



## Looking Ahead 2050 Public Comment Period Closes Soon



Time is running out to provide APO staff with your comments on the six proposed visioning themes for the APO's next long-range plan.

Last month, APO staff kicked off public engagement asking the community to provide feedback on if the following themes should be considered priorities for the future of the region's transportation network:

- **System and Environmental Stewardship:** Protecting and preserving our existing infrastructure and environmental assets.
- **Multimodal Connections:** Providing a safe and equitable multimodal transportation network affordable for people of all ages and abilities to travel using their preferred modal choice.
- **Congestion Management:** Mindfully planning, developing, and operating an innovative transportation network to minimize unnecessary travel delays.
- **Transportation Safety:** Reducing fatalities and serious injuries by planning, designing, and building safe infrastructure and improving driving behavior.
- **Interregional Connections:** Supporting an economically vibrant region through developing and preserving vital connections to other state, national, and global centers of commerce.
- **Technological Advancements:** Understanding and planning for future innovative transportation technologies and encouraging their presence and incorporation into the region's existing transportation network.

These themes – as compiled by APO staff based upon public outreach in 2021 – will serve as “guiding principles” regional planners, engineers, and decision-makers will use as they work to shape the region’s surface transportation network between now and 2050.

So, did we get it right? Is there anything that we are missing?

Let us know by Tuesday, Jan. 31!

For more information on each of these themes and details on how you can voice your opinions, please visit [www.lookingahead2050.org](http://www.lookingahead2050.org) or contact APO

Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson ([ikeogu@stcloudapo.org](mailto:ikeogu@stcloudapo.org)).

# LOOKING AHEAD 2050



## Proposed Changes to APO's TIP Need Your Feedback



APO staff are asking for the community to weigh in on several proposed changes to the APO's 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The TIP is a multi-year program of transportation improvements for the Saint

Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). As a document, the TIP reports how the various agencies and jurisdictions within the MPA have prioritized their use of limited Federal highway and transit funding.

During this latest round to changes, the following agencies/jurisdictions are seeking approval to amend and/or modify the TIP:

- City of Sauk Rapids.
- Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).
- City of Sartell.
- Saint Cloud Metro Bus.
- Stearns County.
- WACOSA.
- Sherburne County.

The full list of each change can be found on the APO's website (<https://bit.ly/3kfLirq>). There you will also find a link to the APO's online TIP survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XJXWFKV>) or other information on how you can provide your comments. The public input period on these changes ends on Friday, Jan. 27.

## Planning Study Wrap-Up

In 2022, the APO completed a couple of important planning studies for the region.

The first was for **Mayhew Lake Road** (Benton County Road 1) in Sauk Rapids and Benton County between 35th Street North-East and MN-23. Several intersections currently see higher-than-expected numbers of crashes every year, and the adjacent land is a high-growth area for the city. The plan lays out a vision for the corridor as a four-lane roadway with roundabouts at the major intersections. You can review the entire plan here: [https://bit.ly/MLR\\_Study](https://bit.ly/MLR_Study).

The APO also completed a study for **Opportunity Drive** in the I-94 business park in south St. Cloud. The business park is experiencing high growth, and corresponding traffic increases on Opportunity Drive (which is also Stearns County Road 75). The study recommends an ultimate cross-section for the road, intersection treatments, and the possibility of a new on-ramp at the I-94 interchange. You can review that plan here: [https://bit.ly/Opp Drive](https://bit.ly/Opp_Drive).

The APO also assisted Stearns County in an alignment study for **CSAH 133** in Sartell, between 2nd Street and 6th Street. That study document can be seen here: <https://bit.ly/CSAH133>.

## **Community Input Needed for Mississippi Bridge Study**

Since 2020, the APO has been working in cooperation with the city of St. Cloud and engineering firm Stantec to explore the opportunities and constraints for a new bridge over the Mississippi River at 33 rd Street South.

You can see the latest info about the study here: [https://bit.ly/33rd St Bridge](https://bit.ly/33rd_St_Bridge).

The final page on the website is a survey where people can provide their feedback. There are also two community input meetings coming up:

1. **Wednesday, January 25** from 2-5PM  
CrestView Shoppes, 3031 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud
2. **Monday, January 30** from 2-5PM  
Haven Town Hall, 4230 45th Ave SE

The public is invited to attend these meetings to hear the information and provide their feedback.

## **Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) meeting**

Join us via Zoom on **Tuesday, January 24** from 10:30 - 11:30 AM for our Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) meeting. The upcoming agenda can be found on our [website](#).

The ATAC is a sub-committee of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which focuses on identifying and addressing the needs of active transportation modes such as bicycling and walking. The ATAC does not have a formal membership. Instead, any person interested in active transportation may attend the meetings.

If you would like to attend an ATAC meeting or be added to our mailing list, contact Alex McKenzie ([mckenzie@stcloudapo.org](mailto:mckenzie@stcloudapo.org)).



## **JURISDICTIONS WE SERVE**

**Benton County  
Sherburne County  
Stearns County  
LeSauk Township  
City of Saint Cloud  
City of Saint Joseph  
City of Sartell  
City of Sauk Rapids  
City of Waite Park  
Saint Cloud Metro Bus**



*Copyright © 2023 Saint Cloud APO, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

1040 County Road 4  
Saint Cloud, MN 56303-0643

Saint Cloud APO Executive Director: Brian Gibson  
Chair of the Saint Cloud APO Policy Board: Raeanne Danielwoski

If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter reply to this email UNSUBSCRIBE.