



Media Release

For Immediate Release

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2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Rockford Region Available for Public Comment

ROCKFORD, IL – Region 1 Planning Council (RPC), acting as the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), is seeking public comment on the draft of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Rockford Region. A 45-day comment period is afforded to the public to review and provide feedback on the draft 2050 MTP.

The draft 2050 MTP and supplemental materials can be viewed at www.r1planning.org/mtp.

Public comments will be accepted regarding the 2050 MTP from May 15, 2020 until June 29, 2020. Comments can be submitted to the RPC through email, telephone, or sending written comments. Staff contact information is listed below:

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About the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

The 2050 MTP serves as a guide for the regional transportation system within the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), which covers the urbanized portions of Boone, Ogle, and Winnebago Counties. The plan provides an innovative and sustainable approach for the region's transportation network over the next thirty years. It addresses all modes of transportation within the MPA and stresses the integration and connectivity of the current and projected transportation system, including major roadways, public transportation facilities, rail, multimodal and intermodal facilities, and active transportation facilities.

(more)

This document goes beyond just current and forecasted transportation system by incorporating additional elements that are vital to understanding the overall system and how it works, such as land use, the environment, the economy, and other emerging trends.

The purpose of this document is to plan an effective transportation system within the Rockford Region through a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative (3-C) planning process. The intent is to provide a multi-modal transportation system that minimizes costs and impacts to the taxpayer, society, and the environment. The plan is a cooperative venture of the MPO, the area's local governments, public transit providers, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the public. The plan seeks not only to satisfy existing federal requirements for MPOs, but to look at forthcoming trends and issues to better prepare the regional landscape for challenges and needs of the future.

Federal guidelines requires the MTP to be updated every five years. The last time the MTP, previously known as the Long Range Transportation Plan, was updated and adopted by the MPO Policy Committee was July 30, 2015. This updated version is tentatively scheduled for adoption at the MPO Policy Committee on Friday, July 31, 2020 at 8:30 AM.

For more information on the 2050 MTP visit, www.r1planning.org/mtp.

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