

# Appendix A

## Public Comments

Long Range Transportation Plan

2045

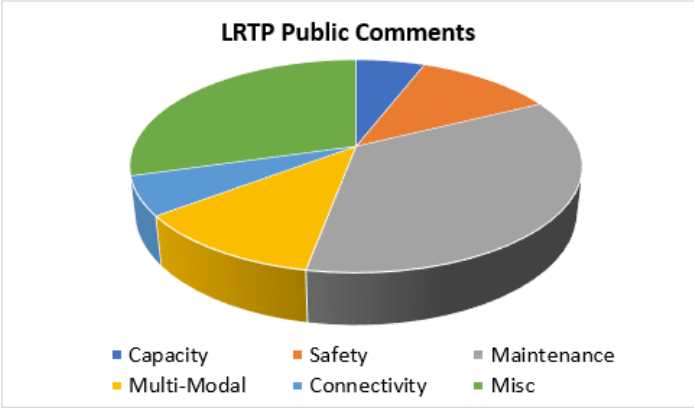




A Public Comment period was held from July 6 through August 6, 2021 through a combination of recorded presentation with on-line draft plan for review by interested parties and a live presentation conducted on July 28, 2021 to open dialogue and help gain insights. A mail-out to 303 recipients was sent out resulting in one reply from South Dakota's Game, Fish, and Parks.

Below is a simple illustration of the topics shared by participants during the Public Comment period. The 17 total comments were categorized into the following groups:

- Capacity
- Safety
- Maintenance Responsibility
- Multi Modal
- Connectivity
- Misc (included content additions, data availability, oversight)

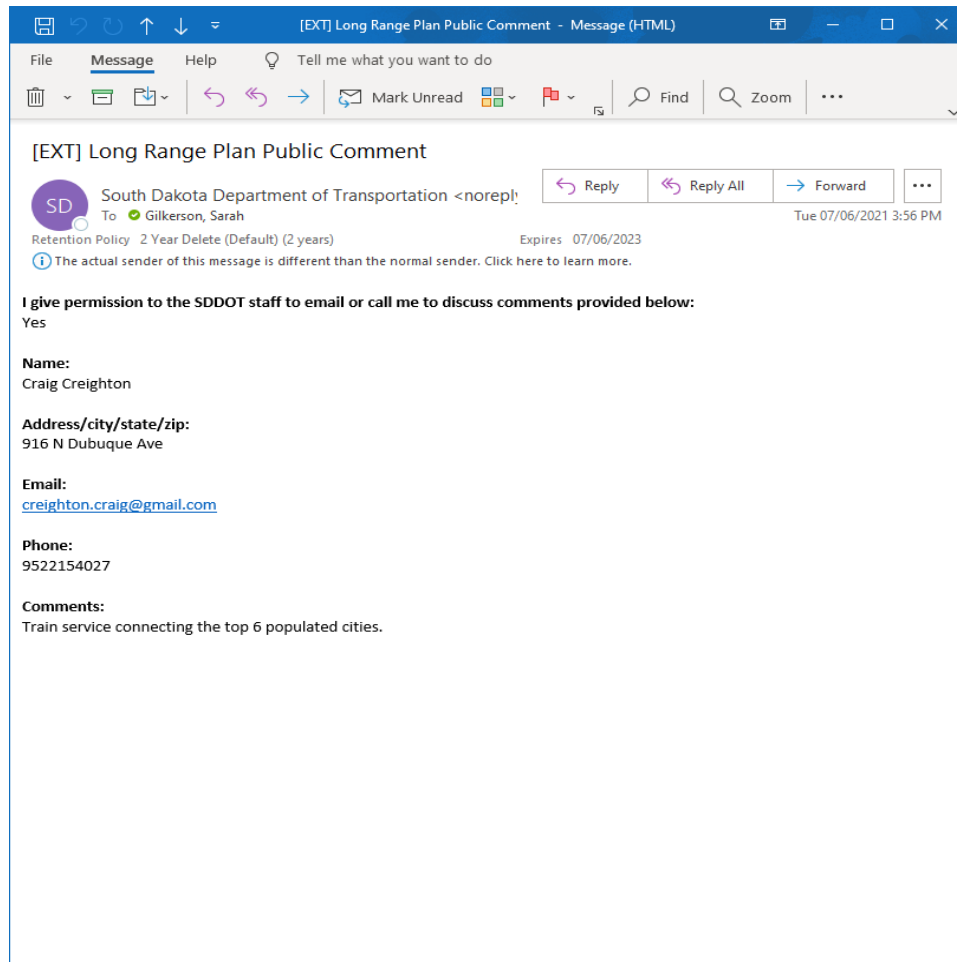


The emerging trend was related to responsibilities of roadway maintenance or improvement.

## Comments from Live Presentation July 28, 2021

Submitted By	Comment	Response
Rosebud	Fig 2-2 - add tribal miles to pie chart	Fig 2-2 was revised to show tribal and BIA percentages based on coded mileage; data is kept by LGA and submitted by county superintendents throughout the state.
Rosebud	Hard for tribes to get information on how much Counties spend on roads	Acknowledged, SDDOT is committed to help foster partnerships between agencies; limited information is available through the SDDOT Local Government Assistance office with on-going efforts to improve data collection.
Rosebud	No collaboration between Rosebud Sioux Tribe and Mellette or Todd County governments	SDDOT will continue to work on fostering relationships with transportation stakeholders.
General Discussion	Snow removal on some county roads are done by the Tribe	Acknowledged.
General Discussion	There are road jurisdiction issues between the Counties and the Tribes.	Acknowledged that operation and maintenance of transportation assets with multiple jurisdictions is complicated by available funding.
Sisseton -Wahpeton	Township roads are rural but have increasing homes locating along them.	Acknowledged as unpredictable land development.
Sisseton -Wahpeton	Need to have an entity to monitor the spending of funds and the maintenance of township roads.	Acknowledged.
Sisseton -Wahpeton	All roads, BIA, Tribal, Township, County, State are South Dakota Roads and need to work together to get them fixed.	Acknowledged.
FHWA	Need to have Tribal input into the Active Transportation plan as there is a higher percentage of pedestrians in Tribal areas.	Acknowledged.

## Comments from on-line or email submittal:

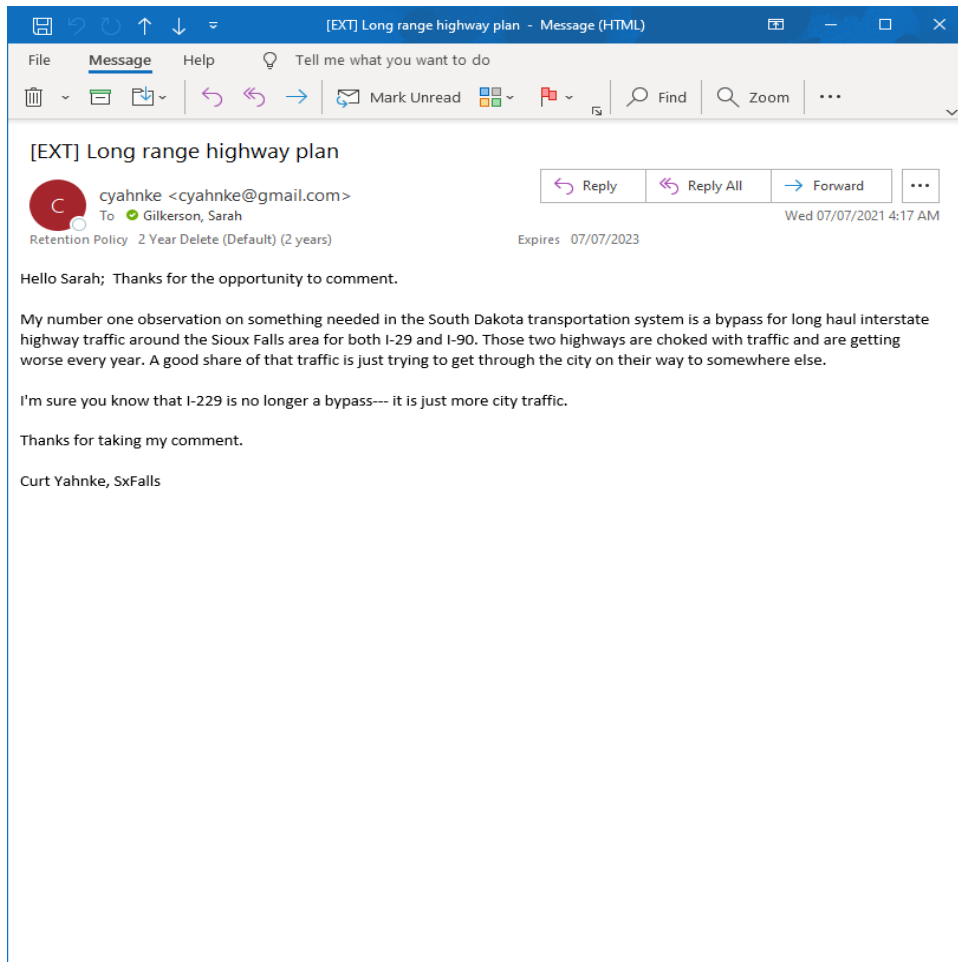


### Response:

The top six (6) SD Cities and Approximate Populations (2018):

Sioux Falls (190,583)  
Rapid City (80,169)  
Aberdeen (27,859)  
Brookings (24,433)  
Watertown (22,162)  
Mitchell (15,651)

SDDOT does not currently have any plans for the development of passenger rail but it could be considered in the future.



## **Response:**



Alternate routing of traffic within and around Sioux Falls to meet the community's needs are continually studied in the Sioux Falls metropolitan area. The SDDOT encourages public input as these roadways are analyzed in active partnership with the City of Sioux Falls through the area's MPO. Veteran's Parkway is one such route that is now entering the design phase of its project life cycle. The much needed route will be constructed in phases as determined by available funding and driven by urban growth.

[EXT] Long Range Plan Public Comment - Message (HTML)


File Message Help Tell me what you want to do

Mark Unread Find Zoom

[EXT] Long Range Plan Public Comment

 South Dakota Department of Transportation <norepl...>  
To:  Gilkerson, Sarah

Retention Policy: 2 Year Delete (Default) (2 years) Expires: 07/07/2023 Wed 07/07/2021 7:10 AM

 The actual sender of this message is different than the normal sender. Click here to learn more.

**I give permission to the SDDOT staff to email or call me to discuss comments provided below:**  
Yes

**Name:**  
Brian Gatzke

**Address/city/state/zip:**  
311 3rd Street, Suite 100; P.O. Box 63; Brookings, SD, 57006

**Email:**  
[brian.gatzke@northernplainsappraisal.com](mailto:brian.gatzke@northernplainsappraisal.com)

**Phone:**  
6056912119

**Comments:**  
travel from county seat in each county and ask for county input from the various groups.  
1. Farm Groups  
2. Economic Development Groups  
3. City and County Government

Focus on grass roots, 1 day per county seat

## Response:



SDDOT continues to work, listen, and learn from stakeholders throughout our state. We'll continue to explore new ways as recommended to reach our customers and stakeholders.

[EXT] Long Range Plan Public Comment - Message (HTML)

File Message Help Tell me what you want to do

Mark Unread Find Zoom

[EXT] Long Range Plan Public Comment

 South Dakota Department of Transportation <norepl...>  
To:  Gilkerson, Sarah Tue 07/06/2021 2:56 PM

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**I give permission to the SDDOT staff to email or call me to discuss comments provided below:**  
Yes

**Name:**  
Ric King

**Address/city/state/zip:**  
2821 E Klondike tr  
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

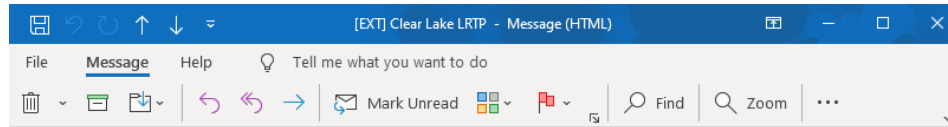
**Email:**  
[Ric.king@live.com](mailto:Ric.king@live.com)

**Phone:**  
6053767612

**Comments:**  
I am interested in participating in the LRTP.

**Response:**

Thank you for your interest in the LRTP.



[EXT] Clear Lake LRTP

City of Clear Lake <clcity@itctel.com>

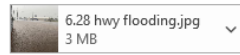
To Gilkerson, Sarah

Retention Policy 2 Year Delete (Default) (2 years)

Expires 07/13/2023

Tue 07/13/2021 12:34 PM

You forwarded this message on 07/13/2021 2:10 PM.



Reply Reply All Forward

Good Afternoon Sarah,

We received your letter asking for public comments regarding the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Below is what we have come up with so far:

- 1) Residents have noticed an increase of semi-trucks flying through town hauling milk to/from Milbank and are concerned about the safety of those that cross the Highway 15 (our "main street") daily. This summer/fall we have a new corn processing plant being built on the north side of town that will be bringing even more loaded semi-trucks through town and we have also closed our airport to make more land available for future development on the north side of town.
  - a. If possible, we would like to see a lower speed limit of 20 MPH through town
  - b. A stop light or walking bridge over the highway at the 5<sup>th</sup> St W intersection near the Cowboy gas station would also be a great addition.
- 2) The corner where HWY 15 & HWY 22 intersect is also a big concern of our residents. There has been a number of accidents there because people aren't stopping at the stop sign.
  - a. At the very least more signage should be put up stating "Stop Ahead" & "Oncoming traffic does not stop" etc.
  - b. We would love to see a stop light or roundabout added to this intersection to hopefully decrease the chances of accidents and hopefully lower their speeds before entering the residential/business area of town.
- 3) The City Council would also like to see more signage for our Ulven Park Campground by the lake, they have seen the tent and picnic table road signs in other towns and think that would be a nice addition to the small brown Ulven Park sign that we currently have on HWY 15 & HWY 22.
- 4) Lastly, we have noticed that the inlets located on Highway 15 just aren't large enough to hold the amount of water from heavy rain storms. I have attached a picture from a Main Street business that had water come into their building because of the lack of drainage, which caused the main street to flood. There were a number of businesses on the West side of the road that had water enter their building on the June 28<sup>th</sup> rain event. When Highway 15 work is completed, we would love to see larger inlets put in to hopefully assist with the drainage problem on the highway.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

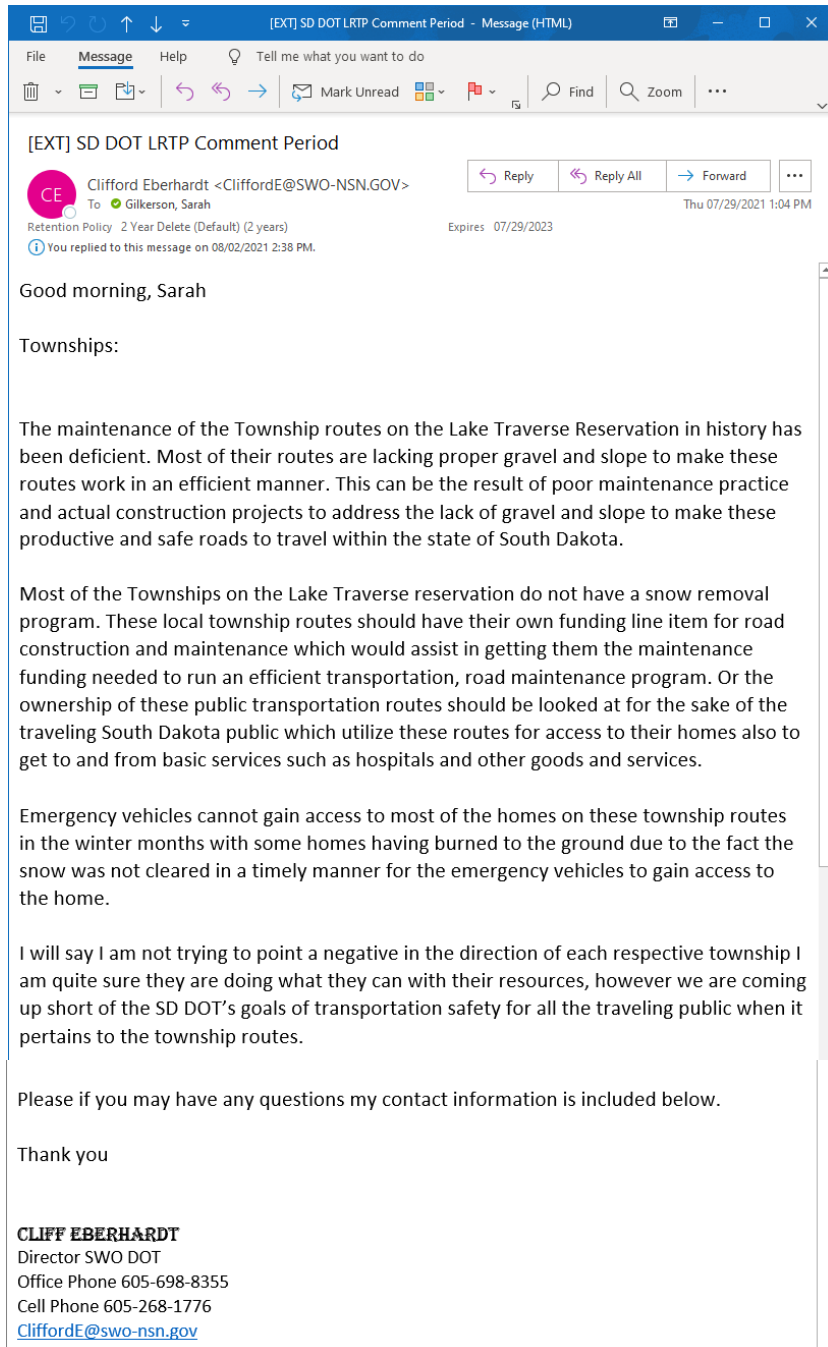
Thank you for your consideration of these matters,

Christa Bittner  
Finance Officer  
City of Clear Lake  
125 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave S  
PO Box 107  
Clear Lake, SD 57226-0107

## Response:

The Long Range Transportation Plan is a broad policy document that does not address individual projects. Clear Lake's concerns have been forwarded to the SDDOT Region Engineer for future consideration during the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) process which is updated annually to allocate resources to specific project locations. Clear Lake residents and elected officials are encouraged to participation in the STIP process. All transportation users are encouraged to reach out at any time to provide input on possible improvements or areas of concern. Thank you for all of the input.





## Response:

Thank you for your involvement and representation throughout the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan. SDDOT works to manage the state highway system while encouraging a strong and connected transportation system throughout South Dakota. This strong and connected system is comprised of multiple jurisdictions and requires continued clear communication. SDDOT is committed to working with all of our partners and will share these concerns with the Local Transportation Assistance Program which provides training and guidance to townships, counties, and tribes throughout South Dakota.



## Reply from Mail-Out

**NOTE:**

Appendix B contains complete grouping of letters mailed out.

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF  
GAME, FISH AND PARKS**

523 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE | PIERRE, SD 57501

August 5, 2021

SDDOT Division of Planning/Engineering  
Office of Project Development  
MPO Coordinator, Sarah M. Gilkerson  
700 E Broadway Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Ms. Gilkerson,

South Dakota Game Fish & Parks (GFP) would like to express our support of the South Dakota Department of Transportation's (SDDOT) mission to efficiently provide a safe and effective public transportation system through the guidance of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP document outlines specific goals that are designed to provide the framework for decision-making processes to provide a quality public transportation system.

GFP would extend our support of the LRTP and offer up the following comments to be considered in relation to our departments mission:

The state highway and interstate systems provide excellent opportunities to access our communities; however, access to our public recreational opportunities often requires travel on local governmental jurisdiction roads as well as GFP managed roads. These road surfaces serve our residents as well as non-residents. Funding for our most important infrastructure (roads and bridges) at our department level and the local government levels have often restricted the ability to maintain, improve, and create new access opportunities for the public to use for access to public lands. GFP continues to be very strategic on providing the proper amount of access that the department can sustain. With the recent rise in public demand for outdoor recreational opportunities, the department once again is looking at strategic expansion opportunities that will require infrastructure investment to create those opportunities. The department is optimistic the demand for outdoor recreational opportunities will continue to grow. We look forward to the challenge of meeting that demand and continue to grow our tourism industry as well as create more quality opportunities for South Dakota residents.

GFP plays a significant role in South Dakotan's quality of life, as well as attracting non-residents to enjoy our outdoor recreational opportunities. Quality infrastructure to access these opportunities will continue to play an important role in attracting visitors to enjoy those opportunities.

On behalf of GFP, I would like to acknowledge our excellent working relationship with SDDOT and fully support the LRTP.

Respectfully,

Department Secretary  
Kevin Robling