



State of Wisconsin
Department of Transportation

WisDOT CAV Strategic Work Plan 2024-2026

The 2024-2026 Strategic Work Plan describes the department's goals and objectives to position WisDOT and the state of Wisconsin to integrate CAV and related emerging technologies into the state's transportation system.

VISION:

Safely integrate Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAV) technologies into the state's multi-modal transportation system for the benefit of the traveling public.

In support of the goals and objectives, Strategic Work Plan subcommittees will develop implementation plans to further define action items, deliverables, and critical timelines.

GOALS:

- ✓ Build on past and current department initiatives to leverage and advance WisDOT's efforts to actively respond to the rapid evolution of CAV and related technological advances.
- ✓ Develop a coordinated and comprehensive response to CAV technology, focused on integration of this and other emerging technologies into department operations, policy, planning, multi-modal transit, and project development, as well as across the state, to continue to provide a safe and efficient transportation system.
- ✓ Leverage CAV technologies to provide new opportunities and more equitable access to Wisconsin's transportation system for non-driving populations.
- ✓ Advance transportation partnerships to leverage technical expertise and diverse perspectives, spread education and awareness, and promote equitable and coordinated deployments.

OBJECTIVES:

Statute, Policy and Regulation – Define policies that direct/guide legislative recommendations to responsibly accommodate/integrate emerging CAV technology to meet the department's mission, vision and values.

- Key Action Items: Build on review of state statutes; actively deliberate legislative federal and state policies to regulate the operation, licensing requirements, governance, and enforcement of CAV technology on the transportation system. Participate in regional and national discussions pertaining to CAV legislative issues to ensure success of WisDOT's policy program.

Communications and Outreach – Educate and inform all stakeholders including government (local, state, federal, Tribal Nations), industry, legislative and the general public about the Department's goals pertaining to CAV, as well as to address questions and concerns regarding the anticipated integration of CAV technology.

- Key Action Items: Build on the *Connected and Automated Vehicle Technology Communications and Outreach Strategy* by deploying elements in the plan and support active management of information sharing. Continue engagement of external stakeholders through Wisconsin Automated Vehicle External advisory committee (WAVE).

Organizational Alignment, Coordination, and Readiness – Manage the coordinated department-level focus to CAV that leverages and builds upon existing agency efforts and provides a framework for agency divisions to adapt and respond to emerging CAV technologies, while safely maintaining, developing, and operating the state transportation system.

- Key Action Items: Manage the internal CAV efforts to facilitate coordination across the department. Align and dedicate resources to meet needs identified for CAV. Research and analyze potential workforce impacts on organizational, information technology (IT), and system operations. Ongoing review and development of policies and procedures to ensure appropriate department response and readiness as CAV technology evolves.

Develop Transportation System Infrastructure and Operations Readiness – Build upon current department efforts to leverage available and emerging technology to support the safe and efficient operation of the transportation system.

- Key Action Items: Continue efforts to prepare the state's infrastructure for CAV integration. Include infrastructure improvements that facilitate connection between the vehicles and adjacent structures like vehicle to infrastructure (V2I); operations and maintenance, e.g., signal and roadside units; signing and pavement marking; and development and maintenance to support Connected and Automated Vehicles. Assess Connected Vehicle Infrastructure equipment needs. Integrate DTSD/BTO's Intelligent Transportation System Integration Plan into strategic work activities and integrate CAV impacts into operational planning. Coordinate with internal CAV subcommittees and divisions to develop plans and policies to support infrastructure deployment. Deliver pilot projects to take advantage of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding to build CAV infrastructure.

Research, Testing, and Pilot Projects – Continue and expand department collaboration and exploration of research and partnership opportunities with national, regional, state, academic and private groups to promote value-added research to assist and guide deployment.

- Key Action Items: Investigate collaborative national and regional research options including, mobility, safety, digital infrastructure, and vehicle to everything (V2X) systems. Research new opportunities for Connected Vehicle data streams use in improving operations or design. Develop shelf of projects with scoped plans to capitalize on IJA funding windows.

Data Governance and Security – Evaluate cybersecurity CV challenges for data impacts to division operations and to synchronize levels of security protocols. Build upon and expand existing department efforts to collect, manage, analyze, and disseminate related CAV data that includes establishing security protocols to protect and support agency and statewide needs. Research new opportunities for Connected Vehicle data streams use in improving operations or design.

- Key Action Items: Assess agency security protocols and create performance measure(s) to confirm effectiveness. Support the ongoing development of the enterprise-wide Data Governance Framework for management of new CAV data. Coordinate with design and operations groups to investigate new uses of CAV data.

Law Enforcement and First Responder Services– Expand coordination with law enforcement and first responders on needs and expectations when encountering CAVs on Wisconsin roadways. Offer technical information and educational resources to local law enforcement and first responders.

- Key Action Items: Monitor technical, operational, and federal developments in CAV and provide information to stakeholders when encountering CAVs, including crashes and emergency response protocols. Work with other states, law enforcement agencies and associations to provide updates on the latest technological information, infrastructure improvements, and procedures to deliver up-to-date training materials. Be a trusted resource for local jurisdictions when CAVs are deployed. Continue to assess optimal communication channels and processes for stakeholders.

Note: Certain important transportation topics such as -but not limited to- enhanced mobility, planning and freight issues will be addressed in more than one objective work group as appropriate.