



Section 1: Introduction and Executive Summary

The **Metropolitan Transportation Plan**, or “MTP,” is the long-range transportation plan for the Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO). The MTP addresses current problems of congestion, accessibility and mobility while laying the framework for the transportation system of the future. The MTP acknowledges today’s fiscal, political and social realities while incrementally extending beyond the status quo to better integrate the disciplines of transportation and land use planning through regional collaboration.

The 2003 MTP:

- ❑ Emphasizes the planning and funding required to maintain the current transportation systems.
- ❑ Recognizes that land use planning is a major factor in determining where people live and where businesses locate.
- ❑ Understands that certain individuals rely on public transportation to satisfy their mobility needs and their economic vitality.
- ❑ Continues to promote alternative transportation choices to the automobile to meet travel demand.
- ❑ Recommends a strengthening of the connection between transportation and land use planning and investments.
- ❑ Provides a framework for the future that values neighborhood and community character and quality of life.

Major MTP Elements

- Establishes a transportation vision, goals and objectives for the region;
- Assesses present day transportation and land use conditions and future trends;
- Evaluates and recommends opportunities to improve the safety, efficiency, and accessibility of the transportation system; and
- Identifies priorities and a funding framework for the region.

The remainder of this document describes the MTP and the analytical and policy process through which it was developed. Sections 2 through 4 are based largely on the “MTP Phase 1 Report,” adopted by the CCMPO in January 2002.

- ❑ Section 2 provides background on the CCMPO and the federally-required regional transportation planning process, as well as information on the MTP vision and goals.



- ❑ Section 3 provides information on the policy and regulatory framework within which the MTP was developed.
- ❑ Section 4 provides summary information on existing transportation system performance and operational conditions in Chittenden County, as well as projected future trends.
- ❑ Section 5 contains a summary of the analysis of the MTP “preferred alternative,” including the multimodal investments (projects and actions) comprising the components of the 25-year Plan.
- ❑ Section 6 puts forth a strategy for implementing the MTP, including fiscal capacity information, a near-term capital investment framework and five-year MTP action strategy.

**Chittenden County MTP
Vision for Transportation in
2025**

Our transportation system enhances and connects healthy, vibrant communities. It is safe, efficient, multi-modal and accessible to all. It supports economic vitality, and is designed and operated to complement and respect our cherished natural resources and cultural heritage.

The MTP is the most important transportation planning document produced in Chittenden County, as it guides all regional transportation investment, planning and analysis conducted by the CCMPO. The region’s future vitality will be determined by the planning and investment decisions made today. It is essential, therefore, that the projects and policies comprising the MTP lay out a path toward a more effective regional transportation system. The CCMPO, through the MTP and the regional transportation planning process, is committed to pursuing this path.