NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Policy Committee
4:00 p.m., Thursday, November 19, 2020
Virtual Meeting
OR Dial 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 893 0888 6771
–

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call To Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes ............................................. Page 2
   • Approve the October 15, 2020, meeting minutes.
4. CONSENT and VOTE: Approval of the Financial Statement .......... Page 6
5. CONSENT and VOTE: Contracts and Expenses .......................... Page 7
6. PUBLIC COMMENT on MPO Actions ........................................ Page 8
7. REPORT and VOTE: Calendar Year 2021 Meeting Dates ............. Page 9
   • Report regarding the Calendar Year 2021 meeting dates; consider approval.
8. REPORT and VOTE: FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment ........................................ Page 11
   • Report regarding an amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program for a DOT project; consider approval.
9. REPORT and VOTE: Iowa DOT Mid-Performance Period Adjustments ........................................ Page 12
   • Report and discussion regarding the Iowa DOT’s Mid-Performance Period adjustments; consider approval.
    • Report and discussion on the 1st quarter expenditures for Fiscal Year 2021.
11. REPORT: Environmental Justice Report ..................................... Page 15
    • Report identifying Environmental Justice (EJ) areas in the MPO planning area
12. REPORT: Rain Campaign Update ............................................. Page 16
    • Report on the Rain Campaign and its progress.
13. REPORT: Transload Facility Update ......................................... Page 17
    • Update on the development of the Des Moines Transload Facility.
14. REPORT: Purple Heart Highway Update .................................. Page 18
15. REPORT: Water Trails Update ................................................ Page 19
    • Update on efforts related to the use of the BUILD Grant for water trails.
16. REPORT: Legislative Update .................................................. Page 20
    • Standing item to discuss any items related to the Federal and State Legislative issues.
17. REPORT: Upcoming Events .................................................. Page 21
18. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee
19. Next Meeting Date – January 21, 2021, at 4:00 p.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.dmampo.org/title-vi/ or call 515.334.6075.
ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Consider approval of the October 15, 2020, MPO Policy Committee meeting minutes.

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the October 15, 2020, MPO Policy Committee meeting is included on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the October 15, 2020, MPO Policy Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
Meeting Minutes
Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 15, 2020

The MPO held a virtual meeting at 4:00 p.m. on October 15, 2020. The MPO staff emailed agenda packets to the MPO’s representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office on October 9, 2020. 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.

MPO Representatives Present:
Vern Willey, II | City of Altoona
David Jones | City of Ankeny
Gary Lorenz | City of Ankeny
Ruth Randleman | City of Carlisle
Ted Weaver | City of Clive
Brent Highfill | City of Cumming**
Mark Hanson | Dallas County
Elizabeth Presutti | DART
Scott Sanders | City of Des Moines
Malcolm Hankins | City of Des Moines
Chris Coleman | City of Des Moines
Joe Gatto | City of Des Moines
Bill Gray | City of Des Moines
Jake Anderson | City of Grimes
Tom Leners | Madison County**
Tom Phillips | City of Norwalk
Mark Konrad | City of Pleasant Hill
Jeff Walters | Polk City
Robert Andeweg | City of Urbandale
Courtney Clarke | City of Waukee
Jamie Letzring | City of West Des Moines
Joseph Jones | City of Windsor Heights
Kevin Foley | Des Moines Airport
Andy Loonan | IDOT*
Brooke Ramsey | HIRTA*

MPO Representatives Absent:
Curt Sullivan | City of Bondurant
Colton Fors | City of Elkhart
Jim Evans | City of Johnston
Ryan Waller | City of Indianola**
Tammi Dillavou | City of Mitchellville
Matt McCoy | Polk County
Kyle Michel | Van Meter**
Aaron Dekoch | Warren County
Tom Hadden | City of West Des Moines

Others Present:
Carl Voss | City of Des Moines
Pam Cooksey | City of Des Moines
Clifford Leonard | Public

MPO Staff Present:
Scott Brennan | MPO General Counsel
Todd Ashby | Executive Director
Dylan Mullenix | Assistant Director
Zach Young | Planning Manager
Andrew Collings | Principal Planner
Allison van Pelt | Senior Planner
Sreyoshi Chakraborty | Senior Planner
Zhi Chen | Associate Planner
Gunnar Olson | Communications Manager
Tanvi Halde | Intern

Darla Hugaboom | FHWA*
Mark Bechtel | FTA*
* Advisory/Non-Voting Representatives
** Associate/Non-Voting Representative
1. **Call to Order**  
MPO Chair, Joe Gatto recognized a quorum and called the October 15, 2020 meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Agenda**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization October 15, 2020 meeting agenda.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s September 9, 2020 meeting minutes.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **Approval of the Financial Statement**  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organizations Financial Statements.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **Contracts and Expenses**  
Executive Director presented. Recommend approval of payment to Greater Des Moines Partnership in the amount of $40,000 for the Central Iowa Broadband Study. Recommend approval of a contract with Melcher Dallas in the amount of $20,000 for CBDG Contract and Polk County for a Watershed Management MOU in the amount of $10,000.  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve payment of the Broadband Study and the two contracts.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. **Public Comment on MPO Actions**  
None

8. **Excess TAP Funding Awards**  
Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Funding Subcommittee’s excess TAP funding award recommendation.  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Funding Subcommittee’s excess TAP funding award recommendation.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9. **FFY2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Request**  
Staff presented. Recommend approval of the FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment request from Polk County.  
**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment request from Polk County.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10. **TAP Project Scoring**  
Staff presented. Report and discussion only.
11. **Safe Routes to School Category for TAP Funding**  
   Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

12. **Federal Legislative Agenda for Annual D.C. Trip**  
   Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

13. **Integrated Corridor Management Update**  
   Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

14. **Transload Facility Update**  
   Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

15. **Purple Heart Highway Update**  
   Executive Director presented. Report and discussion only.

16. **Water Trails Update**  
   Executive Director presented. Report and discussion only.

17. **Legislation Update**  
   Staff presented. Report and discussion only.

18. **Upcoming Events**  
   Information only.

19. **Other Non-Action Items of interest to the Committee**  
   Staff advised that the Data Bike won an award from the Smart Cities Connect Conference and Expo. A short video of the Data Bike was also shown.

20. **Next Meeting Date November 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.**

21. **Adjournment**  
   Hearing no objection to the contrary Chair Joe Gatto adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.
ISSUE: Approval of Financial Statement

VOTE: Consider approval of the October 2020, MPO Financial Statement.

BACKGROUND:

The October MPO Financial Statement will be provided prior to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the May MPO Financial Statement.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Contracts and Expenses

Consent and VOTE: Consider approval of the following expenses in accordance with the MPO’s proposed policies and procedures regarding contracts and expenses.

BACKGROUND:

Below is an expense that exceed the limits set by the MPO’s policy and procedures regarding expenditures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VENDOR</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>NOTES/INFORMATION</th>
<th>AMOUNT REQUESTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Des Moines</td>
<td>University Avenue Corridor Study</td>
<td>This project was awarded $100,000 in STBG funds from the Planning Study category.</td>
<td>$20,178.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the above expense.

STAFF CONTACT:

Todd Ashby, tashby@dmampo.org
(515) 334-00
ISSUE: Public Comment of MPO Actions

PUBLIC COMMENT: Opportunity for public comment on actions taken by the MPO board.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO’s Public Participation Plan provides an opportunity for the public to comment on items on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Public comment only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Todd Ashby, tashby@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075.
ISSUE: Calendar Year 2021 Meeting Dates

REPORT and VOTE: Report on the proposed meeting dates in Calendar Year 2021 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 2021 MPO meeting schedule.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the meeting dates for Calendar Year 2021.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org; (515) 334-0075.
# MPO COMMITTEE 2021 MEETING DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TTC COMMITTEE</th>
<th>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</th>
<th>POLICY COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 7</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 13</td>
<td>Thursday, January 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 4</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 10</td>
<td>Thursday, February 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 4</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 10</td>
<td><strong>No Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 1</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 7</td>
<td>Thursday, April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 6</td>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 12</strong></td>
<td>Thursday, May 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 3</td>
<td>Wednesday, June 9</td>
<td>Thursday, June 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 1</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 7</td>
<td><strong>No Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 5</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 11</td>
<td>Thursday, August 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 2</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 8</td>
<td>Thursday, September 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 7</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 13</td>
<td>Thursday, October 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 4</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 10</td>
<td>Thursday, November 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 2</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 8</td>
<td><strong>No Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Meeting date may change depending on GDMP DC trip.*

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

REPORT and VOTE: Report regarding an amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (FFY 2021-2024 TIP) to increase the federal aid amount for an Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) project; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The Iowa DOT has requested an amendment to the FFY 2021-2024 TIP to adjust funding for their US 6 project from Hickman Road to Douglas Ave in Des Moines. The amendment request is to increase the federal aid amount from $431,200 to $587,200.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the Federal Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment request.

STAFF CONTACT:

Sreyoshi Chakraborty, schakraborty@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Iowa DOT Mid-Performance Period Adjustments

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of the Iowa DOT’s Mid-Performance Period adjustments.

BACKGROUND:

Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act, Congress requires state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to establish performance measures and targets. The Iowa DOT submitted 2- and 4-year targets for performance measures in 2018 to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). States are also required to submit a Mid-Performance Report, which allows review and adjustment of 4-year targets. Based on new data, the Iowa DOT adjusted its 4-year targets for the Interstate and Truck Travel Time reliability performance measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2017 Baseline</th>
<th>2-year target</th>
<th>2-year performance</th>
<th>Original 4-year target</th>
<th>Adjusted 4-year target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Person-miles traveled on the Interstate that are reliable</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>99.50%</td>
<td>99.30%</td>
<td>99.50%</td>
<td>98.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) Index</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend approval of the Iowa DOT’s Mid-Performance Period adjustments.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zhi Chen, zchen@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Fiscal Year 2021 1st Quarter Financial Report

REPORT: Update on the 1st quarter expenditures for Fiscal Year 2021

BACKGROUND:

The MPO staff has developed a status report for the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. The report compares expenditures as compared to budgeted amounts as well as the status of the MPO’s federal planning funds.

The 1st quarter financial report is included on the following page.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
## MPO Budget Update - July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

### Fiscal Year 2021 Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUDGET CATEGORY</th>
<th>FY 2020 Budget</th>
<th>1st Quarter</th>
<th>2nd Quarter</th>
<th>3rd Quarter</th>
<th>4th Quarter</th>
<th>Amount Spent Year</th>
<th>Amount Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Wages</td>
<td>$637,103</td>
<td>$136,971</td>
<td>$136,971</td>
<td>$500,131</td>
<td>$136,971</td>
<td>$500,131</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$486,997</td>
<td>$139,086</td>
<td>$139,086</td>
<td>$347,911</td>
<td>$139,086</td>
<td>$347,911</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Personnel Costs</td>
<td>$1,124,100</td>
<td>$276,057</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$276,057</td>
<td>$276,057</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$148,650</td>
<td>$42,490</td>
<td>$136,971</td>
<td>$136,971</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$276,057</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services (Attorney, Audit, Payroll)</td>
<td>$84,260</td>
<td>$3,437</td>
<td>$3,437</td>
<td>$80,823</td>
<td>$3,437</td>
<td>$80,823</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers &amp; Software</td>
<td>$46,700</td>
<td>$2,743</td>
<td>$2,743</td>
<td>$43,957</td>
<td>$2,743</td>
<td>$43,957</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$4,987</td>
<td>$4,987</td>
<td>$19,013</td>
<td>$4,987</td>
<td>$19,013</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Postage</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Training</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$5,508</td>
<td>$5,508</td>
<td>$5,508</td>
<td>$5,508</td>
<td>$6,492</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues/Memberships</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$6,492</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$529</td>
<td>$17,471</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>$12,200</td>
<td>$4,365</td>
<td>$4,365</td>
<td>$4,365</td>
<td>$4,365</td>
<td>$7,835</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$539</td>
<td>$539</td>
<td>$539</td>
<td>$539</td>
<td>$3,461</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$25,001</td>
<td>$25,001</td>
<td>$25,001</td>
<td>$25,001</td>
<td>$24,999</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Beverages</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$848</td>
<td>$848</td>
<td>$848</td>
<td>$848</td>
<td>$6,152</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Personnel Costs</td>
<td>$515,810</td>
<td>$95,188</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$520,622</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,739,910</strong></td>
<td><strong>$371,245</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$371,245</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,368,665</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Passsthrough Grant Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUDGET CATEGORY</th>
<th>FY 2020 Budget</th>
<th>1st Quarter</th>
<th>2nd Quarter</th>
<th>3rd Quarter</th>
<th>4th Quarter</th>
<th>Amount Spent Year</th>
<th>Amount Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rail Revolving Loan and Grant - Transload</td>
<td>$1,316,157</td>
<td>$118,065</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$118,065</td>
<td>$1,198,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILD Grant - Transload</td>
<td>$11,200,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$11,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Ave Corridor Study (Task 4)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$27,352</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$27,352</td>
<td>$72,648</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ISSUE: Environmental Justice Report

REPORT: Report identifying Environmental Justice (EJ) in the MPO planning area.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO works to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all residents in the region. To ensure fair treatment, the MPO identifies Environmental Justice (EJ) areas or areas with large populations of traditionally underserved individuals.

The Draft Environmental Justice Report is available on the MPO website (click to access).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Allison van Pelt, avanpelt@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Rain Campaign Update


BACKGROUND:

In the June of 2018 Des Moines metro cities were hit with unprecedented rains that impacted public and private property, some of which is miles away from the nearest Special Flood Hazard Area.

In response to this event and future rainfall projections, and in accordance with area watershed management authorities, Polk Soil and Water Conservation District applied for and was awarded a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency, administered by the Iowa DNR, to empower private property owners to manage stormwater on their own land. Through collaboration with Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and local jurisdictions, it was decided to increase the awareness and utilization of local cost-share programs across the metro, and to focus on promoting one simple stormwater best management practice, soil quality restoration.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Allison van Pelt, avanpelt@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Des Moines Transload Facility

REPORT: Update regarding the Des Moines Transload Facility.

BACKGROUND:

Staff is continuing to work with Des Moines Industrial, LLC, to develop the Des Moines Transload Facility. The following are the main topics that staff is working with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Des Moines Industrial, LLC, to complete:

- Baseline Performance Report – deadline September 30, 2020;
- Quarterly Report – deadline October 30, 2020;
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Plan – deadline November 1, 2020;
- Project Management Plan – deadline November 30, 2020; and,

A copy of the Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBE) Plan is available on the MPO website (click to access).

Staff will provide a full update at the November meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Purple Heart Highway Update

REPORT: Discussion regarding the updated Iowa Highway 5 / US Highway 65 Freeway Corridor Interstate System Designation Summary Report

BACKGROUND:

Over the last decade the MPO has pursued efforts to designate the US 65/Iowa 5 bypass as an interstate. At the MPO’s request and with funding from communities along the corridor, the Iowa DOT produced in 2012 the Iowa Highway 5/US Highway 65 Freeway Corridor Interstate System Designation Summary Report. This report outlined the potential improvements necessary for the interstate designation, including issues related to roadway design and safety, right-of-way access, and signage. The report also identified the need to address how to handle slow moving and/or overweight agricultural equipment.

Since the report’s publication the MPO and local stakeholders have worked to identify options to address the outstanding issues identified by the Iowa DOT, particularly the slow moving and overweight vehicle issues. The primary concern is that without an alternative to cross the Des Moines River, some farm operators would be unable to access some fields and/or grain elevators if they are unable to use the bypass.

Staff met with representatives of Farm Bureau in early March and had additional discussions with the DOT. The DOT recommended contracting with HNTB (who did the initial study) to update the Iowa Highway 5 / US Highway 65 Freeway Corridor Interstate System Designation Summary Report.

A copy of the Iowa 5/US 65 Re-Designation Update report is available on the MPO website (click to access).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Todd Ashby, tashby@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075
ISSUE: Water Trails Update

REPORT: Discussion regarding the execution of the BUILD Grant for Central Iowa Water Trails.

BACKGROUND:

In November, the Des Moines Area MPO was awarded a $25 million grant from the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development, or BUILD, grant program of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The grant is significantly accelerating the implementation of the Central Iowa Water Trails initiative, specifically a five-mile stretch of the Des Moines River including the mitigation of the Scott Avenue Dam and improvements at three neighborhood access points.

Snyder and Associates has been brought on as the owner’s representative and is providing weekly project updates. Notable progress includes:

- Schematic design is the key focus for the possible dam-modification projects.
- Concepts are being refined for the neighborhood access sites.

Staff will provide updates as part of the discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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ISSUE: Legislative Issues Update

REPORT: Standing item to discuss Federal and State legislative issues.

BACKGROUND:
Standing item throughout the Iowa legislative session to allow the committee to discuss any legislative (federal or state) items of interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS:
None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:
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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.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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