Preparation of the National Transport System Plan

Ministry of Transport and Communications
22 November 2019
New strategic planning platform for long-term development

The national transport system plan

Municipal and urban area transport system plans

The regional transport system plan
The planning process is guided by social goals and objectives

- Promoting Finland’s competitiveness
- Fighting climate change
- Vitality and accessibility of regions
The planning process is guided by statutory objectives

- **Functionality**: The functionality of movement and transportation.
- **Safety**: Safe trip and transportation chains.
- **Sustainability**: Ecological, social and economic sustainability.
A continuous and rolling process

- In the future, the plan will be updated each government term. Additionally, at the beginning of each government term, checks related to the plan for public finances.
- The process will constantly develop, for example, as methods for impact assessments are developed.
- Methods will be developed for the monitoring of the plan’s implementation and for continuous interactive work on the transport system at all levels.
Parliamentary steering group

Chair
Minister of Transport and Communications
Sanna Marin

A member from every parliamentary group, permanent advisers

Tasks
• to outline and prioritise the plan’s objectives
• to steer the preparation of the plan and its action plan on the basis of the objectives which have been decided on and the impact assessments
• to outline the content of the plan’s draft before it is discussed for the parliament as a report
Cooperation group

**Chair** Director General Sabina Lindström

Members from ministries, government agencies, regional councils, the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, large urban regions, other municipalities

**Permanent advisers** (impact assessment)

**Secretariat** same in both working groups (Ministry of Transport and Communications, Finnish Transport and Communications Agency, Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency)

**Tasks**

- to ensure interaction and cooperation with stakeholders.
- to ensure interaction in the planning of the national and regional transport systems, especially by bringing regional data on customer needs to national planning
- to take part in preparing the content for the plan
- to coordinate the preparation of the plan with other national plans
Areas and phases of planning

Drafting the plan
- Preliminary preparation
- Preparation
- Decision, spring 2021

Impact assessment
- Planning
- Assessment

Interaction
- Preparation
- Inclusion, consultation and communication
- Communication and consultation
- Consultation
Phasing of the drafting of the plan

1. Preparatory drafting
   - The current state of the transport system and changes in the operating environment
   - Collection of background materials
   - Preparation of the options for the plan’s objectives

2. Preparation of the plan
   - Decisions on goals, the objectives of the plan and resource limits (economic framework)
   - Drafts of the plan and their impact assessment
   - Preparation of the financing programme
   - Compiling a draft of the plan for the statements round.

3. Deciding on the plan
   - Parliamentary steering group
   - Report to the parliament
   - Government Decision (plan ready)
Plan on interaction

Preparation of interaction
• Talks with ELY Centres, regional councils and municipalities
• Situation overviews and talks during preparatory drafting with various stakeholders

Interaction during planning
• Launch event for preparation 17 June 2019
• Theme-specific events
• Talks with e.g. municipalities and urban regions
• Talks with business sector actors
• National consultation events
• A draft of the plan and the assessment report will be submitted for statements
• Consideration by Parliament

Consultation of business sector (Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency), regional work on the transport system, existing cooperation groups, networks and advisory boards
The Ministry of Transport and Communication ensures the reconciliation of the plan with other national plans, especially:

- National climate policy
- The decision on regional development
- Urban policy and preparation of agreements
- Plan for public finances
Overview of the transport system

Transport networks
- Highways, private roads, streets, tracks, waterways, harbours, airports
- Maintenance and development

Mobility and transport services for customers
- Passenger and goods transport
- Public transport
- Walking and cycling
- Mobility services
- Modes of transports
- Information and payment systems

Transport system support measures
- Traffic control and management
- Traffic services
- Communication and electricity networks
- Distribution network of alternative propulsion systems
- Data
What could the plan comprise?

• The overall picture of the route network’s development and national criteria, which could be used to steer the planning, construction and financing of projects.

• Steering and prioritising of measures for basic transport infrastructure maintenance. Assessment of needed changes to the Main Route Decree

• Development of the focus areas for public passenger transport, walking, biking and mobility services.

• Measures that will promote success in achieving objectives for cuts in traffic emissions.

• Promoting the utilisation of data.

• Also municipal and urban region plans that will implement the plan’s objectives.
The financing programme, contained in the plan in addition to budgetary financing, can comprise funding from outside the budget.

The parliamentary steering group will decide on the content of the fiscal plan as preparation progresses.
Entities included in the plan

1. The current state of the transport system and changes in the operating environment
2. The transport system’s societal goals and the objectives of the plan
3. Action plan (state and municipalities)
4. State financing programme
5. A summary of the impact assessment
6. Monitoring of the plan and organisation of continuous work on the transport system
7. Suggestions and advice for the next round of planning
Programme for the National Transport System’s impact assessment
Why are assessments performed?

1. Improve planning and decision making
2. Ensure that decisions are more transparent
3. Encourage cooperation and learning together
Legal basis for the impact assessment

- **Functionality**: Functionality of mobility and transport
- **Safety**: Safe travel and transport chains
- **Sustainability**: Ecological, social and economic sustainability
- Health, living conditions and level of comfort of people
- Urban structure, built environment, landscapes, townscape and cultural heritage
- Soil, waters, air, climate, biodiversity
- Utilisation of natural resources

**LEGISLATION**

Act on the Transport System and Highways (503/2005)
Five areas of impact assessment

Act on the Transport System and Highways (503/2005)

- Accessibility and quality of service for travel and transport
- Economic sustainability
- Ecological sustainability
- Social sustainability
- Safety of the transport system
Overall picture of the transport system plan’s impact assessment

**Assessed Impacts**

- **Accessibility and quality of service for travel and transport**
  - Finland’s accessibility internationally
  - Accessibility between areas
  - Internal accessibility of urban regions and areas
  - Quality of transport services and user benefits
  - Quality of services on journeys and user benefits

- **Economic sustainability**
  - Social and economic efficiency
  - Impacts on public finances
  - Requirements for economic growth

- **Ecological sustainability**
  - Climate impacts of transport system
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Exposure to traffic-related emissions, noise and vibration
  - Sustainability of the urban structure
  - Biodiversity
  - Use of natural resources, material-efficiency
  - Risks to waters and soil

- **Social sustainability**
  - Potential for mobility
  - Regional structure and prerequisites for the development of regions
  - Living conditions, the built environment and landscapes

- **Safety of the transport system**
  - Safety of road traffic
  - Safety of mobility environments
  - Safety of railroad, maritime, and air traffic
  - Data security of transport
Impact assessments are a fundamental part of planning

1. Identification of the assessed impact and the determination of the assessment method. The objectives of the plan as a premise.

2. The premise will be the assessment of changes in the future operating environment.

3. Assessments are carried out as both qualitative and quantitative assessments.

4. The results of assessments will be analysed and presented with key conclusions for the preparation and decision making related to the plan.
TRAFFIC 12

The National Transport System Plan

Thank you!