Prepared for:

Great Falls MPO



June 16, 2023



Public Outreach #1 Summary











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Public Outreach #1 Summary

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In April and May 2023, the planning team conducted the first of two public outreach efforts to engage the Great Falls community in the *Great Falls Area Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)*. The purpose of this outreach effort was to provide information about the planning process, identify community goals and objectives, share early findings, and collect feedback.

1.1. OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Several outreach activities were offered including a public opinions survey, a public open house, one-on-one stakeholder meetings, a Council of Councils meeting, and engagement opportunities on the plan website as summarized below.

SURVEY

An online survey was conducted between April 10, and May 10, 2023. The survey consisted of 14 questions aiming to understand community travel habits, opinions on traffic and safety matters, and priorities for various transportation system improvements. A summary of the survey results is contained in **Section 2.0**.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

A public open house was held on Monday, May 22, 2023, to discuss the *Great Falls Area LRTP*. The planning team presented a high-level overview of the planning process, shared initial findings, and offered opportunities for the public to share feedback. Several members of the team were available to answer questions and gather feedback from attendees. Additional details about the open house are provided in **Section 3.0**.



The public and stakeholders discuss transportation system needs at the first open house for the Great Falls Area LRTP.

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

The planning team was available for individual stakeholder meetings on Tuesday, May 23, and Wednesday, May 24, 2023. Emails were sent to key stakeholders announcing the opportunity to sign up for a time slot to meet with the planning team outside of the open house. The planning team met with stakeholders representing the River's Edge Trail, Great Falls Transit District, North Central Independent Living, and the Great Falls Development Authority. The conversations with these stakeholders proved invaluable to the planning process, offering different perspectives, providing key development plans, and opening lines of communication with the City and MPO.



COUNCIL OF COUNCILS MEETINGS

On Tuesday, May 23, 2023, the planning team attended the regularly scheduled Great Falls Council of Councils meeting to solicit feedback from the nine neighborhood councils about community needs and priorities. The planning team gave a brief presentation summarizing the planning process, preliminary findings, and opportunities to engage further in the planning process. Members of the planning team fielded a few questions and encouraged council members and their constituents to submit comments on the plan website.

WEBSITE ENGAGEMENT

In addition to the in-person outreach activities, the public has been engaged on the plan website (www.greatfallstransplan.com) since early 2023. The website includes opportunities to leave formal comments, join the email distribution list, and an interactive commenting map where participants can drop pins at spot locations to provide comments. A summary of the comments from the interactive commenting map as of June 15, 2023 are contained in **Appendix A**.

1.2. Noticing

The public and stakeholders were made aware of the public engagement opportunities through several methods including print and electronic means. Notices were sent through email, press releases sent to local media outlets, updates on the City's social media channels, a display ad in the local newspaper, and posts on the City and plan websites. Several news outlets wrote articles and shared information about the plan. A local news channel, KRTV, invited the Great Falls Senior Transportation Planner to talk about the plan and the survey on the air.



2.0 SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

The survey opened on April 10, and closed on May 10, 2023. A total of 575 responses were received for the survey. To ensure confidentiality, all answers were anonymous. All questions were optional and could be skipped at any time, and therefore the number of responses may vary for each question. A copy of the survey is provided in **Appendix B** and a summary of the responses is contained in the following sections.

Q1. Indicate your frequency of using the following transportation modes to access a destination within the Great Falls area in the past 12 months. A total of 573 responses were received for the first question. Figure 1 shows the number of results received for each option categorized by the frequency of use by each participant. Using a personal vehicle was the most common transportation mode used by participants, with 85 percent of respondents reporting daily use. Walking and bicycling had varied responses with about 55 percent of respondents using a bicycle and nearly 88 percent walking for some trips. Public transit and shared ride services were not as common, with 75 percent and 60 percent, respectively, of participants reporting their frequency of use as 'Never' but several respondents indicating occasional or rare use. Wheelchairs and scooters were also uncommon, with 96 percent and 89 percent of participants reporting their frequency of use as 'Never'.

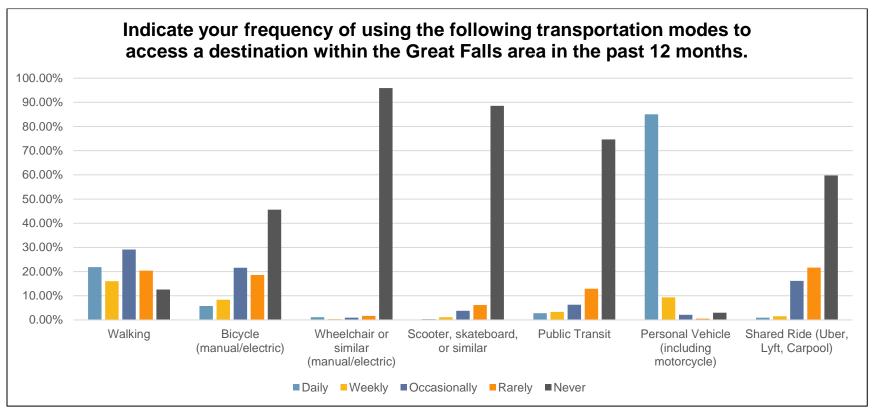


Figure 1: Question #1 Results



Q2. What is the average length of your commute to work one way?

Question 2 received a total of 571 responses. Most of the participants, 39 percent, rated their average length of commute as '10-20 minutes', and 32 percent of participants commute 'less than 10 minutes'. Very few participants commute more than 30 minutes to work. About 19 percent indicated that they work from home or don't work. A few respondents indicated that their travel time varies based on which mode they choose to use.

Q3. Which of the following transportation barriers prevent you from getting where you need to go on time? (Please select all that apply)

Question 3 received a total of 525 responses. Most participants, 50 percent, selected 'too much traffic/congestion' as a barrier. Another common answer was 'road conditions,' with 40 percent of respondents indicating this as a barrier. Lack of pedestrian or bicycle facilities was selected by 20 and 24 percent of respondents, respectively. A total of 105 participants provided comments, a few comments stated that public transit was not available to them, and some said they had no barriers at all.

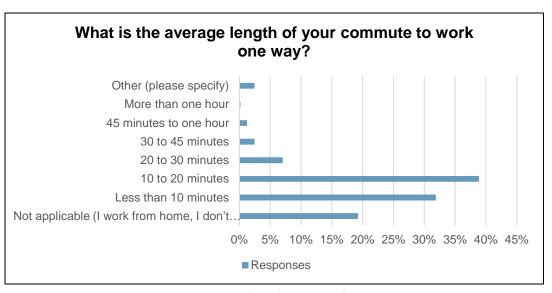


Figure 2: Question #2 Results

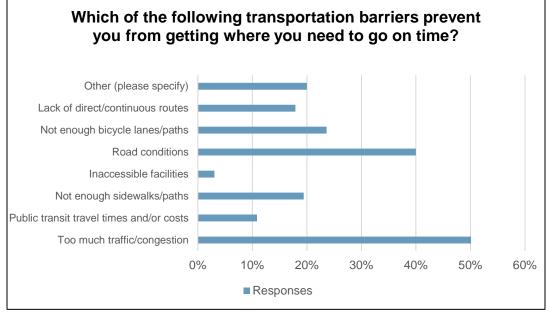


Figure 3: Question #3 Results



Q4. If you primarily use a personal vehicle for transportation, are there other transportation options currently available to you? (Please select all that apply)

Question 4 received a total of 549 responses. About 38 percent of respondents indicated that they have no other option except driving their personal vehicle. Conversely, a similar percentage indicated having walking, biking, or public transportation as available options. The carpool/vanpool/shared ride option was the least common with only 13 percent of participants indicating having this option available to them. Comments mention that walking and biking are only seasonal options due to winter weather.

<u>Q5. How likely would you be to use the following transportation options if they were available and convenient to you?</u>

There were 571 responses to question 5. This question prompted participants to rate a selection of transportation options by likelihood of use if available to them. Most (85 percent) respondents indicated they would drive themselves. Bus and carpool options were less common with 40 percent and 32 percent of respondents rating very unlikely, though there were several respondents who considered these options likely if they were available and convenient. About 22 percent of participants indicated that it was likely or very likely that they would walk/bike/scooter if it was available and convenient. Safety for walking and biking options was mentioned as a barrier to these modes and the limited service area of public transportation was noted as preventing respondents from taking the bus.

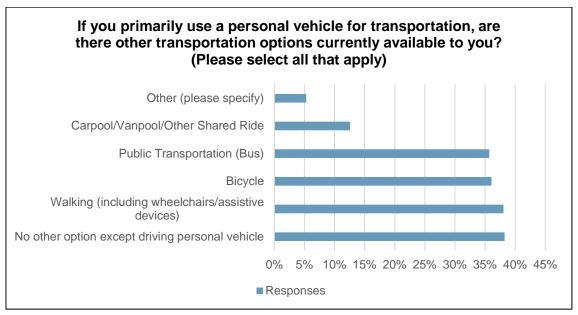


Figure 4: Question #4 Results

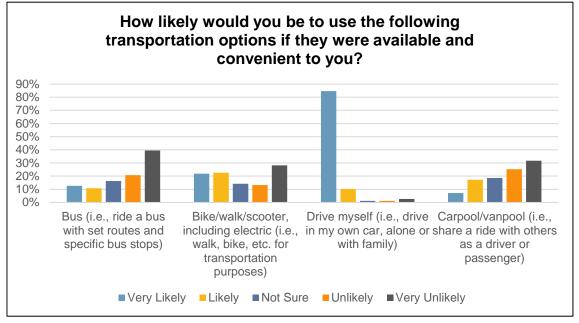


Figure 5: Question #5 Results



Q6. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements: (Agree, Disagree, Unsure, Not Applicable)

Question 6 had 571 responses. About 77 percent of respondents agreed that, 'when deciding how to make my daily trip, my personal vehicle is the only safe, convenient, affordable option.' However, 74 percent of respondents agreed that they would, 'walk to work, school, shopping, or other activities if they were close enough.' Several respondents also indicated that they would walk or bike more if the infrastructure was safer and more convenient. About 30 percent of participants indicated that they were open to the idea of using transit, telecommuting, or implementing flexible work schedules if conditions were right.

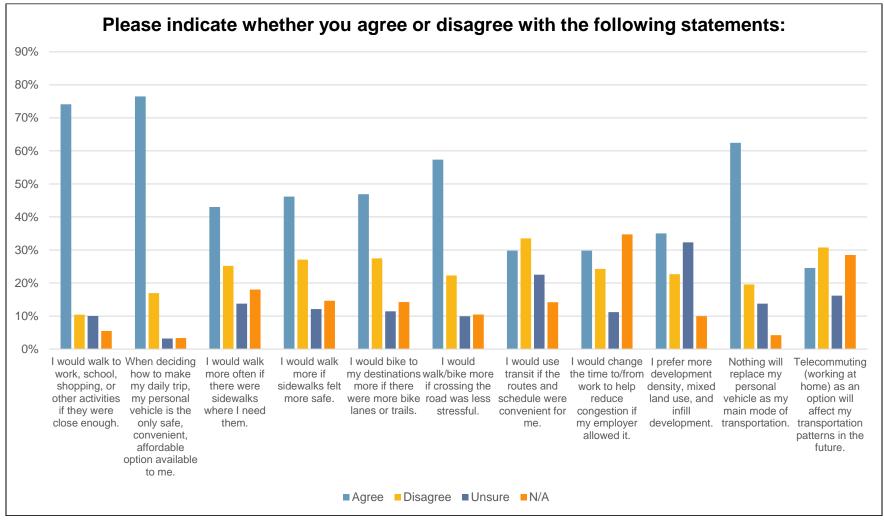


Figure 6: Question #6 Results



Q7. How well do the existing transportation facilities meet your needs?

There were 529 responses for question 7. This question asked participants to rate existing transportation facilities by how well they meet the participants' needs. Vehicle facilities were the best rated, with 26 and 57 percent of participants rating these facilities very well and moderately well, respectively. Pedestrian facilities were the next top rated with 12 and 52 percent of participants rating the facilities as meeting participants needs very or moderately well. Bicycle facilities and transit facilities were rated lower with about 45 and 33 percent of users indicating these facilities don't meet participants need very well or at all, respectively. Some reasons for lower scores include inconvenience, ADA accessibility, winter maintenance, potholes, safety, and efficiency of facilities.

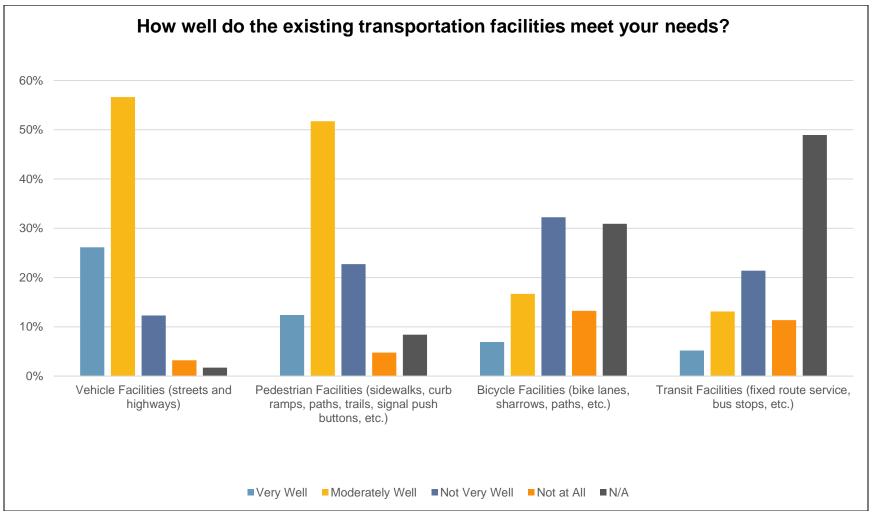


Figure 7: Question #7 Results



Q8. Rank in order of importance, the following issues impacting your travel habits that need to be addressed over the next 20+ years.

Question 8 had 530 responses. This question asked the participants to rank issues impacting travel habits from 1-11 with 1 being the most important and 11 being the least important. A composite score is shown on the graph for each option, which was calculated using a weighted average of the rankings. Higher ranked options received higher scores. Road maintenance and infrastructure scored the highest with a score of 9.88 followed by reduced traffic congestion and new routes which resulted in scores of 8.2 and 8.0, respectively. The majority of respondents (59 percent) ranked access to electric vehicle charging stations as the lowest priority. Pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvements were ranked between 3 and 6 for the bulk of respondents.

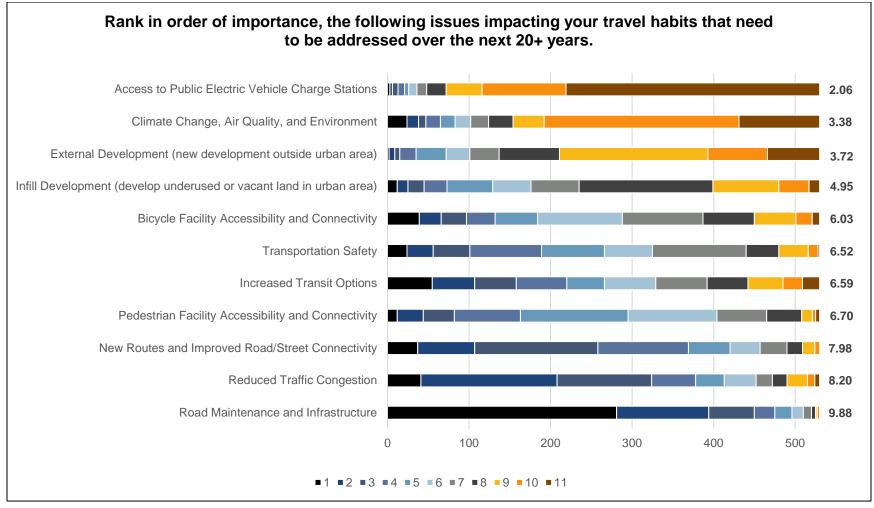


Figure 8: Question #8 Results



Q9. Please provide any additional information or suggestions that may be helpful for development of the 2023 Great Falls Area Long Range Transportation Plan.

Question 9 was open-ended and provided an opportunity for participants to share additional comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the LRTP. A total of 154 participants offered feedback. **Table 1** contains a summary of the comments received.

Table 1: Question #9 - Summary of Public Comments

Topic	Comment Summary
Roads and Infrastructure	Participants feel that funds should be focused on constructing/expanding new roads. Several participants expressed the desire to create a bypass for 10th Ave S and add alternate routes through the city to break up traffic. There were also a few requests to fill in potholes and improve the condition of existing roads.
Pedestrians & Bicyclists	Participants desire more pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. This includes constructing more sidewalks and protected bike paths and expanding the Rivers Edge Trail. Better routing, wayfinding, and connectivity are desired.
Safety	Safety for all road users is a high priority. There is a desire for safer streets, sidewalks, and crosswalks, less traffic near schools, and more signs for bike paths. There was a request for sidewalks and lights on Upper River Road. Participants feel that 10th Ave South and Fox Farm Rd are dangerous and hard to cross.
Traffic Signals	Many participants have said that traffic lights are not effectively coordinated on major arterials. There were also suggestions for more roundabouts in place of signals and stop signs to control traffic better and keep it flowing.
Traffic Volumes	Many participants had concerns for 10th Ave S traffic volume impacting traffic flows and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Many comments indicated that commercial truck volumes on major arterials make travel uncomfortable for other road users.
Transit	There is a large desire for public transportation options to be expanded. Many participants would utilize public transit if it was available in their area and had longer hours of operation.
Turning movements and Access	There is a desire for more left and right turning lanes, and left turn signals.

Q10. What is your ZIP code?

A total of 498 respondents indicated their zip code. Nearly all reported zip codes are located within Cascade County with 93.4 percent of participants residing in Great Falls, as shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Question #10 - Respondent Zip Code

County	City/Town	Respondents
	Great Falls	93.4%
	Vaughn	0.8%
	Sand Coulee	0.6%
Cascade County	Ulm	0.6%
	Black Eagle	0.6%
	Belt	0.2%
	Cascade	0.4%
Chouteau	Carter	0.4%
County	Highwood	0.2%
Glacier County	Cut Bank	0.2%
Other/Unknown		2.6%



Q11. What is your age?

A total of 525 respondents provided their age. All age groups, except the under 18 age group, were represented in the survey while the majority of participants were within the 35 to 44 and 55 to 64 age ranges. A large proportion of participants, nearly 20 percent, were in the 65 or older category which may represent the population that responded that they do not commute to work because they are retired. Older individuals may have different transportation needs than younger individuals, including enhanced accessibility and alternatives to driving themselves.

Q12. What is your household income?

A total of 523 respondents indicated their household income level. The majority of respondents, 35 percent, earn \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year. Only 15 percent of respondents earn more than \$150,000 per year and roughly 18 percent earn under \$50,000 per year. Nationally, lower income populations are less likely to have access to vehicles and may rely on public transportation, walking, or biking to get where they need to go.

<u>Q13. How did you learn about this survey? (Please select</u> all that apply)

There were 523 responses to this question. Most participants, 40 percent, indicated that they learned about this survey from a news story. A large majority, 27 and 24 percent, respectively, learned from email and social media. This information helps identify the outreach methods with the most reach for future noticing efforts.

<u>Q14. Please provide your email address if you would like</u> to subscribe to updates about the plan.

The final question offered participants the opportunity to join the plan email list so they can be notified when plan updates are available. A total of 138 participants provided their contact information and will be added to the email list.

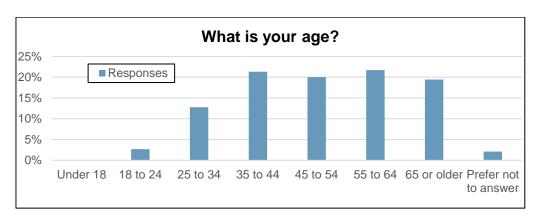


Figure 9: Question #11 Results

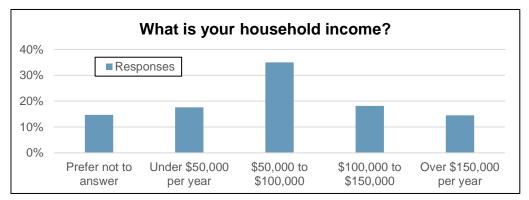


Figure 10: Question #12 Results

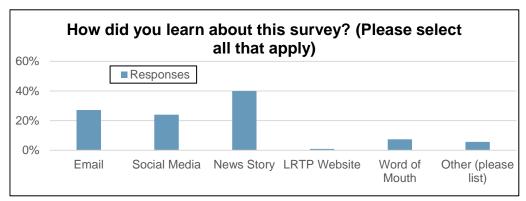


Figure 11: Question #13 Results



3.0 PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE SUMMARY

A public open house was held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at the Civic Center Commission Chambers from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The meeting was formatted as an open house with extended hours so participants could attend at their convenience. Upon arrival, participants were invited to sign in and provide contact information for future updates. Comment cards were available for those who chose to share written comments. The comment card also directed attendees to the plan website and the interactive commenting map so they could share their comments electronically at their convenience.

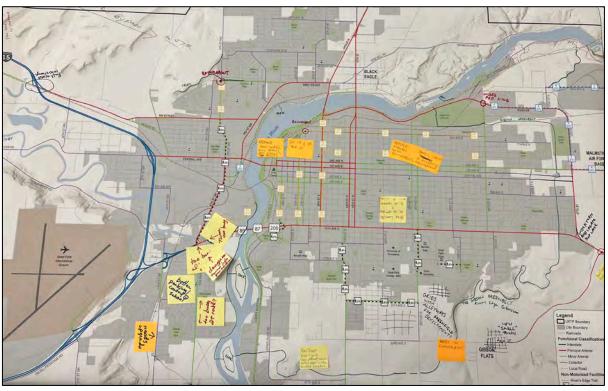
3.1. Participation

A total of 14 participants signed in for the open house. Attendees included representatives from the City of Great Falls, Great Falls MPO, Montana Department of Transportation, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, Great Falls School District, and interested members of the public.

3.2. FORMAT

A series of display boards were set up around the room for attendees to view and consider. Members of the planning team were available to greet attendees, share information about the plan, and listen to feedback. The display boards contained a high-level overview of the planning effort, intended outcomes, a map of the planning area boundary, and preliminary findings relating to the existing multimodal transportation system, travel trends, and future considerations. Displays from the event are contained in Appendix C.

A station was also set up with a large map of the planning area with pens and sticky notes available for participants to write, draw, and leave notes. This station offered an opportunity for attendees to identify areas of concern, ideas for improvement, and other considerations for the planning team.



Open house participants shared several comments about specific locations with the planning team using the interactive mapping station.





APPENDIX A:

Wikimap Comments (As of June 15, 2023)











#	Category	Initial Comment	Create Date	Comment	Comment Date	Net Like	Like	Dislike	View Feature
			Date	I Agree, there would be a good amount of people needing	5/30/2023				
1	Transit Comment	Please run a route to the airport area.	5/4/2023	this I Agree	5/31/2023	2	3	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440155&type=point&no_login=1_
				I Agree	6/6/2023				
2	Bicycle Comment	Add E/W route south of Central Ave and north of 10th Ave S	5/23/2023	I Agree	5/30/2023		1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440926&type=point&no_login=1
3	Vehicle Comment	Can be tricky to cross Central Ave when driving on 32nd St in morning commute.	5/23/2023	I Agree. Four way stop would be a good addition.	5/30/2023		2	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440927&type=point&no_login=1
		commute.		I Agree, even other times of the day it's tricky. I Agree; Central is plenty wide enough to allow for bike	6/1/2023				
4	Bicycle Comment	Need dedicated bike lanes on Central	5/23/2023	lanes.	5/31/2023	3	3	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440928&type=point&no_login=1
5	Vehicle Comment	Transition into roundabout for better safety and traffic flow	5/23/2023	I Agree I Agree. Though people might not be used to it at first it honestly might help 3rd St NW not get as congested	6/6/2023 5/30/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440936&type=point&no_login=1
6	Pedestrian Comment	Move crossing further down and add blinking button to link river's edge safely to street orid.	5/23/2023	during rush hour.		0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440937&type=point&no_login=1
7	Pedestrian Comment	Put a park on park island for pedestrians and cyclists	5/23/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440938&type=point&no_login=1
8	Pedestrian Comment	Hard to cross the road	5/24/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440979&type=point&no_login=1
9	Pedestrian Comment	Sidewalk connector to these businesses. In the winter, the snow is so high it's hard to walk across without a path to these businesses (Sushi, Coldstone, Steakhouse, black bear, and McDonalds).	5/24/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440980&type=point&no_login=1
10	Pedestrian Comment	Crosswalk markings needed. Neighborhood kids cross Flood Rd on foot and bike to get to the church for different afterschool actives. It would be great if they had a marked path.	5/24/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=440981&type=point&no_login=1
11	Vehicle Comment	There should be a left turn arrow onto the 15th Street bridge due to heavy westbound traffic on River Drive North, much of which is industrial.	5/25/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441030&type=point&no_login=1
12	Bicycle Comment	Trail connection needed at 25th St N	5/26/2023		5/30/2023	4	4	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441089&type=point&no_login=1
				I Agree.	5/30/2023				
13	Bicycle Comment	Trail connection needed at 25th St N		I Agree that more trail connections are needed for both bikers and pedestrians, but this spot would be hard to connect to the trail. Perhaps a better location would be to connect from 8th Avenue North to the location of the Caboose on the trail between 15th Street and 25th Street	5/31/2023	4	4	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441089&type=point&no_login=1
14	Bicycle Comment	Can we get bike lanes to the River's Edge Trail in Riverview?	5/30/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441147&type=point&no_login=1
15	Vehicle Comment	1st Ave S between 12th and 13th streets is like a roller coaster ride since the water main work last year. I think the company that resurfaced needs to fix this.	5/30/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441166&type=point&no_login=1
16	Transit Comment	I live on 61 hawk drive. Paratransit would sure help me. I am a single mom that struggles to get her son places	5/30/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441169&type=point&no_login=1
17	Vehicle Comment	Ist and 2nd Aves North are state-managed "minor arterials." Between 15th and 36th Streets, each of these allows two traffic lanes and two parking lanes (left and right). By law, each lane should be a minimum of 8 feet wide. The average width in this stretch is 28 feet (four feet short of minimum for the lanes). Very few people actually park on these avenues, due to the hazard, and use driveways/alleyways instead. Please look at the safety of the current situation, and compare them to 25th and 26th Streets North, which are also state-managed minor arterials, but have been converted to two traffic lanes and just one parking lane-much safer and saner!	5/30/2023	I Agree	6/6/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441179&type=point&no_login=1
18	Vehicle Comment	If it's possible, extend the rest of tenth to the same lane count from 26th Street up to 38th street.	5/30/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441180&type=point&no_login=1
19	Bicycle Comment	Bike lanes on the shoulder of 10th Ave S would be appreciated	5/30/2023	I agree that bike lanes near 10th Ave S are necessary but would prefer the lanes on 9th Avenue South running the full length of the city	5/31/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441181&type=point&no_login=1
20	Transit Comment	More bus routes especially in residential areas and longer hours of operation along with being open on Sunday's would help immensely for those who are not able to drive or bike. You can look at other cities in Montana such as Missoula for example. Our public bus system currently is pretty lacking.	5/30/2023	I Agree. I also think Missoula候s bus system being free allows many more people to ride regularly, and encourages bus use for younger people, students, parents, seniors, and low-income individuals. Great Falls would greatly benefit from an improved public transit system and a free fare system.	5/31/2023	2	2	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441182&type=point&no_login=1
21	Vehicle Comment	When turning East onto 10th Ave S from the inside left turn lane, the median sticks out so far that the turn is nearly a 90 degree turn, making the adjacent left turn lane vehicle very closeperhaps shortening the median would allow for a less sharp turn	5/31/2023	I Agree	5/31/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441186&type=point&no_login=1
22	Vehicle Comment	I feel a second left hand turn lane should be added at the southbound intersection of 25th and 10th Ave S. A lot of people turn left to go to the hospital and then have to cross 3 lanes to make that immediate right hand t	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441187&type=point&no_login=1
23	Vehicle Comment	Great Falls Neighborhood Council 3 has heard complaints from residents about speeding cars on the narrow portion of 6th Street N.W., north of Smelter Avenue. Cars exceeding the speed limit have created a safety issue for pedestrians and animals. Widening the road could provide better visibility for drivers.	5/31/2023	I Disagree. Widening the road will encourage drivers to drive faster. (Think: wide interstate lane vs. narrow alleyway.) The lanes should be narrower to naturally slow drivers.	5/31/2023	-1	0	1	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441189&type=point&no_login=1

24	Pedestrian Comment	Could we get flashing pedestrian lights for our schools? Similar to what	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441211&type=point&no_login=1
		Benefis has for its crosswalk. Three lanes on 1st Ave North is not necessary to accommodate the traffic.							
25	Bicycle Comment	Recommend removing one lane and including bike lanes on both sides from Park Drive to 9th Street.	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441264&type=point&no_login=1
26	Bicycle Comment	Three lanes on 1st Avenue South is not necessary to accommodate the level of traffic. Recommend removing one lane and including bike lane from Park Drive to 9th Street.	5/31/2023		6/6/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441265&type=point&no_login=1
27	Bicycle Comment	Clearly painted bike lanes needed on the 8th Ave N biking corridor	5/31/2023	Painted lanes do nothing for cyclist safety. A dedicated lane with a physical barrier is needed for cyclists of all ages to be safe.	5/31/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441266&type=point&no_login=1
28	Vehicle Comment	This is an uncontrolled intersection that is out of control. Please consider making it a 4 way stop or adding yield signs to blvd	5/31/2023			1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441267&type=point&no_login=1
20	Pedestrian Comment	Sidewalks need updated at crossings to allow for strollers, wheelchairs,	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441268&type=point&no_login=1
25	redestriari Comment	bikes to transition easier instead of the large curbs	3/31/2023				U	0	Interpolation Interpolation
30	Pedestrian Comment	Dangerous intersection for pedestrians. No crosswalk. No need for a three lane highway cutting thru the heart of downtown. The dedicated turn lane for cars needs to be eliminated.	5/31/2023		6/6/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441300&type=point&no_login=1
		Install a protected left turn arrow west bound on 10th Ave S for people		I Agree. One needs to be at 23rd St S also	6/1/2023				
31	Vehicle Comment	turning south on 20th St. S.	5/31/2023		6/1/2023	3	3	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441301&type=point&no_login=1
32	Pedestrian Comment	Rivers Edge trail is weakly linked across River Drive and is barely linked at all to Downtown. There needs to be more prominent access, fewer parking lots, and more infill development and this could be a pedestrian-friendly corridor.	5/31/2023	I Agree	6/11/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441302&type=point&no_login=1
33	Vehicle Comment	Repurpose driving lanes and add angled street parking like on Central Ave for all one-way streets	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441303&type=point&no_login=1
		Too many parking lots downtown. They are almost all vacant. City should		I Agree- too many vacant lots but not enough affordable					
34	Vehicle Comment	add more angled street parking and alleyway angled parking Bus needs to run later, especially on weekends. It should link a few	5/31/2023	monthly or pay to park options.	6/1/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441304&type=point&no_login=1
	Transit Comment	disparate parts of town frequently rather than try and cover all of town infrequently.	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441305&type=point&no_login=1
	Transit Comment	Bus should run later to cover nightlife/dinner crowd	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441306&type=point&no_login=1_
37	Vehicle Comment	Reduce to one lane, slow traffic, add angled street parking	5/31/2023	I Disagree	6/1/2023	-1	0	1	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441307&type=point&no_login=1
38	Vehicle Comment	10th Ave S (also 89) should either be a street or a road. A street is a pedestrian friendly place to park cars and construct a nice place to be. A road is an efficient way to move cars between nice places. Currently, it fails to be a street because it is so dangerous to walk there. It also fails to be a road because driving is stressful and unsafe. Traffic engineers should decide whether it ought to be a street or a road.	5/31/2023			1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441308&type=point&no_login=1
39	Pedestrian Comment	I walk intersections across 1st often and walkers are always waiting for the light. Drivers are also waiting for the light. We should install bump out sidewalks to encourage more walkers, replace the lights with single lane roundabouts, and add parking to benefit businesses on 1st	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441309&type=point&no_login=1
40	Pedestrian Comment	I do not feel safe crossing any of the one-ways downtown	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441310&type=point&no_login=1
	Vehicle Comment	This intersection should be a roundabout	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441311&type=point&no_login=1
42	Vehicle Comment	This intersection should be a roundabout	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441312&type=point&no_login=1
43	Pedestrian Comment	I saw a man in crutches struggling to cross 3rd with his wife and two children. I've almost been hit while crossing. 3rd is a deathtrap for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441313&type=point&no_login=1
44	Pedestrian Comment	How are we supposed to get from the River's Edge Trail to the Expo Park?	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441314&type=point&no_login=1
45	Vehicle Comment	More yield signs along these secondary roads that have more traffic would really be helpful.	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441321&type=point&no_login=1
46	Vehicle Comment	This red light is typically very difficult to navigate, often and various times of the day the traffic is backed up past Super 1. It would be super helpful if there was another light (possibly at 34th?) to evenly spread the traffic here.	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441322&type=point&no_login=1
47	Vehicle Comment	Adding a secondary continuously moving traffic option in addition to 10th to connect both side of town and the residential areas in between is a fantastic idea.	6/1/2023	I Agree	6/8/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441324&type=point&no_login=1
48	Pedestrian Comment	This is an unsafe intersection for pedestrians. In order to see oncoming traffic, cars entering the intersection from 3rd Ave S have to pull into and obstruct the crosswalk - they do not watch for pedestrians when they do this. How many turning lanes does 3rd Ave S have on this intersection? I always see two cars create two right turning lanes. I frequently see cars who are trying to drive past the intersection (traveling N up 2 nd St) get firstrated waiting behind a car wanting to turn left on 3rd Ave S - so if parked cars aren't in the way to their right, they will speed up and zoom around the car waiting to turn, creating their own driving lane. This is where I will be killed as a pedestrian crossing the street.	6/1/2023	I Agree	6/6/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441326&type=point&no_login=1
	Pedestrian Comment	When this section of 10th Ave S was expanded into a 6 lane road, the sidewalk was moved behind the boulevard, protected by a line of greenery and trees. It would be nice if the rest of 10th Ave S had a barrier between cars and bike lanes + sidewalks, as it is terrifying to walk alongside 10th.	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441327&type=point&no_login=1
50	Pedestrian Comment	Why is there a tree planted in the middle of a sidewalk here?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441328&type=point&no_login=1

51	Bicycle Comment	A picture of a bicycle on the road is not enough to make a safe lane that bicyclists will want to use. I have walked this street twice to thrice a day for the last 6 years and have only witnessed 2 instances of bicyclists using the "bicycle lane."		I Agree! bike lanes in great falls barely exist, and I don't think most people know what they are here. Education and better marking are needed	6/7/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441329&type=point&no_login=1
52	Pedestrian Comment	How about safe pedestrian access to River's Edge Trail from these sidewalks?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441330&type=point&no_login=1
53	Bicycle Comment	Walking/Biking across 10th is a nightmare. We really need a bridge or something dedicated to safely crossing.	6/1/2023	I Agree	6/11/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441331&type=point&no_login=1
54	Pedestrian Comment	Narrow this vehicle entrance to Gibson Park like the other entrance was narrowed to slow down cars and prioritize pedestrian travel.	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441332&type=point&no_login=1
55	Pedestrian Comment	From Park Dr to 5th St, Central Äve could be closed to cars. In the street, we could have greenery and a walking path (Something similar to Last Chance Gulch in Helena). There is no real utility for cars in this stretch of Central.	6/1/2023	I Agree. Would be a great space for food trucks, events, etc	6/7/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441333&type=point&no_login=1
56	Bicycle Comment	Can we create a loop that connects the river's edge trail to GFC, UGF, GFH, CMR?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441334&type=point&no_login=1
57	Bicycle Comment	Can we create a loop that connects the river's edge trail to GFC, UGF, GFH, CMR?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441335&type=point&no_login=1
58	Bicycle Comment	Can we create a loop that connects the river's edge trail to GFC, UGF, GFH, CMR?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441336&type=point&no_login=1
59	Bicycle Comment	Can we create a loop that connects the river's edge trail to GFC, UGF, GFH, CMR?	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441337&type=point&no_login=1
60	Pedestrian Comment	There is one small section of sidewalk on the walking path at Carter Park that is completely missing. This missing section is a potential hazard for walkers & runners, to say nothing for people wanting to use strollers or bicycles on the path. This chunk of sidewalk has been damaged for at least 3 years. Numerous requests for repair have been made.	6/1/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=44133&&type=point&no_login=1
61	Vehicle Comment	We need a light or something here constantly people turning when they shouldn't and so many accidents	6/2/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441339&type=point&no_login=1
62	Vehicle Comment	Please consider putting in a round-about at the intersection of Smelter Ave NW and 6th St NW to ease traffic flow and make the intersection safer.	6/2/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441345&type=point&no_login=1
63	Vehicle Comment	Please consider putting in a round-about at the intersection of Smelter Ave NW and 4th St NE to ease traffic flow and make the intersection safer. This is a very dangerous intersection to try to cross from 4th St NE.	6/2/2023	I Agree	6/6/2023	1	1	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441346&type=point&no_login=1
64	Vehicle Comment	Please consider putting in a 4-way Stop to calm the traffic on 2nd St NE. NC3 has received many complaints on speeding on 2nd St NE.	6/2/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441347&type=point&no_login=1
65	Vehicle Comment	Reflective tape or paint at the base of the circle would help drivers unfamiliar with the roundabout to slow down as they enter the intersection at night. Drivers have driven over the top of the roundabout.	6/5/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441423&type=point&no_login=1
66	Vehicle Comment	Ice accumulates at the bottom of this slope, which makes the intersection with quick-moving traffic on 2nd Ave N dangerous in winter	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441433&type=point&no_login=1
67	Vehicle Comment	The southbound lane just south of the intersection with 1st Ave N seems to collapse the merging lane into a single lane immediately, then open up into two lanes almost as quickly. The lanes here are confusing, and should be two lanes all the way through.	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441434&type=point&no_login=1
68	Pedestrian Comment	Industrial/commercial traffic on River Drive has a strong negative impact on the peace and enjoyability of the park	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441435&type=point&no_login=1
69	Pedestrian Comment	Pedestrian bridges are needed for folks who live in this area	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441436&type=point&no_login=1
70	Vehicle Comment	Current parking policies make it difficult to leave a car overnight, which discourages use of downtown restaurants/bars, or worse, encourages impaired driving	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441438&type=point&no_login=1
71	Pedestrian Comment	The gradual removal of downtown seating presents a challenge to those with limited mobility. Some folks would like to, or need to, walk to their destination, but need a little rest along the way.	6/6/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441439&type=point&no_login=1
72	Vehicle Comment	On June 6, a vehicle traveling on 2nd Ave North managed to hit a light pole, severing it at ground level, and then plowed into a tree. The light pole and tree are in the boulevard section of my property in the 2900 block. This is the THIRD time since we have lived here (20 years) that a vehicle has taken out the light pole and battered the tree. What can you surmise from this? Think maybe the avenue is unsafe somehow? Not enough room for two traffic lanes plus two (unmarked) parking lanes? Not enough monitoring of speedsters in a residential zone? I have photos of multiple parked cars which have been rear-ended; broken off side mirrors; scraped side bodies. Also plenty of photos of cars parked on 1st and 2nd Aves North with two wheels up on the curb in hopes of not being hit; and photos of most of the stretches where no cars park at all, for safety reasons, presumably. I am just glad I was not mowing my lawn or walking on the sidewalk at the time(s), It's a matter of time before somebody is killed or badly injured-beside the drivers!	6/7/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441440&type=point&no_login=1
73	Vehicle Comment	This intersection is very dangerous when turning from 10th Ave onto Fox Farm when vehicles are turning into businesses as there is not enough turn space or part of vehicle sticks out into traffic.	6/8/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441471&type=point&no_login=1

74	Vehicle Comment	Need to deal with all of this traffic from 10th Ave trying to turn onto Fox FarmAt certain times of the day, traffic backs way up to almost the bridge causing safety issues as people coming across at 45 MPH to a stop.	6/8/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441472&type=point&no_login=1		
75	Vehicle Comment	In from of Meadowlark school traffic backs up bad 2 times/day when people trying to pick up or drop off kids. Need a short-term fix and long-term fix. As more homes built south of town this issue will only get worse.	6/8/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441473&type=point&no_login=1		
76	Vehicle Comment	This slip lane is quite dangerous due to the way the traffic light operates. Since the light is nearly always green, drivers do not expect that it might ever be yellow or red, and as such do not always register that the light is signaling to stop. This intersection has been the location of a few fatal accidents between vehicles and pedestrians/bikes, further indicating that the intersection as a whole is designed poorly and unsafely.	6/9/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=441485&type=point&no_login=1		
77	Corridor Comment	Reduce driving lanes, add angled street parking, slow traffic, and increase pedestrian amenities (bump out sidewalks, better crossings, and slower vehicles)	5/23/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330017&type=line&no_login=1		
78	Corridor Comment	Reduce lanes, slow traffic, add street parking and loading zones, increase pedestrian crossings	5/23/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330018&type=line&no_login=1		
79	Corridor Comment	How are pedestrians supposed to get to the trail from the rest of town?	5/23/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330019&type=line&no_login=1		
80	Corridor Comment	Add bypass long term		I don't think this would be wise as it would be too expensive and cuts through existing land.	5/31/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330020&type=line&no_login=1		
				should have been done 40 years ago.			-				
81	Corridor Comment	Add Greenbelt to loop Rivers Edge to the landlocked side of town	5/23/2023	Love this idea. would be easy to do at this point.	5/30/2023	0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330021&type=line&no_login=1		
82	Corridor Comment	Change the speed limit from 25 to 35 on 8th Ave N past 15th St N up to 38th St N as most people tend to drive faster on the road as it currently stands.	5/30/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330110&type=line&no_login=1		
83	Corridor Comment	There needs to be a way to walk and bike over this intersection either here or down by the Country Club. Right now this is very dangerous.	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330111&type=line&no_login=1		
84	Corridor Comment	We will probably need another bridge at some point to reduce congestion	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330118&type=line&no_login=1		
85	Corridor Comment	Link needed from neighborhoods to Rivers Edge Trail	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330119&type=line&no_login=1		
86	Corridor Comment	Rivers Edge Trail should extend thru golf course along railroad track to connect with neighborhoods	5/31/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330120&type=line&no_login=1		
87	Corridor Comment	Flooding of road during hard rain and/or snow melt is causing extreme hazards for drivers along this route. Need a short-term and long-term fix.	6/8/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330239&type=line&no_login=1		
88	Corridor Comment	Fox Farm traffic is getting too much for a route through housing are and going by school. Need a way of redirecting traffic away from Fox Farm.	6/8/2023			0	0	0	https://wikimapping.com/admin/index.php?op=ajax&act=auto_view_feature&id=1330240&type=line&no_login=1		

Comments: 88; Replies: 34; Likes/Dislikes: 37

Pedestrian Comment: 23 Bicycle Comment: 15 Transit Comment: 5 Vehicle Comment: 33 Corridor Comment: 12 Updated: June 15, 2023





APPENDIX B:

Great Falls LRTP Survey













Welcome!

Please take a moment to tell us what you think and help us better understand transportation issues that are important to you.

A lot can change in 20 years.

Help plan for the future of transportation in Great Falls. Please take 5 to 10 minutes to tell us how you see transportation changing over the next 5, 10, or even 20 years -- it's quick, it's easy, and it makes a difference!

For more information about the 2023 Great Falls Area Long Range Transportation Plan, please visit the plan website (www.greatfallstransplan.com) where you can view background information and learn about other opportunities to provide input. Thank you for your participation. The deadline to complete the survey is May 10, 2023.



Travel Habits

1. Indicate your frequency of using the following transportation modes to access a destination within the Great Falls area in the past 12 months.

	Daily	Weekly	Occasionally	Rarely	Never			
Walking	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Bicycle (manual/electric)	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Wheelchair or similar (manual/electric)	\bigcirc	\circ	0	\circ	\bigcirc			
Scooter, skateboard, or similar	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc			
Public Transit	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Personal Vehicle (including motorcycle)	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc			
Shared Ride (Uber, Lyft, Carpool)	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	0	\bigcirc	\circ			
Other (please specify)								

Other (please specify)	

2. What is the average length of your commute to work one way?
Less than 10 minutes
10 to 20 minutes
20 to 30 minutes
30 to 45 minutes
45 minutes to one hour
More than one hour
Other (please specify)
Not applicable (I work from home, I don't work, or other reason)
Too much traffic/congestion Public transit travel times and/or costs
Not enough sidewalks/paths
Inaccessible facilities
Road conditions
Not enough bicycle lanes/paths
Lack of direct/continuous routes
Other (please specify)

4. If you printhere other (Please sele	transporta	tion option								
Carpool/Vanpool/Other Shared Ride										
Public Transportation (Bus)										
Bicycle	Bicycle									
Walking (inclu	ıding wheelchairs	/assistive devices	5)							
No other option	on except driving	personal vehicle								
Other (please	specify)									
5. How likely would you be to use the following transportation options if they were available and convenient to you?										
Bus (i.e., ride a bus	Very Likely	Likely	Not Su	re Unlikely	Very Unlikely					
with set routes and specific bus stops)	O	O	O	O	O					
Bike/walk/scooter, including electric (i.e., walk, bike, etc. for transportation purposes)	0	0	\circ	0	\circ					
Drive myself (i.e., drive in my own car, alone or with family)	0	0	0	0	0					
Carpool/vanpool (i.e., share a ride with others as a driver or passenger)	0	0	\circ	0	0					
Please provide any cor	nments									
6. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements: (Agree, Disagree, Unsure, Not Applicable)										
	Agree	Disagro	ee	Unsure	N/A					
I would walk to work, school, shopping, or other activities if they were close enough.	0	0		0	0					
When deciding how										

to make my daily trip, my personal vehicle is the only safe, convenient, affordable option available to me.	0	0	0	0
I would walk more often if there were sidewalks where I need them.	\circ	0	0	0
I would walk more if sidewalks felt more safe.	\circ	0	0	\circ
I would bike to my destinations more if there were more bike lanes or trails.	\circ	0	0	0
I would walk/bike more if crossing the road was less stressful.	\bigcirc	0	0	\bigcirc
I would use transit if the routes and schedule were convenient for me.	\circ	0	0	\bigcirc
I would change the time to/from work to help reduce congestion if my employer allowed it.	0	0	0	0
I prefer more development density, mixed land use, and infill development.	0	0	0	0
Nothing will replace my personal vehicle as my main mode of transportation.	0	0	0	0
Telecommuting (working at home) as an option will affect my transportation patterns in the future.	0	0	0	0
Please provide any commo	ents			



Transportation Priorities

7. How well do the existing transportation facilities meet your needs?

	Very Well	Moderately Well	Not Very Well	Not at All	N/A
Vehicle Facilities (streets and highways)	\bigcirc	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ
Pedestrian Facilities (sidewalks, curb ramps, paths, trails, signal push buttons, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Bicycle Facilities (bike lanes, sharrows, paths, etc.)	\circ	0	\circ	0	\circ
Transit Facilities (fixed route service, bus stops, etc.)	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
Please provide any cor	mments				

8. Rank in order of importance, with 1 being most important to 10 being least important, the following issues impacting your travel habits that need to be addressed over the next 20+ years.

■ •	Road Maintenance and Infrastructure
■ •	Increased Transit Options
■ •	Reduced Traffic Congestion
■ ◆	New Routes and Improved Road/Street Connectivity
■ ◆	Pedestrian Facility Accessibility and Connectivity
■ ◆	Bicycle Facility Accessibility and Connectivity
■ ◆	Transportation Safety
■ ◆	Infill Development (develop underused or vacant land in urban area)
■ ◆	External Development (new development outside urban area)
■ ◆	Climate Change, Air Quality, and Environment
■ ◆	Access to Public Electric Vehicle Charge Stations
O Planca	provide any additional information or suggestions that

9. Ple	ease prov	ide any	additional	inform	nation	or sug	gest	ions t	hat
may	be helpfu	I for de	velopment	of the	2023	Great	Falls	Area	Long
Rang	e Transpo	ortation	Plan.						



Wrap Up

Thank you for your input so far! Please answer a few optional questions to help us understand your feedback better. Your private information will remain anonymous.

10. What is your zip code?
11. What is your age?
Under 18
○ 18 to 24
25 to 34
35 to 44
○ 55 to 64
○ 65 or older
Prefer not to answer
12. What is your household income?
Under \$50,000 per year
\$50,000 to \$100,000
\$100,000 to \$150,000
Over \$150,000 per year
Prefer not to answer

apply)	d you learn about this survey? (Please select all that
Email	
Social Media	3
News Story	
LRTP Websi	te
Word of Mo	uth
Other (pleas	se list)





APPENDIX C:

Public Meeting #1 Display Boards











WELCOME

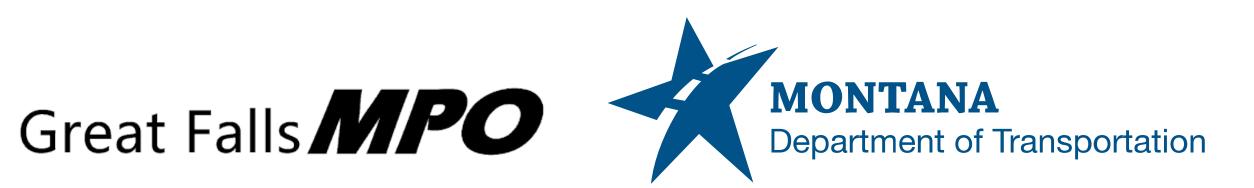


MEETING PURPOSE

- Learn more about the planning process.
- Share your vision for the future of transportation in Great Falls in 2045.
- Provide input and comments.







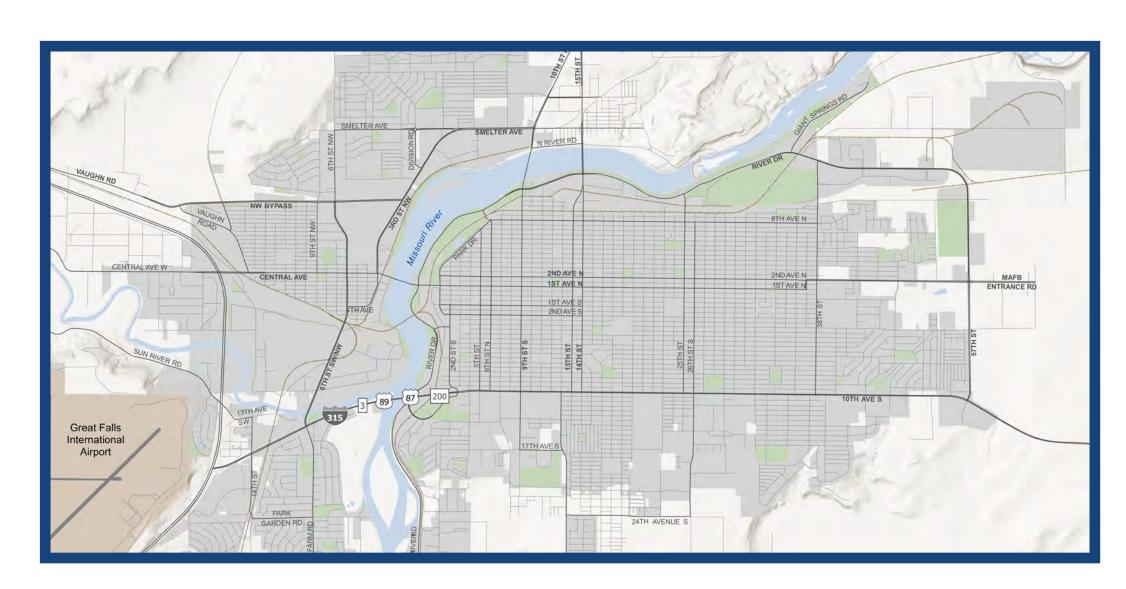


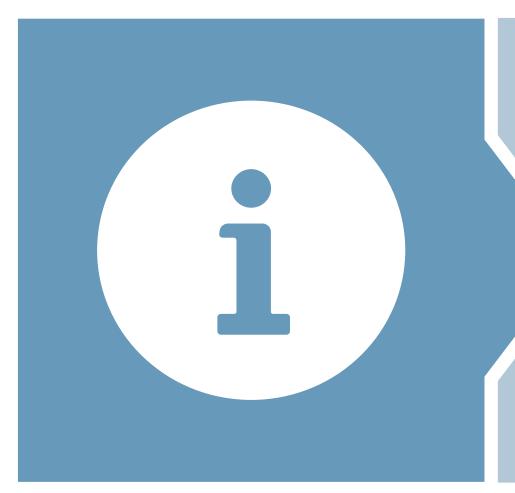
The Planning Team includes representatives from the above government agencies. RPA is the consultant for the Plan.

LRTP Planning Process and Overview

The 2023 Great Falls Area Long Range Transportation Plan will help guide transportation infrastructure investments based

on system needs, community priorities, and anticipated growth.





Planning Horizon: 2045 Updated: Every 5 years

Considers: All modes of transportation





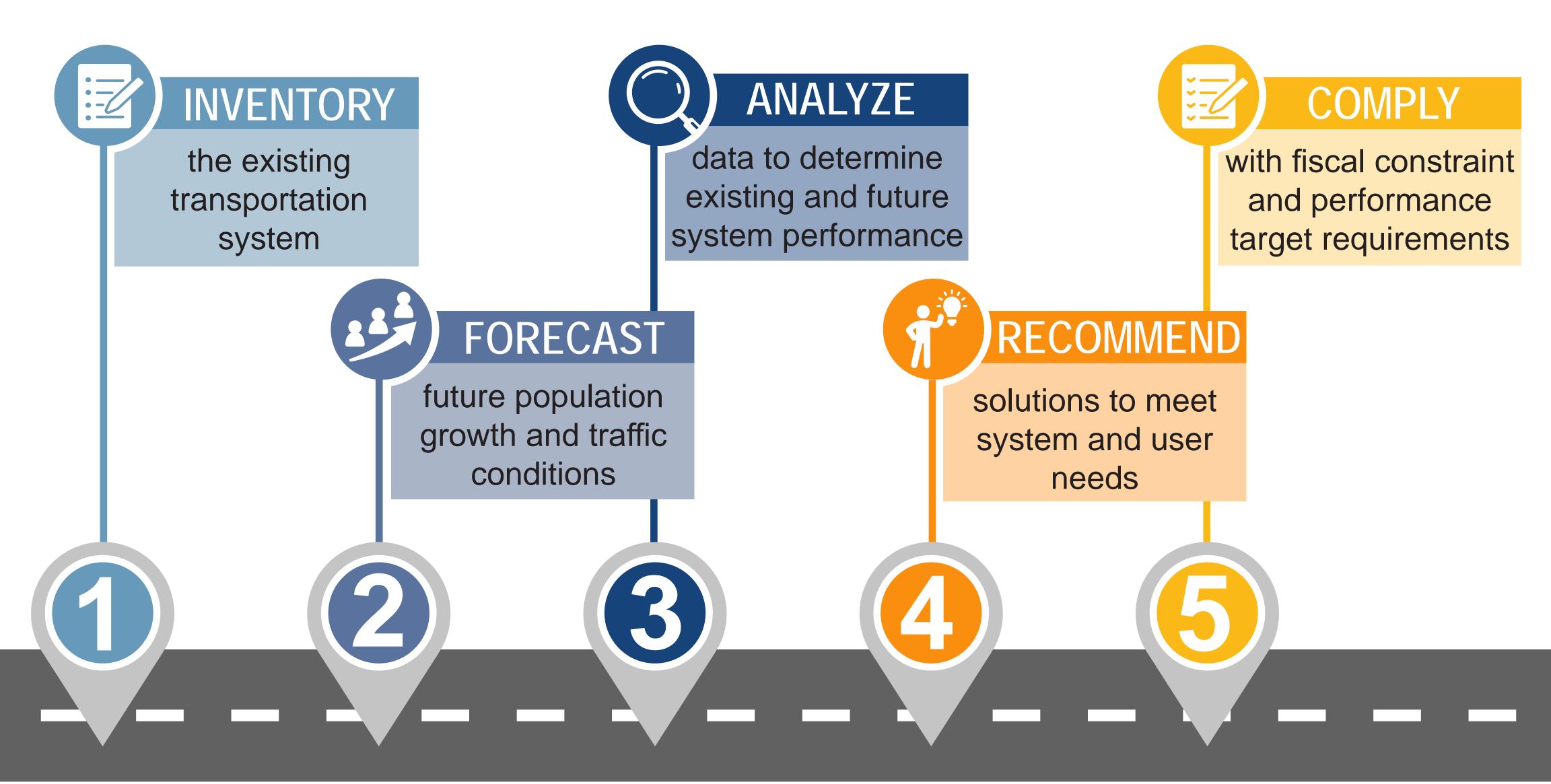








The 2023 LRTP provides an opportunity to respond to the changing needs and interests of the community, plan for emerging transportation technologies, advance national, state, and local initiatives, and prepare Great Falls for future transportation funding opportunities.



Why This Plan Matters

Today, tomorrow, and in 2045, Great Falls residents may:



Commute to work



Drive to the grocery store or shopping center



Take the bus to an appointment



Transport goods to, from, and across the region



Walk or bike to school



Rely on facilities that are accessible to all users

The ways people and goods move throughout the **Great Falls transportation system** is integral to daily life.





The local community and economy rely on a safe and efficient transportation system.

YOUR input is needed to help shape future transportation investments across
Great Falls!



SCAN ME!

www.greatfallstransplan.com

Existing Transportation System

NON-MOTORISTS

The Great Falls Area currently has:

- 2.6 miles of bike lanes
- 25 miles of paved paths
- 35 miles of gravel trails
- 37 miles of sidewalk gaps

The River's Edge Trail boasts ~60 miles of off-street bicycling and walking facilities along the Missouri River.

63% of curb ramps are non-compliant with ADA

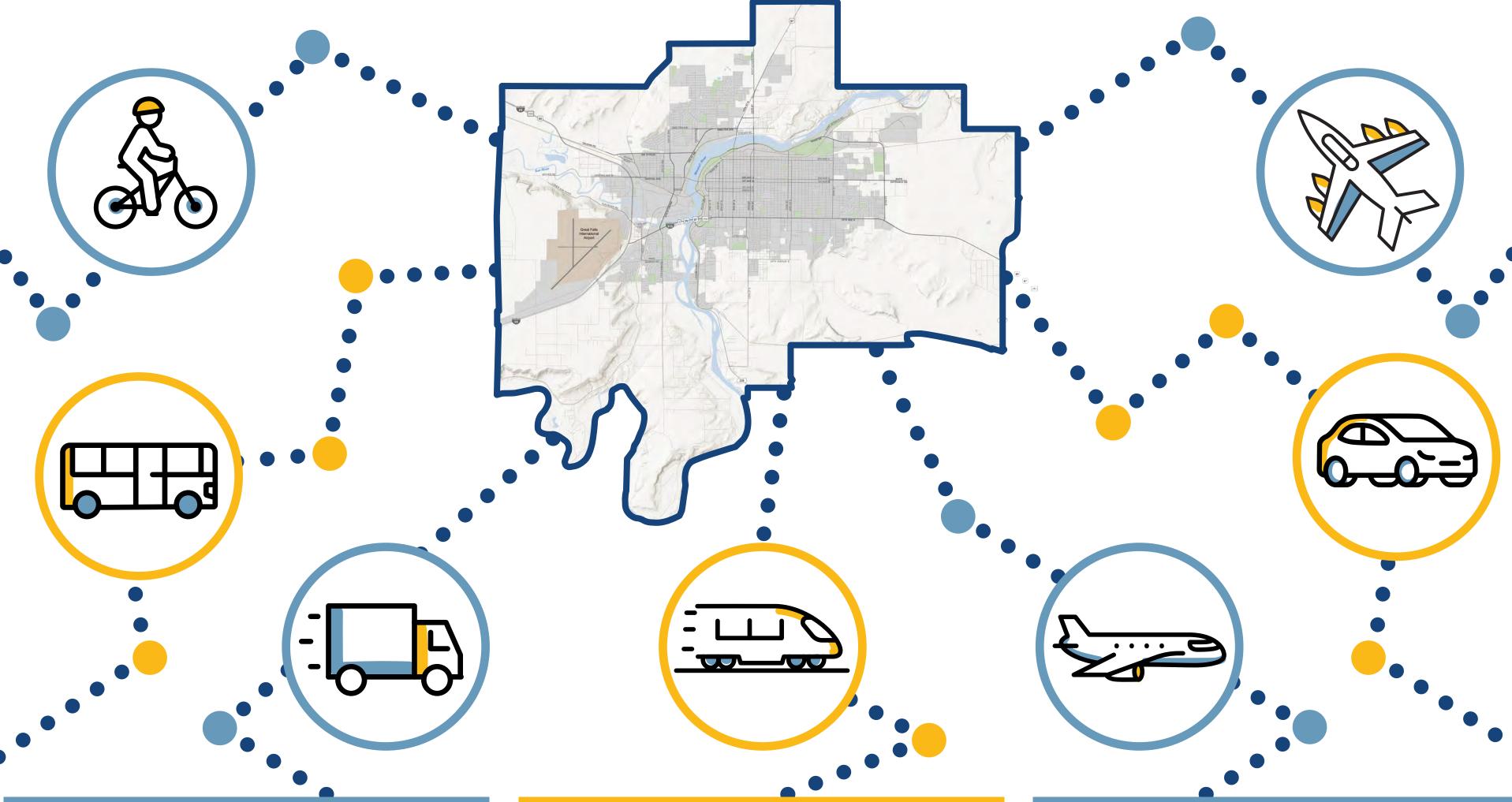
TRANSIT

The Great Falls Transit District provides an alternative form of transportation to city and county residents.



The Transit District operates:

- 7 fixed routes
- Monday Saturday
- On a fare basis
- On a flag-down system
- Buses with bike racks
- Curb-to-curb Paratransit Service



TRUCK FREIGHT

Much of the locally serving goods movement is destined for industrial or commercial districts.

Official truck routes are identified in the City Code.

Montana's largest international port of entry is located along I-15 ~120 miles north of Great Falls on the US-Canada border.



RAII

Great Falls is wellintegrated into the nation's
freight rail system,
connecting to local,
regional, and international
trade routes.

Rail spurs provide direct access to major industrial areas including the BNSF Rail Yard, AgriTech Industrial Park, and Malteurop Malting Plant.



AIRPORT

The Great Falls
International Airport
provides general aviation,
commercial, air taxi, air
cargo, and military flight

Each year the airport:

services.

- Provides 34,600 flights
- Serves 143,500passengers
- Transports 5,500 tons of goods & mail

MILITARY

Great Falls is home to

Malmstrom Air Force Base,
the only operating military base
in Montana.

The Montana Air National Guard and US Army Reserves are colocated near the airport.

Military facilities are reliant on an efficient and secure transportation network to move people, goods, and supplies to and from the bases.

ROADWAY

The transportation system consists of:

- 550 miles of roadway
- 92% of inventoried pavement is in fair or better condition
- 44 bridges
- 92% of inventoried bridges are in fair or better condition
- Facilities are owned/maintained by the City of Great Falls, Cascade County, and the Montana Department of Transportation.

Existing Travel Trends

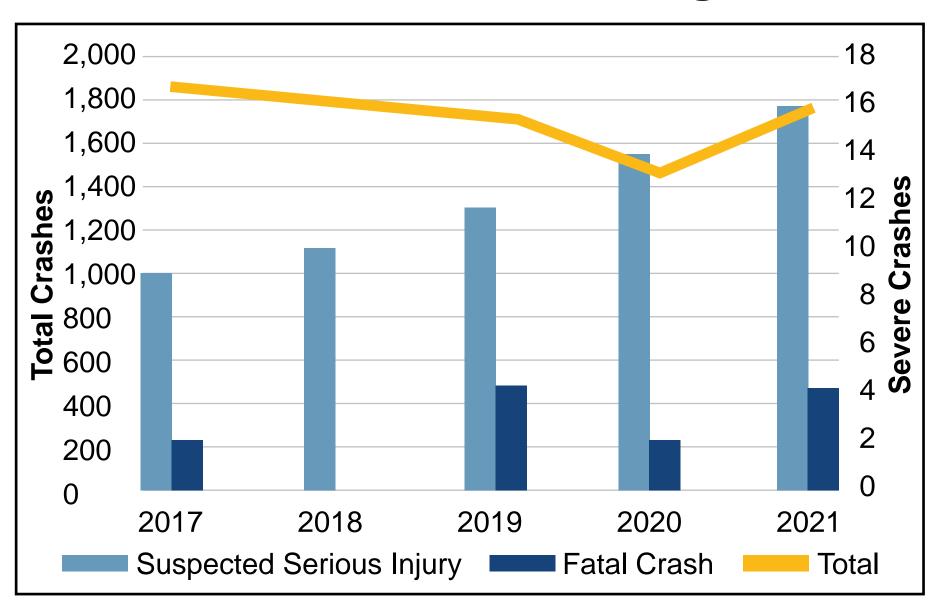


SAFETY



8,567 crashes in the Great Falls area from 2017 to 2021

Fatal and serious injury crashes have been increasing



The most common crash types include rear end, right angle, and sideswipe crashes

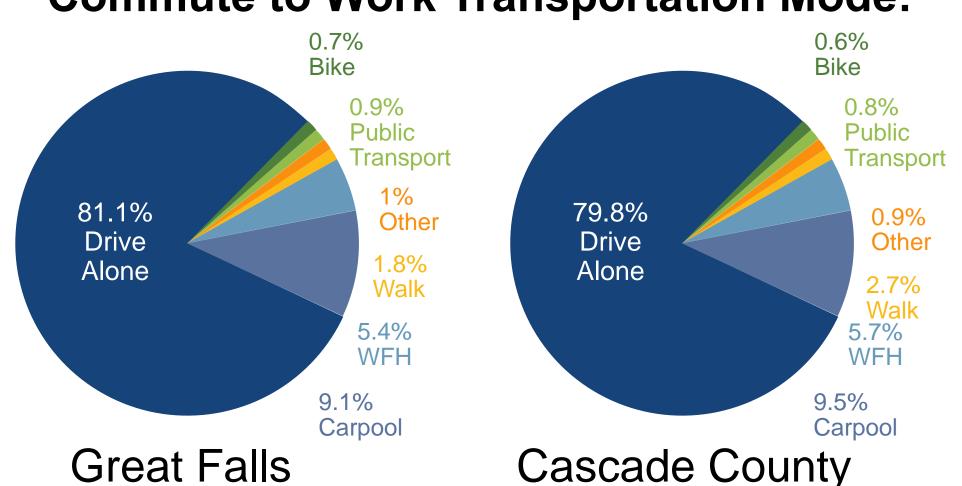
Total traffic volumes are decreas

Total traffic volumes are decreasing; Volumes are back to pre-pandemic levels



108 + passenger trips originated in Great Falls (2021); 90% were less than 10 miles long

Commute to Work Transportation Mode:



NON-MOTORIZED USERS

13.4 passenger trips by active transportation million modes (2021)

15% of Great Falls residents live with a disability; 7% have ambulatory difficulties which limit mobility.

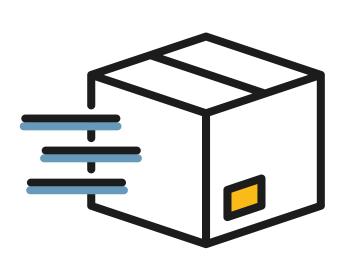


FREIGHT

2.5 truck freight trips in Great Falls (2021); million 70% were local trips



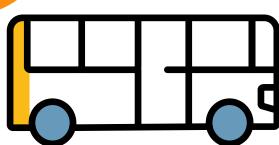
In Montana, freight traffic (by volume) is expected to increase by 30% between 2017 and 2050



Goods movement by truck is expected to increase by 51%



TRANSIT



454,762 rides in Great Falls in 2019



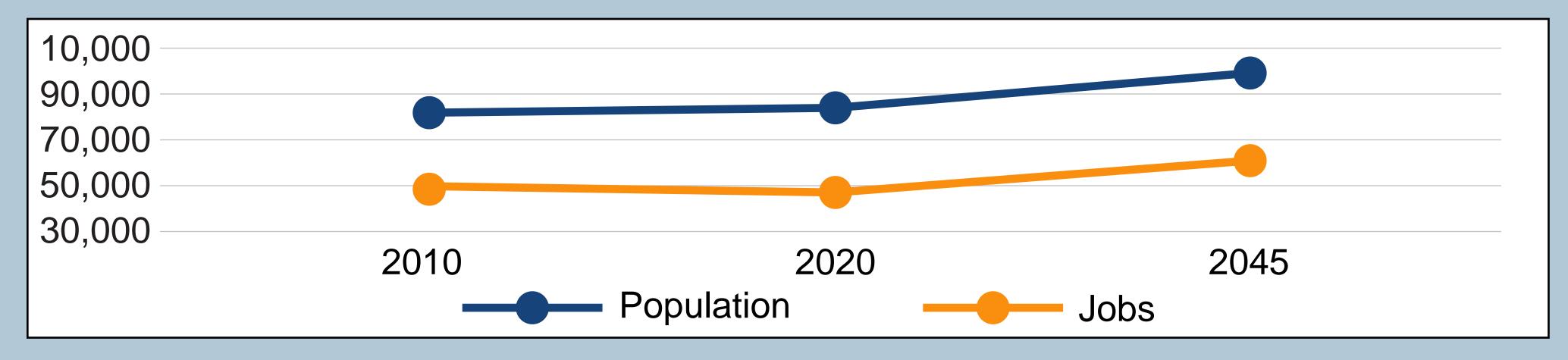
Consistent with national trends, ridership decreased during the pandemic

Envisioning the Future

GREAT FALL IS GROWING STEADILY...

NOW

... with the **2020** census recording the highest population since incorporation. Growth is expected to continue due to increased demand in the oil and gas industry, increased military activity, and general in-migration.



Approximately 85% of Cascade County residents live within the **Great Falls** study area, 72% live within city limits



2045

WHAT WILL 2045 LOOK LIKE?



Increased population: means more traffic on our roads and potentially longer travel times



Demand for goods: could mean more trucks on our roads



Aging populations and younger generations: may need alternatives to driving



Remote work arrangements: could change future commuting patterns



Emerging technologies: may require different infrastructure but could improve sustainability



Infill vs. outward development: may require different mobility options to provide access to jobs, goods, and services



Economic growth: could place greater demands on the transportation system

Priority Focus Areas

Past Transportation Goals



Maintain the transportation system

- Prioritize maintenance activities
- Optimize investments



efficiency, performance and connectivity

- Improve intersection and roadway capacity
- Provide alternative travel options



Enhance mobility and accessibility

- Integrate transportation and land use planning
- Meet the travel needs of the population



Provide safety and security

- Reduce fatalities
- Enhance security of freight network



Support economic vitality

- Support the Great Falls economy
- Facilitate goods movement



Protect and enhance environmental sustainability

- Maximize the cost effectiveness of transportation
- Promote health, active lifestyles
- Preserve natural, historic, and cultural resources
- Encourage
 cooperation to
 develop and
 fund projects
- Balance system needs with available funding

Goals and objectives set a direction for the community's transportation system over the next 20 years. **Great Falls**or previously established strategic goals and objectives to help advance the transportation system. It is time to re-evaluate these goals to **meet the changing needs of the community**.

We need your feedback!

Help us update these goals and identify ways to achieve them.

