

## NOTICE OF MEETING

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

### TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. **Call To Order**
2. **VOTE: Approval of Agenda**
3. **VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**..... Page 2
  - Approve the April 18, 2016, meeting minutes.
4. **REPORT: Travel Demand Model Validation and Analysis Appendix** ..... Page 6
  - Report and discussion regarding the developed of a new appendix to *Mobilizing Tomorrow*.
5. **REPORT: Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program** ..... Page 7
  - Report and discussion regarding the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program and potential Electric Vehicle Infrastructure projects.
6. **REPORT: Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds** ..... Page 8
  - Report and discussion on Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds and their potential application in Greater Des Moines.
7. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
8. **Next Meeting Date**
  - 1:30 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2016, Des Moines Area MPO Office.
9. **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.*

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June 2016  
Item No. 3

**ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**

VOTE: Consider approval of the April 18, 2016, Engineering Subcommittee meeting minutes.

**BACKGROUND:**

The minutes of the April 18, 2016, Engineering Subcommittee meeting are included on the following pages.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the April 18, 2016, Engineering Subcommittee meeting.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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## MEETING MINUTES

**Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Transportation Technical Committee Engineering Subcommittee  
1:30 p.m., Monday, April 18, 2016  
Des Moines Area MPO Meeting Mead Conference Room  
Des Moines, Iowa**

### **Members Present:**

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

### **Members Absent:**

Jennifer McCoy, City of Des Moines

### **Staff Present:**

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

#### **1. Call to Order**

Dave Cubit called the meeting to order at 1:30 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 February 1, 2016, meeting minutes.

#### **4. Comprehensive Plan Standards**

Staff noted that over the past few months several individuals have approach the staff with concerns regarding the format of deliverables from comprehensive plans. Specifically, how maps are being produced in Adobe Illustrator and not in GIS format. Staff pointed out that the format of the deliverables is important because the GIS files allow layers from across the region to be stitched together during regional planning efforts. Illustrator files make this very difficult.

The committee discussed what format is most useful to them, and what other items would make sense to standardize in comprehensive plan development.

Staff agreed to develop some RFP language that address the inclusion of GIS files as deliverables in the comprehensive plan process.

## **5. Fiscal Impact Model**

Staff noted that the City of Clive requested that staff investigate the possibility of developing a fiscal impact model based on the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments model. Staff noted that models like this are used to evaluate development projects for environmental and financial impacts. Staff inquired if there was interest from other communities for this type of modeling.

Dave Cubit noted that Johnston does something similar to this when evaluating annexations.

Dave McKay noted that it's kind of hard to judge the model without seeing more specifics regarding how it works.

Mr. Cubit asked if staff was looking to explore what models are available. Staff noted that they are already exploring it based on the request from the City of Clive, and just want to make sure they are considering things that are of interest to other communities.

Jeff May asked if the City of Clive request was more on the financial side. Staff noted that they are meeting with City of Clive representative next week to discuss exactly what they are interested in getting out of the model.

Joe Cory commented that it seemed to be more of a planning tool.

Kurt Bailey noted that there are things he doesn't want to see out of the model. Mr. Bailey went on to questioning if this would be used by the Policy Committee to evaluate the return on investment of federally funded projects.

Mr. Cubit stated this type of model could be really useful when considering future annexations and how they will impact the community from a fiscal perspective.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of fiscal impact models.

## **6. Flexible Design Standards**

Staff provided an overview the of Flexible Street Design document that staff produced in January 2016. Staff reviewed the reasons the document was created and shared some of concerns expressed regarding the document.

Mr. Cory noted that he remembered discussing this as an optional design manual that communities can use if they want something other than SUDAS. Mr. Cory noted that engineers don't just look at SUDAS, they consider a variety of design solution depending on the project.

Mr. Cubit noted that SUDAS has three sections to choose from including the complete streets section, and the preferred, and alternative options. Mr. Cubit noted that the document has issues with terminology. The use of the word flexible could be

misinterpreted, as SUDAS could be seen as both flexible and ridged based on the lens through which SUDAS is addressing various standards. Mr. Cubit asked if the concerns were with the document the MPO staff developed becoming a standard and not just a reference document.

Mr. McKay asked if Mr. Cubit felt that this document should be reviewed by the other MPO committees specifically the Technical Committee. Mr Cubit felt that this was the intent all along.

Mr. May asked what issues SUDAS had with the document. Staff noted that the SUDAS representative felt that it didn't accurately represent the level of flexibility within SUDAS.

Mr. Cubit noted that the document should reference both the preferred and acceptable standards reflected in SUDAS. Mr. Cubit noted that he doesn't have an issue with the document, but it could use a little refining in the terminology.

Mr. Cubit questioned why lane width was getting so much attention, and asked if anyone had looked at the minimum turn radius. Mr. Bailey noted he had and felt the numbers for NACTO are ridiculous.

Mr. Cubit noted he feels that SUDAS and the City of Des Moines concerns are based on the fear of the NACTO standards becoming regulatory and not seeing the document as an informational piece.

Mr. Cory noted that the word "flexible" could be removed from the document.

Discussion ensued regarding the flexible street design document.

Mr. Cubit noted that all the examples on the back were more downtown commercialized type areas, and that a residential example would be good to include.

Discussion ensued regarding SUDAS.

Staff noted that they would make some of the changes discussed, and the staff is meeting with SUDAS and the City of Des Moines next week to discuss their concerns in more detail.

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

None.

## **8. Next Meeting Date**

1:30 p.m., Monday, May 16, 2016

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

June 2016  
Item No. 4

**ISSUE: Travel Demand Model Validation and Analysis Appendix**

REPORT: Discussion regarding the developed of a new appendix to Mobilizing Tomorrow.

**BACKGROUND:**

At the request of the FHWA, staff developed an additional appendix to Mobilizing Tomorrow to provide an overview of the travel demand modeling process used by the MPO in the development and evaluation of fiscally constrained projects included in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

The appendix describes the four-step modeling process used to forecast future traffic volumes utilizing socio-economic forecasts developed for the Tomorrow Plan and modified for Mobilizing Tomorrow.

In addition to the overview of the modeling process, the document analyzes the fiscally constrained projects included in Mobilizing Tomorrow to determine the roadway level-of-service and vehicle miles traveled for the MPO planning area based on no-build and build scenarios in each of the three project timeframes.

[The Travel Demand Model Validation and Analysis Appendix is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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June 2016  
Item No. 5

**ISSUE: Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program**

REPORT: Discussion regarding the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program and potential Electric Vehicle Infrastructure projects.

**BACKGROUND:**

Modeled after the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, the Iowa Department of Transportation created the Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) in 1994. The purpose of ICAAP is to provide funds to transportation projects that maintain the national ambient air quality standards outlined in the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Each year, the Iowa DOT awards ICAAP funds to projects with the highest potential for reducing transportation-related congestion and air pollution.

Stephanie Weisenbach with Iowa Clean Cities Coalition approached the MPO staff to discuss the Iowa Clean Air Attainment program and potential opportunities to use this funding for electric vehicle charging stations in the region. Staff requests that committee members consider potential electric vehicles charging station projects on a community and regional level, and come prepared to discuss at the June 20, 2016, meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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June 2016  
Item No. 6

**ISSUE: Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds**

REPORT: Discussion on Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds and their potential application in Greater Des Moines.

**BACKGROUND:**

Congress authorized Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs) in the 2008 as part of the Energy Improvement and Extension Act. The original legislation authorized \$800 million of QECBs nationwide. In the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Congress increased the amount to \$3.2 billion in available funding for states, territories, large local governments, and tribal governments to issue to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

The eligibility requirement for local governments wanting to use a QECB allocation from the state have to be greater than 100,000 in population. The state of Iowa has approximately \$31 million of funding available. Staff request that the committee discuss potential projects that could use the QECB funding at the June 20, 2016, meeting.

[The Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds document is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

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