





February 2025  
Item No. 4a

**ISSUE: Election of Calendar Year 2025 Officers**

REPORT: Update on the Nominating Committee's recommendation for Calendar Year (CY) 2025 officer positions.

**BACKGROUND:**

MPO Chair Mark Holm appointed Dean O'Connor, Joe Gatto, and Amanda Wanke to serve on the annual Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of candidates for the election of MPO officers.

The Nomination Committee has recommended reappointing the current officers for another term. Those officers include:

Mark Holm, Polk County - Chair  
Jeff Walters, City of Polk City – Vice-Chair  
Connie Boesen, City of Des Moines – Secretary/Treasurer

The Nominating Committee will present their recommendations at the February Policy Committee meeting. Other nominations may be made at that time. The CY 2025 officers will assume their responsibilities beginning in March 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Forward the Nominating Committee's recommendation to the Policy Committee for approval.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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February 2025  
Item No. 4b

**ISSUE: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan**

REPORT: Review of the final draft of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

The MPO hired Toole Design Group in fall 2023 to develop the region's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. This plan will identify safety concerns and provide safety countermeasures to address these issues and ultimately make the region eligible for up to \$50 million in implementation funding through the US Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A) grant program. The plan is being funded through a \$800,000 SS4A grant with a \$200,000 local match from the MPO.

A representative from Toole Design Group will provide an overview of the draft plan. Staff completed their review of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, and all the content has been shared with committee representatives for review.

Please note that the plan up for approval is a "pre-design version" of the plan (aka, rough design in Microsoft Word, awaiting final design in InDesign for a more polished finished product). Staff is recommending moving forward with adopting a pre-design version of the plan for purposes of having an adopted plan for the regional grant application, for which the Notice of Funding Opportunity is anticipated to be released in late March. The final design version of the plan is anticipated in March and will be shared with the committee when available. While the design may change, the content will remain the same as the version adopted by the committee.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommend forwarding the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to the Policy Committee for approval.

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February 2025  
Item No. 4c

**ISSUE: Regional SS4A Implementation Grant Application**

REPORT: Discuss next steps for developing scope of regional grant application for Safe Streets for All implementation funding.

**BACKGROUND:**

The MPO in December started the process of narrowing down a long list of potential corridors and safety treatments and deciding which corridors will be included in a regional grant application for Safe Streets for All implementation funding.

The MPO committees have been building toward this step since the development of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan began. The 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is anticipated to be published in March 2025.

In December, the consulting team, Toole Design, together with MPO staff facilitated a workshop for representatives of the Transportation Technical Committee, who provided input on which systemic safety improvements and corridors should be considered for the regional application.

A representative from Toole Design will present on the proposed process for finalizing the grant application including project selection and ask for feedback from committee representatives.

This process will include a public-engagement component, including an open house which has been scheduled for Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6 p.m. at the MPO office. The open house will include a presentation about the draft Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and the process moving forward to submit a grant application. The public will be asked to provide their input on projects and safety countermeasures. An online survey will be created to mimic the input activities available at the open house, with input welcomed through Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. The public will be invited to attend in person or online. The presentation will be recorded and placed on the MPO's website.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

None. Discussion only.

**STAFF CONTACTS:**

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February 2025  
Item No. 4d

**ISSUE: Legislative Update and DC List**

REPORT: Discussion on recent legislative activity and development of DC List.

**BACKGROUND:**

Staff has been monitoring various directions from the new administration that may impact federal transportation funding. Staff will provide updates on what is known at the time of the meeting and invite discussion among representatives.

Related, staff is beginning preparations for [DMDC 2025](#), the annual lobbying trip to Washington DC that is organized by the Greater Des Moines Partnership. This year's trip is May 7-9. Each year, the MPO works with its member governments to develop a list of priority transportation projects to be discussed with Iowa's Congressional delegation during the trip to Washington DC. The MPO's DC list includes projects that are actively seeking funding, along with any important policy initiatives.

***Request:** Please let MPO staff know if you have a project seeking federal funding that should be on the DC list. Please include a project name, project summary, total project cost, funding amount being requested, and desired funding source if applicable. These should include any planned submissions for Community Project Funding, with the understanding that not all of them will likely be selected by the congressional offices.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

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February 2025  
Item No. 4e

**ISSUE: Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Strategic Planning**

REPORT: Discussion of the process to develop the next work program and budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

MPO staff is beginning to develop the Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (FY 2026 UPWP) and budget, which will document all planning activities the MPO will perform from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) requires the UPWP to describe the MPO's proposed planning activities – including task objectives, previous work, project descriptions, and work products – as well as the budget and funding sources to carry out the planning activities. The Iowa DOT requires the MPO to submit a draft UPWP by April 1, 2025, and a final UPWP by June 1, 2025.

The MPO staff asks for input from member governments and participating agencies on planning tasks for FY 2026 throughout the development of the UPWP. In particular, MPO staff would welcome any proposals for special studies, plans, or other activities, as well as requests for local planning assistance.

Starting this year, the MPO will be incorporating its strategic planning within the UPWP. The MPO is working with 2 The Top to develop a strategic framework as a first step, and committee representatives are requested to provide input.

**Please complete the following Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis by Friday, January 31.**

- [SWOT Analysis Form](#) (click to download Word document from MPO website)
- [SWOT Directions](#)

Please email completed forms to [golson@dmampo.org](mailto:golson@dmampo.org).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Report and discussion only.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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February 2025  
Item No. 5a

**ISSUE: January Financial Statement**

INFORMATIONAL: January Financial Statement for Policy Committee approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

Contents of the January Financial Statement will be finalized early next week and will be shared with the committee prior to the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommend forwarding the January Financial Statement to Policy Committee for adoption.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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February 2025  
Item No. 5b

**ISSUE: MPO Appointment to SUDAS Board of Directors**

REPOR: Report regarding the nomination of a technical representative to the Statewide Urban Designs and Specifications Board of Directors.

**BACKGROUND:**

The MPO periodically appoints a technical representative to serve as the MPO's representative to the Statewide Urban Designs and Standards (SUDAS) Board of Directors. The SUDAS representative is required to be a licensed professional engineer (P.E.). Mark Mueller, with the City of Ankeny, has been the MPO's representative since August 2016. Mr. Mueller's term is expiring, and he has offered to continue serving in this role if the board reappoints him.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend reappointing Mark Mueller as the MPO representative on the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Board of Directors. Forward to the Policy Committee for approval.

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February 2025  
Item No. 5c

**ISSUE: Regional Safety Performance Targets (PM1)**

INFORMATIONAL: Report on the MPO’s Regional 2021-2025 safety performance targets; consider approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

As part of the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), MPOs can either (1) support its state department of transportation’s (DOT) targets or (2) establish its own targets for its planning area. In August 2024, the Iowa DOT established statewide safety performance targets for the 2021-2025 period. The Des Moines Area MPO has 180 days, or until February 27, 2025, to either support the Iowa DOT’s statewide targets or set its own regional targets.

Previously, the Des Moines Area MPO adopted the Iowa DOT’s statewide safety performance targets. With the development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), MPO staff propose the following regional safety targets to be consistent with the CSAP. There are no penalties for MPOs that do not meet or make significant progress towards the safety performance targets.

[An MPO memo summarizing the targets and methodology is available here \(click to access\).](#)

Performance Measure	Five-year Rolling Averages			2045 Goal
	2019-2023 Baseline	2020-2024 Baseline	2021-2025 Target	
Number of Fatalities	40.4	42.8	40.7	0
Fatality Rate*	0.919	0.971	0.922	0
Number of Serious Injuries	186.4	187.6	178.2	0
Serious Injury Rate*	4.215	4.239	4.027	0
Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	31.8	34.2	32.5	0

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

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommend adopting our own safety targets that align with the MPO’s CSAP and Vision Zero Goal. Forward to the Policy Committee for approval.

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February 2025  
Item No. 5d

**ISSUE: Iowa DOT 2022-2025 Pavement and Bridge Performance Targets (PM2) Adjustments**

INFORMATIONAL: Report on the Iowa DOT’s 2022-2025 pavement and bridge performance targets; consider approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21) Act and the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act established pavement and bridge conditions national performance measures (PM2) for state department of transportation (DOT) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). Targets are set every 2 and 4 years, with the first targets set in calendar year (CY) 2018 for the CY 2018-2021 performance period. For the second reporting period of CY 2022-2025, the Iowa DOT set its 2- and 4-year PM2 targets in October 2022. In September 2024, the Iowa DOT adjusted its 4-year PM2 targets. The Des Moines Area MPO has 180 days, or until March 29, 2025, to support the Iowa DOT’s statewide targets or set its own regional targets.

[An Iowa DOT memo summarizing the adjusted targets and methodology is available here \(click to access\).](#)

Previously, the Des Moines Area MPO adopted the Iowa DOT’s targets. There are no penalties for MPOs that do not meet or make significant progress towards the performance targets.

	Topic	Performance measure(s)	2021 Baseline	2022-2023 2-year Target	2022-2023 2-year Actual	Prior 2022-2025 4-year Target	Adjusted 2022-2025 4-year Target
PM2	Pavement	Percentage of pavements of the Interstate System in Good condition	58.8%	55.0%	58.2%	55.0%	53.0%
		Percentage of pavements of the Interstate System in Poor condition	0.4%	3.0%	0.5%	3.0%	3.0% (No change)
		Percentage of pavements of the non-Interstate NHS in Good condition	37.9%	35.0%	35.3%	35.0%	30.0%
		Percentage of pavements of the non-Interstate NHS in Poor condition	3.7%	6.0%	4.0%	6.0%	6.0% (No change)
	Bridge	Percentage of NHS bridges classified as in Good condition	49.4%	52.5%	48.9%	56.0%	48.0%
		Percentage of NHS bridges classified as in Poor condition	2.4%	5.0%	1.3%	6.6%	6.6% (No change)

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommend adopting Iowa DOT’s statewide pavement and bridge performance targets. Forward to the Policy Committee for approval.

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February 2025  
Item No. 5e

**ISSUE: Multimodal Economic Impact Study**

INFORMATIONAL: Providing an update on a Multimodal Economic Impact Study.

**BACKGROUND:**

The MPO Policy Committee in January authorized MPO staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Multimodal Economic Impact Study.

Study Overview

The study’s purpose would be to 1) quantify the economic impacts and benefits of transportation investments in the region, and 2) isolate the economic impacts of transit in the area to demonstrate the nature, magnitude, and sensitivity of return on investment to different strategic options the region may consider in the Reimagine DART plan.

Funding

The estimated cost is \$200,000 - \$300,000. The MPO’s current budget includes \$150,000 for the study. DART also plans to contribute to the study.

MPO staff drafted and issued the RFP January 24, 2025. The RFP was sent to 25 consulting firms, including local and national firms, and was posted to the MPO website.

The anticipated schedule for the proposal review, contracting, and project completion are included in the table below.

Activity	Date
Issue RFP	January 24, 2025
<b>Proposal Deadline by 5:00 p.m. (CT)</b>	<b>February 7, 2025</b>
Proposal Review by Consultant Selection Group	February 10-11, 2025
Virtual Consultant Interviews (if needed)	February 17, 2025
Approval from MPO Policy Committee	February 20, 2025
Award Contract	March 2025
MPO Policy Board Adopts Study	September 2025

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Informational only.

**STAFF CONTACTS:**

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