

## NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Transportation Technical Committee (TTC)  
Planning Subcommittee  
10:00 a.m., Monday, June 19, 2017  
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 April 17, 2017, meeting minutes.
4. **REPORT: Bird Friendly Iowa** ..... Page 5
  - Iowa State Landscape Architecture Studio partnership with Bird Friendly Iowa program.
5. **REPORT: Stormwater Discussion Follow-Up** ..... Page 6
  - Discussion of next steps following the meeting to discuss a regional approach to stormwater management policy.
6. **REPORT: Drones** ..... Page 7
  - Assessing the use of drones for educational and research purposes.
7. **REPORT: Commuting and Congestion Reports** ..... Page 8
  - Report on commuting and congestion in Greater Des Moines in 2016.
8. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
9. **Next Meeting Date**
  - 10:00 a.m., Monday, July 17, 2017, Des Moines Area MPO Office.
10. **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 2017  
Item No. 3

**ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**

VOTE: Consider approval of the April 17, 2017, Planning Subcommittee meeting minutes.

**BACKGROUND:**

The minutes of the April 17, 2017, Planning Subcommittee meeting are included on the following pages.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the April 17, 2017, Planning Subcommittee meeting.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Transportation Technical Committee Planning Subcommittee  
10:00 a.m., Monday, April 17, 2017  
Des Moines Area MPO Office  
Mead Conference Room  
Des Moines, Iowa**

**Members Present:**

Mike Ludwig, City of Des Moines  
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:**

**Others Present:**

Juan Cadenillas, Polk County Health Department

**Staff Present:**

Dylan Mullenix, Assistant Director  
Zach Young, Principal Planner

**1. Call to Order**

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 20, 2017, meeting minutes.

**4. Funding Swap**

Staff provided an overview of how the funding swap would work. Staff noted that most of the cost savings from the swap are related to not having to adhere to Davis-Bacon and reduced administration costs.

Discussion ensued regarding details of how the swap would work. Staff informed the committee that they would keep them updated as new information is received.

**5. Draft Bridge Condition Report**

Staff provided an overview of the draft Bridge Condition report. Discussion ensued regarding the differences between the terms Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete. Staff noted that they would provide a list of elements that could make a bridge Functionally Obsolete.

**6. Planning Subcommittee Reorganization**

Staff discussed the potential reorganization of the Planning Subcommittee to address the needs that were identified by the Local Government Collaborative. Staff reviewed a list of identified items and asked the committee to identify priorities. The committee identified small cell, fireworks, and residential occupancy as the top three priorities.

Discussion ensued regarding how the reorganization would occur and the benefits and drawbacks of expanding the committee size. The general consensus of the group was that it makes sense for the Planning Subcommittee to address the outline issues.

**7. Smart Cities**

Staff provided an overview of the U.S. DOT report titled *Smart City Challenge: Lessons for Building Cities of the Future*. Staff asked committee members what their communities are doing related to Smart Cities work.

Discussion ensued regarding local Smart Cities work.

**8. Other Non-Action Items of Interest**

None.

**9. Next Meeting Date**

May 15, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

June 2017  
Item No. 4

**ISSUE: Bird Friendly Iowa**

REPORT: Iowa State Landscape Architecture Studio partnership with Bird Friendly Iowa program

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bird Friendly Iowa program (and steering committee) would like to find a central Iowa community facing growth pressures to participate in a Landscape Architecture Studio this fall as part of their effort to begin expanding Bird Friendly Iowa.

This studio will focus on landscape solutions to creating more bird-friendly habitat and policy in a community. Physical forms, plant choices, composition and management are all important "designable" dimensions of the project.

The ISU Studio is a graduate-level Performative Landscapes course, with 10-12 students total. The course is a full 16-week semester with six weeks focusing on a Bird-Friendly Iowa project in a specific community that meets the following criteria:

- Experiencing growth pressure - especially housing- that has the potential for habitat destruction if unguided by the guidelines recommended by Bird Friendly Iowa; and,
- Sees the benefit of tourism and conservation activities.

In a mid-level studio like this, some of the work will be rough, some refined; but the ideas should be very good. It is expected that the students will explore every possibility and suggest new ideas. The students have great potential and are capable of producing high quality design work, well-executed graphics, and beautiful and accessible maps. However, it won't be a 100% refined project because they are only midway through the semester.

Local stakeholders from the client community and members of the Bird Friendly Iowa steering committee will meet with the students to introduce the project, its purpose, and contribute to scientific and local knowledge. The students take the background research further and provide concepts for addressing opportunities to make the community more Bird Friendly.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

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June 2017  
Item No. 5

**ISSUE: Stormwater Discussion Follow-Up**

REPORT: Discussion of next steps following the meeting to discuss a regional approach to stormwater management policy.

**BACKGROUND:**

On behalf of the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District and area watershed management authorities, the MPO kicked off a process to develop a model stormwater policy to recommend for regional adoption. Staff will discuss take-aways from the meeting and suggested next steps.

[A summary of the regional approach to post-construction stormwater policies discussion is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

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June 2017  
Item No. 6

**ISSUE: Drones**

REPORT: Assessing the use of drones for transportation education and research purposes

**BACKGROUND:**

Increasingly pictures and videos from drones are being used for educational and research purposes. Staff would like to discuss potential uses of drone video footage for education and research purposes especially as the MPO gears up for the Long Range Transportation Plan update.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Discussion only.

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June 2017  
Item No. 7

**ISSUE: Commuting and Congestion Report**

REPORT: Report on commuting and congestion in Greater Des Moines in 2016.

**BACKGROUND:**

*Mobilizing Tomorrow* set goals to reduce the commute share of single-occupancy vehicles, increase the commute share of alternative modes, and maintain roadway congestion above 90 percent. MPO staff reviewed American Community Survey data for Greater Des Moines to determine the estimated mode share based on the 2011-2015 5-year averages.

Utilizing the methodology established in the Congestion Management Process, MPO staff has analyzed the travel time and planning time of major roadways to identify congestion based on data collected in 2016. As with the Congestion Management Process, staff examined INRIX data throughout Greater Des Moines, primarily along collectors, arterials, and the Interstate System. INRIX collects real-time traffic speed data using cellular technology and provides various tools to analyze corridor specific traffic.

[The Commuting and Congestion Report is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Discussion only.

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