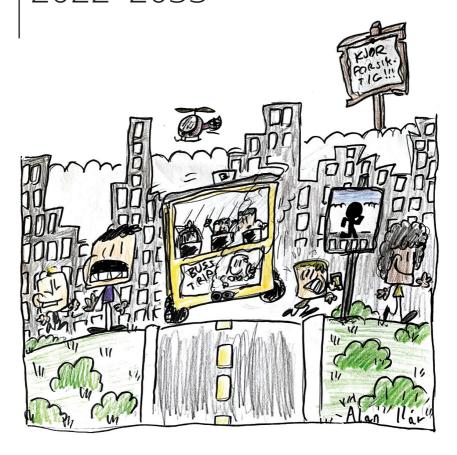


Meld. St. 20 (2020–2021) Report to the Storting (white paper)

National Transport Plan 2022–2033



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Foreword



Figure 0.1 Knut Arild Hareide Minister of Transport

Transport is first and foremost about people – about travelling safely and efficiently together. In a country like Norway, with its extensive coastline, high mountains and long fjords, we need to connect urban and rural areas and the people who live there.

We have always needed to travel and to transport goods and commodities. An efficient, environmental-friendly and safe transport system is one of the most important cornerstones of a modern society, and an important prerequisite for value creation and welfare.

Planning and building infrastructure in

Norway is often both difficult and expensive. However, people must be free to live and work where they wish, and our prosperity depends on the value creation that takes place in all parts of the country. That is why we must maintain and develop a transport system that is capable of connecting all parts of the country together. To succeed we must keep up with and encourage technological advances and dare to think differently. At the same time, we have to choose the solutions that give us the highest possible value for the public investments in transport projects.

The Government has given transport high priority. Our investments have led to shorter travel times on both rail and road, more frequent train departures, better traffic safety and positive urban development. At the same time, the transport sector has been modernised through several reforms that have led to more competition, innovation and efficiency. This work is now being followed up by an ambitious and realistic National Transport Plan that is intended to ensure that the most important challenges are addressed in the right order. This