

NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Executive Committee

11:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2016
Des Moines Area MPO Mead Conference Room

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. **Call To Order**
2. **VOTE: Approval of Agenda**
3. **VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**..... Page 2
 - Approve the October 12, 2016, meeting minutes.
4. **REPORT and VOTE: Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan** Page 5
 - Final presentation of the Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan; consider approval.
5. **REPORT and VOTE: Mobilizing Tomorrow Amendment** Page 6
 - Report discussion on the amendment to *Mobilizing Tomorrow* regarding the City of West Des Moines' Veterans Parkway project; consider approval.
6. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program Applications**..... Page 10
 - Report on Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program applications; consider approval.
7. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Request** Page 11
 - Report regarding the City of Urbandale and Iowa DOT's request to amend the *Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program*; consider approval.
8. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Federal Functional Classification System Changes** Page 12
 - Report on the process to request changes to the MPO's Federal Functional Classification (FFC) System.
9. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Calendar Year 2017 Meeting Dates**..... Page 13
 - Report on the proposed meeting dates in Calendar Year 2017 for the MPO's Executive Committee; consider approval.
10. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: DART Federal Funding Transfer Request**..... Page 15
 - Report on DART's request to transfer federal funding; consider approval.
11. **REPORT: Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan Implementation**..... Page 16
 - Report and discussion on implementation of the *Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways plan*.
12. **REPORT: Critical Urban Freight Corridors**..... Page 17
 - Review current and proposed National Highway Freight Network Roadways.
13. **REPORT: Complete Streets Tactical Starts Update** Page 19
 - Report on the progress of the Complete Streets Initiative and the Tactical Starts program.
14. **REPORT: Strategic Agenda for Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation**..... Page 20
 - Report on the recently released FHWA Strategic Agenda and relevant resources.
15. **REPORT: Annual Transit Statistics** Page 21
 - Report summarizing transit performance measures in the MPO planning area.
16. **REPORT: Upcoming Events** Page 22
17. **VOTE: Approval of the MPO Agenda**
18. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
19. **Next Meeting Date – December 7, 2016, at 11:30 a.m.**
20. **Adjournment**

The established protocol for minutes of this meeting will be to list all attendees, and with each item on which a vote is conducted in the ordinary course in order to take formal action, those voting nay or abstaining will be identified by name. Any member who is absent from the meeting for any period of time during which a vote of the body is taken, is expected to notify the recording secretary at the conclusion of the meeting so that the absence can be duly noted in the minutes. Roll Call votes will be taken as required by law or upon the request of any member that is approved by the chair, and the vote of each member for or against the proposition, or abstention, will be incorporated in the minutes or recorded on a separate sheet attached to the minutes.

The MPO receives federal funding and may not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint form, visit www.dnampo.org/title-vi/ or call 515-334-0075.

November 2016
Item No. 3

ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Consider approval of the October 12, 2016, MPO Executive Committee meeting minutes.

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the October 12, 2016, MPO Executive Committee meeting are included on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the October 12, 2016, MPO Executive Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

MEETING MINUTES
Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Executive Committee
11:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 12, 2016
Des Moines Area MPO | Mead Conference Room

The MPO Executive Committee held a meeting at 11:30 a.m. on October 12, 2016, in the MPO Conference Room. Before the meeting, the MPO staff emailed agenda packets to the MPO Executive August 4, 2016. **The new fiscal year publication costs are undetermined at this time. In addition to these published tentative minutes, there also may be additional meeting notes on file with the MPO staff that are public records and available upon request as provided by law. These tentative minutes reflect all action taken at the meeting.**

Executive Members Present:

Joe Gatto | City of Des Moines
Ruth Randleman | City of Carlisle
Tom Armstrong | City of Grimes
Steven Gaer | City of West Des Moines
Chris Coleman | City of Des Moines

Executive Members Absent:

Tom Hockensmith | Polk County
Angela Connolly | Polk County

Staff Present:

Dylan Mullenix | Assistant Director
Zach Young | Principal Planner
Teva Dawson | Senior Planner
Andrew Collings | Associate Planner
Mike Armstrong | Associate Planner
Tracey Deckard | Office Manager
Gunnar Olson | Communications Manager

Others Present:

Clifford Leonard | Public
Mike Clayton | IDOT

** Non-voting Representative

1. Call to Order

MPO Vice Chair Tom Armstrong called the October 12, 2016, meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the October 12, 2016, Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Executive Committee meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the September 7, 2016 Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Executive Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Mobilizing Tomorrow Amendments

Staff presented. Discussion ensued

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the amendments to the Mobilizing Tomorrow to include the Veterans Parkway project and the downtown Des Moines bridge project to *Mobilizing Tomorrow*.

MOTION CARRIED

5. **Strategic plan Request for Qualifications**
 Staff presented. Discussion ensued.
MOTION: A motion was made to approve the RFQ and to choose various steering committee members to serve on a selection committee to determine the finalists.
MOTION CARRIED

6. **Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Request**
 Staff presented. Discussion ensued.
MOTION: A motion was made to approve The City of Johnston's request revisions to the FFY 2017-2020 TIP
MOTION CARRIED

7. **Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG Program Schedule**
 Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

8. **Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan**
 Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

9. **Mobilizing Tomorrow Annual Report**
 Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

10. **Upcoming Events**
 Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

11. **Approval of MPO Agenda**
MOTION: A motion was made to approve the MPO Agenda as amended.
MOTION CARRIED

12. **Other Non-Action Items**
 Vice Chair Armstrong advised of the presentation in Grimes regarding the NW Corridor and Mike Clayton discussed the upcoming public hearing regarding Rider Corner.

13. **Adjournment**
 Hearing no objection to the contrary, Vice Chair Tom Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

November 2016
Item No. 4

ISSUE: Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan

REPORT and VOTE: Final presentation of the Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization developed the Greater Des Moines Water Trails & Greenways Plan on behalf of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. When approved, the plan will become the first regional roadmap for developing an abundant network of water recreation for 150 miles of the region's creeks and rivers, including places for tubing, birding, hiking, paddling, boating, fishing and more. The plan covers the Des Moines, Raccoon, South Skunk, North and Middle rivers, as well as Beaver, Fourmile, Mud and Walnut creeks.

- Recommendations in the plan include:
- Improved access for anglers, paddlers, tubers, birders and families
- Branding a network of regional parks along the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers
- Greenway development through protection of the 100 year floodplain
- Additional soft trails and paved trail connections
- Expanded programming and events along and in the river and creeks
- Activating the Des Moines River in downtown Des Moines through dam mitigation, shoreline improvements and other amenities
- Shoreline restoration, quarry restoration and watershed improvements
- Regional coordination across government entities and user groups
- Economic development nodes
- Historic preservation and interpretation
- Expansion of multi-modal options for river engagement

[The booklets for each river segment are available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider approval of the final Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan.

STAFF CONTACT:

Teva Dawson, tdawson@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 5

ISSUE: *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Amendment

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of the amendment to *Mobilizing Tomorrow* regarding the City of West Des Moines' Veterans Parkway project.

BACKGROUND:

At its October 20, 2016, meeting, the MPO Policy Committee discussed the proposed amendment and ultimately voted to send the item back to the Executive Committee for further discussion. Included below is a summary of issues for the Executive Committee to consider in its discussion.

Project Overview

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.

Reason for Amendment

In September, the MPO staff proposed amending *Mobilizing Tomorrow* to move the Veterans Parkway project from *Mobilizing Tomorrow's* illustrative project list into the fiscally constrained project list. Staff recommended adding the project after consulting with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). FHWA noted that regardless of the funding source used to construct the project, Veterans Parkway is a major regional project that will impact regional travel movements. Therefore, the project should be in the fiscally constrained plan to comply with US Code, which states that an MPO's long-range transportation plan shall include "existing and proposed transportation facilities...giving emphasis to those facilities that serve important national and regional transportation functions."

Fiscally-Constrained vs. Illustrative Project Lists

Mobilizing Tomorrow has two types of project lists – a fiscally-constrained list and an illustrative list – in accordance with US Code. The fiscally-constrained list includes projects for which adequate funding has been identified through the long-range plan's required financial plan. In the case of *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, the financial plan considered future Surface Transportation Funds (STP) anticipated for the MPO and the local match required from member communities. The practice for the MPO has been that should additional unanticipated funds be made available for a project, such as a TIGER grant, a project can be amended into the fiscally-constrained list.

For illustrative purposes, the long-range plan can include a list of projects for which additional resources have not been identified. It is in this list that the Veterans Parkway project currently resides. Projects in the illustrative list are not eligible for STP funds through the MPO.

[*Mobilizing Tomorrow's* project lists and the methodology used to select projects can be found on the MPO's website \(click here to access to relevant chapter of the plan\).](#)

Veterans Parkway/Southwest Connector Projects in Mobilizing Tomorrow

The Veterans Parkway/Southwest Connector corridor is broken into several projects in Mobilizing Tomorrow. All project segments are currently in the illustrative project list. For the Veterans Parkway section, these include projects to add the initial lanes as well as projects to later widen the roadway, as shown in the table below. The map on the following page illustrates these project segments.

ID	Sponsor	Project	Termini 1	Termini 2	Description	Cost (YOE)	Year
289	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 2	IA 28	Park Ave	Add 4 lanes	\$81,815,000	2050
290	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 3	Park Ave	SW 30th St	Add 4 lanes	\$64,033,000	2050
291	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 1	SW 30th St	W of SW 9th	Add 4 lanes	\$71,324,000	2050
448	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	IA 5	S 35th Street	Add 3 lanes	\$10,265,000	2034
449	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 35th Street	S 50th Street	Add 3 lanes	\$14,227,000	2034
450	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 50th Street	S 60th Street	Add 2 lanes	\$36,559,000	2034
451	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 60th Street	S 105th Street	Add 2 lanes	\$9,064,000	2050
452	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	IA 5	S 35th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$6,665,000	2050
453	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 35th Street	S 50th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$14,396,000	2050
454	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 50th Street	S 60th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$15,195,000	2050
455	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 60th Street	S 105th Street	Widen 2 lanes of 4 lanes	\$34,922,000	2050
456	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	I-35		Add Interchange	\$88,506,000	2050
457	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	I-35		Interchange Improvements	\$26,392,000	2050
458	West Des Moines	Veterans Parkway	S 105th Street	I-80	Add 2 lanes	\$180,477,000	2050

Public Comment – Impacts to the Great Western Trail

The MPO hosted a public meeting on October 11, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. to receive input and comments on the amendments. On October 19, 2016, the MPO staff received a letter from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation expressing their concerns over the use of the Great Western Trail right-of-way for the Veterans Parkway corridor. Staff shared this letter with the Policy Committee at their October 20, 2016, meeting.

On October 26, 2016, the Warren County Conservation Board sent a letter to several entities, including the MPO, regarding the Great Western Trail that expresses concerns with potential impacts to the Great Western Trail.

[Both letters can be found on the MPO's website \(click here to access\).](#)

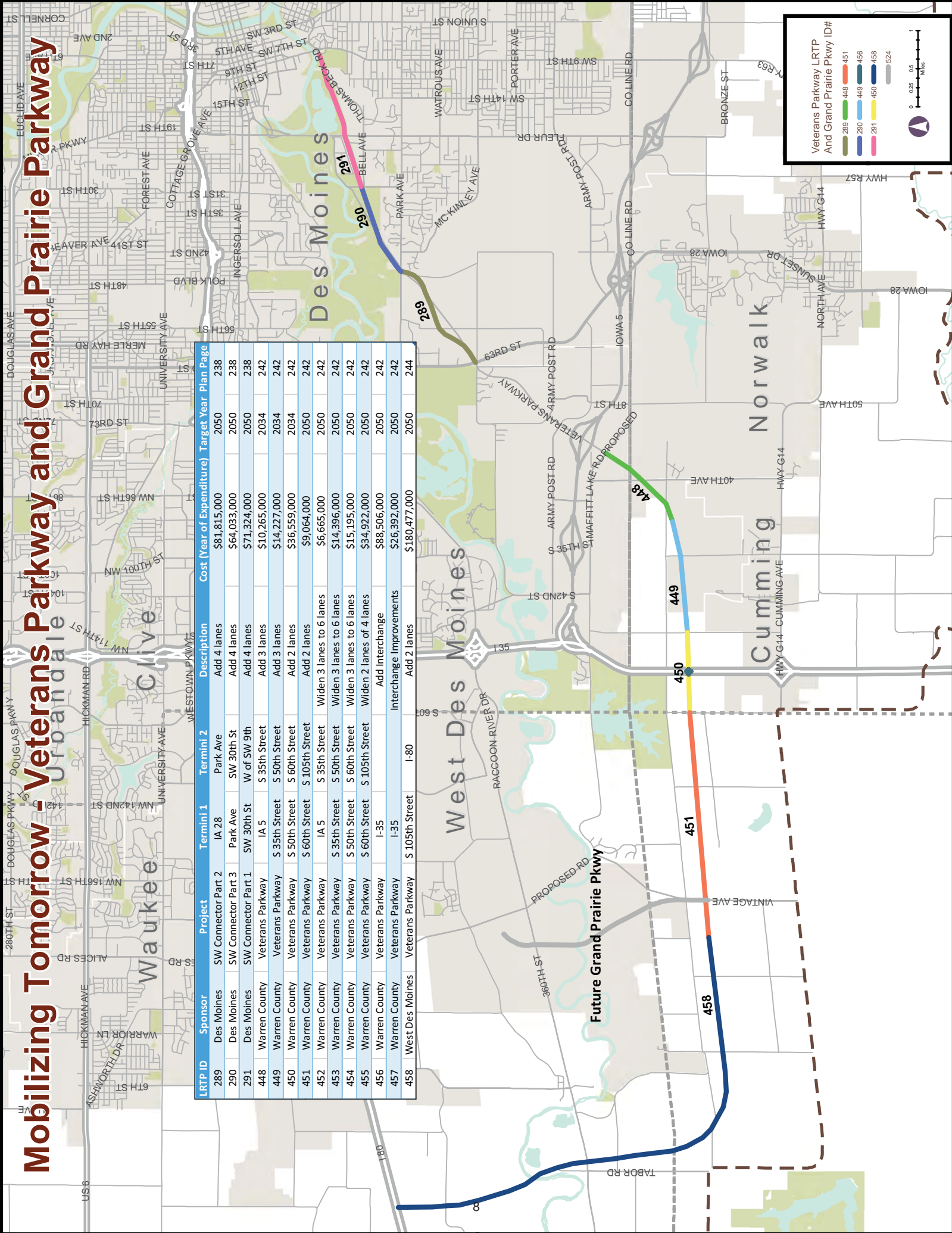
Mobilizing Tomorrow - Veterans Parkway and Grand Prairie Parkway and Grand Prairie Parkway

L RTP ID	Sponsor	Project	Termini 1	Termini 2	Description	Cost (Year of Expenditure)	Target Year	Plan Page
289	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 2	IA 28	Park Ave	Add 4 lanes	\$81,815,000	2050	238
290	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 3	Park Ave	SW 30th St	Add 4 lanes	\$64,033,000	2050	238
291	Des Moines	SW Connector Part 1	SW 30th St	W of SW 9th	Add 4 lanes	\$71,324,000	2050	238
448	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	IA 5	S 35th Street	Add 3 lanes	\$10,265,000	2034	242
449	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 35th Street	S 50th Street	Add 3 lanes	\$14,227,000	2034	242
450	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 50th Street	S 60th Street	Add 2 lanes	\$36,559,000	2034	242
451	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 60th Street	S 105th Street	Add 2 lanes	\$9,064,000	2050	242
452	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	IA 5	S 35th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$6,665,000	2050	242
453	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 35th Street	S 50th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$14,396,000	2050	242
454	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 50th Street	S 60th Street	Widen 3 lanes to 6 lanes	\$15,195,000	2050	242
455	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	S 60th Street	S 105th Street	Widen 2 lanes of 4 lanes	\$34,922,000	2050	242
456	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	I-35		Add interchange	\$88,506,000	2050	242
457	Warren County	Veterans Parkway	I-35		Interchange Improvements	\$26,392,000	2050	242
458	West Des Moines	Veterans Parkway	S 105th Street	I-80	Add 2 lanes	\$180,477,000	2050	244

Veterans Parkway L RTP
And Grand Prairie Pkwy ID#

- 289
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Miles



RECOMMENDATION:

MPO staff recommends that *Mobilizing Tomorrow* projects 448, 449, 450, and 451 be added to the fiscally-constrained project list.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 6

ISSUE: Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program Applications

REPORT: Consider approval of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018 *Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program Applications*.

BACKGROUND:

Member governments submitted letters of intent for the following Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program project applications:

- Ankeny – Traffic Signal System Timings and Coordination Update;
- Des Moines – Traffic Signal Systems Timings Update – Phase 2;
- DART – Wi-Fi Access on DART Vanpools with Marketing Campaign;
- Pleasant Hill – Adaptive Traffic Control System – University Avenue/Iowa 163;
- Waukee – Alice's Road & US 6/Hickman Road Intersection Improvements; and,
- West Des Moines – Adaptive Traffic Signal Control – 60th Street, 68th Street, & EP True Parkway.

The MPO staff acknowledges that each of the sponsor's proposed project(s) or program(s) conforms to the MPO's transportation planning process, *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, and the *Congestion Management Process*. **ICAAP applications are due to the MPO by 4:30 pm, November 1, 2016.** The MPO staff will review all ICAAP applications and submit the applications to the Iowa DOT by the December 1, 2016, deadline.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the MPO submit a formal resolution for the FFY 2018 ICAAP project applications and submit the project applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

November 2016
Item No. 7

ISSUE: *Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Request*

REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Consider approval of the City of Urbandale and Iowa DOT's request to amend the *Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program*.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Urbandale and the Iowa DOT have requested the following revisions to the *Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2017-2020 TIP):

Sponsor: City of Urbandale

Project: In the City of Urbandale, Meredith Drive Reconstruction: From 128th Street to 142nd Street

Federal Aid Amount: \$700,000

Total Cost: \$4,510,000

Type of Funding: STBG Program

Change: Change project description to "On Meredith from APX 400ft W of 142nd to 128th and 142nd from APX 500ft S of Meredith to APX 1300ft N of Meredith". Urbandale requested this change because the description needed to be updated to accommodate approach work that will take place slightly beyond the original project termini.

Sponsor: Iowa DOT

Project: On I-80 100th St Interchange, from East of US Highway 141 to West of 86th Street

Federal Aid Amount: FFY 17: \$3,911,000, FFY 18: \$4,771,000

Total Cost: FFY 17: \$4,346,000, FFY 18: \$5,301,000

Type of Funding: NHPP, DEMO

Change: Add project to the TIP.

[A map showing the location of the projects is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

The MPO staff notes that amendments to the TIP are subject to the approval of the MPO and a public comment period. The public will have a chance to comment at the November 17, 2016, Policy Committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the requested revisions to the FFY 2017-2020 TIP.

STAFF CONTACT:

Andrew Collings, acollings@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 8

ISSUE: Federal Functional Classification System Changes

REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Consider approval of amendments requested by member communities.

BACKGROUND:

The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) accepts modification requests to the FFC System, which is the system that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) uses to classify roads, on a yearly basis. The FFC System is also tied directly to the Federal-aid Highway System and to eligibility for Federal transportation funding. For local communities to submit proposed changes to the FFC System, a request must be made to the MPO for approval.

The MPO solicited proposed changes in 2015. After accepting applications, the Iowa DOT reviewed them and worked with applicants to ensure that their proposals would meet Iowa DOT and Federal guidelines. Proposed changes, with the Iowa DOT go-ahead, received by staff can be found by clicking the link below. Currently Norwalk, Urbandale, and Warren County have completed their applications.

[A list and map of the proposed changes can be found on the MPO website \(click here to access\).](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of proposed changes to the FFC system.

STAFF CONTACT:

Andrew Collings, acollings@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 9

ISSUE: Calendar Year 2017 Meeting Dates

REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Report on the proposed meeting dates in Calendar Year 2017 for the MPO's Transportation Technical Committee; consider approval.

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 2017 MPO meeting schedule.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the meeting dates for Calendar Year 2017.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

MPO COMMITTEE 2017 MEETING DATES

TTC COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 5
Thursday, February 2
Thursday, March 2
Thursday, April 6
Thursday, May 4
Thursday, June 1
Thursday, July 6
Thursday, August 3
Thursday, September 7
Thursday, October 5
Thursday, November 2
Thursday, December 7

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 11
Wednesday, February 8
Wednesday, March 8
Wednesday, April 12
Wednesday, May 10
Wednesday, June 7
Wednesday, July 12
Wednesday, August 9
Wednesday, September 13
Wednesday, October 11
Wednesday, November 8
Wednesday, December 13

POLICY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 19
Thursday, February 16
<i>No Meeting</i>
Thursday, April 20
Thursday, May 18
Thursday, June 15
<i>No Meeting</i>
Thursday, August 17
Thursday, September 21
Thursday, October 19
Thursday, November 16
<i>No Meeting</i>

****MPO Executive and Policy Committee approved the elimination of Policy meetings in March, July and December**

November 2016
Item No. 10

ISSUE: DART Federal Funding Transfer Request

REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Report on DART's request to transfer federal funding; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

DART annually submits a request to the MPO to transfer Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds from the Federal Highway Administration to the Federal Transit Administration and into DART's FTA grant.

[DART's letter requesting the transfer is located on the MPO's website \(click to access\).](#)

Following the MPO's approval at the November meeting, staff will send a letter to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Office of Public Transit requesting that DART expend \$900,000 in STBG funds in Federal Fiscal Year 2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the MPO approve DART's request for the transfer of \$900,000 in STBG funds to expend in Federal Fiscal Year 2017.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

November 2016
Item No. 11

ISSUE: *Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan Implementation*

REPORT: Report and discussion on implementation steps for the Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways plan.

BACKGROUND:

In cooperation with several community partners, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is preparing for the first phase of implementing the Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways Plan (the plan). Implementation support will have a two-pronged approach: 1) Commissioning the Water Trails Engineering Study and 2) establishing organizational support for regional coordination of implementation.

Water Trails Engineering Study – is being funded through a public-private partnership in order to identify project cost-estimates, strategies, and priorities for implementation. The Engineering Study is the first step of implementing the plan, which envisions an abundant network of water recreation for 150 miles of the region’s creeks and rivers, including places for tubing, birding, hiking, paddling, boating, and fishing, the establishment of area greenways, floodplain protection and improved habitat. The plan covers the Des Moines, Raccoon, South Skunk, North and Middle rivers, as well as Beaver, Fourmile, Mud and Walnut creeks.

The Engineering Study will take the first steps in assessing the recreational potential of activating the rivers in downtown Des Moines. Creating a safe and vibrant downtown river system is the linchpin project for the water trails network. Creating amenities for tubing, river surfing, whitewater rafting and urban fishing in downtown Des Moines will serve as a key quality of life amenity for residents of the region and destination development spurring a new tourism attraction. Within this potential, we know there are significant challenges that need to be assessed including two large dams, high levees, erratic flows of water from Saylorville and historic structures. To fully recognize the potential based on the many considerations that will need to be studied, engineers need to be engaged.

Organizational support of the implementation of the Greater Des Moines Water Trails and Greenways plan includes administration of the Engineering Study, coordination and communication among land managers and user groups, work with community partners to develop and implementation branding and marketing campaigns, and support local efforts to implemented best practices with design and construction of new amenities.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Todd Ashby, tashby@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075.

November 2016
Item No. 12

ISSUE: Critical Urban Freight Corridors

REPORT: Review current and proposed National Highway Freight Network Roadways.

BACKGROUND:

The Iowa DOT is currently working towards identifying Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFCs) and Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs), which are two components of the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN).

NHFN components

1. Primary highway freight system (includes I-35 and I-80 in Iowa, as well as FHWA intermodal connectors)
2. **Critical rural freight corridors**
3. **Critical urban freight corridors**
4. Portions of the Interstate System not designated as part of the Primary highway freight system

The overall NHFN is the network eligible for funding allocated to the State as part of the FAST Act National Highway Freight Program. The table below shows the total amount of funding Iowa will receive over the next five years to for use on the NHFN. It is worth noting that up to 10 percent of the annual allocation is eligible for intermodal projects off the highway system.

	Apportionment
FY2016	\$14,373,417.00
FY2017	\$13,748,486.00
FY2018	\$14,998,347.00
FY2019	\$16,873,141.00
FY2020	\$18,747,935.00

Exercise for the MPO to complete:

1. Review the attached MPO freight facilities map.
2. Identify any missing freight-generating facilities in the region.
3. Verify Intermodal Connectors are still legitimate (if applicable) and the facility being connected to the Interstate System is still operating. For more information on the FHWA Intermodal Connectors, visit http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/national_highway_system/intermodal_connectors/

Facility	Type	Connector	Connector Ownership
Des Moines International Airport	Airport	Fleur Dr between ML King Jr. Parkway and relocated Iowa 5	Local
Des Moines International Airport	Airport	Park Ave (63rd to Fleur Dr)	Local
Vandalia Rd Pipeline, Des Moines (Pleasant Hill)	Truck/Pipeline terminal	E. 30th St/Vandalia Rd (Iowa 163 to U.S. 65)	Local

4. Propose roadways that connect to the NHFN to be considered for designation as CUFCs in the MPO (include total centerline mileage of the proposed routes). Send a prioritized corridor list that includes a mileage table and map showing these recommended routes.

[A map provided by the Iowa DOT with the existing National Highway Freight Network is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Andrew Collings, acollings@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 13

ISSUE: Complete Streets Tactical Starts Update

REPORT: Report on the progress of the Complete Streets Initiative and the Tactical Starts program funded by the Wellmark Foundation.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015 the MPO was awarded \$75,000 by the Wellmark Foundation through the Matching Assets to Community Health (MATCH) grant program. The MPO used this grant funding to offer a one-time Complete Streets Tactical Starts program, which offered small grants up to \$15,000 to implement street design changes to further complete streets in their community.

The six projects selected are:

- University Avenue Public Spaces and Amenities – City of Windsor Heights
- South 5th St. Complete Streets – City of Carlisle
- 6th Ave. Corridor Trail Connection – 6th Avenue Corridor
- NW 60th Ave. Trail Crossing and Extension – City of Johnston
- Des Moines BCycle Complete Streets Expansion – Des Moines Bike Collective
- Ingersoll Ave. Bike Corrals – Ingersoll and Grand Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District

Staff will update the committee on the progress of these projects and the overall Complete Streets Initiative.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Mike Armstrong, marmstrong@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2016
Item No. 14

ISSUE: Strategic Agenda for Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation

REPORT: Report on the recently released Federal Highway Administration Strategic Agenda and relevant resources.

BACKGROUND:

This Strategic Agenda will inform the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) pedestrian and bicycle activities in the next 3 to 5 years and is organized around four goals: (1) Networks, (2) Safety, (3) Equity, and (4) Trips. Each goal includes actions relating to (a) Capacity Building, (b) Policy, (c) Data, and (d) Research. The Strategic Agenda will inform future investments, policies, and partnerships and serves as the update to DOT's 1994 *National Bicycling and Walking Study*.

[The FHWA Strategic Agenda is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

Staff will present on the Agenda and highlight some new resources available through FHWA and others that provide further guidance including:

- [Achieving Multimodal Networks: Applying Design Flexibility and Reducing Conflicts](#)
- [Incorporating On-Road Bicycle Networks into Resurfacing Projects](#)
- [Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide](#)
- [PEDBIKESAFE Online tools](#)
- [Quick Builds for Better Streets: A New Project Delivery Model for U.S. Cities](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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November 2016
Item No. 15

ISSUE: Annual Transit Statistics

REPORT: Report summarizing the Mobilizing Tomorrow performance measures for transit in the MPO planning area.

BACKGROUND:

Mobilizing Tomorrow identifies three measures to monitor the performance of transit as part of the multimodal transportation network in the Greater Des Moines area. Utilizing data provided by the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) for fiscal year 2016, the MPO staff has prepared a report comparing updated and base year data from *Mobilizing Tomorrow*.

Additionally, the report highlights several recommendations included in the recently released draft of *DART Forward 2035 Update*. The draft plan identifies potential service changes that would increase the frequency, access, and availability of service while also providing improved ridership experience and flexibility.

[The transit performance report is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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November 2016
Item No. 16

ISSUE: Upcoming Events

REPORT: Report on upcoming events of regional interest.

BACKGROUND:

Staff will highlight upcoming events, trainings and other opportunities of interest to representatives of MPO member governments.

- Thursday, November 10 – **David Fields** of Nelson Nygaard will speak walkability outside of the downtown context. [More information is available on the MPO website \(click here to access\).](#)
- Friday, December 16 – **Daniel Parolek** will speak on the “missing middle” of housing as part of The Tomorrow Plan 2016 Speaker Series at the Age-Friendly Greater Des Moines Annual Report to the Community. Event to be held at Des Moines University. Additional details to be announced soon.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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