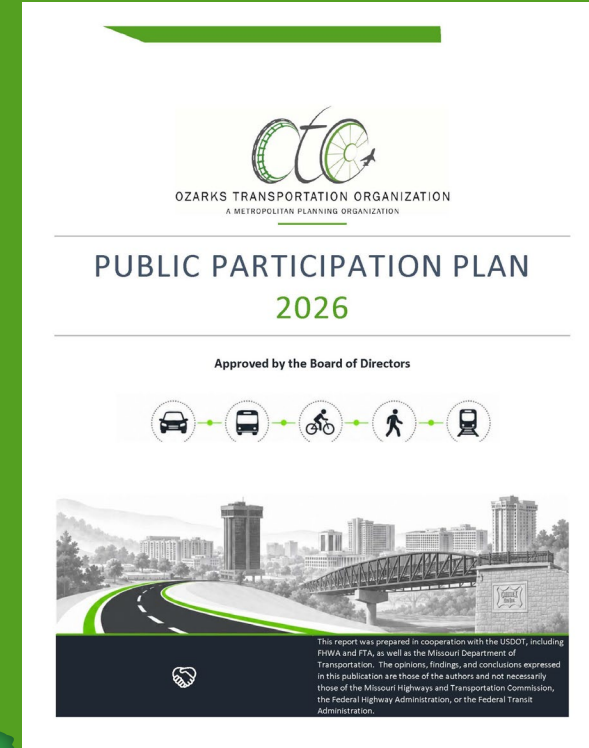




Ozarks Transportation Organization

Public Participation Plan Update & 2025 Evaluation



Public Participation Plan Purpose



DOCUMENTS PROCESSES
AND PROCEDURES TO
SHOW COMPLIANCE WITH
FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS



POLICY GUIDE FOR OTO
STAFF



INFORMS THE PUBLIC
ON HOW AND WHEN
THEY CAN BE INVOLVED

Key Updates in the 2026 Plan

Updated content to reflect current guidance and OTO practices

New Public Participation Evaluation Section

Simplified descriptions and process

Updated TIP Amendment Criteria

Results from 2026 Interested Party Public Participation Survey (Appendix A)

Results from 2026 Interested Party Public Participation Survey



Increased Knowledge of public and stakeholders on what OTO does



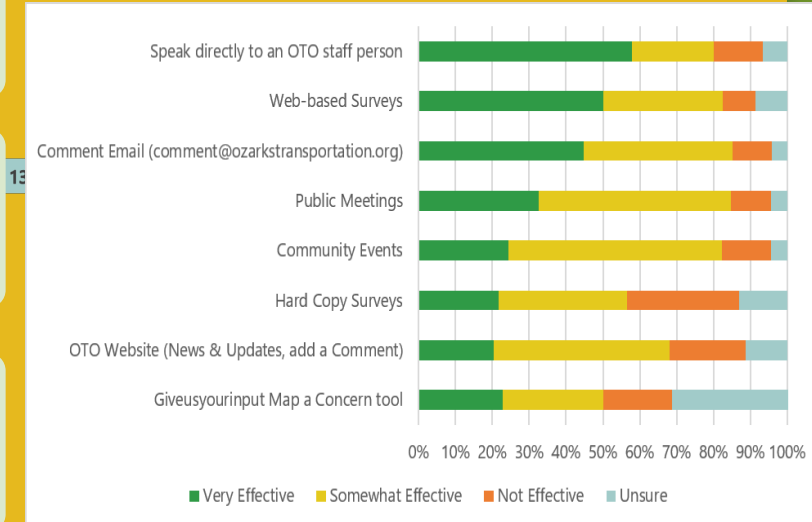
Safety and Congestion remain top topics of interest



Best methods of informing public and stakeholders is through email, brochure fact sheets, mailings and community events



Best channels to gather input remains talking to OTO staff directly, followed by web-based surveys and emails



2025 Annual Evaluation



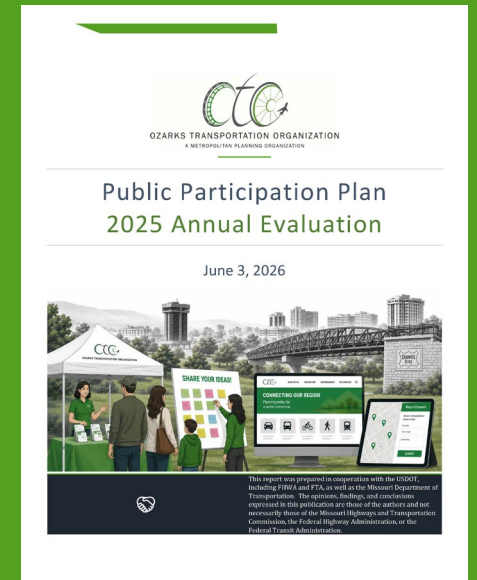
Progress towards Prior Year's Action Items



Performance Measures



Current Year's Action Items



Findings

Increase in public comments, especially through Map-A-Concern

Website activity remained strong

Increased news coverage compared to recent years

Continued growth of social media followers

Action Items - 2026

Minimize the use of technical language in public notices, comment opportunities, surveys, and plan summaries to improve public understanding of transportation planning.

Continue improving the accessibility of OTO documents, websites, and public involvement activities.

Increase the use of graphics and visual tools to make transportation planning information easier to understand.

Expand outreach through partnerships and community events to help more people learn about OTO activities and opportunities to participate.



Public Participation Plan Update

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTION REQUESTED:

A member of the Board of Directors is requested to make one of the following motions:

“Move to approve the proposed Public Participation Plan.”

OR

“Move to approve the proposed Public Participation Plan, with these changes...”

