

REGION 1 PLANNING COUNCIL LAUNCHES ONLINE SURVEY AND WILL HOST PUBLIC WORKSHOPS TO GATHER INPUT ON THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND PRIORITIES FOR 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

Region 1 Planning Council (R1PC) had begun work on the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Public engagement is central to the development of the MTP and we are committed to engaging the public and stakeholders in a variety of ways. R1PC would like the public to become a part of the development process by helping identify the transportation needs, investment priorities, and other factors that will shape the transportation network over the next 20 – 30 years in Boone, Winnebago, and northern Ogle Counties.

Each year federal and state dollars are invested into the transportation system in the region. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), like Region 1 Planning Council, must update their MTP every five years in order for the region to obtain and invest federal transportation funding. The MTP serves as the blueprint for these investments over the next 20-30 years. The last update, *Transportation for Tomorrow (2040): A Long Range Transportation Plan for the Rockford Region*, was last adopted by the MPO Policy Committee in July 2015.

R1PC has launched an online survey, <https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/4449048/Transportation-Needs-for-Rockford-Region>, to gather public input for the 2050 MTP. The survey covers current transportation needs within the region, as well as how to plan for transportation and development out to 2050. Survey answers will be used to help develop the 2050 MTP goals and strategies.

The following public workshops will be hosted by Region 1 Planning Council to provide information of the current state of the transportation network and gather public input. The format of these workshops allows for informal discussion between the public and R1PC staff, as well as activities. The times and locations are indicated below.

Tuesday, January 22, 2019
4:00 - 6:30 PM
North Suburban Library/Loves Park
6340 N. 2nd St., Loves Park, IL

Tuesday, January 29, 2019
10:30 AM – 1:30 PM
RMTD East Side Transfer Center
725 N. Lyford Rd., Rockford, IL

Wednesday, January 23, 2019
4:00 - 6:30 PM
Byron Public Library
100 S. Washington St., Byron, IL

Wednesday, January 30, 2019
2:00 – 5:00 PM
Machesney Park Village Hall
300 Roosevelt Rd., Machesney Park, IL

Thursday, January 24, 2019
3:00 - 6:00 PM
Regional Design Center
315 N. Main St., Rockford, IL

Thursday, January 31, 2019
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Belvidere Family YMCA
220 W. Locust St., Belvidere, IL

R1PC is also organizing additional events throughout the three-county area to gather public insight through early February 2019. A full list of events will be posted on the R1PC website at <http://r1planning.org/mtp/>.