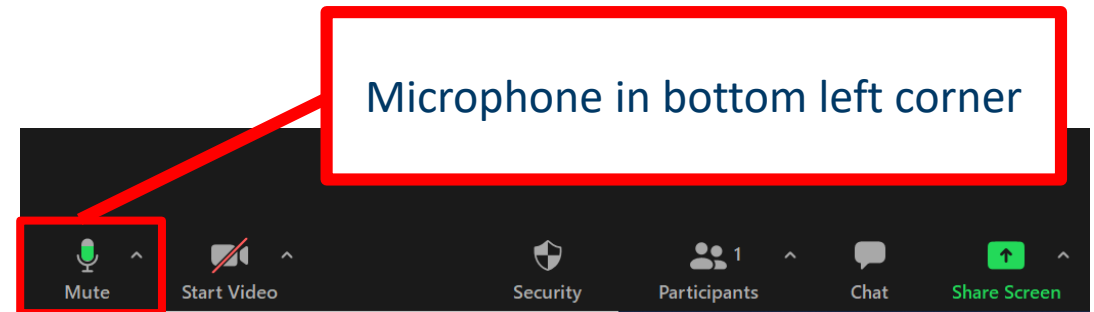
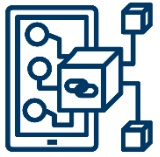


Zoom Troubleshooting

- Background noise? Remember to keep yourself muted if you're not speaking.
- Audio issues? Call in on your phone.
 - Dial-in number: 312-626-6799
 - Meeting ID: 850 1143 9535
- Other tech issues? Contact Rebecca Lieser.
 - rlieser@zanassoc.com
 - 612-850-0198



Soliciting your Input



During this session, an audience response application will be used to collect your inputs on the issues related to truck parking as well as the preliminary study findings presented at the meeting.

Voting will be anonymous!

The inputs will be used as talking points, to facilitate discussion around the statewide truck parking supply, demand, and current issues.



When prompted,

Go to **www.menti.com** and use the code **1969 3698**



The combined results will be visualized on the screen in real-time.



MnDOT District 4 Freight Plan

Advisory Committee Kickoff Meeting

March 31, 2021

Welcome to the Advisory Committee

Please state your name, organization

What is one goal/outcome you have for the District 4 Freight Plan?

Use the chat box throughout the meeting:

- Type name, organization
- Link resources that may improve our understanding of the system

Mentimeter code **1969 3698**

Who We Are

- Andrew Andrusko – Project Manager with the Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations
- Mary Safgren – District 4 Planning Director
- Thomas Lundberg – District 4 Project Manager
- CPCS, Zan, and SEH – Consultant staff team

MnDOT Freight Planning

- MnDOT has been working to implement the *Minnesota State Freight System and Investment Plan*
- One of the key recommendations was to work with each area of the state to create more detailed plans that would identify improvements to connect with the Minnesota Highway Freight Program.



Purpose of this Effort

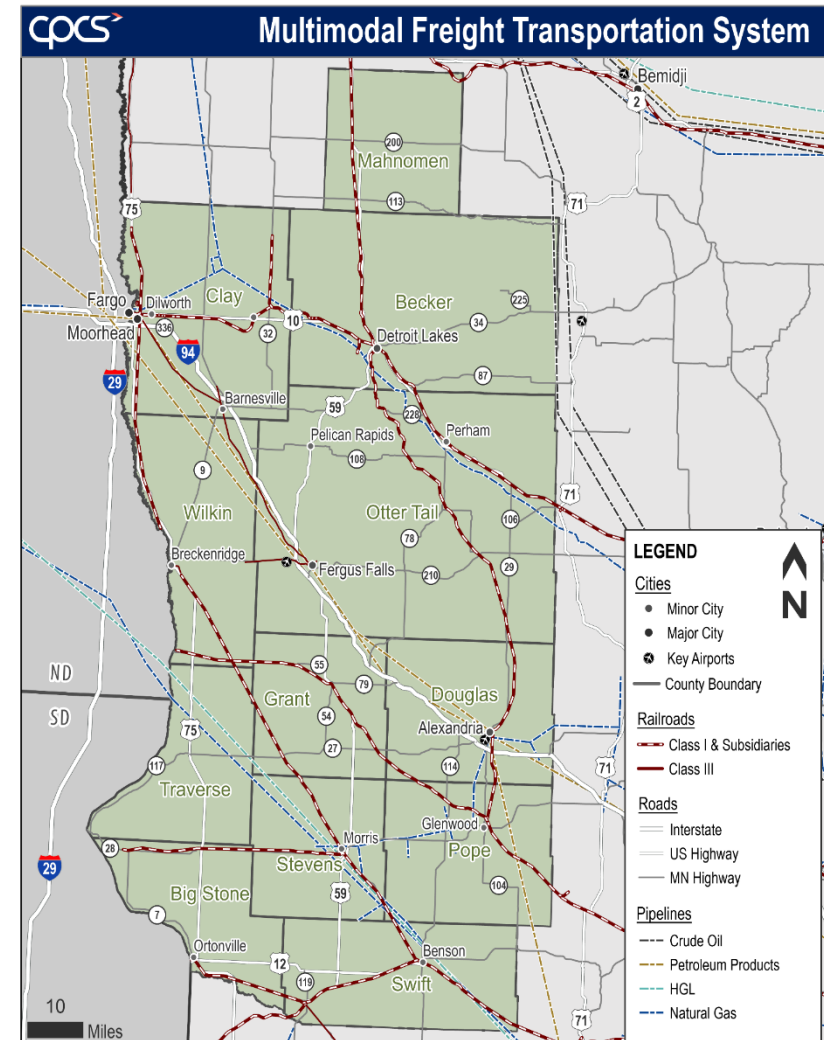
Provide a clear understanding of the multimodal freight system, how local industries use the system and their needs and issues, so MnDOT's policy and programming decisions can be better informed in the District.

The District 4 Freight Plan will:

- Provide an up-to-date assessment of freight needs and issues specific to District 4
- Provide a list of strategies to improve freight mobility in the west central region
- Roll up data and findings into the next Statewide Freight System Plan

MnDOT District 4

- MnDOT is split up operationally into regional districts
- District 4 includes 12 counties: Becker, Big Stone, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Mahnomen, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Swift, Traverse, Wilkin
- Project Duration: 12/2020 – 3/2022





Review Work Plan and Role of Advisory Committee

District 4's Freight Needs and Issues

Stakeholder Outreach

Next Steps & Discussion

Welcome to the Advisory Committee

Help us keep the “Big Picture” in mind

- Provide context on freight needs and issues, and strategic guidance
- Aid the consultants with local coordination, consultations
- Provide written or verbal comments during plan development

Work will be conducted over 13-14 months

Meeting 1 – Agenda (Month 3)

- Review Working Paper 2
- Confirm Plan Goals

Meeting 2 – Agenda (Month 6)

- Freight system profile
- Summary of findings – needs, issues & opportunities

Meeting 3 – Agenda (Month 8)

- Freight Plan Recommendations
- Evaluation of projects and concepts

Meeting 4 – Agenda (Month 11)

- Present major findings and draft plan deliverables
- Receive feedback

Meeting 5 – Agenda (Month TBD)

- Final plan presentation, review
- Other tasks TBD

Expected Work Products

Working papers provide opportunities for comment:

6 Working Papers

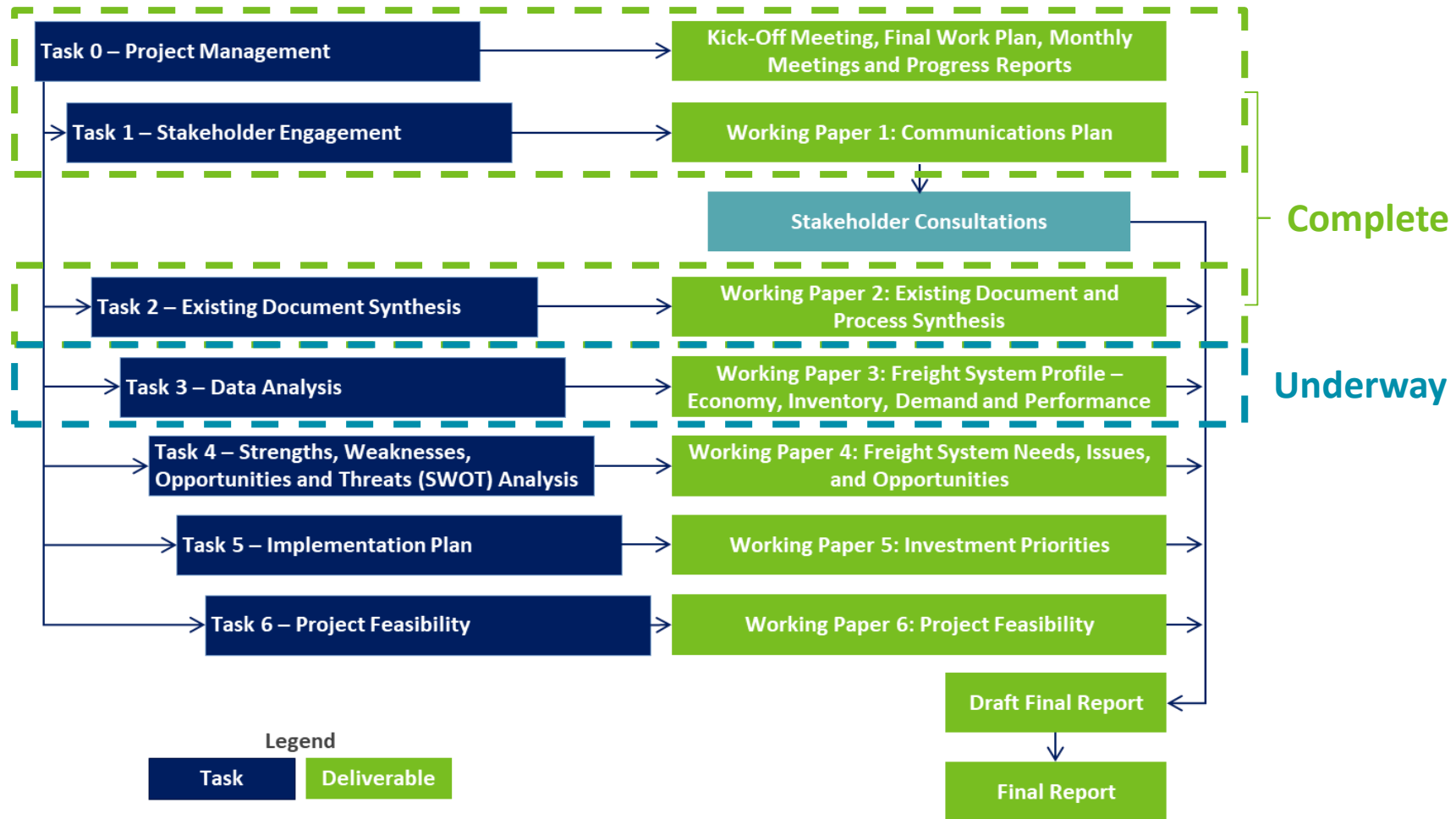
1 Executive Level Final Report

1 GIS Database

1 Stakeholder Outreach Program



Work Plan Overview



Task 1 – Stakeholder Engagement

Key Questions:

- Who are the key freight system stakeholders, and how should they be engaged?
- What are the needs and issues of these stakeholders?



Task 2 – Synthesis of Previous Plans

Key Questions:

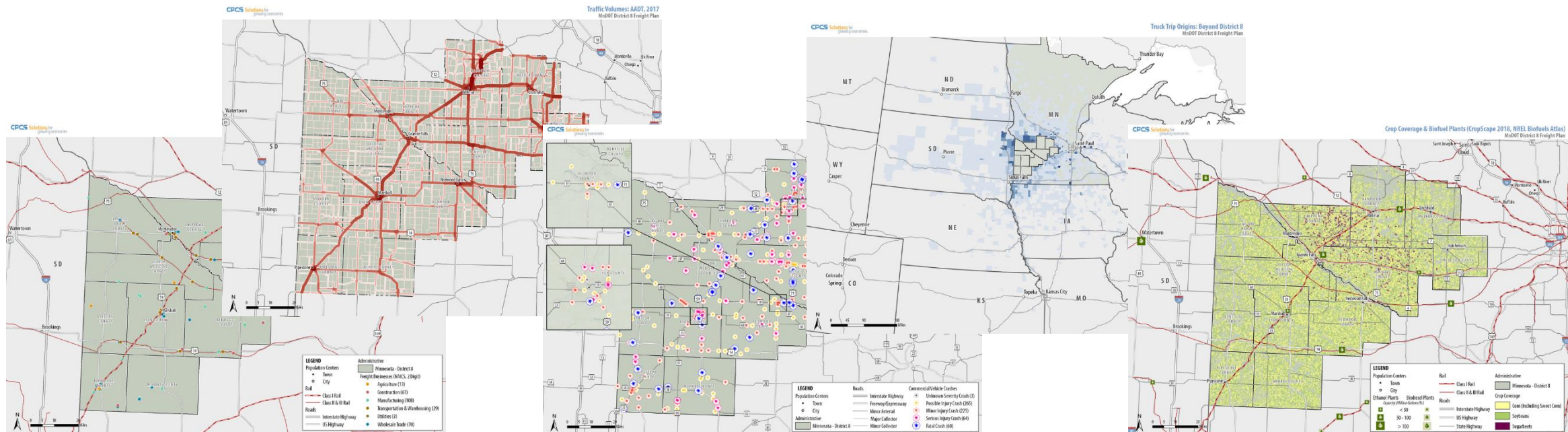
- How should previous planning processes be applied to the District?
- What findings from previous plans and studies are relevant to the District?
- What should be further explored and advanced in the District Freight Plan?



Task 3 – Data Analysis

Key Questions:

- What is the District's freight-related economic and industrial profile?
- What are the key freight infrastructure assets and corridors?
- What is the condition and performance of these freight assets?



Task 4 – SWOT Analysis

Key Questions:

- What are the District's common freight-related needs, issues, opportunities, and challenges?
- How can the District mitigate threats and weaknesses, and take advantages of strengths and opportunities?

Sources of information for need and issue identification:



Advisory Committee and Technical Team Meetings



Stakeholder Consultations



Online Survey



Analysis of Data



Previous Studies and Plans

Task 5 – Investment Priorities

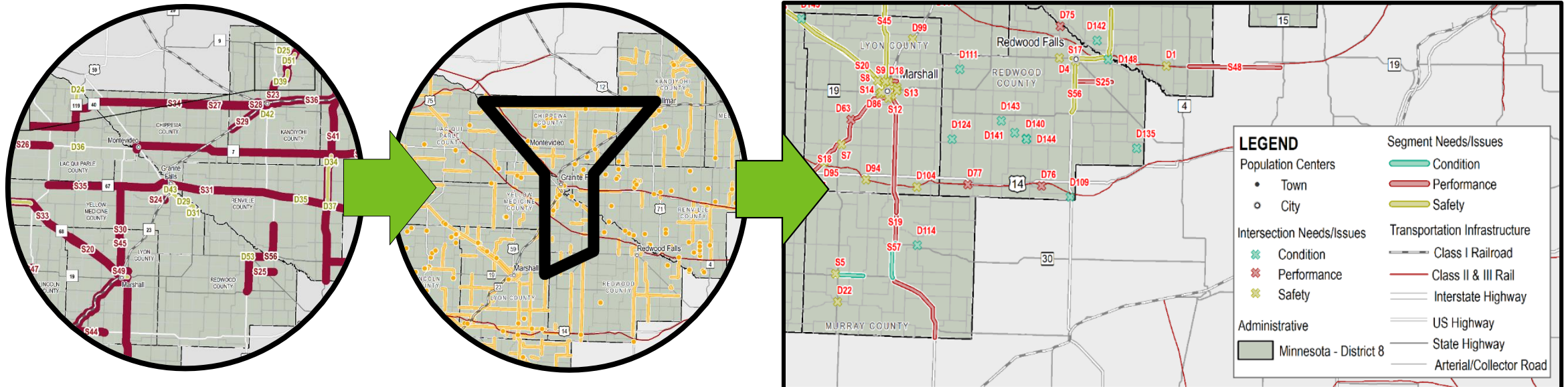
Key Questions:

- Which project concepts meet the District's goals, and address identified SWOT elements?
- Which project concepts are *not* included in programmed near-term investments?
- Which project concepts warrant advancement to pre-feasibility and scoping?

Map needs, issues, and programmed projects

Filter out overlaps

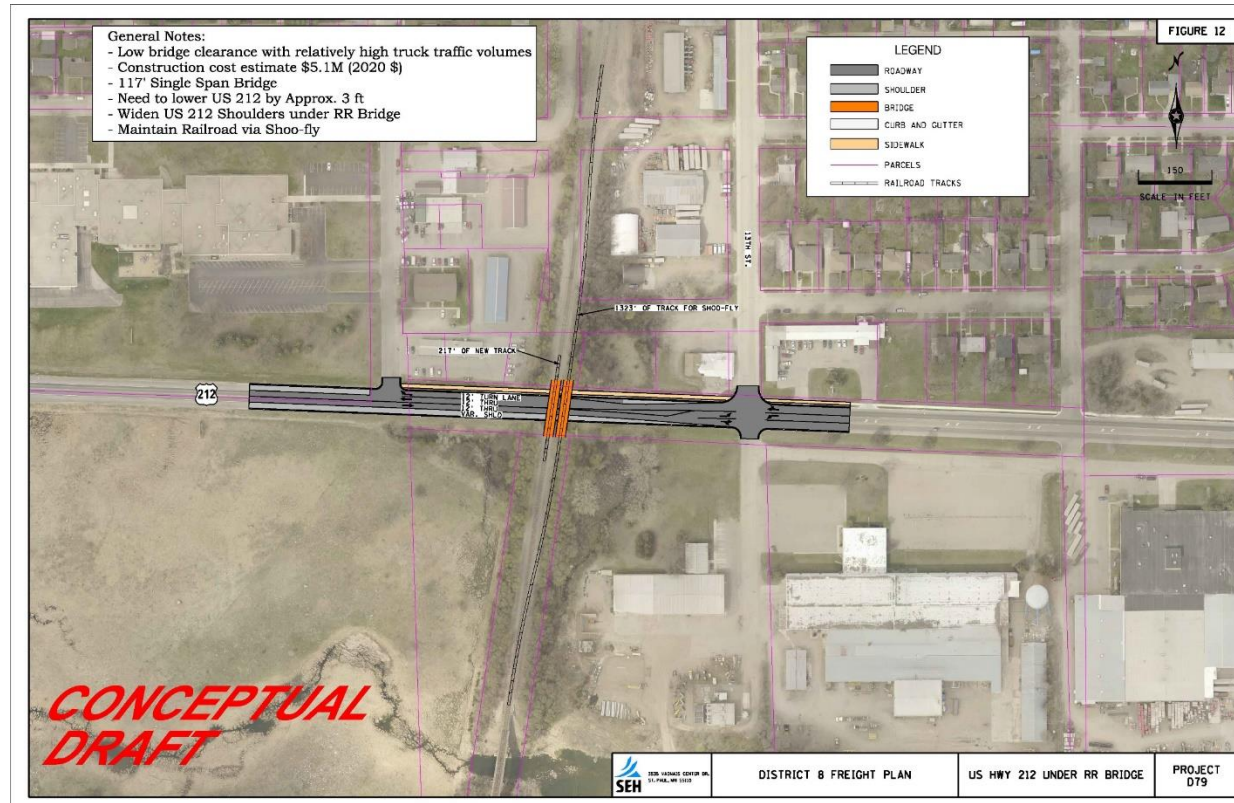
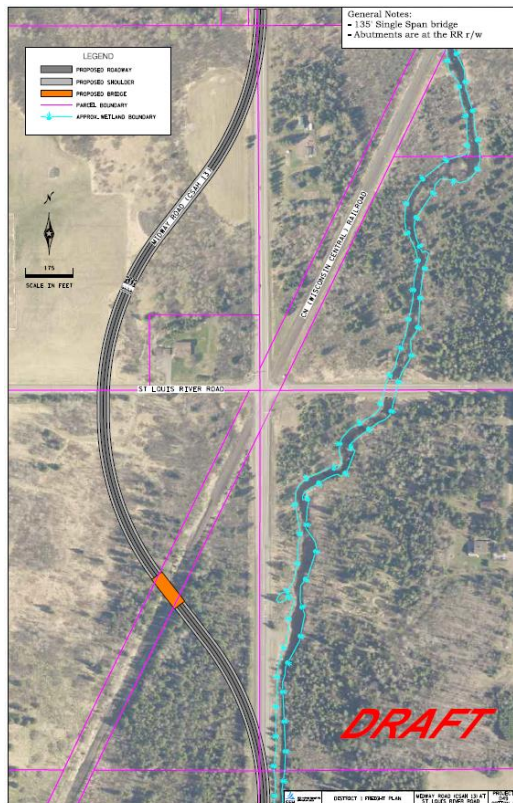
Identified gaps are inputs for the evaluation process



Task 6 – Project Feasibility

Key Questions:

- How feasible are the top projects concepts?
- What are the potential environmental, social, economic, and engineering challenges with each project concept?
- What are the order-of-magnitude costs of these project concepts?



Work Plan and Role of the Advisory Committee

- Questions to ask the group?
 - Is the work plan clear?
 - Which of our activities are most important to you?

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Agenda

Review Work Plan and Role of Advisory Committee

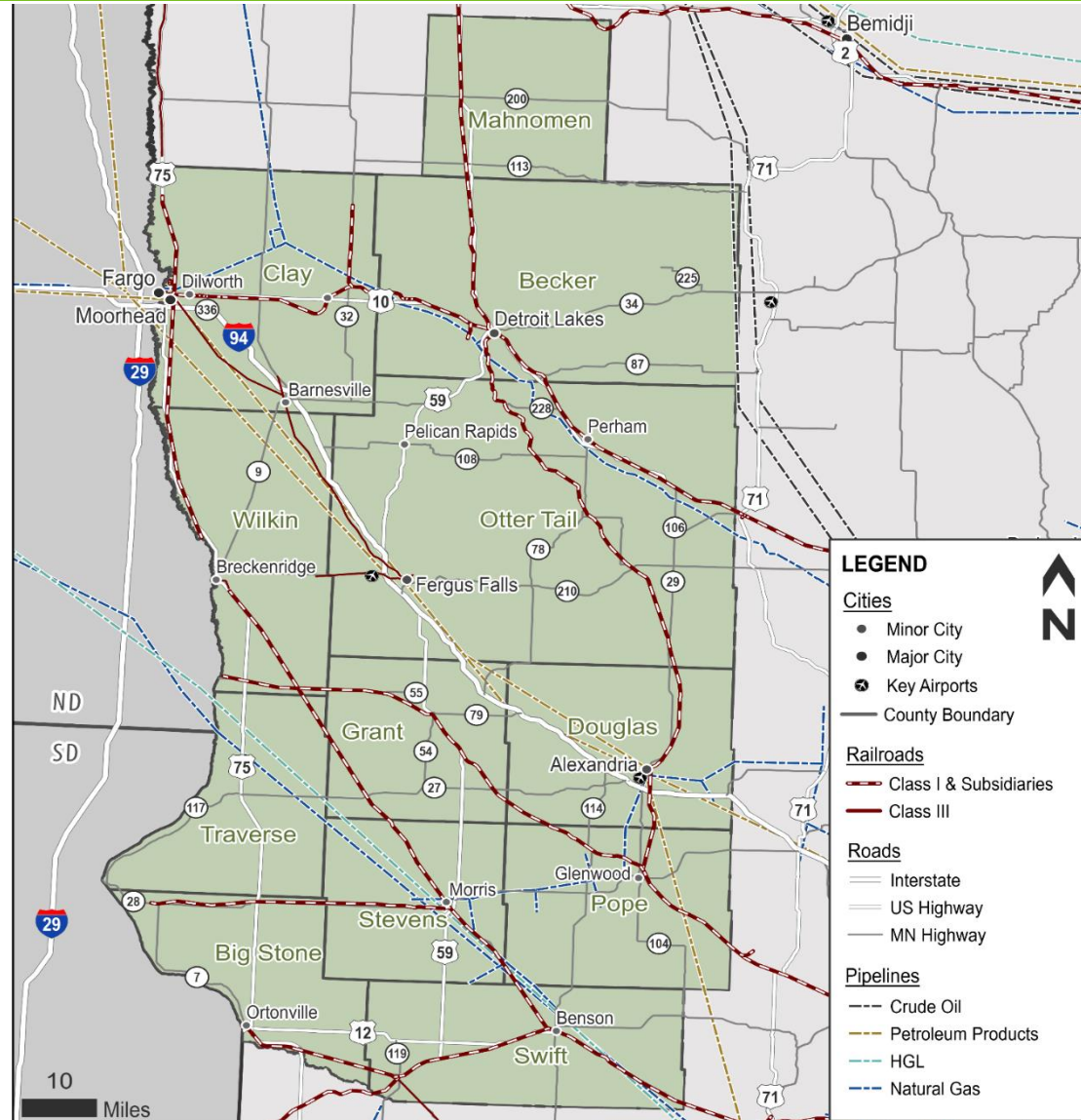


District 4's Freight Needs and Issues

Stakeholder Outreach

Next Steps & Discussion

District 4's Multimodal Freight System



Past Work and Key Issues in District 4

Prior work will inform the approach used for this plan

Plan	Agency	Year
Minnesota Statewide Freight System and Investment Plan	MnDOT	2018
Manufacturers' Perspectives on Minnesota's Transportation System – District 4	MnDOT	2015
Western Minnesota Regional Freight Study	MnDOT	2009
West Central Initiative Regional Transportation Plan	WCI	2013
Northern Minnesota/Western Wisconsin and Western Minnesota Regional Freight Plan	MnDOT	2009
Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP)	MnDOT	2017
Minnesota Weight Enforcement Investment Plan	MnDOT	2018
Minnesota Statewide Truck Parking Study	MnDOT	2019
Improvements to Highway-Rail Grade Crossings and Rail Safety	MnDOT	2014
Minnesota State Rail Plan	MnDOT	2015
Rail Grade Crossing Safety Project Selection	MnDOT	2016
Fargo-Moorhead Regional Freight Plan	Metro COG	2017
Metro GROW 2045 (Fargo-Moorhead LRTP)	Metro COG	2019
Shoulder Widening Prioritization Study	MnDOT	2018
Minnesota US 10 / US 75 Corridor Study Moorhead	MnDOT	2020
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Minnesota Region 4	WCI	2016
Upper Minnesota Valley RDC Annual Report	UMVRDC	2020
Upper Minnesota Valley RDC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	UMVRDC	2019
West Central Initiative Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	WCI	2017

Past Issues and Findings



Roads:

- Truck carry more than 88% of the goods moved in the District.
- Truck volumes are the highest along I-94, US 10, US 59, and US 71.
- Lack of signage for truck routes, access points, and intersections affects safety and efficiency.
- Existing OSOW permitting limitations create cost and competitiveness challenges.



Railroads:

- District 4 rail lines carry large volumes of oil trains. Prior booms in oil shipping created truck driver shortages and increased rail activity.
- There are 16 high-crash grade crossings in District 4, primarily in Otter Tail and Swift.
- Infrastructure constraints, lack of intermodal service, positive train control implementation, and hazmat transport were the top issues for the District's and the State's rail network.

Common Recommendations from Prior Plans

Detailed recommendations will be incorporated into analyses where relevant

- Reducing truck crashes, maintaining bridge and pavement condition in a “State of Good Repair, and reducing truck bottlenecks
- Enhanced access to air cargo resources
- Improved coordination between MnDOT District 4 and freight-related businesses
- Permitting system automation and harmonization with neighbor states
- Providing access to intermodal rail to support businesses in District
- Systematic inspection of hazmat commodity movements and interorganizational cooperation between federal inspectors and the railroad companies
- Grade separation projects (recommended at various locations)

Assessment of Needs and Issues

- What information/resources may improve our understanding of the system?
- What types of issues are most important to the District?
- Are these issues more prevalent for certain modes or facilities?
- What freight related industries are most important to the District?

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Assessment of Needs and Issues

Breakout Session

Reconvene in 15 Minutes

Assignments: make sure 1 mndot person in each group

Assessment of Needs and Issues

- What do you perceive as the top freight-related issues and needs in the District?
- Are these issues present on specific freight system corridors/facilities?
- Have you considered solutions to address these top issues?

Agenda

Review Work Plan and Role of Advisory Committee

District 4's Freight Needs and Issues



Stakeholder Outreach

Next Steps & Discussion

Freight Stakeholder Consultations

Freight stakeholders have an important role in assessing performance and forming recommendations for the District 4 freight system, and may serve in an implementation role

Key Activities:

- Identify stakeholders
- Develop consultation guide
- Conduct consultations – target 30 total
- Report on findings: Working Papers 3 and 4.

Stakeholder Consultations (Initial Ideas)

Trucking

- Fotz Trucking
- BM Transport
- Daggett Truck Line

Manufacturers and Shippers

- D&M Industries
- Douglas Machine
- Superior Industries
- Alexandria Industries
- Pactive
- Dynamic Homes

Rail

- BNSF
- CP
- Red River Valley and Western RR
- Otter Tail Valley RR

Agriculture or Food

- Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative
- Red River Sugarbeet Growers Association
- 3M
- Cargill
- Bimbo Bakeries

Public Agencies

- Metro COG
- North Dakota DOT
- RDCs
- City and County Staff

Stakeholder Consultations

- Who else should we consider for consultations?
- Can you help us connect with key stakeholders for consultations?
- What are your questions for industry?

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Agenda

Review Work Plan and Role of Advisory Committee

District 4's Freight Needs and Issues

Stakeholder Outreach



Next Steps & Discussion

Future Meetings

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Future Meetings

- What weekdays or times of day are best for Meeting #2?

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Andrew Andrusko, AICP

Project Manager with the Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations
Minnesota Department of Transportation

Email: andrew.andrusko@state.mn.us

Tel: 651-366-3644

Consultant Team

At the meeting



Eric Oberhart
Project Manager



Rahil Saeedi, PE
Project Coordinator



Chris Hiniker, AICP
Pre-Feasibility



Rebecca Lieser
Engagement Specialist