

MnDOT District 4 Freight Plan

WHAT IS THIS PLANNING EFFORT?

The District 4 Freight Plan will create a long term plan of potential future freight investments in the district as well a ranking of freight needs and risks. The plan effort will expand on work the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) previously completed in the 2017 Minnesota State Freight Investment Plan, and connect input gathered in the 2015 District Manufacturers' Perspective Study. In addition, the effort will also identify opportunities for public and private stakeholders to take action and inform future state-level freight funding for Western Minnesota. It will also guide MnDOT District-level investments to improve the multimodal freight system including roadways, railroads, regional airports, and pipelines.

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

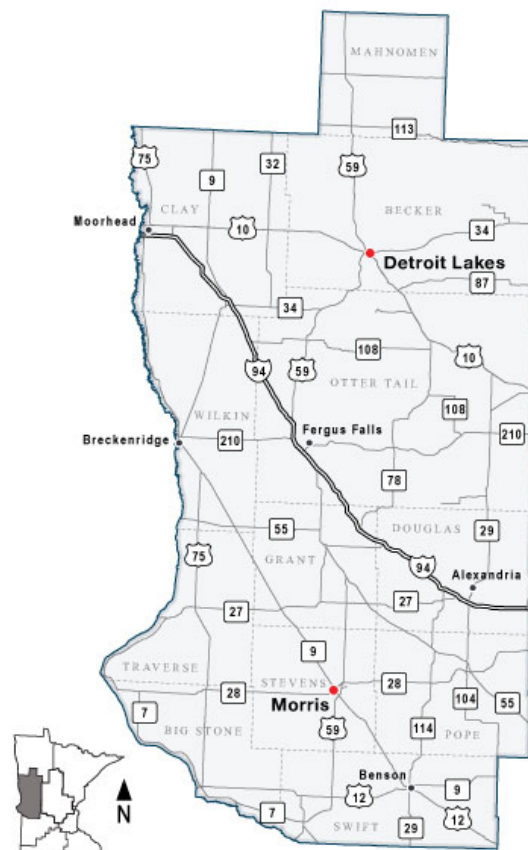
To better understand the trends, issues, and needs related to Greater Minnesota's freight transportation system. This effort is important for public entities such as local governments and MnDOT, as well as private stakeholders including manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, transportation companies, and other private entities. Outreach and dialogue with the stakeholders and general public, data analysis, and consideration of areas for opportunity will occur throughout the course of this project. The project will be data-driven and informed by stakeholder input to ensure understanding of the issues and needs of freight users in the District 4 area that includes Western Minnesota.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE STUDY AREA?

MnDOT District 4 includes Minnesota counties and municipalities such as Detroit Lakes, Morris, Moorhead, Fergus Falls, Benson and Alexandria. The plan will study major corridors including I-94, US 10, US 59, and other important roadways for goods movement. Additional areas of study include existing railroads, regional airports that move goods, pipelines, and facilities used to transfer goods between the various modes.

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT WESTERN MINNESOTA?

The long-term objective of this plan is identify opportunities to bolster freight infrastructure for all modes that move goods via roadways, rail, air, and other facilities in Western Minnesota. These future investments will increase the economic competitiveness of the region. As a major conduit of manufacturing, agriculture, and other commercial services in Minnesota, the safe and efficient movement of goods is paramount to ensuring the region grows and prospers within an increasingly competitive marketplace.



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www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/freight/districtfreightplan/d4.html