

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Gallatin Valley MPO - Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Jeff Butts, MPO Manager

SUBJECT: Long Range Transportation Plan Draft Goals and Objectives

MEETING DATE: January 14, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Plan/Report/Study

RECOMMENDATION: **Consider the motion:** *I move to recommend adoption of the draft goals and objectives for the Long Range Transportation Plan, [as amended].*

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.3 Public Agencies Collaboration: Foster successful collaboration with other public agencies and build on these successes.

BACKGROUND: This agenda item presents the draft Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives for the Gallatin Valley Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for TTAC consideration and potential recommendation to the Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC). The Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives reflect technical review, public engagement, survey input, and interagency coordination conducted to date. Upon adoption, they will establish the long-term evaluation framework for subsequent LRTP phases, including alternatives evaluation and project prioritization.

Consultant staff from Nelson\Nygaard will provide a presentation summarizing the draft Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives.

Federal regulations require metropolitan transportation plans to include goals and objectives that address national planning factors and support performance-based planning. Consistent with these requirements, the LRTP Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives were developed through an iterative process that included review of adopted local and regional plans, public and virtual engagement, Community Advisory Panel (CAP) discussion, and coordination with local jurisdictions and partner agencies.

The **draft Vision Statement for the Long Range Transportation Plan** is as follows:

In 2050, Gallatin Valley's transportation system provides safe, reliable, and multimodal connectivity that supports people, goods, and communities as the region grows. The system is well maintained, fiscally sustainable, and designed to strengthen human-centered connections across the region.

Five draft LRTP Goals are proposed:

1. Support Safe and Secure Travel Across All Transportation Modes
2. Ensure a Reliable and Well-Maintained Transportation System
3. Expand Mobility Choices to Better Connect Destinations Throughout the Region
4. Enhance Health and Quality of Life while Protecting the Character of the Region
5. Coordinate Transportation and Land Use Planning to Address Regional Growth

Each Goal is supported by a set of Objectives that describe desired direction in more specific terms.

Goal 1. Support Safe and Secure Travel Across All Transportation Modes

- Reduce and eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries across all modes
- Improve safety outcomes for people walking, bicycling, and using other non-motorized modes
- Improve safety performance on high-injury corridors and at intersections identified through data analysis.
- Improve accessibility and safety by reducing facility gaps and ADA deficiencies in the existing network.
- Maintain safety and security conditions for transit users.

Goal 2. Ensure a Reliable and Well-Maintained Transportation System.

- Maintain a state of good repair for roadway, bridge, and transit assets.
- Maintain reliable travel times across the transportation system.
- Maintain the efficient movement of people and goods.
- Maintain a transportation system that can accommodate emerging technologies.
- Improve the condition and continuity of sidewalks and pathways in downtowns and activity centers.
- Improve long-term system performance through preservation-focused investment decisions.

Goal 3. Expand Mobility Choices to Better Connect Destinations Throughout the Region

- Improve access between schools, jobs, services, and key community destinations across all modes.
- Improve street network connectivity to support more direct multimodal travel.
- Increase the share of trips made by non-single-occupant vehicle modes.
- Improve access, comfort, and safety at transit stops and transfer locations.
- Reduce household transportation costs by improving access to affordable travel options.

Goal 4. Enhance Health and Quality of Life while Protecting the Character

of the Region

- Improve access to walking, bicycling, and other multimodal facilities that support physical activity and healthy travel.
- Improve transportation access to parks, trails, and recreation areas.
- Reduce wildlife-vehicle conflicts and improve safe wildlife movement across transportation corridors.
- Reduce transportation-related impacts on environmentally sensitive areas.
- Reduce air emissions from the transportation system.
- Improve emergency preparedness and coordination.

Goal 5. Coordinate Transportation and Land Use Planning to Address Regional Growth

- Align transportation system and network decisions with adopted growth plans.
- Align transportation system design to support walkable, human-centered, and well-connected places.
- Improve the adaptability and flexibility of the transportation system to respond to changing needs and future conditions.
- Support placemaking, economic vitality, and mobility in key activity centers through context-appropriate solutions.
- Accommodate seasonal and tourism-related travel demand while minimizing system-wide transportation impacts.

The Objectives are developed to provide direction while maintaining flexibility to respond to future growth, funding conditions, technological change, and evolving travel behavior. Performance measures will follow adopted state targets, with implementation strategies developed following adoption of the Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives.

Staff is requesting TTAC recommend adoption of the LRTP Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives to guide the remainder of the LRTP development process. The recommended Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives will then proceed to TPCC for final consideration. Upon adoption, they will form the foundation for subsequent LRTP phases.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the committee.

FISCAL EFFECTS: None.

Report compiled on: January 6, 2026