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NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)

\*\*\*\*\*

9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 7, 2012

Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Conference Room

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call To Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes .....Page 3
  - Approve the May 3, 2012, meeting minutes.
4. REPORT and VOTE: Calendar Year 2013 Meeting Dates.....Page 7
  - Report on Calendar Year 2013 meeting dates for the TTC; consider approval.
5. REPORT and VOTE: *Federal Fiscal Year 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program Draft* .....Page 9
  - Report on the draft *Federal Fiscal Year 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program*; consider approval.
6. REPORT and VOTE: Transportation Planning Memorandum of Understanding ....Page 10
  - Report on an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority and the MPO for transportation planning activities; consider approval.
7. REPORT: *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment*.....Page 11
  - Report on the Iowa Department of Transportation’s request to amend the *Horizon Year 2035 Transportation Plan* to add an auxiliary lane to Interstate 235 between 63<sup>rd</sup> and 73<sup>rd</sup> Streets.
8. REPORT: *Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Requests* .....Page 13
  - Report on the City of Des Moines’ request to increase FFY 2014 and FFY 2015 Surface Transportation Program funding for their Southeast Connector project, and City of Ankeny’s request to increase FFY 2012 Surface Transportation Program funding for their Northeast 36<sup>th</sup> Street project.
9. REPORT: Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Surface Transportation Program Small Member Applications..... Page 16
  - Report on the application process for Surface Transportation Program funds in the small member government category.
10. REPORT: *Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Capital Improvement Program* .Page 17
  - Report on the development of the *Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Capital Improvement Program*.

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MPO Transportation Technical Committee

11. **REPORT: Travel Demand Model Review** ..... Page 18
  - Report on plans to conduct a review of the MPO’s travel demand model in the first half of Fiscal Year 2013.
12. **REPORT: Long-Range Transportation Plan Update**..... Page 19
  - Discussion of the process to develop the next long-range transportation plan.
13. **REPORT: *The Tomorrow Plan* Update** ..... Page 22
  - Update on activities related to *The Tomorrow Plan*.
14. **INFORMATION: Transportation Management Association Update**..... Page 26
15. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
16. **Next Meeting Date**
  - Thursday, July 12, 2012, 9:30 a.m., MPO Office – Burnham Conference Room.
17. **Adjournment**

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

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June 2012  
Item No. 3

## **ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**

VOTE: Consider approval of the May 3, 2012, MPO Technical Committee meeting minutes.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The minutes of the May 3, 2012, MPO Technical Committee meeting are enclosed on the following pages.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the May 3, 2012, MPO Technical Committee meeting.

## **STAFF CONTACT:**

Jennifer Ratcliff, [jratcliff@dmampo.org](mailto:jratcliff@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

## MEETING MINUTES

### Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)

9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 3, 2012

#### Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Conference Room

The MPO TTC held a meeting at 9:30 a.m., on May 3, 2012, at the Des Moines Area MPO Conference Room. Before the meeting, the MPO staff sent agenda packets to the MPO TTC representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office at 4:16 p.m., April 26, 2012.

#### Representatives Present:

John Shaw, City of Altoona  
John Peterson, City of Ankeny  
Eric Jensen, City of Ankeny  
Paul Moritz, City of Ankeny  
Lori Dunham, City of Bondurant  
Matt McQuillen, City of Clive  
Jim Hagelie, City of Clive  
Jennifer Bohac, City of Des Moines  
Jeb Brewer, City of Des Moines  
Mike Clayton, Iowa Department of  
Transportation\*  
Jim Tishim, Des Moines Regional Transit  
Authority  
Julia Castillo, Heart of Iowa Regional Transit  
Agency  
Jerry Byg, City of Grimes  
Dave Cubit, City of Johnston  
Aaron Wolfe, City of Johnston  
Timothy Brandt, City of Mitchellville  
Mike Johnson, City of Norwalk  
Ben Champ, City of Pleasant Hill  
Dennis Dietz, City of Polk City  
Kurt Bailey, Polk County  
Bret VandeLune, Polk County  
Dave McKay, City of Urbandale  
Steve Franklin, City of Urbandale  
John Larson, City of Urbandale  
Steve Struble, Warren County  
Brad Deets, City of Waukee  
Joe Cory, City of West Des Moines  
Duane Wittstock, City of West Des Moines  
Kara Tragesser, City of West Des Moines  
Josh Heggen, City of Windsor Heights

#### Representatives Absent:

Vern Willey, City of Altoona  
Jeff Schug, City of Carlisle  
Anthony Bellizzi, City of Cumming\*\*  
Murray McConnell, Dallas County  
Michael Ludwig, City of Des Moines  
Chuck Burgin, City of Indianola\*\*  
Doyle Scott, Madison County\*\*  
Jeffrey Kooistra, City of Waukee  
Tracy Troutner, Federal Highway  
Administration\*  
Bryan Belt, Des Moines International Airport  
Mark Bechtel, Federal Transit Administration\*

\* Non-Voting, Advisory Representative

\*\* Non-Voting, Associate Representative

#### Others Present:

Glenn Lyons, Transportation Management  
Association\*  
Barb Andersen, Transportation Management  
Association\*

#### Staff Present:

Todd Ashby, Executive Director  
Stephanie Muller, Executive Administrator  
Jennifer Zelle, Executive Assistant  
Dylan Mullenix, Principal Transportation Planner  
Nokil Park, Senior Transportation System Modeler  
Nathan Goldberg, Senior Transportation Planner  
Luke Parris, Associate Transportation Planner  
Bethany Wilcoxon, Associate Transportation Planner  
Zach Young, Associate Transportation Planner

- 1. Call to Order**  
MPO TTC Chair Kurt Bailey recognized a quorum and called the May 3, 2012, meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.
- 2. Approval of Agenda**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the MPO TTC's May 3, 2012, meeting agenda.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the MPO TTC's March 1, 2012, meeting minutes.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 4. Fiscal Year 2013 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget Final Draft**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the final draft *Fiscal Year 2013 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget*.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 5. Fiscal Year 2012 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget Amendment**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment to the draft *Fiscal Year 2012 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget*.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 6. 2011 Travel Time Survey Report Draft and 2011 Vehicle Occupancy Survey Report Draft**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the *2011 Travel Time Survey and Vehicle Occupancy Survey Report Draft*.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 7. Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Surface Transportation Program and Surface Transportation Program Transportation Enhancement Funding Reallocation**  
MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 7.
- 8. Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Enhancement Funding Recommendation**  
MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 8.
- 9. Federal Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program Draft Development**  
MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 9.
- 10. The Tomorrow Plan Update**  
MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 10.
- 11. Transportation Planning Memorandum of Understanding**  
MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 11.

**12. Transportation Management Association Update**

Glenn Lyons with the TMA presented; no discussion on item 12.

**13. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**

**14. Next Meeting Date**

9:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 7, 2012, Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Room.

**15. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the MPO TTC's May 3, 2012, meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Chair Bailey adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 4

## **ISSUE: Calendar Year 2013 Meeting Dates**

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of proposed meeting dates in Calendar Year 2013 for the MPO Technical Committee.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The MPO staff annually issues a proposed MPO meeting schedule for the upcoming calendar year. The MPO is required to issue its upcoming meeting dates to comply with the State of Iowa's Open Meetings Law. MPO staff asks for feedback on any known conflicts with the proposed schedule.

Included, immediately following, is the proposed Calendar Year 2013 MPO meeting schedule.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the proposed schedule of Calendar Year 2013 meeting dates.

## **STAFF CONTACT:**

Stephanie Muller, [smuller@dmampo.org](mailto:smuller@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

## Calendar Year 2013 Meeting Dates

Technical Committee	Executive Committee	Policy Committee
Thursday, January 03, 2013	Wednesday, January 09, 2013	Thursday, January 17, 2013
Thursday, February 07, 2013	Wednesday, February 13, 2013	Thursday, February 21, 2013
Thursday, March 7, 2013	Wednesday, March 13, 2013	Thursday, March 28, 2013*
Thursday, April 04, 2013	Wednesday, April 10, 2013	Thursday, April 18, 2013
Thursday, May 02, 2013	Wednesday, May 15, 2013**	Thursday, May 23, 2013**
Thursday, June 06, 2013	Wednesday, June 12, 2013	Thursday, June 20, 2013
Thursday, July 11, 2013***	Wednesday, July 17, 2013***	Thursday, July 25, 2013***
Thursday, August 01, 2013	Wednesday, August 14, 2013	Thursday, August 15, 2013
Thursday, September 05, 2013	Wednesday, September 11, 2013	Thursday, September 19, 2013
Thursday, October 03, 2013	Wednesday, October 09, 2013	Thursday, October 17, 2013
Thursday, November 07, 2013	Wednesday, November 13, 2013	Thursday, November 21, 2013
Thursday, December 05, 2013	Wednesday, December 11, 2013	Thursday, December 19, 2013

\* Moved one week later due to Spring Break

\*\*Moved one week later due to Washington DC Trip

\*\*\*Moved one week later due to Independence Day



# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 5

## **ISSUE: *Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Transportation Improvement Program Draft Development***

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of the draft *Federal Fiscal Year 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program*.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The MPO staff is required to annually develop a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by updating the current TIP for the MPO. The purpose of the TIP is to list all projects in the MPO Planning Area for which Federal funding is proposed to be used and that are scheduled to begin within a designated time frame of the four federal fiscal years.

The MPO staff requested that MPO member governments and participating agencies review and report any project changes, new projects, or “roll-over” projects programmed in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and/or 2016. Responses from each member government were used to generate the project listing in the FFY 2013-2016 TIP.

The draft FFY 2013-2016 TIP is included as a supplemental item to this agenda packet.

The FFY 2013-2016 TIP draft is due to the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Highway Administration for review and comment by June 15, 2012. The final FFY 2013-2016 TIP is due to the Iowa DOT by July 15, 2012.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend approval of draft FFY 2013-2016 TIP.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Luke Parris, [lparris@dmampo.org](mailto:lparris@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 6

## **ISSUE: Transportation Planning Memorandum of Understanding**

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority and the MPO for transportation planning activities.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Both metropolitan planning organizations and public transportation operators receive federal funds for the purpose of transportation planning in metropolitan areas. Federal planning regulations require that these organizations cooperatively determine their mutual responsibilities in carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process.

The MPO and the Des Moines Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) last entered into a planning agreement on December 21, 2000. Since that time, the MTA has transitioned to the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART), and federal and state planning requirements have changed, necessitating an updated agreement between the MPO and DART. An updated agreement also was a recommendation of the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Highway Administration in the MPO's latest certification review in 2009.

DART voted to approve the updated Memorandum of Understanding at its April 24, 2012, commission meeting.

The updated Memorandum of Understanding is included as a supplemental item to this agenda packet.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend approval of the Transportation Memorandum of Understanding with DART.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Zach Young, [zyoung@dmampo.org](mailto:zyoung@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 7

## **ISSUE: *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment Request***

REPORT: Report on the Iowa Department of Transportation's request to amend the *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* to add an auxiliary lane to Interstate 235 westbound between 63<sup>rd</sup> and 73<sup>rd</sup> Streets.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) has requested an amendment to the *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* (HY 2035 MTP) to add an auxiliary lane to Interstate 235 westbound between 63<sup>rd</sup> and 73<sup>rd</sup> Streets with a project cost of \$5,736,000. The Iowa DOT is preparing to advance the project into the upcoming *2013-2017 Five-Year Program*. The project must first be in the MPO's HY 2035 MTP to move forward with construction.

The intent of the project is to alleviate operational problems that result from the merging and diverging of westbound traffic through this segment of Interstate 235, particularly during the afternoon peak travel period, as well as to reduce the number of crashes in the area.

Immediately following is a map illustrating the project location.

The MPO staff will hold a public input meeting for the proposed amendment on July 10, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

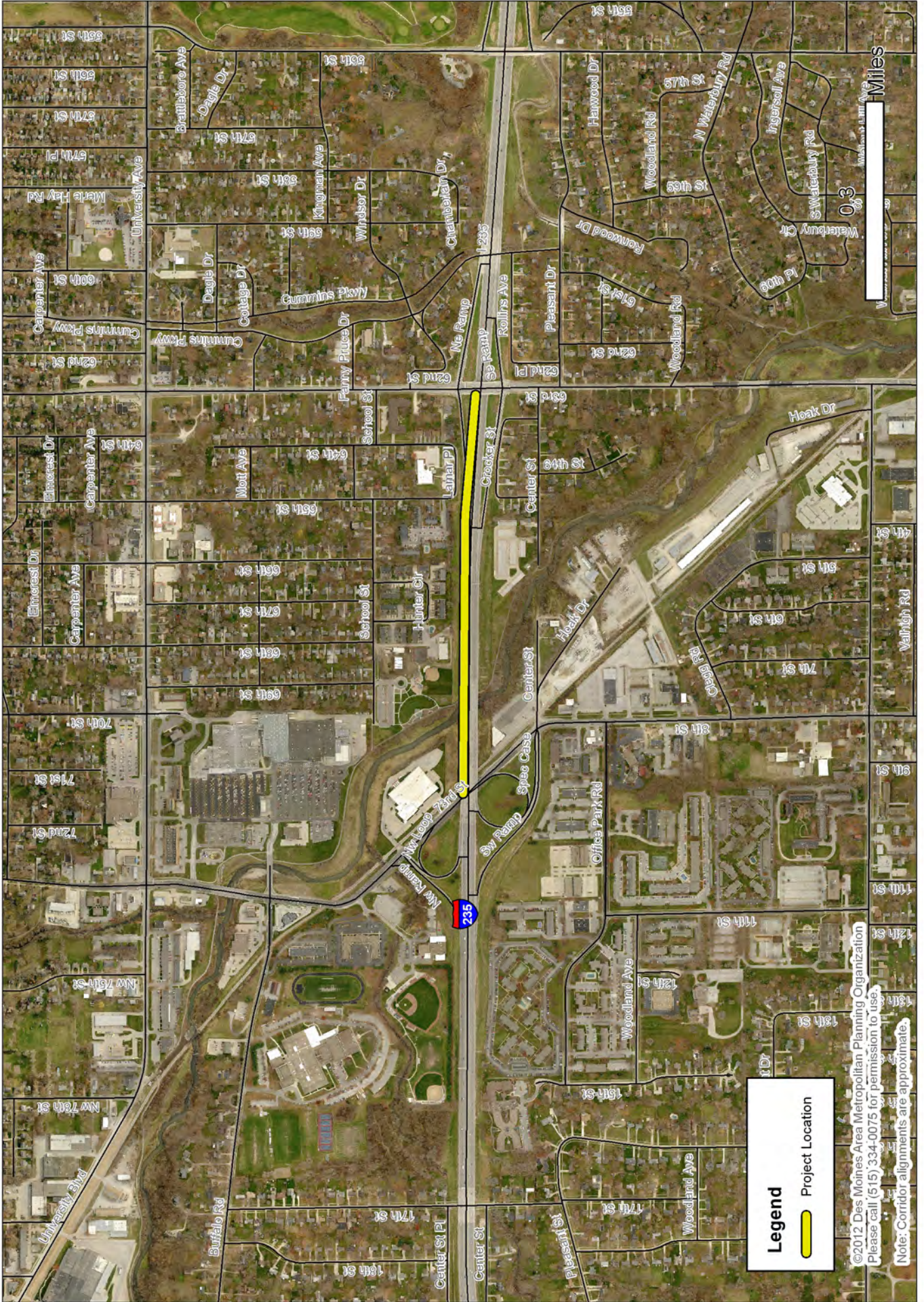
None. Report and discussion only.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Nathan Goldberg, [ngoldberg@dmampo.org](mailto:ngoldberg@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.



# HY 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment Request Iowa DOT- I-235 Auxiliary Lane





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MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 8

## **ISSUE: *Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Requests***

REPORT: Report regarding amendment requests to the MPO's *Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program*.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Des Moines and the City of Ankeny have requested the following revisions to the *Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2012-2015 TIP):

Sponsor: City of Des Moines  
Project: Southeast Connector: SE 14<sup>th</sup> Street to SE 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Project Number: NHSX-U-1945(409)—8S-77  
Work Type: Right of way, Grade and Pave, Outside Services Engineering  
Funding: Surface Transportation Program (STP)  
Change: Increase FFY 2014 STP funds to \$2,125,000 and FFY 2015 STP funds to \$3,600,000.  
Revision Type: Amendment

Sponsor: City of Ankeny  
Project: NE 36<sup>th</sup> Street – 200' west of NE Raintree Drive to 900' east of NE Otter Creek Drive  
Work Type: Pavement Rehab/Widening, Bridge Widening  
Funding: Surface Transportation Program (STP)  
Change: Increase FFY 2012 STP funds to \$1,489,000  
Revision Type: Amendment

The MPO staff notes the two amendments are necessary due to the amount of funding restored to the projects due to the reallocation of FFY 2012-2015 STP funds that the MPO approved in May. The two amendments are subject to MPO approval and a public comment period. The MPO staff will hold a public input meeting for each amendment request prior to approval from the MPO.

Included, immediately following, are maps showing the project locations.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

### **STAFF CONTACTS:**

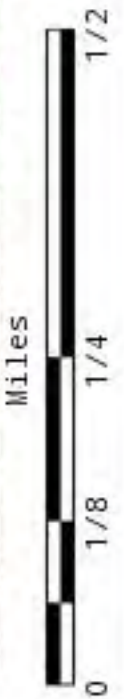
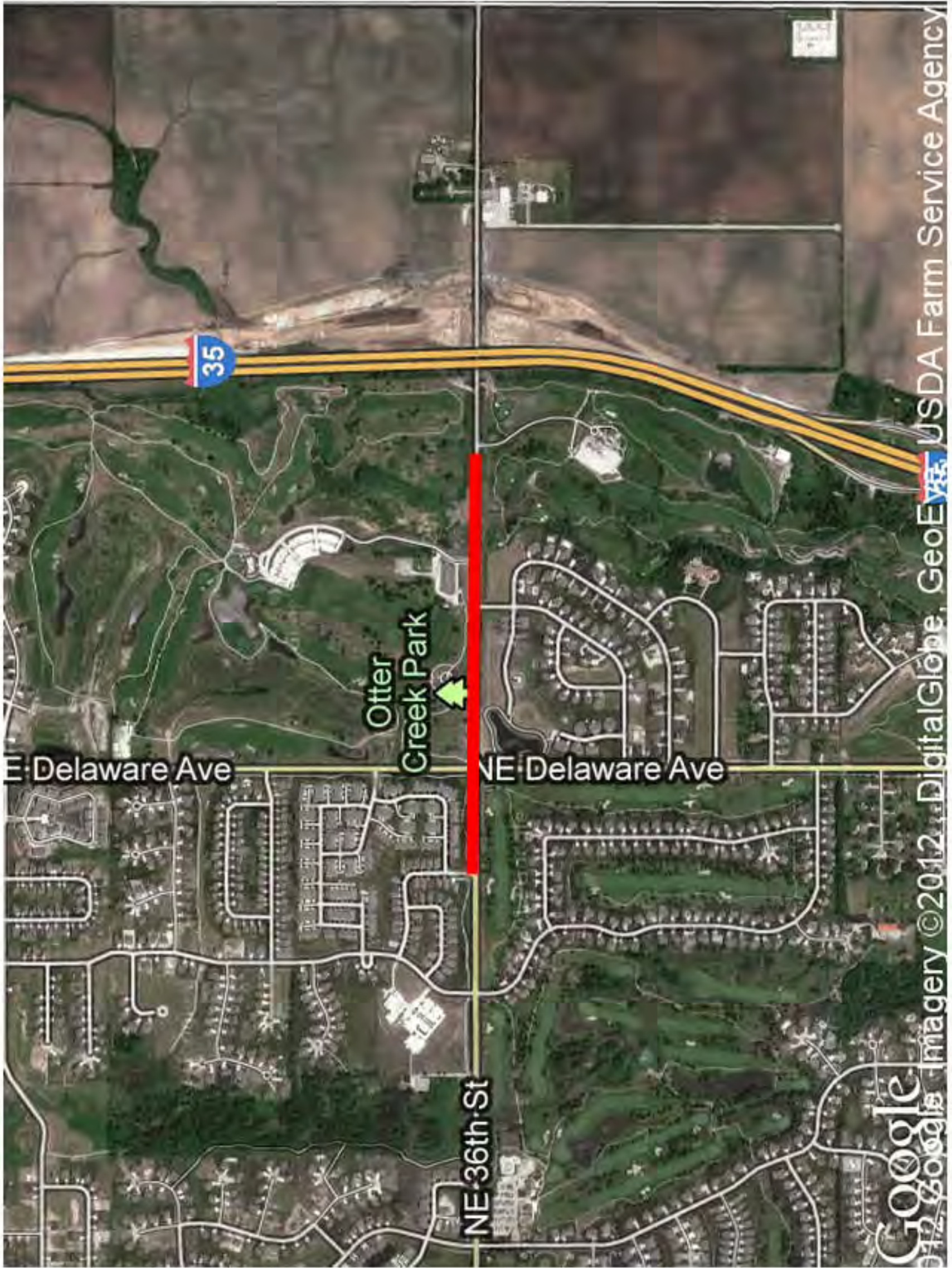
Luke Parris, [lparris@dmampo.org](mailto:lparris@dmampo.org);  
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# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012

Item No. 9

## **ISSUE: Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Surface Transportation Program Small Member Applications**

REPORT: Report on the MPO's Surface Transportation Program Small Member Application.

### **BACKGROUND:**

During recent revisions to the MPO's Surface Transportation Program (STP) guidelines, the MPO dedicated a set aside of STP funds for the MPO's members that receive one vote at the MPO, i.e., a population less than 11,500. For Federal Fiscal Year 2016, the MPO has a total of \$353,200 available to program for allocation to small members. The MPO staff notes that eligible MPO members can only apply for funds under the categories of Major Construction – Existing, Minor Construction, or Preservation.

The *Small Member Funding Application Packet for Federal Fiscal Year 2016* is included as a supplemental item to this agenda packet.

Applications will be due to the MPO office by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 20, 2012**. Following receipt of the applications, the MPO staff will score the projects and will work with the STP Funding Subcommittee to award funding to eligible projects.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the application process, please contact the MPO staff for assistance.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Luke Parris, [lparris@dmampo.org](mailto:lparris@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.



# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 10

## **ISSUE: *Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Capital Improvement Program***

REPORT: Report on the development of the *Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Capital Improvement Program*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The MPO annually develops a four-year Transportation Capital Improvement Program (TCIP). The TCIP's purpose is to list all projects in the MPO Planning Area for which federal funding is not utilized and that are scheduled to begin within the upcoming four fiscal years.

To develop the *Fiscal Years 2013-2016 Transportation Capital Improvement Program*, the MPO staff has requested MPO member governments and participating agencies to submit copies of their respective capital improvement planning documents. The MPO staff is in the process of reviewing all the MPO member governments' and participating agencies' responses and is still awaiting information from some member governments at this time.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Jennifer Roberts, [jroberts@dmampo.org](mailto:jroberts@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 11

## **ISSUE: Travel Demand Model Review**

REPORT: Report on plans to conduct a review of the MPO's travel demand model in the first half of Fiscal Year 2013.

## **BACKGROUND:**

As noted in the *Fiscal Year 2013 Unified Planning Work Program* (FY 2013 UPWP), the MPO will conduct a review of the travel demand model to identify any necessary updates to the MPO's modeling procedures. This review is expected to take place between July and December 2012.

The MPO plans to retain the consulting firm HNTB to provide this review and to assist MPO staff in making necessary updates to the model. The MPO staff will bring forward an agenda item at the July meeting to consider approval of a FY 2013 UPWP amendment to add the travel demand model review as a special project and to approve a contract with HNTB. The MPO staff anticipated the travel demand model review costs when developing the FY 2013 budget and has also received a financial contribution from the Transportation Management Association to help fund the project.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

## **STAFF CONTACT:**

Dylan Mullenix, [dmullenix@dmampo.org](mailto:dmullenix@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

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MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 12

## **ISSUE: Long-Range Transportation Plan Update**

REPORT: Discussion of the process to develop the next long-range transportation plan.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The MPO is required to develop a long-range transportation plan at least once every five years. The last plan – the *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* – was completed in September 2009. A new plan is required by September 2014.

*The Tomorrow Plan* development will accomplish many tasks required in the long-range transportation plan development. A comparison of long-range transportation plan requirements and *The Tomorrow Plan* scope is included on the following pages.

MPO staff has developed a preliminary list of tasks and an associated timeline for the long-range plan development. This timeline is included as a supplemental item to the agenda packet.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Dylan Mullenix, [dmullenix@dmampo.org](mailto:dmullenix@dmampo.org);  
(515) 334-0075.

<b>Long-Range Transportation Plan</b>	<b>The Tomorrow Plan</b>
Define Planning Area Boundary	<i>N/A – This task is not specifically outlined in the Tomorrow Plan’s workplan.</i>
Needs assessment for all modes of transportation based on goals and objectives	<p><b>Task 2.1.1 –Housing and Transportation Data Array – September 2011</b> Focus on the relationship between housing and transportation; outputs will include averages per household for auto ownership, vehicle miles traveled, and housing and transportation costs as a dollar amount and as a percentage of income. Significant trends from 2000 to 2009 will be highlighted. Location efficient places within the region will be identified.</p> <p><b>Task 2.1.2 –Transportation Systems – September 2011</b> Analysis of the transportation system, including costs, emissions, commuting patterns, mode-split, vehicle miles traveled, transit ridership, and so on. This assessment will lead to the development of transportation-related sustainability indicators.</p> <p><b>Task 2.4 – State of the Region report – November 2011</b> This report will summarize baseline data, including results of the above two tasks, as well as other things like regional development patterns and socio-economic trends.</p> <p><b>Task 4.1 –Regional Sustainability Plan Components – August 2012</b> Each plan component will include a summary of current conditions, trends, and issues developed during previous tasks, a needs assessment, and goals / strategies through 2050.</p>
Establish base year (2010) condition	<p><b>Task 2.1 – Complete Data Array – September 2011</b> Regional socio-economic data (population, household, and mobility trends), land use and zoning data, environmental resources, etc., will be collected.</p> <p><b>Task 2.4- State of the Region report – November 2011</b> This report will summarize baseline data collected in Task 2.1.</p>
Define goals and objectives of plan	<p><b>Task 3.4 – Draft Regional Vision for Sustainability – March 2012</b> Feedback from committees and the public will be used to craft a vision statement.</p> <p><b>Task 3.9 – Determine Preferred Future Direction for Sustainability – July 2012</b> A preferred growth scenario will be selected.</p> <p><b>Task 4.1 –Regional Sustainability Plan Components – November 2012</b> Each plan component will include goals and strategies through 2050. Connections between the goals and strategies of the different plan components will be identified, including “leverage points” that can be used in Phase 5 to help set priorities for implementation. The goals and strategies of plan components will be closely coordinated with existing regional planning efforts (e.g., DART’s Forward 2035 and Capital Crossroads) and aligned with the federal Sustainable Communities Partnership’s Livability Principles.</p>
Establish horizon year (2050) projections	<p><b>Task 3.5 –Potential Future Scenarios – March 2012</b> The development of each scenario will include population, household, and employment projections for the year 2050. REMI data will be used for control totals.</p>
Develop growth scenario alternatives	<p><b>Task 3.5 –Potential Future Scenarios – March 2012</b> Several growth scenario alternatives will be identified, including a “trend” scenario that extrapolates current development patterns, as well as several “what-if” scenarios.</p>
Identify capacity needs associated to growth scenario alternatives	<p><b>Task 4.1 –Regional Sustainability Plan Components – August 2012</b> Each plan component will include a summary of current conditions, trends, and issues developed during previous tasks, a needs assessment, and goals and strategies through 2050.</p> <p><b>Task 4.4 –Built Environment – October 2012</b> A Transit Orientation Index methodology will be used to determine demand for existing and future transit corridors. Other analysis will include transit accessibility, trip generation, housing and transportation costs, GHG and other transportation-related emissions, complete streets, and parking availability.</p>

<b>Long-Range Transportation Plan</b>	<b>The Tomorrow Plan</b>
Establish cost estimates to address needs	<p><b>Task 5.1 – Draft Sustainability Action Plan – December 2012</b> An action agenda with short, mid, and long-term timeframes will be developed that include the identification of capital investments to meet the preferred future.</p>
Determine funding levels available	<p><b>Task 5.1 – Draft Sustainability Action Plan – December 2012</b> An action agenda with short, mid, and long-term timeframes will be developed that include the identification of potential funding sources and other resources for implementation of the plan, including alignment of federal planning and investment resources with the goals, strategies, and actions of the Tomorrow Plan.</p>
Prioritize and select projects	<p><b>Task 5.1 – Draft Sustainability Action Plan – December 2012</b> An action agenda with short, mid, and long-term timeframes will be developed that include the identification of capital investments to meet the preferred future.</p>
	<p><b>Task 5.3 – Establish Implementation Priorities – December 2012</b> Implementation priorities will be established based on public input, “leverage points” from Task 4.1, and other factors.</p>

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MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 13

## **ISSUE: *The Tomorrow Plan* Update**

REPORT: Update on activities related to *The Tomorrow Plan*.

## **BACKGROUND:**

*[Note: this agenda item will constitute a joint meeting of The Tomorrow Plan's technical committee and the MPO TTC. Tomorrow Plan technical committee members not already represented on the MPO TTC will be invited to participate in the discussion.]*

The Tomorrow Plan's planning team will discuss the following topics at the meeting:

### **General Update**

The planning process is in-between phases 3 and 4 of a five-phase process. The team is drafting alternative growth scenarios, and the next step is to draft the preferred future scenario. Once these steps are complete, efforts will focus on the development of regional policies and guidelines for local governments, non-profit organizations, and businesses to consider when conducting their own independent planning efforts. By providing this toolkit, *The Tomorrow Plan* will simultaneously allow a regional vision to be met and ensure decisions are made locally.

### **Design My DSM**

Efforts to promote Design My DSM continue. The team will be collecting input through this game through June 15, 2012. To date, over 550 responses have been received. The input received as part of the game will be made available to communities for their own planning efforts. Any assistance the technical committee can provide in further promotion of the game is welcome.

### **Best Practices Scenario Development**

One scenario being developed is the "Best Practices Scenario." This scenario simulates the impacts of a range of high-priority best management practices at the regional scale. Best practices selected for the scenario include the following: protection of critical ecological areas, expansion of parks and conservation areas, improved water management, development of vacant properties, cultivation of sites for regional economic agglomeration, increased transit options, and increased housing diversity and affordability. A more detailed description, included on the following page, was sent to technical representatives on May 23, 2012, for review and comment.

### **Regional Analysis of Impediments**

As part of planning process for the *The Tomorrow Plan*, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is requiring the development of a Regional Analysis of Impediments (AI) to assess fair housing issues in the metro area. The Regional AI has a broad scope that encompasses issues of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status, and disability. In addition to developing the Regional AI, HUD requires that the findings be utilized by the Steering Committee to inform the recommendations of *The Tomorrow Plan*.

The MPO staff has worked with the City of Des Moines and City of West Des Moines to develop a strategy for the completion of the Regional AI. As part of their "in-kind" contributions to *The Tomorrow Plan*, the City of Des Moines has contracted with Iowa State University to assist in the development of the Regional AI. In the coming months,

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MPO Transportation Technical Committee

the MPO staff will provide updates on the development of the Regional AI and will request assistance from local governments in reviewing data and providing input on the outcomes of the Regional AI.

## **Plan Outcomes**

At its June 7, 2012, meeting, *The Tomorrow Plan's* steering committee will feature focused small group discussions among its members regarding desired outcomes of the plan. The planning team will provide example outcomes from similar regional planning efforts. Feedback received from the steering committee will help the planning team determine how to best present outcomes of *The Tomorrow Plan* to ensure they will be most useful to the communities and the region.

## **Public Events**

The planning team is collaborating with other groups for speaker events in June and July. Formal announcements of the events will be made once all details are finalized.

Preliminary planning for outreach series #4 also has commenced. The event will be held on Thursday, August 2, 2012, and will be an open house format. The event time and location are still to be determined.

## **Planning Team Updates**

At the direction of the MPO Executive Committee, the fundamental role of RDG Planning + Design has shifted from one of primarily sub-consultant/advisor to Sasaki to one of managing and coordinating the project in direct association with the MPO. The planning team is also seeking additional business community representation on the project steering committee.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

## **STAFF CONTACT:**

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## **BEST PRACTICES SCENARIO**

### **Approach and Outline – May 22, 2012**

The Best Practices Scenario simulates the impacts of a range of high-priority best management practices (BMPs) at the regional scale.

The best practices chosen for the scenario have been drawn from priorities articulated by HUD for the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Program and narrowed via multiple rounds of feedback and deliberation. This includes input from the project committees, outreach sessions, the project website, MindMixer, and the advice of the consultant team. It is important to note that this scenario cannot, and should not, include all best practices. The goal is to model those BMPs that are most critical and will have the biggest impact at the regional scale.

There are two ways that the selected BMPs will be included in the scenario. Those labeled “MODEL” will be included explicitly within the GIS model and appear spatially on maps. The rest of the BMPs are labeled “NON-MODEL” and will appear in supporting documentation. The non-modeled components are external to the GIS either because they are non-spatial, do not manifest themselves at the regional scale, or are infeasible to model given the project time-frame.

BMPs for the scenario are grouped by thematic categories:

- **Protect critical ecological areas and expand parks and conservation**
  1. MODEL – Strengthen protections on critical ecological areas. Examples include increasing the buffer on riparian areas.
  2. MODEL – Add new parks and conservation land. Vacant properties will be converted when appropriate. Items #1 and #2 are collectively referred to as the Conservation Overlay.
- **Improve water management**
  1. MODEL – In this scenario, we assume that new—and some existing—construction will incorporate stormwater management BMPs. We will factor this in as a mitigating force when calculating the impact of scenario development on watershed health as an indicator.
  2. NON-MODEL – Memo on stormwater BMPs



- **Better use for vacant properties**
  1. MODEL – Guide development toward vacant properties wherever appropriate to increase infill and capitalize on underutilized properties near the urban core.
  2. MODEL – Some vacant properties will be converted to parks
  3. NON-MODEL – Memo on infill policies and mechanisms
  
- **Cultivate sites for regional economic agglomeration**
  1. MODEL – Design commercial and high density residential allocation around agglomeration points that are coordinated with transportation planning. The areas will concentrate mutually reinforcing land uses, maximize public transportation opportunities, and be more sustainable than the pervasive pattern of linear, low-density strip development.
  2. NON-MODEL – Memo on economic agglomeration
  
- **Increase transit options**
  1. MODEL – Add BRT routes with stops
  2. MODEL – Increase probability of development in the CBD and Ankeny due to an assumed increase in inter-regional connectivity (for example, Amtrak and bus service to Ames)
  3. NON-MODEL – Memos on regional road network connectivity, inter-regional connectivity, Travel Demand Management, mode share, and parking
  
- **Housing diversity and affordability**
  1. MODEL – Multiple housing types will be present across the region, including a greater share of high density, urban housing, much of which will occur near transit and agglomeration nodes. New housing development will be contiguous with existing development, rather than scattered in a “leap-frog” pattern.
  2. NON-MODEL – Memos on affordable housing and housing diversity

# Agenda Report

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

June 2012  
Item No. 14

## ISSUE: Transportation Management Association Update

INFORMATION: Report of the Transportation Management Association's (TMA) Commuter Club program performance through April 2012 and other recent activities.

## BACKGROUND:

The TMA's Commuter Club program, formerly known as Rest Your Car, is a volunteer-based program that allows commuters to track trips made using alternatives to single-occupant vehicles.

### Commuter Club Performance through April 2012

	Jan. 2012	Feb. 2012	March 2012	April 2012	April 2011	Year to Date 2012	Year to Date 2011
Total Miles Reported	466,052	363,281	365,764	321,366	490,488	1,516,463	1,853,558
Total Reports Made	22,916	17,358	18,896	16,692	25,142	75,862	93,326
Total Unique Persons Reporting	915	792	658	617	1,053	2,982	3,702
Average Miles/Report	72.89	41.86	38.71	38.51	74.87	49.71	75.79
New Members	28	33	30	18	71	109	199

Source: Transportation Management Association, 2012.

The TMA staff also has been involved with the following activities:

- Hosted the Iowa Department of Transportation's Passenger Rail Advisory Committee meeting on April 19, 2012;
- Partnered with DART, the MPO, and the Des Moines Bicycle Collective to promote Active Transportation information tables in major downtown cafeterias over lunch in March, April, and May;
- Promotion of Bike Month;
- Provided an information booth at the May 12<sup>th</sup> Downtown Farmers Market for National Train Day and in support of the Chicago-Omaha Regional Passenger Rail Train Study; and,
- On May 24, 2012, hosted a breakfast meeting regarding passenger rail with John Robert Smith, former Mayor of Meridian, Mississippi, and current CEO of a Washington-based non-profit called Reconnecting America.

## RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

## STAFF CONTACT:

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