

Meeting Minutes

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 4:00 p.m., Thursday, June 17, 2021

The MPO held a hybrid in-person/ virtual meeting at 4:00 p.m. on June 17, 2021. The MPO staff emailed agenda packets to the MPO's representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office on June 11, 2021. **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:

Elizabeth Burns Thompson | City of Altoona
Gary Lorenz | City of Ankeny
Marketa Oliver | City of Bondurant
Ruth Randleman | City of Carlisle
Mark Hanson | Dallas County
Elizabeth Presutti | DART
Scott Sanders | City of Des Moines
Carl Voss | City of Des Moines
Pam Cooksey | City of Des Moines
Joe Gatto | City of Des Moines
Bill Gray | City of Des Moines
Chris Coleman | City of Des Moines
Pam Cooksey | City of Des Moines
Jake Anderson | City of Grimes
Stephanie Riva | City of Norwalk
Mark Konrad | City of Pleasant Hill
Jeff Walters | Polk City
Matt McCoy | Polk County
Robert Andeweg | City of Urbandale
Tom Hadden | City of West Des Moines
Jamie Letzing | City of West Des Moines
Dave Burgess | City of Windsor Heights
Kevin Foley | Des Moines International Airport
Clinton Torp | Des Moines International Airport
Andy Loonan | IDOT *

MPO Representatives Absent:

David Jones | City of Ankeny
Ted Weaver | City of Clive
Brent Highfill | City of Cumming**
Colton Fors | City of Elkhart
Pam Pepper | City of Indianola**
Jim Evans | City of Johnston
Tom Leners | Madison County**

Tammi Dillavou | City of Mitchellville
Aaron Dekoch | Warren County
Courtney Clarke | City of Waukee
Kyle Michel | Van Meter**
Julia Castillo | HIRTA*
Darla Hugaboom | FHWA*
* Advisory/Non-Voting Representatives
** Associate/Non-Voting Representative

Others Present:

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
Sreyoshi Chakraborty | Senior Planner
Zhi Chen | Associate Planner
Gunnar Olson | Communications Manager
Tracey Deckard | Office Manager
Tanvi Halde | Intern

1. Call to Order

MPO Chair, Joe Gatto recognized a quorum and called the June 17, 2021, meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Chair Gatto and MPO recognized Chris Coleman and thanked him for his many years of service to the MPO.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made by McCoy and seconded by Coleman to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization June 17, 2021, meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made by McCoy and seconded by Coleman to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's June meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Approval of the Financial Statement

MOTION: A motion was made by Hadden and seconded by Oliver to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organizations Financial Statements.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Public Comment

None.

6. FFY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's approval of the draft Federal Fiscal Year 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

MOTION: A motion was made by Coleman and seconded Riva to approve the draft Federal Fiscal Year 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's approval of the Federal Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment request from Dallas County.

MOTION: Motion made by Coleman to a approve FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment by Dallas County. Seconded by McCoy.

MOTION CARRIED

8. FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's approval of the Federal Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program amendment request from DART.

MOTION: Motion made by Oliver to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment request from DART. Seconded by Hadden.

MOTION CARRIED

9. Title VI Documentation

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the Title VI Documentation.

MOTION: Motion made by Hadden to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the Title VI Documentation. Second by Riva.

MOTION CARRIED

10. Environmental Justice Report Update

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the Environmental Justice methodology and report. Coleman requested that the MPO staff provide an annual update and report of the Environmental Justice areas.

MOTION: Motion made by Coleman to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve Environmental Justice methodology and report. Seconded by McCoy.

MOTION CARRIED

11. Updated Surface Transportation Block Grant

Staff presented. Recommend approval of the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the updated Surface Transportation Block Grant scoring criteria and the EJ percentage target of 30 percent

MOTION: Motion made by Randleman to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the Updated Surface Transportation Block Grant scoring criteria and the EJ percentage target of 30%. Seconded by Riva.

MOTION CARRIED

12. Fiscal Year 2022 Investment Policy

Executive Director presented. Consider reaffirming the MPO's existing investment policy for Fiscal Year 2022.

MOTION: Motion made by Coleman to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the FY 2022 Investment Policy. Seconded by McCoy.

MOTION CARRIED

13. Self-Certification

Assistant Director presented. Recommend approval of the MPO's self-certification of compliance with federal requirements.

MOTION: Motion made by Hadden to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the MPO's self-certification of compliance with federal requirements. Seconded by Coleman.

MOTION CARRIED

14. Purple Heart Highway Update

Executive Director presented. Executive Director provided an update on current activities. Iowa DOT has requested additional studies to be carried out to satisfy FHWA requirements. Draft scope of services includes interim-year traffic operations report, predictive 2050 safety analysis, additional evaluation of controlling design criteria. Chair Gatto reported that he met with IDOT and that there are some major hurdles that will need to be resolved regarding the weight limitations as well as the regulations of slow-moving vehicles. Report and discussion only.

15. Economic Development District

Staff presented. Update on process to designate Central Iowa as an Economic Development District. A Steering Committee has been established to provide oversight and guidance for the planning process, with each county self-selecting up to five representatives to serve on the committee. Staff facilitated a SWOT analysis and goal-setting session with stakeholders from the sevenReport and discussion only.

16. Des Moines Transload Facility

Planning Manager presented. Report regarding the Des Moines Transload Facility. MPO received the first reimbursement request from Des Moines Transload. Photos of the site were shown. Report and discussion only.

17. Water Trails Update

Executive Director presented. Staff continues to work with project partners to develop necessary sub-agreements. Report and discussion only.

18. Legislative Issues Update

Assistant Director presented. Discussion on Federal and State legislative issues. Report and discussion only. In the Senate- Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021 (STRA) introduced by EPW Committee on May 26th. In the House-Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act of 2021 introduced by the T&I Committee on June 4.

Both are increases above FAST Act and both add similar programs related to Several new formula and discretionary programs related to carbon/emissions reduction, safety, data-driven planning, resiliency. Goal is for both to be brought for floor votes by end of month/July 4th holiday.

With regards to Appropriations, the FY 2022 Appropriations Bill being developed. Each House member allowed a max of 10 earmark requests across all appropriations bills. Rep. Axne forwarded 3 transportation projects from the MPO area including: Des Moines International Airport: North Glycol Storage Tank Repair; City of West Des Moines: Raccoon River East Pedestrian Bridge between Raccoon River Park and Walnut Woods State and Park; Warren County: Replacement of bridge on R57 over North River. Report and discussion only.

19. Upcoming Events

Information only.

20. Next Meeting Date August 19, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. No July meeting.

21. Adjournment

Hearing no objection to the contrary Chair Joe Gatto adjourned the meeting at 4:56 p.m.