

MDT has developed a set of goals and strategies reflecting public and stakeholder feedback and data analysis.


- **Goals** are statements of desired results for Montana’s transportation network.
- **Strategies** are methods and business practices to achieve stated goals.

Goals and strategies are intended to provide broad policy guidance to inform and direct MDT decision making during the 20-year planning horizon set forth in TranPlanMT.


Safety is an overarching goal applied in nearly every MDT decision making process for all programs and projects.

MDT makes roadway investment decisions according to the following goals listed in order or priority.


Sensitivity to the environment and cost-effective management are underlying goals informing decisions on a broad department-wide basis.



**SAFETY**  
**GOAL:**  
Improve safety for all transportation users to achieve Vision Zero: zero fatalities and zero serious injuries.




**SYSTEM PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE**  
**GOAL:**  
Preserve and maintain existing transportation infrastructure.




**MOBILITY AND ECONOMIC VITALITY**  
**GOAL:**  
Facilitate the movement of people and goods recognizing the importance of economic vitality.



**ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY**  
**GOAL:**  
Preserve access to the transportation network and connectivity between modes.



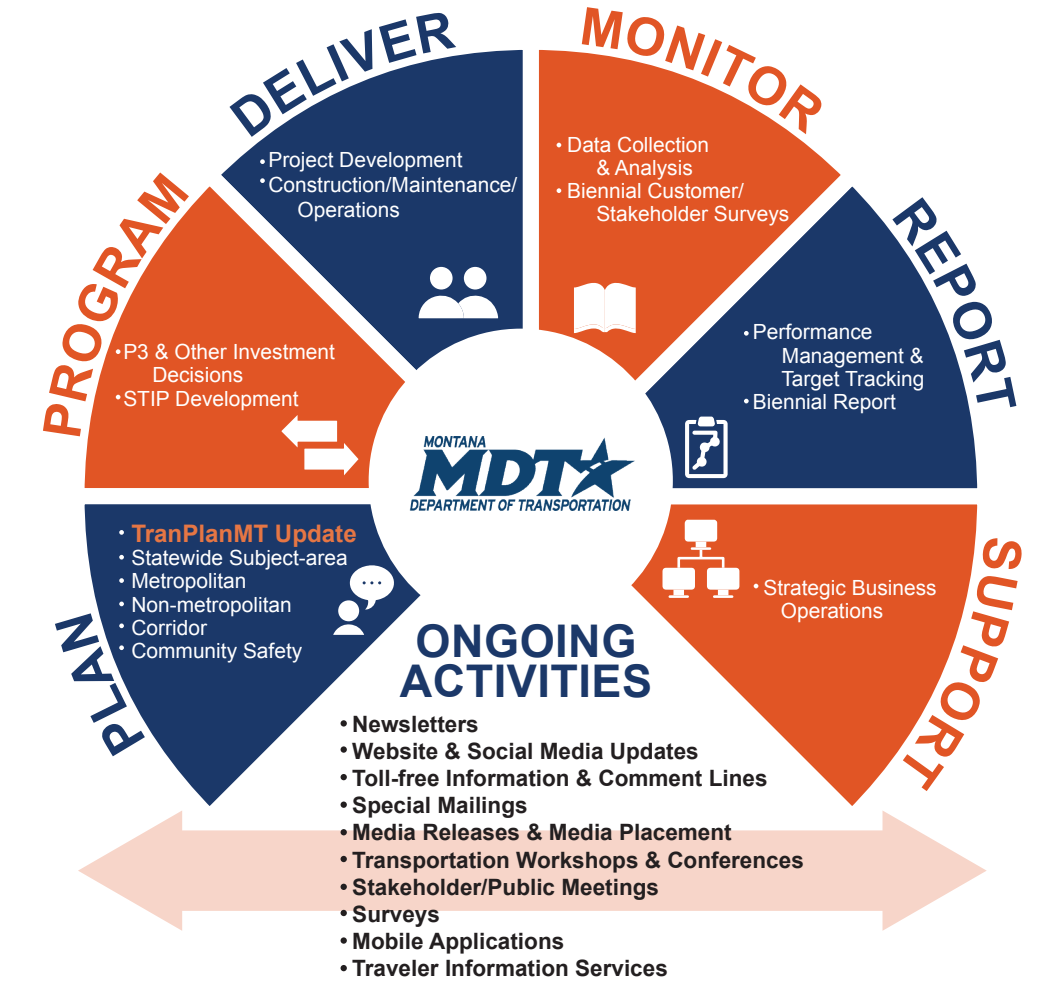
**BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT**  
**GOAL:**  
Provide efficient, cost-effective management and operation to accelerate transportation project delivery and ensure system reliability.



**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**  
**GOAL:**  
Support MDT’s transportation mission through regulatory compliance and responsible stewardship of the built and natural environment.

Planning for Montana’s transportation future takes ongoing collaboration. Let’s keep the conversation going!

Your input is welcome at any time! Stakeholders and members of the public may also participate at specific milestones through the opportunities noted in the graphic below. Thank you for your involvement in TranPlanMT.



For more information contact us at:  
<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/tranplan> | 406-444-6201

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# Overview





**TranPlanMT** is Montana’s policy based long-range planning effort and partnership between MDT, transportation stakeholders, and the public to effectively and efficiently plan Montana’s transportation future in a world with ever shifting needs and priorities.

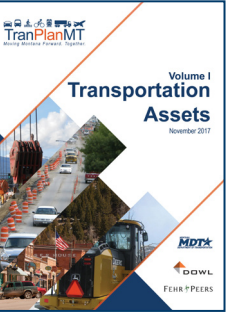


MDT partnered with stakeholders and citizens across Montana in a year-long effort aimed at crafting goals and strategies and continuing to address the trends, issues, needs, and priorities surrounding Montana’s transportation network. Using public surveys, workshops, and internal policy review and brainstorming, the plan considers Montana’s communities, populations, and needs with a comprehensive outlook. MDT is focused on the future of our state and finding the best ways to move Montana forward, together.

TranPlanMT is organized to assist MDT staff, community leaders, stakeholders, and the public in finding the answers, context, and data consistent with MDT’s approach to long-range planning. Inside each of the four supporting volumes, information is arranged by WHAT WE KNOW (data regarding the current status of transportation in Montana), WHAT WE HEARD (data and comments collected from the public and stakeholders), and MOVING MONTANA FORWARD (goals and strategies for MDT’s future).

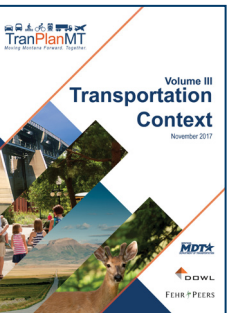
ASSETS

Physical infrastructure elements forming Montana’s transportation network.



CONTEXT

Elements influencing travel demand, development, and management of the network



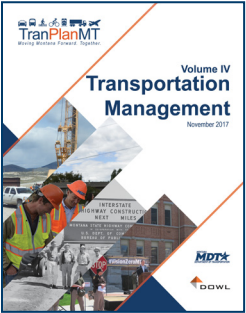
USERS

All groups relying on Montana’s transportation network on a daily basis.



MANAGEMENT

MDT’s daily and long-range activities to fund, monitor, and operate the network



SAFETY

**GOAL:** *Improve safety for all transportation users to achieve Vision Zero: zero fatalities and zero serious injuries.*

- S1: Maintain infrastructure condition to provide safe conditions for the traveling public.
- S2: Continue improvements to the safety rest area program to provide safe stopping locations for the traveling public.
- S3: Target safety improvement projects to address crash pattern locations.
- S4: Incorporate technology advancements in project development to improve safety.
- S5: Leverage relationships with education, enforcement, emergency medical services, and engineering partners to foster a culture of safety on Montana roadways.
- S6: Reduce unsafe driving behavior through targeted focus on transportation safety emphasis areas identified in Montana’s Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan.
- S7: Enhance crash data integration and analysis to support decision making and data-driven problem identification.
- S8: Provide leadership in air traveler safety through promotion of flight safety, accident prevention, and air search and rescue programs.

SYSTEM PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE

**GOAL:** *Preserve and maintain existing transportation infrastructure.*

- SPM1: Employ an asset management approach to monitor system performance and develop an optimal investment plan ensuring like conditions throughout state.
- SPM2: Provide the right improvements at the right time to manage infrastructure assets using cost-effective strategies.
- SPM3: Perform routine repairs and maintenance to provide consistent levels of service.
- SPM4: Design new facilities for durability and longer life cycles using state-of-the-art materials and methods.
- SPM5: Support preservation of the existing rail, transit, and aviation systems in coordination with industry partners.

MOBILITY AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

**GOAL:** *Facilitate the movement of people and goods recognizing the importance of economic vitality.*

- MEV1: Maintain a transportation network that supports the economic health of Montana communities.
- MEV2: Enhance the freight network with targeted improvements to freight corridors.
- MEV3: Consider the influence of user characteristics and technology advancements on travel demand patterns.
- MEV4: Promote efficient traffic management and operations by implementing practices that manage travel demand, reduce delay, and enhance mobility.
- MEV5: Preserve the federal Essential Air Service program and continue support for Montana communities and airport operators through education and funding opportunities.
- MEV6: Preserve existing Amtrak service and continue support for Montana communities served by Amtrak.
- MEV7: Preserve mobility on the highway system through access management and proactive corridor preservation in coordination with local jurisdictions.
- MEV8: Consistently apply the System Impact Action Process to ensure developers equitably mitigate their impacts to the highway system.
- MEV9: Consider system redundancy to enable access to alternative routes during times of emergency.
- MEV10: Facilitate and coordinate access to recreational, historical, cultural, and scenic destinations for tourism purposes.
- MEV11: Provide support for state and local economic development initiatives to allow for new economic opportunities.
- MEV12: Perform winter maintenance activities to provide consistent levels of service and enable wintertime mobility.

Goals and Strategies

ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY

**GOAL:** *Preserve access to the transportation network and connectivity between modes.*

- AC1: Improve pedestrian, public transportation, and other MDT-owned facilities to ensure accessibility to individuals with disabilities.
- AC2: Employ an asset management system to monitor and manage public transportation capital assets.
- AC3: Implement a consistent approach for investment, design, connectivity, and maintenance of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- AC4: Identify and consider accessibility and connectivity needs on improvement projects.
- AC5: Coordinate use of public transportation systems through integrated planning with providers.
- AC6: Maximize efficiency of transportation options available to disadvantaged populations.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

**GOAL:** *Support MDT’s transportation mission through regulatory compliance and responsible stewardship of the built and natural environment.*

- ES1: Evaluate environmental constraints and cost-effective opportunities during the planning process.
- ES2: Foster positive working relationships with resource agencies and stakeholders through early coordination and consultation.
- ES3: Consider context sensitive solutions early in the planning process and through design to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to the built and natural environment while meeting the project purpose and need.
- ES4: Identify cost-effective mitigation solutions for unavoidable project impacts.
- ES5: Meet regulatory requirements.
- ES6: Consider transportation planning with tribal, federal, state, and local government management and resource planning efforts.
- ES7: Streamline environmental reviews through early identification of constraints and opportunities and early public engagement during planning.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

**GOAL:** *Provide efficient, cost-effective management and operation to accelerate transportation project delivery and ensure system reliability.*

- BOM1: Coordinate with state and federal agencies to support transportation security and enable appropriate response and recovery from emergency and disaster situations.
- BOM2: Develop and implement a long-range multimodal transportation improvement program that addresses Montana’s statewide transportation needs, is consistent with the statewide long-range transportation plan and management system output, and maximizes the use of federal funds through the Performance Programming Process (P3) to ensure a cost-effective, efficient, and safe transportation system.
- BOM3: Recruit and retain a qualified workforce and conduct staff succession planning to sustain MDT business operations.
- BOM4: Exercise sound financial management to ensure business continuity, enable adequate matching funds for the federal aid program, and ensure adequate state funding for system maintenance and operations.
- BOM5: Invest at the appropriate level to achieve performance targets given available funding.
- BOM6: Employ proactive management strategies to ensure compliance with rules and regulations, identify risk to MDT and the transportation network, and facilitate equitable participation in MDT programs and services.
- BOM7: Enhance information technology products and services through modernization of legacy systems and implementation of new technologies to improve efficiency and cost-effectively meet customer and department needs.