

Appendix C

Public Meeting Comments

May 2002

Region 7W Long Range Plan May Public Meeting Comments

| COUNTY | CATEGORY | COMMENT |
|--------|----------|---|
| Benton | General | Manage land use to support the transportation system. Compact growth and planned growth are important. |
| Benton | Transit | There is strong support for the Northstar Corridor Commuter Rail. |
| Benton | Highway | Is a setback of 116 feet adequate for trunk highways? |
| Benton | Highway | Frontage roads/access management are important. Need to look at location and types of land use. |
| Benton | Highway | Proposed river crossing should be farther south to allow use of TH 25. |
| Benton | General | Remove county levy limits. Local units of government need to keep borrowing to meet needs. |
| Benton | General | Gas tax increase is good as long as it is used for transportation purposes. |
| Benton | General | Assemble list of transportation needs so area can compete for funding. |
| Benton | General | Study needs (funding) on less traveled roads. Identify what's available and what it will take to bring them up to standard. |
| Benton | Highway | Develop access category assignment for roadways that set policy for access on roads given their functional class. |

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| Benton | Highway | Develop frontage and backage roads along US 10. |
| Benton | Transit | Northstar corridor will accelerate area's growth and create a need for more capacity. |
| Benton | Highway | TH 25 should be planned as a future reliever route. |
| Benton | Highway | Access management is also important on county roads. |
| Sherburne | Highway | Keep as many of the corridors uniform in terms of utilities and roadways. |
| Sherburne | Rail | There are currently 70 trains per day on the BNSF mainline and it is projected to increase by 50 percent within the next 10 years. |
| Sherburne | Highway | CSAH 11 conversion to TH 25. |
| Sherburne | Bike/Ped | Excel Energy is supporting a trail from CSAH 11 to CSAH 8 through their property. |
| Sherburne | Bike/Ped | Not good to mix bikes and cars. Should have separated facilities. |
| Sherburne | Bike/Ped | Need to plan bike facilities when building new roads and planning for future development. |
| Sherburne | Highway | Regarding TH 24, stay on existing alignment - preserve Century Farm. |
| Sherburne | General | Need to coordinate local planning and plans into regional plan. |
| Sherburne | General | Funding needs to be increased. |

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| Sherburne | Airport | Look at connections to airports. Study airport plans and examine the relationship to the road system. |
| Sherburne | General | Translate population growth into density. |
| Sherburne | Transit | Evening transit service is needed. |
| Sherburne | Transit | Need to accommodate bicyclists at park-n-ride lots and on transit buses. |
| Sherburne | Highway | Need to accommodate bike/ped on TH 101/169 bridge in Elk River. |
| Sherburne | Transit | Need to market transit services in order to increase ridership. |
| Sherburne | Airport | Consider impacts of future airport plans such as the possibility of a cargo airport in St. Cloud. |
| Sherburne | General | Coordinate planning efforts with the Metro and other adjacent areas (show surrounding areas). |
| Sherburne | Highway | There is a need for a bypass of the metro area. |
| Sherburne | General | Need to promote transportation choices. |
| Sherburne | Highway | Sherburne County has a standard of four-foot minimum shoulders on new or reconstructed roads. |
| Sherburne | General | Provide transportation options that are convenient to use and accessible throughout the day. |
| Sherburne | General | Public meetings relating to plan development should be scheduled later in the evening. |
| Sherburne | Highway | Examine 200th Street and CSAH 81 alignment to address safety problems. |

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| Sherburne | Transit | Transit systems such as Tri-Cap need to have the ability to cross county boundaries to serve "regional needs." |
| Sherburne | Transit | Why doesn't Tri-Cap provide service to Princeton? (It provides service only on Thursday.) |
| Sherburne | Transit | Smaller buses need to connect to larger buses creating a feeder system. |
| Sherburne | Highway/Transit | Need to limit highway capacity to encourage the development of transit options. |
| Stearns | Bike/Ped | Stearns County has a Regional Trails Plan. |
| Stearns | Rail | Stearns Co. has taken action to preserve abandoned RR corridors. Check on policies that counties have in place and map ownership. |
| Stearns | Highway | Need to look at projected population; i.e., where are the new roads going to be located? |
| Stearns | General | We have dismantled previous transit systems; now we have to reinvest. |
| Stearns | Highway | Should study how the region connects into other systems like Maple Grove, etc. |
| Stearns | General | Stearns County projections could be higher than population projections predict. St. Joseph is planning for annexation and large development. |
| Stearns | Highway | ABF works around congestion by hauling at night. |
| Stearns | General | APO would like to coordinate its planning activities with this process. |

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| Wright | Transit | Tie in River Rider with systems in Hutchinson, etc. creating a feeder system which is seamless. |
| Wright | Rail | Double track between Buffalo and Twin Cities could be used for commuter rail. |
| Wright | Transit | Need to provide transit service to Montrose. |
| Wright | Highway | Congestion is an issue. |
| Wright | Transit | MTC transit system needs to come out to this area for rides to serve migrant workers, etc. |
| Wright | Transit | Transit improvements are needed to serve TH 12 communities. |
| Wright | Transit | Transit service needed on TH 55 into the metro area; i.e., 394 in Wayzata. |
| Wright | Transit | Transit needs to be improved within communities in general. |
| Wright | Highway | Need to set aside R/W and corridors for future transportation facilities. |
| Wright | General | Funding is key to meeting future transportation needs. |
| Wright | Transit | The new park n' ride lot in Monticello averages only 1/3 of its capacity due to its poor location. |
| Wright | General | Remove county levy limits. |