

Rethinking I-94 Phase 2

Cooperating and Participating Agencies

Monthly Meetings Recap:

Last updated July 5, 2022

The following is a summary of topics, outcomes, and action items that were discussed at the Cooperating and Participating Agencies meetings.

June 2022

- MnDOT gave an update on project activities since the last meeting in September 2021.
 - Engagement on draft documents in 2021 following a pause in the project.
 - Commitment to the public and elected officials to revise documents based on public and stakeholder feedback.
 - Project team was directed by MnDOT's former commissioner to revisit the draft documents based on comments from the public at the request of the project's Policy Advisory Committee.
 - Additional transit study initiated
- MnDOT shared a revised project schedule.
- WSB provided an overview of the revised Draft Purpose and Need and Statement of Goals.
- WSB provided an overview of the revised Scoping and Tier I EIS evaluation criteria.
- WSB provided an overview of revisions to the Coordination Plan.
- WSB provided a recap of the idea refinement and testing process.
- WSB provided a list of potential ideas to be packaged into a range of alternatives based on stakeholder and public input.
- FHWA noted that the revised draft documents were sent to Cooperating and Participating Agencies on June 16, 2022. Concurrence on the following items is requested from Cooperating agencies by July 11, 2022:
 - Coordination Plan
 - Purpose and Need and Statement of Goals
 - Evaluation Criteria
- MnDOT thanked the group for their thoughts and noted that the next steps for the project include idea refinement and testing and alternative development.

September 2021

- Project Reintroduction because of the lapsed time since the last Cooperating and Participating Agencies meeting (Meeting 2).
- MnDOT provided an overview of the Rethink I-94 Phase 2 schedule.
- WSB provided an overview of items related the PIP. The project PIP was developed based on the work that was completed in Phase 1 and it focuses on the NEPA/MEPA process.

- The team shared summaries of comments that were received from various public engagement sources (i.e. project website, in-person events/meetings, etc.)
- WSB provided an overview of the framework that will help develop the alternatives and subsequent evaluation.
 - Comments will be received through October. Once all the comments have been received, the project team will start to respond to comments and make any updates based on recommendations and comments received
- Next Steps include: continue to work on the engagement pieces and move forward with elements and study items; most of the information that was presented came from the project website (general comments), open house sections, and different neighborhood groups: and copies of the presentation will be sent along with the updated documents

June 2021

- Project update email sent to Cooperating and Participating Agencies.

October 2020

- Email sent to Cooperating and Participating Agencies outlining delay.

May 2020

- Draft Purpose and Need and Statement of Goals: Revised version of the draft Purpose and Need and statement of goals documents were shared with the group.
- Draft Evaluation Criteria: Discussion on public health measures as part of the livability framework continued to be on-going. It was also noted that alternative footprints would be large enough to incorporate and consider bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
 - Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was not being considered at the moment but the Project Team noted that it could be explored further.
- Coordination Plan Concurrence: An updated was provided on the coordination plan and agency concurrence.
- Next steps: The group was asked to provide comments on the presented materials to the Project Team by June 3rd.

January 2020

- Overview: This was the first meeting for the Cooperating and Participating Agencies. A summary of the roles and responsibilities for these agencies was discussed and background on the project was provided to the group.
- Cooperating Agencies include: U.S. Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Federal Railroad Administration.
- Participating Agencies include: City of Minneapolis, City of Saint Paul, Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Office of the State Archaeologist, State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Capitol Region Watershed District, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, Minneapolis Park and

Recreation Board, Minnesota Department of Health, and Minnesota Department of Commerce.

- **Coordination Plan:** The group was presented with an overview of the Coordination Plan document and notified that the public engagement plan will also be distributed once it is complete.
- **Draft Purpose, Goals and Logical Termini:** An overview of these three documents were provided to the group.
- **Next Steps:** Comments were requested for the coordination plan, purpose statement, goals statement, and logical termini memo. The second meeting is anticipated to be held in May 2020 to discuss the purpose and need.