

MaineDOT Announces the release of two planning documents – Connecting Maine: Planning Our Transportation Future and MaineDOT’s Six-Year Plan

The Maine Department of Transportation is pleased to announce the release of two planning documents that detail Maine’s transportation plans for the near future as well as the long term.

Connecting Maine: Planning Our Transportation Future, is MaineDOT’s statewide long-range planning document that presents the state’s transportation goals, high-priority objectives and the transportation challenges and opportunities facing Maine over the next twenty+ years.

MaineDOT’s *Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (Six-Year Plan)* focuses on how MaineDOT anticipates using transportation funds in the near future to implement *Connecting Maine*. The Six-Year Plan offers an opportunity for expanded public involvement, such as the chance for municipalities to coordinate other projects in conjunction with MaineDOT’s *Six-Year Plan*.

Both documents can be found on MaineDOT’s website at www.mainedot.gov. While both plans were created through a public process, MaineDOT is seeking public comment on both plans. **You can comment on the *Six-Year Plan* until January 15, 2009. *Connecting Maine* is open to public comment until February 20, 2009.**

Connecting Maine identifies the strategic investments that are needed our transportation infrastructure to provide economic growth and improve the quality of life for all who live in Maine. The *Six-Year Plan* emphasizes MaineDOT’s commitment to developing and managing a multimodal transportation system, while addressing the growing needs of Maine’s bridges and highways.

Long range planning documents such as *Connecting Maine* and the *Six-Year Plan* are created through a series of hearings, focus groups, surveys, and regional forums among others in order to create a transportation plan that truly reflects Maine. The public comment period of these two draft documents is one of the last steps in finalizing these documents. We hope that you will take some time to review each document, and provide MaineDOT with any input you see necessary so that we may move forward in implementing the first steps in securing Maine’s transportation future.

Thank you for taking time to review these important, innovative, and proactive Plans to guide and support Maine’s transportation future.

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