



Next Move Illinois

2026 Public Transportation Plan

Plan Overview

Next Move Illinois is the Illinois Department of Transportation's statewide plan for public transportation. The goals of this plan are to set a strategic vision and to recommend policy and performance updates to improve public transportation outcomes in Illinois. The plan will identify strategies to broaden access to services, promote long-term ridership growth, enhance service integration, and assure the system's resilience.

IDOT's Vision for Public Transit

Public transit is essential in Illinois, connecting people to their daily needs, reducing congestion and air pollution, and helping shape economically vibrant communities. IDOT strives to ensure public transit is an affordable, safe, reliable, and equitable transportation option available to all.



Contact Us!



To contact our project team, please email us at DOT.IllinoisTransitPlan@illinois.gov
Visit our project website by scanning the QR Code.

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Next Move Illinois Goals



Accountability

Center Illinois residents and public transit operators in decision-making and take ownership by communicating decision-making processes, reporting public impacts, and evolving based on feedback.



Stewardship

Leverage institutional resources and strategically distribute funding to support and expand local public transit operations statewide.



Resiliency

Endorse and adopt innovative strategies informed by local context, industry best practice, and sustainability principles to future-proof the state's public transit system.



Integration

Facilitate transit-supportive roadway design, development, infrastructure and collaboration among transit operators and government agencies for a unified, efficient statewide public transit system.



Access

Support and provide convenient, comfortable, and safe public transit service that takes people where they want to go across the state regardless of ability or age.

Project Timeline



Phase 1 Summer-Fall 2024

Shaped the strategic vision with IDOT personnel; gained perspectives from transit providers; and conducted service, capital, and policy technical work.

Completed Activities:

- Provider and IDOT workshops
- Provider interviews
- Provider and public surveys



Phase 2 Winter-Spring 2025

Validate the technical findings, assess future transit service needs, conduct scenario planning, analyze performance measures and finances.

Upcoming Activities: Engagement Touchpoint

We Are Here! ★



Phase 3 Summer-Fall 2025

Engage with stakeholders and the public on the plan's technical findings, analyses, and recommendations.

Upcoming Activities: Engagement Touchpoint



Phase 4 Winter 2026

Launch the plan by presenting it to the public and holding engagement events throughout the state.

Upcoming Activities: Engagement Touchpoint