

Public Open House #1 Summary

The first public open house for the Street and Highway Plan Update was held at the Campbell Library in East Grand Forks on Thursday, November 3, 2022 from 5 to 7 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to inform residents of the plan development process, provide residents with an opportunity to offer input on transportation needs and issues, and identify plan goals and direction.

The meeting was advertised across several platforms, including a newspaper advertisement in the Grand Forks Herald, a press release, and social media posts on channels for the MPO, the City of East Grand Forks and the City of Grand Forks. A total of 8 people were in attendance.

Meeting Overview

The November 3 event was an in-person open house, where attendees were able to visit several stations to learn about the plan development process and offer input on plan goals as well as existing transportation issues and opportunities. The stations for the public open house included:

- **Welcome station** — attendee sign in and informational materials regarding plan development process and timeline.
- **Street and Highway Conditions station** — boards with maps that illustrated current transportation conditions, including existing traffic operations and highest crash intersections.

- **Plan Goals station** — this was an interactive station with a board that asking attendees to select the top three goal areas they find most important for the plan to address, out of eight potential goal areas to choose from.
- **Mapping station** — this was an interactive station asking attendees to leave comment notes on our area map.

Materials from Public Open House #1 are available in the “Completed & Past Events” area of the project website.

Meeting Outcomes

A total of 8 residents attended the November 3 Public Open House and participated in the interactive stations. Summaries for each of the interactive stations are below.



Plan Goals Activity

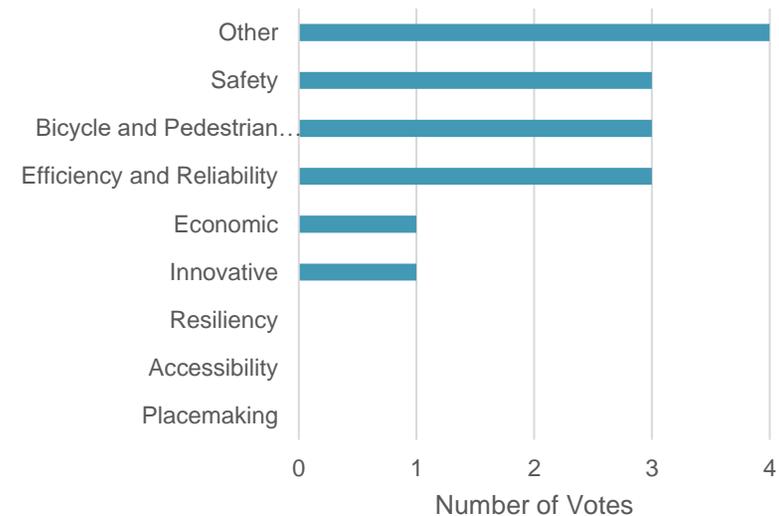
The Plan Goals activity asked participants to review the eight goal areas identified for the Streets and Highway Plan Update, and then vote for the three goal areas they believe the plan should focus on. The goal areas identified were:

- Safety
- Accessibility
- Economic
- Resiliency
- Efficiency and Reliability
- Placemaking
- Innovative
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections

The results of the Plan Goals activity are shown in **Figure 1**. As shown the “other” category resulted in the most votes with a total of 4, followed by “Safety”, “Efficiency and Reliability”, and “Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections” which all tied at 3 each. Next, “Economic” and “Innovative” tied with 1 vote each. Feedback given by meeting attendees for who voted for the “Other” option includes:

- Preserve and maintain roads
- Adjust traffic signal timings to improve traffic flows
- Overpasses are more effective grade separation strategies than underpasses
- Need for 32nd Avenue bridge to East Grand Forks

Figure 1: Results of the Plan Goals Activity



Issues and Needs Mapping Activity

The second interactive station asked participants to comment on current transportation issues and opportunities by writing on a large map of the study area. Attendees provided 25 comments that covered a number of street and highway topics such as traffic operations, expansion needs, and safety issues; the results of the activity are in **Figure 2**.

Figure 2 shows the location and related transportation mode for the input attendees shared during the mapping activity, including an identification (ID) number for each comment.

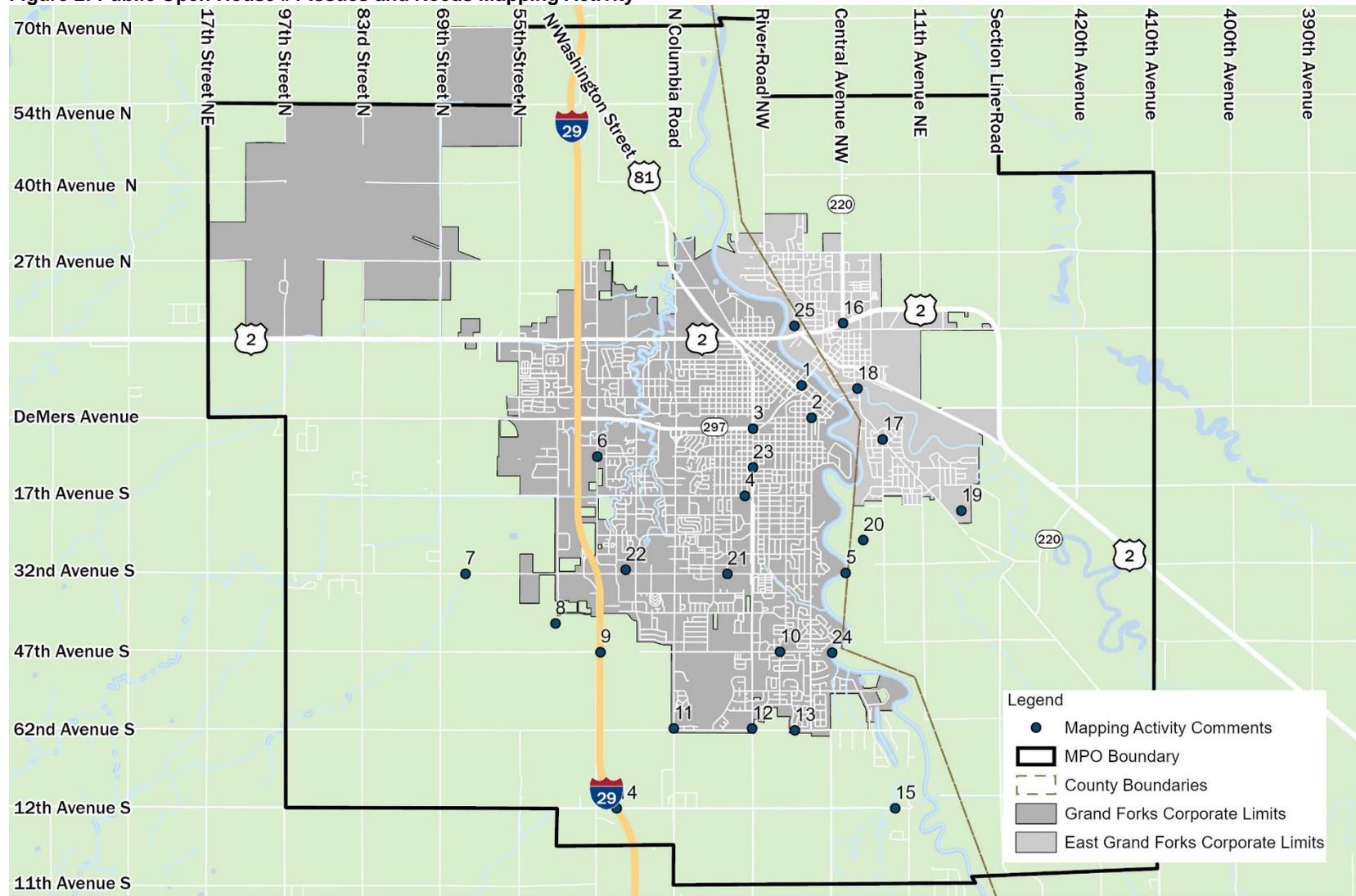
Table 1 provides documentation of the comments associated with each ID number.



Table 1: Public Open House #1 Mapping Activity Comments

| ID | Comment |
|----|--|
| 1 | No large truck traffic |
| 2 | Stop light back at 4th and Belmont |
| 3 | DeMers and Washington interchange improvements CFI? |
| 4 | Are 4 lanes needed on 17th Ave S or could it be reduced to 2 |
| 5 | New bridge |
| 6 | 42nd St pedestrian crossing difficult |
| 7 | Any additional rail crossings we may need with future demand |
| 8 | Future school, future residential growth, future |
| 9 | I-29/47th Ave interchange and connecting roadways to Merrifield |
| 10 | Cherry and 47th Ave S traffic light |
| 11 | Widen Columbia Rd down to 62nd Ave |
| 12 | Widen Washington St down to 62nd Ave |
| 13 | Cherry St & Belmont & 62nd Ave S RAB or signal? |
| 14 | Merrifield Interchange |
| 15 | Bridge truck bypass Merrifield |
| 16 | Intersection of 2 and 220 crashes |
| 17 | Traffic flow at Rhineheart and Bygland |
| 18 | Louis Murray pedestrian path too high and scary. Needs to be street level and concrete barrier |
| 19 | Backage road |
| 20 | One way in, one way out on Bygland |
| 21 | 32nd Ave S and S 17th St needs turn off lane |
| 22 | 34th and 38th too much traffic |
| 23 | 13th Ave S and Washington needs cross walk on north side of intersection |
| 24 | Bridge helps with EGF Point traffic |
| 25 | Connect the bike path in Red River State Recreation Area |

Figure 2: Public Open House #1 Issues and Needs Mapping Activity



- Legend
- Mapping Activity Comments
 - ▭ MPO Boundary
 - - - County Boundaries
 - Grand Forks Corporate Limits
 - East Grand Forks Corporate Limits

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 MAPPING ACTIVITY COMMENTS

