



**Thrive MSP** | **TRANSPORTATION**  
**POLICY PLAN**

Draft 2040 Transportation Policy Plan  
Summary of Comments Received and Revised  
Adoption Schedule

*Metropolitan Council, October 22, 2014*

# TRANSPORTATION POLICY PLAN

## Public Outreach

- Public comment period Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>
- 10 public meetings, at least one in each county, over 150 participants
- Sept. 17, Council hosted public hearing, 6 testifiers
- Additional presentations to public groups as requested

# TRANSPORTATION POLICY PLAN

## Comments Received

- 125 “commentors” via letters, e-mails, testimony
  - 38 local governments
  - 23 state, local or non-profit agencies
  - 63 individuals
  - 1 state legislator
- Approximately 880 comments, ≈600 unique comments; still being consolidated

# TRANSPORTATION POLICY PLAN

## Comments Received cont.

- Most common topics:
  - ≈210 transit related
  - ≈130 highway related
  - ≈95 land use related
  - ≈85 bicycle and pedestrian
- Continuing work on draft responses for Council and TAB review
- TPP adoption schedule revised to accommodate response to comments

# Revised Adoption Schedule

October 15, 2014	TAB presentation - summary of public comments received and new adoption schedule
November 5, 2014	TAC presentation - summary of public comments received and new adoption schedule
November 5, 2014	Council Committee of the Whole (CoW) discussion on responding to public comments
November 19, 2014	TAB information item on public comment report, proposed responses and revisions
December 3, 2014	Council CoW information item on public comment report, proposed responses and revisions
Week of December 3rd	Post revised 2040 TPP with TAB and Transportation Committee agendas
December 17, 2014	TAB recommendation
December 22, 2014	Transportation Committee recommends adoption
January 14, 2015	Council adopts and submits to FHWA/FTA
February 23, 2015	Deadline to submit to FHWA/FTA

# General Comment Themes

- General comments expressing support or a lack of support for elements of the plan
- Many comments reflect different sides of the same issue
- Many comments on topics outside of TPP content
  - i.e. Thrive MSP 2040, Housing Policy Plan, TPP preparation process and Regional Solicitation
  - Provide high level general responses and pass on to appropriate entity
- Editorial comments

# Finance Comment Themes

- Greater emphasis on need for increased transportation funding for all modes
- Call to move funding from one set of investment priorities to another, i.e. transit funding to highways, highway funding to transit
- Questions regarding local transportation funding, i.e. source, accuracy, why included
- Recognize needs on the local transportation system

# Highway Comment Themes

- Highway spending
  - Not enough spending on roads and road expansion
  - Too much spending in the core, lack of spending to address suburban growth
  - Don't support road expansion, focus on preservation
- Requests for specific road improvements
  - Capacity expansion projects
  - New and improved interchanges
- More recognition of role and importance of A-minors
- Principal arterial intersection conversion study support and opposition



# Transit Comment Themes

- Transit investment:
  - Focus first on better serving existing population and employment concentrations
  - Provide more transit in suburban areas, too focused on the urban core
  - More investment in improved and expanded bus services and amenities, 1% growth too low
  - Support for specific projects, i.e. Gateway, SWLRT, Bottineau, various arterial BRT
- Support for and opposition for transitway prioritization
  - Use New Starts criteria
- Role of suburban providers, inclusion of transit operations policies

# Gateway LPA Comments

- Gateway LPA in draft 2040 TPP contingent upon conclusion of public input process
- Public hearing by the Gateway Corridor PAC on Aug 7
  - 57 people attended
  - 17 people provided testimony
  - 18 people submitted written comments
- 6 comments submitted through TPP comment process
- Resolutions of support passed by 6 adjacent cities and Ramsey and Washington counties

# Land Use and Local Planning Comment Themes

- Support for land use requirements and higher expectations near transitway investments
- Station area density requirements are too high for suburban market areas, lack of flexibility in requirements
- Questions about community designations (from Thrive)
- Clarify requirements versus advisory expectations for local comprehensive plans
- Remove language regarding prohibited land uses and design features near stations

# Bicycle and Pedestrian Comment Themes

- Support for designating a Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN)
- Clarify relationship between regional trails system and RBTN
- Concerns about on-road bicycle facilities on A-minor arterials
- More emphasis on bicycle connections to transit system
- Emphasize “users of all ages and abilities”, Complete Street principles

# Equity Comment Themes

- Support the focus on equity, housing and better connection to investments for all modes
- Better integrate TPP with Housing Policy Plan
- Recognize poverty exists throughout the region
- Don't use equity and housing criteria to direct roadway investments
- Support for, and opposition to, exceeding federal equity requirements
- Better connect equity and housing criteria to performance measures

# Other Comments

- Focus on reducing congestion, not managing
- Better ties between Goals, Objectives, Strategies and more specific performance measures
- Address impacts of new and alternative technologies, i.e. fuel, autonomous vehicles
- Aviation comments submitted by cities of Minneapolis, Crystal, Hennepin county
  - Clearer expectations on noise and air pollution near MSP
  - Close Crystal airport to accommodate redevelopment and TOD



**TRANSPORTATION**  
POLICY PLAN

Questions?