

MISSOULA CONNECT FINAL GOALS & DESIRED OUTCOMES

To support Missoula Connect 2050, the update to our region's long-range transportation plan (LRTP), the project team created draft goals and desired outcomes that build on federal requirements, previous planning work, and the public's feedback about Missoula's mobility values.

The team presented the draft goals and desired outcomes to the MPO's Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) and Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC), to the Long-Range Transportation Plan Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee, and to the Specialized Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) in June 2020. The public was also invited to review and comment on the draft goals through an online survey. Feedback was generally supportive of the goals and outcomes, and each group offered suggestions for refinements. The majority of comments focused on the sustainability and connected communities goals, with recommendations to expand both goals to capture a more complete picture of Missoula's needs.

Committee members appreciated having fewer goals (five instead of eight in the previous LRTP). They recommended targeted revisions, including addressing contradictions between goals; better connecting housing, land use, and transportation; using language more inclusive of all modes, including single-occupancy vehicles (SOVs); and focusing on the connections between transportation and equitable communities. The team reviewed all feedback and made changes to the goals and desired outcomes, including the following specific revisions:

- **Safety and Health:** Added a desired outcome to focus on lower-income neighborhoods. Recognized the role of walking and biking in supporting human connections.
- **Sustainability and Resilience:** Reshaped goal to include "community resilience" and broaden the focus beyond resources to better incorporate climate change. Added desired outcomes related to urban tree canopy and stormwater as well as resilient infrastructure. Clarified focus on responding to climate change by specifying a move toward carbon neutrality. Referenced protection of agricultural lands in preservation of resources.
- **Mobility Choices:** Stressed importance of people and goods. Incorporated more active language and specific mention of people driving.
- **Connect Communities:** Amplified discussion of integrated land use and transportation planning, focusing on infill development and responsible growth. Added language about complete communities and essential services as well as specific mentions of affordable and senior housing. Incorporated importance of engagement with historically underserved communities.
- **Invest Strategically:** Added mention of mixed-use development to focus on inward growth. Created new outcome to address expanding revenue sources that are more equitable and sustainable.

The revised goals are presented on the following page for TTAC consideration and approval. When approved, the project team will revise the draft evaluation and prioritization process for capital projects and programs to align with the final goals. We will then create performance measures that can be used to track the region's progress toward the goals over time.

Final Goals & Desired Outcomes



Improve safety and promote health to enhance quality of life

- Eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries
- Improve safety for people walking and biking
- Enhance active transportation and transit linkages to lower-income neighborhoods
- Increase physical activity and human connections by making walking and biking convenient modes of travel
- Improve access to recreational facilities and trails to support healthy lifestyles



Advance sustainability and community resilience to protect natural resources and address climate change

- Improve climate resilience and advance toward carbon neutrality
- Reduce transportation-related air emissions
- Minimize sediment, nutrients, and litter entering surface water
- Expand the urban canopy and green stormwater infrastructure
- Protect and enhance natural, cultural, and historic resources, including agricultural lands
- Create adaptable and resilient infrastructure to respond to changing needs



Expand mobility choices to improve efficiency and accessibility for people and goods

- Build complete streets and increase access to multimodal options
- Increase street, trail/greenway, and sidewalk network connectivity for all ages and abilities
- Optimize the efficiency and accessibility of the transportation system
- Reduce person hours of delay for people driving and improve freight movement
- Improve access to high-quality and high-frequency transit stops and routes



Connect and strengthen communities to create a more equitable region

- Increase affordability and reduce overall household transportation costs
- Develop an integrated mobility system that connects destinations with sustainable travel options
- Integrate land use and transportation planning to support infill development and create complete neighborhoods
- Improve access to schools, jobs, parks, essential services, affordable and senior housing, and basic life needs
- Engage with and invest in historically disadvantaged areas and in neighborhoods that have been adversely impacted by transportation decisions



Maintain assets and invest strategically to boost economic vitality

- Bring existing infrastructure and transit assets into a state of good repair to support the regional economy, local industry, and goods movement
- Balance cost-effective, implementable projects with high-impact projects
- Plan for a transportation system that makes the best use of public financial resources
- Provide a network that targets growth inward to support existing centers and mixed-use development
- Support access to businesses and commercial and industrial centers to enhance economic recovery and growth
- Explore more equitable and sustainable funding sources for transportation projects and programs