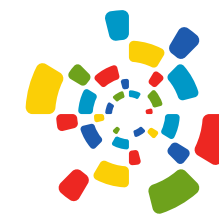




Public Comment Summary

Transportation Policy Plan



IMAGINE²⁰₅₀

November 2024

metro council.org



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Comments Received



- Just shy of **400 transportation comments** were left on the Transportation Policy Plan or Imagine 2050
 - 17 cities, 7 counties, 1 state agency, 1 federal agency, 7 additional partner agencies or organizations
- Just over **100 commenters provided Likert ratings** on importance of plan objectives and rank ordering of supporting policies
 - Non-random survey and not regionally or demographically representative
 - Broadly support for Healthy & Safe, Natural Systems, and most Equitable & Inclusive and Dynamic & Resilience goal area objectives
 - Majority supportive but relatively higher “somewhat unimportant” or “not important” ratings of **Climate Change** objectives and specific objectives on **highway reliability** and **racial equity**
- A more detailed report of comment volume, data, and findings will be prepared ahead of adoption

Overall Themes



- **Climate and environment:**
 - Support for vehicle miles traveled reduction, greenhouse gas reduction, and electrification objectives, policies, or actions
 - Concern about application of climate actions across a region with diverse land uses and transportation needs
- **Asset management:** Concern about lack of a specific objective on maintenance and modernization activities
- **Future investments:** Noting the exclusion of an increased revenue scenario, some desire more description of unmet investment needs
- **Multimodal investment tone:**
 - Support for multimodal considerations integrated throughout the plan
 - Concern the plan overemphasizes non-highway transportation modes
- **Distribution of investment benefits:** A variety of perspectives on issues like disinvestment, environmental justice, reparative investments, and geographic distribution of funding

Transit Themes



- **Transitway planning and prioritization:** Perspectives on transitway project development and governance
 - Support from transit advocates for Met Council taking a stronger role in creating an updated regional transit vision
- **Expansion:** Support or opposition for transit expansion and specific corridor, modal, and/or station preferences
 - Requests for additional study of regional-level or corridor-level transit investments
 - Many non-agency public comments requesting investment in regional and intercity transit options
- **Finance:** Desire for regional discussion on unallocated sales tax revenue
- **Coverage:** Varying perspectives on transit needs and service level by land use, and need to coordinate services and experience regionally
- **Safety and security:** Importance of this issue on transit services remains clear and shared across the region

Highway Themes



- **Safety:** Priority shared by many commenters
- **Highway mobility:**
 - Support for highway mobility investments to serve economic needs like freight and population growth
 - Opposition to highway mobility investments and/or support reparative investments to address ongoing environmental justice harms and climate impacts
 - Differing viewpoints that the plan either over-emphasizes or under-emphasizes the impacts of highway investments
 - Differing viewpoints on the efficacy of highway mobility investments on improving travel reliability and reducing congestion
- **Highway delay:** Specific support or opposition to the objective on highway reliability and excessive delay
- **Multimodal coordination:** Support for coordinating multimodal investments with highway investments

Pedestrian & Bicycle Themes

- **Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN):**
 - Support for updating the network and various perspectives on changes to its criteria, coverage, and tiering
 - Requested update to RBTN-identified regional destinations
 - Requested engagement with parks agencies relating to the role of regional trails in the network
 - Sensitivity to bicycling network needs by regional geography
- **Connectivity:** Support for barrier removal and related study work
- **Pedestrian Safety:** Support for investments to reduce pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries throughout the region, and specific technical questions or clarifications related to this work
- **Accessibility:** Questions about new policies that seek to increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance or promote universal design



Other Themes ⁽¹⁾



- **Finance:** limited discussion of the differences in revenue availability between city and county governments
- **Balancing freight needs:** differing perspectives on how freight user needs can conflict with safety and environmental justice needs
- **Freight transfer and delivery:** a variety of suggestions related to intermodal facilities, first-last mile connections, and e-commerce
- **Tribal engagement and American Indian cultural resources:** request from that the Met Council provide guidance on engagement best practices and identify implementing actions so the transportation system can better support and serve cultural resources

Other Themes (2)



- **Aviation and land use compatibility:** suggestions related to comprehensive plan requirements and impacts like air quality and noise
- **Performance:** clarifications and suggested changes or additions to performance measures
- **Work program task engagement:** requests for agency engagement while scoping specific work program items, and more detail on community engagement when performing those tasks
- **Plan length, readability, and format:** various suggestions to improve usability of the document

Anticipated Key Changes ⁽¹⁾



- **Removal of the Riverview Corridor modern streetcar** locally-preferred alternative and its anticipated funding
 - Potential narrative or map changes to demonstrate continued commitment to transitway investment on the corridor
- Add discussion of **Gold Line Extension** to list of potential future transitways
- Potential change to broaden **regional-level study of future transitways**
- Objective focused on **excessive delay** to be revised to clarify intent
- Addition of specific **highway spot mobility** projects

Anticipated Key Changes (2)



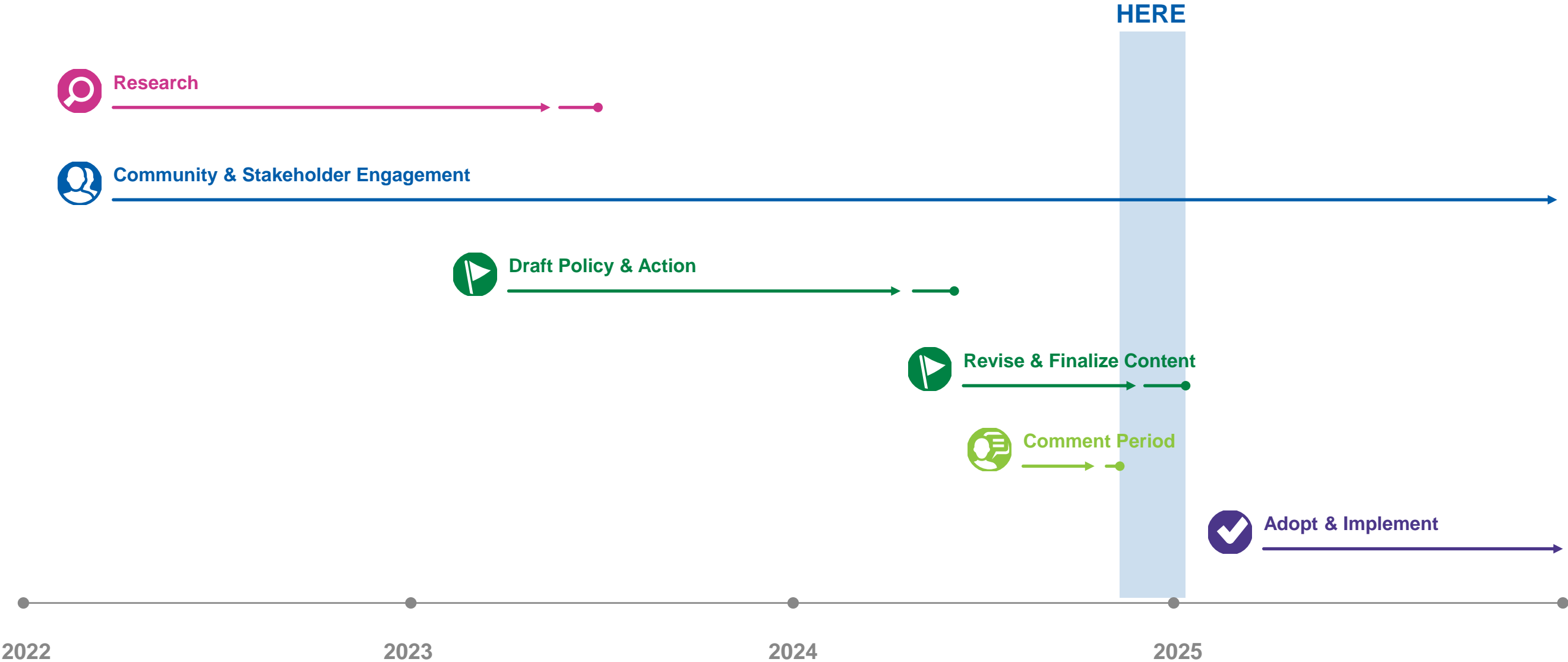
- Corrections to **Critical Urban Freight Corridors** map
- Consideration of **RBTN destinations and tiering** updates
- Consideration of changes to **health actions** to address research needs
- Clarification of **work program** task purposes
- Additional narrative and data on **access to destinations**
- Other minor changes responding to many specific comments, clarifications, or corrections

Discussion



- Do the themes described cover the main topics your agency raised?
- Do you have additional feedback about the anticipated changes?
- Do any of these topics need further discussion?
- Redlined copies of most Transportation Policy Plan documents to be shared at December 9th Transportation Committee for review ahead of adoption

Plan Timeline



Thank you

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