

NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Environment Roundtable

—
1:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Conference Room
TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. **Introductions**
2. **REPORT: Proposed amendments to [Mobilizing Tomorrow](#): Veterans Parkway**
 - The City of West Des Moines announced that Microsoft has committed to building a third data center in West Des Moines. This announcement has accelerated the development of Veterans Parkway that when completed, in conjunction with the development of Grand Prairie Parkway, will connect I-80 to Iowa Highway 5. West Des Moines is estimating that it will spend around \$75 million on infrastructure including the development of the roadway and utility expansion. West Des Moines expects the corridor to be open to traffic by 2019. Currently, the plan lists Veterans Parkway project as an illustrative project. The amendment will move the project into the fiscally constrained project list for the 2015-2024 timeframe.
3. **UPDATE: Des Moines Area Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership**
 - Staff from the Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge will be present to discuss the partnership that is in formation. More information about Urban Refuge Partnerships, a program of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, can be found [here](#).
4. **DISCUSSION: Legislative Agenda: MPO and other community agendas**
 - The MPO staff annually works with MPO member governments and participating agencies to develop a list of priority transportation projects to discuss with congressional members during the Greater Des Moines Partnership's (GDMP) annual trip to Washington, D.C.. Often the federal legislative agenda also translate to state legislative strategies.
 - This year the MPO is taking a wider consideration of submissions to include policy priorities, not just priority projects.
 - Staff from the MPO wants to gather legislative priorities from Environment Roundtable organizations and gather feedback for potential submissions for the MPO agenda.
5. **DISCUSSION: Evolution of the Environment Roundtable**
 - A discussion regarding how this roundtable can continue to support the work of the MPO as well as support regional environmental strategies including water trails, greenways, green infrastructure, etc.
6. **REPORT & DISCUSSION: MPO Mini-workshop**
 - The MPO has drafted a list possible short workshops to offer area city councils, planning and zoning, chambers, etc. Staff welcomes review and feedback on the menu of options it plans to present to the community in January. See menu attached to the email.
7. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
8. **VOTE: Next Meeting Date**
 - December 13, 2016, at 1:00 PM, Des Moines Area MPO office.
9. **Adjournment**