

TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

2040 Update Note: The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee recommends forwarding these existing goals and strategies as a beginning point for community dialogue. These goals and strategies represent a positive body of work prepared by the community in 2008, and still generally serve as an appropriate foundation with relevant updates. The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee did recommend streamlining the strategies and prioritize similar to the Highway 10 Access Planning Study (Current Projects, Immediate Projects, Long Term Projects, Opportunity Driven Projects, and Development Driven Projects, etc.).

A. Framework and Goals

The Federal Highway Act of 1962 required continuous, comprehensive, and coordinated transportation planning for metropolitan areas. It was an important step in creating a mechanism for local, regional and federal agencies to plan for transportation needs. This plan was developed using previous transportation planning documents for the City of Ramsey and Anoka County and the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan. The transportation system in Ramsey is complex due to many factors. Nonetheless, key transportation planning principles and characteristics of the transportation system have been established in order to provide a basis for sound transportation planning decisions. The following plan involves simplistic tools and is designated to encompass thorough stakeholder involvement and coordination of diverse governmental efforts.

The following goals and strategies have been established for the transportation plan:

a) A safe and efficient motorized transportation system throughout the community

STRATEGIES:

1. Complete planning and design stages for Highway 10 interchanges & Highway 47 expansion/re-alignment improvements
2. Update the access management plans (done – now Access Planning Study)
3. Complete interchange designs
4. Complete The CORRTC-AUAR area roadway improvement projects
5. Secure funding for transportation projects
6. Assess the need for local traffic control and access improvements
7. Consider roundabouts where appropriate
8. Secure funding for transportation projects
9. Pursue additional east/west collector in the northern portion of the city (discuss)

b) A safe and efficient non-motorized transportation system throughout community

STRATEGIES:

1. Explore options for revising the City's sidewalk policy, including requiring sidewalks or trails on both sides of some new public streets, different standards for public versus private roads, high-volume versus low-volume roads, and issues related to long-term maintenance ([partially implemented](#))
2. Encourage design choices in new and existing development that enhance neighborhood walkability ([partially implemented](#))
3. Examine the ability of transportation network to handle pedestrians, bicyclists, and automobiles through design of streets (complete streets policy)
4. Ensure future roadway improvement include sufficient right of way for pedestrian and bicycle paths
5. Secure funding for transportation projects such as additional trails, bike paths, and pedestrian connections
6. Include a review of infrastructure, including parking for walking and other non-motorized transportation modes when reviewing any transportation improvement projects
7. Advocate affordable, dependable and efficient means of public transit in the community
8. Complete the master trail plan ([see part 2 of this evening's meeting](#))
9. Continue efforts to establish the Mississippi River regional trail
10. Explore options for constructing a pedestrian bridge over Highway 10 and the Mississippi River ([Mississippi Skyway](#))
11. Ensure trail connections to transit stops, employment centers, shopping and other services

c) Connectivity with regional transportation corridors and transit

STRATEGIES:

1. Consider officially mapping the remainder of the Mississippi River bridge crossing corridor ([continued; major discussion; new alignment](#))
2. Collaborate with adjacent communities and county, state, and federal agencies on the planning, design and construction of regional transportation projects
3. Secure a stop on the Northstar Commuter Rail line ([done](#))
4. Establish numerous, efficient, affordable transportation connections, both within and Ramsey and connecting to other communities, that include multi-modal transportation choices
5. Continue involvement in the Northstar Corridor Development Authority (NCDA) ([amended; NCDA disbanded; Northstar Marketing Group established](#))
6. Market the municipal parking facility as a park-and-ride opportunity

7. Develop an affordable, efficient, and reliable transit system that includes commuter rail and bus capabilities
8. Secure funding for transportation projects

DRAFT: 2030 Plan Carry Over