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Newsletter • Issue 1 • August 2010

PolsonArea **TransportationPlan**

Public Meeting #1 >>>

Q: *When is a public meeting?*

A: *The first public meeting is:*
 Thursday, September 9, 2010
 Polson City Library
 2 1st Avenue East, Polson

Open House: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Presentation: 6:30 PM

The public is encouraged and welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!



about the plan

A community-wide planning process!

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT), Lake County, and the City of Polson, in partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), have initiated the development of a community-wide transportation planning process over a 20-year planning horizon.

The Community of Polson has several transportation concerns that affect the efficiency and operational parameters of the existing transportation system. Transportation is a major concern to area residents today. The study partners expect the concern to remain high as growth continues and the challenges of accommodating travel needs become more difficult.

The purpose of this transportation planning effort is to evaluate the community's transportation system, and guide transportation infrastructure needs within the planning community over the planning horizon.

A comprehensive Transportation Plan will provide an opportunity for tribal, city, county, state officials, and residents to work together to develop innovative approaches necessary to plan and implement a transportation system that will serve the community's citizens well into the future.

To help guide transportation infrastructure improvements in the community.

An area transportation plan is an important document that coordinates with the desires and direction of the community as a whole, while still providing a safe, functioning, and multi-modal transportation system that can accommodate existing and future travel demands.

plan contacts

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plan website...

www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/polsontransplan

CSKT, Lake County, City of Polson, the MDT, and CDM attempt to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program, or activity associated with this study. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

For further information, call (406) 441-1400 or TTY (800) 335-7592 or by calling Montana Relay at 711.

Accommodations must be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled activity and/or meeting.



public involvement opportunities

Education and public outreach are an essential part of fulfilling the local study partners' responsibility to successfully inform the public about the transportation planning process.

Public involvement is an important component in a successful transportation plan. The purpose of public involvement is to ensure a proactive process that provides an opportunity for the public to be involved in all phases of the planning process. The public is encouraged to participate through public meetings and ongoing plan information review and input.

The transportation plan will provide public outreach opportunities that will:

- Educate the public on the important elements of planning and engineering the community's transportation system,
- Respond to the increasing interest of the general public to participate in planning of the community, and
- Increase the public's investment in the Transportation Plan.

A plan website has been developed to provide online opportunities to comment on the transportation concerns within the community and ultimately on the draft plan recommendations. Dates, times, and locations for all public outreach will be announced prior to the events through local media and mailing list.

The plan team will collect and consider all public comments received to better understand the public view of potential issues. Those with a special interest in the study are encouraged to join the **plan mailing list**. Please send submit your name and contact information to Jeff Key at KeyJA@cdm.com to be included in the **mailing list**.

Three public meetings will be held on the plan over the course of the next twelve months. Please check local media, newspapers, and the study website periodically for information relating to the time and location of future public meetings.

Sources:

Aerial imagery courtesy of National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); USDA 2009

TIGER/Line transportation network courtesy of US Census Bureau; 2000.

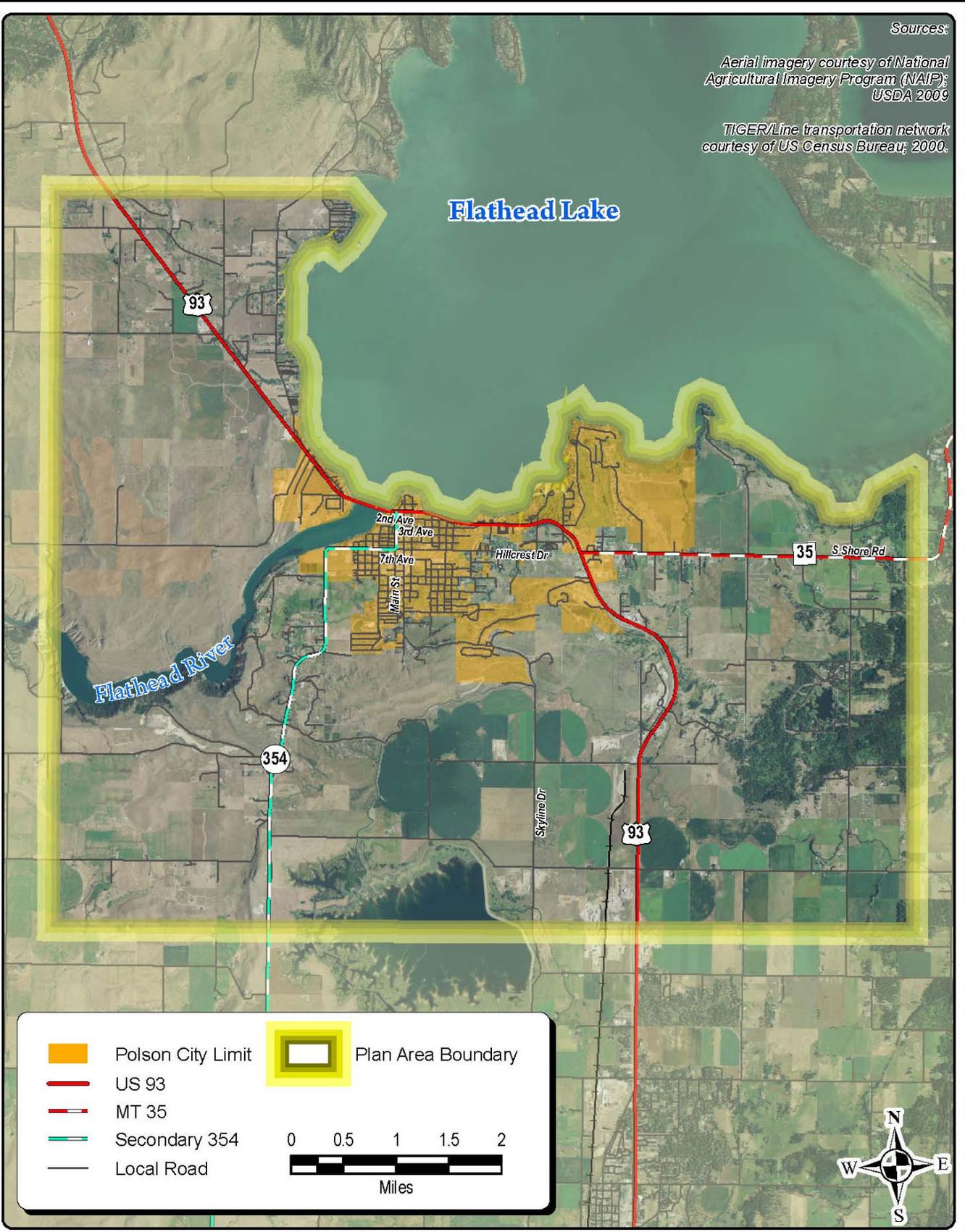


Figure 1
 Plan Area Boundary
 Polson Area Transportation Plan

DRAFT



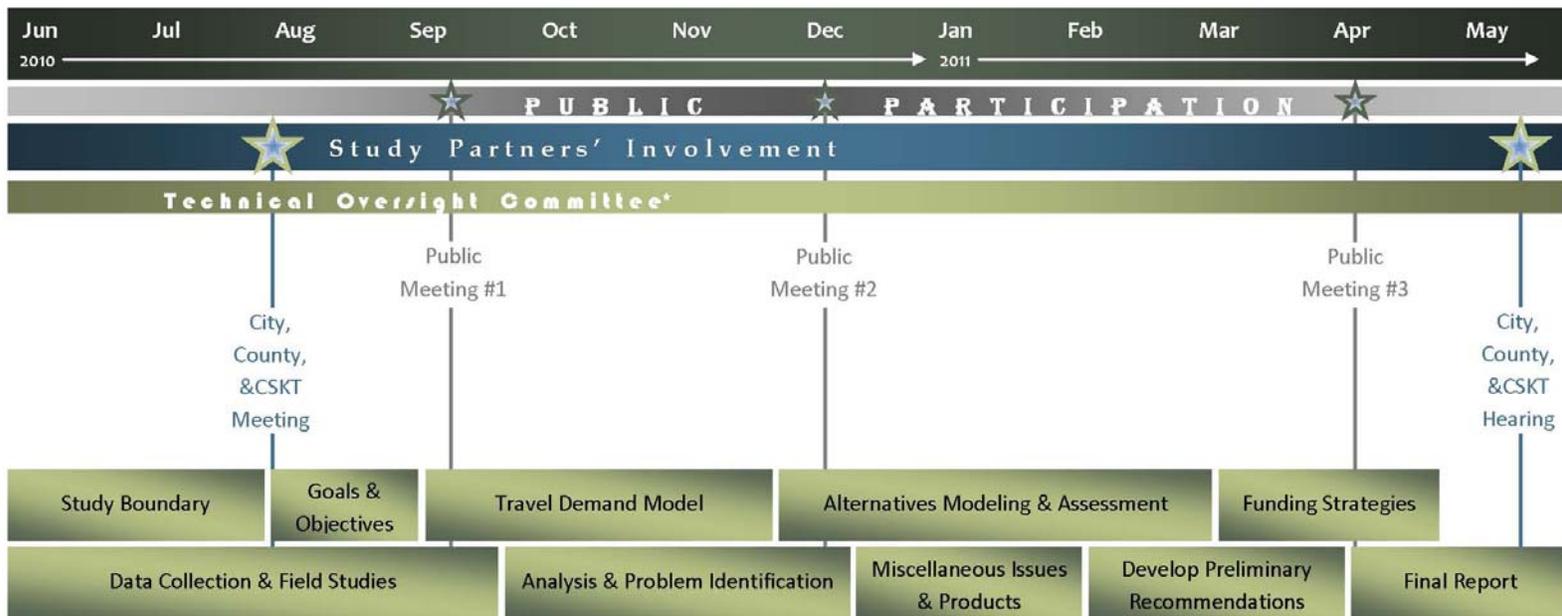
plan schedule

The Transportation Plan will be developed over a twelve-month period. The schedule strives for a final document and study completion near June 15, 2011. The consultant will begin the process of collecting data and information for existing transportation conditions for the study area in September 2010.



Polson Area Transportation Plan Schedule

Note: Task durations and public involvement dates are approximated.



* The Technical Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet on a monthly basis until Transportation Plan completion.

Work Completed To Date:

- ✓ Public Participation Plan
- ✓ Plan Website
- ✓ Newsletter #1
- ✓ Press Release
- ✓ Public Meeting Advertisement

What is coming next?

The plan team will be working on compiling information from data collection of existing transportation conditions within the planning area to develop a list of transportation issues and needs.