

Subject Transportation policy provisions

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Overview

This bill modifies some transportation policy provisions related to major highway projects, railroad crossing bells, the Minnesota Rail Service Improvement program, a state-owned airport, and a named highway.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Report required. Revises the definition of a “major highway project” by increasing the project cost thresholds. This has the effect of reducing the set of projects required to be included in the major highway projects report as well as subject to greenhouse gas emissions assessment and mitigation requirements.
2	Crossing bells. Prevents the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) from requiring railroad crossing bells to be silenced at crossings that are equipped with an active warning system.
3	Rail service improvement program. Directs deposit of railroad repayments to MnDOT under a contract with the railroad, to go to a rail service improvement account in either the Bond Proceeds Fund (for projects financed with state general obligation bonds) or the Special Revenue Fund (for other projects). Makes technical and clarifying changes.
4	Authority to establish. Eliminates MnDOT authority to maintain a state-owned airport at Pine Creek. (The Piney-Pinecreek Border Airport was permanently closed in December 2024.)
5	Repealer. Repeals statutory highway designations (including an alternate route) for “Hiawatha Pioneer Trail.”



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