Public Involvement in Transportation Policy and Funding Decision Making Processes

Goals and Outcomes
Mobility in our Socioeconomic System
Democracy at Work

• Your opinions/attitudes influence your representatives in the legislature and Governor
• This translates into public policy
• Your opinions will determine the future of transportation and mobility for North Dakotan’s
• How about those that aren’t here today
  – They count as well
  – Please provide them with your input
Important Point!!!

• We’re not trying to tell you what to think
• We’re hoping to give you something to think about
Goals and Outcomes

• Goals
  – Become more informed about the state’s transportation and mobility needs
  – Learn how public policy affects how those needs are accommodated
  – Identify your concerns

• Outcomes
  – More informed and aware of how personal and freight mobility is affected by public policy on transportation planning and financing.
  – Heightened interest and awareness allowing you to discuss issues with decision makers; county commissioners, legislators, & friends
  – Identify potential solutions

• Not here to tell you what to endorse
• Shed more light than heat
Two Basic Questions

• Importance and role of mobility
  – Key elements in an advanced socioeconomic system
  – The role of mobility in the economy

• How the role of mobility is changing
  – Mobility in a changing economy
  – Importance in the 21st Century
Importance of Mobility

Some Basic Tenets of a Successful Society

• A system that provides food and fiber
• Adequate health care system
• Education system that creates intellectual capital
• Governance, defense and security of society
• System of Justice - dispute resolution, equity
• Creation of knowledge and technological advancement
• System of commerce that rewards the individual
• Communications - ideas, money, networking
• Mobility in its broadest context - walking/flying/driving

Mobility - Necessary condition/glue for socioeconomic success
Role of Mobility in Economy

• A necessary condition for advancement
  – Trade which leads to economic specialization
    • Allows exploitation of comparative advantage
  – Increases competition/levels the playing field
  – Opportunities for alliances/networking
  – Allows urbanization to take place
• Greater opportunities for businesses/consumers
• Globalization of the world economy
Second Question

• How the role of mobility is changing
  – Mobility in a changing economy
  – Importance in the 21st Century
Mobility in a Changing Economy

• Past stages of the economy
  – Subsistence/barter
  – Agricultural/commodity
  – Industrial/durable goods
  – Consumer goods
  – Service economy

• Mobility more vital as economy evolved

• Next stage of the economy - Knowledge based
Implications of Economic Change

• New economic orders do not replace existing systems – they add to them
  – Results in increase in total demand for transportation
  – Transportation becomes a more critical component in socioeconomic system over time
  – Evidenced by changes in demand the past 40-50 years
Mobility Indices

- Passenger Vehicles: 1960-74 million; 2003-231 M
- Air passenger miles: 1960-31 billion; 2004-558 B
- Truck tons: 1950-794 million; 2003-8,699 million
- Rail tons: 1950-1,421 million; 2004-2,183 million
- UPS, FedEx, etc.: 1990 – $22.5 million; 2005-55.5 M
- Container volumes: 1990-2.8 million; 2004-8.1 M
- Paratransit: 1990-68 million trips; 2004 – 114 M
Mobility in the 21st Century

More Important

• Globalization will most likely continue
  – Increased competitiveness
  – Expanded sourcing opportunities and markets
  – Changing business structure – multi-nationals

• Communications
  – Increased networking – put a face to a name
  – Increased socialization

• Consumer goods and service economy growth

• Evolving knowledge based economy
Factors that Influence Mobility

• Demographics – aging population
• Changing economy – ethanol, globalization
• Global warming – fuel efficiency
• Inflation – construction costs
• Federal policy – devolution of programs
• Population shifts – urbanization of ND
• Farm size – equipment size, load factors
• Gas prices - ?????????
Some Basic Questions

- Local road system adequate – quantity, quality, service
- Revenues to support local road system
- State system – quantity, quality, service
- Should the Federal Govt get out of transportation or the alternative
- Are the elderly, remotely located, and low income adequately served
Summary

- Mobility/Transportation has become more vital
- This trend will continue
- Integrated system is critical for participation in socioeconomic system – last mile problem
- Strong national/state system backbone needed
- Funding trends at the Federal level
  - Devolution a possibility
  - If not devolution certainly a focus on national system
Our Comparative Challenge

Interstate and National Highway Systems – in MT, ID, SD, ND and WY
Federal-aid System is Critical for Connectivity
When You’re Smaller, You Have to be Smarter

It isn’t a matter of choice, it’s a matter of survival

The Jack Russell Terrier will stand on his front legs to mark his territory higher so that dogs that follow deduce a larger dog and therefore, a larger threat.