



SMART AND CONNECTED

It's 2050. Imagine yourself with instant connectivity where everything around you has sensors and data streams and is connected to everything else. Your work is mostly online, and you can live anywhere and visit everywhere. It's easy to hail an autonomous drone and zip across town or even the state in a matter of minutes.



GHOST TOWNS

It's 2050. Imagine yourself looking for a job half a world away. There isn't much left to do anymore after the energy industry collapsed and frequent storms made agriculture unprofitable. Your friends and family have already moved away after repeated floods, market uncertainties, and few jobs still available in the state.



Written comments will be accepted at the meeting. If unable to provide feedback at the meeting, written comments must be postmarked or emailed by Oct. 13, 2025, with "Public Input Meeting – Transportation Connection PCN 24421" in the letter heading or e-mail subject line. Send all comments to dotplanning@nd.gov

Scan the QR
code to take
the Scenario
Planning
Survey today!



Have questions? Contact Stewart Milakovic, NDDOT Project Manager at dotplanning@nd.gov



2050 AND BEYOND

TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION UPDATE: 2025–2050

**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.**

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.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

To stay up to date on the latest news and information about Transportation Connection, visit our website at www.dot.nd.gov/transportation-connection and sign up for our project email list.





TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION UPDATE: 2025–2050



LOOKING AHEAD: WHAT WILL 2050 LOOK LIKE?

Transportation is changing fast. 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.

WHAT IS SCENARIO PLANNING?

Scenario planning is an exercise that helps us think about the future in different ways—not just one outcome. It encourages us to ask:

- What might life, work, and travel look like in 25 years?
- What if technology or the economy bring big changes?
- How do we plan for uncertainty today?

These scenarios are not predictions and no single future is preferred. Instead, they help NDDOT plan more flexibly, adapt to change, and make smarter transportation decisions for all North Dakotans.

WHAT COULD NORTH DAKOTA LOOK LIKE IN 2050?

What might these future scenarios mean for transportation in our state? Consider the following four scenarios and then share your thoughts on these scenarios during the public meeting, via comment cards, or online through our Scenario Planning Survey.



RURAL RENAISSANCE

It's 2050. Imagine you just moved into your new smart house with open space and fields all around. You check your greenhouse before getting on a call with customers on the other side of the globe, while your spouse is 3-D printing drone components for a manufacturing company in Minot.



CITIES AND CENTERS

It's 2050. Imagine you and your family are living in a new high-rise with your job just a few blocks away. You moved into the city recently because this is where you can find opportunities. No one travels very far anymore as your shopping and schools and workplaces and even entertainment are all streamed or delivered right to you.

