

# Understanding Future Conditions



## What is a Future Conditions Analysis?

The future conditions analysis for a transportation system plan helps identify future needs, opportunities, and constraints for circulation and transportation system connections for all transportation modes.

The analysis starts with an examination of existing conditions. Community values and opinions on the various modes of travel are gathered to help inform the vision of the future for transportation in the community, and a technical analysis of future population and employment growth assumptions are combined with anticipated future development to provide a picture of future travel demand.

Typically, future conditions are forecasted for a planning horizon of 20 years and relate primarily to motor vehicles, however, conditions and connections for other modes (such as pedestrian, bicycle, and transit) are also included. Considering these other modes in addition to motor vehicles helps create a balanced transportation system that serves the entire community.

## Why is a Future Conditions Analysis Important?

Future conditions analyses help identify areas that are underserved by the existing transportation network or areas that could be improved by better connections or enhanced environments for a particular mode. Another important element of the analysis is determining potential infrastructure improvements necessary to create a balanced multi-modal system that serves the community.

The TSP process will establish a transportation vision for the future, determine the priority of improvements, and identify funding sources based on the future conditions analysis and the areas identified for improvement.