

# Tips for Writing Effective Public Comments



Public input is essential to developing effective plans and influencing decisions that impact your community. One way to share your input is through comments.

Comments allow you to share your opinions and experience, which may not have been considered during the process. Taking the time to write a focused comment is a great way to help shape decisions. One well-crafted comment can be more helpful than hundreds of form letters.

MnDOT invites and encourages input from all. Visit <u>MinnesotaGO.org</u> to review the plan and submit your comments using the online tool. The plan is available for public comment through September 18, 2022.



### Tell Us Your Experience

✓ Introduce yourself and summarize your experiences as they relate to the comment you are sharing. If you are commenting in your role as a professional or as an official representative of an organization, please include your role in the comment.

### **Explain and Support Your Views**

✓ Tell us more about how or why you agree or disagree. Provide examples of your experiences that explain your views and concerns. If you can, share any resources or data, and where you found that information.

#### Provide Ideas and Solutions

✓ Share ideas and solutions to provide MnDOT with important information on how to improve the plan. Include any knowledge, experience or resources related to your ideas and solutions.

#### Be Specific, Clear and Concise

✓ Make your statements specific, clear and concise. If recommending specific text changes, include the chapter, section and page number to ensure it is clear what you would like to see changed.

#### Reach Out With Questions about the Plan

✓ Contact StatePlans.DOT@state.mn.us. Often times, getting an answer on a question will help you write a more effective comment.

## **ITEMS TO CONSIDER**

We encourage you to provide input on other MnDOT projects. Learn more about projects in your area.

Some comments that you provide might be beyond MnDOT's roles and responsibilities. If this is the case, your comment will be shared with others that may have authority or influence for that topic. All comments received will have a response. Responses will be posted at MinnesotaGO.org after the close of the public comment period.

Be sure to connect your comment to the plan you are commenting on. Transportation affects many aspects of our daily lives. Help us understand how this plan relates to your comment by connecting your feedback to information in the plan.