

MEETING MINUTES

**Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Transportation Technical Committee Engineering Subcommittee
1:30 p.m., Monday, June 20, 2016
Des Moines Area MPO Meeting Mead Conference Room
Des Moines, Iowa**

Members Present:

Jon Hanson, City of Altoona
Jeff May, City of Clive
Jennifer McCoy, City of Des Moines
Dave Cubit, City of Johnston
Kurt Bailey, Polk County
Joe Cory, City of West Des Moines

Members Absent:

Dave McKay, City of Urbandale

Staff Present:

Todd Ashby, Executive Director
Gunnar Olson, Communications Manager
Marcus Coenen, Associate Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

Dave Cubit called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Subcommittee members voted to approve the meeting agenda.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee members voted to approve the April 18, 2016, meeting minutes.

4. Travel Demand Model Validation and Analysis Appendix

Staff provided an overview of the proposed Travel Demand Model Validation and Analysis appendix to add to *Mobilizing Tomorrow*.

Kurt Bailey noted that there is not much difference between the build and no-build scenarios regarding level of service. Staff acknowledge the truth in Mr. Bailey's statement. Staff noted that while level of service stays relatively the same, vehicle miles traveled increase in some cases.

Mr. Cubit asked how the analysis factors in population growth. Staff noted that population growth was estimated for 2020 and this estimate was held constant between the build and no-build scenarios.

Staff noted the final draft of the appendix would be voted on at the Policy Committee meeting in August 2016.

5. Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program

Staff noted that Stephanie Weisenbach with the Iowa Clean Cities Coalition approach staff to discuss how Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program funds might be used to support electric vehicle charging stations in key locations in the region.

Ms. Weisenbach wanted the committee to discuss locations in the region that would make sense for stations and discuss the possibility of Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) being a lead applicant and creating a mini-grant program.

Ms. McCoy stated that in her opinion it would be better for the MPO and IEDA to encourage and support applications from local governments. Staff noted that the investment would be to study locations and that the actual installation would happen at the local level.

Mr. Bailey asked if ICAAP would fund the study. Staff confirmed that the idea is to apply for ICAAP funding for the mini-grant program.

Discussion ensued regarding what impact electric charging stations would have on improving air quality.

Ms. McCoy noted that Des Moines has been applying for ICAAP for signal timing on corridors and this is the Cities priority over using that funding stream for electric charging stations.

Staff agreed that they would bring back more information at the July meeting on Iowa Clean Cities Coalition's intent with pursuing ICAAP funding.

6. Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds

Staff informed the committee about the Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds as an available revenue source. Staff noted that to be eligible a city has to be over 100,000 people.

Staff provided a packet of information to Ms. McCoy to take back to Des Moines for their review.

7. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee

Ms. McCoy shared her concerns regarding the Crash Report that was developed by the MPO and presented at the June Technical Committee meeting. Ms. McCoy noted that some of the best practices contradict the FHWA standards and puts the City in a difficult position.

Ms. McCoy noted there are lots of other things that improve safety including signal timing, adding pedestrian count-down timers, adding flashing yellow arrows, roadway widening to lesson congestion, improved roadway lighting, installation of turn lanes. Ms. McCoy requested that the last page either be expanded to include a wider variety of

tools or gets removed because the crash information is the most important and the piece on the back is more subjective.

Jeff May asked how the safety measures on the last page would impact level of service. Mr. May went on to state that he believed it would decrease level of service.

Discussion ensued regarding the last page of the document outlining safety measures, and how to address Ms. McCoy's concerns.

Staff agreed to make some modifications to the last page of the crash report.

Ms. McCoy also noted that she has concerns about the environmental justice section stating that it doesn't take into account the higher densities, higher traffic volumes, and greater number of pedestrians and transit riders. Ms. McCoy went on to state that some language should be added to address this concern.

Discussion ensued regard Ms. McCoy's comments on the environmental justice section.

Staff agreed to bring the Crash Report back at the July meeting.

8. Next Meeting Date

1:30 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2016

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.