



DES MOINES AREA MPO

Policy Committee Meeting

May 16, 2024



APPROVAL OF AGENDA

May 16, 2024, Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. CONSENT and VOTE: Contracts and Expenses
5. CONSENT and VOTE: Approval of the Financial Statement
6. PUBLIC COMMENT on MPO Actions
7. PRESENTATION: Polk County Project Updates
8. PRESENTATION: 2 The Top Services Update
9. REPORT and VOTE: *FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program* and Budget Final Draft
10. REPORT and VOTE: IPAIT Fixed Term Investments
11. REPORT: *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Update
12. REPORT: Carbon Reduction Program Funding Update
13. REPORT: DMDC 2024 Debrief
14. REPORT: Director's Report
15. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee
16. Next Meeting Date – June 20, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.
17. Adjournment

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CONTRACTS AND EXPENSES

Contracts & Expenses

VENDOR	PURPOSE	NOTES/INFORMATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Business Publications	Business Record Commercial Real Estate Forum Sponsorship	Completes year 2 of a 3-year commitment to sponsor the annual event. Funds included in annual budget.	\$6,150

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MPO ACTIONS

PRESENTATION: POLK COUNTY PROJECTS



POLK COUNTY PROJECT UPDATES

MPO Technical Committee – May 2, 2024

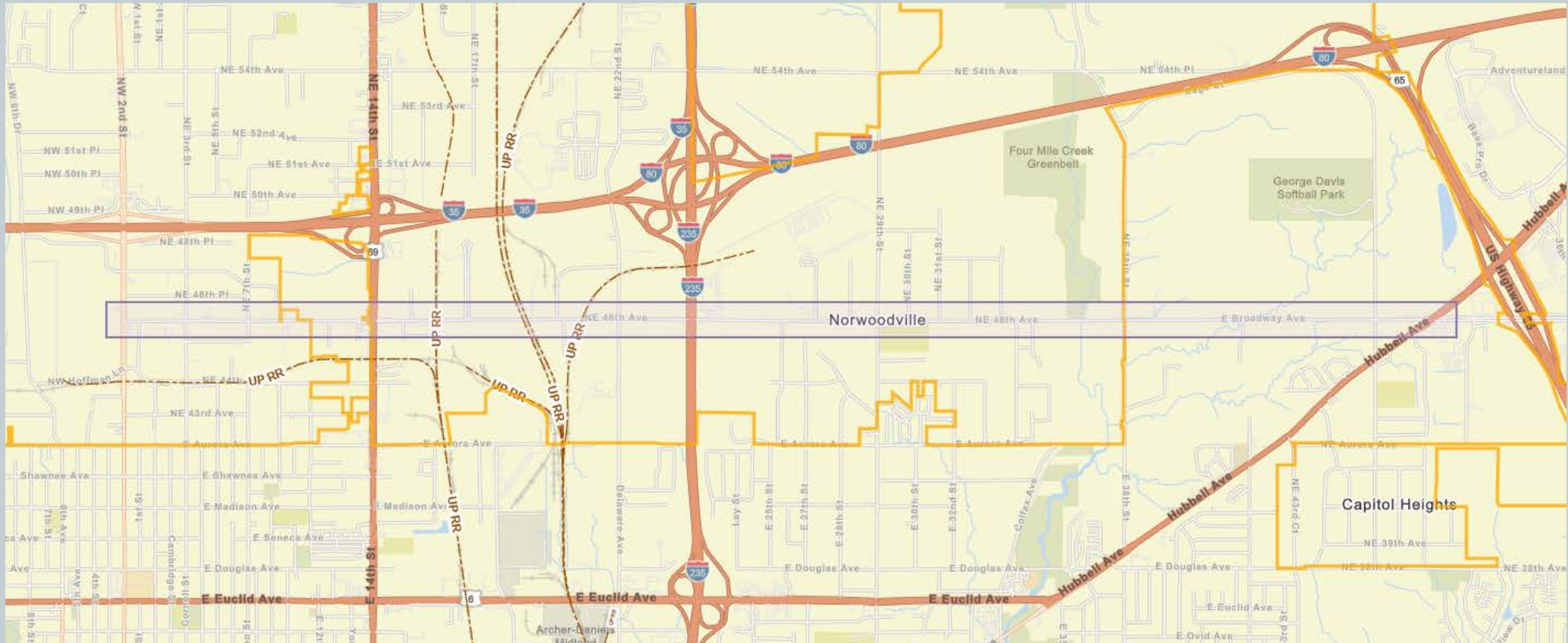
MPO Policy Committee – May 16, 2024

PROJECTS

- Broadway Avenue Project
- Easton Boulevard Project
- Highway 141 and Highway 415 Interchange Project

BROADWAY AVENUE PROJECT

Converting a five mile two-lane rural roadway cross section roadway into a three-lane urban cross section

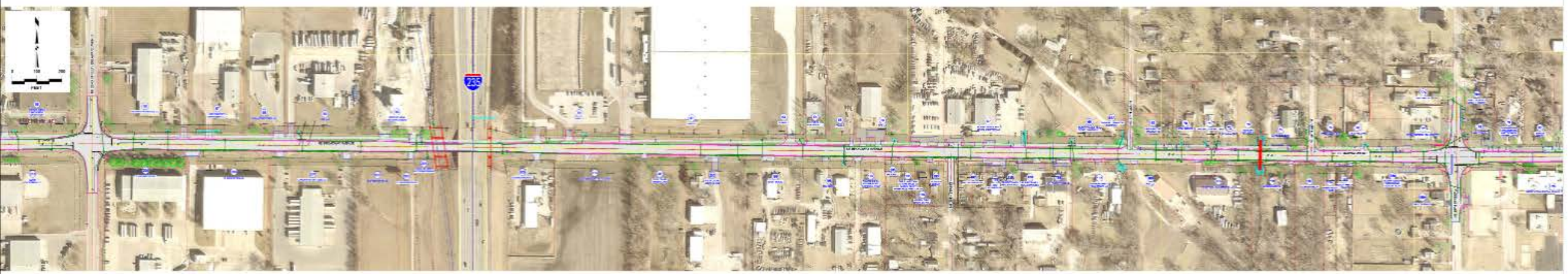


PROJECT FEATURES

- Railroad Bridge - replace existing at grade uneven crossing.
- Ten foot wide trail on west end connects to Gay Lea Wilson Trail at Fourmile Creek
 - Transitions to five sidewalk on east end – east of Fourmile Creek.
- Street/ trail/ sidewalk lighting on the entire corridor– a first for Polk County.
- Add additional through and turn lanes at major intersections
 - IA-415 (NW 2nd)
 - US 69 (NE 14th)
 - US 6 (Hubbell)

GOALS

- Improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicular traffic
- Enhance roadway network reliability for industrial and commercial freight traffic
- Provide protected side path trail facilities to meet pedestrian and bicycle demand
- Improve storm water runoff quality through water quality amenities along the corridor



LEGEND

- PROPOSED PAVEMENT
- PROPOSED GRANULAR SURFACE
- PROPOSED RETAINING WALL
- PROPOSED BRIDGES AND BOX CULVERTS
- PROPOSED PERMANENT ACQUISITION
- PROPOSED PERMANENT EASEMENT
- PROPOSED TEMPORARY EASEMENT
- RETENTION CELLS
- PROPERTY LINES
- LOT LINES
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY LINES

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
 August 4th and 5th, 2021
NE Broadway Avenue
 Polk County, Iowa
 Project Number: FM-C077(227)-55-77
 Photo - August, 2020

POLK COUNTY **CITY OF DES MOINES** **SNYDER & ASSOCIATES**

LESSONS LEARNING

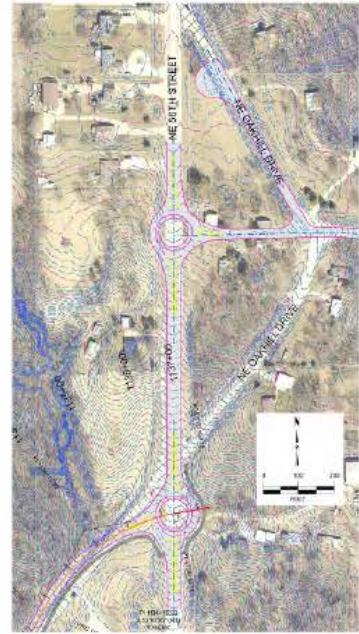
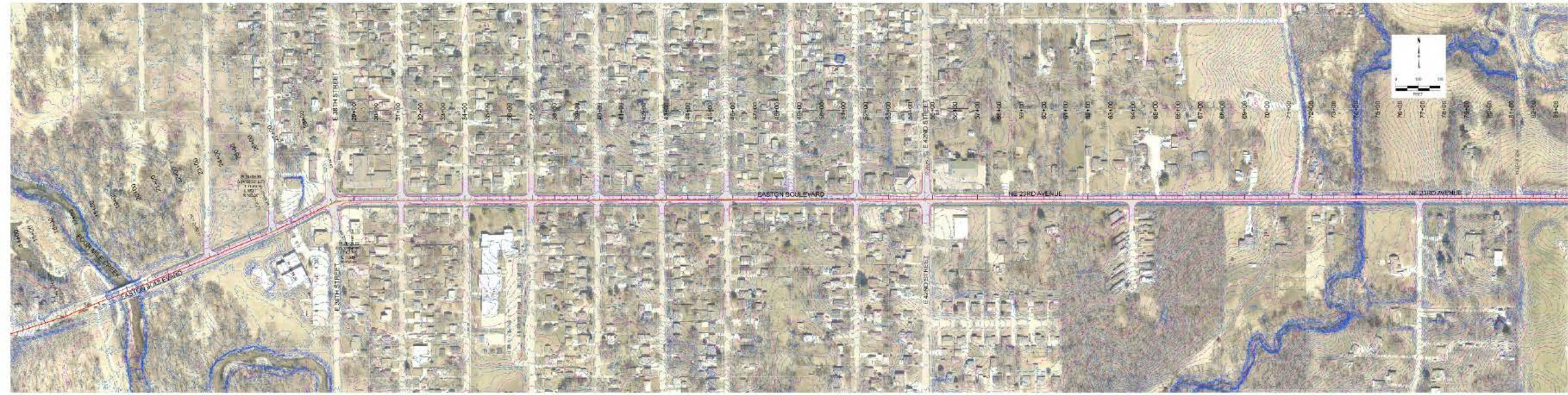
- Communication
- Coordination
- Railroad – UP
- Utility conflicts
- Project timing / scheduling / stages
- Costs
- Federal Grant

TIMELINE

- Under construction
 - East from NE 38th Ave to Hubbell – planned full opening very soon
 - West end between NE 14th and NW 2nd in full construction mode
- Up Next
 - Middle from NE 22nd to NE 29th up next
- Grand Finale
 - The UP Railroad Bridge- not yet bid – scheduled to bid in fall.
- Full project completion by end of 2026

PROJECT FEATURES

- Convert rural cross section to urban
- Improve turning movements
- Intersection and pedestrian access improvements
- Round-a-bouts at end of corridor at NE 56th Street
- Add sidewalk to corridor
- Add lighting on the corridor

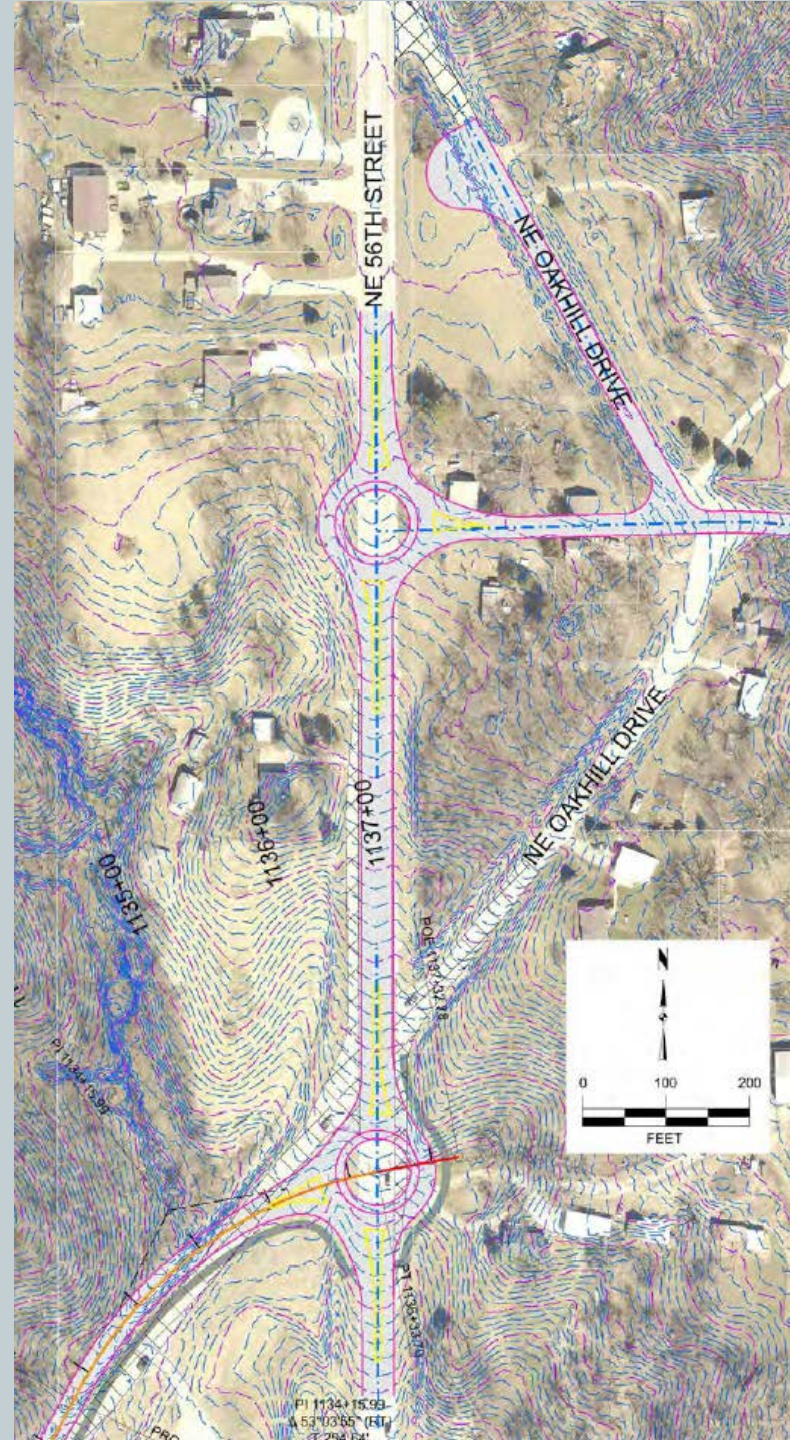


GOALS

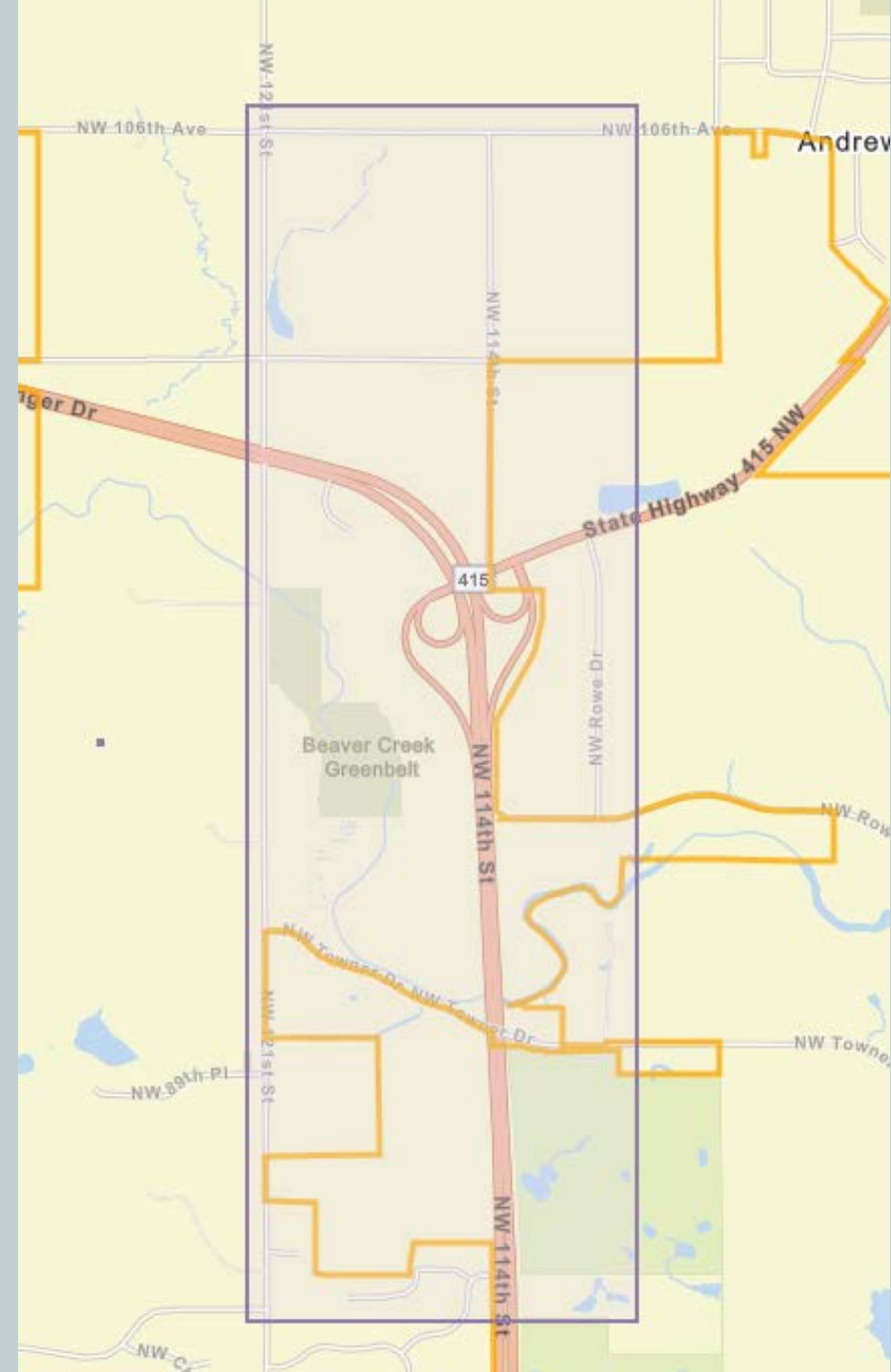
- Improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicular traffic
- Enhance roadway network reliability for commuters and local workers
- Improve access to food, jobs, and other necessities
- Improve storm water runoff quality through water quality amenities along the corridor
- Reduce future congestion and left turn delays for the estimated 10,000 vehicles per day projected for 2030.

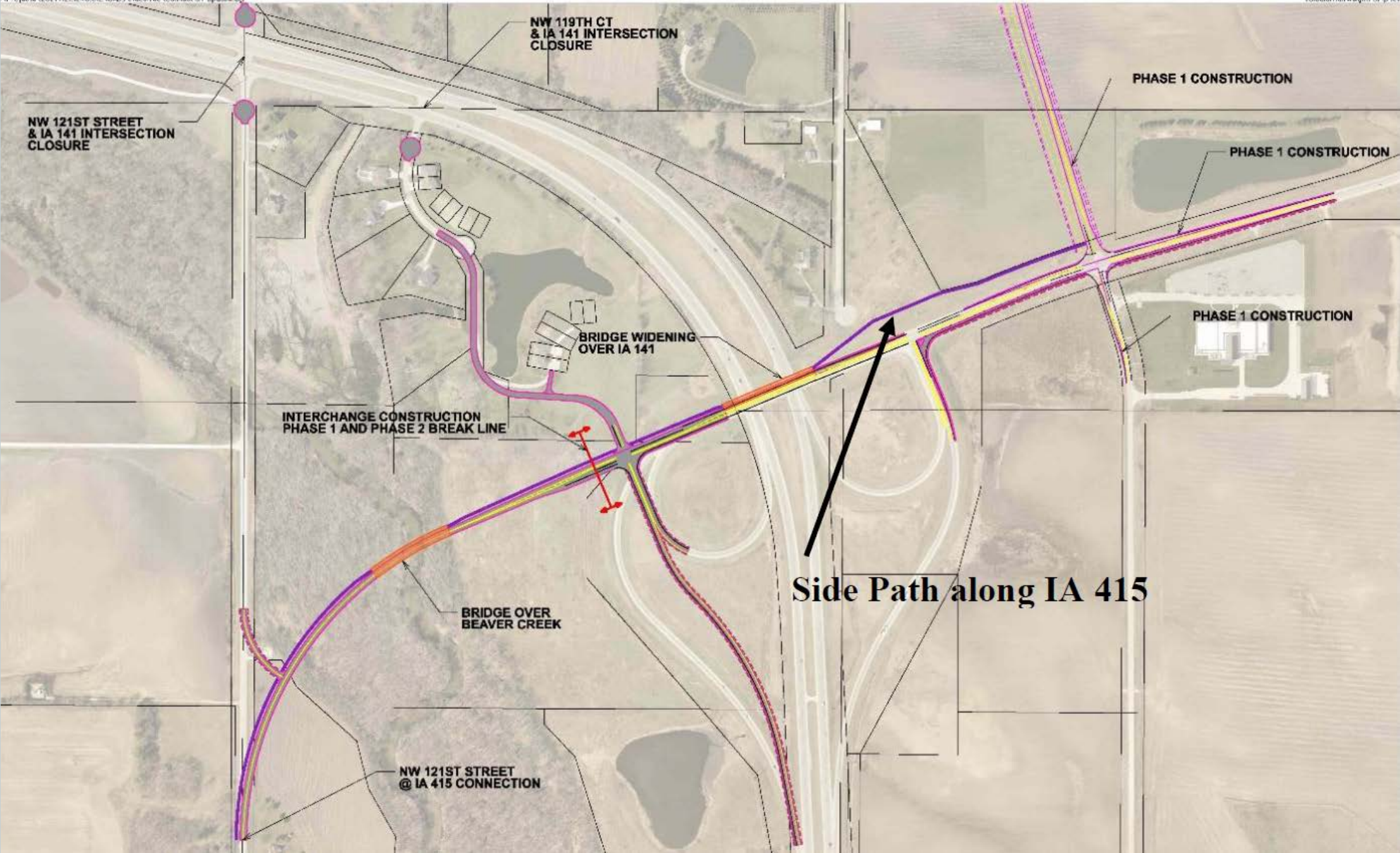


NE 56TH ROUNDBABOUTS CONCEPT



HWY 141- 415 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS





NW 121ST STREET
& IA 141 INTERSECTION
CLOSURE

NW 119TH CT
& IA 141 INTERSECTION
CLOSURE

PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION

PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION

PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION

BRIDGE WIDENING
OVER IA 141

INTERCHANGE CONSTRUCTION
PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2 BREAK LINE

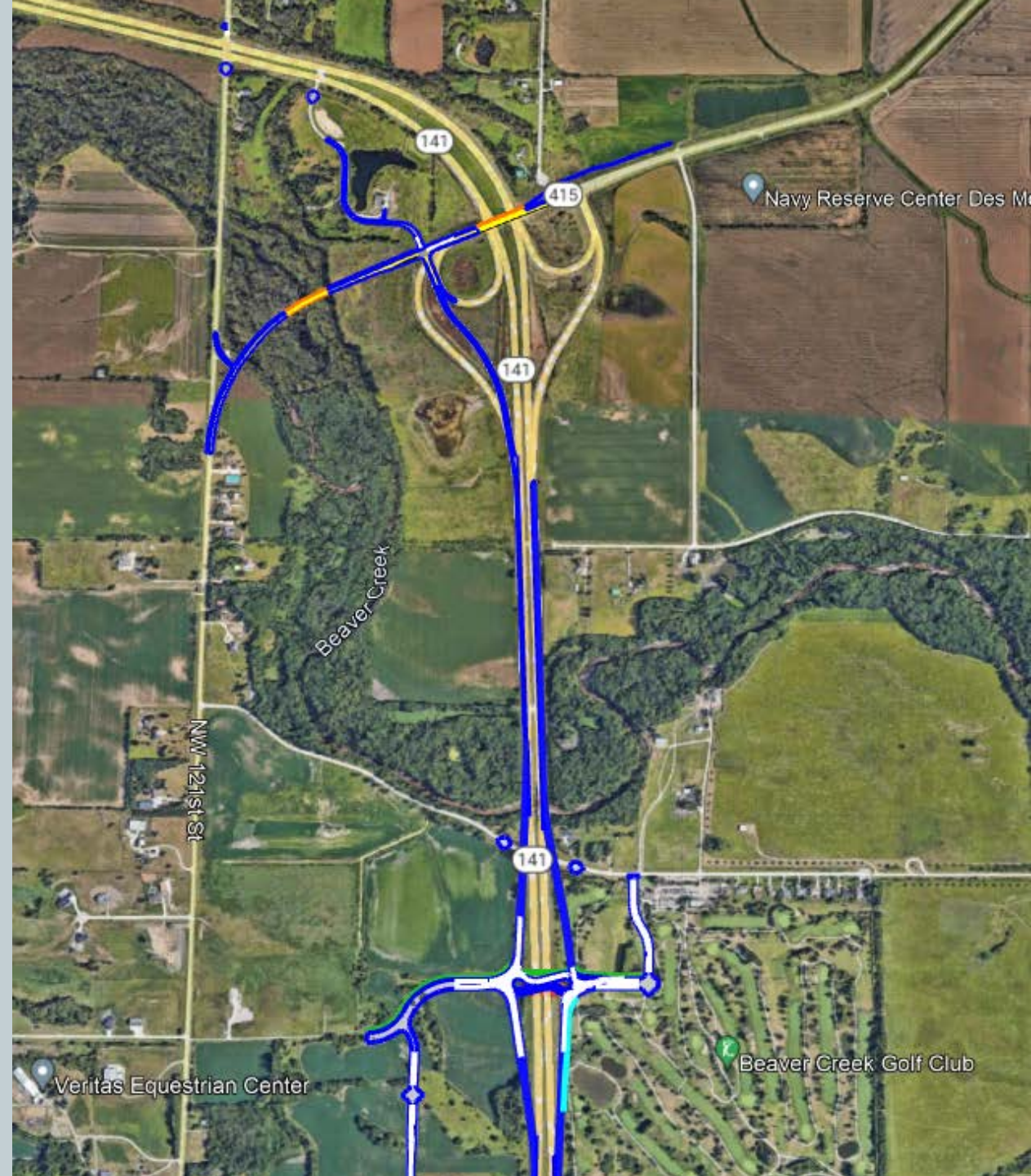
BRIDGE OVER
BEAVER CREEK

NW 121ST STREET
@ IA 415 CONNECTION

Side Path along IA 415



RAISE GRANT
415 INTERCHANGE
&
RELOCATED
TOWNER DRIVE
INTERCHANGE



PROJECT FEATURES AND GOALS

- Convert the north 5.5 miles of the IA 141 corridor to a Priority 1 access-controlled highway – north of Grimes to HWY 17
- Improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicular traffic
- Enhance roadway network reliability for commuters and residents
- Support economic development
- Improve stormwater runoff quality

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?

PRESENTATION: 2 THE TOP SERVICES UPDATE

FY 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM & BUDGET FINAL DRAFT

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- MPO's scope of work for next fiscal year
 - Work elements and activities
 - Committees
 - Costs
- Requested feedback in January and February from MPO members about work activities and have incorporated feedback received
- Draft approved in March and submitted to Iowa DOT/FHWA; minor updates made
- Final due June 1st

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

Task 1: Planning & Studies	MPO Role	Notes
Mobilizing Tomorrow Update	Lead	Federally Required
Future 435	Lead	Ongoing Project
Corridor Preservation Study	Lead	Member Request
Passenger Transportation Plan/Human Service Coordination	Lead	Federally Required
Goods Movement Study	Lead	Member Request/Ongoing Project
Passenger Rail Feasibility Study	Lead or Support	Member/Community Request
Transportation Capital Improvement Plan	Lead	Regular MPO Activity
Multimodal Economic Impact Report	Lead	Member Request
DART Planning Projects	Support	Per MOU with DART
Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	Lead	Develop w/Safe Streets for All Grant
<i>*Midwest Intercity Passenger Rail Initiative</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Request from Technical Committee</i>

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

Task 2: Data Collection, Research, & Analysis	MPO Role	Notes
Performance Measure Tracking	Lead	Federally Required
Travel Demand Model Update & Assistance	Lead	Federally Required
Roadway Pavement Forecast & Analysis	Lead	Ongoing Project
Trail Pavement Data Collection & Analysis	Lead	Ongoing Project – Includes Data Bike
ITS Architecture	Lead	Federally Required
Transportation Data/Software	Lead	Member Request – Includes Data Service Subscriptions
Bike/Ped Count Program	Lead	Ongoing Project/Member Request – Includes Trail Counters

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

Task 3: Funding & Programming	MPO Role	Notes
Surface Transportation Block Grant/Transportation Alternatives Program Process	Lead	Federally Required
Transportation Improvement Program	Lead	Federally Required
Transload Facility Grant Reporting	Lead	Federally Required w/BUILD Grant
Water Trails BUILD Grant Administration	Lead	Federally Required w/BUILD Grant
Grant Letters of Support	Support	Member Requests
DC Trip Project Facilitation	Support	Ongoing Project

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

Task 4: Stakeholder Engagement	MPO Role	Notes
Upkeep of Title VI, LEP, and Public Involvement Process	Lead	Federally Required
Committee Support	Lead	Federally Required
Tomorrow Plan Speaker Series	Support	Ongoing Project
Media Relations	Lead/Support	Ongoing/Situational
Public Meeting Support	Lead	Federally Required
Annual Report	Lead	Ongoing Project

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

Task 5: Program Administration	MPO Role	Notes
Unified Planning Work Program and Budget	Lead	Federally Required
MPO Operating Grant Administration	Lead	Federally Required
Annual Audit	Lead	Federally Required
Routine Office Administration	Lead	Ongoing
Strategic Planning	Lead	Situational

Overall Revenue Available for Operations – FY 2025

MPO FUNDING		
MPO DOT FUNDS - FISCAL YEAR 2025		
Planning Funds Available		
FHWA PL - New	\$954,961	24.8%
FHWA PL - Set-Aside	\$24,486	0.6%
FTA 5305d - New	\$203,360	5.3%
FHWA – STBG Carryover	\$7	0.0%
FTA 5305d – Carryover	\$0	0.0%
US DOT Safe Streets for All Grant	\$1,000,000	26.0%
STBG – New	\$355,000	9.2%
Federal DOT Funds Subtotal	\$2,537,814	66.0%
Other Funding		
Local Assessments (\$1/capita)	\$599,296	15.6%
MPO Reserve Funds	\$588,000	15.3%
DOT & CIRTPA SS4A Match	\$62,000	1.6%
Data Bike Assistance	\$7,500	0.2%
Rail Study Contributions	\$25,000	0.7%
Interest Income	\$25,000	0.7%
Non-DOT Funds Subtotal	\$1,306,796	34.0%
Total Funding	\$3,844,610	100.0%

Changes from FY 2024

- ~\$56,000 increase in DOT ‘new’ funds
- ~\$16,000 increase in local assessments
- ~\$25,000 addition of interest income
- ~255,000 increase in STBG funds
- ~\$150,000 increase in Reserve funds
- No contract revenue

Overall Expenses to Organization - FY 2025

MPO Expenses		
Staff Costs		
Salaries	\$608,178	16.0%
Wages (Intern)	\$19,200	0.5%
Fringe	\$526,439	13.9%
Subtotal	\$1,153,817	30.4%
Non-Personnel Costs		
Indirect Costs	\$344,700	9.1%
Direct Costs – Consultant	\$1,800,153	47.4%
Direct Costs – Other	\$498,450	13.1%
Subtotal	\$2,643,303	69.6%
Total Expenses	\$3,797,120	100.0%

Changes from FY 2024

- Reduced staff from 10 to 9
 - ~\$247,000 reduction in salaries
 - ~\$209,000 reduction in fringe costs
- ~690,500 increase in special project costs

Non-Personnel Direct Cost Detail	
Professional Services: Consultants	
Safe Streets for All	\$1,250,000
Former Staff Services	\$90,153
Future 435	\$250,000
Strategic Planning	\$25,000
Travel Demand Model	\$10,000
Rail Impact Assessment	\$25,000
Multimodal Econ. Impact Study	\$150,000
Subtotal	\$1,800,153
Professional Services: Operations	
Attorney	68,750
Accounting	\$2,200
Audit	\$12,000
Payroll/HR	12,500
Subtotal	\$95,450
Other Special Studies/Projects	
General Sponsorships	\$10,000
Capital Crossroads Contribution	\$20,000
Speaker Series	\$5,000
Pavement Management Software	\$13,000
Transportation Data	\$180,000
Trail Counters	\$175,000
Subtotal	\$403,000

Overall Expenses to Organization - FY 2025

Balance Summary	
Starting Balance End of FY 2024	\$1,747,875
Revenue – FY 2025	
DOT Funds	\$18,537,814
Local Funds	\$5,294,769
Subtotal	\$23,832,610
Costs – FY 2025	
DOT Program	\$2,537,814
Local Costs	\$1,259,306
Water Trails	\$20,000,000
Subtotal	\$23,797,120
Surplus/Deficit – FY 2025	
DOT Balance	\$0
Water Trails Balance	\$0
Local Balance	\$35,490
Subtotal	\$35,490
Balance (Reserve) End of FY 2025	
DOT Balance	\$0
Reserve Funds Used in FY 2025	\$588,000
Local (Operating Reserve)	\$398,492
Local (Other)	\$592,688
Total End Balance	\$1,195,365

FY 2025 UPWP and Budget Development

- Next Steps
 - MPO approves final in May and submits to Iowa DOT/FHWA/FTA
 - MPO-Iowa DOT planning agreement completed in June
 - New budget takes effect July 1

IPAIT FIXED TERM INVESTMENTS

IPAiT Fixed Term Investments

- MPO holds funds in the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAiT)
- Account is currently in diversified funds with variable interest rate
- Finance Subcommittee recommended moving some funds to fixed-term investments in anticipation of the Federal Reserve likely voting later this year to reduce interest rates
 - Current variable rates are 5.073%
 - Current fixed rates range between 5.23% and 5.00%
- Staff is requesting authorization to make this change to lock in fixed rates

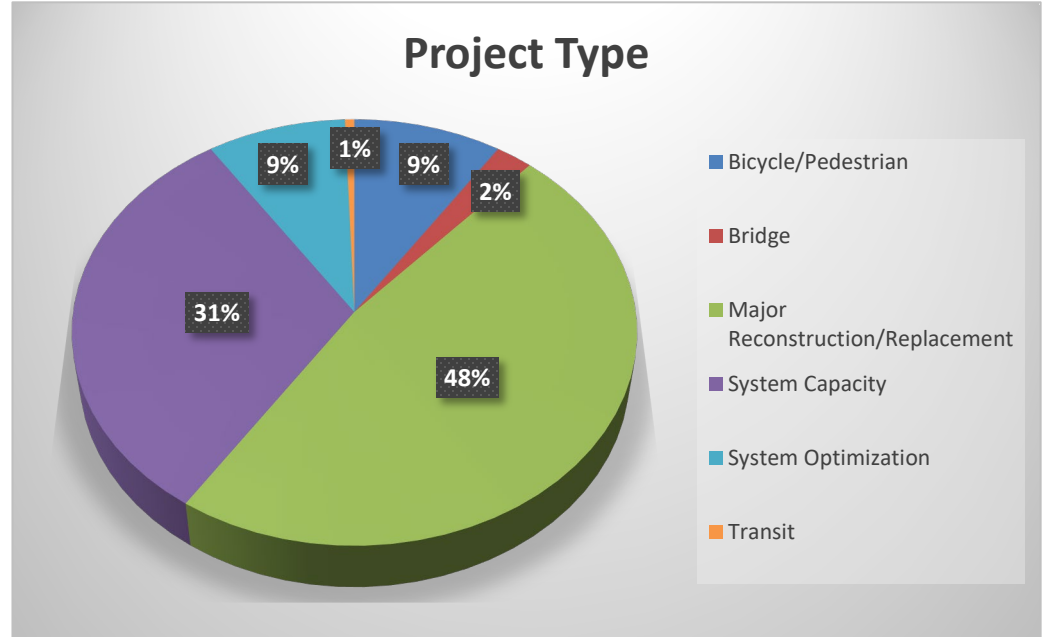
MOBILIZING TOMORROW UPDATE

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- LRTP Project Overview
 - Required to update every 4 years
 - Plan has a horizon year of 2050
 - Next update is due November 2024

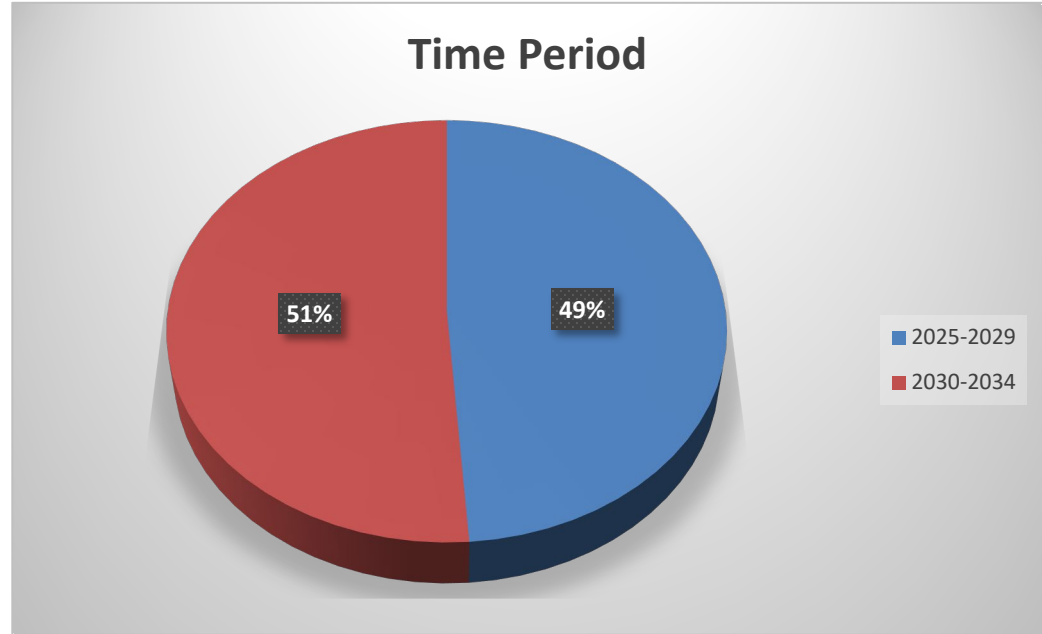
Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- LRTP Project Overview
 - Staff solicited projects from member governments
 - 172 projects were submitted for the 2025-2034 timeframe
 - Still anticipating receiving projects from Polk County



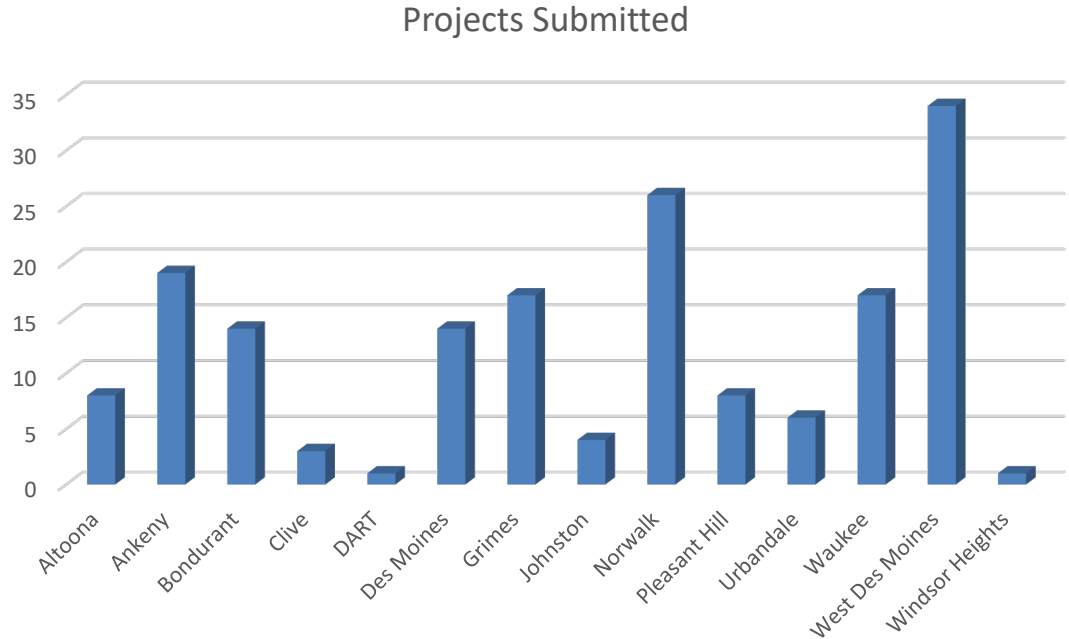
Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- LRTP Project Overview



Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- LRTP Project Overview
 - Average projects = 12
- No projects submitted:
 - Carlisle
 - Mitchellville
 - Polk City
 - Dallas County
 - Warren County



Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- LRTP Project Overview – Fiscal Capacity
 - YOE used 4% annual inflation factor
 - Average estimated project cost was \$9.6 million
 - Projected funding methodology approved in January 2024

	2025-2029	2030-2034	Total
Project Costs (YOE)	\$852.0	\$1,223.1	\$2,075.1
Projected Funding	\$1,257.3	\$1,316.5	\$2,573.8
Programmed Projects	\$153.6	\$0.0	\$153.6
Fiscal Capacity	\$405.3	\$93.4	\$345.1

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Growth Scenario Update
 - Policy Committee approved added language
 - HDR is wrapping up edits to the TAZ shapefile
 - Staff will send out an Excel spreadsheet and TAZ map to each member government
 - Member governments will insert their housing/employment growth into the spreadsheet and return to staff

Mobilizing Tomorrow Update

- Next Steps
 - Send growth scenario spreadsheets to member governments
 - Collect public comment on submitted projects
 - Incorporate submitted projects and growth into the model
 - Updating draft chapters and send out for review

Regional Freight Survey

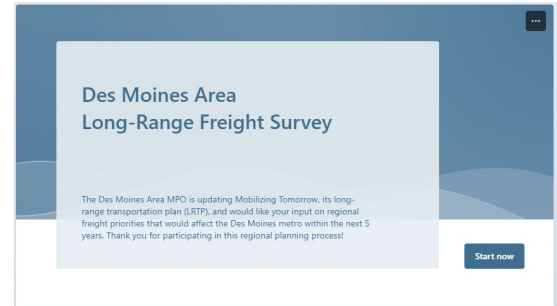
As part of the Mobilizing Tomorrow update, MPO staff prepared a long-range freight survey

- Prioritize freight topics
- Identify freight impediments
- Categorize freight-related strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats

Survey Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/hKGXQHBTNm>

Please share and distribute to interested parties

- Business community
- Economic development
- Logistics and rail companies
- Etc.



CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM FUNDING UPDATE

Carbon Reduction Program

- Background
 - The Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) created the Carbon Reduction Program.
 - In October 2023, staff presented on CRP funding with a recommendation to hold off on making awards until the LRTP update was completed.
 - Earlier this year staff brought back the CRP item as it related to EV charging; TTC expressed desire to look at other alternatives and for staff to bring back for further discussion.
 - During the FFY 2028 STBG funding cycle, the Funding Subcommittee inquired if CRP funding could be used to stabilize DART.
 - This resulted in the Policy Committee voting to award DART \$3.6 million in CRP funding in April and direction for staff to determine options for remaining funds.

Carbon Reduction Program


Federal Fiscal Year	2023 Projected	2024 Projected	2025 Projected	2026 Projected	2027 Projected	2028 Projected	Total
Unobligated Balance (Carryover)	\$0	\$1,381,465	\$2,732,549	\$698,191	\$2,295,191	\$3,924,191	
Federal CRP Program Award	\$1,381,465	\$1,351,084	\$1,565,642	\$1,597,000	\$1,629,000	\$1,629,000	\$9,153,191
Total Revenue	\$1,381,465	\$2,732,549	\$4,298,191	\$2,295,191	\$3,924,191	\$5,553,191	\$9,153,191
Transfer Out							\$0
Programmed CRP Funds	\$0	\$0	\$3,600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,600,000
Expended CRP Project Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Adjustments>Returns	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$3,600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,600,000
Ending Cash Balance, Sept 30 (DOT)	\$1,381,465	\$2,732,549	\$698,191	\$2,295,191	\$3,924,191	\$5,553,191	\$5,553,191

Carbon Reduction Program

- May MPO Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) meeting:
 - Iowa DOT provided an overview of the CRP, eligible uses, and what other MPOs are doing.
 - TTC formed a subcommittee to further discuss CRP process.
- CRP Process Subcommittee:
 - Comprised of representatives from Ankeny, DART, Des Moines, Pleasant Hill, and Waukee.
 - Subcommittee met today, May 16.

DMDC DEBRIEF

DMDC 2024 Debrief



- MPO participated in the Future 435 Policy Team
 - Supervisor Snell, Dylan and Gunnar from MPO, plus staff from the Greater Des Moines Partnership and the Iowa DOT.
 - Meetings with the offices of Sen. Grassley, Rep. Nunn, and Rep Miller-Meeks.
 - Staff presented regional priorities as well.
 - Conversations on Future 435 were positive.
- Staff also met with Transportation for America.



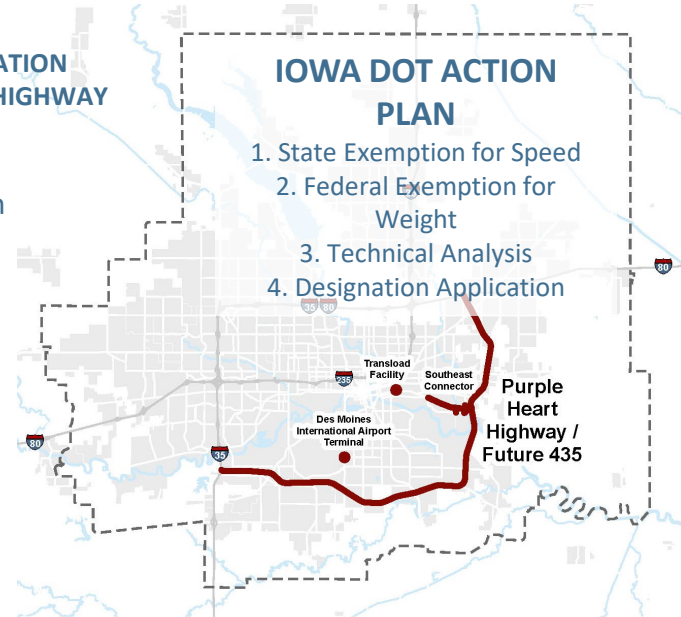
FUTURE 435: INTERSTATE DESIGNATION FOR PURPLE HEART HIGHWAY

STATE UPDATE

- Legislature considered bill with speed exemption and funding for an alternatives analysis.
- Ag stakeholders were mostly neutral – and supportive of the funding.
- Bill fell short due to other funding priorities.
- Revised bill to be reintroduced next year.

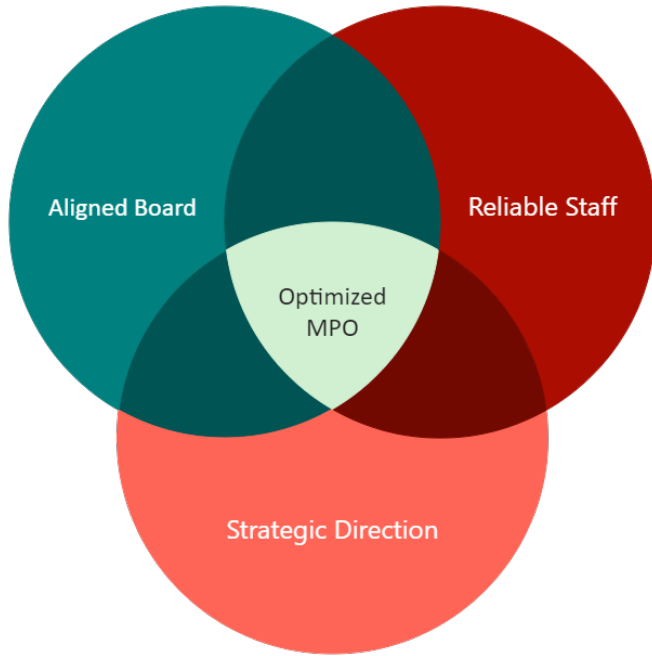
FEDERAL UPDATE

- Support for increasing the interstate weight limits nationwide (and/or exemption for this corridor) as part of authorization bill.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Review: Optimized MPO

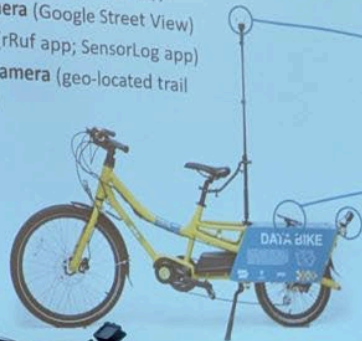


- Status:
 - Aligned Board: 2 The Top Governance Assessment
 - Reliable Staff: 2 The Top Human Capital Plan
 - Strategic Direction: LRTP and potential strategic plan



Date Bike Components

- Electric Cargo Bike (Yuba Spicy Curry)
1. 360 camera (Google Street View)
 2. iPhone (rRuf app; SensorLog app)
 3. GoPro camera (geo-located trail photos)



EXIT 273

Wintergreen Rd
↗

KBX GP Gatik
Group Pacific



Misc. Items

- Staffing Updates
 - Associate Planner position open
 - Summer interns starting
- Norfolk Southern Passenger Rail Line
 - Staff will be making requests to public and private-sector stakeholders along the line to fund the estimated \$25,000 track analysis.
 - Subcommittee to form.
- Des Moines Register inquiry on two MPO projects
 - Future 435
 - Norfolk Southern Passenger Rail Line

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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