



Greater
Minnesota
Transit Plan
2010 - 2030
December 2009

Your Destination... Our Priority





Minnesota Department of Transportation
Transportation Building
395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 2010

Dear Citizens of Minnesota,

I am pleased to share with you the *Greater Minnesota Transit Plan 2010-2030*. This plan is the result of extensive collaboration over the last 20 months between the citizens of Minnesota, transit systems throughout Greater Minnesota, other partners and stakeholders, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Thank you to everyone who participated in the outreach meetings and commented on the draft plan.

The *Greater Minnesota Transit Plan 2010-2030* establishes a 20-year strategic plan that sets forth directions for the future of public transportation in Greater Minnesota (outside the seven county metro area). It describes current challenges, examines future transit service needs and estimates future levels of funding that would be required to meet that need. Finally, it establishes policies to guide future transit investments in Greater Minnesota.

The success of transit in Greater Minnesota depends on the coordinated efforts of many government agencies and public and private transit providers. The policies and strategies identified in this plan provide the framework for our joint efforts and a foundation for the next undertaking—the *Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan*. As directed by the Minnesota State Legislature (§174.24 subd. 1a), the objective of the *Greater Minnesota Transit Investment (or Implementation) Plan* is to determine the level of funding required to meet at least 80% of unmet transit service needs in Greater Minnesota by July 1, 2015 and at least 90% by July 1, 2025. To achieve that objective, we will analyze existing transit service, demographic trends, travel destinations and transportation coordination opportunities on a county level. The plan will also specifically address special transportation service ridership and needs.

Mn/DOT will continue to involve citizens, stakeholders and partners as we develop the *Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan*. Together we can realize the shared vision of a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas K. Sorel".

Thomas K. Sorel

Commissioner

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