

Ian Ellis

State Administrative Manager, Transportation Planning

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STRENGTHS

- 🛠 **Program stewardship**
Connected policy, condition evidence, funding limits, and readiness so leaders could make clearer capital decisions.
- 👥 **Regional facilitation**
Brought planners, engineers, and program managers into practical reviews; difficult tradeoffs became documented next steps.
- ⚙️ **Pavement strategy**
Chaired working sessions around forecasts and treatment assumptions. Colleagues relied on clear records when priorities shifted.
- ♥️ **Decision reporting**
Built dashboards and reporting routines that gave leadership a repeatable view of changes, risks, and delivery status.
- 📌 **Analytical judgment**
Turned condition trends into investment scenarios, helping stakeholders compare preservation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and timing.

SKILLS

Capital Highway Programming

Five Year Programs

Transportation Planning

Investment Strategy

Pavement Analysis Forecasting

Performance Measures

Project Prioritization

Program Delivery

Stakeholder Facilitation

Portfolio Monitoring

Reporting Tools Data Analysis

SUMMARY

Transportation planning and program management professional with eight years of progressive experience guiding capital highway programs, five year transportation programs, system condition strategies, performance measures, and multi year investment planning. Translates transportation policy, pavement condition evidence, forecasts, funding constraints, and performance goals into defensible programming recommendations. Leads project solicitation, prioritization, monitoring, reporting, and delivery coordination across **regional offices**, **program managers**, engineers, asset specialists, and executive stakeholders. Builds practical applications, dashboards, and governance routines that connect project pipelines, condition data, funding, milestones, and program direction. Facilitates cross functional pavement working groups, resolves **planning issues**, and clarifies investment tradeoffs for leadership. Brings a steady focus on transparent decisions, reliable **program delivery**, and public value across statewide transportation portfolios.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Transportation Program Manager

Northstar Transportation Consulting 📅 July 2023 - Present 📍 Madison, WI

Direct statewide scale highway investment planning for public sector clients, leading solicitation, prioritization, pavement strategy, portfolio monitoring, reporting, and **stakeholder coordination**.

- Aligned pavement evidence, funding constraints, readiness, and performance goals into executable capital programs.
- Led project solicitation across six regional planning groups using consistent criteria and documented decision records.
- Translated network measures and condition forecasts into investment scenarios for executive programming reviews.
- Chaired a pavement working group, resolving assumptions among planners, asset specialists, and engineers.
- Built a **monitoring** application connecting project status, funding, condition, and milestones for five year reporting.
- Guided analysts and regional stakeholders through adjustments, issue resolution, and traceable **reporting** cycles.

Transportation Planning Manager

Midwest Infrastructure Advisors 📅 January 2021 - June 2023 📍 Milwaukee, WI

Managed highway preservation and systems performance assignments, converting planning inputs into sequenced portfolios, condition forecasts, reporting routines, and investment recommendations.

- Converted planning inputs into sequenced highway portfolios for agency review and **program delivery**.
- Coordinated planners, **program managers**, and engineers through candidate project evaluation and strategic fit reviews.
- Developed pavement forecasts from condition datasets and treatment assumptions across a five year horizon.
- Connected condition trends with planned investments through recurring performance measure reporting routines.
- Designed spreadsheets and dashboards for project intake, scenario comparison, and program monitoring.
- Presented investment recommendations and delivery risks, incorporating leadership feedback into revised program scenarios.

Senior Transportation Planner

Badger State Planning Collaborative 📅 June 2018 - December 2020 📍 Madison, WI

Program Governance

Regional Coordination

LANGUAGES

English Native

Spanish Beginner

MY CAREER



● Senior Transportation Program Manager at Northstar Transportation Consulting (3.2 Years)

● Transportation Planning Manager at Midwest Infrastructure Advisors (2.4 Years)

● Senior Transportation Planner at Badger State Planning Collaborative (2.5 Years)

Supported regional highway and multimodal capital planning through project analysis, condition reporting, prioritization workstreams, data quality controls, and management briefings.

- Evaluated highway needs, asset condition, policy objectives, and funding constraints across recurring program cycles.
- Led prioritization workstreams, coordinating technical inputs from planners, engineers, and asset specialists.
- Produced condition and performance summaries that identified preservation needs and informed project sequencing.
- Reconciled scope, schedule, funding, and status changes before multi year management reporting.
- Facilitated planning workshops that converted competing regional needs into documented recommendations and actions.
- Created reusable analysis templates and briefing materials for consistent investment comparisons and executive reviews.

PROJECTS

Statewide Pavement Investment Monitor 📅 2024

Clear decisions begin with trustworthy evidence. Built a practical monitoring concept linking condition, funding, milestones, and program changes so leaders could see preservation needs and delivery risks in one place.

Regional Call for Projects Framework 📅 2022

Public investment works best when regional voices meet consistent policy direction. Developed a project review framework that supported transparent prioritization, documented tradeoffs, and stronger coordination across planning groups.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Transportation Asset Management Peer Forum, Working Group Facilitator, recognized for practical cross functional coordination.
- Senior Transportation Program Manager, selected to chair pavement strategy discussions and guide statewide portfolio decisions.
- Transportation Planning Manager, trusted to present investment recommendations and delivery risks to client leadership.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning

University of Wisconsin Madison 🎓 GPA: 0 📅 2018 📍 Madison, WI

Coursework: *Transportation planning, urban systems, public policy, geographic information systems*

CERTIFICATIONS

- Transportation Planning Professional Development Certificate 📅 2022
- American Planning Association Professional Development Certificate 📅 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Transportation Programming:** Capital highway programming, five year programs, call for projects
- **Pavement Management:** Pavement condition analysis, condition forecasting, treatment assumptions
- **Performance Management:** Performance measures, system condition planning, investment goals
- **Program Reporting:** Program monitoring, leadership reporting, decision records
- **Data Analysis:** Condition datasets, funding data, milestone data
- **Portfolio Tools:** Monitoring applications, spreadsheets, dashboards
- **Project Prioritization:** Candidate evaluation, project scoring, investment scenarios
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Regional offices, program managers, engineering leads
- **Capital Planning:** Preservation planning, rehabilitation planning, reconstruction planning
- **Governance Methods:** Policy direction, investment strategy, issue resolution

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Transportation Asset Management Peer Forum, Working Group Facilitator.
- American Planning Association, Transportation Planning professional member.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST