

# **CHAPTER 2**

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**



## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Regional goals and objectives provide the planning process with a basis for identifying options, evaluating alternatives and making decisions on future transportation investments. A goal is a general statement of purpose that represents a long-term desired end to a specific state of affairs. It is generally measurable by qualitative means. By identifying broad goals that are both visionary and practical, and which respond to the values of the region, the focus of the planning process can be more readily communicated to the public. The goals, in turn, can be defined in greater detail by specifying multiple objectives for each goal.

An objective is very similar to a goal, as it represents a desired end to a specific state of affairs. However, an objective is an intermediate result that must be realized to reach a goal. The definition of an objective is usually more focused than that of a goal and is typically more subject to being measured. Objectives can be further assessed and evaluated using performance measures. A performance monitoring plan is presented and discussed in Chapter 9 which further defines the relationship between goals, objectives and performance measures.

Certain goals and objectives are related to the way in which the regional transportation system is performing overall. Others may be used to evaluate individual components of the overall transportation system or to evaluate proposed projects. They can also serve as the basis to monitor how the transportation system performs as the LRTP is implemented. In addition, goals and objectives relate to the planning process and the importance of accountability during the development, implementation and evaluation of the plan. Goals identified for the UCTC's LRTP include the eight Federal SAFETEA-LU planning factors plus an additional funding/programming goal. Individual goals with their supporting objectives are identified as follows:

**GOAL 1: SYSTEM PRESERVATION** - Preserve the existing transportation system while being adaptable to new, more efficient systems.

Objective 1A: Provide for the continuing preservation and maintenance needs of transportation facilities and services in the region (evaluate continuously);

Objective 1B: Maximize the use of existing facilities (evaluate continuously);

Objective 1C: Increase the percent of local and State bridges with a condition rating of 5.0 or higher to 25% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle); See Chapter 9 for more details on bridge condition rating performance goals.

Objective 1D: Increase the percent of system pavement condition rated "fair" or better for federal aid eligible roads to 98% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on pavement condition rating performance goals.



GOAL 2: ECONOMIC VITALITY - Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

Objective 2A: Implement strategies and facilities to improve freight mobility and support tourism (evaluate continuously).

GOAL 3: SAFETY - Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

Objective 3A: Provide a safe environment for the traveling public and address roadway hazards (evaluate continuously).

Objective 3B: Reduce injury-related crashes by 52% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle).

Objective 3C: Reduce fatality-related crashes by 39% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on crash rate performance goals.

GOAL 4: SECURITY - Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

Objective 4A: Provide transportation planning and programming support to transportation security agencies and authorities requesting assistance (evaluate continuously).

GOAL 5: MOBILITY - Increase mobility and accessibility options for people and freight.

Objective 5A: Relieve congestion on the surface transportation system for all modes (evaluate continuously).

Objective 5B: Encourage the use of alternative modes of travel (evaluate continuously).

Objective 5C: Limit the number of roadway miles having a volume-to-capacity ratio of 1 or higher to 19.9 by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on volume-to-capacity performance goals.



**GOAL 6: CONNECTIVITY** - Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;

Objective 6A: Improve connectivity between low income and minority populations to major employment and activity centers (evaluate continuously).

Objective 6B: Expand multiuse regional trail development 106.7 miles by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on rate of multiuse trail development performance goals.

**GOAL 7: ENVIRONMENT** - Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;

Objective 7A: Provide transportation alternatives that more closely reflect the interdependence of land use and transportation (evaluate continuously).

Objective 7B: Develop the transportation system to support the region in providing healthier air quality (evaluate continuously).

Objective 7C: Increase the percentage of overall public satisfaction of the existing transportation system to 51% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle).

Objective 7D: Increase the percentage of overall public perception of an improved transportation system to 51% by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on public opinion survey performance goals.

**GOAL 8: SYSTEM MANAGEMENT** - Promote efficient system management and operations;

Objective 8A: Encourage the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) for all modes of travel (evaluate continuously).

Objective 8B: Reduce the number of incidents (evaluate continuously).

Objective 8C: Increase the reliability of travel times (evaluate continuously).

Objective 8D: Increase the overall average capacity of park and ride facilities to 100% by 2035 (evaluate annually). See Chapter 9 for more details on park and ride lot utilization performance goals.

Objective 8E: Increase the annual transit fare box recovery ratios for both Ulster County Area Transit and Kingston Citibus to 15% by 2035 (evaluate once each



LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on transit fare box recovery ratio performance goals.

Objective 8F: Limit the growth of daily vehicle miles traveled to 8.2 million by 2035 (evaluate once each LRTP update cycle). See Chapter 9 for more details on daily vehicle miles traveled performance goals.

GOAL 9: FUNDING - Maximize the utilization of federal aid programmed;

Objective 9A: Increase the rate of federal aid project obligations to 100% per year by 2035 (evaluate annually). See Chapter 9 for more details on federal aid obligation ratio performance goals.

Chapter 9 presents a more detailed discussion on performance measures proposed to monitor the goals and objectives identified within this chapter.

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