



FREIGHT ROUNDTABLE

Des Moines Area MPO Office & Zoom

Wednesday December 13, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

Please introduce yourself:

- Your Name
- Your Organization



Agenda

- **DMAcc Transportation Institute**
 - Ramsey Nichols and Isaac Bruck, DMAcc
- **Discussion of Regional Freight Barriers**
 - Zhi Chen, Des Moines Area MPO
- **Other Items of Interest**
- **Next Meeting Dates**
- **Adjournment**

Ramsey Nichols and Issac Bruck, DMACC

DMACC TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

DMACC TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

CDL DRIVER PROGRAM





KEY INFORMATION

About us

- Training facility with a 12 acre concourse (3 training ranges) and 8,600 square ft. facility.
- 7 experienced staff members with various backgrounds (3 former students)
- MY22/23 Kenworth Tractors (3 Day cabs/3 Sleepers)



DMACC CDL PROGRAM HISTORY

Transportation Institute

- Offering CDL training since 1987
- Serve 200 – 250 students per year
- Offer in-house training and DOT testing
- Day classes year-round (night classes as scheduled)



FACILITY UPGRADES

New Facility Coming in 2024!

- The new DMACC Transportation Institute (Albau Education Center) is planned to be complete in Fall of 2024.
- The new facility will have 3 classrooms (an upgrade from 1 large and 1 small now) to provide a more comfortable learning environment for students.
- There will be 2 full length bays (an upgrade from 1 currently) to provide year-around training support in inclement weather.



DMACC TI TIMELINE

Projected Timeline

- (IN PROGRESS) Demo and removal of old concourse material.
- SPRING/SUMMER 2024 - New concrete on 1 of 2 areas
- SUMMER – Build the new facility
- SUMMER – Demo and remove the remainder of concourse material
- FALL – Estimated project completion for new 8600 sq. ft facility and 12 acre concourse.



SERVICES OFFERED

How DMACC can help you!

- Class A, B, School Bus, Passenger and HAZMAT ELDT Theory (\$120-\$150)
- Class A/B Hands-On Training Program (Behind The Wheel)
(\$1500 - \$4,760)
- DOT Testing (\$300) – Approved 3rd Party Test Provider for Iowa
Typically schedule within a week of request



SERVICES OFFERED

Class A/B Behind-The-Wheel Options

- Class A - 3 Week Day Class
 - Monday - Thursday (7:30 AM – 4:30PM) Friday (7:30 AM – 12 PM)
- Class A - 6 Week Night Class (as available)
 - Monday – Thursday (5 PM – 10 PM)
- Class B – 3 Day Class
 - Flexible schedule for a total of 12 instruction hours



SERVICES OFFERED

How DMACC can help you!

- Recruitment opportunities-
 - Employers are scheduled Mon-Thursday from 12-1 PM in order to connect to potential employees.
 - Typically lunch is provided by the recruiter for the students and generates more interest.
 - Classroom is available with a monitor for media use if needed.
 - In addition, we host a CDL Job board on CDL.DMACC.EDU and employers can advertise the skills and jobs that they are needing.



QUESTIONS?

Contact Information

- Phone – (515) 965-7450
- Email – cdlprograms@dmacc.edu
- Location – 2081 NE 54th Ave. Des Moines, IA 50313

Zhi Chen, Des Moines Area MPO

REGIONAL FREIGHT BARRIERS

Regional Freight Barriers

The Des Moines Area MPO identified freight impediments as part of the Transload facility project and the Goods Movement Report.

Regional freight barriers, last identified in 2017, may need to be updated.

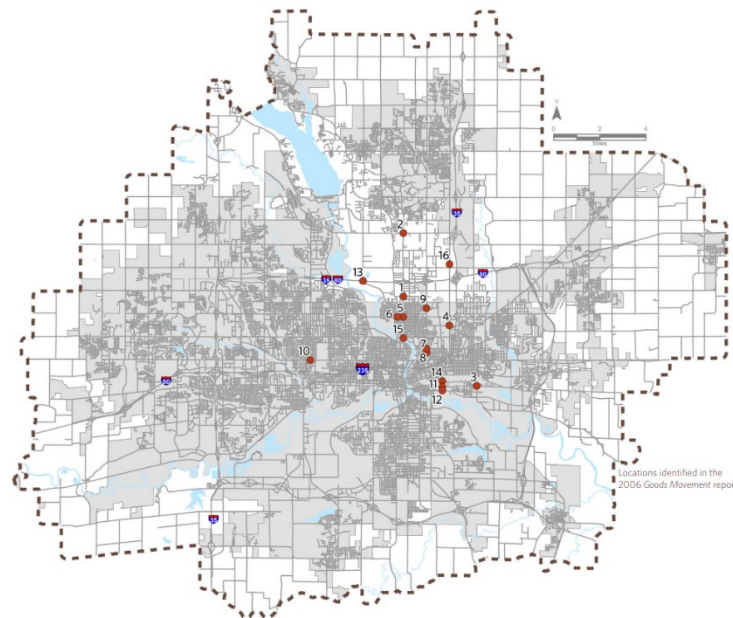


Regional Freight Barriers

Are there any infrastructure-related freight barriers?

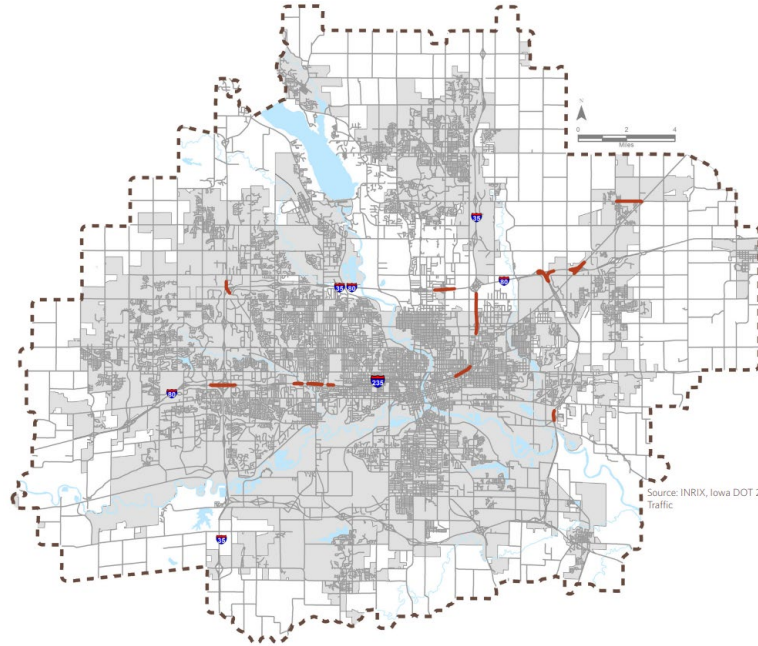
FREIGHT IMPEDIMENTS

MAP ID	LOCATION	IMPEDIMENT(S)
1	2nd Ave Rail Bridge (by Firestone)	Height restriction of 13'4"
2	2nd Ave/NE 66th Ave Bridge	Height restriction of 12'1"
3	E 30th St and Scott Ave Intersection	Span wire signal; corner radii
4	Delaware Ave and Hull Ave Intersection	Corner radii in 3 of the 4 quadrants
5	Euclid Ave and 2nd Ave Intersection	NW and SW corner radii inadequate
6	Euclid Ave and 6th Ave Intersection	Corner radii; all four quadrants
7	E 14th St and Cleveland Ave Intersection	No turn lanes
8	E 14th St and Washington Ave Intersection	No turn lanes
9	E 14th St and Madison Ave Intersection	No turn lanes
10	Merle Hay Rd and University Ave	Less than adequate radii on both corners
11	E 18th St and Scott Ave Intersection	Corner radii
12	E 18th St and Maury St Intersection	Corner radii
13	NW 26th St Overpass at I-35/80	No interstate access
14	E 18th St Railroad Crossings (N of Market St)	Multiple railroad crossings within 500 ft distance
15	2nd Ave, from University Ave to Euclid Ave	4-lane section without turn lanes; PCI "fair"; lanes less than 12 feet
16	NE 22nd St, from Broadway Ave to NE 66th Ave	2-lane facility without turn lanes; high amount of truck traffic



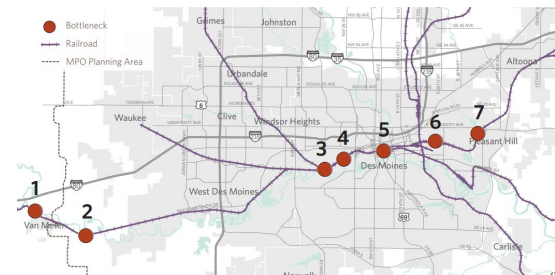
Regional Freight Barriers

Are there any
traffic-related
freight
barriers?



Regional Freight Barriers

MAP ID	RAILROAD	FREIGHT MOBILITY ISSUE
1	IAIS	Bridge restricts movement of high wide loads due to truss construction.
2	IAIS	Bridge restricts movement of high wide loads due to truss construction. Affects movements between Des Moines and Council Bluffs, and are of large wind tower opportunity.
3	IAIS	Bridge restricts movement of high wide loads due to truss construction. Affects movements between Des Moines and Council Bluffs, and are of large wind tower opportunity.
4	IAIS	Rail, crossings, and bridge conditions - limit track to Class 1 at 10 mph. Need improvements to meet track Class 2 - increase speed to 25 mph.
5	IAIS	Flood prone area
6	IAIS	Union Pacific owned trackage and yard, no dedicated through route for IAIS. Need a dedicated separate track to allow through IAIS movements to pass without restriction.
7	IAIS	Flood prone area; Track near Fairview Dr is at risk of flooding from Four Mile Creek.

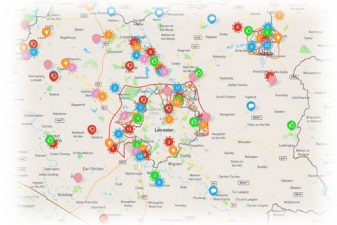


Are there any rail-related freight barriers?

Regional Freight Barriers: Next Steps

For next steps, should we develop an online survey to gather more input?

- An online survey format can allow respondents to pinpoint locations on a map and input descriptions of freight barriers
- How should we distribute the online survey to reach more regional carriers and railroads?



Survey results will be incorporated into the MPO's upcoming Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update to inform future infrastructure projects and improvements.

Other Items of Interest



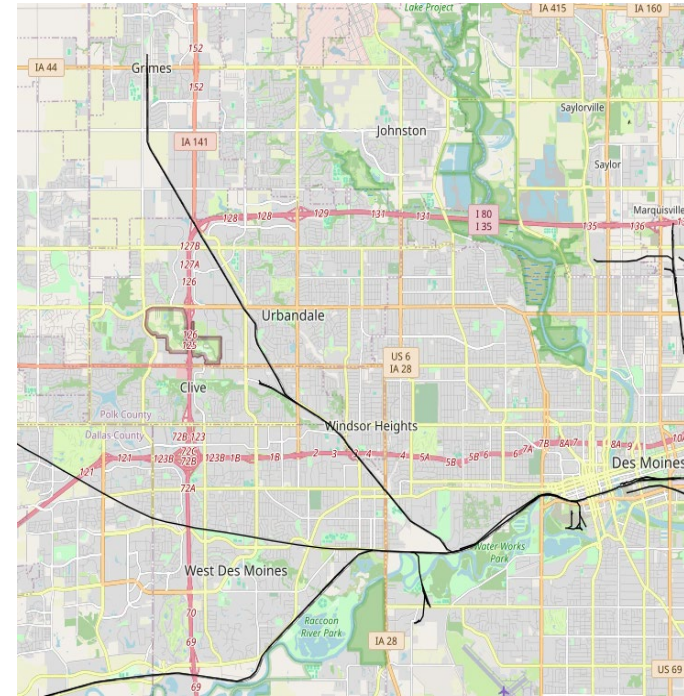
Grimes Line Track Assessment

- Railroad Development Corporation (RDC), owner of Iowa Interstate Railroad (IAIS), approached Iowa DOT and MPO about interest in introducing passenger rail on a line from downtown Des Moines to Grimes.
 - NFS is the track owner; IAIS operator of the line; minimal usage today.
- RDC also owns Pop-Up Metro passenger rail company. Business model is to offer “kits” on a lease basis that include rolling stock, platforms, etc.
 - Uses existing low-density freight rail to demonstrate feasibility
 - Minimal permitting
 - Allows testing/evaluating over 1-3 years vs. consultant study. Ridership is measured not estimated.



Grimes Line Track Assessment

- Capital improvements necessary:
 - ~ 2.5 miles of track needed parallel to IAIS mainline into downtown (shown in green in map)
 - Restoration/upgrade to existing track and crossings likely to achieve suitable speeds and safety
 - Platforms, parking, lighting, signage
 - Operations & maintenance building
- Assessment of existing tracks, crossings, etc., necessary before full scope of needs and costs can be known. Assessment estimated by Pop-Up Metro to cost \$25,000.
- MPO Policy Committee will review and decide on next steps.

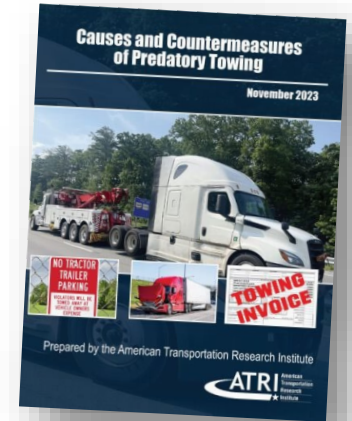


ATRI New Report: “Causes and Countermeasures of Predatory Towing”

Most common types of predatory towing:

- Excessive rates (experienced by 82.7% of motor carriers)
- Unwarranted extra service charges (experienced by 81.8% of motor carriers)
- Additional Issues
 - Truck release or access delays
 - Cargo release delays
 - Truck seizure without cause
 - Tows misreported as consensual

[Access Report Here](#)



Oversize/Overweight Permitting Workshop

Two-part online workshop focused on oversize/overweight permitting in Iowa

Part 1

- January 30, 2024
- 8:30 AM

Part 2

- February 6, 2024
- 8:30 AM



Registration deadline: February 6, 2024 8:30 AM

[Oversize/Overweight Permitting Workshop | Institute for Transportation \(iastate.edu\)](https://iastate.edu/oversize-overweight-permitting-workshop)

Next Meetings

March 20, 2024

June 19, 2024

September 18, 2024

December 18, 2024

3PM

Hybrid Meeting