

Public Open House #2 Summary

The second public open house for the Street and Highway Plan Update was held at the Empire Arts Center in Grand Forks on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 from 4 to 6 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to gather input from residents on potential future transportation strategies and projects.

The meeting was advertised across several platforms, including a newspaper advertisement in the Grand Forks Herald, a press release, and social media posts on the MPO's Facebook page. The City of East Grand Forks posted the event on their website and shared event information in their Newsflash newsletter.

Meeting Overview

The June 21 event was an in-person open house, where attendees were able to visit several stations to review the plan's progress and provide input. The boards for the public open house included:

- Plan Development Timeline
- Meeting #1 Recap
- Growth Data
- Plan Focus Areas interactive board – attendees were invited to vote on their highest priority goals.
- Congestion Strategies interactive boards – attendees were invited to review a variety of strategies and then offer their input on a scale from “thumbs up” to “thumbs down.”
- Project Development Lifecycle

A project area map was also available for attendees to leave comments about particular traffic issues in Grand Forks-East Grand Forks.

Materials from Public Open House #2 are available in the “Completed & Past Events” area of the project website (www.gfegfstreets.com/public-involvement).

Meeting Outcomes

A total of seven residents attended and participated in the interactive stations. A review of all the data collected during the meeting follows.



Congestion Strategies Interactive Boards

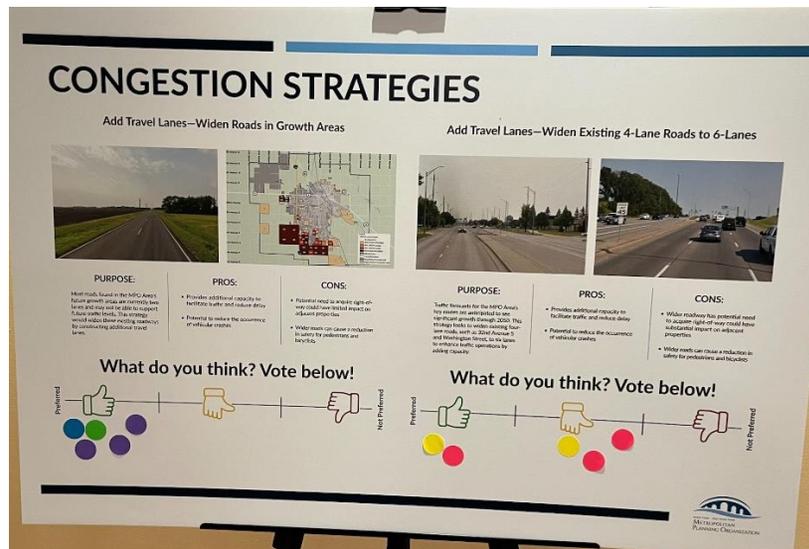
Attendees were invited to review a variety of congestion strategies and offer their input on a scale from “thumbs up” to “thumbs down.”

Add Travel Lanes – Widen Roads in Growth Areas

- Thumbs Up: 5
- Neutral: 0
- Thumbs Down: 0

Add Travel Lanes – Widen Existing 4-Lanes Roads to 6-Lanes

- Thumbs Up: 2
- Neutral: 3
- Thumbs Down: 0

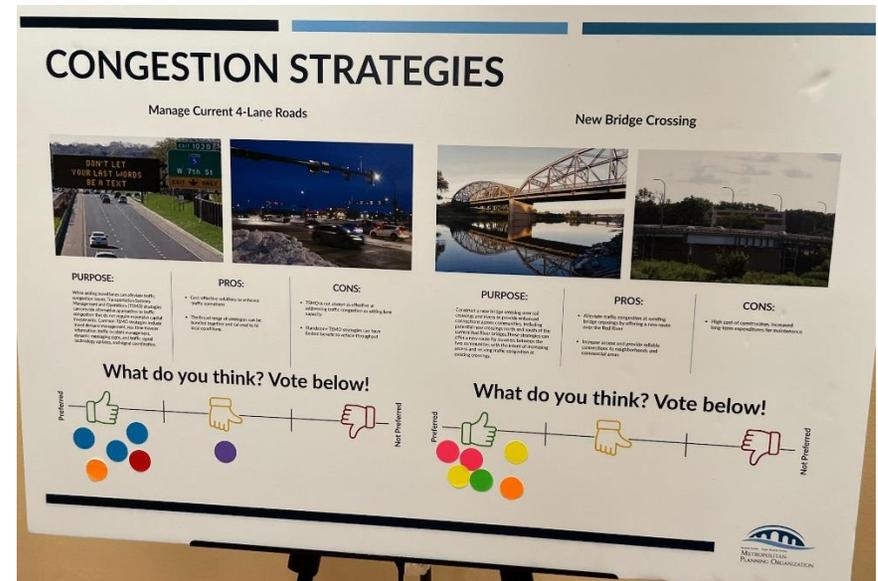


Manage Current 4-Lane Roads

- Thumbs Up: 5
- Neutral: 1
- Thumbs Down: 0

New Bridge Crossing

- Thumbs Up: 6
- Neutral: 0
- Thumbs Down: 0



Roundabouts

- Thumbs Up: 4
- Neutral: 1
- Thumbs Down: 1

Integration of Complete Streets Principals in Future Improvements

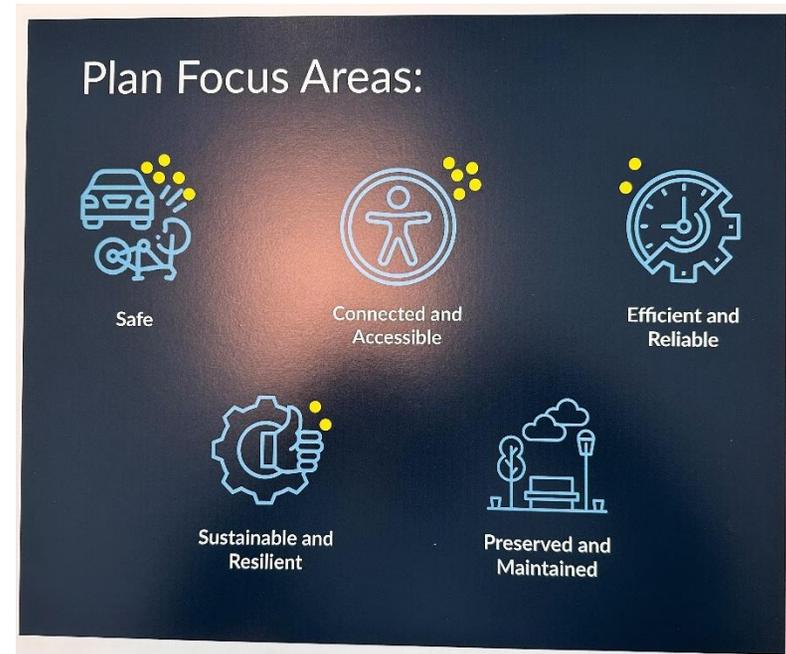
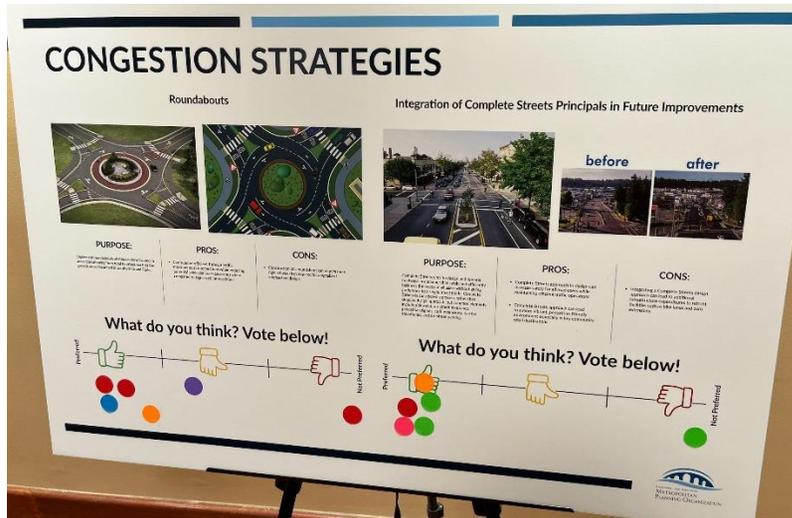
- Thumbs Up: 5
- Neutral: 0
- Thumbs Down: 1

Plan Focus Areas Interactive Board

During the open house, attendees were invited to add up to two dots to their highest priority goals.

Results:

- Safe – 5 votes
- Connected and Accessible – 5 votes
- Efficient and Reliable – 2 votes
- Sustainable and Resilient – 2 votes
- Preserved and Maintained – 0 votes



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 36 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** .

Figure 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 #2 Mapping Activity Comments

ID	Description
1	More safety improvements
2	Widen road
3	Add interchange
4	4 lanes 47th to 62nd
5	Make new development bike friendly
6	4 lane lower like city vs. county
7	Intersection signal
8	Crossing Safety
9	47th is good location for bridge
10	Merrifield bridge
11	32nd Ave Bridge good
12	32nd Ave Bridge
13	40 years overdue
14	Elks is a good location
15	Backage road connecting schools (safety)
16	Additional lighting down Washington?
17	More efficient
18	Washington St access is a problem. Can we improve?
19	Slow street, ped crossings
20	Expand lanes of busy residential streets (Belmont, etc.)
21	Electronic signs / radar speed on core roads (University, Demers, Columbia, Washington)
22	Expand University to allow for more dedicated turn lanes
23	Better signals and slower speeds at school
24	A round about on Demers & 6th / 8th to divert traffic around downtown
25	Make more pedestrian friendly for safety of children at Phoenix school

26	Widen Minnesota - 4th corridor raise speed limit
27	Internal circulation? Need asphalt plant
28	R1RO w/ acceleration lane? Cor. Just R.O
29	Raise ALL speed limits
30	No bike lanes
31	No roundabouts
32	Street scaping to encourage people to stop behind crosswalks
33	Pro bump out!
34	Add more bump outs to make it more friendly for pedestrians - thank you for those you have
35	How do bikes get through downtown, knowing that car traffic is challenging too?
36	Improve safety of peds & bikes around schools

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

