

Welcome.

NORTH
Dakota
Be Legendary.



2050 AND BEYOND

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING
4–7 p.m. Monday, July 21, 2025

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) is updating the state's long-range transportation plan (LRTP). **Transportation Connection: 2025-2050** is the State of North Dakota's long-range plan for the future of transportation within the state. The plan covers a variety of modes, such as highway, freight and passenger rail, air service, and bicyclists and pedestrians. This federally required plan provides NDDOT the opportunity to gather public and stakeholder insights and help develop strategic direction for making decisions and improvements over the next 25 years.

Transportation Connection: 2025-2050 will –

- Use a **data-driven analysis of current conditions** to analyze North Dakota's transportation needs.
- Follow a **future-focused** scenario planning process.
- Gather **meaningful public and stakeholder engagement** to advance NDDOT's mission and goals over the next two and a half decades.
- Develop an **Implementation Plan** to guide NDDOT actions.

This plan is the cornerstone of NDDOT's Family of Plans, charting a clear course for smart, strategic investment in North Dakota's transportation system.

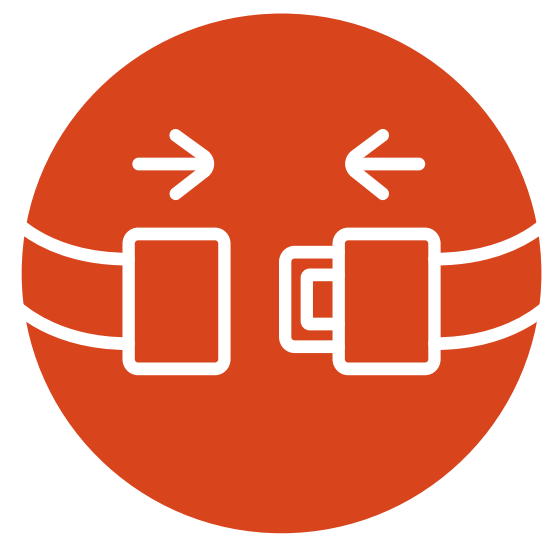


2050 AND BEYOND

WHAT'S INSIDE TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION?



Transportation Connection Update is North Dakota's current long-range transportation plan, revised every five years. Building on resident and stakeholder feedback gathered in 2020, we're updating the vision to guide the next 25 years and adapt to change, embrace innovation, and ensure the system continues to serve everyone who depends on it every day.



KEEPING YOU SAFE

Safety is reflected in everything we do.

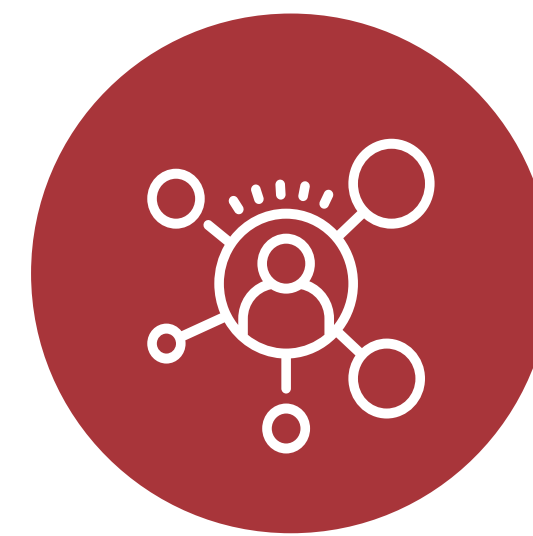
We are continually innovating and improving what we do to make sure you are safe and secure whether driving, biking, or walking.



CARING FOR WHAT WE HAVE

Fixing what we have is our priority.

We are maintaining our existing infrastructure in good condition to save money down the road and we're addressing risks to keep that system working for you.



CONNECTING NORTH DAKOTA

Transportation matters.

We are leveraging transportation investments to enhance economic competitiveness and improve the quality of life in communities across the state.



HELPING YOU GET THERE

Transportation should be easy.

We are helping make it more convenient for you to get where you want to go by improving data and information, travel choices and options, and operations and maintenance.



INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE

We work for you.

We are making smart investments in how we deliver services and are looking for responsible ways to fund our transportation system well into the future.



2050 AND BEYOND

HELP SHAPE NORTH DAKOTA'S TRANSPORTATION FUTURE!



The NDDOT tracks many factors to keep our roads safe, reliable, and efficient — from crash data and snow removal to pedestrian and bike access.

If you could choose three things for NDDOT to highlight on its online dashboards, what would they be?



2050 AND BEYOND

SUMMER AND FALL 2025 ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

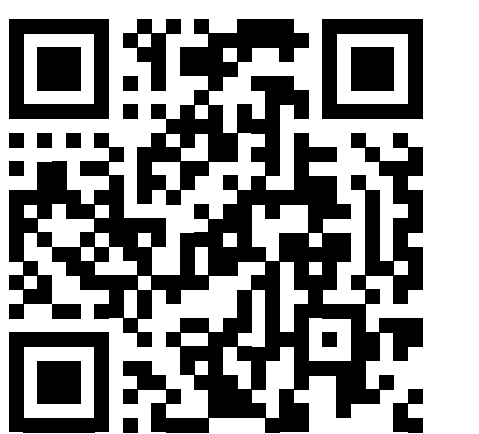


Join us at an upcoming pop-up event near you! We'll be stopping at places across the state to hear your thoughts on the future of transportation. Stay tuned to the project website to learn about upcoming in-person events and virtual meeting opportunities to share your feedback.

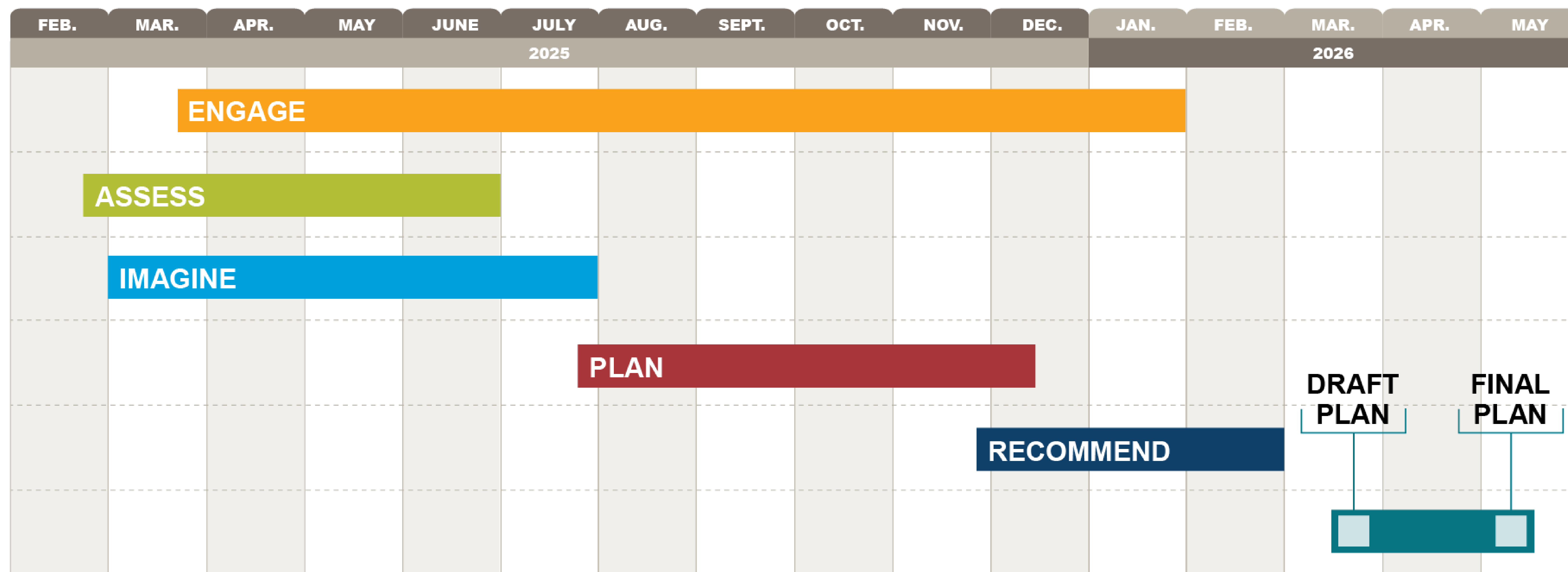
Driving Skills for Success (Vision Zero) Thursday, Aug. 7, 2025, West Fargo, ND

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

To stay up to date on the latest news and information about Transportation Connection, visit our website and sign up for our project email list.



The 2025–2050 LRTP project kicked off in February 2025 and is anticipated to be completed in May 2026. Opportunities for public participation will happen at various times between July 2025 and early 2026. Visit the project website at www.dot.nd.gov/transportation-connection for more information about upcoming events.



■ PUBLIC & PARTNER
ENGAGEMENT

■ CONDITIONS
& NEEDS

■ TRENDS &
SCENARIOS

■ VISION, GOALS
& PERFORMANCE

■ IMPLEMENTATION,
POLICY, PERFORMANCE
& FUNDING

■ PLAN DOCUMENTATION,
REVIEW & PRODUCTION

WHAT WILL 2050 LOOK LIKE?

Technology and innovations in transportation are changing rapidly.

Instead of trying to predict exactly what the next 25 years will bring, Transportation Connection explores several possible futures and the significant change they could bring to North Dakota – where we live, what we do, how we get around, and what we expect from our transportation system.

Some things were predicted 50 years ago and are just now becoming reality, like self-driving cars and technologies that link our vehicles to infrastructure. Industries like agriculture are already developing and testing fully automated equipment which could become the norm of 2050.



Scenario planning is an exercise that helps us think about the future in different ways.

Imagine what life would be like, how you would travel, work, shop and communicate. What has changed and what has remained the same?

NDDOT is not suggesting that any of these futures will occur or that there is a preferred scenario, but we are thinking about big-picture possibilities and asking “what if” so we can plan flexibly.

PLAUSIBLE FUTURE SCENARIOS

Exploratory scenario planning identifies a range of plausible alternative futures and links those futures with potential transportation implications, impacts, and future strategies.

RURAL RENAISSANCE



CITIES AND CENTERS



SMART AND CONNECTED



GHOST TOWNS



WHAT COULD THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE? SCENARIO PLANNING

POINT FORECAST

Planning for a single point in time or preferred alternative based on current trends

PLAUSIBLE FUTURE SCENARIOS

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**URBAN
GROWTH**



**RAPID
INNOVATION**



**RURAL
RENAISSANCE**



**ECONOMIC
CHALLENGES**

WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?

Consider contributions to/impacts from economic mix, demographic change, technological innovation, travel preferences, etc.



RURAL RENAISSANCE



CITIES AND CENTERS



SMART AND CONNECTED



GHOST TOWNS

WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?

RURAL RENAISSANCE

- Rural communities become drivers of new population growth
- Gig work and home-based advanced manufacturing take off
- Local energy and agricultural production
- Technology that is within reach today becomes widespread
- Local economies diversify and small town centers expand
- Recreation and tourism increase
- Mitigation reduces natural hazard risks



WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?



CITIES AND CENTERS

- Mass migration to cities occurs
- New growth is concentrated in urban areas
- Economy diversifies into professional and technical services
- Energy and agriculture remain important, but their share of economic growth slows
- Energy production becomes more distributed and diversified
- Connected devices and smart infrastructure make it easier, safer, and more convenient to travel
- Urban growth spurs need for natural hazard mitigation around centers



WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?

SMART AND CONNECTED

- New residents move in and spur growth in diverse communities around the state
- Technology and innovation spurs job opportunities in new industries
- Online work and remote jobs grow significantly
- Energy and agricultural industries rapidly automate and become tech-driven
- Big data and smart infrastructure connect North Dakota to the world
- New technology is rapidly adopted
- Natural hazard risks and shared land uses increase as the state is rapidly developed



WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?



GHOST TOWNS

- Population declines across the state as residents move away
 - Communities age more quickly as younger residents seek job opportunities elsewhere
 - Energy and agricultural industries decline due to policy changes and international trade disruption
 - Limited business investment slows the adoption of new technology and innovations
 - Increasingly severe and frequent storm events decimate infrastructure
- 



2050 AND BEYOND

WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?



What might these futures mean for transportation in our state?

Share your thoughts below on this scenario.

RURAL RENAISSANCE

OPPORTUNITIES

CHALLENGES



2050 AND BEYOND

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CHALLENGES



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OPPORTUNITIES

CHALLENGES



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS



We want to hear your thoughts on how these possible futures might affect transportation in North Dakota. While it's unlikely that any one scenario will come true exactly as imagined, elements from several may shape the years ahead.



**Scan the QR code with
your device to take the
Scenario Planning survey.**

