



# 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

## Appendix L | Public Participation Plan



Adopted: December 10, 2025



## WHAT IS IN THIS DOCUMENT?

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN THE 2050 PLAN



#### Online at MetroPlanOrlando.gov

Learn more about how long range transportation planning works and sign up for our e-newsletter to get updates on comment opportunities



#### Requested Printed Material

If you don't have digital access and prefer information in paper form, you can make the request by calling the number below



#### In Person

Invite us to attend your event or present to your group by contacting our community outreach staff. You can find out about our public meetings in the calendar section of our website



#### Questions?

Contact our community outreach staff at [MTP@MetroPlanOrlando.gov](mailto:MTP@MetroPlanOrlando.gov) or (407) 481-5672



#### On Social Media

Connect with us on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to learn about transportation news and when we'll be out in the community

### Legal Information

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# Public Participation Plan

## 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

### MetroPlan Orlando

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**Public Comment Period:** March 15, 2024 – May 10, 2024

**Adopted by MetroPlan Orlando:** May 8, 2024



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# PLANNING FOR THE YEAR 2050

Planning Central Florida's transportation system for the year 2050 presents vast opportunities and challenges. How will our region grow and evolve? What type of transportation system will best meet the future needs of our residents and visitors? What kinds of projects will we be able to afford?

MetroPlan Orlando seeks to answer these questions and more while developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP, or 2050 Plan), which is scheduled for completion in December 2025. As the metropolitan planning organization for Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties, we provide leadership in transportation planning.

We engage the public and cultivate effective partnerships with local governments and transportation industry experts to create a plan for Central Florida that addresses transportation challenges and prepares our region for the future.

## HOW THE PUBLIC WILL SHAPE THE 2050 PLAN

Creating a transportation plan that spans decades requires two key things: 1) sound technical work and 2) diverse public input. This Public Participation Plan encourages the community to have a voice in the development of the 2050 Plan by creating opportunities to be informed and engaged throughout the planning process. The Participation Plan guides MetroPlan Orlando's outreach efforts, and maps out how we will successfully achieve public involvement objectives.

Outreach will take place in two phases. In phase one, we will seek opinions on what Central Floridians want to see in their future transportation system, and how they want to achieve that vision. In phase two, we will seek more specific public input based on a handful of potential scenarios for the year 2050.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL FOR 2050 PLAN

Establish a thorough, inclusive process that uses creative approaches to offer the public continuous opportunities to shape the 2050 Plan.



**MetroPlan Orlando is committed to community outreach that is:**

**Thorough:** Outreach should be comprehensive, providing multiple options for how a person can get involved.

**Inclusive:** Everyone is welcome to participate in the 2050 Plan process. We want to make sure participants are as diverse as our wonderful region, therefore, we make a concerted effort to reach transportation underserved communities.

**Creative:** We strive to use innovative tools and techniques to reach the public and we are always focused on improving.

**Continuous:** Members of the public should be able to participate from the comfort of their own homes, at a time convenient to them. In addition to meaningful in-person engagement, we will be using tools that enable 24/7 involvement. We also invite public feedback throughout the planning process.

# OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES & EVALUATION

The following objectives and strategies will be used to achieve our public participation goal during development of the 2050 Plan. Evaluation measures are outlined to maximize effectiveness.

## OBJECTIVES FOR IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT

*The following objectives address how MetroPlan Orlando plans to reach transportation underserved communities and obtain public input through inclusive and meaningful public engagement practices. Additionally, the following objectives outline engaging outreach strategies and event coordination tactics for maximizing public participation.*

### OBJECTIVE #1 – INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Develop a public involvement process that proactively seeks full representation from transportation underserved communities by providing opportunities for inclusive and meaningful involvement in the transportation decision-making process.

#### Strategies:

- Enhance existing partnerships with community groups to host presentations that inform and gather public input.
- Conduct outreach within transportation underserved communities by participating in pop-up events or meetings at locations in proximity to the target audience.
- Encourage public participation by conveying issues in ways that are meaningful to various cultural groups.
- Use communication techniques that encourage meaningful access for persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) and limited access to technology.
- Provide reasonable modifications and ADA accommodations for persons with disabilities at in-person or virtual events upon request.
- Provide online public-facing materials that are ADA Compliant.
- Seek partnerships with “community advocates” on a one-on-one or small group basis to build deeper trust and relationships.
- Collaborate with community representatives to broaden contacts with transportation underserved communities.
- Collect demographics through surveys distributed at public meetings and events.



#### Evaluation Tools and Measures:

- The effectiveness of Objective #1 will be evaluated through increased participation with transportation underserved communities, working with community representatives and through building a broader reach and network with MetroPlan Orlando's Transportation for All Network.



## OBJECTIVE #2 – COMMUNITY EVENTS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Create multiple opportunities for public involvement by hosting a variety of community events and implementing strategic public outreach efforts to raise awareness of key milestones during the development of the 2050 plan.

### Strategies

- Host a community summit with open-house style discussion topics and keynote speakers to announce the completed 2050 Plan.
- Host MTP Virtual Technical Workshops or webinars to discuss key project progress and receive input to continue the development of the 2050 MTP.
- Attend up to three community events each month to include events occurring in transportation underserved communities.
- Establish multiple opportunities for public input by allowing comments to be submitted in person, electronically, or by mail with paid postage.
- Expand educational events and programs to reach school-aged children with educational materials that explain the 2050 Plan's primary concepts.
- Develop public engagement materials to include in shareable tool kits for partners and stakeholders. Materials include, but are not limited to, one-page handouts or shareable social media content.
- Provide sufficient advance notice of public events and meetings to the community, in accordance with Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine guidelines.

### Evaluation Tools and Measures:

The effectiveness of Objective #2 will be measured by public attendance at community events and receiving public comments and feedback related to the 2050 plan.

## OBJECTIVE #3 – SHARING PUBLIC INPUT WITH DECISION MAKERS

Supply a continuous stream of public input on the 2050 Plan to decision makers by providing community outreach updates to MetroPlan Orlando's Board, committees, and through various communication channels.

### Strategies:

- Create a 2050 MTP Technical Workshop Series to promote a thorough vetting of plan concepts and documents.
- Conduct Virtual Interdisciplinary Interviews with subject matter experts within planning emphasis areas.
- Compile community event reports that provide photos, demographic information and a summary of public input gathered at outreach events.
- Provide community outreach briefings and consult with federal and state transportation officials overseeing MetroPlan Orlando's work.
- Summarize public sentiment at events to document the diversity of feedback.
- Expand and update stakeholder contact lists.
- Conduct statistically valid market research examining public opinion on transportation issues in the three-county area.



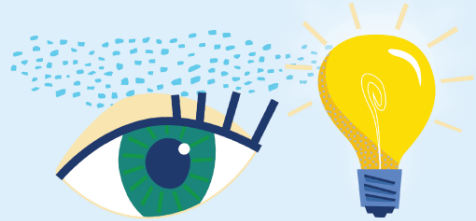


## Evaluation Tools and Measures:

The effectiveness of Objective #3 will be measured through the development of community event reports, presentations on public outreach efforts to MetroPlan Orlando's Board and committees and market research results.

### WHAT IS VISUALIZATION?

According to the Federal Highway Administration, "visualization techniques are methods used to show information in clear and easily understood formats such as maps, pictures, or displays."



## OBJECTIVES FOR VISUALIZATION & ACCESS TO INFORMATION

*The following objectives address how MetroPlan Orlando will share information and encourage two-way communication.*

### OBJECTIVE #4 – USE OF PLAIN LANGUAGE & VISUALIZATION IN COMMUNICATION TOOLS

2050 Plan print and electronic materials will communicate MetroPlan Orlando's message in an effective, appealing way by using visuals (photos, illustrations, charts, etc.).

#### Strategies:

- Include "how-to-comment" information on materials to maximize participation.
- Send periodic outreach updates via email to community contacts.
- Create a printed brochure explaining the 2050 Plan process in English, Spanish, Haitian-Creole, or provided in a commonly used language related to the target audience upon request.
- Create online mapping features to place on MetroPlanOrlando.gov to boost visualization efforts.
- Incorporate innovative technology and interactive elements in community presentations where feasible.

## Evaluation Tools and Measures:

The effectiveness of Objective #4 will be measured using statistics gathered from outreach updates sent by email and incorporating guidelines for plain language guidelines all public-facing materials.

### OBJECTIVE #5 – DIGITAL OUTREACH (WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA & VIDEO)

Provide digital engagement opportunities and transportation planning information through MetroPlan Orlando's website, social media channels, and online videos, achieving:

- a monthly average of 500 unique page views to the 2050 Plan section of the MetroPlanOrlando.gov website.
- a monthly average of 10 posts focused on the 2050 Plan, with 5% engagement, and 1,000 cumulative views on 2050 Plan videos.

#### Strategies:

- Develop a social media advertising plan to boost event attendance and encourage digital engagement through likes, comments, and shares.
- Drive traffic to the MetroPlan Orlando website from social media channels by including website information and interactive posts with click-through options.
- Share timely and relevant transportation news on social media outlets.
- Encourage continuous two-way communication with the public by posting photos from outreach events and stimulating interest in future events.
- Post 2050 Plan technical reports to the website for public review as they become available throughout plan development and publish all final 2050 Plan documents to the website no later than 90 days after official adoption by the MetroPlan Orlando Board.



### Evaluation Tools and Measures:

The effectiveness of Objective #5 will be measured through increased website traffic and analytics, social media engagement and video statistics.

### EVALUATION & REPORTING

MetroPlan Orlando will periodically review the effectiveness of these objectives and strategies throughout the implementation of the participation plan and make any necessary adjustments to reach our goal.

A comprehensive, appealing, and easy-to-understand report will be produced to document public participation for the 2050 Plan. The report will present an overview of outreach activities, evaluate the effectiveness of these activities against the objectives outlined in this Public Participation Plan, and summarize public feedback received. Results will be shared with MetroPlan Orlando's Board and committees prior to the adoption of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.



# IDENTIFYING STAKEHOLDERS

Achieving the objectives in this Public Participation Plan begins with appropriately identifying audiences with a jurisdictional, direct, or other interest in the 2050 Plan. MetroPlan Orlando will develop a comprehensive community stakeholder database so that input is gathered from as many segments of the community as possible. This includes regular coordination with local governments, as well as state and federal agencies. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the public involvement process, and will include representatives of the following entities:

## Community & Service Organizations

Alumni Organizations  
Apartment Complexes  
Bicycle & Pedestrian Advocacy Groups  
CareerSource Central Florida  
Civic Involvement Organizations  
Disability Advocacy Groups  
Environmental Advocacy Groups  
Faith-based Organizations  
Food Security Advocacy  
Homeowners Associations  
Leadership Programs  
Older Adult Advocacy  
Social Justice Organizations  
Orlando Main Streets  
Social Service Organizations  
Sorority & Fraternity Organizations  
Transit Advocacy Groups  
Universities/Colleges  
Veterans Associations

## Health Organizations

Florida Department of Health in Orange County  
Florida Department of Health in Osceola County  
Florida Department of Health in Seminole County  
Healthy West Orange  
Orange Blossom Family Health  
Osceola Community Health Services

## Business & Tourism Associations

Apartment Association of Greater Orlando  
Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association  
Chambers of Commerce  
Convention & Visitors Bureaus  
Downtown Orlando Partnership  
Florida Vacation Rental Managers Association  
Greater Orlando Sports Commission  
International Drive Business Improvement District  
Major Employers  
Orlando Economic Partnership  
Realtors Associations

## State & Federal Agencies

Central Florida Congressional Delegation  
Central Florida Legislative Delegation  
Federal Highway Administration  
Federal Transit Administration  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Florida Department of Transportation

- Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
- reThink Your Commute
- SunRail

## Local Governments

Orange County & City/Town Governments  
Osceola County & City/Town Governments  
Seminole County & City/Town Governments

## Planning & Operating Partners

Aviation Authorities  
Central Florida Expressway Authority  
East Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
LYNX  
School Districts  
Water Management Districts

## MetroPlan Orlando Boards & Committees

MetroPlan Orlando Board  
Community Advisory Committee  
Technical Advisory Committee  
Transportation Systems Management & Operations  
Advisory Committee  
Municipal Advisory Committee  
Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating  
Board





### **I DON'T SEE MY GROUP'S NAME LISTED HERE! HOW CAN I GET IN TOUCH WITH METROPLAN ORLANDO?**

We're always on the lookout to connect with organizations we haven't spoken with before. If you don't see your group's name listed below, please let us know so you can get involved in the 2050 Plan. Contact our community outreach staff to learn more by emailing [MTP@MetroPlanOrlando.gov](mailto:MTP@MetroPlanOrlando.gov) or calling **407-481-5672**.

## **2050 PLAN ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK OPPORTUNITIES**

To better manage the 2050 Plan development process, MetroPlan Orlando has identified strategic engagement and feedback opportunities to include:

- Advisory Committee & Board Meetings
- 2050 MTP Technical Workshops
- Interdisciplinary Interviews
- Public Engagement Events

Gathering feedback from advisory committees and at board meetings will allow for critical input from decision-makers. Technical Workshops will create an opportunity to promote a thorough vetting of plan concepts and documents, while Interdisciplinary Interviews with subject matter experts within planning emphasis areas allow for diverse feedback and perspectives. MetroPlan Orlando will also establish multiple opportunities for input by allowing comments to be submitted in person, electronically, by mail, by phone or at public engagement events.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

This Public Participation Plan meets all requirements for public involvement, as outlined in federal law (23 CFR 450.316 and 23 CFR 450.322) and state law (s.339.175(7),F.S.). MetroPlan Orlando has developed this plan in consultation with interested parties, as specified in law. This plan is also consistent with MetroPlan Orlando's organizational Public Participation Plan.



## WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION?

“MPOs are required to develop and use a documented Public Participation Plan that defines a process for providing reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process to individuals, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, public ports, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation (including intercity bus operators, employer-based commuting programs, such as carpool program, vanpool program, transit benefit program, parking cash-out program, shuttle program, or telework program), representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties.”

~FDOT MPO Management Handbook



## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN NOTIFICATION & COMMENT PERIOD

MetroPlan Orlando posted the draft 2050 MTP Public Participation Plan to its website on March 15, 2024, beginning the 45-day comment period. The comment period ended on May 10, 2024.

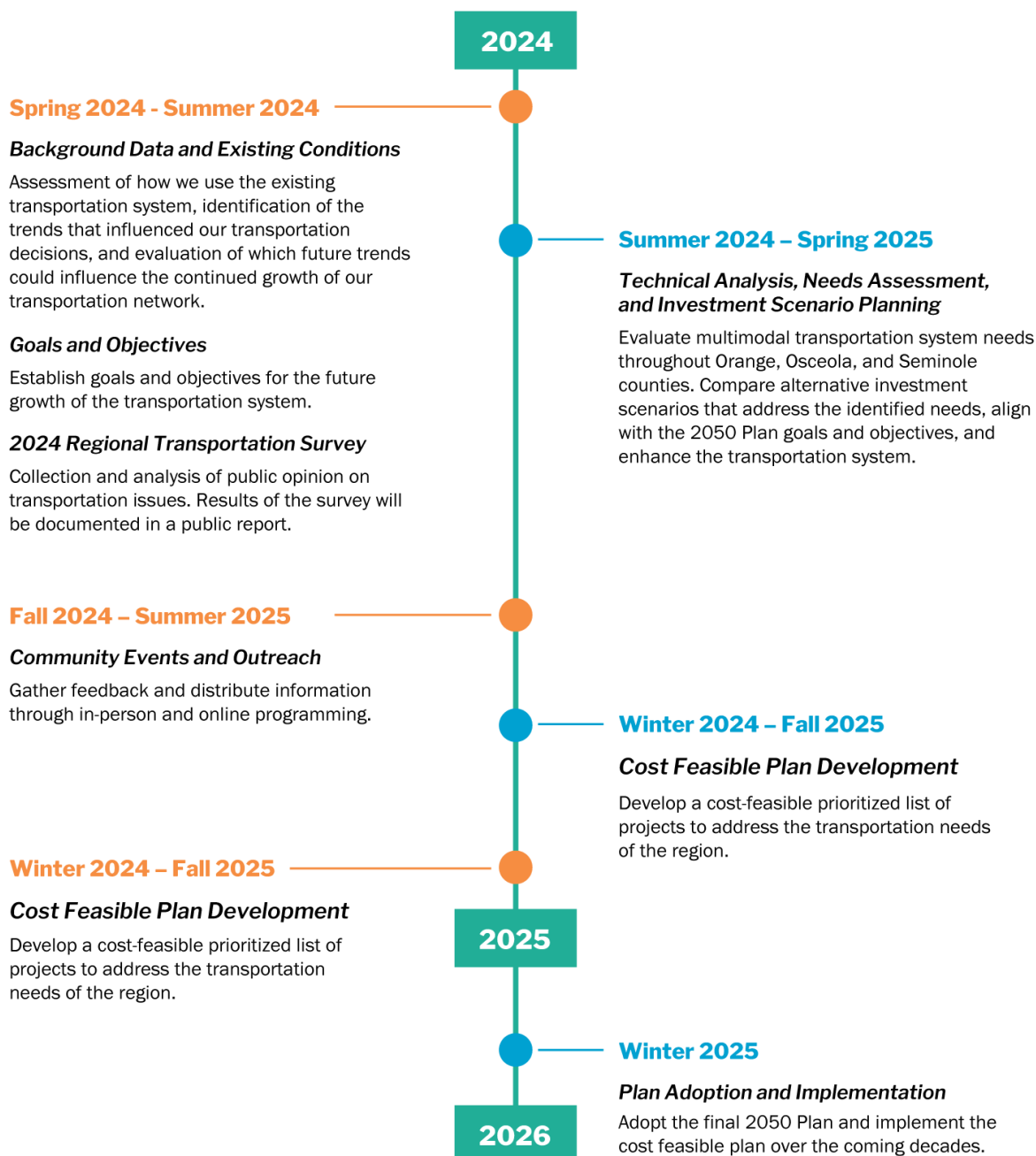
The participation plan was presented as an action item for input and adoption at the following MetroPlan Orlando committee and board meetings:

Group Name	Action Taken	Date of Action
Community Advisory Committee	Recommended Approval	April 24, 2024
Transportation Systems Management & Operations Advisory Committee	Recommended Approval	April 26, 2024
Technical Advisory Committee	Recommended Approval	April 26, 2024
Municipal Advisory Committee	Recommended Approval	May 2, 2024
MetroPlan Orlando Board	Approval	May 8, 2024

Email notifications and an invitation to review the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan’s Public Participation Plan on [MetroPlanOrlando.gov](https://metroplanorlando.gov) were sent to MetroPlan Orlando’s community database of interested parties, board/committee list, and federal/state transportation partners at the opening on March 15, 2024, and just prior to

May 10, 2024, the last day of the required comment period. This information was also distributed via social media channels on Facebook, LinkedIn and X (formerly Twitter).

## SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES FOR 2050 PLAN





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