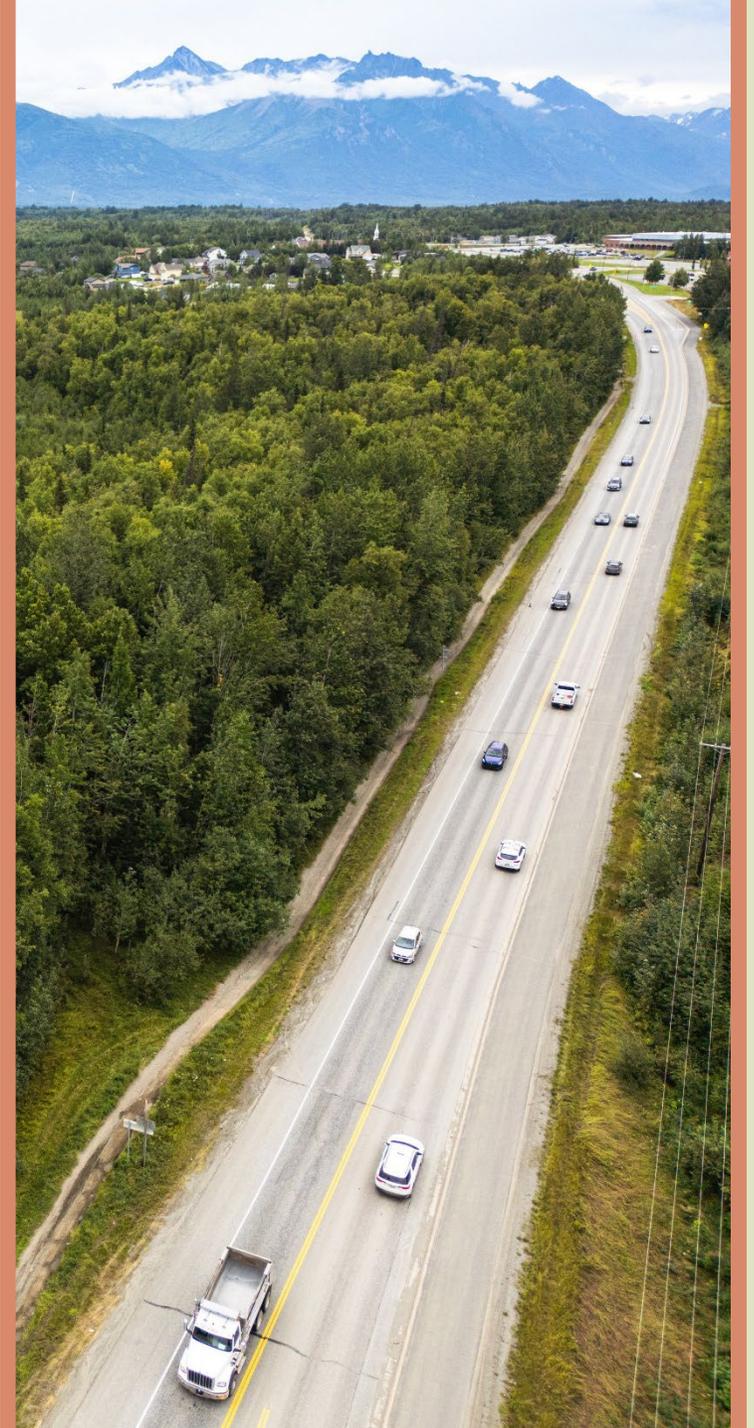




MATSU VALLEY
PLANNING *for*
TRANSPORTATION

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Open House #1
December 3, 2025



Welcome!



Agenda

01. What is MVP?

02. What is a Metropolitan Transportation Plan?

03. Poster Session

- Independent poster tour
- Key topics & interactive comment stations:
 - ✓ 1-on-1 with the MVP & MTP teams
 - ✓ Q&A
 - ✓ Share your feedback!



01.

Introducing MVP (an MPO)

We know... lots of acronyms!



What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization?

- A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a **federally funded transportation planning and policy-making organization**
- MPOs are required for any **urbanized area with a population greater than 50,000**
- **MPO's develop short- and long-range plans** for a local transportation system, including roads, public transit infrastructure, and bike and pedestrian facilities. The plans created by the MPO guide Federal transportation infrastructure investments.
- There are **459 MPO's in the United States** today.



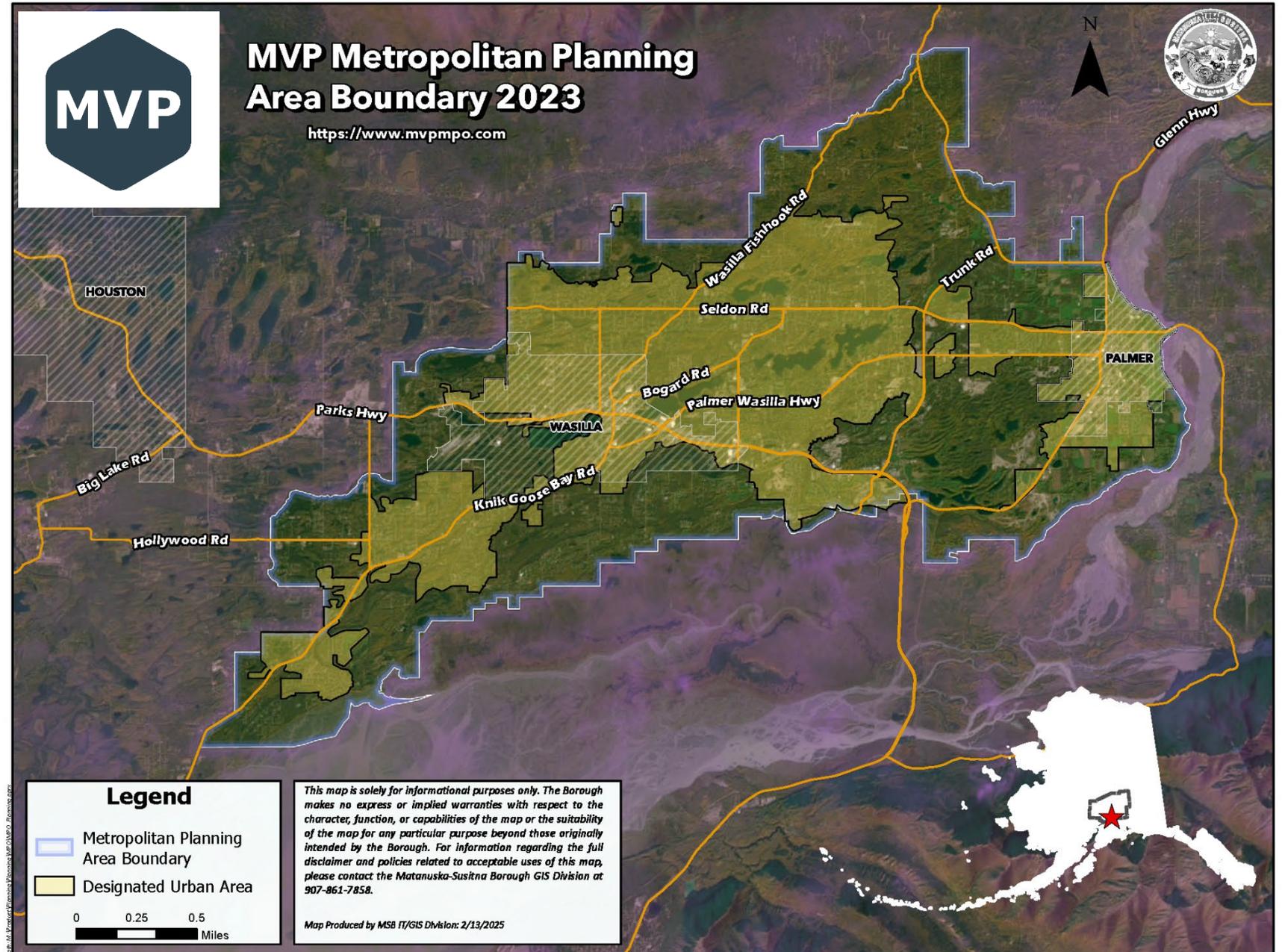
Wasilla, Knik Fairview, North Lakes Urban Area Designation and the founding of MVP

- On December 29, 2022, the U.S. Census identified a portion of the Mat-Su Borough Core Area as a Qualifying Urban Area, with a population of over 50,000
- MVP's operating agreement was signed by the Policy Board and the Governor on December 19, 2023



The MVP Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary includes the designated **urban area**, plus what we **expect to become urbanized** over the next 20 years.

- More than **120 square miles**
- About **73,000 people** live within the MPA



What is MVP?

We are:

- A **non-profit**, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) formed on February 14, 2024
- **Federally required** for transportation funding
- Governed by a board of **elected and appointed representatives of each regional government**

MVP brings **local voices** together to guide the Mat-Su Valley's transportation future and ensure federal funding is invested where it matters most.

How is MVP governed?

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

- » MSB Public Works
- » City of Wasilla Public Works
- » Alaska Railroad
- » Alaska DOT&PF Planning
- » Alaska DOT&PF Engineering
- » MSB Transportation Advisory Board
- » City of Palmer Public Works
- » Knik Tribe
- » Chickaloon Native Village
- » Valley Transit
- » MSB Planning
- » MSB School District
- » Mobility Advocate
- » Trucking Industry
- » Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
- » Road Service Area Advisory Board

Recommendations

POLICY BOARD

- » Mat-Su Borough Mayor
- » Mat-Su Borough Manager
- » Chickaloon Native Village
- » Knik Tribe
- » Alaska DOT&PF
- » City of Palmer Mayor
- » City of Wasilla Mayor

Our Team

MVP Staff



Kim Sollien
Executive Director



Anjie Goulding
Planning Manager



Carrie Cecil
Senior Planner

How is MVP funded?

Annually, the Federal Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Authority via ADOT&PF, allocate roughly \$550,000 to support MVP's operations. Our members pay the non-federal share/match.

MVP was also granted **\$1 million from the Alaska Legislature** to support the startup and operations.

- Annually, roughly **\$7 million in FHWA funding for Capital Projects** will be available to MVP to program that ADOT&PF will administer
- The MTP and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be the **guiding documents** that outline how the annual funding will be spent
- Facility owners will provide the **9.03% match** for planning funds and for capital projects
- We have the ability to seek out **grants**



The Work of MVP is Transportation Planning

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
20+ year long-range plan (transit, bike and ped, cars, freight) - ***That's why we're here today!***

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
4-year short range project funding plan

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
2-year staff work plan and budget

**Public Participation Plan (PPP) &
Title VI Compliance**



Our Team

Study/Meeting Support Team



Patrick Cotter, RESPEC



Amy Burnett, HDR



Laurie Cummings, HDR



Morgan Miller, HDR

Adam Bradway, DOT&PF

Chris Bentz, DOT&PF

Ben White, DOT&PF

Erich Schaal, City of Wasilla

Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village

Tom Adams, MSB

Alex Strawn, MSB

Kenny Kleewein, MSB

Mackenze Origer, MSB

02.

What is an MTP?

What should our transportation system look like?



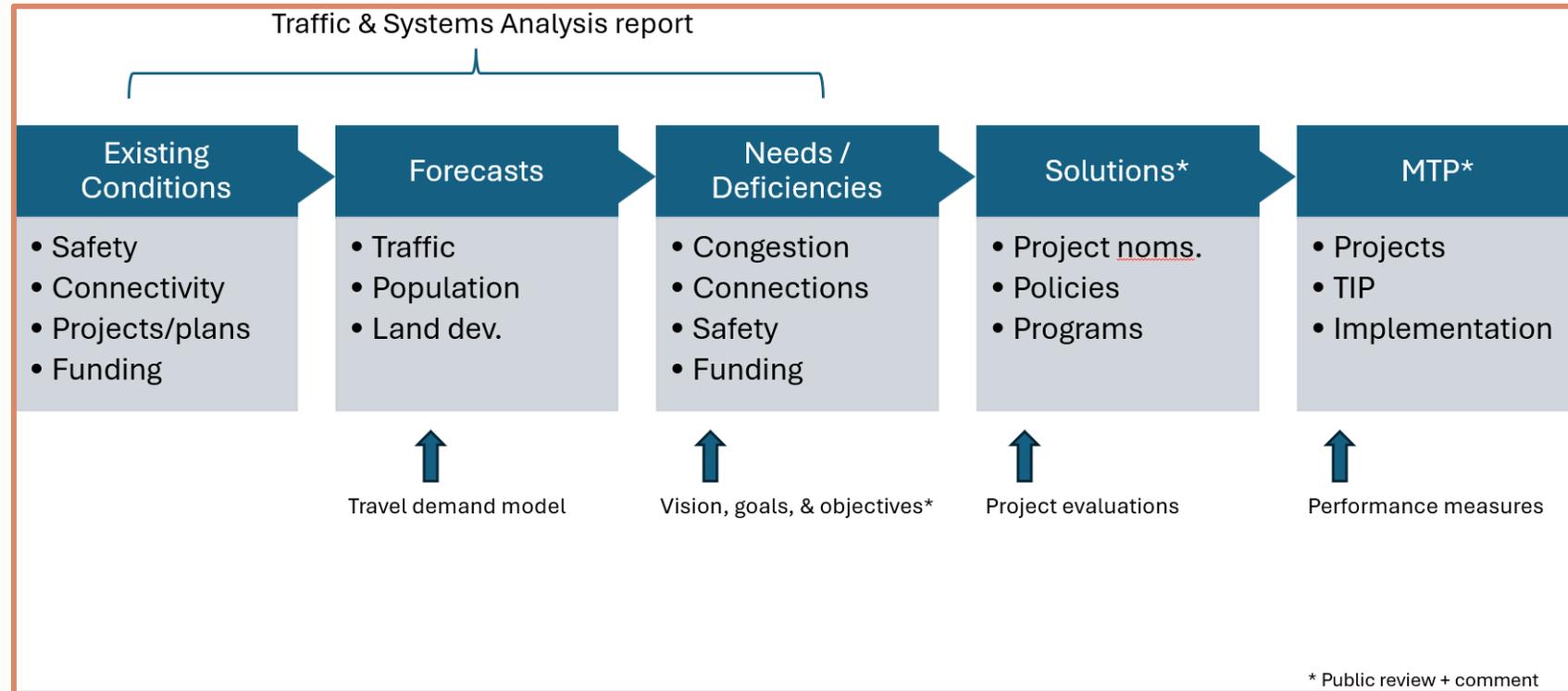
What is an MTP?

- A **long-range (20+ year) regional plan** for transportation investments and priorities
- Guides **regional decision-making** for roads, transit, bike/ped, and freight
- Ensures transportation investments **support regional goals**
- **Federally required**
- Updated every 5 years



What is the MTP Process?

- Identify the vision, goals, and objectives
- Assess the transportation system
- Forecast the future
- Identify and evaluate projects
- Budget
- Draft the plan for review
- Adopt the plan



What has been done so far?

- Created a Public Participation Plan
- **Conducted a plan review**
- Assessed existing conditions
- Analyzed traffic network
- Modeled travel demand
- Established project evaluation criteria
- Established **draft vision, goals, and objectives**



Vision & Goals

VISION

MatSu Valley Planning for Transportation is committed to creating a safe, efficient, and multimodal transportation system that fosters reliable and accessible options for all modes of travel, supports the economy and environment, and promotes healthy communities.

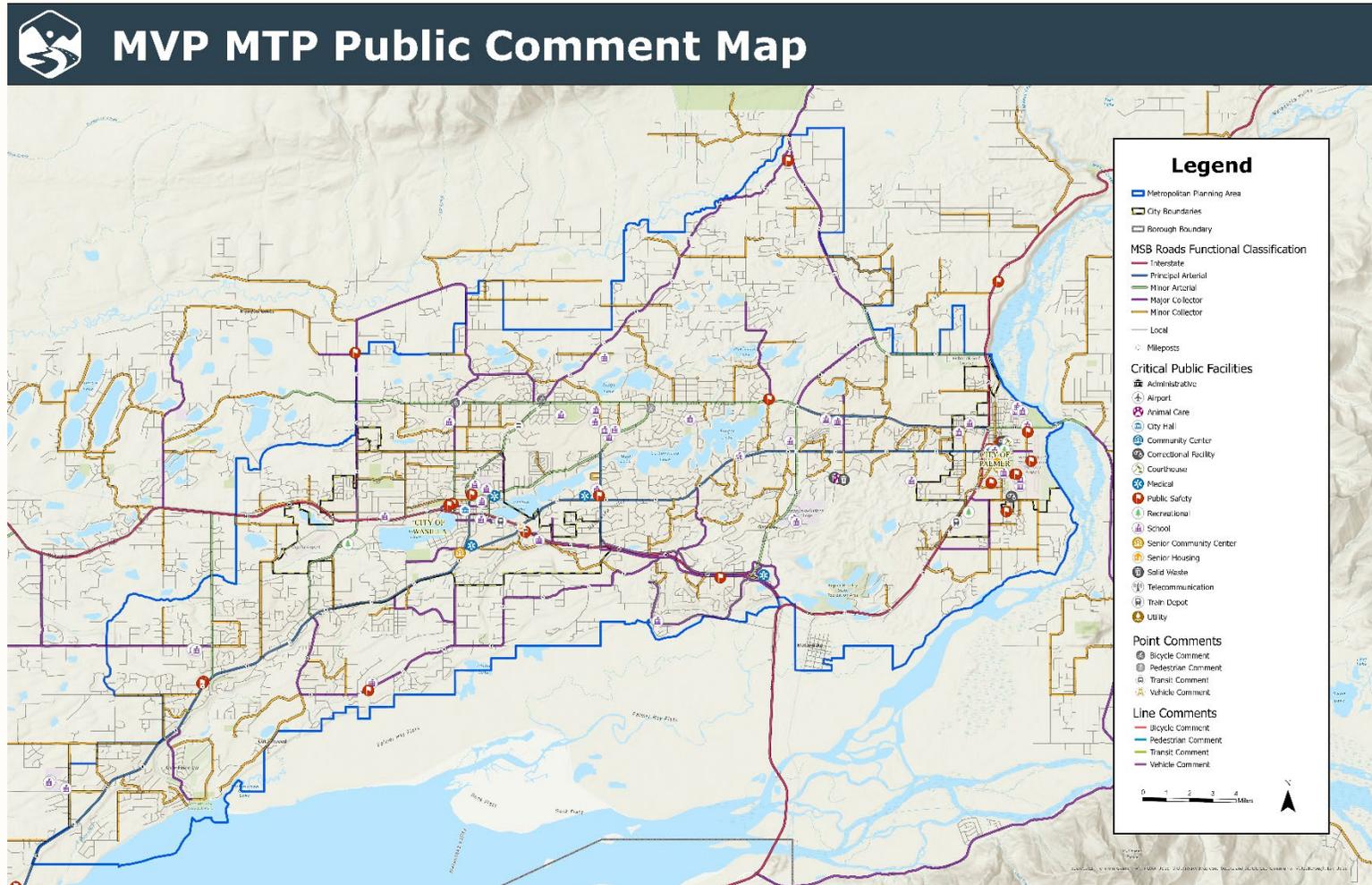
Goals

- Ensure transportation improvements align with **local land use patterns** and **connect housing to employment**
- Improve transportation **safety for all modes**
- Leverage all available **funding** resources
- Maintain the system in a **state of good repair**
- Create opportunities for more **diverse transportation** options
- **Shorten commute times** and **improve mobility**
- Build a **resilient** transportation network

What are we doing now?

Project nominations – **we need your input!**

- Where are there issues in the transportation network?
- Where are there gaps?
- What needs to be fixed now versus later?



What's next?

- Formal project nominations (Winter 2025/2026)
 - Primarily key stakeholders/governments
- Project evaluations (Winter 2026)
- Complete Streets Policy (Spring 2026)*
- Draft project list + prioritization (Spring 2026)*
- Draft MTP (Summer 2026)*
- Draft TIP (Fall 2026) *



03.

Poster Session



Poster Open House

During the poster session:

- ✓ **Ask questions** of the project teams 
- ✓ Collaborate to help deliver the best outcome for the community

Before you leave:

- ✓ **Leave us your feedback** via comment form, the online interactive map, or the paper maps
- ✓ Take a hand-out with MVP's information on it
- ✓ Sign-up for our mailing list at the welcome desk

Get Involved... & Thank You!



 ***Submit a
comment***



 ***Get
involved***



 ***Take our
survey***

Follow us on **social media**

