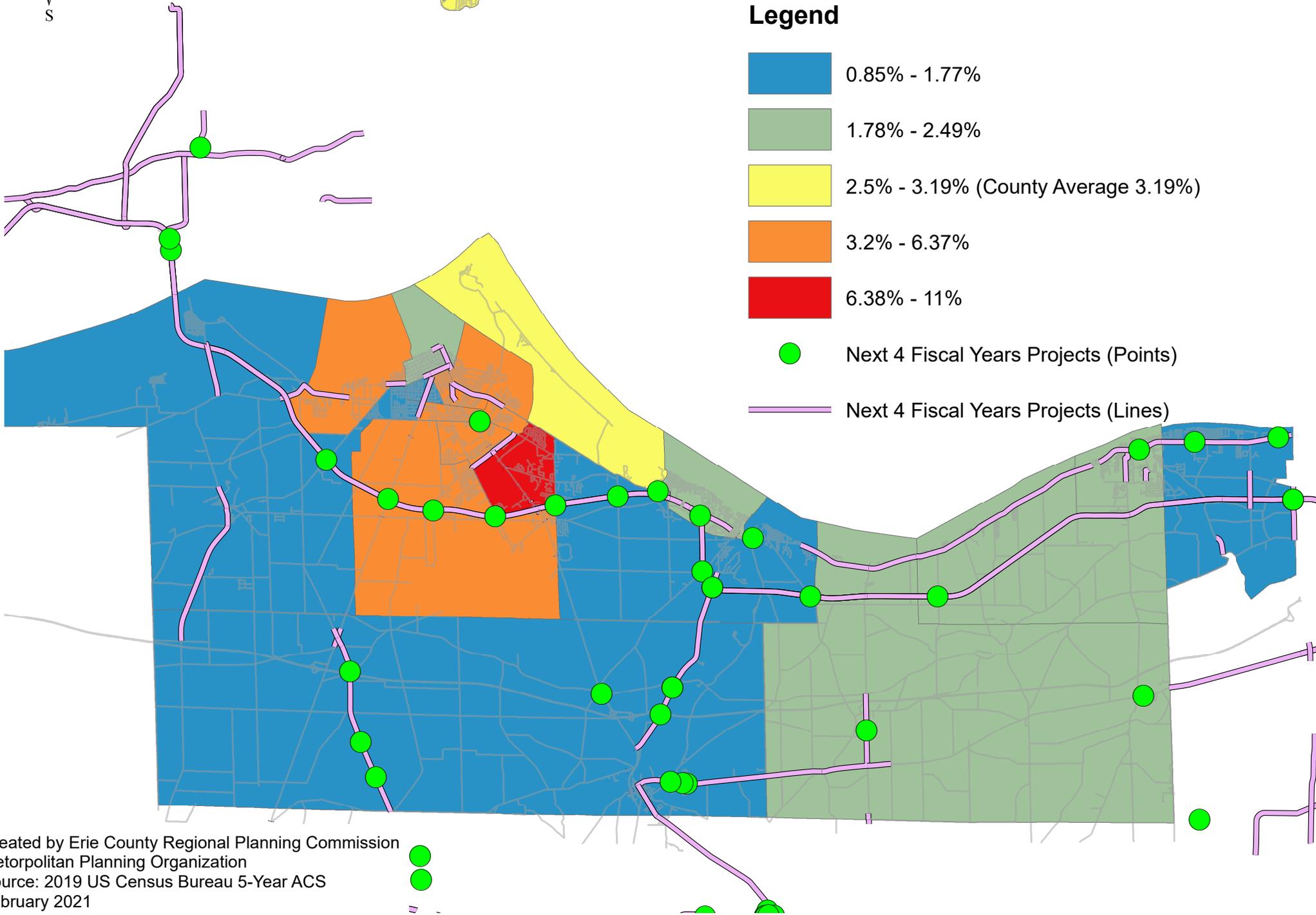




# Percent of Population Limited English Proficiency

## Legend

-  0.85% - 1.77%
-  1.78% - 2.49%
-  2.5% - 3.19% (County Average 3.19%)
-  3.2% - 6.37%
-  6.38% - 11%
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)





## Appendix G

### Map of SFY 2021—2024 TIP Projects and Zero Vehicles Available Households



# Percent of Housing Units with No Vehicle Available

## Legend

-  0%
-  0.1% - 3.4%
-  3.5% - 6.1% (County Average 6.1%)
-  6.2% - 12.1%
-  12.2% - 18%
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Points)
-  Next 4 Fiscal Years Projects (Lines)

