



DES MOINES AREA MPO

Policy Committee Meeting

February 20, 2025

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

February 20, 2025



1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. CONSENT and VOTE:
 - a) January Financial Statement
 - b) SUDAS Representative
 - c) Regional Safety Performance Targets (Performance Measures 1)
 - d) Regional Pavement and Bridge Performance Targets (Performance Measures 2)
 - e) Water Trails – Harriet Street Change Order #3
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. REPORT and VOTE: Strategic Planning Framework
7. REPORT and VOTE: Election of MPO Officers
8. REPORT and VOTE: Special March Policy Committee Meeting
9. REPORT and VOTE: Multimodal Economic Impact Study Contract
10. OPTIONAL VOTE: Enter Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters
11. REPORT and VOTE: Executive Director Annual Review
12. REPORT: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Draft
13. REPORT: Regional Application to Safe Streets for All
14. REPORT: Legislative Update and DC List
15. REPORT: FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget Development
16. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
17. OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE
18. NEXT MEETING: 4 p.m. April 17, 2025
19. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda



Information on the Consent Agenda items was provided in agenda packet. Representatives can request to pull out items to be voted on individually if they would like more discussion on them.

- a) January Financial Statement
- b) SUDAS Representative
- c) Regional Safety Performance Targets (Performance Measures 1)
- d) Regional Pavement and Bridge Performance Targets
- e) Water Trails – Harriet Street Change Order #3

PUBLIC COMMENT

STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK



MPO Strategic Framework and Visioning

Presented by: Cassandra Halls

2/20/2025

Scope of Work

2 Primary Objectives

- Develop an updated MPO Strategic Framework
- Mission/Vision/Guiding Principles Discussion with the Policy Committee
 - Draft/update modifications as suggested

Work Completed to Date

Strategic Planning Committee

- Bobbi Bentz, Ankeny
- Connie Boesen, Des Moines
- John Dostart, Altoona
- Mark Holm, Polk County
- Mike Jones, Windsor Heights
- Bob Andeweg, Urbandale
- Tom Hadden, West Des Moines

- 12/30/24 – 1/22 – Began initial planning work
- 1/23 - Strategic Planning Committee
- 1/23 – Officially launched strategic planning with the Policy Committee
- 1/24 – 2/7 – SWOT Worksheets
- 2/10 – 2/13 – Compiled SWOT analysis and updated strategic framework
- 2/14 – Reviewed updated draft with the Strategic Planning Committee
- 2/20 – Presenting Strategic Framework for Policy Committee consideration

What We Learned from the SWOT Analysis

- 19 SWOT worksheets submitted
 - 13 Policy Committee Members
 - 1 TTC Member
 - 5 Staff Members
- 279 comments captured
 - 109 comments (39%) were S & W (Internal)
 - 91 comments (33%) were O & T (External)
 - 79 comments (28%) were A & R (Visionary)

What We Learned from the SWOT Analysis

12 UNIQUE Themes Recognized

1. Scope of Work
2. Process Improvements
3. Access to Funding & Managing Policy
4. Regional Collaboration
5. MPO Operations
6. Project Specific Ideas
7. Convening, Resource & Engaging Experts
8. Engaged Governance
9. Balancing Needs & MPO Value
10. MPO Best Practice
11. Exploring Emerging Trends
12. Marketing and Communications

A Quick Reminder – Building the Strategic Framework

We WILL:

- Develop a NEW hybrid strategic framework (strategy, vision and tactics).
- Position the MPO for future, robust strategic planning efforts.
- Achieve consensus on the vision, and approach, ensuring alignment and consistency in the work to be undertaken by the MPO.
- Design a framework that meets federal planning requirements, but the document will have a different look and feel.
- Create a framework that will have a 1-year (or so) timeline – it is not intended to be a long-term planning solution

We ARE NOT:

- Completing a full-blown strategic planning process
- Spending months to complete the planning
- Engaging multiple stakeholders into the discussion
- Designing a 5-year plan

OUR GOAL TODAY:

Review the framework, modify as needed and gain your approval for implementation.



2025 – 2026 Strategic Framework

Vision Statement (Existing)

Our region has a well-coordinated multi-modal transportation system that leverages our unique attributes in order to ensure a high-quality of life and economic success.

Mission Statement (Existing)

The MPO advances a safe, effective, fully integrated multi-modal transportation system that supports economic development, protects natural assets, and enhances overall quality of life.

Leadership Team

- Dylan Mullenix, Executive Director
- Gunnar Olson, Planning & Public Affairs Manager

Strategy Planning Committee

- Bobbi Bentz, Ankeny
- Connie Boesen, Des Moines
- John Dostart, Altoona
- Mark Holm, Polk County
- Mike Jones, Windsor Heights
- Bob Andeweg, Urbandale
- Tom Hadden, West Des Moines

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STRATEGIC VISION	Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations	Regional Planning & Federal Excellence	Enhance Partnerships & Services	Purpose-Driven Innovation
	Unify the MPO culture to align all stakeholders toward a common mission, stability, and positioning the organization as a dynamic, thriving regional leader.	Focus on regional planning that improves transportation systems and sparks meaningful public engagement, while ensuring compliance with federal MPO requirements.	Establish trusted and reliable partnerships with stakeholders by offering valuable support through data analysis, technical expertise, and collaborative efforts.	Encourage different ideas, celebrate achievements, and elevate new initiatives that advance member priorities, align with organizational capabilities, and drive region-wide impact.
2025-2026 OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES	Financial & Operations Evaluation Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Financial outlook (dues, funding). ➤ Consider office space/shared services. ➤ Determine MPO ROI (quantitative and qualitative). 	Streamline Processes Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of technology. ➤ Establish funding priorities. ➤ Refine the application process and scoring criteria for funding. 	Simplify Access to Services Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of technology. ➤ Design an application process for supplemental services. ➤ Create awareness of available MPO services. 	Wildly Important Projects Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Future 435 ➤ Safety ➤ STPG & TAP – intentional funding efforts ➤ Multimodal Impact Study ➤ Data Visualization
	Organizational Development Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessment of technology. ➤ Develop the MPO team, build new skills and expand the bench. ➤ Implement recommendations from Human Capital Plan. ➤ Build the MPO brand 	Regional Priorities Alignment Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Make the UPWP more strategic – using it to drive regional priorities and provide value to our members ➤ Better connection between STPG & TAP and the long-range plan. 	Advocacy & Policy Monitoring Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Offer collective advocacy for policy impact that benefits the region. ➤ Serve as the watchdog and communicate changes in federal and state funding/programs. 	Define the Potential of the MPO Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Determine gaps in community service needs. ➤ Find balance between varying city needs to create solutions that are inclusive and effective for all members.
	Enhance Governance Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue working on governance (committees, building the structure out). ➤ Complete a membership evaluation. ➤ Identify 28E/By-law amendments. ➤ Expand Committee Member knowledge base, strengthen orientation 	Maintain a Future Focus Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Explore new technologies that support sustainable transportation systems. ➤ Identify emerging trends in mobility that enhance efficiency and accessibility. ➤ Identify opportunities for regional collaboration/projects to maximize available funding. 	Collaboration, Education & Resource Sharing Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Convene regional partners and stakeholders for discussion, planning and ideation. ➤ Provide learning opportunities from experts in the field in areas of interest. 	Become the Model for MPO Best Practices Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lead the region by adopting innovative policies and serving as a consultant to others. ➤ Learn from other MPOs and organizations, integrating best practices that align with our goals. ➤ Evaluate and implement strategies to improve regional collaboration and efficiency.
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	Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations	Regional Planning & Federal Excellence	Enhance Partnerships & Services	Purpose-Driven Innovation
SUCCESS MEASURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Return on Investment – Dues VS Funding Received over 5-year period ➤ More engaged board, more tie into staff ➤ Updated Mission/Vision/Values ➤ Meet with all Member Communities and stakeholders ➤ Updated, clean audit report ➤ Increase staff effectiveness, redundancy of duties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Satisfactory recertification review ➤ Completion of work activities by required due dates ➤ Ensuring the projects funded are implemented (completing amendments, getting money out the door) ➤ Review funding policies against goals of long-range plan and federal funding status to ensure alignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ How many communities did we help with something other than providing funding/dollars? ➤ Increase in members accessing new services ➤ Implement new application process for services ➤ Well informed members, active in policy conversations ➤ Hosted at least educational/regional convening per quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Moving forward on Wildly Important Projects ➤ The MPO is seen as the place where BIG IDEAS go to get done and done well. ➤ Having our work recognized by the DOT as commendations (certified best practices).

What the day-to-day includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meeting preparation ➤ Paying bills ➤ Grant reimbursements ➤ Personnel Management ➤ Facilities & equipment Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Federally required work ➤ TIP ➤ Long Range Plan ➤ Public Participation Plan ➤ Performance Measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Not federally required but regionally impactful ➤ Data and mapping ➤ Data bike and trail counters ➤ Grant writing/letters of support ➤ Grant administration ➤ Annual DC list ➤ Modeling ➤ Technical analysis ➤ Serving on committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Convening project-based committees ➤ Research ➤ Outreach
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Vision, Mission & Guiding Principles Review

From the 2024 Governance Insights Report

- Revisiting Des Moines Area MPO Vision, Mission, and Guiding Principles

The MPO's vision, mission, and guiding principles have not been updated in quite some time and are currently stated differently between the organization's staff and primary documents. To unify the board and team members, drive consensus, and provide clear direction for setting strategy, it is essential to ensure these foundational elements are consistently articulated and regularly reviewed. This clarity will help align everyone's efforts towards common goals and reinforce a cohesive organizational strategy.

Outcomes & Aspirations

Detailed vision questions on the SWOT:

Outcomes:

- What will look different when we get “there”?
- What aspects of our organization and its processes will change, and how?
- What results do we want to be known for?

Aspirations:

- What do we care deeply about?
- What difference do we hope to make?
- What new/different projects, changes or processes are needed to support our aspirations?

What is a Vision Statement?

A vision statement describes the long-term goal or desired future of the organization. It's a forward-looking statement about what you aim to achieve and where it wants to be in the future.

Purpose: It serves as inspiration and provides direction for your work. It answers the question, *Where do we want to go?*

Long-term thinking

VISION STATEMENT: Capture Your Thoughts on Your WORKSHEET

Vision Statement (Existing)

Our region has a well-coordinated multi-modal transportation system that leverages our unique attributes in order to ensure a high-quality of life and economic success.

- What do you like about the current Vision Statement?
- What is missing from the current Vision Statement?
- What 3 words should be included to help inspire, describe and shape the vision?

(Where we want to go . . .)

What is a Mission Statement?

A mission statement focuses on the present. It describes your purpose, the reason you exist, and what you will do to achieve your vision.

Purpose: It explains *why* you exist and *how* you aim to achieve your goals. It's action-oriented and often used to guide day-to-day decision-making.

Present-day action

MISSION STATEMENT: Capture Your Thoughts on Your WORKSHEET

Mission Statement (Existing)

The MPO advances a safe, effective, fully integrated multi-modal transportation system that supports economic development, protects natural assets, and enhances overall quality of life.

- What do you like about the current Mission Statement?
- What is missing from the current Mission Statement?
- What 3 words should be included to capture action, support decision-making, help achieve the vision?

(What do we need to do to achieve our vision. . .)

What are Guiding Principles?

Guiding Principles influence the decisions, behaviors, and actions within an organization. They support the organization and its members as you approach various situations, ensuring alignment with the mission, vision, and overall purpose. These principles help maintain consistency, integrity, and focus on all aspects of the organization.

Purpose: The "rules" or "standards" that govern how you operate and interact both internally and externally.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: Capture Your Thoughts on Your WORKSHEET

Guiding Principles (New Idea)

Share 3 – 5 words with simple summaries of how you define them of principles you think should be considered.

EXAMPLES:

- **Integrity:** Always act with honesty and transparency.
- **Collaboration:** Teamwork and open communication across all levels of the organization.
- **Holistic Approach to Transportation Planning:** Consider other planning elements (e.g., housing, environment, and economic development).

(Guardrails to guide how we operate . . .)

Next Steps

- Send VMGP Input by **Wednesday, March 5th**
- March: Compile all feedback from worksheets
- March: Recraft/update Vision & Mission
- March: Draft Guiding Principles
- March/April: Meet with Strategic Planning Committee for review
- April: Review updates with Policy Committee



THE TOP

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ELECTION OF MPO OFFICERS

Nominations

- Nominating Committee (Dean O'Connor, Joe Gatto, and Amanda Wanke) recommends reappointing current officers for another term:
 - Mark Holm, Polk County – Chair
 - Jeff Walters, Polk City – Vice Chair
 - Connie Boesen, Des Moines – Secretary/Treasurer
- Recommendation goes to Policy later this month for consideration.
- Other nominations may be made at that time.

SPECIAL MARCH POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Special March Meeting

- The Executive Committee recommended holding a special MPO Policy Committee meeting in March to take action on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.
- Staff proposes a virtual meeting on Thursday, March 27, at 4:00 PM. Other suggestions are welcome.

MULTIMODAL ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY CONTRACT

Multimodal Economic Impact Study

- MPO Policy Committee authorized MPO staff to issue RFP at January meeting.
- Study's purpose:
 - 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.

Multimodal Economic Impact Study

- RFP was issued January 24, 2025
 - Posted to MPO website
 - Sent to 25 consulting firms
- Received One (1) Proposal: Metro Analytics
- Project Cost: \$249,993
 - MPO - \$150,000
 - DART - \$100,000

Multimodal Economic Impact Study

- MPO staff met with Metro Analytics to align scope of work with available budget.
- Metro Analytics provided draft contract on February 14.
 - Reviewed by MPO staff and legal counsel.
 - Revised contract submitted February 19 with recommended edits.
- **Recommendation:**
 - **Authorize the MPO to contract with Metro Analytics.**

**OPTIONAL CLOSED SESSION:
PERSONNEL MATTERS**

This meeting is in closed session.

The public will reenter the meeting when policy makers come out of the close session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL REVIEW

Executive Director Annual Review

- The MPO officers performed an annual review of the Executive Director on February 14, 2025.
- The officers recommend the following:
 - A 3% compensation adjustment
 - Increasing the Executive Director's contract from 1 year to 3 years
 - Having the Personnel Committee establish a process for future reviews that culminates in the annual review occurring by the end of the calendar year before board turnover occurs

COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN

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Plan Contents

Chapter 1 – Introduction

Chapter 2 – Commitment to Vision Zero

Chapter 3 – Safety Analysis

Chapter 4 – Community Engagement

Chapter 5 – Strategy and Project Selections

Chapter 6 – Equity

Chapter 7 – MPO Policy and Process Changes

Chapter 8 – Progress and Transparency

Appendix A – Crash Analysis Report

Appendix B – Community Engagement Report

Appendix C – Existing Safety Efforts in Member Communities

Appendix D – Interviews with Local Communities

Appendix E – Countermeasures Toolkit

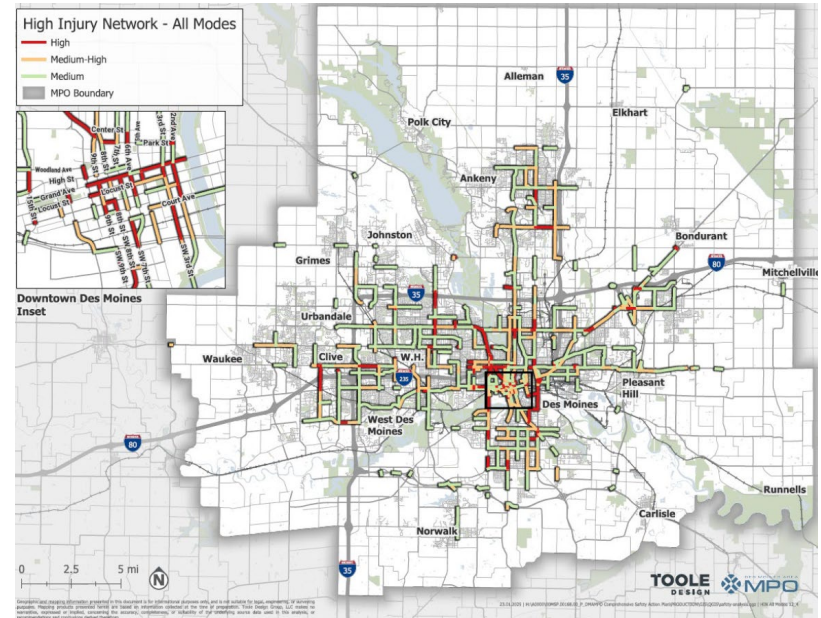
Appendix F – Member Community Projects

Appendix G – Summary of Plans, Programs, and Guidelines



Chapter 3 (Appendix A) – Crash Analysis Key Findings

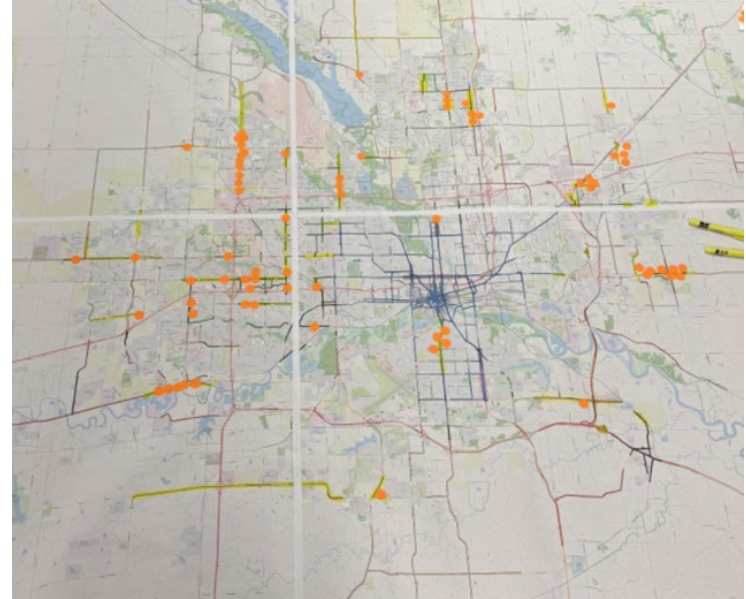
1. Fatal and severe crashes are more common on bigger roads
2. Men and young adults are more likely to be fatally or severely injured than women and older adults and children
3. Fatal and severe crashes are more likely to occur in rural areas
4. Motorcyclists, pedestrians, and bicyclists are more vulnerable in crashes than motor vehicle occupants
5. Speeding and failing to yield are the 2 biggest causes of fatal and severe crashes



A map showing the High Injury Network

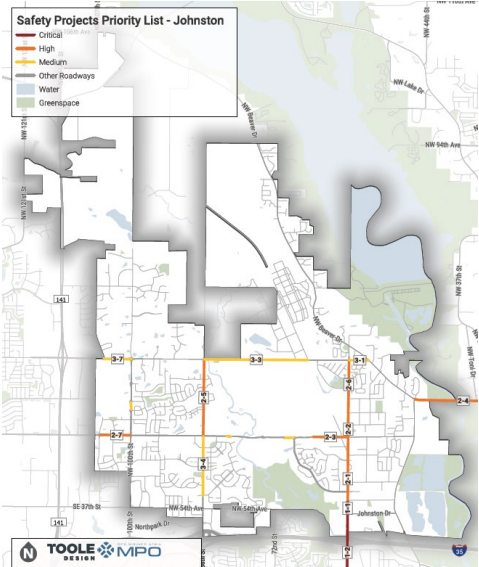
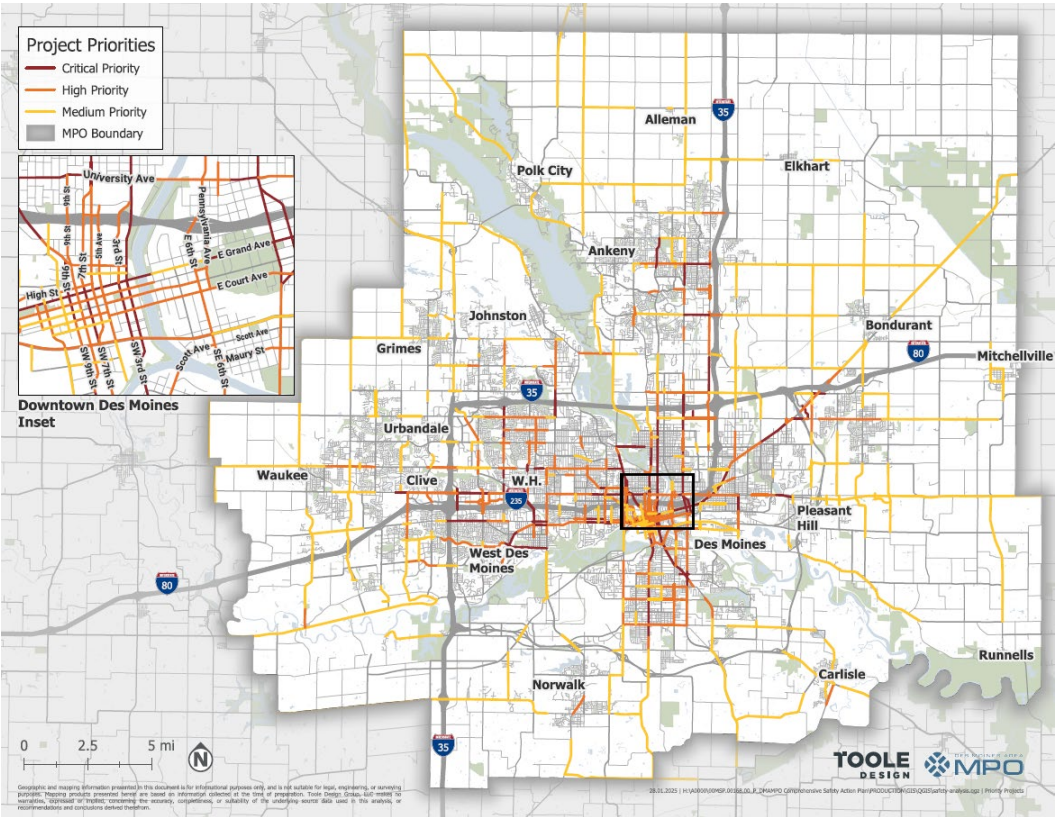
Chapter 4 (Appendix B) – Community Engagement Key Findings

1. Unsafe driving practices are perceived as the most prominent contributors to transportation safety issues
2. Infrastructure for bicyclists and pedestrians needs to be expanded and improved
3. Consistency and visibility within markings, signage, and signals is an area for improvement
4. Conversations with first responders and law enforcement officials highlighted measures to improve roadway behavior and trainings to support crash response

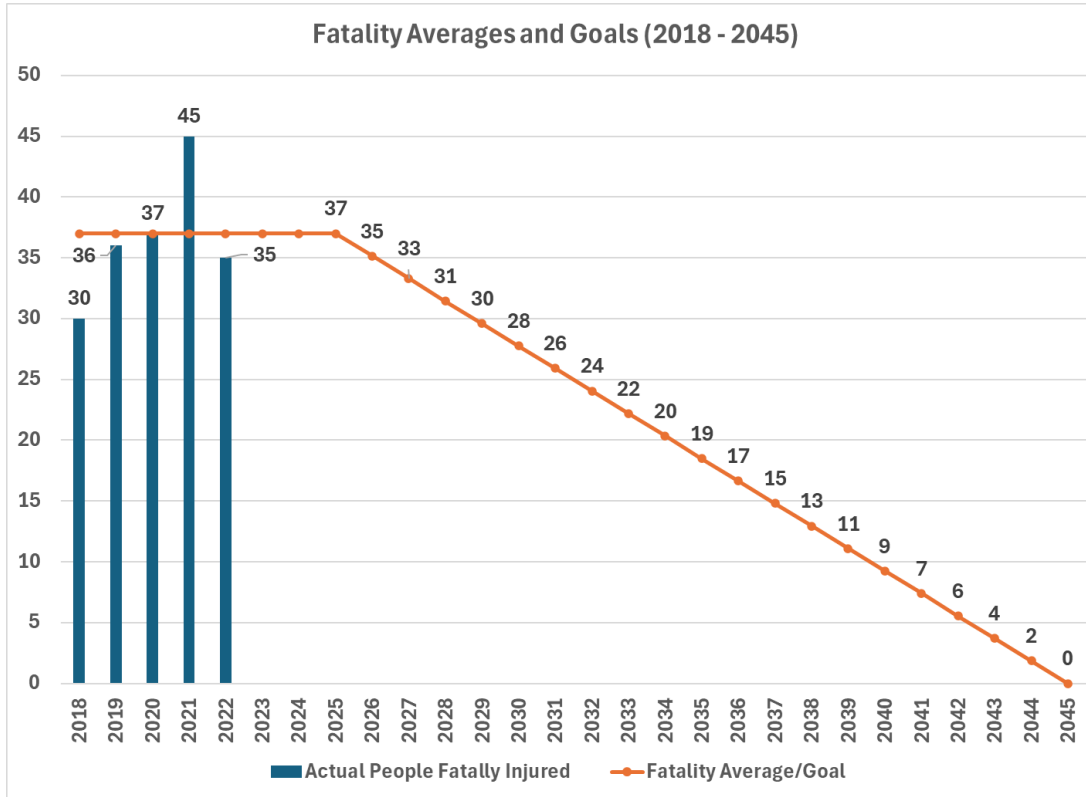


A map showing the TTC's preferred safety projects

Chapter 5 (Appendix F) – Project Priorities



Chapter 8 – Progress & Transparency



A chart showing traffic fatality averages and goals

CSAP Plan Adoption

- CSAP will be presented to TTC and Executive Committee March 6
- MPO Staff is working to schedule a Transportation Safety Committee meeting to review the plan.
- The MPO Policy Committee meeting being scheduled in March (item 8) will allow the committee to take action on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan prior to the anticipated release of the NOFO.

REGIONAL APPLICATION TO SAFE STREETS FOR ALL



December Workshop Recap

The MPO's Safety Action Plan will culminate in a SS4A Implementation Grant application in Spring 2025.

The grant could be composed of:

Option 1: Only smaller spot treatments of safety countermeasures spread across the region

Option 2: Many smaller spot treatments of safety countermeasures spread across the region plus a few key corridor or intersection reconstruction or modification projects

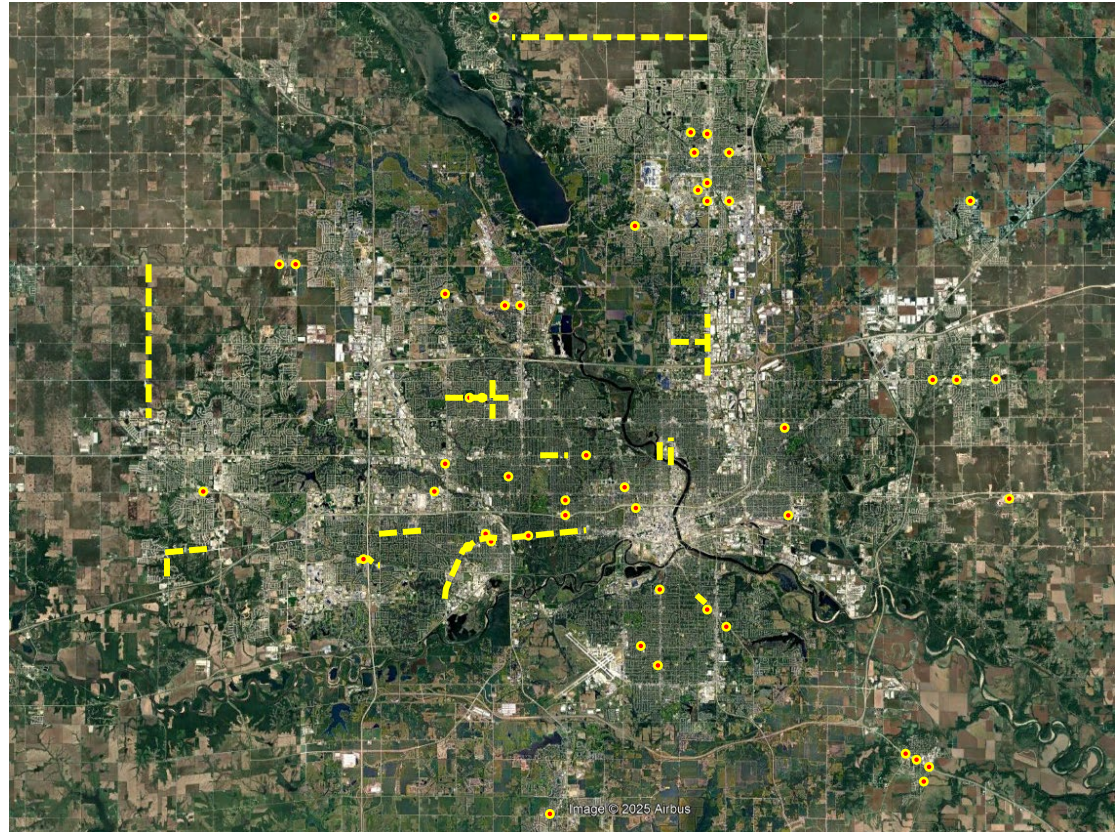
Option 3: Only a few larger corridor or intersection reconstruction or modification projects

Assumptions: 1 region-wide application, maximum of \$25M federal funding (\$31.25M with match), match coming from communities



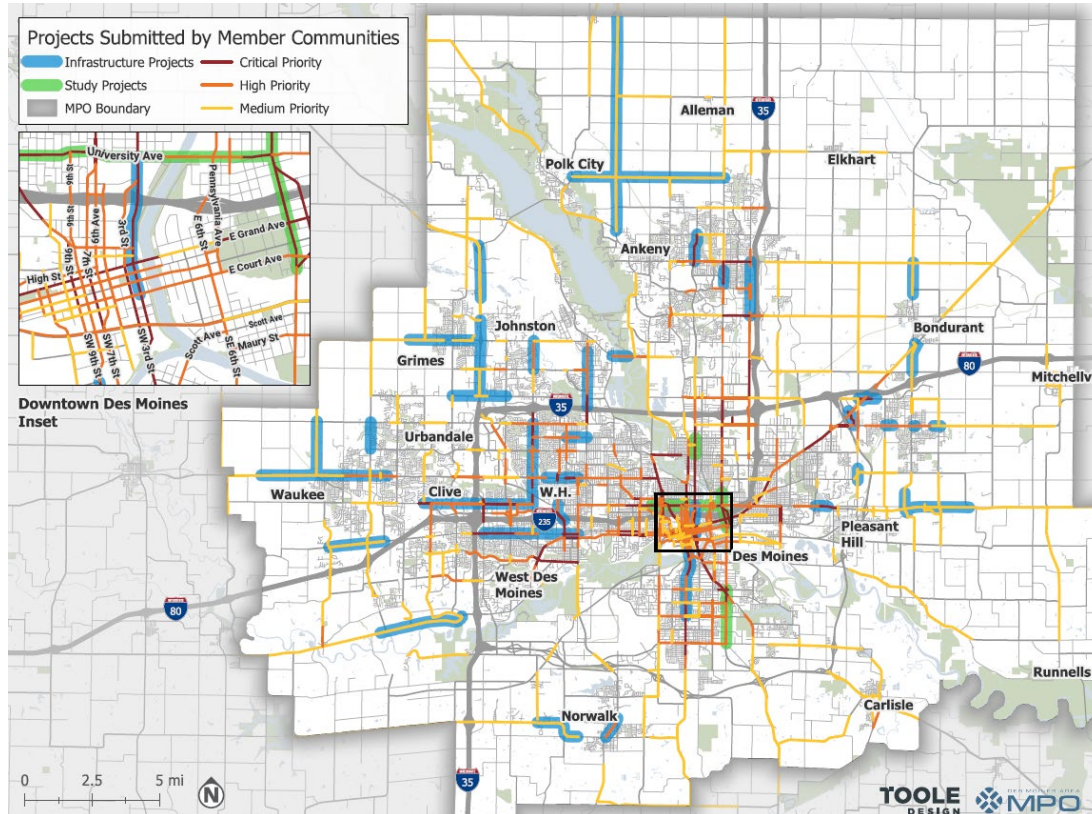
Proposed Smaller Spot Treatment Areas

- Focused on safe access to schools (ped crossings, signal operations, etc.)
- Will also include retroreflective signal backplates regionwide (not shown)
- Will likely narrow down through community conversations



A map showing projects submitted by communities

Potential Key Corridor Improvement Areas

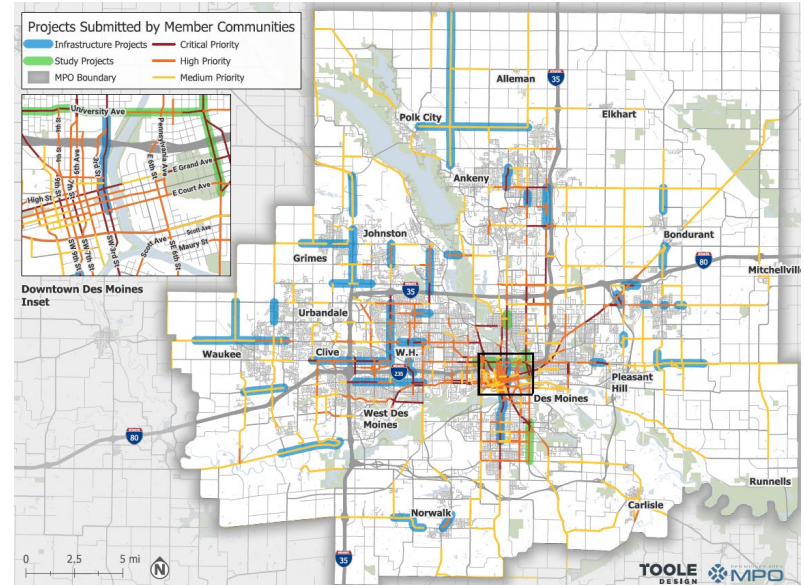


A map showing projects submitted by communities

- 39 projects submitted by member communities
- TTC voting indicated most support for:
 - IA 141 in Grimes (funded separately)
 - IA 163 in Pleasant Hill near SE Polk Schools
 - Delaware Ave in Ankeny
 - US 69 in Ankeny (IADOT upcoming project)
 - Raccoon River Drive in West Des Moines

Grant Application Next Steps

1. Solicit input from the public on preferred projects
2. Seek input from communities and agency partners about preferred project scopes with a focus on countermeasures in Chapter 5/Appendix E
3. Generate a strategy based on
 - Forthcoming Notice of Funding Opportunity
 - Input received from TTC in December
 - Public input
4. Return to TTC with recommendations



A map showing projects submitted by communities

Open House

- Held Monday, February 10th, 4pm to 6pm
- Presentation at 4:30pm
 - Recorded
 - Remote attendance is welcome
 - Will be posted on MPO website
- Public engagement survey (*in person + online*)
 - Available through March 16th
 - Categories of input:
 1. Preferred projects
 2. Countermeasure input

Type of countermeasure						
		Very supportive	Supportive	Acceptable	Unsupportive	Very unsupportive
ROADWAY DEPARTURES	Wider Edge Lines Enhance the visibility of travel lane boundaries Expected crash reduction: 37%					

A public survey about countermeasures

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND DC LIST

State: Future 435

- Bill introduced February 13 in House. Senate companion bill is anticipated to be filed soon.
 - Provide guarantee that federal weight exemption will occur prior to interstate designation
 - Provide minimum speed exemption
 - Appropriate \$250,000 toward an Alternatives Analysis
- Corridor communities will be called upon to attend committee meetings when scheduled.

State: Sidewalk liability

- Bills aims to address recent Iowa Supreme Court ruling shifting liability to cities. Bill would add the following language:

The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by the failure to use reasonable care in maintaining such property if required by ordinance.

IWILL

- SJR 6 is a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa by repealing the natural resources and outdoor recreation trust fund (IWILL), and dedicating a portion of state revenue from sales and use taxes imposed for the benefit of property tax relief for school districts.
- IWILL is a fund established for the purpose of protecting and enhancing water quality and natural areas in Iowa, including parks, trails, fish and wildlife habitat, and soil conservation.

Federal: Annual DC List

- DMDC 2025, the annual trip to Washington DC organized by the Greater Des Moines Partnership, is May 7-9.
- MPO is working with member governments to develop a list of priority transportation projects to be discussed with Iowa's Congressional delegation.
- The DC List includes only projects that are actively seeking funding, along with any important policy initiatives.
- Draft list is available as a handout.
- Please submit materials by Friday, February 21.
- Materials can be submitted to golson@dmampo.org or input directly into the document via [link](#).

New Transportation Secretary: Sean Duffy



- Sworn in Jan. 28.
- First act was signing a memorandum directing staff to start the process of resetting Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, with expressed goal of lowering the price of cars and eliminating the electric vehicle mandate.

Federal: Unleashing American Energy

- The Trump administration on Jan. 20 released an executive order titled Unleashing America Energy ([link](#)).
 - Targeted components of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that were priorities of the previous administration.
 - However, a strict reading suggested that all IJIA programs would be frozen, causing widespread confusion among transportation officials.
- Office of Management and Budget on Jan. 21 released a memo M-25-13 ([link](#)) clarifying the executive order.
 - Pause applies only to “Green New Deal” elements; i.e., programs relating to climate change, electric vehicles, DEI.
 - OMB on Jan. 29 rescinded the memo (M-25-13)

MPO Reimbursements from Iowa DOT

- Iowa DOT communicated on January 29 that reimbursement were being processed normally.
 - Affirmed February 5 that reimbursements are status quo until told otherwise.
 - FHWA reaffirmed this with Iowa DOT.

New Update: STIP/TIP Amendment Reviews

- US DOT confirmed today that all FHWA division offices are required to forward anything requiring a signature or approval to the Office of General Counsel (OGC) at US DOT for review before any approval actions can be taken.
- No timeline has been set for how long these reviews may take.
- STIP/TIP Amendments are among the key things that will be impacted by this. While FHWA divisions can continue to accept STIP amendment submissions, the added review has effectively placed a hold on projects requiring STIP/TIP amendments.
- Potential impacts include delays in contract awards, construction start dates, and the obligation of federal funds.
- MPO staff and national organizations like AMPO are assessing how this pause may affect MPO TIPs given the required consistency between STIP and TIP amendments, as well as what else might be affected.

Federal: US DOT Order

- US DOT released order on January 29 titled Ensuring Reliance Upon Sound Economic Analysis in Department of Transportation Policies, Programs and Activities ([link](#))
 - Provides principles to govern implementation and administration of all DOT policies, programs and activities

Federal: Highlights of US DOT Order

- Rigorous cost-benefit requirements and data-driven decisions
- Support federal goals, not local political objectives
- Adhere to Buy America requirements
- Not depend on future DOT assistance for maintenance
- Prioritize goals:
 - Utilize user-pay models
 - Direct funding to opportunity zones
 - Prohibit funding recipients from imposing vaccine or mask mandates
 - Require local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement

Federal: Highlights of US DOT Order (cont.)

- One broad theme worth noting: Families.
 - Programs shall be administered to maximize benefits for families and communities
 - Economic opportunity
 - Access to jobs, healthcare, recreation, etc.
 - Mitigate the impacts of DOT programs on families and family-specific difficulties,
 - Accessibility of transportation to families with young children
 - Preference to communities with marriage and birth rates are higher than the national average

Case Study: ~~RAISE~~ BUILD



- US DOT issued a revised, redline version of the FY2025 NOFO
 - Reverts program name to BUILD
 - Provides a concrete example of the new administration’s priorities being applied to federal transportation program.
 - In short, the NOFO removes the previous administration’s priorities relating to equity, climate change
 - Reinforces focus on economic factors
 - E.G., “Historically Disadvantaged Communities” redefined as “Areas of Persistent Poverty.”
- (SIDENOTE: MPO staff updated Windsor Heights grant application prior to submission)

Staff assessment: Status of notable federal programs

Program	Alignment with new priorities?	Notes
Surface Transportation Block Grant	Likely	No immediate changes anticipated
Transportation Alternatives Program	Likely	No immediate changes anticipated
BUILD	Mostly	Changes seen in NOFO. More changes likely next cycle.
Safe Streets for All	Likely mostly	Safety is highlighted in US DOT memo (of families and children especially)
Carbon Reduction Funding	Unlikely	Awards already made. Possibly these will need to be retracted.
Community Project Funding	Potentially	3 rd District is collecting projects

FISCAL YEAR 2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

FY 2026 UPWP and Budget Development

- Describes the scope of work and budget for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
 - Justifies the MPO's use of federal planning funds
 - Communicates to member communities and the public the MPO's intended work
 - Draft due April 1st - Final due June 1st
- Will build from the Strategic Planning Framework discussed earlier.

FY 2026 Draft Budget

Anticipated Expenditures

	Amount	Percent of Total
Salaries	\$658,391	29.8%
Wages	\$21,600	1.0%
Fringe Benefits	\$583,544	26.5%
Other Direct Costs	\$600,950	27.2%
Eligible Indirect	\$291,036	13.2%
Ineligible Indirect	\$50,500	2.3%
TOTAL	\$2,206,021	100.0%

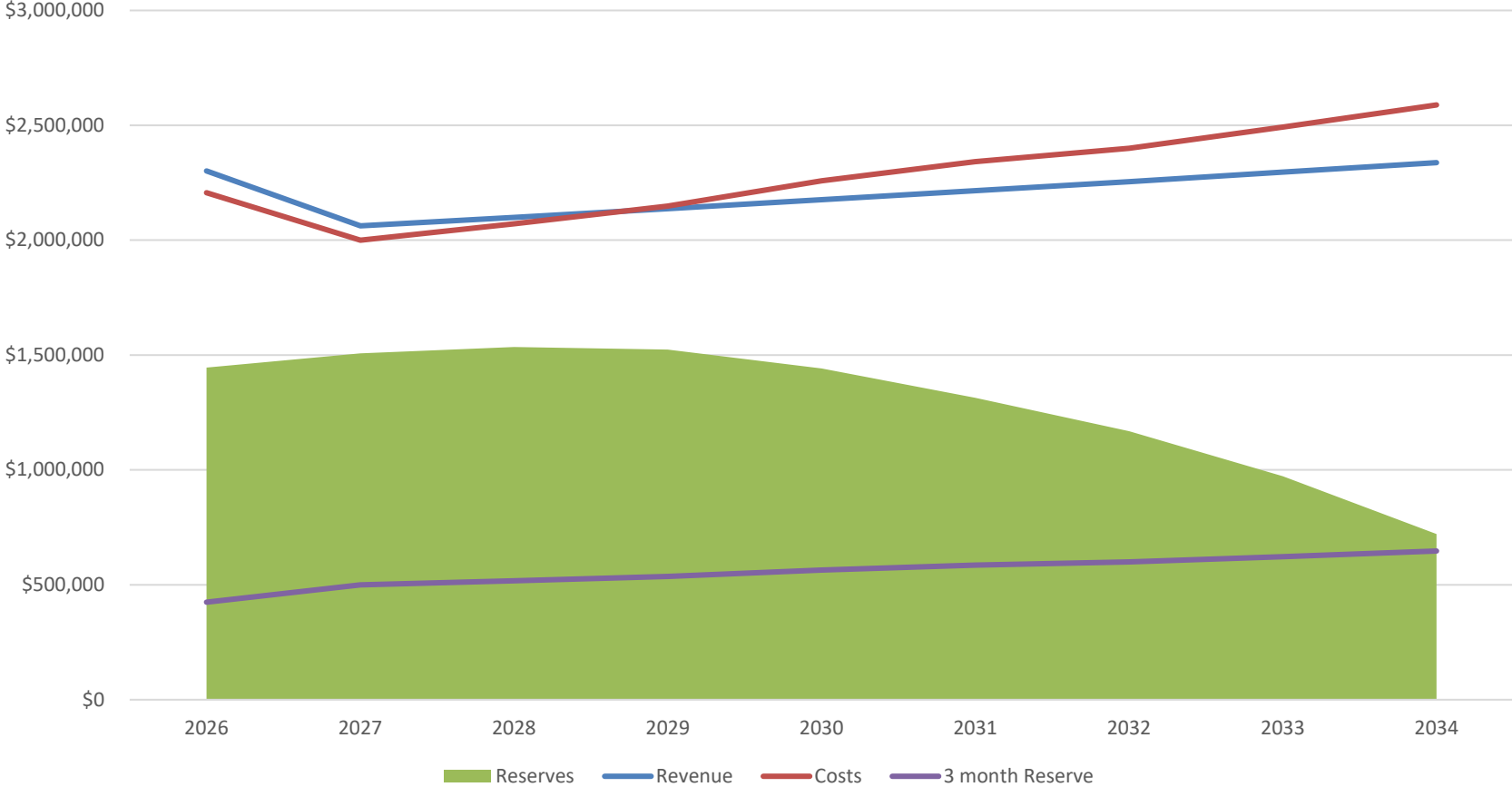
Anticipated Revenues

	Amount	Percent of Total
US DOT Funds	\$1,386,463	60.2%
Local Assessments (\$1/capita)	\$607,269	26.4%
Reserve Funds for Future 435 Study (if needed)	\$250,000	10.9%
Data Bike Assistance	\$7,500	0.3%
Rail Track Study Contributions	\$25,000	1.1%
Interest Income	\$25,000	1.1%
TOTAL	\$2,301,232	100.0%

Surplus/Deficit

\$95,211

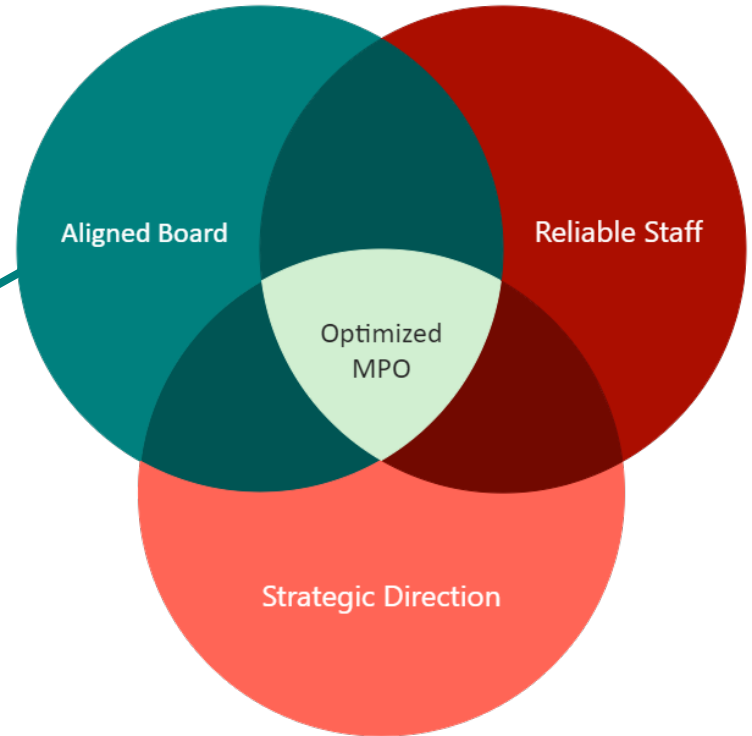
Budget Forecast, FY 2026-2034



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

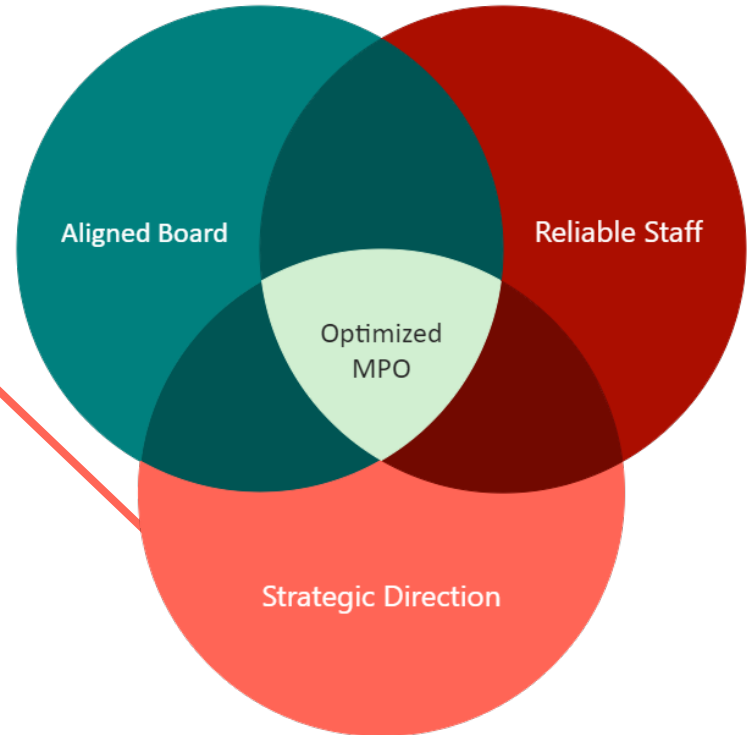
Optimized MPO: Updates on Aligned Board

- Orientation held prior to meeting.
 - Recorded for those who could not attend
- Ad-hoc project committees will be available.



Optimized MPO: Update on Strategic Direction

- FY 2026 Work Plan/Strategic Plan work underway.
- US DOT Certification Review scheduled for April.
- Upcoming focus areas
 - Multimodal Economic Impact Study
 - Active Transportation Plan
 - Regional Pavement Analysis
 - Regional Freight Plan



Optimized MPO: Update on Reliable Staff



- New Senior Planner starting in March
 - Brings MPO back to full staff

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

February 20, 2025



1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. CONSENT and VOTE:
 - a) January Financial Statement
 - b) SUDAS Representative
 - c) Regional Safety Performance Targets (Performance Measures 1)
 - d) Regional Pavement and Bridge Performance Targets (Performance Measures 2)
 - e) Water Trails – Harriet Street Change Order #3
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. REPORT and VOTE: Strategic Planning Framework
7. REPORT and VOTE: Election of MPO Officers
8. REPORT and VOTE: Special March Policy Committee Meeting
9. REPORT and VOTE: Multimodal Economic Impact Study Contract
10. OPTIONAL VOTE: Enter Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters
11. REPORT and VOTE: Executive Director Annual Review
12. REPORT: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Draft
13. REPORT: Regional Application to Safe Streets for All
14. REPORT: Legislative Update and DC List
15. REPORT: FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget Development
16. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
17. OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE
18. NEXT MEETING: 4 p.m. April 17, 2025
19. ADJOURNMENT