

Chapter 7: Policies, Strategies and Performance Measures

A multimodal approach is needed to maintain competitiveness, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide modal choice.

In developing the policies, strategies, and performance measures presented in this chapter, Mn/DOT acknowledges that a complete and efficient transportation system within Minnesota depends on the operations and investments made by multiple government agencies and numerous private companies that manage and operate parts of the system. It is in this spirit that the policies, strategies, and performance measures in this Minnesota Statewide Transportation Policy Plan 2009-2028 speak to all travel modes and governmental jurisdictions. As such, this plan seeks to provide a more comprehensive framework to coordinate and integrate the multimodal, multijurisdictional networks that comprise Minnesota's transportation system.

The policies, strategies, and performance measures presented in this plan are organized into 10 policy areas: Traveler Safety, Infrastructure Preservation, Maintenance and Security, National and Global Connections, Statewide Connections, Twin Cities Mobility, Greater Minnesota Metropolitan and Regional Mobility, Community Development and Transportation, Energy and the Environment, and Accountability and Transparency. The policy areas discuss transportation using highways, railroads, aviation, ports and waterways, or sidewalks and trails and each includes four sections:

- **Summary:** Short summary of the policy area and the main strategies that will be pursued to address key issues related to the policy area.
- **Background and Context:** Brief overview of key information shaping the policy area including the importance and relevance of the policy area to the transportation system, prior efforts in this area, and/or major trends or events that have influenced its development.
- **Strategies:** Description of key issues and corresponding strategies that will be pursued within Minnesota over the next five years for the policy area. These strategies provide guidance for the management and operations of state-owned transportation systems. The strategies also set expectations and guidance for other government agencies and private business regarding their elements of the transportation system.
- **Performance Measures and Indicators:** Each policy area includes a list of performance measures and indicators related to stated policies and strategies. Mn/DOT will track these measures and indicators over time. While a select number are included and discussed in the body of the plan, a full description of all performance measures and indicators associated with this plan is provided in Appendix D.

The plan includes a number of measures whose outcomes are influenced by factors beyond the control of a single government agency, like Mn/DOT. An example is roadway fatalities, which include those occurring on the state highway system, as well as county, city, and township roads, and is significantly

influenced by factors beyond Mn/DOT's control, such as driver inattention, intoxication, speeding, and seatbelt use. These measures are included because Mn/DOT believes they are key transportation system performance measures and, although the performance outcomes are not controlled by one organization, the outcomes can be directly or indirectly influenced by government through funding participation, technical assistance, partnership formation, and public outreach activities. Mn/DOT will also track additional measures and indicators beyond those shown in the plan to manage individual transportation system components.