Shaping Transportation Planning and Health Policy

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Nashville Area MPO
2035 Plan: Making Change

#1
A Bold, New Vision for Mass Transit

#2
Support for Active Transportation & Walkable Communities

#3
Preservation & Enhancement of Strategic Roadways
Projects Scored on Criteria – 100 points

- Quality Growth and Sustainable Development – 15pts
- Multi-Modal Options – 15pts
- Health & Environment – 10pts
- Safety & Security – 10pts
- Congestion Management – 10pts
- System Preservation & Enhancement – 15pts
- State & Local Support/ Investment – 15pts
- Freight & Goods Movement – 10pts
2035 Plan: Investment Strategy

- 70% - Roadway projects that improve health
- 15% Sidewalks, bicycle lanes, greenways, transit stops, and education
- 10% Transit
- 5% Intelligent Transportation Systems
2035 Plan: Complete Streets

70% of roadway projects include sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or shared-use lanes
(up from 2% in 2030 Plan)

2009 to 2014 – 5 Counties
Sidewalks – 47% increase
Bikeways – 72% increase
Greenways – 27% increase
Middle Tennessee Connected

- 2040 Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan
  - $8.5 billion over 25 years
  - 200+ projects

- Regional Goals
  - Maintain a safe and reliable transportation system for people and goods
  - Help local communities grow in a healthy and sustainable way
  - Enhance economic competitiveness to attract private investment
  - Spend public funds wisely by ensuring a return on investment

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Baseline Data and Initial Exploration of Links between Built Environment, Transportation and Health

- Socio-economics, travel behaviors, area type, physical activity, eating behaviors, health outcomes
- Inform Policy and Funding of MPO 2040 Regional Plan
- Behavioral Data for Regional Travel Demand Modeling
  - Traditional 4-Step Model Update
  - Activity Based Modeling Transition
Research: Regional Issues

Most Important Problems to Solve

- Lack of transit options
- Lack of sidewalks
- Potholes or poorly maintained roadways
- Too much truck traffic
- Poorly planned development
- Too many accidents
- Too much road construction
- Poor timing of traffic lights
- Not enough roads
- Lack of bicycle lanes

Percentage of respondents: 0% to 45%
Research: Integrated Transport Health and Impact (ITHIM) Model

The graph illustrates the comparison of minutes per week (vertical axis) and miles per week (horizontal axis) across different scenarios: Baseline, Conservative, Moderate, and Aggressive. The line graph shows an increase in minutes per week and miles per week as the scenarios progress from Baseline to Aggressive. The key metrics are:

- AT min/wk
- Walk mi/wk
- Bike mi/wk

The graph indicates a significant increase in both minutes and miles with the Aggressive scenario.
Research: Health Priority Areas

3 out of 4:
- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Carless Household
- Aging (over age 65)
Projects Scored on Criteria – 100 points

- Quality Growth and Sustainable Development – 15pts
- Multi-Modal Options – 15pts
- Health & Environment – 10pts
- Safety & Security – 10pts
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- System Preservation & Enhancement – 15pts
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Outcomes: Complete Streets

77% of roadway projects include sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or shared-use lanes

(up from 2% in 2030 Plan and 70% in 2035 Plan)
Outcomes: Active Transportation

$108 million for the MPO’s Active Transportation Program

- The 2040 RTP continues this highly popular program created in 2010 with the adoption of the 2035 RTP.

- The Active Transportation Program receives 10 percent of the MPO’s direct suballocation of STP funding and the full amount of suballocated Transportation Alternatives funding to advance projects that improve walking, bicycling, and transit facilities.

- The program is coordinated with the MPO’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee whose members help evaluate projects for funding.
Outcomes: Alternative Funding

- $98 million for Transportation Alternative funding
- TDOT will administer a statewide program aimed at improving active transportation facilities in urban and rural parts of the state.
Takeaway: Making the Case

- Existing health challenges
- Regional data and research efforts
- Regional investment priorities
- Policies and programs
Questions?

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