

Northern Tier's Regional Plan Updates

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Coordinated Transit-Transportation
Service Plan

Comprehensive Economic Development
Strategy

Summary Priorities and Recommendations
September 2018

Draft for
October Approval

About Our 3 Plan Updates



Our regional plans for transportation and economic development...

- **Prioritize** our current needs
- **Envision** attainable future outcomes
- **Describe** local and regional action steps
- **Position** us for state and federal funding

Our regional plans work together to align improvements in access, infrastructure, and amenities for our communities and economy.

Your Opinion Matters

- Have we identified the topics that need attention?
- Will these action result in a better quality of life in your community?
- Have we missed a big idea or a small detail that matters to you?

Share your opinion:

- Stick a note on the boards,
- Speak with our planning team, and/or
- Complete our Exit Survey

Bicycle & Pedestrian Travel

We Aspire to Have...

Connections enabling people to walk or bicycle to reach local, daily destinations and where they can walk or bicycle in the scenic Northern Tier landscape.

Priorities for Improvement

Bicycling

- Raise awareness of safe places to bicycle.
- Assess and improve roadways that bicyclists already use.

Sidewalks

- Extend accessible (ADA) pedestrian networks throughout and to the edge of towns.

Trails

- Promote use of existing multi-use and pedestrian trails.
- Support development of additional trails.
- Increase capacity for trail development.

Safety for all Travelers

- Educate and alert all travelers to safe practices for shared-road travel.

Recommendations

1. Promote on-road bicycling as a means of healthy, low cost-travel; share vision and plan for improving facilities and conditions.
2. Develop and implement detailed plans to improve the four Bicycle PA routes; assess scenic corridors as touring routes; improve as feasible.
3. Assess roads in towns and within ~3 miles for bicycle use and barriers to use and safety; improve as feasible or re-direct use to alternative location.
4. Evaluate sidewalk and crosswalk conditions and pedestrian use in towns and along roadways to the edge of town.
5. Develop sidewalk extension and infill projects; consider long-term maintenance.
6. Centralize (or cross-reference) online trail promotion; count trail users.
7. Educate interested municipalities on the trail development process and on relevant PennDOT and other state programs.
8. Facilitate networking among localized trail development groups to share knowledge and experience.
9. Use/install signage, pavement markings, etc.; make public service announcements; work with local media to promote safe travel.
10. Promote new bicycling routes and multi-use trails with events.

Transit & Transportation Services

We Aspire to Have...

Affordable, efficient, reliable public transportation services throughout the region, including a fixed-route transit system (scheduled bus service for all types of passengers) that is visible and well-connected to bicycle and pedestrian systems in the core communities it serves.

Priorities for Improvement

Service Awareness & Traveler Information

- A clear understanding—among riders, potential riders, and trip generators (e.g., employers, stores)—that public transportation services exist, and how to use services.
- Centralized rider information to aid in selecting and scheduling transportation services.

Infrastructure & Amenities in Core Communities

- Improved coordination on roadway maintenance schedules.
- Accessible, marked transit stops and signed connections to bicycle and pedestrian networks.
- Planning for transportation service access for new developments.

Service Analysis, Expansion & Coordination

- Optimized cost efficiency; expanded service; connected with major destinations and transit systems within the Northern Tier and in adjacent regions.

Recommendations

1. Develop user-friendly transit materials.
2. Educate businesses, organizations, agencies, and other trip generators.
3. Develop and maintain a transportation services database; make it available as a one-stop online information source; hire a mobility manager to assist users.
4. Work with PennDOT to optimize general and winter roadway maintenance for critical transportation services.
5. Install bus stop signage and shelters; evaluate sidewalks, curb cuts; connect transit to trails and bike paths; install wayfinding signage to/from transit.
6. Develop model policies/ordinances to ensure new development accommodates public transportation service access.
7. Conduct studies and pilot service routes to improve efficiencies and expand services.
8. Partner to promote services, coordinate services, eliminate duplication of services and expand services for consumers.
9. Explore rider interest in non-traditional transportation services, e.g. vanpooling, carpooling, and transportation network companies.

JOBS & ECONOMY

We Aspire to Have...

A sustainable, diversified economy that weathers the ebbs and flows of the energy and resource extraction industries, and the downturn in the agricultural industry.

Priorities for Improvement

Recommendations

Broadband

- Reliable and modern telecommunications and data infrastructure that helps to attract and retain businesses and new residents.

1. Develop a regional broadband inventory.
2. Develop feasibility studies.
3. Analyze white space radio wireless connection.
4. Expand broadband access.

Workforce

- A skilled and qualified workforce that chooses to enter the region's labor market.

5. Understand local workforce needs.
6. Refresh and market technical training for local jobs.
7. Develop apprenticeships, internships, and job shadowing programs.

Tourism

- A region that is widely recognized for its natural beauty with abundant and convenient opportunities for recreation.

8. Develop the regional trail network.
9. Identify and recruit businesses to serve tourists and active residents.

Community Revitalization

- Desirable communities with recognized small town and rural quality of life that helps to retain existing residents and attract new ones.

10. Determine what young people desire in communities.
 11. Improve walkability.
 12. Recruit or expand businesses in redeveloped/rehabilitated buildings.
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Send Comments by October 15

Public comments received by October 15 will be considered prior to the Commission's approval, which is scheduled for Friday, October 19.

Send comments to

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