

MEETING MINUTES

**Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Transportation Technical Committee Planning Subcommittee
10:00 a.m., Monday, April 18, 2016
Des Moines Area MPO Meeting Mead Conference Room
Des Moines, Iowa**

Members Present:

David Wilwerding, City of Johnston
Ben Champ, City of Pleasant Hill
Bret VandeLune, Polk County
Brad Deets, City of Waukee
Kara Tragesser, City of West Des Moines

Members Absent:

Jim Tishim, DART
Mike Ludwig, City of Des Moines

Others Present:

Staff Present:

Dylan Mullenix, Assistant Director
Zach Young, Principal Planner
Teva Dawson, Senior Planner
Gunnar Olson, Communications Manager

1. Call to Order

Chair Ben Champ called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Subcommittee members voted to approve the meeting agenda.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee members voted to approve the March 21, 2016, meeting minutes.

4. Comprehensive Plan Standards

Staff noted that over the past few weeks several representatives from member governments have approach staff with concerns over the deliverables provided by consultants during comprehensive plan updates. Specifically the lack of GIS files. This creates a challenge when MPO staff is trying to use these files for regional efforts.

Brett VandeLune noted that this could be added as a basic standard to the comprehensive plan RFP to include GIS files for all the mapping. Mr. Champ agreed that this should be a basic requirement.

Staff agreed to develop some basic language for communities to include in their comprehensive plan RFP.

5. Fiscal Impact Model

Staff noted that the City of Clive approached them with a request to develop a fiscal impact model for central Iowa communities to use to help make better development decisions.

Mr. Champ asked if Clive had a specific angle for making this request. Staff noted that they have scheduled a meeting with Clive next week.

Discussion ensued regarding fiscal impact models and how they might be used in the Des Moines region.

Staff noted that they would continue to investigate fiscal impact models and report back at a future meeting.

6. Flexible Design Standards

Staff updated the committee on the Flexible Design Standards document that staff developed for the Iowa Chapter of the Urban Land Institute. Staff noted that the document compares street design manuals for how well they address walkability. Staff noted that recently the document has come under some scrutiny by the SUDAS director and the City of Des Moines engineering department.

Staff went on to describe the document and the concerns expressed by the SUDAS and the City of Des Moines engineering department. Staff noted that a meeting is scheduled for next week with the SUDAS director and City of Des Moines engineering staff.

Discussion ensued regarding the various different design manuals.

Mr. Vandelune requested that staff go through the document and discuss each item. Staff reviewed each item in the document describing how each element impacts street design and walkability.

Discussion ensued regarding the various different elements included in the document.

7. Other Non-Action Items of Interest

8. Next Meeting Date

June 20, 2016, at 10:05 a.m.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:1 a.m.