

Transforming Transportation Workshops — Summary



Introduction

MetroPlan and the City of Flagstaff have policy positions supportive of and requiring the management of transportation demand, the encouragement of multi-modal transportation choices, and the reduction of transportation emissions in order to address climate change. A Sustainable Transportation Toolbox is being developed to direct and implement this effort. Phase 1 will build from the existing policies and develop performance targets for existing and new development that will help achieve carbon neutrality goals.

On May 3 and 4, 2022 a series of workshops focused on best practices and emerging trends were held as the first step in developing the Sustainable Transportation Toolbox. Workshop topics included:

- Changing Transportation Culture
- Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction Strategies
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Best Practices
- Transit Options

The workshop included attendees from MetroPlan, City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Northern Arizona University (NAU), and Mountain Line.

The workshops focused on Jason Barger's Thermostat Culture and 6A's shown here. Attendees were encouraged to act not as thermometers reacting to their surroundings, but instead as thermostats actively setting their organization's cultural temperature.

Anchor...Our Values

What actions need to become habits?

- Sharing of facts
- Consistent messaging amongst plans



Assess... Where We Are

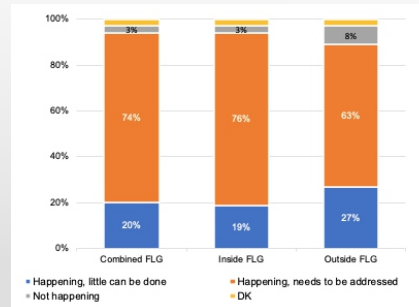
An overview of existing socioeconomic conditions, developments, barriers, and transportation network was presented. Results of an online public survey were shared.

What are we doing well?

- Planning and Policies in place
- Positive outlook
- Collaboration

What can we improve?

- Connectivity
- Planning to Implementation
- Public Engagement



Align... Our Thoughts

An overview of results from a random sample survey, and goals and strategies from existing plans were presented.

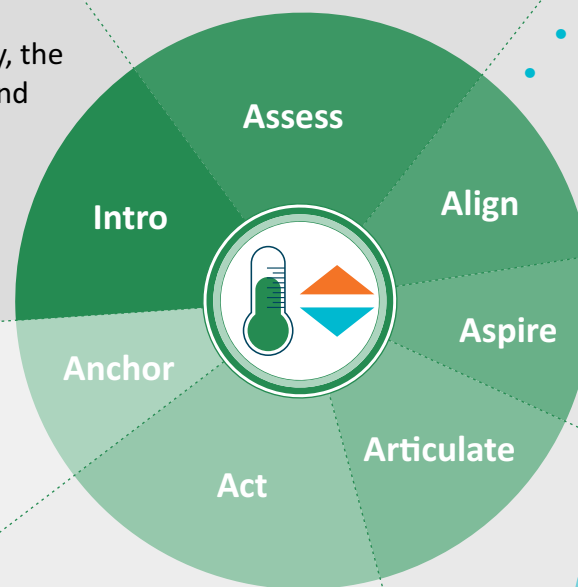
What is our WHY?

- Environment
- Health of Community
- Changing Lives

How can we better align our teams and the community?

- Partnerships
- Guidance for Planning to Implementation
- Update standards to policies

62% of respondents expressed a willingness to switch modes.



Aspire... Towards Stride Forward Sustainability Goals

Attendees were asked to describe the finest transportation system, how it can be created and promote our sustainability goals. Responses included: clean, convenient, safe, quiet, affordable, maintained, connected, beautiful, accessible, and one that serves all modes.

What do we want to be different in...?

- The next year? More signage, expanded micromobility, alternative routes during construction
- Five years? Travel demand management program, updated codes and standards, maintenance funding
 - Ten years? Land use changes away from decentralized development

Act... Bias Toward Action

Attendees discussed possible near-term options, obstacles, and changes that can be controlled and led to achieve Stride Forward Sustainability Goals.

- Clear Core Values
- Organizational Education
- City-wide Transportation Plan
- Street typology



Articulate ... Towards Stride Forward Sustainability Goals

Attendees discussed how the core values and WHY could be implemented across plans and disciplines. A need for a consistent WHY was identified as the first step. This would allow for policy implementation across codes and standards. Attendees also identified a need for consistent language and messaging for Management, Council, and public engagement.

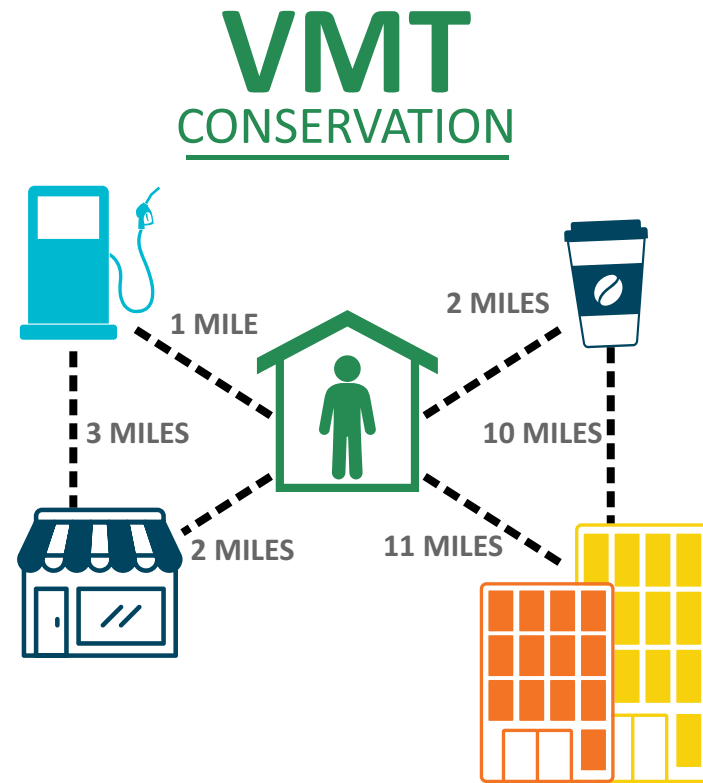
Transforming Transportation Workshops — Best Practices



Transportation Impact Analysis and the Transition to VMT

Public Agency Decisions

- VMT Methodology
 - Model
 - Metric
 - Screening
- Thresholds
 - Project vs Cumulative
- Feasible Mitigation
- VMT reduction involves changing travel behavior.
- Strategies range from regional built-environment changes to project site transportation demand management.
- Most effective strategies are off-site (community scale) and require a program (e.g. impact fee, bank, or exchange).



Idea Generation for Flagstaff Transit

	Strengths	Weaknesses
Neighborhood Shuttle Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to expand new shuttle service for non-commuters • Medium capacity vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed-routes offer less flexibility • Larger vehicles need specific bus stops • Difficult balance between accessing enough key destinations with quick on-vehicle time and frequent service
Specialized Shuttle Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible routing • More direct service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity compared to fixed-route transit and shuttles
On-Demand Microtransit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible routing • More direct service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity compared to fixed-route transit and shuttles
Ridehail / Transportation Network Company Partnerships (TNC's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-cost to rider (but may be increasing) • Residents may already be familiar with service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential challenges with ADA compliance • Limited integration with other transit services & apps • Cannot accommodate demand surge / large groups

Making Multimodal Friendly Networks – Best Practices



Tactical Urbanism: concept that aims to quickly and affordably involve and integrate communities, use local artists and create a safer, accessible, and equitable environment.



Superblocks + Open Streets: Superblock is a concept where certain areas only allow pedestrians and bicyclists, and sometimes personal vehicles based on users' residence. Open streets are closed or repurposed for pedestrian and bicycle users only.



Multimodal Plans and Studies: Provide guidance for future bicycle and pedestrian networks, prioritizing of multimodal improvements, and help develop implementation strategies.



Unique Studies: Examples include repurposing a median for a cycle track, rapid implementation of safety improvement projects.

Next Steps

Thank you for your participation in the Transforming Transportation Workshops. Next steps include developing and evaluating tools for assessing transportation related VMT and developing performance standards. It is intended that the Sustainability Toolbox will be completed in December 2022 in conjunction with the Metroplan Stride Forward 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.



Go to metroplanflg.org/transportationworkshop or metroplanflg.org/strideforward for more information.