



DES MOINES AREA MPO

Executive Committee Meeting

April 12, 2023



APPROVAL OF AGENDA

April 12, 2023, Agenda



1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. CONSENT and VOTE: Contracts and Expenses
5. REPORT and VOTE: FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation
6. REPORT and VOTE: Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Excess Funding
7. REPORT and VOTE: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Request for Proposals
8. REPORT and VOTE: Passenger Transportation Plan Final Draft
9. REPORT and VOTE: Water Trails BUILD Grant Payment Approval
10. REPORT and VOTE: Approval Authority for Water Trails BUILD Grant Payments
11. REPORT and VOTE: EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity
12. REPORT: Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) Contract
13. REPORT: Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program
14. REPORT: Policies and Procedures Manual and Employee Handbook Update
15. REPORT: Purple Heart Highway Update
16. REPORT: Water Trails Update
17. REPORT: Legislative Update
18. REPORT: Upcoming Events
19. VOTE: Approval of the MPO Policy Committee Agenda
20. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee
21. Next Meeting Date – May 17, 2023 – 11:30 a.m.
22. Adjournment

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

CONTRACTS & EXPENSES

Contracts & Expenses

VENDOR	PURPOSE	NOTES/INFORMATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Granicus	Contact management	<p>Set up and annual subscription for GovDelivery, a cloud-based system for contact management and e-mail-based stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>Includes one-time setup fee of \$2,900 and annual subscription fee of \$6,000.</p>	\$8,900.00

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2027 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation



- Targets for FFY 2027 STBG Funding were received in late February
 - STBG Target - \$16,090,000
- FFY 2027 request over \$39 million

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation



- System Capacity
 - Grimes - SE 37th Street PCC Pavement Reconstruction (West) - \$400,000
 - Waukee - Alice's Road Replacement - \$600,000

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation

- Major Reconstruction/Replacement
 - Altoona – 8th Street Reconstruction (Phase 2) - \$500,000
 - Ankeny – West First Street Widening and Improvements - Phase 2 - \$1,195,000
 - Bondurant – Grant Street South Realignment - \$250,000
 - Des Moines – Douglas Avenue Corridor Improvements - \$1,750,000
 - Des Moines – East Army Post Road Improvements - \$2,600,000
 - Johnston – IA 141 and Towner Drive Interchange - \$500,000
 - Polk County – NE 23rd Avenue/Easton Blvd - \$1,750,000
 - Urbandale – Douglas Parkway Preservation - \$500,000
 - West Des Moines – Ashworth Road Reconstruction and Reconfiguration - \$1,500,000

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation

- System Optimization
 - Des Moines - Intelligent Transportation Systems Upgrade: Phase 6 - \$1,000,000
 - Pleasant Hill - University Ave and Sherrylynn Blvd Improvements - \$500,000
 - Warren County - County Highway G16 HMA Resurfacing - \$200,000
- Bridge Program
 - Des Moines - University Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation- \$1,250,000

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation



- Transit Projects
 - DART – DART Bus Replacements and BCycle Station Replacement- \$1,500,000
- Other
 - MPO – TMA Program - \$95,000

FFY 2027 STBG Program Funding Recommendation

Category	Minimum Target %	Maximum Target %	Minimum Target Allocation	Maximum Target Allocation	Awarded	Actual Target %
System Capacity	0%	30%	\$0	\$4,827,000	\$1,000,000	6.22%
Major Reconstruction/Replacement	25%	N/A	\$4,022,500	N/A	\$10,545,000	65.54%
System Optimization	15%	N/A	\$2,413,500	N/A	\$1,700,000	10.57%
Bridge Program	20%	N/A	\$3,218,000	N/A	\$1,250,000	7.77%
Transit	10%	N/A	\$1,609,000	N/A	\$1,500,000	9.32%

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022 EXCESS FUNDING

Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Excess Funding

- Staff determined that \$1,271,651 in excess STBG funding is available to award to projects currently listed in the last three years of the TIP

FY 2022 Excess Funding

FFY 2021 Balance	-\$896,608
FFY 2022 Balance	\$2,168,259
<hr/>	
FFY 2022 Excess Funding Available	\$1,271,651

Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Excess Funding

- Staff provided the Funding Subcommittee with a list of the eligible projects and the Subcommittee developed a recommendation for the excess funding at their March 9th meeting
- The following projects are recommended to received funding:
 - Ankeny - West First Street Widening and Improvements - Phase 2 - \$500,000
 - Des Moines - Douglas Avenue Corridor Improvements - \$500,000
 - Polk City - N. 3rd Street Reconstruction, Trail, and Overlay - \$271,651

COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP



- Staff has developed the RFP for consultant services to develop the regions Comprehensive Safety Action plan
- This plan will make the MPO region eligible for SS4A implementation funding

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP



- Scope of Services include:
 - Task 1: Stakeholder & Public Engagement Process
 - Task 2: State of the Practice & Data Review
 - Task 3: Crash Data Analysis
 - Task 4: Countermeasure Toolbox
 - Task 5: Implementation Plan & Programs
 - Task 6: Safe Streets Visualization & Vision Zero Toolkit
 - Task 7: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
 - Task 8: SS4A Implementation Grant

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP

- Tentative Schedule:

Activity	Date
Issue RFP	April 21, 2023
Proposal Deadline by 5:00 p.m. (CT)	May 12, 2023
Proposal Review by Consultant Selection Group	May 15-19, 2023
Consultant Interviews (virtual)	May 29- June 2, 2023
Approval from MPO Policy Committee	June 15, 2023
Award Contract	June 2023
MPO Policy Board Adopts CSAP	August 17, 2024
Apply for SS4A Implementation Grant	September 2024

FFY 2023-2027 PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION PLAN FINAL DRAFT

FFY 2023-2027 Passenger Transportation Plan Final

- IA DOT required plan – updated every 5 years
- Developed with Transportation Advisory Group guidance and input for MPO & CIRTPA region
- Priority Areas:
 - Clear & organized transportation information
 - Current and future externalities affecting mobility
 - COVID-19, funding, MCOs, etc.
 - Regional coordination
- Public Comment Concluded April 1st
 - Final draft due May 1



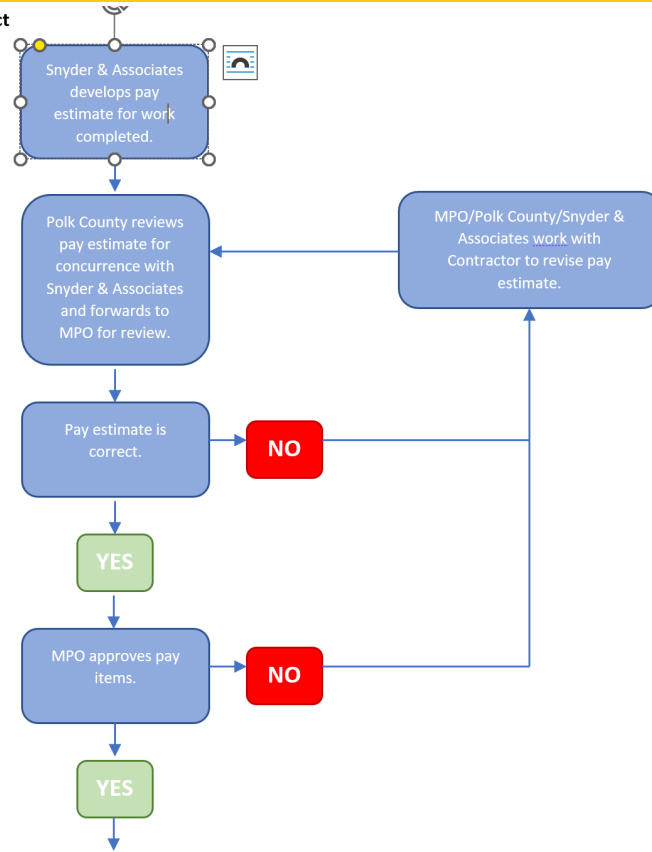
WATER TRAILS BUILD GRANT PAYMENT APPROVAL

Water Trails BUILD Grant Payment Approval

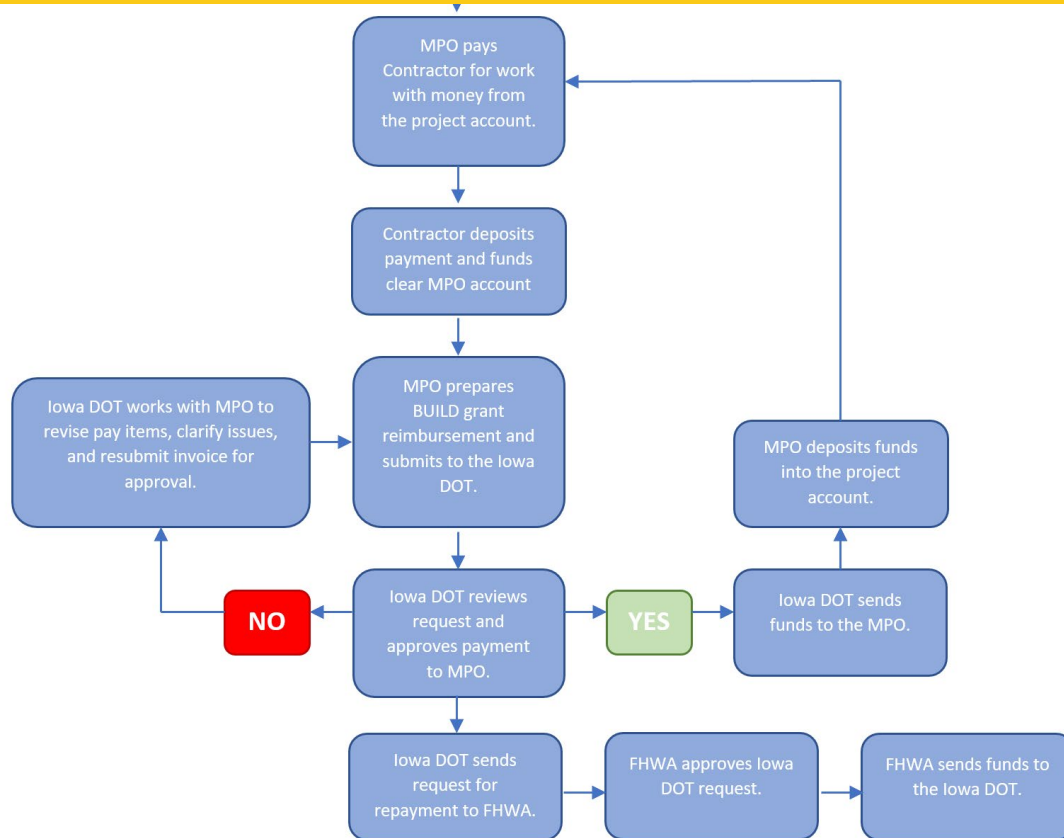
- Snyder & Associates has submitted the Application for Partial Payment No. 4
- The payment application has been reviewed by Polk County and has received their concurrence with the \$623,537.24 amount.
- This total includes \$58,911.69 in reimbursable expenses. The remaining \$484,166.03 is for stored materials. The MPO will not be able to submit reimbursement for these costs until the materials are used per Iowa DOT specifications.
- Recommend approval of Partial Payment No. 4

Water Trails Reimbursement Process Flowchart

Dam Mitigation and User Access Project Reimbursement Flowchart



Water Trails Reimbursement Process Flowchart – Continued



APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR WATER TRAILS BUILD GRANT PAYMENTS

Approval Authority for Water Trails BUILD Grant Payments

- The Policy Committee does not have regularly scheduled meetings in March, July, or December. To ensure that the Water Trails payments are processed in a timely manner, staff is requesting that the Executive Committee have authority to approve payments in these months.
- Payments would still follow the same process as all other payments

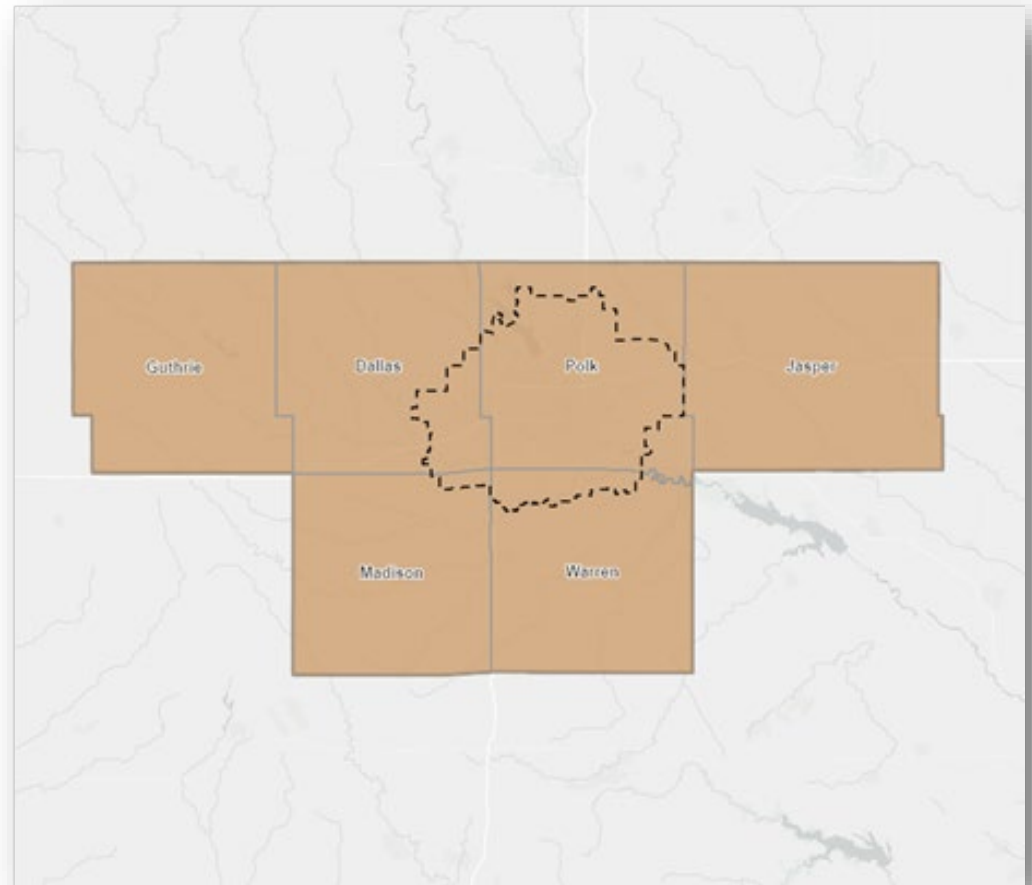
EPA CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT OPPORTUNITY

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity

- Phase I of this program offers \$3 million to each state and \$1 million to the 67 most populous U.S. MSAs to aid the development of plans to reduce GHGs
 - Phase II of this program includes \$6 billion in implementation grants (competitive)
- Each state is asked to accept the grant aid or decline by March 31
- State of Iowa did not accept the grant, therefore, the \$3 million would be split and offered to the 3 most populous MSAs in the state
 - \$1 million each in alignment with 67 most populous MSAs allocation
- Each MSA will need a Lead Agency to be regional grant recipient
 - MPOs are eligible agencies

DSM/WDM MSA Counties:

Guthrie
Dallas
Polk
Jasper
Madison
Warren



EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity

- EPA encourages eligible entities to develop or, where applicable, revise their existing climate plans consistent with the following programmatic priorities:
 - **Improve understanding of current and future GHG emissions** so that state and local governments can **prioritize actions** that reduce such emissions
 - Adopt and implement ambitious policies and programs to **reduce GHG emissions and accelerate decarbonization across multiple important sectors** (e.g., industry, electricity generation, **transportation**, commercial and residential buildings, agriculture/natural and working lands, and waste and materials management)
 - **Collaborate closely with other entities** in their state, region, municipality, and/or air district to **develop coordinated plans** based on best practices.
 - Explore opportunities to **leverage sources of funding and financing** from the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors and Science Act of 2022.
 - **Stimulate innovative technologies and practices** to reduce GHG emissions and associated co-pollutants **in hard-to-abate sectors**.
 - Prioritize actions and policies that will be **durable, replicable, and provide certainty in pollution reductions**.
 - **Reduce climate pollution while building the clean energy economy** in a way that benefits all Americans, provides **new workforce training opportunities**, and effectively **addresses environmental injustices in disadvantaged communities**.
 - Adopt robust **metrics and reporting programs to track emission reductions and important benefits** throughout their jurisdiction and in disadvantaged communities.

City of DSM 2008-2019 GHG Emissions

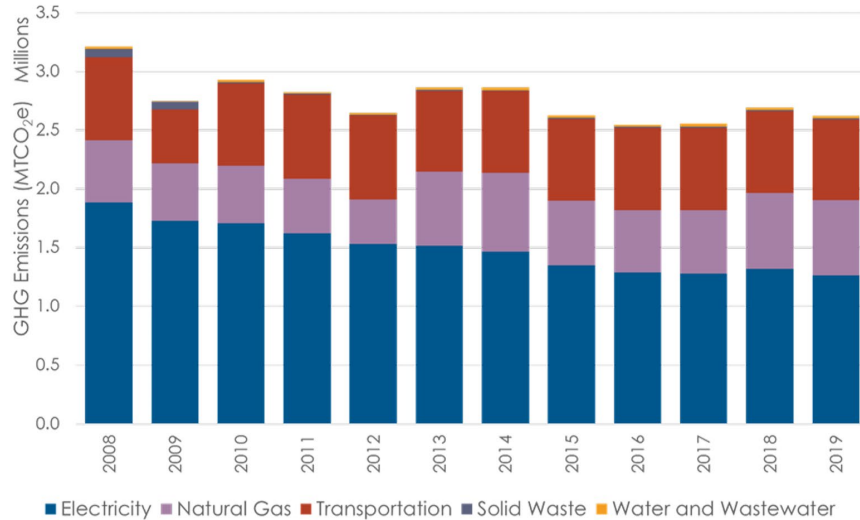
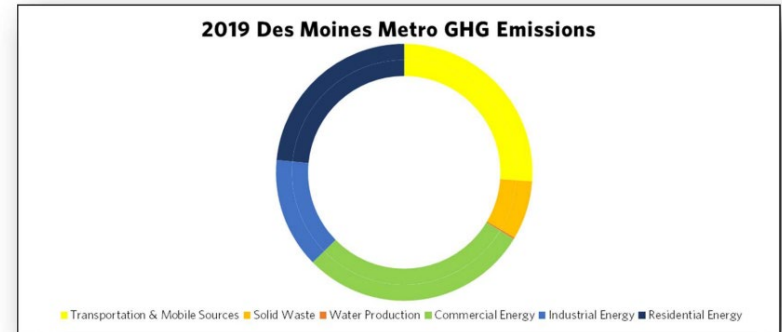


Figure 4. 2008-2019 Community GHG emissions

Table I: CY2019 Des Moines Metro Greenhouse Gas Emissions

2019 Des Moines Metro GHG Emissions		
Sector	CO ₂ e Emissions (MT)	% of CO ₂ e Emissions
Transportation & Mobile Sources	1,540,810	26.1%
Solid Waste	435,143	7.4%
Water Production	12,005	0.2%
Commercial Energy	1,707,038	28.9%
Industrial Energy	819,709	13.9%
Residential Energy	1,384,174	23.5%
Total	5,898,879	100.0%

Figure I: 2019 Des Moines Metro Greenhouse Gas Emissions



EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity

- Funding recipients will need to produce and submit three key deliverables in Phase I
 - A Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), due in early 2024;
 - A Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), due 2 years from the date of the award;
 - A Status Report, due at the close of the 4-year grant period.
- Phase II Implementation grants eligibility will require these program plans.

Plan Element	Priority Climate Action Plan	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan	Status Report
GHG Inventory	Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Emissions Projections	Not Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Reduction Targets	Not Required	Required	Not Required
Quantified GHG Reduction Measures	Required (priority measures only)	Required (comprehensive)	Status and Updates Required
Benefits Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis	Required	Required	Required
Review of Authority to Implement	Required	Required	Update Required
Intersection with Other Funding Availability	Encouraged	Required	Required
Workforce Planning Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Next Steps/Future Budget and Staffing Needs	Not Required	Not Required	Required

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity

- Eligible activities in planning phases:
 - Staffing and contractual costs necessary to develop the deliverables identified in this document;
 - Planning and implementing meetings, workshops, and convenings to foster collaboration among and between levels of government, the public, and key stakeholders;
 - Outreach and education for stakeholders and members of the public
 - Subawards to municipalities, air pollution control agencies, regional planning organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, etc.;
 - Modeling and analytical costs, including purchase or licensing of software, data, or tools;
 - Studies, assessments, data collection, etc., needed to develop the required deliverables;
 - Evaluation and metrics-tracking activities;
 - Training and staff capacity-building costs;
 - Supplies (e.g., office supplies, software, printing, etc.);
 - Incidental costs related to the above activities, including but not limited to travel, membership fees, and indirect costs; and/or,
 - Other allowable activities as necessary to complete the required deliverables.

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunity

- MPO staff is seeking input and direction
 - The State of Iowa officially declined to participate.
 - Is there interest in the Des Moines MSA accepting the \$1 million with MPO as lead agency?
 - Next steps in the process will include:
 - MPO board action to submit a notice of intent to participate to EPA by April 28th
 - Submission of an application to EPA by May 31st
 - EPA awards announced summer 2023
 - MPO budget amendment to program award

MID-IOWA PLANNING ALLIANCE (MIPA) CONTRACT

Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) Contract

- Objective: continued discussion and direction on MPO's contract with MIPA to help finalize MPO FY 2024 budget, due to DOT June 1st.
- MPO/MIPA contract was entered into in April 2022. MPO provides the following to MIPA. Discussion about MIPA began in January 2020.
 - General office support including office space and back-office administrative support
 - Supervisory support to MIPA staff
 - Planning support from MPO planners
- Contract requires 60 days written notice by either party to terminate
- Full timeline of MIPA/EDD discussions and actions included in agenda link

Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) Contract

- MPO/MIPA staff overview
 - MPO: 10 staff primarily focused on MPO/transportation activities
 - Each staff has some hours also to CIRTPA and MIPA to support those contract (3% of total staff hours to MIPA, 8% to CIRTPA).
 - MIPA: 2 staff focused exclusively on MIPA activities
 - One staff hired directly by MIPA
 - One staff hired by MPO for contracted housing assistance; staff person will transition to MIPA employment with housing contracts shifting from MPO to MIPA in FY 2024.

Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) Contract

- Budget Impacts. Per the contract, MIPA pays the MPO for:
 - Personnel costs (salary and fringe) of the MPO staff hours used on MIPA activities
 - A proportion of the MPO office's overhead indirect costs
 - An administrative fee on MPO personnel costs charged to the contract
- For draft FY 2024 budget, this is a value of \$93,000.
 - With MIPA, projected end of FY 2024 balance is \$34,000
 - Without MIPA, projected end of FY 2024 balance is -\$59,000

Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) Contract

- What is Executive Committee's comfort level with activities MPO is performing for MIPA per existing contract?
 - **General office support**
 - Office space
 - Accounting, budgeting, and grant administration support
 - Payroll and benefits administration
 - Communications/public relations
 - Other general administrative support
 - **Supervisory support to MIPA staff**
 - Annual reviews of MIPA staff
 - Hiring/firing in consultation with MIPA board
 - **Planning support from MPO planners**
 - GIS/data analysis
 - Assist drafting studies/report
 - Public involvement
 - General advice and assistance to MIPA staff

CHARGING & FUELING INFRASTRUCTURE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released in March 2023
 - \$700 million available this cycle, and \$2.5 billion over five years
- Eligible Fuels
 - Electric, Hydrogen, Natural Gas (Compressed, Liquified), Propane (limited to medium and heavy vehicles)
- Project Merit Criteria
 - Safety, Climate Change/Resilience/Sustainability, Equity/Community Engagement/Justice 40, Workforce Development/Job Quality/Wealth Creation, CFI Program Vision

Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program

- Two grants available
 - Community Charging and Fueling Grants (“Community Program”)
 - Prioritizes rural areas, low/moderate income neighborhoods, low private parking/high multiunit dwellings
 - Award size \$500,000 - \$15 million
 - May contract with a private entity
 - Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (“Corridor Program”)
 - Projects must be along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFC)
 - Award size \$1 million and above
 - Must contract with a private entity, who is responsible for all non-federal share
- 80% federal / 20% local
- Applications will be considered for both grant programs and may be awarded under both
- Applications due May 30, 2023

Figure 9: Iowa's AFCs



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL AND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATE

Policies and Procedures Manual and Employee Handbook Update

- Documents presented last month
- Handbook review committee formed
 - Legal counsel has reviewed handbook; committee will begin meeting soon
- Policies and Procedures Manual under legal review now
 - Finance Subcommittee will review financial-related policies and identify others needed
- Feedback from both committees expected in the coming months

PURPLE HEART HIGHWAY UPDATE

Purple Heart Highway



PHASE 1:
Stakeholder Study
and Action Plan

**Summer 2021 to
Fall 2022**

PHASE 2:
Pursue State and
Federal Exemptions

**Fall 2022 to
Fall 2024**

PHASE 3:
Complete Analysis
Required by FHWA

TBD

PHASE 4:
Formally Request
Designation

Fall 2024

Feedback from ag stakeholders

- Staff met with ag stakeholders in November and December.
- The stakeholders reconvened recently to discuss a possible path forward.
- We have been briefed on the takeaways:
 - *People are feeling positive about the interaction now versus previously.*
 - *Stakeholders are feeling less hesitant or oppositional.*
 - *This is not something ag stakeholders feel they need to advocate for, but not block.*
 - *Interest in Iowa DOT idea to explore a safety system for slow-moving vehicles.*
 - *Question about the permitted weight limits and how that would play into a federal weight exemption.*
 - *Interest in possibly convening a round-table at MPO to more broadly explore the issue of slow-moving vehicles in the region.*
- Waiting for ag stakeholders to reconvene and provide formal feedback.
- We have committed to them that we won't make a move without their "yellow light," aka proceed with caution.

Early discussions with state lawmakers



- At their invitation, we have had two meetings with state lawmakers.
- Interest in the issue.
- Commitment to “doing this right,” and “walking, not running.”
- Support would be conditional on “yellow light” from ag stakeholders.
- Important to continue engaging with ag stakeholders.
- Action not likely this year.

WATER TRAILS UPDATE

Water Trails Update

Work Completed Past Two Weeks:

- 10,000 tons of rip rap hauled from Plano, Iowa
- 1,200 tons of boulders hauled from Redwood Falls, MN
- Construction office set up and operational
- 100% completion of clearing and grubbing
- ICON installed construction - Camera installed on top of Eagle View Lofts

Upcoming items:

- Continue to haul rock to storage sites
- Prepare dewatering plan and shoring plans for DNR
- In river modifications at Scott Avenue location





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FY 2024 Budget Proposal/Appropriations

- President's budget proposal sent to Congress in March
- Congress now working on legislation
 - Earmark project considerations also in this process
- Final bill anticipated late summer/early fall



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events



Full list in agenda packet:

- April 10-21st: Affordable Housing Week – multiple events sponsored by Polk County HTF
- June 15th: Utilizing Utilities: Partners and Policies to Accelerate Adoption – Virtual @ 2:00 pm
- July 23-26th: TRB International Conference on Low Volume Roads – Cedar Rapids
- November 13-15th: TRB Transportation Resilience 2023 – International Conference on Extreme Weather & Climate Change Challenges – Washington, D.C.

APPROVAL OF THE MPO POLICY AGENDA

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Updated logo for new MPO website

- Policy Committee in August 2022 authorized a contract with Now Now Inc. to build a new website for the MPO, replacing its outdated site as recommended during quadrennial review.
- Digital assets including logo are being updated for the site.
- The new logo is designed to be “scale-able” to the various sizes needed for different devices.
- New logo was reviewed internally and with MPO Chair.





DES MOINES AREA

MPO

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



DES MOINES AREA

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METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



DES MOINES AREA

MPO



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