



DES MOINES AREA MPO

Transportation Technical Committee Meeting

January 4, 2024

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

January 4, 2024, Agenda



1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. PRESENTATION: MidAmerican Energy Presentation
5. REPORT and VOTE: Planning Area Boundary Update
6. REPORT and VOTE: Mobilizing Tomorrow – Funding Projections
7. REPORT and VOTE: Mobilizing Tomorrow – Project Solicitation
8. REPORT: Iowa DOT 2020-2024 Safety Performance Targets (PM1)
9. REPORT: FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget Development
10. REPORT: Norfolk Southern Rail Spur Track Assessment
11. REPORT: Iowa Data Bike Regional Trails Pavement Condition Report
12. REPORT: National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Grant Program
13. REPORT: Executive Director Search
14. REPORT: Upcoming Events
15. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee
16. Next Meeting Date – February 1, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
17. Adjournment

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY PRESENTATION

PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY UPDATE

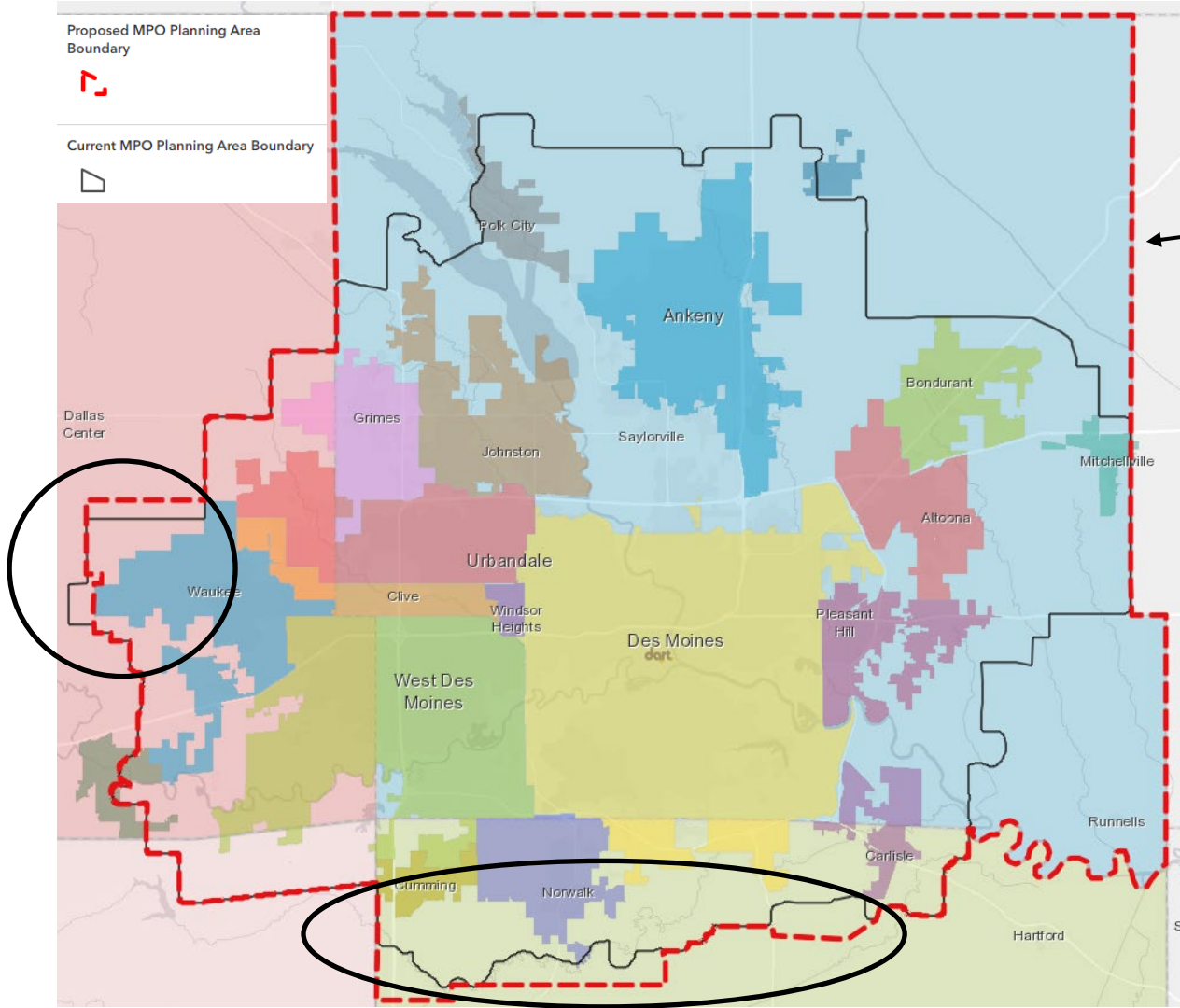
Planning Area Boundary Update

- Boundary is being updated in conjunction with the long-range transportation plan update
- Boundary is required to include the Urban Area Boundary (approved in September 2023) as well as future growth anticipated within the next 20 years
- Staff presented the draft PAB at the November meetings. Since that meeting Polk County has decided to include all of the county in the MPO PAB.
- No other comments were received.

Proposed MPO Planning Area Boundary



Current MPO Planning Area Boundary



All of Polk County

MOBILIZING TOMORROW: FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Funding Projections
 - New federal guidance now only requires fiscal constraint to cover the first 10-years of the LRTP
 - Therefore, staff has developed preliminary funding projections for 2025-2034
 - Staff has developed projections for the following funding sources:
 - Federal – STBG, TAP, CRP
 - State – RUTF
 - Local – property taxes and bonds

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Annual Growth Rates
 - STBG and TAP – 2.5%
 - CRP – 0.5%
 - RUTF – 2.5%
 - Local – 0.0%
- The Finance Subcommittee approved these growth rates at their November 6th meeting.

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

■ Funding Projections – 2025-2034

- Used annual growth rate to determine an annual funding increase which was added to each year to create a straight-line projection
- Historically, approximately 40 percent of local funding has been used for construction projects

Funding Type	2025-2029	2030-2034	Total
Federal	\$94.6	\$108.6	\$203.1
RUTF	\$388.9	\$434.1	\$823.0
Local	\$1,934.6	\$1,934.6	\$3,869.3
Available Funding for Construction	\$773.9	\$773.9	\$1,547.7
Total	\$1,257.3	\$1,316.5	\$2,573.8

*Amounts shown in millions

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Iowa DOT Funding Projections – 2025-2034
 - Staff used a 2 percent growth rate to project future funding for the Iowa DOT.

Funding	2025-2029	2030-2034	Total
Road Expenditures	\$192.1	\$210.3	\$402.4
Bridge Expenditures	\$86.8	\$95.0	\$181.8
Total	\$278.9	\$305.3	\$584.2

*Amounts shown in millions

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Next Steps
 - Staff will work with DART staff to develop projections for transit funding

MOBILIZING TOMORROW: PROJECT SOLICITATION

Mobilizing Tomorrow – Project Solicitation

- Staff has developed a Google form for soliciting projects for the LRTP update.
- Projects will be collected for the 2025-2034 period and will fall under the following categories:
 - System Capacity, Major Reconstruction, System Optimization, Bridges, Transit, and Bicycle/Pedestrian
- Staff is requesting that all planned projects in these categories that fall on the eligible network during this time period be submitted.
- Staff is targeting the week of January 15 to release the google form and will expect all responses back by February 12, 2024.

IOWA DOT 2020-2024 SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Iowa DOT 2020-2024 Safety Targets

As part of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), State DOTs and MPOs are required to annually report safety performance measures (PM1).

MPOs can either (1) support statewide targets or (2) develop their own regional targets.

Previously, the MPO adopted the Iowa DOT's statewide safety performance targets.

- The MPO still monitors regional safety performance.

There are no penalties for MPOs for not meeting or making significant progress towards targets.

Iowa DOT Statewide 2020-2024 Safety Performance Targets

Performance Measure	Five-year Rolling Averages	
	2018-2022 Baseline	2020-2024 Target
Number of Fatalities	338.6	352.6
Fatality Rate*	1.036	1.080
Number of Serious Injuries	1,363.2	1,419.8
Serious Injury Rate*	4.166	4.344
Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	136.4	138.2

**Rates are per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT)*

Iowa DOT 2020-2024 Safety Targets

Statewide and Regional Safety Performance

Iowa	2018-2022 (Five-year Average)	2023
Number of Fatalities	338.6	368
Number of Serious Injuries	1,363.2	1,357
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	136.4	154
Des Moines MPO Area	2018-2022 (Five-year Average)	2023
Number of Fatalities	36.6	37
Number of Serious Injuries	176.8	178
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	31.4	29

Last Updated on January 3, 2024

FY 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- MPO's scope of work for next fiscal year
 - Work elements and activities
 - Committees
 - Costs
- Proposed work activities are tied to the MPO's federal requirements
- Draft due April 1st - Final due June 1st

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- MPO Requirements per US Code
 - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
 - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - Public Participation Plan (PPP)
 - Congestion Management Process (required of TMAs)
 - Must have decision making bodies (e.g., MPO Policy Committee)
 - Administer STBG funding process

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- FHWA/FTA Planning Emphasis Areas:
 - Climate Change
 - Equity and Justice in Transportation Planning
 - Complete Streets
 - Virtual Public Involvement
 - Planning & Environmental Linkages
 - Data in Transportation Planning

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- MPO staff soliciting input on additional tasks for FY 2025
 - Plans
 - Studies
 - Research
 - Technical assistance to communities
- Please send any requests/ideas to MPO staff by end of January

NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAIL SPUR TRACK ASSESSMENT

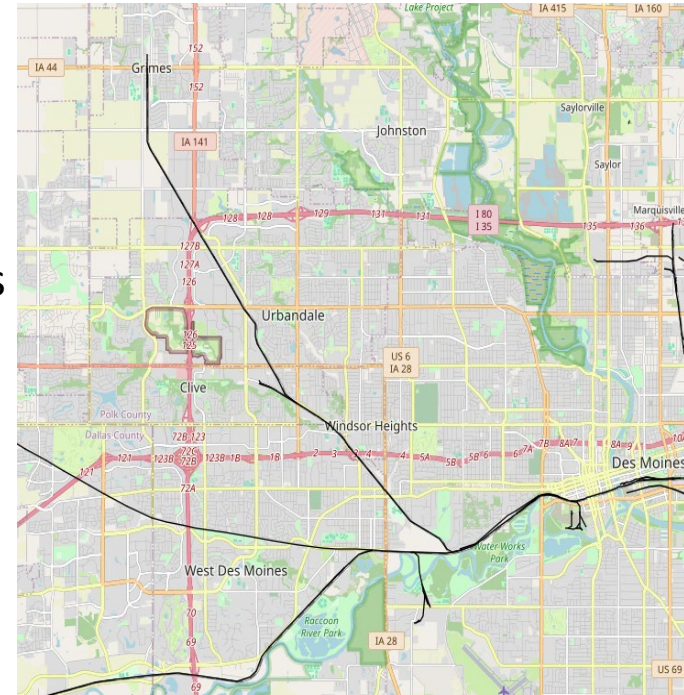
Norfolk Southern Rail Spur – Track Assessment

- 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. 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.



Norfolk Southern Rail Spur – 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.



IOWA DATA BIKE REGIONAL TRAILS PAVEMENT CONDITION REPORT

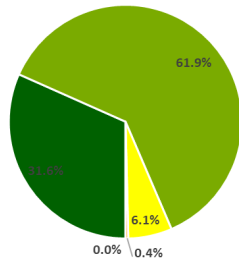
Data Bike

- 2023 Overview
 - Over 250 miles of Central Iowa Regional Trails were covered in 2023
 - Improved 360 Imagery for enhanced Google Street View
 - Improved rear camera for pavement photos
 - ISU intern assisted capturing most of the data.

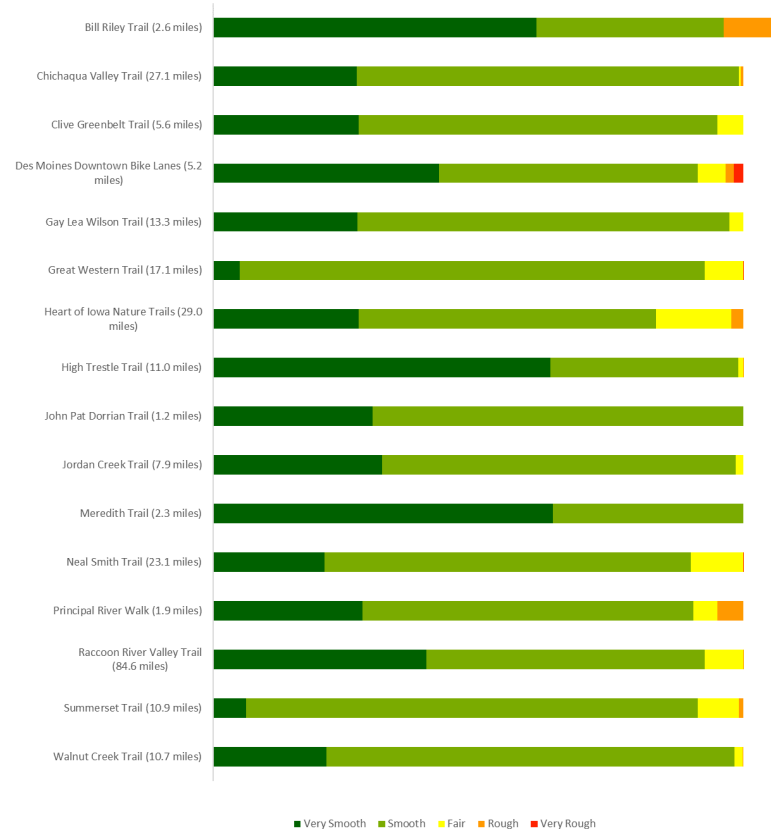
Data Bike

- Staff published an online story map to display the results in an interactive format.
- [Data Bike Story Map](#)

Trail Mileage by Condition



31.6% (82.8 miles) Very Smooth 61.9% (161.9 miles) Smooth 6.1% (15.9 miles) Fair 0.4% (1.0 miles) Rough 0.0% (0.0 miles) Very Rough



Very Smooth Smooth Fair Rough Very Rough

NATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)

- The NOFO for National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Grant Program (NEVI) was released in December.
- Aimed at increasing number of DC Fast Charging.
- \$17-27 million in funding for Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs).
- Application deadline is March 13.
- Applicant will be required to provide 20% contribution to overall project costs.

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)

- Eligible Applicants:
 - For-Profit Businesses
 - Privately owned electric utilities
 - Non-profit organizations
 - Partnerships that include the above as well as governmental entities and municipal utilities
- Ineligible Applicants include:
 - Governmental entities as primary applicant
 - Municipal utilities as primary applicant

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)

- MPO planning area includes Zone 11 of Iowa Alternative Fuel Corridors.
- Applies to Interstates 35 and 80 in the zone.
- Excludes Interstate 235.
- Chargers must be located within 1 mile of interstate access.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH

Executive Director Search Process

- Policy Committee voted in December to hire 2 The Top, in partnership with Deibler & Company, to lead search process.
- 22 TTC representatives responded to a survey as part of input process for developing new job description, interview questions and overall process.
- Job description, posting, and announcements have been developed and will be reviewed by the Search Committee later today.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Bob Andeweg, Urbandale

Joe Gatto, Des Moines

Tom Hockensmith, Polk County

Ruth Randleman, Carlisle

Dean O'Connor, Altoona

Tom Hadden, West Des Moines

Mark Holm, Ankeny

Executive Director Search Process

- December – update job description, develop job posting.
- January 8 – post position for three weeks.
- February – finalists selected and interviewed by Search Committee.
- February 15 – Policy Committee votes on a finalist and initial offer.
- February-March – contract negotiation.
- Early April – new executive director starts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Webinars

- [Cutting Carbon from Transportation: State and Local Best Practices](#) – January 5
- [Risk Management During Trail Construction](#) – January 11
- [Understanding Aggressive Driving and Ways to Reduce It - Sharing Survey Data About Aggressive Driving and Ideas to Bolster Current Traffic Strategies to Address Aggressive Driving](#) – January 17
- [Iowa Roadway Safety Assessment Process and Discussion](#) – January 24
- [The Path to Mental Health: Using Trails to Equip Healthy Communities](#) – January 25
- [Systematic Condition Analysis and Management for Multi-Use Trails](#) (Presenters: City of Des Moines Park & Recreation) – February 8
- [APA Iowa Planning on Tap: Denver's E-Bike Rebate Program](#) – February 15

Events

- [T4America TransportationCamp](#) – January 6 – Washington, DC and Online
- [TRB 103rd Annual Meeting](#) – January 7-11 – Washington, DC
- [ITE International Virtual Spring Conference](#) – March 19-20 – Virtual
- [National Bike Summit](#) – March 19-21 - Washington, DC
- [Smart Growth America's Equity Summit](#) – March 27-28 – Washington, DC

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

FFFY 2028 STBG Funding Applications

- Reminder that application for FFY 2028 STBG and TAP funding are due by the end of the day tomorrow, January 5, 2024
- Staff is working on schedule and presentation date and will provide that date to all applicants as soon as it's been confirmed

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