



2040 NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Goals and Objectives

June 25, 2020

This presents the final Goals and Objectives for the Nebraska Statewide Transportation Plan. This memo also highlights the key influences that are addressed through each goal area.

Goals:



Asset preservation: Keep Nebraska's multimodal transportation assets in a state of good repair.



Mobility choices for people & freight: Provide efficient, affordable, and equitable options across all modes for moving people and goods throughout Nebraska and beyond.



Secure & resilient transportation: Manage the risk and magnitude of disruptions to Nebraska's transportation systems.



Safety: Provide a transportation system in Nebraska that is safe for all users.



Support for economic & community vitality: Choose investments in Nebraska's transportation system that best support the vitality of Nebraska's economy and all of its communities.



Asset Preservation

Goal: Keep Nebraska's multimodal transportation assets in a state of good repair

Related Influences:

- The cost of maintaining or replacing the growing share of **aging infrastructure** on Nebraska's transportation system will necessitate wise investment decisions at all levels of government in Nebraska to achieve the best return for each dollar spent on keeping transportation assets in a state of good repair.
- Adequacy of funding for asset preservation, which is a major portion of NDOT's overall budget, could be at risk if widespread adoption of **electric vehicles or other external influences** drive a decline in gas tax revenues or **federal funding**.
- The gradual, but steady **concentration of population in urban and suburban areas** of the state will create difficult decisions on how to best use NDOT's limited funds to preserve the existing system.
- Nebraska is seeing an increasing risk of widespread and recurrent damage to assets caused by **flooding** that surpasses historic trends and which puts greater pressure on asset preservation funding and spending priorities.

Objectives:

- Optimize road and bridge preservation investment decisions to provide best use of limited funds.
- Invest in the preservation of other important transportation assets including aviation, bicycle and pedestrian systems, transit facilities and vehicles, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), and rest areas.
- Upgrade essential stormwater/drainage infrastructure on major highway system elements to minimize risk of flood damage or disruption.
- Maximize the useful life of transportation assets by using condition data and responding with appropriate maintenance actions.



Mobility Choices for People & Freight

Goal: Provide efficient, affordable, and equitable options across all modes for moving people and goods throughout Nebraska and beyond

Related Influences:

- A gradual, but steady trend toward **concentration of population in urban and suburban areas** of the state will necessitate greater investment in urban transportation solutions for Nebraska that promote efficiency of movement and reduction in travel time delays as economic and population growth increases travel demand in urban areas of the state.
- **New technologies** will change mobility options and needs, including growth of mobility-as-a-service solutions, connected and automated vehicles (CAV), and supplementation of 'bricks and mortar' services, retail, or workspaces with digital versions that change travel patterns.
- Adequacy of funding for mobility improvements could be a concern if widespread adoption of **electric vehicles** drives a decline of gas tax revenues.
- The continued **aging of Nebraska's population** will drive a larger need for non-single occupancy vehicle SOV transportation solutions, particularly in rural areas, as a bigger fraction of the state's population grows more dependent on others for their mobility.

Objectives:

- Maintain or improve reliable travel times.
- Optimize mobility investments to provide best use of limited funds.
- Provide support for freight mobility needs across Nebraska.
- Improve coordination, and partnerships among government entities and with the private sector to provide mobility options.
- Use technology such as connected infrastructure and real-time travel information to improve efficiency of the existing transportation system.
- Improve system connectivity for all modes; particularly in underserved and fast-growing communities.



Secure & Resilient Transportation

Goal: Manage the risk and magnitude of major disruptions to Nebraska's transportation systems

Related Influences:

- Nebraska is seeing an increase in widespread and disruptive damage to assets or operations caused by **flooding** that surpasses historic trends and with deployment of new technology in the future may have increased exposure to **security risks** like cyber-attacks that necessitate investment in resiliency strategies including system redundancy, as well as adequate preparedness for, management of, and recovery from natural or human-caused disasters.

Objectives:

- Reduce vulnerabilities on the transportation system.
- Build redundancies into key routes to provide adequate continuity of operations in the event of disasters.
- Secure critical transportation assets to protect users in Nebraska.
- Provide adequate coordination among local, tribal, state, and Federal agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from events such as natural disasters, extreme weather, or terrorist attacks.
- Maintain a secure information technology (IT) system to protect the intelligent transportation system (ITS) infrastructure, personal data of customers, and transportation system data.



Safety

Goal: Provide a transportation system in Nebraska that is safe for all users

Related Influences:

- **New technologies** including growth in the share of CAVs on Nebraska's roads and prevalence of smart infrastructure will create both challenges and opportunities for safety.
- The continued **aging of Nebraska's population** will drive a larger need to consider the special safety needs of an older population.
- The gradual, but steady trend toward **concentration of population in urban and suburban areas** of the state will introduce more risk of conflicts between different user groups on the transportation system, particularly vulnerable active transportation users.

Objectives:

- Consider safety of relevant types of transportation system users in the scoping and design of transportation improvements.
- Reduce fatalities and serious injuries on the multimodal transportation system to work toward zero deaths.
- Improve workzone safety for both motorists and those working to improve our transportation system.
- Foster a workplace culture of safety first.
- Invest in safety technology (such as cameras, dynamic message signs (DMS) and fiber optics) improvements to safety and security for all users.



Support for Economic and Community Vitality

Goal: Choose investments in Nebraska's transportation system that best support the vitality of Nebraska's economy and all of its communities

Related Influences:

- The **fourth 'industrial revolution'** led by a nexus of technology, data, and the internet is driving powerful changes to the U.S. economy. Nebraska must adapt to emerging forces like autonomous vehicles on roadways, new mobility options, changing workforce characteristics, and evolution in economic sectors from agriculture and freight logistics to manufacturing, retail, and the service sector.
- An **aging population** will create new stresses on community viability, particularly in rural areas. Nebraska will need new mobility options that best serve the needs of its customer base.
- Nebraska can capitalize on continued **concentration of population in urban and suburban areas** of the state by making transportation investments that support new opportunities for bringing jobs and residents to Nebraska.

Objectives:

- Improve broadband access that supports both 'smart' transportation infrastructure needs and wider needs for communities 'connected' to digital resources.
- Ensure project selection criteria consider social and economic factors as well as engineering and safety concerns.
- Consider communities' wider quality of life concerns in the scoping and design of transportation improvements by coordinating closely with county, local, and tribal governments.
- Minimize and mitigate environmental impacts in the design and construction of transportation projects.
- Improve access to freight intermodal facilities, industrial land uses, and agricultural uses for the efficient movement of goods on the transportation system.
- Improve transportation connectivity to established and emerging economic, employment, and social centers.