

**Beautifying Transportation Infrastructure Council**  
**Task Statement 26-01: Expanding the Principles for Beautiful Transportation**

**I. Task Summary**

Provide feedback to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT or Department) regarding the principles and elements of beautiful transportation infrastructure and facilities across all modes of transportation, adding best practices, real world examples, and additional details.

**II. Background**

The Secretary of Transportation seeks to enhance the aesthetic value of our Nation's transportation systems and requests recommendations on policies, designs, and funding priorities that beautify transportation infrastructure, including highways, bridges, and transit hubs, while maintaining safety and efficiency. Transportation projects often focus on function over form, when both should be considered and incorporated into project design.

**III. Task**

For Task 26-01, DOT asks the Council to discuss the principles that guide beautiful transportation projects and provide examples and best practices of beautiful design that extend across the Nation and include rural and urban projects and project components. DOT asks that that these examples and best practices span all modes of transportation, including highway, rail, transit, maritime, and aviation facilities and infrastructure. These examples and best practices should include principles like harmony with landscapes, use of local materials, biophilic design, minimization of signage, and public art integration.

**VI. Estimated Time to Complete Task**

DOT asks the Council to deliberate on this task at its March 31, 2026 meeting and, if necessary, continue its deliberations at subsequent or subcommittee meetings. The results of this and other tasks will be compiled and submitted to DOT's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy.

**VI. DOT Technical Representatives**

- Julianne Schwarzer, Designated Federal Officer, [julianne.schwarzer@dot.gov](mailto:julianne.schwarzer@dot.gov)