



Minnesota Council on Transportation Access (MCOTA) Senior Leadership Meeting

October 1, 2021

Welcome

1:00 Welcome - Margaret Anderson Kelliher,
MnDOT Commissioner

1:05 Member Roll Call - Kaydee Kirk, UMN
Center for Transportation Studies

Action: Agency MCOTA members and senior leadership members enter their name and organization into the chat.

Member Agencies

- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Office of the Governor
- Metropolitan Council
- Minnesota Board on Aging
- Minnesota Department of Commerce
- Minnesota Department of Education
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- Minnesota Management and Budget
- Minnesota Public Transit Association
- Minnesota State Council on Disability

2021 Legislative Update

1:10 Legislation 2021 Session Update:

- **MCOTA Volunteer Driver Legislation Status** - Tom Gottfried, MCOTA Executive Director
- **MCOTA's recommendation and support of Minnesota Volunteer Driver Coalition** - Tom Gottfried, Sherry Munyon, MN Volunteer Driver Coalition/MN Public Transit Association

Enterprise Transportation Access Opportunity and Challenge Priorities

Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Ben Lowndes, MnDOT
(facilitator)

- 1. Overview**
- 2. Report-out of Agency Transportation Challenge and/or Opportunity Themes**
- 3. Brainstorm Additional Challenges and/or Opportunity Themes**
- 4. Select Top Priority Theme(s)**
- 5. Brainstorm How to Address Priority Theme(s)**



Themes of Members' Top Transportation Challenges and/or Opportunities

**Driver
shortages**

Insurance

Public transit

**Transportation
accessibility
and availability**

**Legal,
regulatory or
policy barriers**

Climate change

Theme #1: Driver shortages

1. We need **more volunteer drivers** due to fewer available people and increasing demand for senior transportation. (Bd on Aging)
2. **Limited/costly insurance** is a barrier for **volunteer drivers**. (Bd on Aging)
3. **Low mileage reimbursement rate** and tax liabilities are barriers for **volunteer drivers**. (Bd on Aging, MPTA)
4. **School bus driver shortage** (Education)
5. **Driver shortages** for public transit and other transportation (MnDOT, Met Council)



Theme #2: Insurance

Limited/costly insurance is a barrier for volunteer drivers (Bd on Aging)

Opportunities and challenges with automobile insurance in an evolving personal transportation environment (Commerce)

Theme #3: Public transit

1. Rebuild **passenger confidence in safety** of transit service in the pandemic environment. (MnDOT)
2. Change in recipient use (5310) and its impact on capital (vehicles): **Right-size vehicles** to serve more community-based jobs and bring services to customers. (MnDOT)
3. Additional **funding options for rural transportation** (MPTA)
4. Diversify **funding options** for transit operations. (MPTA)



Theme #4: Transportation accessibility and availability

1. Transportation barriers for people to **access health care and other essential needs** (social, groceries) that contribute to well-being (DHS, MDH)
2. Ease of connecting to rides for **“just-in-time service”** (MDH)
3. Need **sufficient and affordable transportation** throughout the state. (DHS)
4. Remove barriers to enable safe and accessible **pedestrian facilities** for all users. (MDH)
5. Need **buy-in at all levels of government that ADA compliance AND accessibility and usability** are essential for all projects, programs & services. (MCD)
6. The **Waiver Transportation Pilot** (Met Council)
7. An **equity initiative**: potential state-wide adoption of TAP program modeled after the Council’s program. (Met Council)



Theme #5: Legal, regulatory or policy barriers

1. Challenge with **long-term resource capacity** to support MCOTA, RTCC and TCAP programs (MnDOT)
2. Transportation providers serve Minnesotans in multiple programs and must meet **duplicative standards**. (DHS)
3. Service collaborations face **legal, regulatory or policy barriers** that make it very complex and difficult to coordinate. (MnDOT)
4. The **inability to share data** between state agencies is a barrier to collaboration and coordination. (Met Council)
5. In partnering with multiple state agencies and counties to help people with employment, each has **distinctions in eligibility and methods**. (DEED)



Theme #6: Climate change

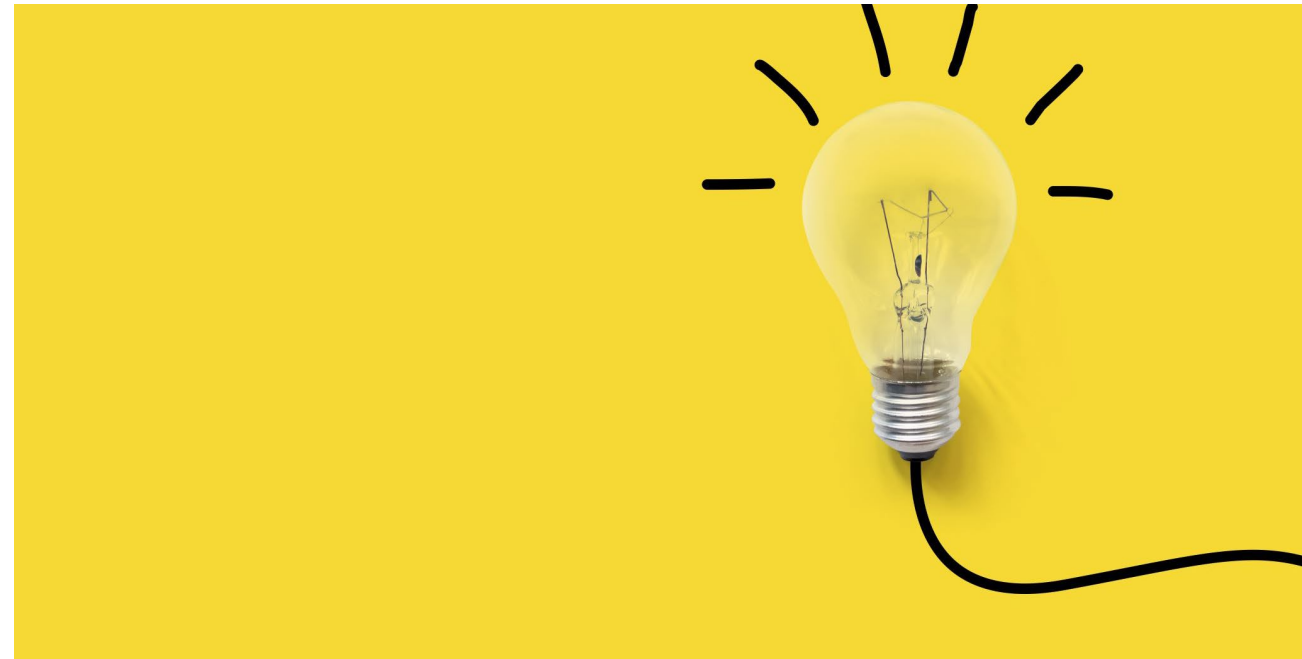
- **Climate resiliency and adaptation** will impact transportation and transit choices and options such as electric vehicles. (Commerce)

Photo by [Michael Fousert](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Additional Challenges and/or Opportunity Themes?

Any other challenges or opportunity themes you'd like to add?



Select Top Priority Theme(s)

- **Driver shortages**
- **Insurance**
- **Public transit**
- **Transportation accessibility and availability**
- **Legal, regulatory or policy barriers**
- **Climate change**

MCOTA members & agency senior leaders will rank themes using Mentimeter

menti.com

Code: 9441 2932



Go to www.menti.com and use the code *

 Results are hidden



How to Address Priority Theme(s)

MCOTA members & agency senior leaders will rank the opportunities/challenges **within priority theme(s)** using Mentimeter

[menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

Code: 9441 2932




Mentimeter - Interactive Presentations

Go to www.menti.com and use the code ✨

MCOTA Members & Senior Leaders only: Rank these themes for MCOTA's 2-3 year work plan.

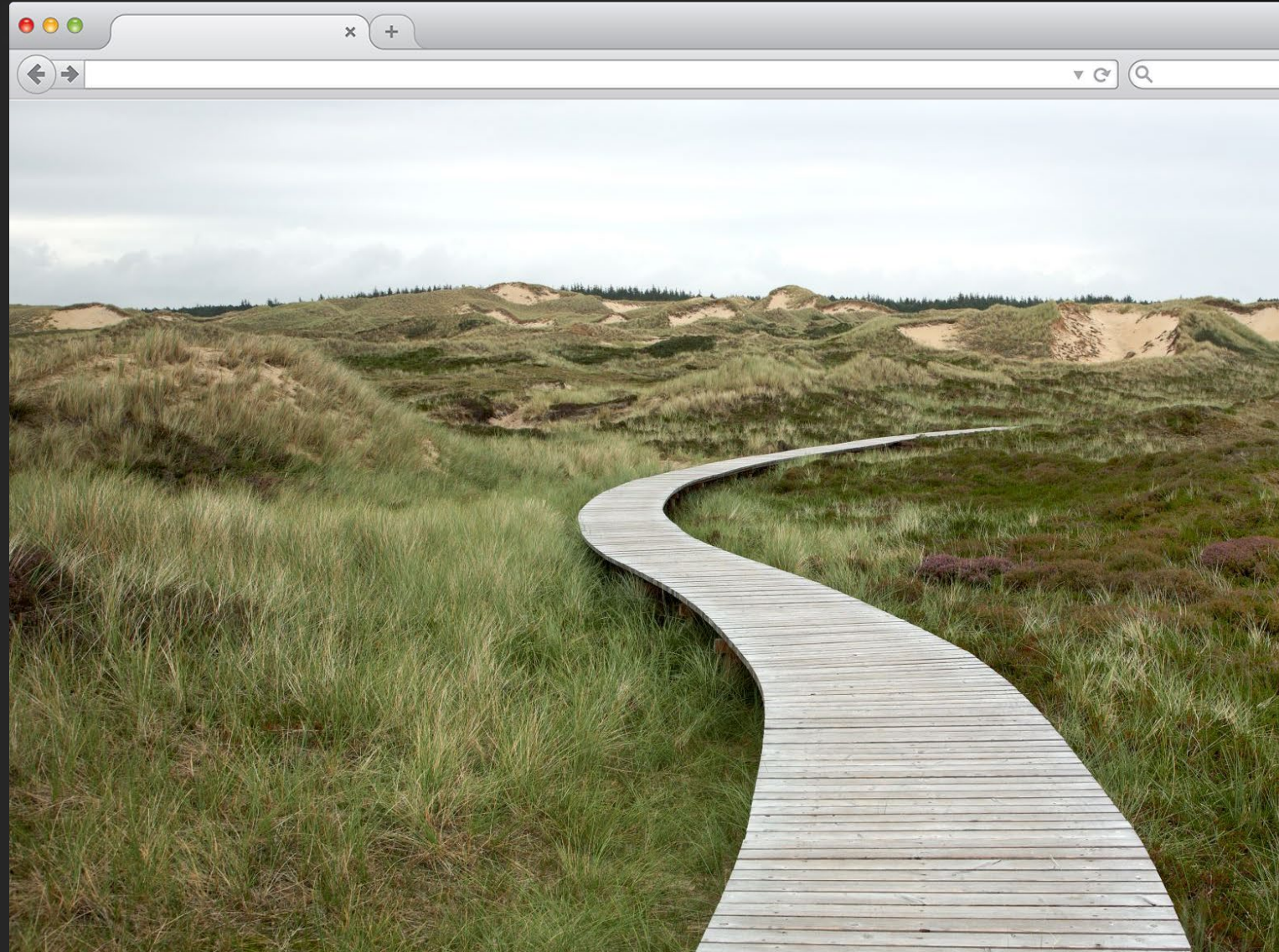


 Results are hidden



Next Steps + Member Follow-up

Tom Gottfried will share
next steps in this process.



Public Comment and Wrap-Up

2:40 Public Comment

Members of the public are allowed up to three minutes for comment.

2:55 Closing Comments - Margaret Anderson Kelliher, MnDOT Commissioner

3:00 Adjourn

Next MCOTA meetings:

- November 17, 2021
- January 26, 2022

Thank you!

CoordinateMNTransit.org