

**174.01 CREATION; POLICY.**

Subdivision 1. **Department created.** In order to provide an integrated transportation system of aeronautics, highways, motor carriers, ports, public transit, railroads, and pipelines, and including facilities for walking and bicycling, a Department of Transportation is created. The department is the principal agency of the state for development, implementation, administration, consolidation, and coordination of state transportation policies, plans, and programs.

Subd. 2. **Transportation goals.** The goals of the state transportation system are as follows:

- (1) to minimize fatalities and injuries for transportation users throughout the state;
- (2) to provide multimodal and intermodal transportation facilities and services to increase access for all persons and businesses and to ensure economic well-being and quality of life without undue burden placed on any community;
- (3) to provide a reasonable travel time for commuters;
- (4) to enhance economic development and provide for the economical, efficient, and safe movement of goods to and from markets by rail, highway, and waterway;
- (5) to encourage tourism by providing appropriate transportation to Minnesota facilities designed to attract tourists and to enhance the appeal, through transportation investments, of tourist destinations across the state;
- (6) to provide transit services to all counties in the state to meet the needs of transit users;
- (7) to promote accountability through systematic management of system performance and productivity through the utilization of technological advancements;
- (8) to maximize the long-term benefits received for each state transportation investment;
- (9) to provide for and prioritize funding of transportation investments that ensures that the state's transportation infrastructure is maintained in a state of good repair;
- (10) to ensure that the planning and implementation of all modes of transportation are consistent with the environmental and energy goals of the state;
- (11) to promote and increase the use of high-occupancy vehicles and low-emission vehicles;
- (12) to provide an air transportation system sufficient to encourage economic growth and allow all regions of the state the ability to participate in the global economy;
- (13) to increase use of transit as a percentage of all trips statewide by giving highest priority to the transportation modes with the greatest people-moving capacity and lowest long-term economic and environmental cost;
- (14) to promote and increase bicycling and walking as a percentage of all trips as energy-efficient, nonpolluting, and healthy forms of transportation;
- (15) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the state's transportation sector; and
- (16) to accomplish these goals with minimal impact on the environment.

**History:** 1976 c 166 s 1; 1991 c 298 art 1 s 1; 2008 c 287 art 1 s 66; 2010 c 351 s 38,39