



Transit, Bicycling, Walking & Rolling: How Lawmakers Can Improve Mobility for All Minnesotans in 2022

In Minnesota, everyone should be able to easily get around in sustainable, affordable, safe, and healthy ways. Our families, climate, and communities are counting on you to take action this session!

> CREATE LASTING SOLUTIONS IN ALL OUR MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

We all benefit when it's easy to walk, roll, bike, and bus. These essential ways of getting around are dramatically underfunded every year. Legislators must ensure communities of all sizes have enough resources to build out the solutions that fit their needs.

With statewide investment in public transit we can not only protect the service Minnesotans rely on today, **we can create a better transit system that will connect communities, stabilize our climate, expand access to jobs and resources, and improve daily life for people of all ages, races, incomes, and abilities.** With statewide investment in accessible sidewalks and safe bike routes, Minnesota seniors and people with disabilities can keep more of their independence, and kids and families can navigate their towns and neighborhoods without fear of being hit by a car. **Transit investments supercharge other equity and climate-focused state spending**—affordable housing without access to reliable transit or active transportation services can create new obstacles for families, and increased opportunities and spending for healthcare are meaningless if patients do not show up for appointments because they cannot travel to receive services.

Across the state, transportation has a major impact on whether Minnesotans can get to work and school, buy groceries, visit the doctor, and connect with friends and family—or whether those essentials are out of reach. Inadequate transportation compounds the inequalities communities of color, low-wealth communities, and people with disabilities experience every day. And with transportation now the top source of climate pollution in Minnesota and across the United States, bold transportation change is critical to solving the climate crisis we're all facing.

> ADVANCE URGENTLY NEEDED TRANSIT, WALKING & BIKING PROJECTS NOW

Minnesota communities are long overdue for transit, bicycling, walking, and rolling improvements. People across the state continue struggling to get around because urgent projects don't have the resources they need to move forward. In 2022, lawmakers have a clear opportunity to **make immediate, meaningful progress through \$208M in strategic capital investments that help Minnesota rise to this historic moment** and leverage an unprecedented influx of federal relief dollars:

- Advance equity and climate goals as an overarching theme, in addition to economic development and job creation.
- Support \$100 million for arterial bus rapid transit in the metro—to finish the work started on the F Line, begin and complete construction on the G Line, and to plan and engineer for additional lines that finally move the region beyond a smattering of routes to a connected system.
- Support \$5 million for transit facilities in Greater Minnesota.
- Support \$12 million for active transportation across the state (\$10 million in bonds, \$2 million in cash).
- Support \$5 million for statewide Safe Routes to School.
- Support \$86 million for passenger rail service connecting the Twin Cities and Duluth.



**Transit funding can't wait!
Transportation is the leading
source of climate pollution in MN.**

MINNESOTANS STRONGLY SUPPORT INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC TRANSIT

3 in 4 Minnesotans support the State Legislature making additional investments to expand and improve public transit, including buses, trains, and light rail.¹

68% of Minnesotans want a transportation package that includes funding for safe bicycling and pedestrian routes.²

Among strategies to reduce climate pollution from transportation, Minnesotans show the strongest support for improving public transit, promoting electric buses and trains, and creating walkable and bikable communities.³



> CHAMPION LONG-TERM FUNDING TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND SECURE OUR FUTURE

One-time money isn't enough. Reliable, long-term, dedicated funding is urgently needed to create lasting change. A minimum 10-year investment in transit, bicycling, walking, and rolling would dramatically improve daily life for Minnesota families and secure a more equitable, climate-resilient future for all of us. We call on state leaders to:

>> **Make public transit fast, frequent, and convenient throughout the Twin Cities.** | \$690M annually for 10 years would:

- **Build 21 additional Twin Cities bus rapid transit lines**
- **Reduce wait time on core transit lines to just five minutes at rush hour**
- **Expand suburban express service hours to all day**
- **Expand highway bus rapid transit in our metro**
- **Eliminate transit fares**
- **Electrify the bus system**
- **Close existing and anticipated operating gaps**
- **Improve bicycling and walking connections**

>> **Meet needs in Greater Minnesota** by fully funding MnDOT bicycle plans, MnDOT-identified transit needs, and the Statewide Pedestrian System Plan. | \$183.5M annually for 10 years.

1 Per a statewide poll of 500 registered Minnesota voters, conducted August 22-26, 2018, for the Minneapolis Regional Chamber by Public Opinion Strategies.

2 Per a statewide poll of 502 registered Minnesota voters, conducted February 1-5, 2017, for the Minnesota Environmental Partnership by Fairbank, Maslin, Maulin, Metz & Associates and Public Opinion Strategies.

3 Per Minnesota Department of Transportation, *Pathways to Decarbonizing Transportation in Minnesota*, August 2019, page 35.



Led by Move Minnesota, the Transportation Forward coalition is calling on the legislature to invest in transit, bicycling, and walking in communities statewide. Learn more at transportationforwardmn.org.

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