

Executive Summary

Transportation plays an important role in this ‘Future Shared’ vision, from providing safe and efficient mobility for commuters, tourists, and industry or supporting a connected community through enhanced multimodal opportunities and eliminating barriers for travel. This vision was an important first step when shaping the Brookings Area Transportation Plan (ATP) process and public engagement opportunities.

The Brookings ATP focuses on improvements within an approximate two-mile buffer around the Brookings city limits.

A Study Advisory Team was organized to guide the study and provide incremental input and feedback at key study milestones. This team consisted of City of Brookings, City of Aurora, Brookings Municipal Utilities, Brookings County, South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT), and South Dakota State University staff across a variety of multimodal transportation disciplines.

The Brookings ATP vision was developed through input received from the community and stakeholders and guidance from the Study Advisory Team. The vision along with the goals and objectives guides future transportation decisions based on the values of the community.

The purpose of the Brookings Area Transportation Plan is to:

- **Establish a snapshot of baseline conditions.** This identifies transportation issues and needs the study area currently faces through data collection, analysis, and public input.
- **Establish recommendations for future improvements.** This includes a set of recommended street, bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvement projects and a set of standards and policy recommendations to provide for safe and efficient management and growth of the transportation system.

Brookings Area Transportation Plan Vision:

The Brookings ATP provides a guide for a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation system that is accessible for all users and supports a growing community by promoting local economic development goals.

Plan Components

The Brookings Area Transportation Plan (BATP) focuses on three key elements:

1. Gaining an **understanding** of Brookings area transportation issues and needs through public engagement and review of existing and future conditions
2. Developing **standards and projects** through a series of 'plans' to address the identified issues and needs
3. Developing an **Implementation Plan** to present a feasible path to implement BATP recommendations

Findings and Recommendations

Each chapter of the BATP is an integral part in shaping findings, guidance, and long-range recommendations for the Brookings area transportation network. Each sub-plan within the Standards and Project

Development lays the foundation for various modes of

travel and managing the existing road network. Everything is tied together through the

Implementation Plan, which includes a prioritized list of recommended projects and next steps to

help guide the City of Brookings and other area agencies in multimodal transportation planning and decision-making.

A funding analysis was developed to assess historical transportation funding by the City of Brookings and prepare planning-level costs associated with projects developed to address identified transportation-related issues and needs. While this plan is unconstrained, the importance of external funding sources to help fill any gaps and spread transportation dollars across projects for all modes of travel is highlighted.

Recommended external funding sources include:

- State of South Dakota grants
- U.S. Department of Transportation discretionary grants
- Cost-share agreements with Brookings County for reconstruction and jurisdictional transfer of Brookings County highways within the Brookings growth area

Fostering partnerships with other area agencies and supporting a collaborative process with organizations, community groups, and transportation stakeholders will be important when pursuing these external funding sources. The Brookings ATP provides the framework to support this process and ultimately help the City of Brookings reach their vision of the future transportation network.

Key elements and associated sections of the BATP include:

1. Understanding

- Public Engagement
- Community Profile
- Baseline Conditions
- Issues and Needs

2. Standards and Project Development

- Major Roads Plan
- Pavement Management Plan
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
- Transit Plan
- Traffic Signal System Plan

3. Implementation Plan

- Prioritized Project Recommendations