

NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Policy Committee

4 p.m., November 20, 2025

Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Conference Room

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **VOTE:** Approval of Agenda
3. **VOTE:** Approval of October Meeting Minutes Page 2
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** Page 6
5. **CONSENT AND VOTE:**
 - a. October Financial Statements Page 7
 - b. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments Page 8
 - c. 2026 Meeting Dates..... Page 9
6. **PRESENTATION:** Reimagine DART Page 11
7. **REPORT and VOTE:** Water Trails Grant Agreement Amendment..... Page 12
8. **REPORT and VOTE:** Water Trails Change Orders Page 13
9. **REPORT and VOTE:** Unified Planning Work Program Amendment for Interchange Study..... Page 14
10. **REPORT and VOTE:** Members’ Request for MPO Services..... Page 15
11. **OPTIONAL VOTE:** Enter Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters..... Page 16
12. **REPORT and VOTE:** Executive Director Annual Review..... Page 17
13. **REPORT:** 2026 MPO Representative and Officer Selection Process..... Page 18
14. **REPORT:** Active Transportation Plan Update Page 19
15. **REPORT:** *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Revisions Page 20
16. **REPORT:** *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Goal 4 Performance Measures..... Page 21
17. **REPORT:** Freight Plan Update..... Page 22
18. **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
19. **OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE**
20. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** 4 p.m. January 22, 2026 (subject to approval of Item No. 7)
21. **ADJOURNMENT**

The established protocol for minutes of this meeting will be to list all attendees, and with each item on which a vote is conducted in the ordinary course in order to take formal action, those voting nay or abstaining will be identified by name. Any member who is absent from the meeting for any period of time during which a vote of the body is taken, is expected to notify the recording secretary at the conclusion of the meeting so that the absence can be duly noted in the minutes. Roll Call votes will be taken as required by law or upon the request of any member that is approved by the chair, and the vote of each member for or against the proposition, or abstention, will be incorporated in the minutes or recorded on a separate sheet attached to the minutes.

The MPO receives federal funding and may not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint form, visit www.dmampo.org/title-vi/ or call 515-334-0075.

November 2025
Item No. 3

ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Consider approval of the October 16, 2025, Policy Committee meeting minutes.

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the October 16, 2025, Policy Committee meeting are included on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the October 16, 2025, MPO Policy Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tracey Deckard, tdeckard@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

Meeting Minutes
Policy Committee Meeting
Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
4:00 p.m., October 16, 2025

The MPO held a meeting at 4:00 p.m., October 16, 2025. The MPO staff emailed agenda packets to the MPO's representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office on October 10, 2025. **In addition to these published tentative minutes, there are also additional meeting notes in file with the MPO staff that are public records and available upon request as provided by law. These tentative minutes reflect all action taken at the meeting.**

PO Representatives Present:

Dean O'Connor | City of Altoona
Todd Shafer | City of Ankeny
Mike Schrock | City of Ankeny
Doug Elrod | City of Bondurant
Ted Weaver | City of Clive
Kathie Hungerford | City of Cumming**
Julia Helm | Dallas County
Amanda Wanke | DART
Connie Boesen | City of Des Moines (4:06)
Joe Gatto | City of Des Moines
Josh Mandelbaum | City of Des Moines
Scott Sanders | City of Des Moines
Matt Anderson | City of Des Moines
Jim Evans | City of Johnston
Len Murray | City of Pleasant Hill
Jeff Walters | Polk City
Robert Andeweg | City of Urbandale
Aaron DeKock | Warren County
Courtney Clarke | City of Waukee
Matt McKinney | City of West Des Moines
Jamie Letzring | City of West Des Moines
Mike Jones | City of Windsor Heights
Shelby Ebel | IDOT *

MPO Representatives Absent

Dan Carver | City of Carlisle
Katie Wilson | City of Elkhart**
Jake Anderson | City of Grimes
Bob Lane | City of Indianola**

Heather Stancil | Madison County
Jessica Trobaugh | City of Mitchellville
Jason Brown | City of Norwalk
Mark Holm | Polk County
Joel Akers | Van Meter**
Julia Castillo | HIRTA*
Sean Litteral | FHWA*
Daniel Nguyen | FTA*
Gerri Doyle | FTA*
Brian Mulcahy | Des Moines International Airport*
* Advisory/Non-Voting Representatives
** Associate/Non-Voting Representative

Others Present:

Garrett Brumfield | America Walks
Ian Thomas | America Walks
Clifford Leonard | Public

MPO Staff Present:

Scott Brennan | MPO General Counsel
Dylan Mullenix | Executive Director
Gunnar Olson | Planning & Public Affairs Manager
Marcus Coenen | Senior Planner
Allison Riley | Senior Planner
Addison Williamson | Associate Planner
Tracey Deckard | Administrative Specialist
Rhonda Miller | Accounting Specialist

1. **Call To Order**

Vice Chair Walters recognized a quorum and called the October Policy Meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: A motion was made by Andeweg and seconded by Murray to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization October 16, 2025, meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: A motion was made by O'Connor and seconded by Andeweg to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization September Policy meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Public Comment**

None

5. **Approval of Consent and Vote Items**

a. September Financial Statement;

b. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments- City of Norwalk

MOTION: A motion was made by Gatto and seconded by O'Connor to approve the Consent items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

[Gatto left the meeting 4:08]

6. **Presentation: America Walks**

Garrett Brumfield and Ian Thomas, representatives from America Walks, provided an overview of the recent Dogtown Walkability Workshop, which was organized by MPO staff in collaboration with America Walks and AARP Iowa. They emphasized the importance of walk audits in active transportation planning.

Report and discussion only.

7. **Active Transportation Plan Update**

Allison Riley, Senior Planner, presented an update on the Active Transportation Plan, outlining completed and upcoming activities and timelines. A discussion followed regarding the role of e-scooters and e-bikes in active transportation. Report and discussion only.

8. **2025 Regional Trail Pavement Condition Report**

Marcus Coenen, Senior Planner, presented the 2025 Regional Trail Pavement Condition Report and described the methods used for data collection and analysis.

Report and discussion only.

9. **Proposed Calendar Year 2026 Meeting Dates**

Executive Director Dylan Mullenix discussed the proposed 2026 Meeting Dates and requested board members report any potential conflicts.
Report and discussion only.

10. **Director's Report**

Executive Director Dylan Mullenix provided updates on the following items:

- **Strategic Framework Implementation:** Progress update.
- **Executive Director Survey:** Survey distributed to members.
- **Staff:** Announced that Senior Planner Carl Saxon has left the MPO.
- **2026 Appointments:** Reminder to prepare for upcoming board and officer appointments.
- **Executive Committee Interest:** Members interested in joining the Executive Committee were encouraged to reach out.
- **Funding Review Committee:** Reported that the committee met earlier in the day and made good progress.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration:** Ongoing collaboration with MAC and quarterly meetings with Iowa DOT continue.
- **Water Trails Project:** Work has resumed; amendments to the work order are anticipated.

11. **Other Non-Action Items**

None

12. **Next Regular Meeting Date –November 20, 2025, at the MPO offices at 4:00 p.m.**

13. **Adjournment**

Hearing no objection to the contrary, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

November 2025
Item No. 4

ISSUE: Public Comment of MPO Actions

PUBLIC COMMENT: Opportunity for public comments on actions taken by the MPO board.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO's Public Participation Plan provides an opportunity for the public to comment on items on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Public comment only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 5a

ISSUE: October Financial Statement

CONSENT AND VOTE: October Financial Statement for Policy Committee approval.

BACKGROUND:

[The October Financial Statement is available to view on the MPO website.](#) The MPO's Finance Subcommittee will also review the statement prior to the committee's November meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend approval of the October Financial Statement.

STAFF CONTACT:

Rhonda Miller, rmiller@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 5b

ISSUE: FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

CONSENT and VOTE: Report on amendments to *FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program*; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Des Moines has requested the following amendment:

Sponsor: City of Des Moines

Project: Central Place Levee Trail Phase 2

Federal Aid Amount: \$1,600,000

Total Cost: \$2,800,000

Type of Funding: TAP, RTP

Location: Multiuse trail from Franklin to Inter-Urban and Trestle to Trestle Trail

Change: Termini description to read: "In the city of Des Moines, trl from TRSTL /INTRURBAN Trls, Hickman Rd and 9th St Modifications, Spur Chautauqua Prk."

Polk County has requested the following amendment:

Sponsor: Polk County

Project: Bridge 1271 Replacement

Federal Aid Amount: \$450,000

Total Cost: \$450,000

Type of Funding: HBP

Location: On NE 150th Ave 0.25 MI W of NE 72nd St

Change: Project termini corrected to read: "On NE 150th Ave over old channel S. Skunk River, W of NE 68th St."

The Iowa Department of Transportation has requested the following amendment:

Sponsor: Iowa DOT

Project: 48539

Federal Aid Amount: \$751,500

Total Cost: \$835,000

Type of Funding: NHPP

Location: I-80: Westbound I-80 ramp at W I-35/I-235 interchange.

Change: Increase federal aid amount by more than 30%. Total cost increases to \$2,144,950 and federal aid amount increases to \$1,930,455.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend approval of the proposed amendments.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Addison Williamson, awilliamson@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 5c

ISSUE: Proposed Calendar Year 2026 Meeting Dates

CONSENT and Vote: Consider approval of the proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2026 for the MPO's Policy Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO staff annually issues a proposed MPO meeting schedule for the upcoming calendar year. The MPO is required to issue its upcoming meeting dates to comply with the State of Iowa's Open Meetings Law. MPO staff presented a draft calendar to all committees during their October meetings and asked for feedback on any known conflicts. One change was made based on feedback.

Included, immediately following, is the revised proposed Calendar Year 2026 MPO meeting schedule.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend approval.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

TECHNICAL	EXECUTIVE	POLICY
Meets at 9:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.	Meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.	Meets at 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.
January 8*	January 8*	January 22*
February 5	February 5	February 19
March 5	March 5	March 19 12 ¹
April 2	April 2	April 16
May 7	May 14**	May 21
June 4	June 4	June 18
No meeting ²	No meeting ²	No meeting ²
August 6	August 6	August 20
September 3	September 3	September 17
October 1	October 1	October 15
November 5	November 5	November 19
No meeting ²	No meeting ²	No meeting ²

* All meetings are delayed one week due to New Year's Day holiday falling on the first Thursday of the month.

** Executive Committee delayed one week to avoid annual trip to Washington, D.C., which is tentatively scheduled for May 6-8.

¹ Proposing to reestablish the March meeting of the Policy Committee due to frequent occurrence of having to schedule a meeting for needed Policy Committee actions. Meeting is in the second week to avoid Spring Break.

² Proposing to have no meetings for all committees in July and December due to these being slow times of year for MPO.

November 2025
Item No. 6

ISSUE: Reimagine DART

PRESENTATION: Presentation from representatives of the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) on Reimagine DART, the planning effort to restructure the transit network.

BACKGROUND:

DART has been working with its member communities and consultants to draft a new transit network for the Des Moines region. Following public input last spring, the DART Commission directed staff to design a new network that:

- Prioritizes high ridership for the region overall, with fewer routes that have more frequent service, with coverage service in Ankeny, Altoona and Clive.
- Maintains 90% of DART's current total hours of service to limit property tax growth for the next few years.

To align with this direction, the proposed new bus network features:

- 10 main routes along the busiest streets of the region, with buses running more often and more consistently throughout the day and week.
- Timed transfers at DART Central Station and bus stops spaced farther apart speed up travel time and increase efficiency in the system.
- Updated service hours reduce service at times when ridership is the lowest.
- Three microtransit zones that provide transit access to more places in less dense suburban areas.

DART representatives will give an overview of the final proposed bus network and share next steps in implementing the changes.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Presentation only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Gunnar Olson, golson@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 7

ISSUE: Water Trails BUILD Grant Amendment

REPORT and VOTE: Report on an amendment to the Water Trails BUILD grant agreement among the MPO, Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO and the Iowa DOT have requested from FHWA an amendment to the Phase 1 Dam Mitigation and User Access Project (aka water trails) BUILD agreement. The amendments adjust various dates related to project completion. While the current agreement has a grant budget period end date of July 30, 2027, it has a planned construction substantial completion and open to traffic date of December 2025. High water events over the last few construction seasons have delayed the time contractors have been able to work and the project will not meet the December 30, 2025, deadline. The MPO worked ICON, Snyder & Associates, and the Iowa DOT to request adjustments to the project completion dates, to which FHWA has agreed.

[A red-lined copy of the grant agreement outlining the changes is available on the MPO website to review.](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Second Amended and Restated Grant Agreement Under the Fiscal Year 2019 BUILD Transportation Grants Program.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 8

ISSUE: Downtown Water Trails Change Orders

REPORT: Report on three change orders for the Downtown Water Trails project.

BACKGROUND:

Snyder and Associates has made the MPO staff aware of three change orders needed for the Downtown Water Trails project.

1. **Harriet Street Phase Change Order #6** reseeds grass and replants trees in the project area. High river levels during the summer submerged the site for close to two months and did not allow for successful germination of seeds or establishment of trees.

[The change order #6 documentation for the Harriet Street phase of the Downtown Water Trails project is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

2. **Scott Avenue In-River Phase Change Order #4** addresses repairs to a retaining wall that was damaged during the summer 2025 high water event, adds additional quantities of materials due to incorrect plan quantities, removes work related to a temporary storm sewer extension that was completed in the Uplands Phase, procedures temporary signage alerting pedestrians of construction work in the area.

[The change order #4 documentation for the Scott Avenue In-River phase is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

3. **Scott Avenue Uplands Phase Change Order #1** addresses unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction, including conflicts with an existing gas main, contaminated soil requiring special disposal, and coordination needs with adjacent public projects, along with minor plan corrections and access accommodations.

[The change order #1 documentation for the Scott Avenue Uplands phase is available on the MPO website \(click to access\).](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion ahead of Policy Committee action.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 9

ISSUE: Unified Planning Work Program Amendment for Interchange Study

REPORT and VOTE: Review a proposed amendment to the FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and budget to add in the City of Altoona's I-80 Planning Environmental Linkages (PEL) study; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO has awarded \$560,000 in US Department of Transportation (DOT) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds to the Cities of Altoona and Bondurant for their Interstate 80 interchange PEL study. To ease the administrative process of using federal funds awarded for studies, the MPO must include the project and funds in the UPWP and budget. Once in the approved UPWP, the Cities of Altoona and Bondurant can procure consultant services and carry out the PEL study using federal funding.

The MPO's federal funding amount would increase by \$560,000 and its local funding amount would increase by \$140,000 to ensure the 80% federal to 20% local match ratio. These funds would be pass-through funds to the Cities of Altoona and Bondurant and would not change the overall costs or revenues to the MPO.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve amending the FY 2026 UPWP and budget to add the Interstate 80 PEL study.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 10

ISSUE: MPO Member Request for Service

REPORT: Discussion regarding a request from communities in the northwest portion of the planning area to lead a subarea transportation study.

BACKGROUND:

A coalition of local governments in the northwest portion of the planning area – including Polk and Dallas County and the cities of Grimes, Granger, and Johnston – have requested that the MPO lead a subarea study to evaluate transportation infrastructure needs and opportunities as the area grows and develops. A key catalyst to this study is Polk County Conservation’s impending ownership of Brenton Slough, an approximately 1100-acre natural area and wildlife habitat that sits between Grimes, Johnston, and Granger. As surrounding communities continue to grow toward the area, a study is proposed to evaluate how transportation networks can connect around the Slough while preserving its environmental features. Key considerations include future road and bridge needs, trail connections, and protection of wetlands and wildlife habitat.

The request was made after the adoption of the [FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program](#) and is therefore not included in the MPO’s work plan for the year. As such, staff ran the project through the [MPO Involvement Decision Tree](#), which the Policy Committee adopted to provide guidance on requests such as these, and found that the MPO could play a lead role. If the Policy Committee is receptive to the MPO undertaking this work, a work program amendment would follow at a later meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Gunnar Olson, golson@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 11

ISSUE: Enter Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters

OPTIONAL VOTE: Consider action to enter closed session in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(j) to discuss personnel matters.

BACKGROUND:

The following agenda item is a review of the Executive Director's performance. As such, the Policy Committee may enter into closed session.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider entering into closed session to discuss personnel matters.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 12

ISSUE: Executive Director Review and Compensation Adjustment

REPORT and VOTE: Report from the MPO Officers on the Executive Director's annual review and consideration of compensation adjustment; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO Officers constituted the Review Committee to evaluate the Executive Director's performance over the past year. The review [followed a process](#) outlined by the MPO's Personnel Committee, in partnership with the MPO's contracted human resources company, ConnectifyHR. The Review Committee met on October 28 to discuss the Executive Director's performance, including results from [a survey of the MPO board](#) and [a survey of the MPO staff](#). The Review Committee will provide Policy Committee with their recommendations about a compensation adjustment at the November meeting, considering the MPO [salary schedule and adjustment matrix](#) from the MPO's Policies and Procedures Manual.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Review Committee's recommendations.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 13

ISSUE: MPO Representative Selection Process

REPORT and DISCUSS: Review of the process for MPO members to appoint representatives and for the MPO to select officers for 2026.

BACKGROUND:

At the end of the calendar year, MPO solicits committee representatives for the new year. The MPO's [bylaws](#) outline this process:

- By mid-November, MPO staff will send a request to each member government asking for the names of their primary and alternate representatives for the Policy and Technical Committees, as well as their Executive Committee representative (for those with designated representatives) or their Executive Committee nominee (for communities under 50,000), due by the end of December (Article III, Section 5). Staff will provide a sample resolution and a list of considerations. New representatives start in January.
- Executive Committee representatives for the three subareas are to be appointed by a vote of a Selection Committee, comprised of each subarea's mayors or county board chairs. Each community's appointment must be approved in advance by their city or county. Each subarea may appoint two representatives. This process is to be completed prior to the February Executive Committee meeting where a nominating committee will propose a slate of officers (Article V, Section 2). Staff will provide each subarea's selection committee with the Executive Committee nominations from each subarea community.
- The MPO chair will appoint a three-person nominating committee prior to the February Executive Committee meeting. The nominating committee will present a proposed slate of officers, to be selected from among the 11 Executive Committee members – at the February Executive and Policy meetings (Article VIII, Section 3 of the bylaws). The Policy Committee will vote to elect officers at its February meeting (Article VI, Section 5 of the bylaws). For the Technical Committee, the TTC chair will also appoint a nominating committee prior to the February Technical Committee meeting. The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates to be voted on in February.
- New officers for both the Technical and Policy Committees serve from March 1 through the end of February (Article VI, Section 6 of the bylaws).

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 14

ISSUE: Active Transportation Plan Update

REPORT: Report on active transportation planning process.

BACKGROUND:

MPO staff are working on an update to the 2009 Connect Plan. This plan will focus on transportation outside of a vehicle such as walking or biking, with an emphasis on safety and the MPO's Vision Zero goals.

Through this process and final product, staff intend to connect active transportation needs of the region, the newly adopted MPO mission, vision, and guiding principles, and the goals of the long-range transportation plan, *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, to develop realistic, localized actions and opportunities in the region.

Staff will provide an update on the process, opportunities for involvement, and next steps.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Allison Riley, allison@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 15

ISSUE: *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Revisions

REPORT: Update on the final revisions to the region's long-range transportation plan, *Mobilizing Tomorrow*.

BACKGROUND:

Revisions to *Mobilizing Tomorrow* are needed to update 2050 safety targets for fatalities and serious injuries, following the March adoption of the *Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP)*. The CSAP recommended elevating safety in the LRTP, which had been adopted four months earlier.

Additionally, MPO members had the opportunity to add projects to the LRTP. The MPO's certification review recommended including 20 years of projects in the LRTP, which currently includes only 10 years of projects. However, no requests to add projects were received.

The LRTP includes a process for making "revisions" or "amendments," which are described in Appendix I. Given the edits in question, the changes constitute a revision and can be made administratively.

Staff will provide a summary of the final revisions made to the LRTP.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marcus Coenen, mcoenen@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 16

ISSUE: Mobilizing Tomorrow Goal 4 Performance Measures

REPORT: Update on the long-range transportation plan performance measures for Goal 4.

BACKGROUND:

Mobilizing Tomorrow 2025-2050, which the MPO approved in November 2024, includes 37 measures which are key indicators of the performance of the regional transportation system. Performance measures are regularly evaluated using new data to determine if progress is being made toward plan goals.

Eleven of those performance measures track progress toward *Mobilizing Tomorrow* Goal 4, which reads:

One of Greater Des Moines' key competitive advantages is a high quality of life. The region is consistently recognized for its affordability, access to the outdoors, and family-friendly atmosphere. However, this way of life is being challenged by impediments to multiple systems, including the area's car-centered transportation system and decreasing levels of physical activity. For residents, regardless of age or disability, to be able to truly enjoy the high quality of life for which Greater Des Moines is known, health and well-being, in all senses of those terms, need to be actively promoted throughout the region.

Staff will present the [Goal 4 Performance Measures Report](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marcus Coenen, mcoenen@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075

November 2025
Item No. 17

ISSUE: Freight Plan Update

REPORT: Report on freight planning process.

BACKGROUND:

MPO staff are working on an update to the 2006 Goods Movement study through development of a regional Freight Plan. More recent planning efforts have focused on the implementation of freight projects in the metro, most notably the Des Moines Transload Facility. This plan will focus on the freight modes that move goods into and out of the greater Des Moines area, identifying conflicts between land uses and the efficient movement of goods as well as safety concerns related to freight movement.

Through this process and final product, staff intend to connect freight transportation needs of the region, the newly adopted MPO mission, vision, and guiding principles, and the goals of the long-range transportation plan, *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, to develop realistic, localized actions and opportunities in the region.

Staff will provide an update on the process, opportunities for involvement, and next steps.

Additionally, staff request that each community respond to the [MPO's Freight Plan Survey](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, December 1.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marcus Coenen, mcoenen@dmampo.org
(515) 334-0075