# A Collaborative Vision for Transportation

### ENGAGING MINNESOTA APRIL 2016

Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan

Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan

We employed a multi-faceted engagement strategy to gather input across a broad range of geographic and demographic groups.

# 12,450 responses

**High touch** 

**High tech** 



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### WHAT IS THE SMTP?

MnDOT's Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (SMTP) guides Minnesota's transportation stakeholders towards the Minnesota GO Vision by focusing on the relationship between transportation and the environment, economy and people in our state.

The SMTP goes beyond MnDOT and beyond the state highway system. Every four years the plan considers the status of the transportation system, key changes occurring in the state, and how those changes should influence the transportation system going forward.

#### **ENGAGEMENT FOCUS**



iPad survey at community event



Workplace event

The SMTP's first phase of outreach focused on sharing information about how Minnesota is expected to change in the next 20 years and understanding which of those changes were most important to Minnesotans.

# This process sought to understand the challenges and opportunities that Minnesotans prioritized for action in the updated SMTP.

Outreach was conducted at standing meetings, community events, and at workplaces in an attempt to meet people in places that they typically visit, rather than asking them to make time for a separate meeting. Participants had the opportunity to respond to a series of questions through either an online survey or on paper worksheets.

#### How important is it for MnDOT to plan for different areas of change?



#### Which specific trends are most important for MnDOT to plan for?



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#### **Aging Infrastructure**

The priority should be on maintaining existing assets rather than expansion of assets.

#### Urban & Rural Population Trends

Recognize different contexts and have different goals / objectives for each.

#### Climate Change

Be aware of climate change and plan ahead for impacts, specifically where impacts may disrupt transportation.

#### Environmental Quality

Build an environmentally-friendly transportation system - less pollution, improved health.

#### **Transportation Behavior**

Make sure to understand how transportation behaviors are going to change in the future. Develop system priorities accordingly.



TRENDS WERE RANKED HIGHLY ACROSS ALL RESPONDENT GROUPS.

However, different trends were important to different groups of people. We noted where some trends may not have fallen in the top 5, but were still relatively important to those groups.





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#### WHAT IS MnSHIP?

The Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP) decides and communicates capital investment priorities on the state highway system–a network of roads that includes interstates, U.S. and state highways, and serves automobiles, commercial vehicles, motorcycles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit.

MnSHIP supports the guiding principles from the Minnesota GO Vision and link the policies and strategies in the SMTP to improvements on the state highway system.

MnDOT's capital investments on the state highway system are separated into 13 investment categories. The plan is fiscally constrained and its expenditures align with projected revenue over the 20 years of the plan.

#### **ENGAGEMENT FOCUS**



Metroquest survey

GetFeedback survey

In general, the questions asked during MnSHIP public engagement were meant to gain input on what investments MnDOT should prioritize. MnDOT asked:

- a. Which of the three draft investment approaches was preferred?
- b. What investment categories are most important and should be prioritized for investment?
- c. What should MnDOT invest in? This was an open ended question allowing participants to communicate their priorities for investment and include priorities which may not have been identified in the previous questions.

#### WHICH APPROACH ADDRESSES YOUR PRIORITIES?

- A Highway surfaces
- **B** Bridges
- C Supporting infrastructure
- D Highway ownership
- E Rest areas/ weigh stations
- F New safety investment
- G Twin Cities area mobility
- H Greater MN mobility
- I Bicycling
- J Walking



L Other

PREFERENCE & AVG RATING: We asked participants to rate each approach and select their favorite. Preference shows the number of participants who selected the approach. The average rating is for all participants on a scale from 0 - 100.



# K 1.1% L 2.8% M 13.6% M 13.6% M 13.6% M 13.6% M 13.6% M 55.5% M 55.5% M 55.5%

# K 8.2% II 13.6% II 2.8% II 13.6% II 2.5% II 50.8% II 0.3% II 7.2% II 0.3% II 6.8% II 0.3% II 6.8% II 0.0% II 3.9%

# APPROACH A

Preference: 250 | Avg Rating\*: 70.4

Prioritize investments in repairing and maintaining existing state highways, bridges, and supporting infrastructure.

## **APPROACH B**

Preference: 302 | Avg Rating\*: 68.7

Balance repairing and maintaining existing state highways, bridges and supporting infrastructure with strategically investing in reliable travel times.

# APPROACH C

Preference: 224 | Avg Rating\*: 63.2

Emphasize investments in biking, walking, ensuring reliable travel times, and regional and local priorities.

#### HOW DID DIFFERENT REGIONS RESPOND?

We looked at participant zip code data to see if different parts of the state had different preferences. The map to the right shows the top approach for each MnDOT district. The graph to the right shows what percentage of Greater MN and Metro participants prefer each approach.



#### All respondents statewide

Addressing bridge and pavement needs-along with the financial impacts of deferred maintenanceoutweigh other approaches.

All respondents statewide

**C** A balanced approach addresses immediate needs while also investing in future, long-range goals and mobility needs.

All respondents statewide

**C** Investing in mobility and non-motorized infrastructure aligns with likely future of transportation system based trends.



## Where should MnDOT Invest?

WALKING SURFACES EFFICIENT FREIGHT SUPPORTING REPAIRS MAINTENANCE STATE HWYS LANES EXISTING AREA ACCESSIBILITY SYSTEM KEEP CONDITION TRAVEL ALL PRIORITIES SYSTEM KEEP CONDITION TRAVEL ALL PRIORITIES SYSTEM KEEP CONDITION TRAVEL ALL PRIORITIES TRANSPORTATION BALANCE DELAYS LANE SAFETY PAVEMENTS PROJECTS SAFETY PAVEMENTS PROJECTS SAFETY FINIT CAPACITY ROAD ROADS FIRST HIGHWAYS BRIDGE FIX METRO TRAINS CURRENT RURAL MULTIMODAL REDUCE BIKING INVEST QUALITY CRITICAL AREAS INVESTMENTS HIGHWAY BODD TIME ADDITIONAL BALANCE SUSTAINABLE SURFACE PRICING NEEDS PEDESTRIAN EXPAND LOCAL

#### E WHAT SHOULD MNDOT FOCUS ON?

Highway surface/ pavements



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Bridges

Supporting infrastructure







5 New safety investment
 ★ Greater MN, Hispanic
 7 Greater MN mobility

American, Hispanic

Stakeholders, Black or African







These top 3

categories were

ranked highly across

all respondent

groups.



# **WHO PARTICIPATED?**

A first for MnDOT, we collected optional, anonymous demographic data on participant zip code, age, gender, and race/ ethnicity. When asked, 56% of participants provided at least some information. We analyzed the data monthly and used it to identify underserved communities and introduce new engagement methods to broaden the project reach.



# Reaching Underserved Communities

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Community

Pilot

Partnership

IP: To help reach identified underserved communities. MnDOT teamed up with TPT/ECHO (Emergency, Community, Health, and Outreach).









