



## ES.2 Project Description

As shown in Figure ES.2.1, the US 31 Improvement Project extends through Marshall and St. Joseph Counties, Indiana and is approximately 20 miles in length, running from the southern terminus at US 30, near Plymouth, to the northern terminus at the south junction with US 20, near South Bend. The communities of LaPaz, Lakeville, and the south edge of South Bend are within the limits of the project study area. Due to the fact that US 30 and US 20 are both functionally classified as principal arterials on the National Highway System (NHS) and Statewide Mobility Corridors in the INDOT 2000-2025 Long Range Plan, they serve as logical termini for examining a need to improve this portion of US 31. Additionally, US 30 represents a major carrier of east-west traffic, and is a logical origin and destination point for through traffic on US 31. US 20 represents the last major east-west arterial within the study corridor, and US 31 follows the US 20 Bypass to the west, while Old US 31 continues northward from the US 31 and US 20 interchange into the South Bend Metropolitan Area.

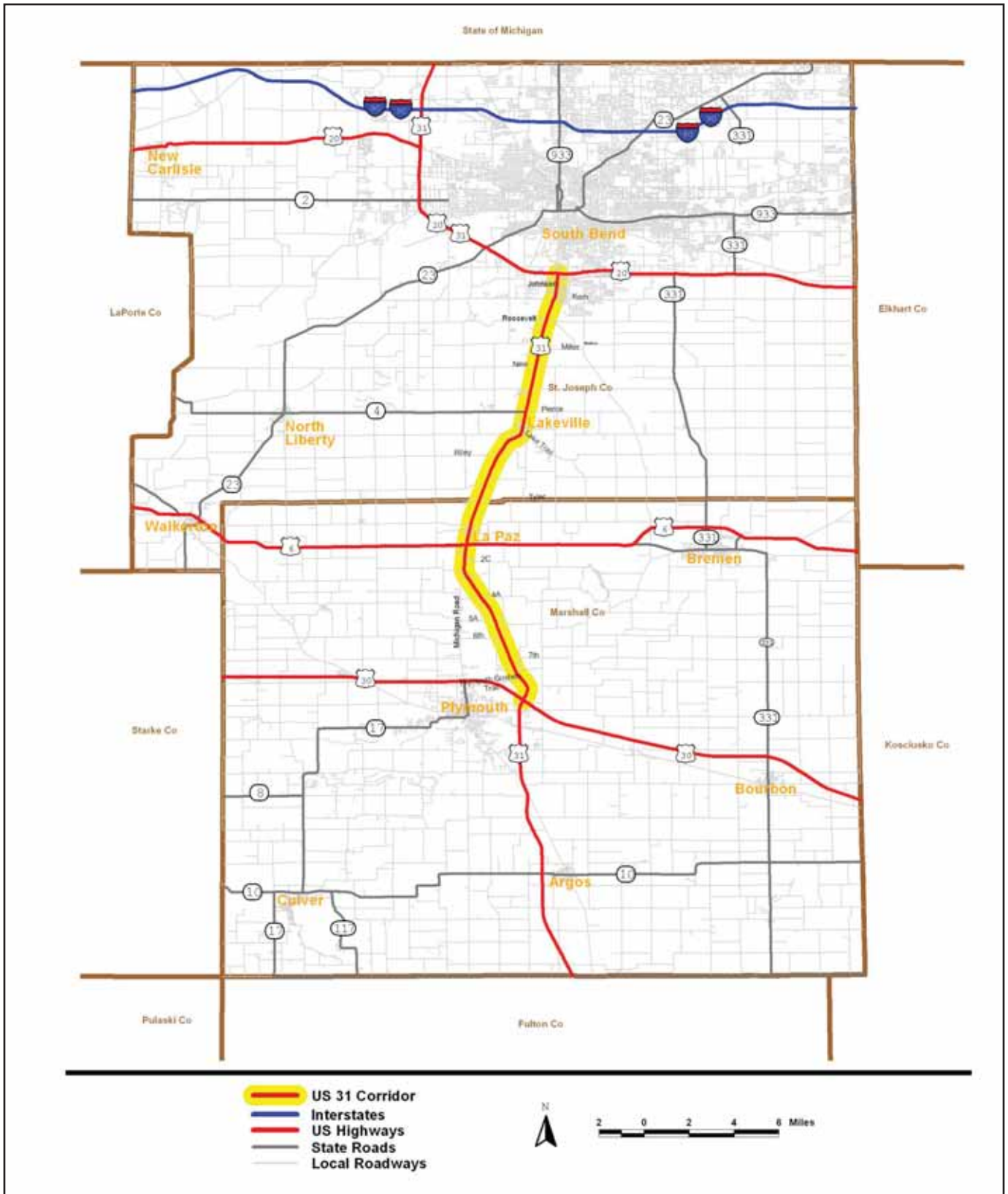


Figure ES.2.1: US 31 Improvement Project Location Map