



DES MOINES AREA MPO

Policy Committee Meeting

March 27, 2025



APPROVAL OF AGENDA

March 27, 2025, Agenda



1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approval of Agenda
3. VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. CONSENT AND VOTE:
 - a. February Financial Statement
 - b. Contracts and Expenses
5. REPORT AND VOTE: Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
6. REPORT AND VOTE: Draft FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget
7. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee
8. Next Meeting Date – 4 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 2025
9. Adjournment

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

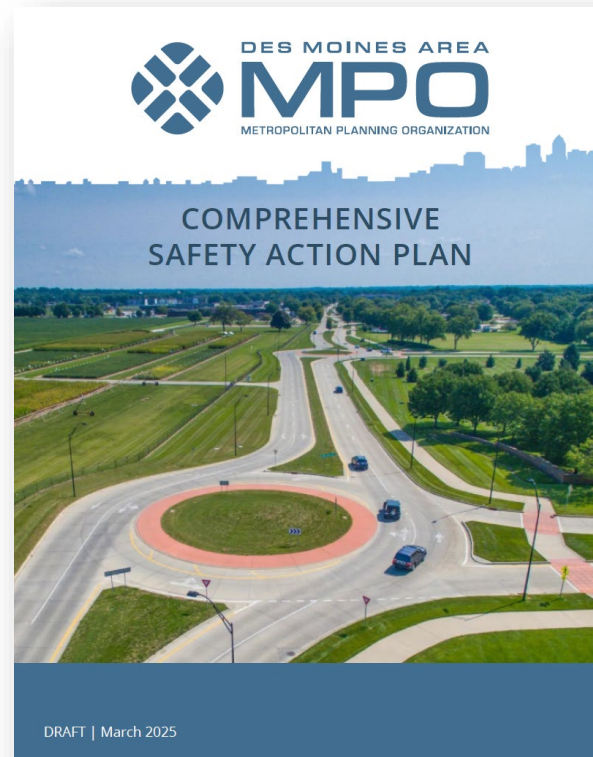
Information on the Consent Agenda items was provided in agenda packet. Representatives can request to pull out items to be voted on individually if they would like more discussion on them.

- a) February Financial Statement
- b) Contracts and Expenses

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN APPROVAL

1. Introduction
2. Commitment to Vision Zero
3. Safety Analysis
4. Community Engagement
5. Strategy and Project prioritization
6. Equity
7. MPO Policy and Process Changes
8. Progress and transparency



The cover page of the Plan.

Project website

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan



You may also view and download the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan by clicking a link below:

[Comprehensive Safety Action Plan](#)

[Comprehensive Safety Action Plan with Appendices](#)

Appendices

Each appendix can be viewed and downloaded by clicking the links below.

- [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: Community Projects](#)
- [Appendix G: Summary of Plans, Programs, Guidelines](#)

Vision Zero Commitment – Chapter 2

- Adopted January 23, 2025, by MPO
- Zero deaths and serious injuries
- By 2045

RESOLUTION FY2025 – 34

WHEREAS, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is established under Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa;

WHEREAS, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is the designated metropolitan planning organization for the Des Moines metropolitan area;

WHEREAS, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) received funding through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program and is completing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) for the region's transportation network;

WHEREAS, adoption of a CSAP is a prerequisite for seeking additional federal funding for infrastructure safety projects through the SS4A program;

WHEREAS, the CSAP was developed consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe System Approach, which creates a positive, proactive roadway safety culture;

WHEREAS, between 2018- 2022, there were 939 crashes in the Des Moines metropolitan area resulting in a fatality or serious injury, averaging 213 fatal and serious injury crashes per year. These tragic outcomes impact individuals, families, friends and acquaintances across the MPO region. Traffic crashes are among the leading causes of deaths in the United States;

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and wellbeing of all persons living and traveling within the MPO region are our utmost priority, and no one should be killed or seriously injured while traveling in the region;

WHEREAS, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization recognizes that transportation safety is a shared responsibility, including all roadway authorities and member communities, and requires a holistic approach to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries in the MPO region;

WHEREAS, improving safety for all roadway users requires coordinated projects, strategies, and initiatives of stakeholders and community support of safety objectives and action plans that are guided by community input;

WHEREAS, MPO member governments and their residents have participated in the development of the CSAP to inform the resulting projects and priorities;

and

WHEREAS, the MPO and its member communities intend to advance the priority projects and initiatives recommended in the CSAP to reduce and ultimately eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, as follows:

The Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization commits to a target goal of reducing traffic-related deaths and serious injuries to zero by the year 2045.

Done on the 23rd day of January 2025.



Mark Holm, Chair

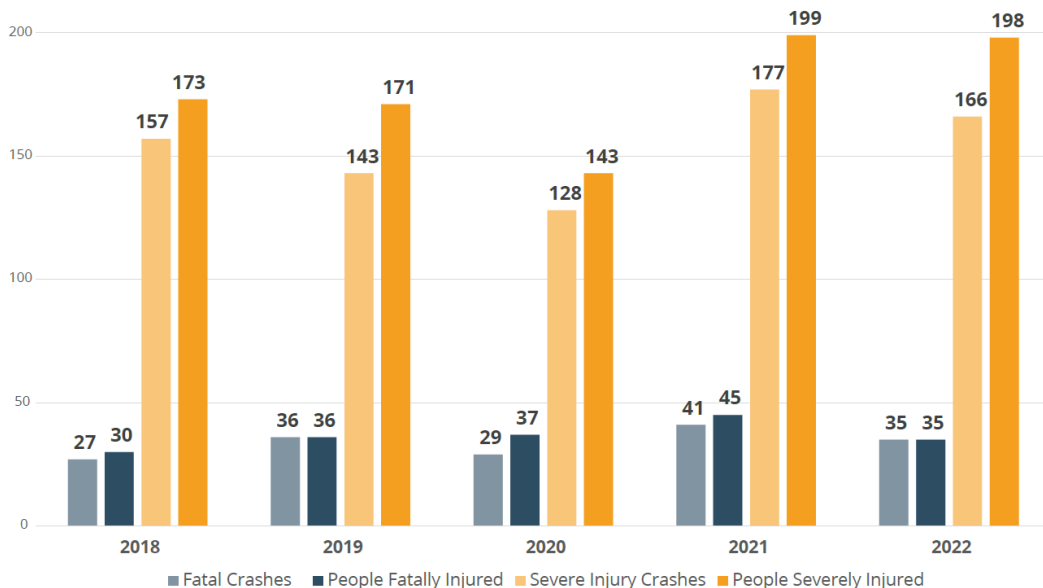
Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Chair



The resolution adopted by the MPO Policy Committee.

Safety Analysis Key Findings – Chapter 3/Appendix A

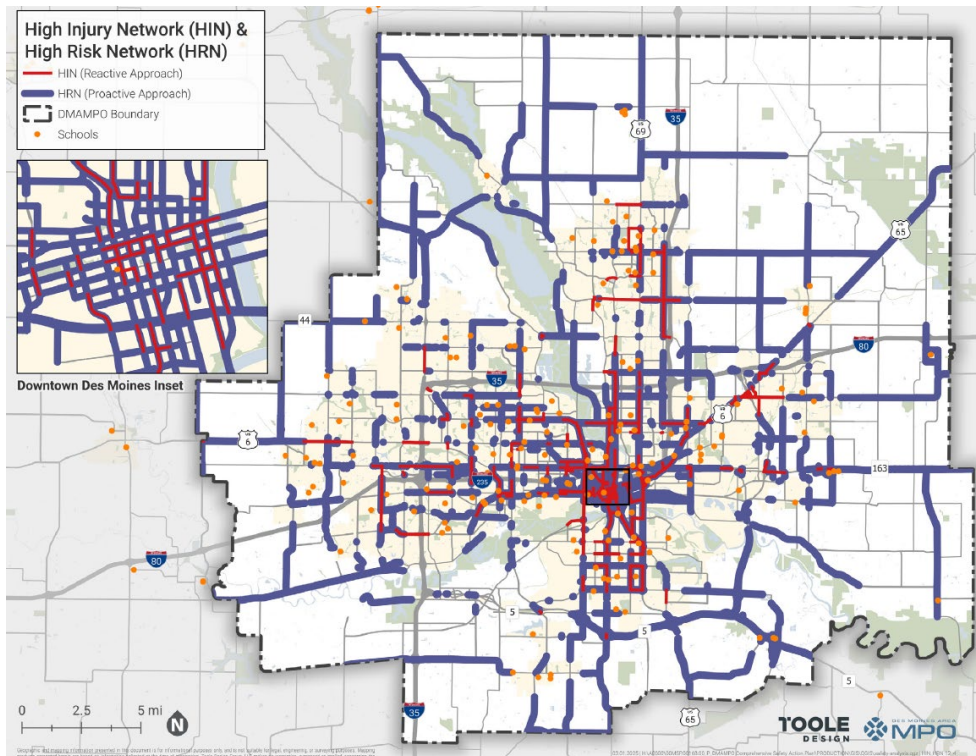
- Fatal and severe crashes are more common on wider and busier roads
- Men and young adults are more likely to be fatally or severely injured than women and older adults and children
- Fatal and severe crashes are a higher percentage of rural crashes
- Motorcyclists, pedestrians and bicyclists are more vulnerable in crashes than motor vehicle occupants
- Speeding and failure to yield are the two biggest causes of fatal and severe crashes



Fatal and severe crashes and people fatally and severely injured, 2018 - 2022.

Safety Analysis Key Findings – Chapter 3/Appendix A

- **High Injury Network** includes the top 35% of past crashes on 145 miles of roads
- **High Risk Network** has roadway characteristics associated with higher crashes



A map of the High Injury Network and High Risk Network for the MPO area.

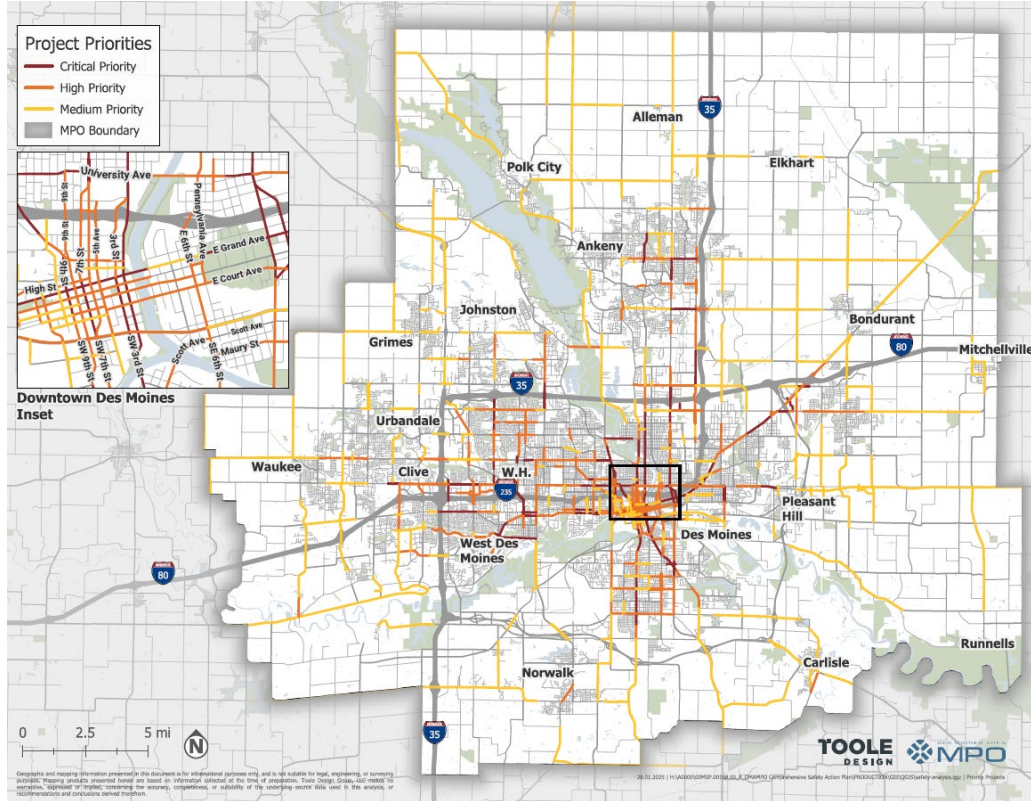
Community Engagement Key Findings – Ch. 4/App. B

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



A pop-up event in Bondurant (top) and an open house in Des Moines (bottom).

Project Prioritization – Chapter 5/Appendix F

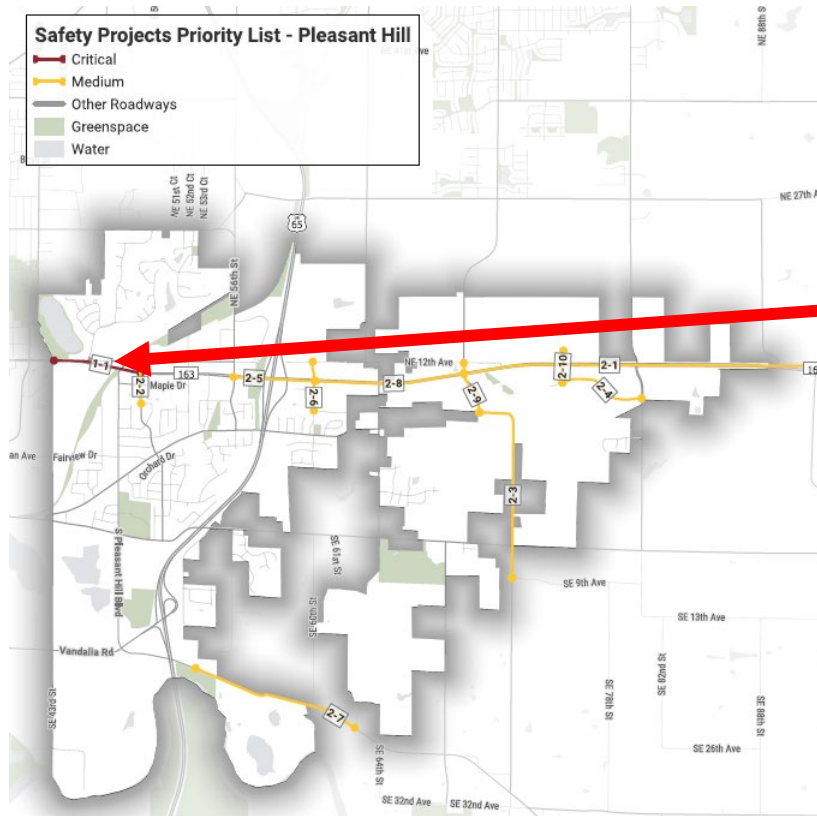


A map of project priorities for the MPO area.

Factor	Weight
High Injury Network	35%
High Risk Network	30%
Schools, Parks, Transit Stops	15%
Environmental Justice Degrees of Disadvantage	10%
Capital Improvement Program Projects	10%

The methodology for prioritizing projects.

Member Community Projects – Appendix F



Project Number	Highway Designation and/or Street Name	Start Point	End Point	Length (miles)	Max Prioritization Score	Priority Tier	Countermeasures (See Appendix E)				
							Intersections	Pedestrians/Bicyclists	Roadway Departures	Crosscutting	Other
1-1	University Avenue (IA 163)	Fournille Creek	Hickory Blvd	0.670	1.858	Critical	X	X		X	(1)
2-1*	University Avenue (IA 163)	NE 70th Street	NE 91st Street	2.690	0.850	Medium	X	X	X	X	(2)
2-2	Hickory Blvd	NE 12th Avenue	Willow Drive	0.320	0.825	Medium	X	X		X	
2-3*	Rising Sun Drive/NE 72nd Street	NE 70th Street	SE 9th Avenue	1.500	0.730	Medium	X	X	X	X	
2-4	Martha Miller Drive	NE 75th Street	NE 80th Street	0.670	0.700	Medium	X	X		X	
2-5	University Avenue (IA 163)	NE 56th Street	NE 60th Street	0.610	0.600	Medium	X	X		X	
2-6	NE 60th Street	NE 12th Avenue	Meacham Drive	0.371	0.550	Medium	X	X		X	
2-7*	Vandalla Drive	0.15 mi east of US 65	Timberland Hills Drive	1.360	0.550	Medium	X	X	X	X	(3)
2-8	University Avenue (IA 163)	NE 60th Street	NE 70th Street	1.150	0.500	Medium	X	X	X	X	
2-9	NE 70th Street	NE 12th Avenue	Rising Sun Drive	0.320	0.450	Medium	X	X		X	
2-10	NE 75th Street	Cul-de-sac	Martha Miller Drive	0.350	0.450	Medium	X	X		X	

A chart of project priorities for Pleasant Hill.

A map of project priorities for Pleasant Hill.

Member Community Projects – Appendix F

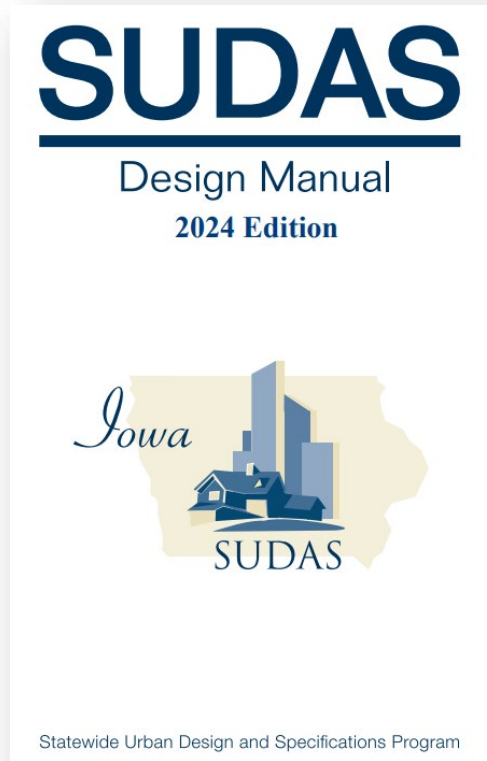
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A chart of project priorities for Pleasant Hill.

MPO Policy & Process Changes – Chapter 7

Policy or Process Category	Policy or Process Change
Federal Funding	Adjust the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Criteria
Federal Funding	Adjust the Transportation Alternatives Program Criteria
Federal Funding	Adjust Other Program Criteria
Federal Funding	Pursue safety-related grants from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity program
Design Guidelines	Request updates to the Iowa Statewide Urban Design Manual
Transportation Planning	Elevate safety in the Mobilizing Tomorrow transportation plan

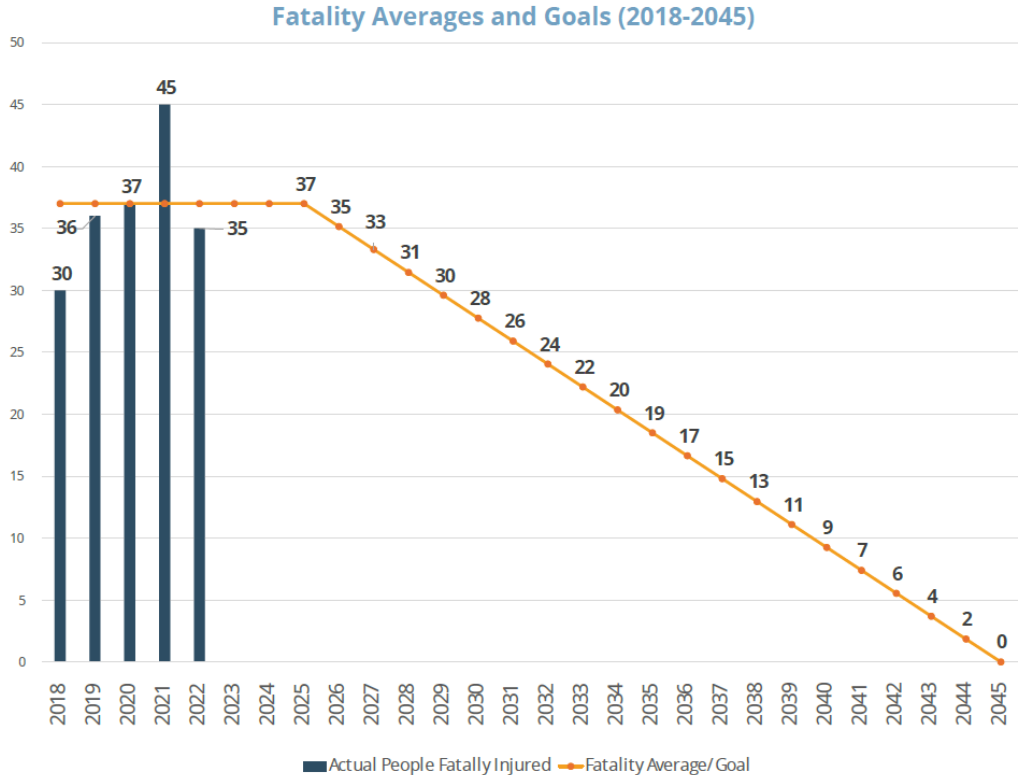
A list of MPO policy and process changes in the Plan.



The latest edition of the SUDAS Design Manual.

Progress & Transparency – Chapter 8

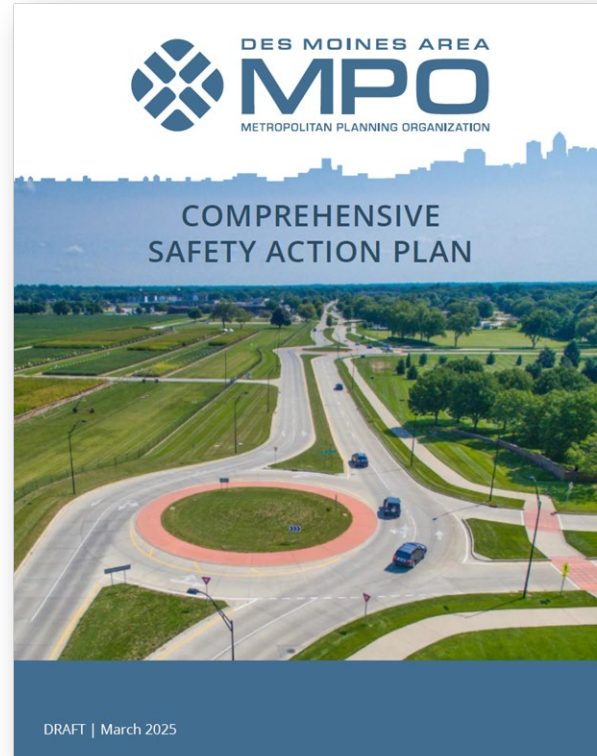
- Add goals to the MPO's online safety dashboard
- Add maps to the dashboard
 - High Injury/Risk Network
 - Project priorities



Fatality goals between 2025 and 2045.

Next Steps

- Consider approval of the Plan
- Prepare for Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for implementation funding
 - NOFO is expected to be released before the end of March 2025



The cover page of the Plan.

DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

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
- **New – strategic planning will be incorporated within the UPWP process**
 - Will bridge the UPWP and the recent governance and staffing efforts

	Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations	Regional Planning & Federal Excellence	Enhance Partnerships & Services	Purpose-Driven Innovation
STRATEGIC VISION	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.

FY 2026 UPWP and Budget Development

Governance & Operations	MPO Role	Notes
MPO Operating Grant Administration	Lead	Federally Required
Routine Office Administration	Lead	Ongoing
Unified Planning Work Program and Budget	Lead	Federally Required
Financial Operations	Lead	Ongoing
Committee Support	Lead	Federally Required
Organizational Development	Lead	Ongoing

FY 2026 UPWP and Budget Development

Regional Planning & Federal Excellence	MPO Role	Notes
Awarding of Federal Funds (STBG, TAP, CRP)	Lead	Federally Required
Transportation Improvement Program	Lead	Federally Required
Mobilizing Tomorrow Maintenance & Implementation	Lead	Federally Required
Passenger Transportation /Human Service Coordination	Lead	Federally Required
Performance Measure Tracking	Lead	Federally Required
Travel Demand Model Update & Assistance	Lead	Federally Required
ITS Architecture	Lead	Federally Required
Freight Plan	Lead	Member Request/Ongoing Project
Intercity Passenger Rail	Support	Member Request/Ongoing Project
Upkeep of Title VI, LEP, and Public Involvement Process	Lead	Federally Required
DART Planning Projects	Support	Per MOU with DART
Active Transportation Plan	Lead	Member Request/Ongoing Project

FY 2026 UPWP and Budget Development

Partnerships & Services	MPO Role	Notes
Access to Services	Lead	Strategic Framework Initiative
Pavement Forecast & Analysis	Lead	Ongoing Project – Includes Data Bike
Transportation Data/Software	Lead	Member Request – Includes Data Service Subscriptions
Bike/Ped Count Program	Lead	Ongoing Project/Member Request – Includes Trail Counters
Grant Assistance	Support	Member Requests
Convening & Educating	Support	Ongoing Project/Strategic Framework Initiative- Includes Speaker Series
Media Relations	Lead/Support	Ongoing/Situational
Public Meeting Support	Lead	Federally Required
Annual Report	Lead	Ongoing Project
Policy Monitoring	Lead/Support	Ongoing/Situational – Strategic Framework Initiative

FY 2026 UPWP and Budget Development

Purpose-Driven Innovation	MPO Role	Notes
US 65/IA 5 (Future 435) Interstate Designation	Lead	Ongoing Project
Passenger Rail Feasibility Study	Lead or Support	Member/Community Request
Multimodal Economic Impact Report	Lead	Member Request
Peer Collaboration	Lead	Strategic Planning Initiative
Emerging Technology	Lead	Strategic Planning Initiative

FY 2026 Draft Budget

Anticipated Expenditures

	Amount	Percent of Total
Salaries	\$662,347	25.5%
Wages	\$21,600	0.8%
Fringe Benefits	\$585,610	22.5%
Other Direct Costs	\$990,950	38.1%
Eligible Indirect	\$291,036	11.2%
Ineligible Indirect	\$50,500	1.9%
TOTAL	\$2,602,043	100.0%

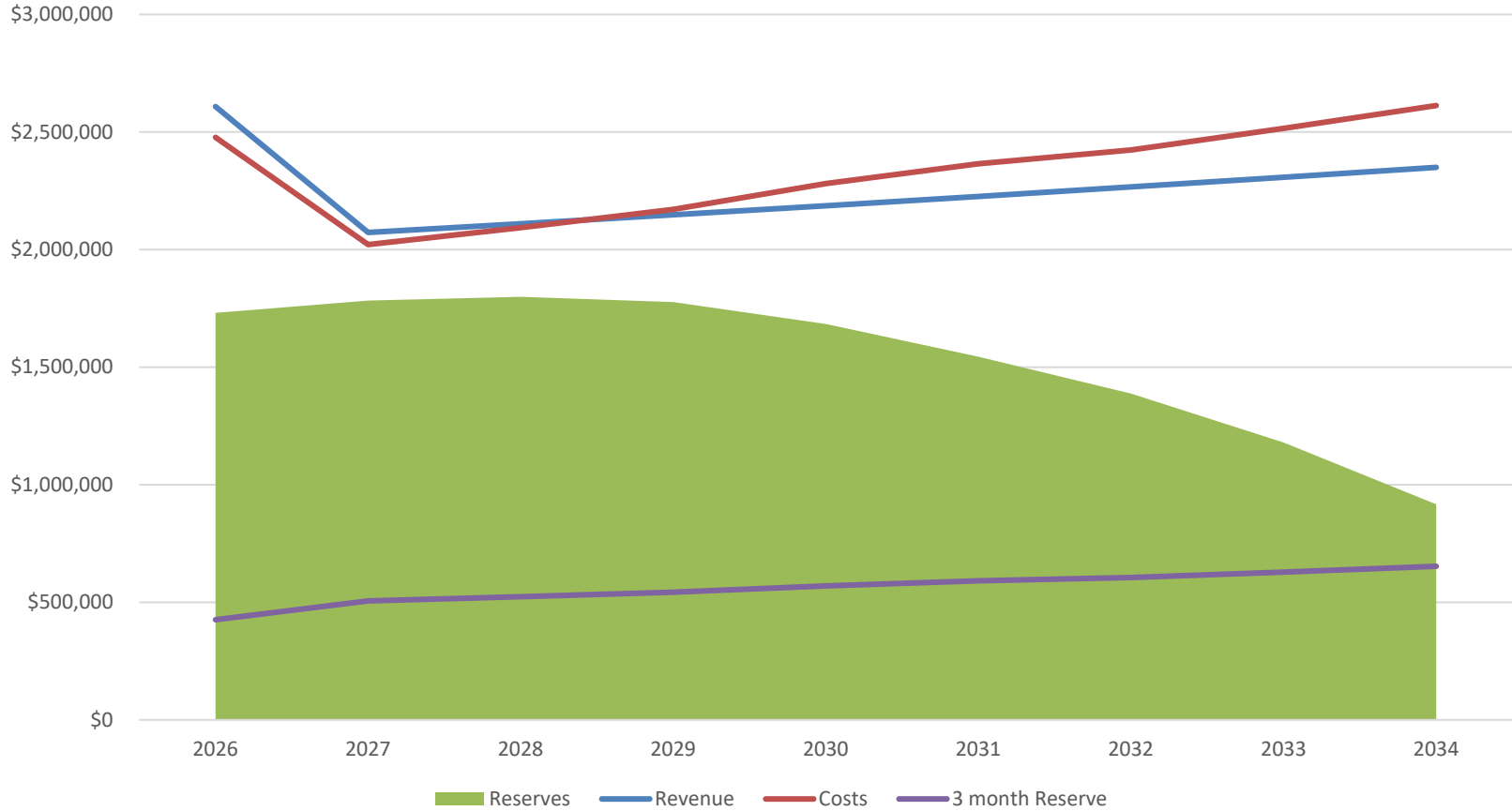
Anticipated Revenues

	Amount	Percent of Total
US DOT Funds	\$1,643,106	63.0%
Local Assessments (\$1/capita)	\$607,703	23.3%
DART Funds for Economic Impact Study	\$50,000	1.9%
State Funds for Future 435 Study	\$250,000	9.6%
Data Bike Assistance	\$7,500	0.3%
Rail Track Study Contributions	\$25,000	1.0%
Interest Income	\$25,000	1.0%
TOTAL	\$2,608,309	100.0%

Surplus/Deficit

\$6,226

Budget Forecast, FY 2026-2034



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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