



**PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY!**  
 Look for this symbol

**Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments**

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You receive this newsletter because you are identified as person and/or agency who is considered important to the implementation of Metro COG projects and programs. If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter or you wish to begin receiving this newsletter electronically, please contact Joan Geyer at:

geyer@fmmetrocog.org

**Public Input Opportunity**

**Metro 2040 Roundtable Discussion**

**Join us for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Transportation Plan Roundtable Discussion**

*Choose from one of the three sessions:*

**Tuesday, February 25**  
**8:00 - 10:00 AM**  
**West Fargo Commission Chambers**  
**800 4th Avenue E**  
**West Fargo, ND**

**Agenda**

- Sign-In: 8:00 - 8:15 AM
- Roundtable Discussion: 8:15 - 8:45
- Vision Plan and Priorities Exercise: 8:45 - 9:45
- What's Next: 9:45 - 10:00

**Tuesday, February 25**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**Hjemkomst Center**  
**202 1st Avenue N**  
**Moorhead, MN**

**Agenda**

- Sign-In: 6:00 - 6:15 PM
- Roundtable Discussion: 6:15 - 6:45
- Vision Plan and Priorities Exercise: 6:45 - 7:45
- What's Next: 7:45 - 8:00

**Wednesday, February 26**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**Fargo Commission Chambers**  
**200 3rd Street N**  
**Fargo, ND**

**Agenda**

- Sign-In: 6:00 - 6:15 PM
- Roundtable Discussion: 6:15 - 6:45
- Vision Plan and Priorities Exercise: 6:45 - 7:45
- What's Next: 7:45 - 8:00

*Light refreshments will be served*

**Metro 2040 Update**

The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a regional comprehensive plan and the primary document that Metro COG refers to for transportation planning in the FM Metropolitan area. Updated every five years and covering a planning horizon to the year 2040, the LRTP represents the modal needs of automobiles, pedestrians, cyclists and public transit systems.

For the past ten months, Metro COG has been in the process of updating its LRTP. This update to the LRTP, Metro 2040, is now nearly 50 percent complete. When completed and approved later in 2014, this update will guide decision makers on prioritizing transportation projects, allocating funding for improvements and managing policies that affect the future transportation needs in the FM area.

In April 2013, Metro COG began Phase One of its update to the LRTP. This phase focused on identifying and examining the needs and issues of the area's transportation network. This included analyzing demographic projections, updating travel demand models, identifying goal priorities and developing initial local and state/federal funding estimates.

Phase One culminated in September 2013 with the Metro 2040 Futures Summit. The summit included a series of public input sessions in which participants learned about anticipated growth trends and how current projections will impact transportation needs by 2040. Participants also worked on a Connections Exercise, which involved group consensus on what infrastructure improvements participants thought were needed in the FM area over the coming decades.

Since October, the update to the LRTP has shifted to Phase Two and focusing on transportation alternatives.

One of the components of Phase Two is the preparation of a Roadway Vision Plan. This plan is based on ideas generated during the Futures Summit held in September, as well as input from the Metro 2040 Study Review Committee (SRC) and technical travel demand modeling analyses. As the Vision Plan moves forward, goals and performance measures will be refined as they relate to planning factors and priorities for transportation system improvements. A map indicating the different Roadway Vision Plan elements under consideration is included on page three.

In conjunction with the Roadway Vision Plan, Metro COG has begun to put together numbers for operations and maintenance (O&M), rehabilitation and capital costs to take into account system-level estimates of costs and revenue sources expected to adequately operate and maintain roadways. This has been done to help create a framework for a fiscally constrained Metro 2040 roadway plan.

As part of its analysis of future level of service issues on the area's roadways, Metro COG has developed a detailed series of Interstate designs which reflect 2040 improvements, volumes and level of service which would provide optimum service.

Metro COG has also begun to prepare a 2020-2040 Transit Vision Plan. The plan increases revenue hours of service consistent with household growth by 15 percent in 2020 and 45 percent in 2040. It includes additional transit routes to areas not currently served, additional weekend service and increased frequency of service during evening hours.

As Metro COG concludes Phase Two of Metro 2040, there will be a second round of public input meeting where participants will be able to learn more about the Vision Plan and priorities laid forth in the LRTP update.

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**Policy Board 2014 Officers**

- Frank Gross**.....Chair  
 Clay County
- Julie Nash**.....Vice Chair  
 Dilworth

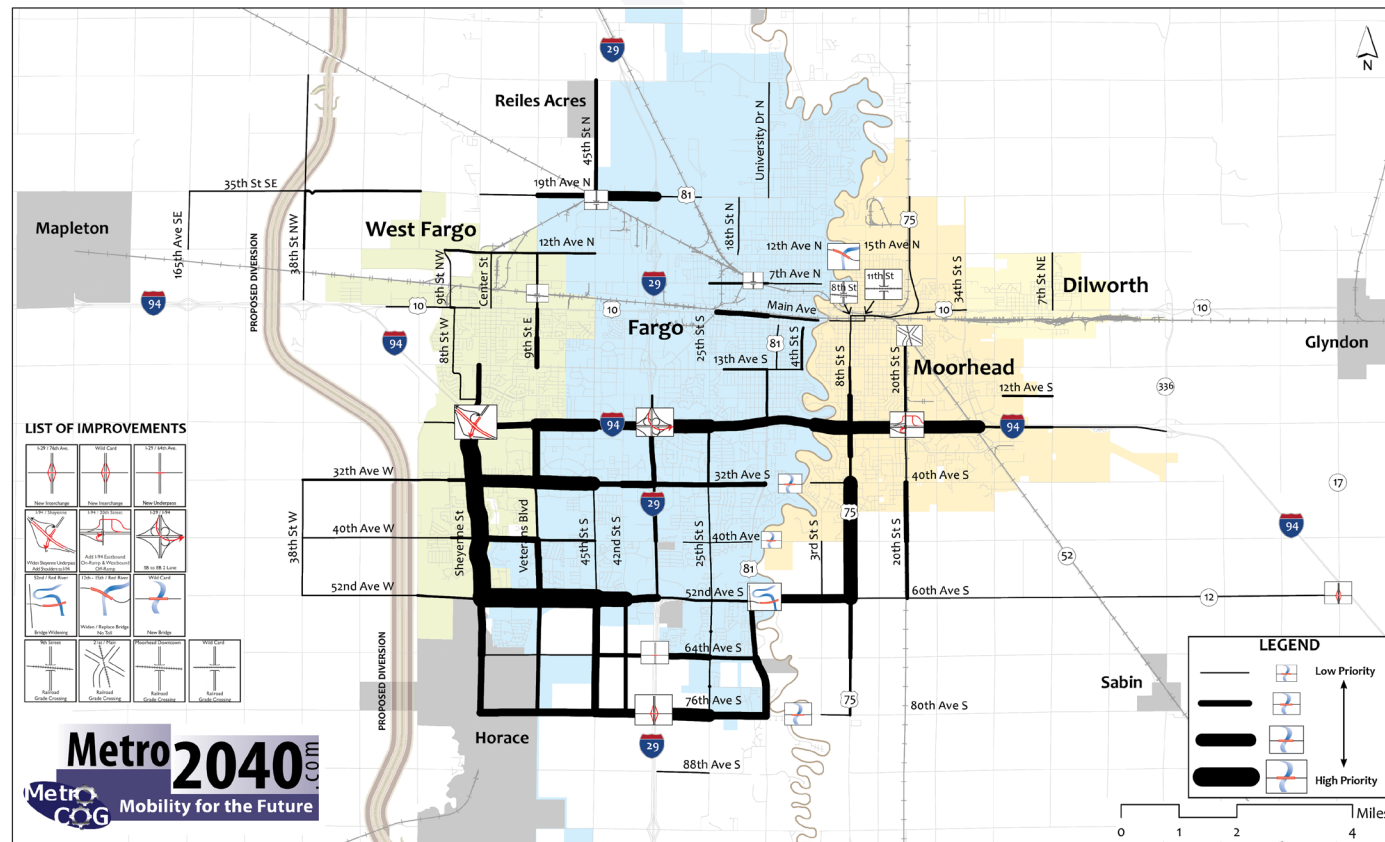
**Metro COG Staff:**

- Wade Kline.....Executive Director
- Bill Christian.....Senior Transp. Planner
- Dan Farnsworth.....Transp. Planner
- Mikel Kunza.....Planner
- Adam Altenburg.....Assistant Planner
- Chris Carlson.....GIS Specialist
- Joan Geyer.....Executive Secretary

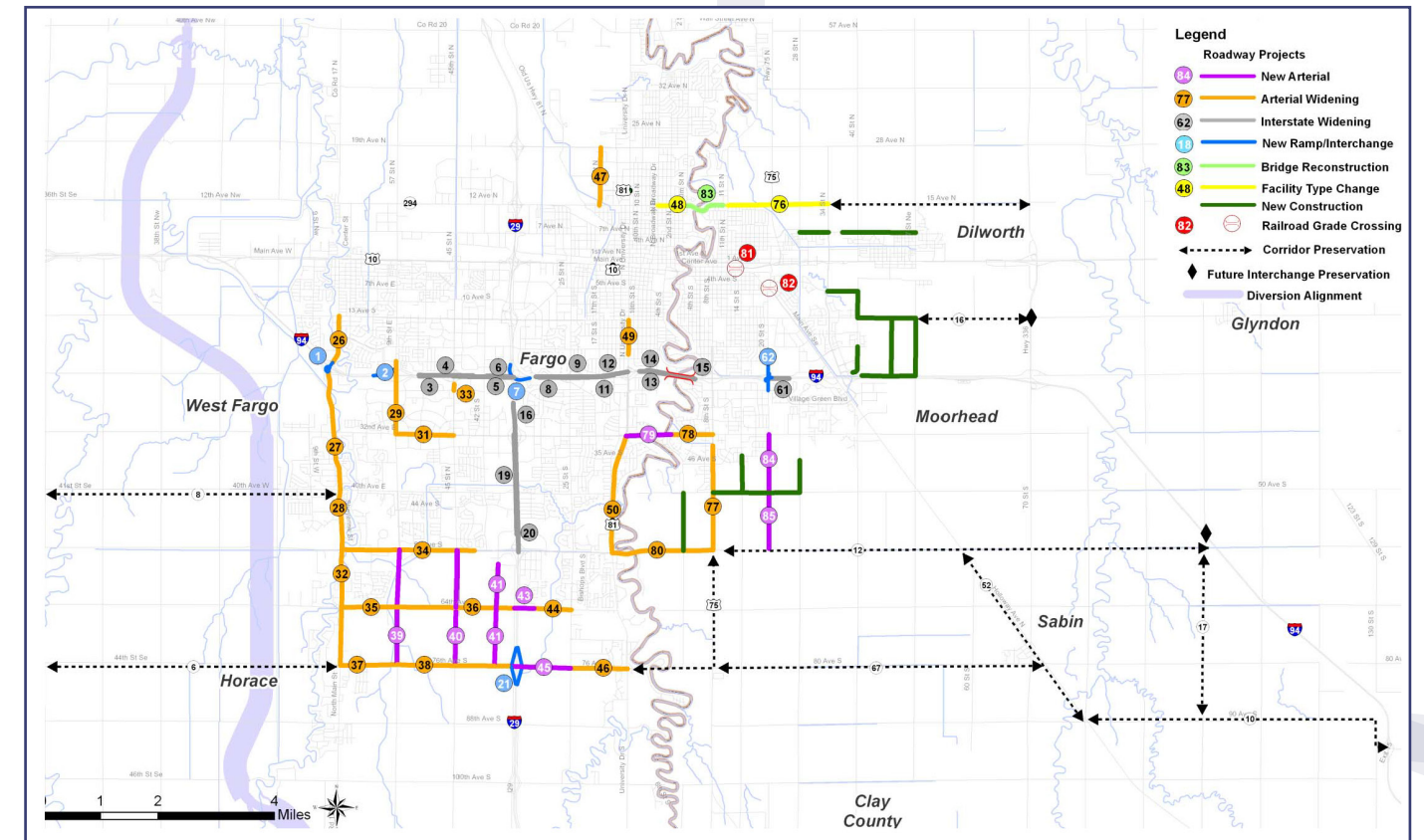
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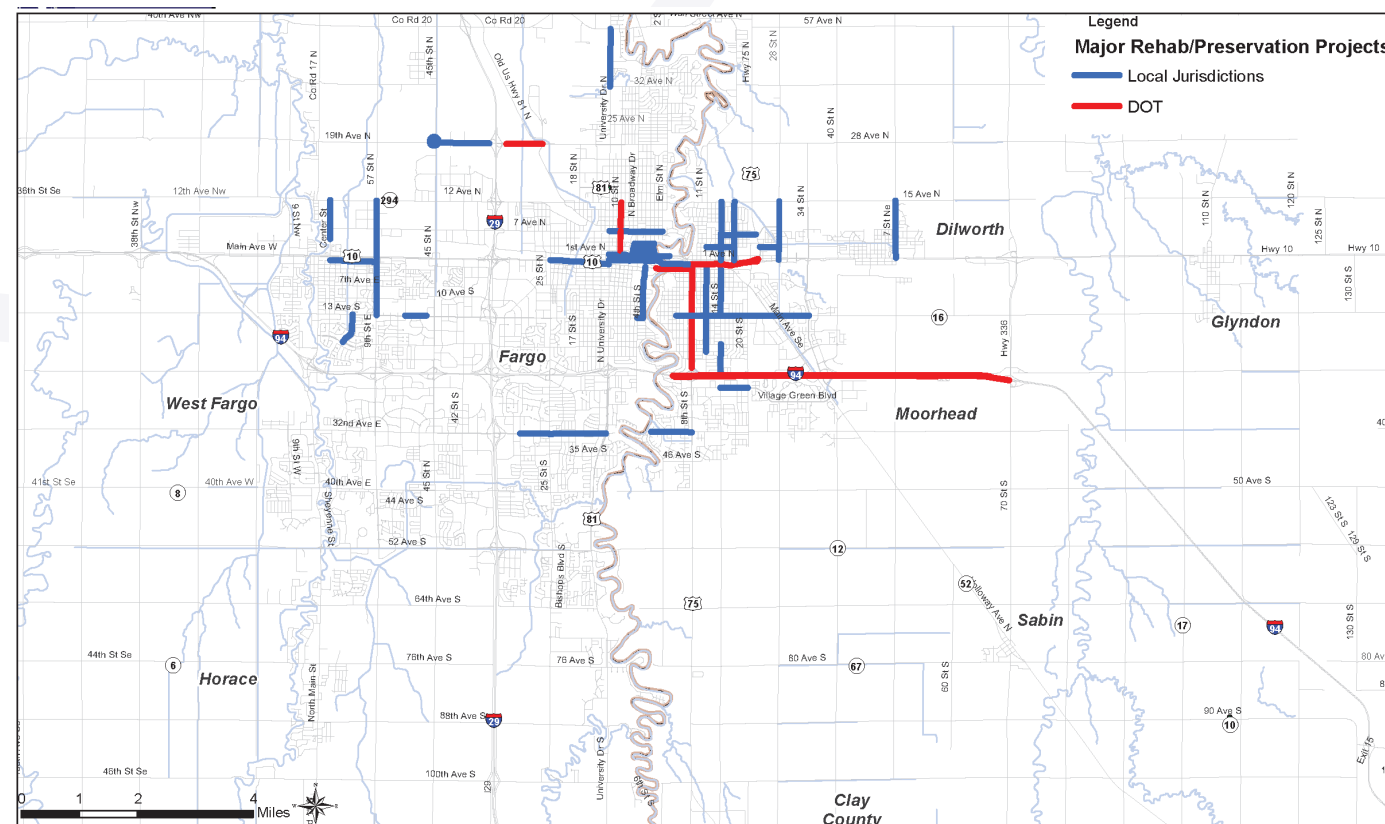
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Futures Summit compilation map summarizing public investment priorities during the Connections Exercise in September 2013



2040 Roadway Vision Plan elements



Major roadway rehabilitation and preservation projects

### Metro 2040: What's Next?

In late February, the second round of public input meetings will begin in connection to the development of Metro 2040. This will include three public meetings and one public officials workshop.

Phase Three of Metro 2040 will begin in March. During this phase, preferred alternatives will be selected from the various transportation alternatives identified in Phase Two. These will be incorporated into a preferred plan, with steps outlining how the preferred alternatives will be implemented.

The final public input meetings will be held in May, where the public will have the opportunity to review and remark on the Metro 2040 Draft Plan. Comments during this time will be used during the refinement period in Phase Four.

It is anticipated that the Metro 2040 Plan will be presented to Metro COG's Policy Board in July 2014 for approval.

#### Metro 2040 Calendar

- February: Round Two Public Input - Roundtable Discussion and Exercise
- March through May: Metro 2040 Plan Development
- Mid-May: Round Three Public Input - Public Open House Draft Plan
- June: Metro 2040 Plan Refinement
- July: Metro 2040 Plan Adoption

