



Update December 18, 2021

## Sustainability and Public Health Division

### CY2022 Overview and Work Plan

#### Overview

The MnDOT Sustainability and Public Health (SPH) Division develops and coordinates sustainability and public health activities for MnDOT and leads sustainable transportation efforts for the state. Sustainability at MnDOT includes diverse efforts focused on maximizing the health of people, the economy, and the environment. More specifically, SPH focuses on five primary areas:

1. Lead by example through MnDOT Sustainability Efforts
2. Reduce Transportation Carbon Pollution
3. Support Transportation that Improves Public Health for All Minnesotans
4. Improve Resilience of the Transportation System
5. Develops Strategic External Partnerships to Expand Innovation

More information on the SPH Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles and Regulations, and Strategic Goals are in the 2020 Sustainability and Public Health Division Strategic Plan.<sup>1</sup>

#### OSPH Team

- Tim Sexton – Assistant Commissioner and Chief Sustainability Officer  
Provides executive leadership to improve sustainability of agency operations, reduce carbon pollution, build resilience for the transportation system, and address public health and transportation through collaboration with internal and external partners.
- Jessica Oh – Strategic Partnerships Director  
Leads agency efforts to identify, develop, and coordinate partnerships and creates related policy, guidance, agency strategies, and communications plans, and facilitate teams to support partnership development.
- Siri Simons – Sustainability Program Supervisor (WOOC thru Feb 2022)  
Leads and coordinates statewide sustainability efforts, including the Clean Transportation Pilot, statewide EV planning, and the Governor’s Climate Change Subcabinet Transportation Action Team. Supervises Principal Sustainability Planner, Sustainability Coordinator and Sustainability Planner positions.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/sustainability/docs/Strategic-Plan-DRAFT-200911.docx>

Work plan subject to change; check the MnDOT Sustainability website for most current version.

- Nissa Tupper – Principal Transportation and Public Health Planner  
Leads planning, policy, and implementation efforts that connect transportation and public health, including health impact evaluation and complete streets. Coordinates with internal and external partners to incorporate public health and equity into agency planning and projects.
- Vacant – Principal Sustainability Planner  
Leads coordination of internal sustainability planning and implementation to meet fleet fuel use, energy, water, waste, and other sustainability targets and develops action plans and projects to advance sustainability performance measures.
- Jeffrey Meek – Sustainability Coordinator  
Leads agency climate resilience and adaptation efforts, including coordination with internal and external technical experts. Supports team on activities to reduce carbon emissions for the sector.
- Emily Houser – Sustainability Planner  
Provides multi-disciplinary professional planning support to the Sustainability and Public Health Division.

### Ongoing Deliverables

- MnDOT Sustainability Report – annual, spring
- MnDOT Construction Emissions Inventory – annual, winter
- Action Plans (e.g., fleet, facilities, operations) – annual, throughout the year
- Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council ([STAC](#)) Annual Report – annual, spring
- Department of Administration, Office of Enterprise Sustainability reporting – annual
- Annual Alternative Uses of Right of Way Report – timing TBD
- Clean Transportation Pilot – annual
- Complete Streets Internal Report – annual, fall

### Emerging Issues and Areas of Uncertainty

- **Major risk to staffing and workload:** Prepare for strategic investments from **new federal climate funding programs**, including EV charging, carbon reduction, Justice40, and climate resilience.
- Address **STAC recommendations** and incorporate into MnDOT business practices, including VMT reduction and transportation options.
- Co-lead engagement on a **Clean Fuel Standard (CFS)** with MDA on behalf of Governor's Office.
- Learn from **Equity Health Assessment** and apply to other MnDOT projects/programs.
- Continue to address increased **expectations for external coordination** (e.g., Intergovernmental Climate Change Coordinating Team (I3CT), Climate Change Subcabinet, REV Midwest).
- Partner with non-traditional transportation stakeholders to deliver innovative clean transportation projects through the **Clean Transportation Pilot Program**
- Coordinate on **statewide planning and performance measures** related to sustainability, public health, and partnerships, including support for SMTP and MnSHIP updates.
- Explicitly incorporate **equity and environmental justice** into work (e.g., Complete Streets Equity Lab).

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- Lead internal/external collaboration on **Next Generation Highways** to understand opportunities to co-locate broadband and HVDC transmission lines on highway rights-of-way.
- Update **Complete Streets policy** and implementation materials and support connections to VMT.

### Recurring Tasks – Facilitate Coordination

- Internal Sustainable Transportation Steering Committee (STSC) meetings with agency leaders.
- External Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council (STAC) and STAC work group meetings.
- Internal MnDOT Solar Team and MnDOT Resilience Advisory Team meetings.
- Regular meetings of the Governor’s Climate Change Subcabinet Transportation Action Team and Subcabinet Planning Team meetings.
- Internal Alternative Uses of Right of Way Committee.
- Internal Strategic Partnerships Steering Committee.
- Internal Next Generation Highways Workgroup.
- Internal VMT policy work group.

### Actions and Deliverables (minus ongoing)

The following list includes examples of high priority projects where OSPH is leading/co-leading to advance goals outlined in the OSPH Strategic Plan.

Planned action	Lead	Expected completion	Driver: Leg, EO, Agency, Public	Partners
<b>Agency Operations</b>				
Complete two District Energy Plans	Principal Sustainability Planner	Dec 2022	EO 19-27	Districts TBD, Building Services
Xcel Partnership to Electrify MnDOT Fleet	Tim, Siri	July 2022	EO 19-27	Building Services, Fleet Mgmt., MnDOT Districts, OCC
Support installation of 30 EV chargers at District facilities	Emily	Spring 2022	EO 19-27	Building Services, MnDOT Districts
Promote guidance for B20 – B50 use across MnDOT fleet	Siri, Principal Sustainability Planner	May 2022	EO 19-27	Fleet Managers, MBMG

Planned action	Lead	Expected completion	Driver: Leg, EO, Agency, Public	Partners
MnDOT EV business practices and outreach – 2022 Update	Tim, Emily	Spring 2022	Agency	CO Fleet Mgmt., FMG, AMG, Ops
Feasibility Study: State - Tribal Partnership to Support Solar Energy	Siri, Principal Sustainability Planner	November 2022	EO 19-27	Tribal Affairs, Red Lake Nation, Gabe Chan
Expand organics recycling at MnDOT facilities	Emily	Fall 2021-Spring 2022	EO 19-27	OES, Metro District
Construction GHG Inventory	TBD	Summer 2022	Agency	OES
Alternative Uses of Right of Way guidance, business practices and outreach	Jessica	Summer 2022	IIJA, Right of Way Manual, Stat §161.433 – Airspace Lease, Federal - 23 C.F.R. §710.405 – Right of Way Use Agreements	OLM, Metro District, CCC
Art on the Highway Policy guidance, business practices and outreach	Jessica	Fall-Winter 2022	MnDOT Policy OE007	OLM, Metro District, CCC
Commercial Activity and Alcohol in the Right of Way guidance, business practices and process	Jessica	Complete by April 2022	IIJA, Stat. 161.433, Airspace., Federal Law - 23 C.F.R. §710.405 – Right of Way Use Agreements	Chief Counsel, OLM, Operations, State Aid
<b>Resilience</b>				
Extreme Flood Vulnerability Analysis	Jeff	Complete March 2022	Agency, IIJA	Bridge, Metro, OSPH

Planned action	Lead	Expected completion	Driver: Leg, EO, Agency, Public	Partners
District level assessment of extreme flood vulnerability (implement EFV analysis)	Jeff	2022-2025 (1-2 Districts/year)	Agency, IJJA	Bridge, Metro, Pilot District (tbd), OSPH
Pilot Resilience Corridors Assessment on TH52 PEL	Jeff	Begin 2022	Agency, IJJA	FHWA MN, OTSM, D6
Climate reporting pilot: State environmental review program	Jeff	September 2022	EQB policy	OES
MnDOT report: Measuring climate resilience and assessing vulnerability	Jeff	Spring 2022	Agency, IJJA	OTSP, Bridge
<b>Sector Decarbonization</b>				
Co-lead Stakeholder Engagement on Clean Fuels Standard	Tim	Feb 2022	Governor's directive	MDA co-lead, Governor's Office, MPCA, Commerce
STAC Response Report	Tim, Siri, Nissa, Jeff, Emily	March 2022	Agency	Commissioner, Metro, various internal/external
Strategic EV Plan	Siri, Tim, Jessica	January 2022	IJJA – National EV Formula Program req.	MPCA, COMM, ADM, METC Governor's Office
REV Midwest MOU Task Force Report	Tim	December 2022	Agency, IJJA	Governor's Office, other Midwest states
Clean Transportation Funding Program Year 2 solicitation	Tim, Siri, Jessica	TBD	Public: Pathways/ STAC commitment	STAC, OTSM, OCC, Grant Unit, FHWA

Planned action	Lead	Expected completion	Driver: Leg, EO, Agency, Public	Partners
Next Generation Highways Work Group and Feasibility Assessment	Jessica	Spring 2022	Public (STAC Rec), IJJA	OLM Utilities, CAV, RTMC, MNIT, Commerce, PUC,
<b>Health</b>				
Complete Streets Policy and Reporting Update	Nissa, Emily	Policy, Handbook, Reporting and Performance Measures - Summer 2022  Training and Engagement - Fall 2022	Agency, Public	OPTMS, OTSM, OTAT, OTE, OFCVO, OES, ADA, State Aid, District staff (planners, project managers, district engineers)
TH252/I-94 Equity and Health Assessment Pilot	Nissa	Equity and health priorities input to Scoping Decision Document - Spring 2022  Equity and health project alternatives review - Fall 2022	Agency	MDH, SLT, Metro District staff, Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, City of Brooklyn Center, City of Brooklyn Park
Public health stories	Nissa, Artist in Residence	Spring 2022	Agency	District Staff, CAPE, MDH, OTAT, OTSM, OLM, OTE
MDH and MnDOT MOU Update	Nissa	Winter 2022	Agency	MDH, OTAT, OTSM, OTE, ADA
<b>Communication and Engagement</b>				
SPHD Communication and Engagement Project Template	Siri, Nissa	Summer 2022	Agency	CAPE
SPHD website update	Nissa, Emily	Fall 2022	Public	CAPE

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Litter Symposium releasing MnDOT Litter Study	Jessica	Spring-Summer 2022	Public/Agency	CAPE, OLM, Maintenance, OES
VMT Reduction and Transportation Options education, marketing materials	Nissa, Jessica	Summer 2022	Minn. Stat. 174.01 – Goals 2, 14 and 15, Public	CAPE, MnDOT VMT Workgroup
Other				
Transportation Pooled Fund: finalize Infrastructure Carbon Estimator	Tim	Summer 2022		OES, Materials Lab
VMT Goal Setting and Implementation Materials	Nissa, Tim	Summer 2022	Stat. 174.01 – Goals 2, 14 and 15, Public	Internal VMT Workgroup, SLT, STSC, Ops, MPPM, State Aid, Metropolitan Council, PCMG, PMLG, APG
Facilitate Equity Labs for 1-2 priority actions	Nissa, Siri, Jessica	December 2022	Agency, Stat. 174.01 – Goal 2, Public	OTSM

<b>Strategic Partnerships Program</b>				
Artist in Residence Pilot program with Smart Growth America. Year two: Equity in Transportation	Jessica	Complete Winter 2021	Innovation, Research and Experimentation Minn. Stat. 174.02	SGA and OTSM
Artist in Residence Pilot program with Smart Growth America. Year three: VMT reduction and better transportation options.	Jessica/ Nissa	Winter 2022-Winter 2023	Innovation, Research and Experimentation Minn. Stat. 174.02	SGA and SPHD: Public Health
Field scan of DOT/state agency strategic partnership infrastructure	Jessica	Summer 2022	Agency	CAPE Team/ Engineering Services: Laurie Ryan
External Partner Perspectives Assessment	Emily	Spring 2022	Agency	CAPE Team/ Engineering Service
Expanded Community Benefits & Outcomes Framework	Jessica	Fall 2022	Agency	OTSM, Metro Division

<b>Community Benefit, Alternative Uses of Right of Way and Quality of Life Demonstration Projects</b>				
Hines NLG Public Space Pilot Project	Jessica	Winter 2022	Public	Metro District, Chief Counsel
Franklin-Hiawatha Site RFI/RFP for long term restoration	Jessica	Spring 2022	Public	Ombudsman, OLM, CAPE



## External Partner Coordination for Sustainability, Public Health & Strategic Partnerships

The following list includes coordination with external partners in support of the 2020 Strategic Plan goals.

Group	Type of Activity	Role	Staff	Timeline (start/end)
<b>Resilience</b>				
MnDOT Freeze Thaw Research	Research	Lead	Jeff Meek	2020-2022
NCHRP Freeze Thaw Study	Research	Observe	Jeff Meek	2021-2023
Urban Drainage Resilience	Research	TAP	Jeff Meek	2020-2022
Extreme Flood Vulnerability Assessment	Research	Lead	Jeff Meek	2019-2022
Sustainable Transportation Action Team Resilience Work Group	Agency Initiative	Coordinate	Jeff Meek	2020-2021
American Society of Adaptation Professionals	Partnerships	Planning Committee	Jeff Meek	2019/Ongoing
PIARC/World Road Association: Transportation Resilience (4.1)	Partnerships	US Delegate	Tim Sexton	2021 - 2024
AASHTO Sustainability Working Group	Partnerships	Co-chair	Jeff Meek	2020-2022
AASHTO: Committee on System Security and Resilience (CTSSR)	Partnerships	Steering Committee, Chair Research Sub	Tim Sexton	2017/ongoing

Group	Type of Activity	Role	Staff	Timeline (start/end)
<b>Transportation Sector Carbon Pollution</b>				
EQB Environmental Review Program Climate Update WG	Partnerships	MnDOT rep	Jeff Meek	2020/ongoing
Midwest Clean Fuels Policy Initiative	Partnerships	MnDOT rep	Tim Sexton	2018/ongoing
Midcontinent Transportation Electrification Collaborative	Partnerships	MN rep	Tim Sexton	2018/ongoing
Midwest Regional Electric Vehicle Coalition (REV Midwest)	Partnerships	MN rep	Tim Sexton	2021/ongoing
US Climate Alliance: Transportation Work Group	Executive Direction	Co-Lead	Tim Sexton	2018/ongoing
FHWA Transportation Pooled Fund: Infrastructure Carbon Estimator (ICE)	Research	Lead State	Tim Sexton	2019/ongoing
MnDOT EV Corridor Charging Infrastructure for MD/HD Trucks Research	Research	Lead	Siri Simons	2020/2022
Drive Electric Minnesota	Partnerships	Participant	Siri Simons	2020/ongoing
Met Council EV Planning Study	Research	MnDOT rep	Siri Simons	2020/2022
CTS Environment and Energy in Transportation Research Council	Research	Participant	Siri Simons	2021/ongoing
Met Council Congestion Mitigation Plan Advisory Committee	Partnership	Participant	Nissa Tupper	2021/2022
Governor's Climate Change Subcabinet: Planning Team	Executive Direction	Co-Lead	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing
Governor's CC Subcabinet: Sr Leaders Team	Executive Direction	MnDOT rep	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing

Group	Type of Activity	Role	Staff	Timeline (start/end)
Governor's CC Subcabinet: Transportation Action Team	Executive Direction	Lead	Siri Simons	2020/ongoing
Governor's CC Subcabinet: Climate Engagement Team	Executive Direction	MnDOT rep	Emily Houser	2020/ongoing
Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council (STAC)	Agency Initiative	Lead	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing
STAC: Powering Transport Work Group	Agency Initiative	Lead	Siri Simons, Emily Houser	2020/ongoing
STAC: VMT Reduction Work Group	Agency Initiative	Lead	Nissa Tupper	2020/ongoing
<b>Public Health</b>				
Healthy MN Partnership	Partnership	MnDOT rep	Nissa Tupper	2014/ongoing
MN Suicide Prevention Taskforce	Partnership	MnDOT rep	Nissa Tupper	2019/ongoing
MnDOT Complete Streets Research TAP	Research	Technical Liaison	Nissa Tupper	Aug. 2020/Sept. 2023
MnDOT Equity Analysis TAP	Research	Member	Nissa Tupper	July 2020/March 2022
FHWA TAG for Integrating Public Health in Public Land Transportation Planning	Partnership	Member	Nissa Tupper	Jan. 2021/Dec. 2022
<b>Sustainability</b>				
TRB: Sustainability Section	Research	Section Chair	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing
TRB: Special Task Force on Climate Change	Research	Member	Tim Sexton	2017/ongoing

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NCHRP 20-127: Developing a Business Case for Sustainability	Research	Panel Member	Tim Sexton	2019/ongoing
Enterprise Sustainability Coordinators Roundtable	Partnerships	MnDOT rep	Siri Simons	2017/ongoing
SPROUT: international urban mobility	Research	Support	Tim Sexton	2019/ongoing
Governors Biofuel Council	Executive Direction	MnDOT rep	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing
AASHTO: Center Environmental Excellence	Partnerships	Steering Committee	Tim Sexton	2019/ongoing
AASHTO Electric Vehicle Working Group	Partnerships	Member	Tim Sexton	2020/ongoing
AASHTO: Committee on Environment and Sustainability (CES)	Partnerships	Steering Committee	Tim Sexton	2015/ongoing
<b>Strategic Partnerships Program</b>				
MnDOT NextGen Highways Workgroup	Partnerships	Project Manager	Jessica Oh	Launched June 2021/Ongoing
Commercial Activity in the Right of Way Workgroup	Partnerships	Project Manager	Jessica Oh	Ongoing
Strategic Partnerships Program Steering Committee	Partnerships	Chair	Jessica Oh	Launching in Jan 2022
Alternative Uses of Right of Way Committee	Partnerships	Co-Chair	Jessica Oh	Launching in Jan 2022

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Group	Type of Activity	Role	Staff	Timeline (start/end)
Research: Utilizing Arts & Culture to Mitigate the Negative Impacts of Transportation Infrastructure on Communities	Research	Champion	Jessica Oh	Summer 2022
Research: Innovative Uses of Right of Way	Research	TAP Member	Jessica Oh	Fall 2021/ongoing
TRB AME80 Community Resources & Impacts Committee	Partnerships	Member/ Webinar Developer	Jessica Oh	2021/Ongoing
TRB AP045 Art and Design Excellence Sub Committee	Partnerships	Member	Jessica Oh	2019/ongoing