



NOTICE OF MEETING

**Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Transportation Technical Committee**

—
9:30 a.m. March 5, 2026

Des Moines Area MPO Burnham Conference Room

OR

Zoom, Meeting ID: 890 559 757 21 / Dial 1-312-626-6799

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. VOTE:** Approval of Agenda
- 3. VOTE:** Approval of March Meeting Minutes Page 2
- 4. REPORT and VOTE:** Draft Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget..... Page 6
- 5. REPORT and VOTE:** FYY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments..... Page 7
- 6. REPORT:** FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development..... Page 8
- 7. REPORT:** Active Transportation Plan Update..... Page 9
- 8. REPORT:** Legislative Update and DC List..... Page 10
- 9. REPORT:** Funding Review Update Page 11
- 10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - a) Upcoming Events..... Page 12
- 11. OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE**
- 12. NEXT MEETING DATE:** 9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 2, 2026

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.

ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Consider approval of the February 5, 2026, meeting minutes of the Transportation Technical Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of February 5, 2026, Transportation Technical Committee meeting are included on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the February 5, 2026, Transportation Technical Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

MEETING MINUTES

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Technical Committee 9:30 a.m., Monday, February 5, 2026

The MPO TTC held a live/virtual meeting on February 5, 2026. Before the meeting, the MPO staff emailed agenda packets to the TTC representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office on January 29, 2026.

Representatives Present:

John Dostart | City of Altoona
Mark Mueller | City of Ankeny
Isaac Pezley | City of Bondurant
Mitch Holtz | City of Carlisle
David Hockett | Dallas County
Tony Filippini | DART
John Davis | City of Des Moines
Steve Naber | City of Des Moines
Michael Ludwig | City of Des Moines
Matt Greiner | City of Johnston
Luke Parris | City of Norwalk
Brian Dunkelberger | City of Pleasant Hill
Mike Schulte | City of Polk City
John Larson | City of Urbandale
Tim Hill | Warren County
Nick Osbourne | City of Waukee
Eric Petersen | City of West Des Moines
Jim Dickinson | City of West Des Moines
Justin Ernst | City of Windsor Heights
Shelby Ebel | Iowa DOT*
Julia Castillo | HIRTA*
Gerri Doyle | FTA*

Representatives Absent:

Amy Quartell | City of Ankeny
Jeff May | City of Clive
Rita Connor | City of Cumming**
Ron Cornwell | City of Elkhart**
Matt Ahrens | City of Grimes
Eric Stevens | City of Indianola**
Heather Stancil | Madison County**
Adam McCann | City of Mitchellville
Aaron Putnam | Polk County
Dave Herman | City of Van Meter**
Bryan Belt | DSM International Airport *
Sean Litteral | FHWA*

* Non-Voting, Advisory Representative

** Non-Voting, Associate Representative

Staff Present:

Dylan Mullenix | Executive Director
Gunnar Olson | Planning and Public Affairs Manager
Allison Riley | Senior Planner
Marcus Coenen | Senior Planner
Janet Slavick | Associate Planner
Tracey Deckard | Administrative Specialist

Others Present

Chief McClusky | City of Waukee
Jeff Wiggins | City of Des Moines
Gene Gettys | JEO
Madeline Schmitt | FHU
Michael Delp | City of Johnston
Mindy Moore | HDR

1. Call to Order

TTC Chair, John Dostart recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made by Davis and seconded by Mueller to approve the MPO TTC's February meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made by Naber and seconded by Larson to approve the MPO TTC January meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Presentation: Electric Scooter Model Ordinance

Waukee Police Chief Chad McCluskey provided an overview of the background, rationale and status of the work of Polk County Law Enforcement Executives Association (PLEXA) regarding a recently developed electric scooter model ordinance language. Report and discussion only.

5. Election of Calendar Year 2026 Officers

Chair, John Dostart called for nominations for committee officer following the January TTC meeting. The individuals who were nominated were Madeline Sturms, City of Pleasant Hill as Chair and John Larson, City of Urbandale as Vice Chair. The Chair called for any other nominations from the committee and no other names were brought forward.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dostart and seconded by Naber to appoint the new officers, Madeline Sturms as Chair and John Larson as Vice Chair.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

Associate Planner, Addison Williamson provided a report on amendments to the FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program requested by the Polk County Conservation Board and the City of Norwalk.

MOTION: A motion was made by Naber and seconded by Dunkelberger to approve the FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program requested by the Polk County Conservation Board and the City of Norwalk.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Freight Plan Update

Associate Planner Janet Slavick provided a report on the development of a regional Freight Plan. Report and discussion only.

8. Brenton Slough Transportation Study

Senior Planner Allison Riley reported that the MPO has been approached by the City of Grimes and Polk County to coordinate a transportation study of the Brenton Slough. The primary goal is the determine how to best activate the buildout of a safe recreational trail connecting Jester Par, Brenton Slough and neighboring communities while preserving the ecological integrity of the area. Report and discussion only.

9. Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program

Planning and Public Relations Manager Gunnar Olson discussed the process to develop the next work program and budget. Member governments are encouraged to provide input on any proposals for special studies, plans, or other activities as well as request for local planning assistance. Report and discussion only.

10. Legislative Update and DC List

Planning and Public Relations Manager Gunnar Olson provided information on DMDC 2026, which will be held on June 3-5, 2026. Members are encouraged to let the MPO staff know if you have a project seeking federal funding that should be on the DC list. Report and discussion only.

11. MPO Funding Process Review

Executive Director Dylan Mullenix provided an update on efforts to review the MPO's funding process. The Funding Subcommittee has met three times. A discussion was held on the efforts of the subcommittee and options to consider. Report and discussion only.

12. Upcoming Events

Information only.

13. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee

- Senior Planner Marcus Coenen attended a debrief regarding the SS4A grant and provided information as to how to potentially improve future applications.
- Planning and Public Relations Manager Gunnar Olson advised that the Norfolk Southern Rail line section that runs from Grimes to downtown filed for abandonment. Wanted members to be aware as this opens property that might be of use or of interest to the MPO or members.
- Executive Director Dylan Mullenix thanked John Dostart for chairing the TTC meeting over the past couple of years

14. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 5, 2026.

15. Adjournment

The MPO TTC's February meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

ISSUE: Draft Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget

REPORT and VOTE: Discussion on the draft Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

MPO staff has completed a draft Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (FY 2027 UPWP) and budget, which documents all planning activities the MPO will perform from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. A final version of the UPWP and budget will come back to the committee in May for final approval.

[Click here to access the draft Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget.](#)

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, 2026, and a final UPWP by June 1, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the draft Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

ISSUE: FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

REPORT and VOTE: Amendments to *FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program*; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

The Iowa Department of Transportation has requested the following amendment:

<u>Sponsor:</u>	Iowa Department of Transportation
<u>Project:</u>	I-35: SW I-35/80/235 Interchange in West Des Moines
<u>Federal Aid Amount:</u>	\$93,909,250
<u>Total Cost:</u>	\$115,825,000
<u>Type of Funding:</u>	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP), National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), Primary Road Fund (PRF), Mega Grant
<u>Location:</u>	I-35: SW I-35/80/235 Interchange in West Des Moines
<u>Change:</u>	Increase federal NHPP aid by more than \$2 million

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend approval.

STAFF CONTACTS:

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

ISSUE: FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development

REPORT: Report on the process to develop the *Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program*.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires that the MPO annually develop a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that details the use of federal funds for transportation projects in the Metropolitan Planning Area.

The MPO staff will begin working on the *Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2027-2030 TIP) by providing each MPO member government and participating agency a listing of their current TIP projects and associated information from the Iowa Department of Transportation's Transportation Program Management System (TPMS) for review and update.

The MPO staff requests that member governments and agencies determine if projects currently programmed for FFY 2026 will receive FHWA authorization to proceed with development before October 1, 2026. If a project does not receive FHWA authorization before October 1, 2026, then the project will need to "roll-over" to a future year in the TIP.

The MPO staff distributes status reports to member governments that currently have projects programmed in the TIP. Over the coming months, staff will contact these member governments to discuss the details of their projects. Staff will distribute status reports around early April.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

ISSUE: Active Transportation Plan Update

REPORT: Report on the MPO's Active Transportation Plan.

BACKGROUND:

MPO staff are working on an update to the 2009 [CONNECT](#) plan. This plan focuses on transportation outside of a vehicle such as walking or biking, with an emphasis on safety and the MPO's Vision Zero goals.

Staff have begun to work with the Active Transportation Roundtable to identify locations for corridor walk audit sites hosted by MPO member communities and community organizations. Staff request representatives on the Transportation Technical Committee to recommend a site within their jurisdiction that could benefit from a street-level walk audit assessment.

Staff will be preparing draft chapters to bring before committees for feedback in early Spring for anticipated adoption of the plan in June.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

ISSUE: Legislative Update and DC List

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

BACKGROUND:

Staff will share updates on various legislative issues and invite updates and discussion among representatives.

Related, staff is beginning preparations for [DMDC 2026](#), the annual lobbying trip to Washington DC that is organized by the Greater Des Moines Partnership. This year's trip is June 3-5.

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.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

ISSUE: MPO Funding Process Review

REPORT: Update on efforts to review the MPO’s funding process.

BACKGROUND:

In August, MPO staff proposed to postpone the awarding of FFY 2030 funds by one year, with the application cycle starting in December 2026 in concurrence with the application for FFY 2031 funds. The proposed pause was intended to make time for a review of the funding process with the MPO committees. The reasons were threefold:

- Align funding process with recently adopted plans, including *Mobilizing Tomorrow* and the *Comprehensive Safety Action Plan*.
- Align funding process with any changes that could arise through the surface transportation reauthorization process.
- Review best practices and identify opportunities to improve the process.

The Transportation Technical Committee, Executive Committee, and Policy Committee all concurred with the value of a one-year pause to review the MPO’s funding process. The MPO Chair appointed a Funding Review Subcommittee to carry out this review. The subcommittee is comprised of the following individuals, selected to ensure a mix of view and geographic representation:

- Mike Jones, City of Windsor Heights, Mayor
- Len Murray, City of Pleasant Hill, City Council
- Matt McCoy, Polk County, County Supervisor
- Scott Sanders, City of Des Moines, City Manager
- David Jones, City of Urbandale, City Manager
- Tom Hadden, City of West Des Moines, City Manager
- John Dostart, City of Altoona, City Engineer
- Mark Mueller, City of Ankeny, Director of Public Works
- Luke Parris, City of Norwalk, Community Development Director

At the March meeting, MPO staff will present the funding scenarios that have been developed after the first four meetings of the Funding Review Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion.

STAFF CONTACT:

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

ISSUE: Upcoming Events

INFORMATIONAL: Report on upcoming events of regional interest.

BACKGROUND:

The following events, trainings, and other opportunities may be of interest to representatives of MPO member governments.

Webinars

[TRB: The Power of Clear Language in Highway Safety Documentation](#) – 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.,
March 2

[How to Create a Simple, Streamlined Safe Routes Project Action Plan: Part 1](#) – 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.,
March 10

[Iowa LTAP: Farmers Helping Bridge the Gap for Rural Bridges](#) – 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., March 12

[Installation Excellence for Trail Aggregate: Tips, Tricks, and Common Pitfalls](#) – 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.,
March 19

[Geotech Tools for Asset Management and Evaluation](#) – 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., March 19

[Talking TIM \(Traffic Incident Management\)](#) – 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., March 25

[Harnessing Communications to Educate and Engage Community of Trail Volunteers](#) – 12 p.m. to
1 p.m., March 26

[How to Create a Simple, Streamlined Safe Routes Project Action Plan: Part 2](#) – 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.,
April 7

Events

[NEPA Decision-Making & Defensible Project Delivery](#) – March 3-4 – Ames

[Iowa DOT Culvert & Bridge Backwater Program Workshop](#) – March 10 – Ames

[County Engineers Research Focus Group](#) – March 11 – Des Moines

[Iowa Work Zone Safety Workshop Series](#) – March 12 – Ankeny

[Iowa Tourism Conference](#) – March 12-13 – Altoona

[National Planning Conference](#) – April 25-28 – Detroit, MI

[Housing Matters Symposium](#) – April 30 – Des Moines

[Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals Conference](#) – August 10-12 – Pittsburgh, PA

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Informational only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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