DES MOINES AREA MPO

Policy Committee Meeting

October 15, 2026

DES MOINES AREA MPO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

October 15, 2026, Agenda

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **VOTE:** Approval of Agenda
3. **VOTE:** Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
5. **CONSENT and VOTE:**
   a. September Financial Statements
   b. Downtown Water Trails Change Orders
   c. Affirm Bylaws Amendments
   d. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments
6. **PRESENTATION:** University of Iowa Driving Safety Research Institute
7. **REPORT and VOTE:** InterCONNECT Plan Approval
8. **REPORT and VOTE:** Proposed Calendar Year 2027 Meeting Dates and Posting Location
9. **REPORT and VOTE:** Funding Optimization Study
10. **REPORT:** FFY 2030 and 2031 STBG Funding Update
11. **REPORT:** Excess Funding Update
12. **VOTE:** Enter Closed Session to Discuss a Potential Real Estate Transaction
13. **REPORT:** Mobilizing Tomorrow Goal One Performance Measures
14. **REPORT:** 2026 Regional Trail Pavement Condition Report
15. **REPORT:** Officer and Executive Committee Representatives
16. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
17. **OTHER ITEMS**
18. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** 4 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2026
19. **ADJOURNMENT**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT AND VOTE

CONSENT and VOTE

a. September Financial Statements
b. Downtown Water Trails Change Orders
c. Affirm Bylaws Amendments
d. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

PRESENTATION: UNIVERSITY OF IOWA DRIVING SAFETY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

INTERCONNECT PLAN APPROVAL

Plan Purpose and Development

Name: InterCONNECT

Purpose: A regional plan that provides an updated overview of the active transportation system, and MPO role.

Engagement: Walkabouts with TTC, MPO roundtables, walk audit workshops.

Content: Five chapters that include an overview and analysis of the existing conditions, safety, and planning considerations for the active transportation network.

Plan Comment Updates and Edits

- Presented InterCONNECT at MPO Roundtables.
  - Public comment form was shared.
- 20-day public comment period and there were three public comment forms submitted.
  - Found in Appendix C.
  - Minor edits made.

Looking Ahead

- Prioritize implementation items.
- Align focus of Active Transportation and Trails Roundtables with priority focus areas identified through the planning process.
- Incorporate InterCONNECT findings and recommendations into Long-Range Transportation Update.

PROPOSED CALENDAR YEAR 2027 MEETING DATES AND POSTING LOCATION

DES MOINES AREA MPO

Recap: Revised calendar following 28E and Bylaws Review

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Critical Actions			STBG Funding Process Begins		STBG Awards LRTP / 5 years				Draft UPWP		Final UPWP TIP	
	Summer Recess	**Fall Session**				**Winter Recess**		**Spring Session**				**Summer Recess**
Policy		*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	
Exec		*		*				*		*		
TTC		*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	

TECHNICAL	EXECUTIVE	COUNCIL
9:30 a.m. on first Thursday unless otherwise noted.	11:30 a.m. on first Thursday unless otherwise noted.	3:30 p.m. on third Thursday unless otherwise noted.
Winter Recess		
Spring Session		
February 4	February 4	February 18
March 4	--	March 25*
April 1	April 1	April 15
May 6	--	May 20
Summer Recess		
Fall Session		
August 5	August 5	August 19
September 2	--	September 16
October 7	October 7	October 21
November 4	--	November 18
Winter Recess		

Schedule reflects the following adjustments:

- Establishes two four-month "sessions" with two-month "recesses" in between.
- The Regional Transportation Council, formerly "Policy Committee," moves from 10 to 8 meetings annually.
- Start Council meetings 30 minutes earlier. An hour earlier?
- Executive Committee moves from 10 to 4 meetings annually.
- Transportation Technical Committee moves from 10 to 8 meetings annually.

* Delayed one week due to Spring Break.

Posting Location for Meeting Agendas

Agendas for MPO public meetings, including those of the Regional Transportation Council and its Committees, will be posted on the front window of the MPO's office building at 420 Watson Powell Jr. Way, Des Moines, Iowa, 50309.

FUNDING OPTIMIZATION STUDY

Funding Optimization Study

- The Funding Review found significant interest in a study that explored the strategic use of federal and local dollars to provide additional flexibility in delivering transportation projects, such as a federal-local funding swap.
- The MPO in September issued an RFP for a Funding Optimization Study and received one proposal, from Jack Faucett Analytics.
  - Staff reviewed the proposal and is satisfied with the proposed scope of work and the consultant's ability to deliver on the project.
  - Timeline for the project is slated for January through June of 2027.
  - The cost of the study is $30,000, which is included in the budget.
- Recommend authorizing staff to enter contract negotiations.

FFY 2030 AND 2031 STBG FUNDING UPDATE

DES MOINES AREA MPO

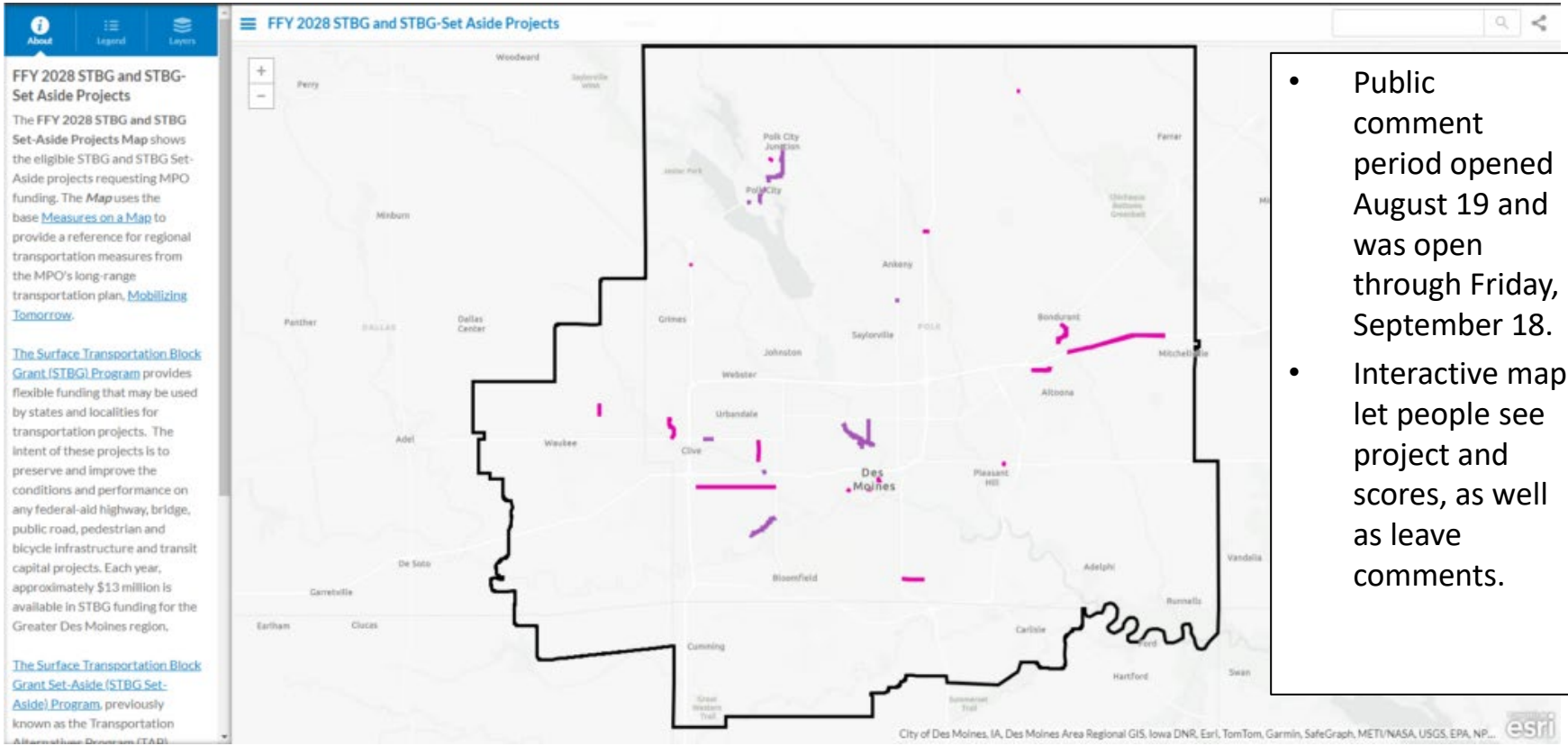
Summary

	STBG			TAP		
Year	Projects	Request	Estimated Available	Projects	Request	Estimated Available
2030	15	$56,510,000	$19,087,000	2	$3,400,000	$1,859,000
2031	5	$10,295,600	$19,087,000*	1	$750,000	$1,859,000*
Total	**20**	**$66,805,600**	**$38,174,000**	**3**	**$4,150,000**	**$3,718,000**

** FFY 2031 estimates from Iowa DOT are not anticipated until early 2027. This estimate assumes a flat-line projection from Iowa DOT in the absence of a new authorization bill.*

Public Comment Period

dmampo.org/public-participation



- Public comment period opened August 19 and was open through Friday, September 18.
- Interactive map let people see project and scores, as well as leave comments.

Schedule

July 1 — Online application tool begins accepting applications.

August 7 — STBG and STBG Set-Aside applications are due by 4:30 p.m.

August 19 — Public comment period begins.

October 7 — Sponsor presentations to Funding Subcommittee starting at 9 a.m.

October 8 — Funding Subcommittee deliberates on award recommendations.

October 15 – Recommendations presented to MPO Policy Committee.

November 16 — Policy Committee votes on final awards.

May 2027 — Draft *Federal Fiscal Years 2028-2031 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2028-2031 TIP) to MPO TTC and MPO Policy for review and comment.

June 2027 — FFY 2028-2031 TIP to MPO TTC and MPO Policy for action and submitted to Iowa DOT.

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	FFY 2030 Funding Request	FFY 2030 Recommended Award
City of Johnston	IA 141 and Towner Drive Interchange	$36,000,000	$2,000,000	$1,500,000
City of Bondurant	15th St to Campus Drive Public Improvements	$5,400,000	$2,700,000	$0
City of Grimes	IA HWY 44/1st Street Reconstruction - Phase 1	$20,500,000	$3,000,000	$2,000,000
City of Des Moines	ITS Upgrade Phase 9 (University Avenue)	$12,500,000	$1,500,000	$1,500,000
City of West Des Moines	University Avenue Resurfacing	$4,500,000	$3,600,000	$1,500,000
City of Altoona	8th Street SW Reconstruction - Phase 3	$7,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000
City of Des Moines	Easton Boulevard Improvements: Phase 2	$12,500,000	$10,000,000	$0
City of Urbandale	109th/112th Street Reconstruction	$8,500,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000
City of Windsor Heights	73rd Street Reconstruction – Phase 2	$15,000,000	$1,000,000	**See Excess Funding***
City of Des Moines	Fleur Drive Bridge Across the Raccoon River Rehabilitation	$14,000,000	$3,400,000	$3,400,000
DART	Bus Replacements and BCycle Station Replacements	$3,644,656	$2,050,000	$2,000,000

FFY 2030 Safety & Planning Applications

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommended Award
City of Des Moines	SW 9th Street and Bancroft Street Roundabout	$6,000,000	$4,500,000	$3,500,000
MPO	Vision Zero Program		$2,000,000	$2,000,000

Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommended Award
MPO	Data licensing	$180,000	$180,000	$180,000

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	FFY 2031 Funding Request	FFY 2031 Recommended Award
City of Bondurant	2nd Street NW Corridor Improvements, Fireside Drive NW to Lincoln Street NE	$9,958,020	$5,000,000	$500,000
City of Pleasant Hill	NE 64th Street and University Avenue Intersection Improvements	$1,557,000	$1,245,600	$500,000
City of Ankeny	East 1st Street Reconstruction	$12,000,000	$6,000,000	$2,500,000
City of Waukee	Ute Avenue Corridor Improvements Phase 2	$7,200,000	$5,760,000	$2,000,000
City of West Des Moines	Ashworth Road Reconstruction and Reconfiguration	$30,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000
City of West Des Moines	University Avenue Resurfacing	$4,500,000	$3,600,000	$1,000,000
City of Des Moines	E University Avenue Pedestrian Bridge Over Four Mile Creek	$4,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,600,000
DART	Bus Replacements and BCycle Station Replacements	$5,596,930	$2,050,000	$2,050,000

FFY 2031 Safety & Planning Applications

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommended Award
City of Des Moines	Beaver Avenue and Forest Avenue Roundabout	$4,000,000	$3,000,000	$3,000,000
MPO	Vision Zero Program		$2,000,000	$2,000,000

Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommended Award
MPO	Data licensing	$180,000	$180,000	$180,000

FFY 2030 & FFY 2031 TAP Applications

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommended Award
City of Ankeny	Grade-Separated Trail Crossing of SW Oralabor Road at SW Irvinedale Drive	$4,800,000	$2,500,000	$2,050,000
City of Des Moines	Bill Riley Trail Bridge over the Raccoon River	$3,644,656	$900,000	$900,000
City of Urbandale	I-35/80 Pedestrian Bridge	$4,000,000	$750,000	$750,000

EXCESS FUNDING UPDATE

What is Excess Funding?

Excess Funding – The difference between what the MPO awards in a given federal fiscal year based on Iowa DOT estimates and what the final apportionment from the Iowa DOT ends up being.

- The last Excess Funding awards were made in 2023.
- Excess Funding is available for Federal Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, and 2026.
- **$13,092,610** is available.

Federal Fiscal Year	Iowa DOT Target	Award	Final Apportionment	Annual Excess	Excess Awards	Balance of Excess
2024	$12,893,000	$13,893,000	$16,976,478	$3,083,478	$0	$3,083,478
2025	$12,729,000	$12,729,000	$18,764,566	$6,035,566	$0	$9,119,044
2026	$15,075,000	$15,075,000	$19,048,566	$3,973,566	$0	$13,092,610

MPO Excess Funding Policy

- The Policy Committee established a policy in 2020 of spending any Excess Funding greater than $250,000.
- The amount of STBG funds above that threshold will be presented to the Funding Subcommittee.
- The policy suggests allocating those funds in two basic categories:
  1. Retroactively award the full asking amount on projects that received partial STBG or TAP awards in the past three years.
  2. Invest in regionally significant projects.

Partial Award “Backfill”

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Request-Award Gap	Recommended Excess Funding Award
City of Bondurant	Grant Street South Realignment	$1,250,000	$1,250,000
DART	Bus and BCycle Station Replacement	$450,000	$450,000
City of Des Moines	SW 9th Street Bridge	$700,000	$700,000
City of Johnston	IA 141 and Towner Drive Project	$1,600,000	$0
City of West Des Moines	Ashworth Road Reconstruction and Reconfiguration	$150,000	$150,000
City of Windsor Heights	73rd Street Reconstruction - Phase 2	$1,300,000	$1,300,000

Unappropriated Carbon Reduction Funding

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Eliminated Award Amount	Recommended Excess Funding Award
City of Des Moines	5th Street Complete Streets Project	$481,934	$481,934
City of Johnston	IA 141 and Towner Drive Project	$1,133,191	$1,133,191

Regionally Significant Projects

Primary Sponsor	Project Title	Recommended Excess Funding Award
MPO	Vision Zero Program	$3,000,000
MPO	Future 435	$250,000
N/A	Grimes Line	Undisclosed

Summary

- The Funding Subcommittee additionally advanced $1.7 million in Excess Funding to be awarded in FFY 2030 and 2031.
- Finally, the Funding Subcommittee recommends revising the Excess Funding Policy at a later date to ensure alignment among policy makers.
  - *What's the right cash balance?*
  - *How should we treat historical accruals?*
  - *Should Excess be programmed near-term or rolled into future cycles?*

Combined Summary: FFY 2030, FFY 2031, and Excess

	2030 Target	2031 Target	Excess Funding	Total	Cumulative Funding Balance
Available Funding	$19,087,000	$19,087,000	$13,092,610	$51,266,610	
Recommendation	$21,580,000	$18,330,000	$8,715,125	$48,625,125	$2,641,485

CLOSED SESSION

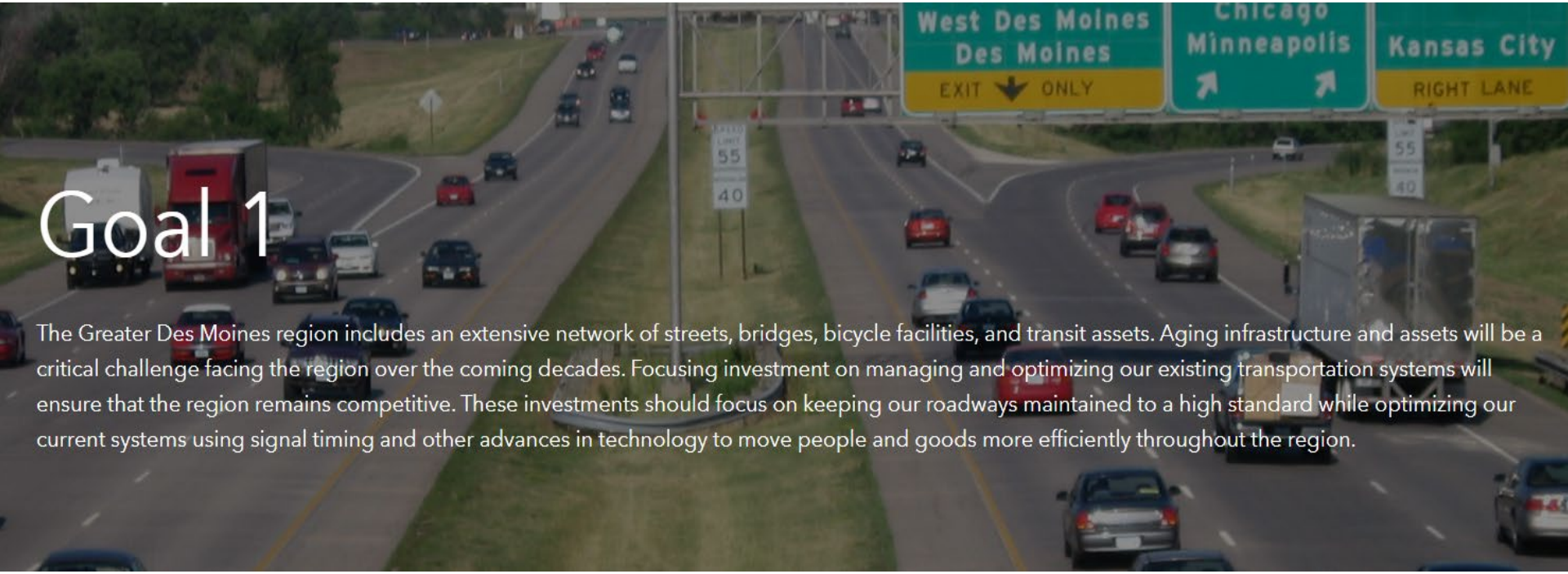
Pursuant to Iowa Code § 21.5 (1)(j) relating to the purchase or sale of specific real estate

DES MOINES AREA MPO

MOBILIZING TOMORROW GOAL ONE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal One

The Greater Des Moines region includes an extensive network of streets, bridges, bicycle facilities, and transit assets. Aging infrastructure and assets will be a critical challenge facing the region over the coming decades. Focusing investment on managing and optimizing our existing transportation systems will ensure that the region remains competitive. These investments should focus on keeping our roadways maintained to a high standard while optimizing our current systems using signal timing and other advances in technology to move people and goods more efficiently throughout the region.



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Goal One Performance Measures

Bridge Condition

Deck Area
Poor Condition

5.3%

2050 Target: Maintain

Bridges
Poor Condition

6.25%

2050 Target: Maintain

Deck Area
Good Condition

65.59%

2050 Target: 85.0%

Bridges
Good Condition

58.69%

2050 Target: 85.0%

Goal One Performance Measures

Pavement Condition

Interstate
Good Condition

48.2%

2050 Target: 65%

Interstate
Poor Condition

0.37%

2050 Target: Maintain

Local Roads
Poor Condition

0.36

2050 Target: 3.0%

Non-Interstate NHS
Good Condition

17.2%

2050 Target: 60%

Non-Interstate NHS
Poor Condition

4.85%

2050 Target: 5.0%

Local Roads
Average PCI

68

2050 Target: 80.0

Goal One Performance Measures

Level of Service - Peak Hour

Interstate Reliability
Person Miles Traveled

100%

2050 Target: 95.0%

Non-Interstate NHS Reliability
Person Miles Traveled

97.4%

2050 Target: 75.0%

Interstate Truck Travel Time

1.24

2050 Target: <1.28

Goal One Performance Measures

Regional Trail System

Gaps
Count

12

2050 Target: 0

Gaps
Miles

39

2050 Target: 0

Pavement
Good Condition

69.2%

2050 Target: 90.0%

Pavement
Poor Condition

10.7%

2050 Target: 2.0%

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Goal One Performance Measures

2026 REGIONAL TRAIL PAVEMENT CONDITION REPORT

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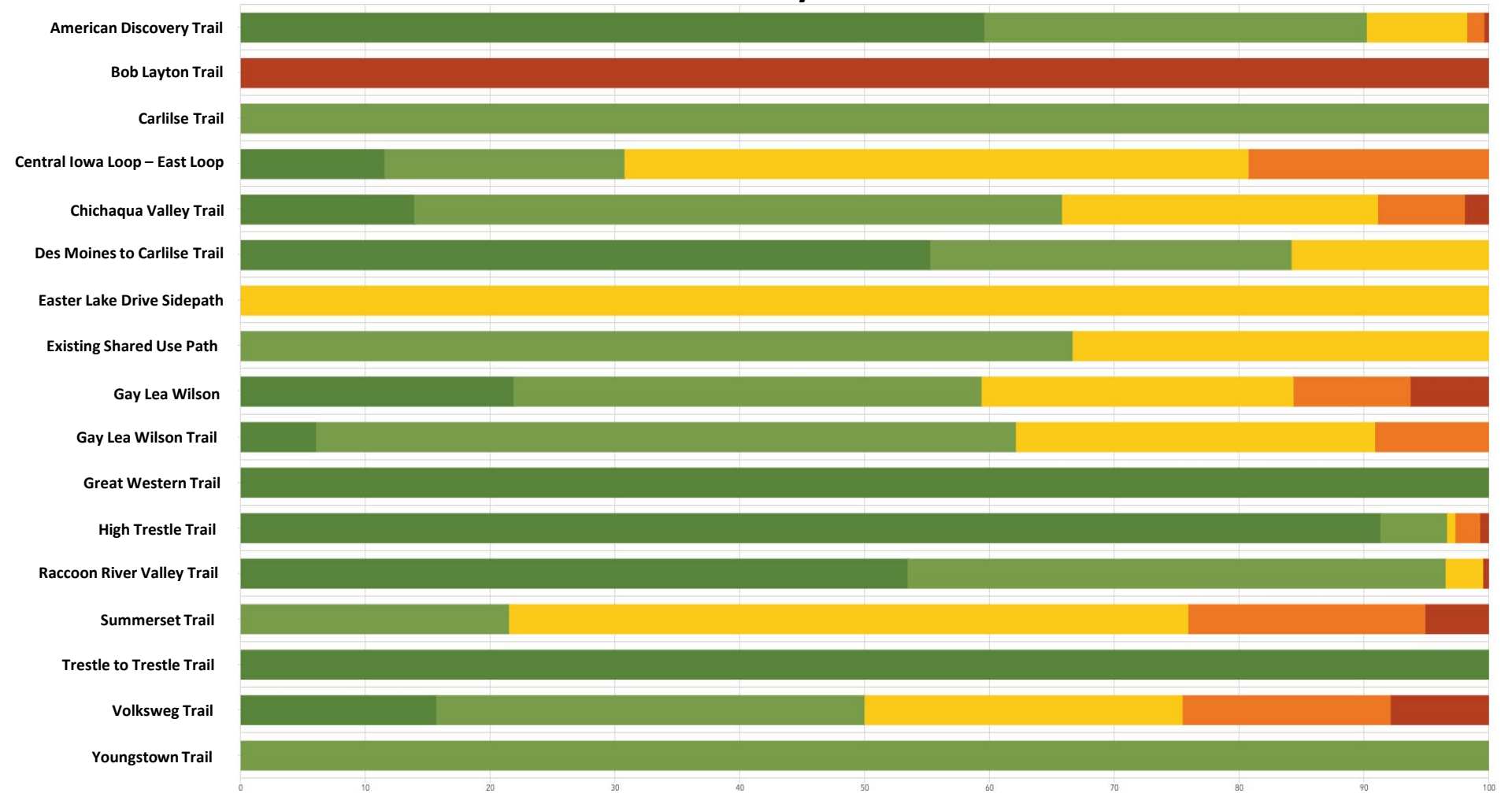
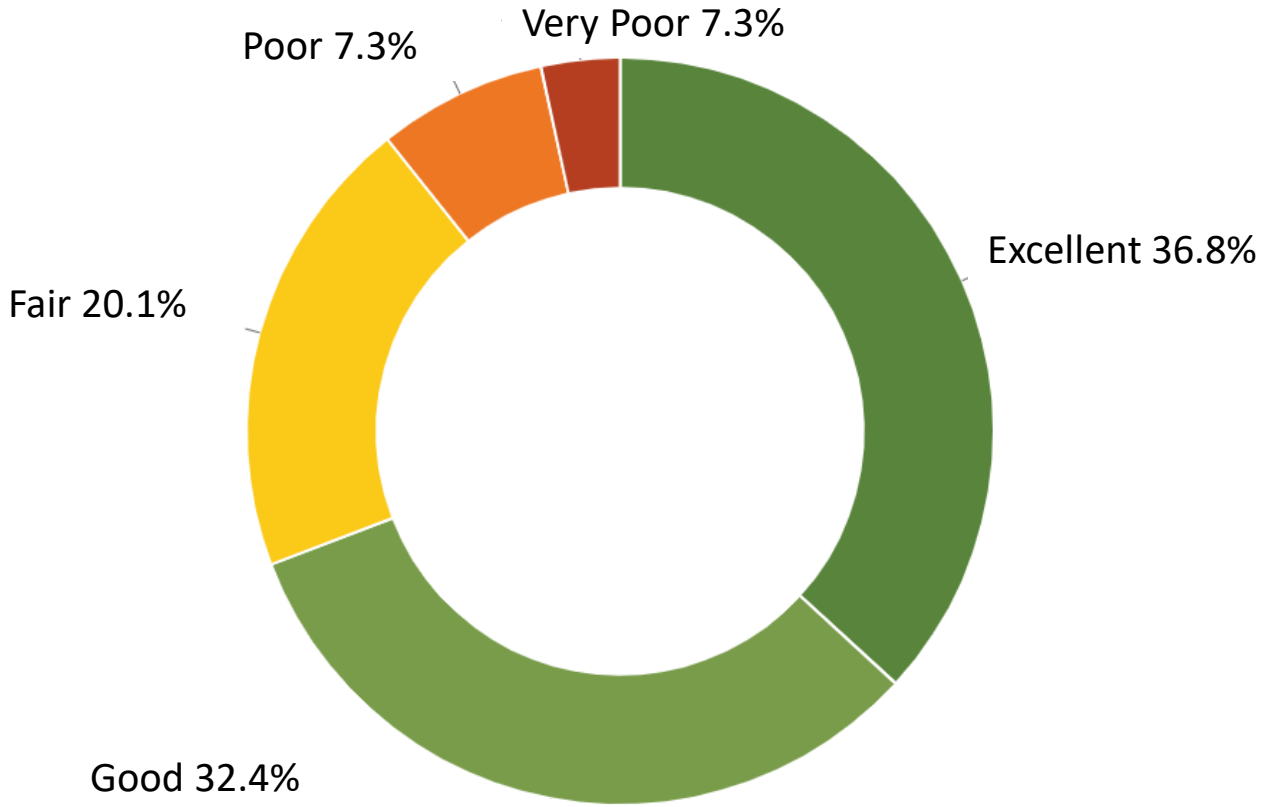
2026 Data

- Data analysis was completed in house.
- Results are published on an online story map where members can inspect individual trail segments.

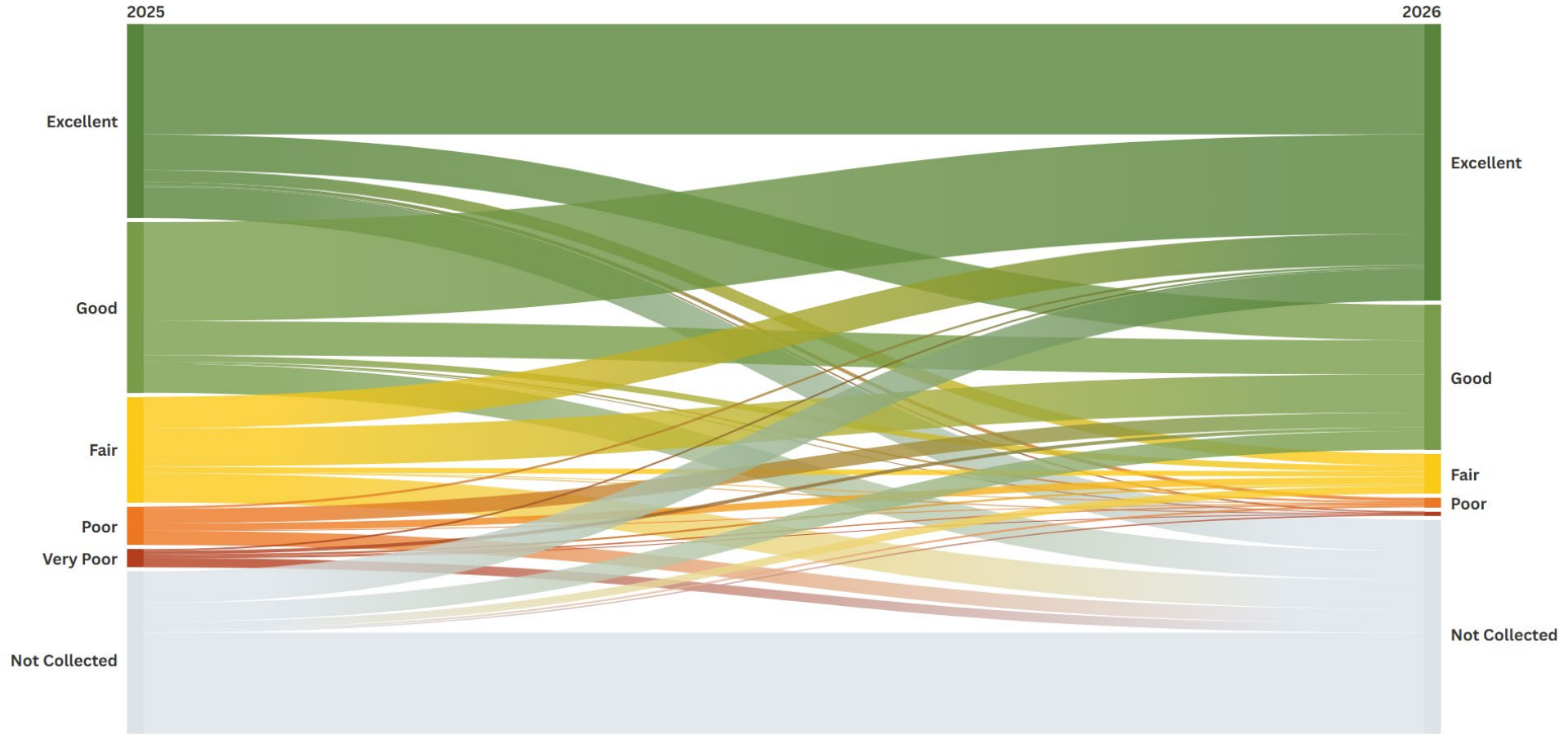
Trail Condition by Trail 2026



Overall Trails Condition 2026



Change in Trail Conditions 2025-2026



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OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

RECAP: Existing Executive Committee Structure

“Don’t fix what isn’t broken”

- Maintain status quo with 11 reps.
  - 2 from Des Moines
  - 1 from Polk County
  - 1 each from jurisdiction with >50k population (Ankeny, West Des Moines, soon Urbandale)
  - 2 each from the 3 subareas

Effects

1. **Maintains current geographic distribution.**
2. **Committee would grow in number as jurisdictions grow past 50k residents.**
3. **Could make it more difficult for subareas who rotate representatives to hold officer positions.**

RECAP: Officer Selection Process if Exec Stays as is

GOAL: Provide stable and predictable leadership

- Executive Committee representatives announced at November Policy Committee meeting.
- Officers also elected at November meeting.
  - Appointments for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer are made from announced Executive Committee.[1]
  - Vice Chair is treated as Chair Elect.[2]
  - Max term: 2 years.[3]
- Identified Issue: Little time for Nominating Committee to deliberate and suggest officers.

Effects

1. **Ensures officers are experienced reps, precluding new reps from officer roles.**
2. **No gaps without a Chair, providing stability in leadership.**
3. **In effect, the Vice Chair would need to be at the start of a second (or subsequent) term to serve 3-4 years in Vice Chair and Chair roles.**

What to Expect in November

Executive Committee

- Time will be provided for member governments to deliberate and select their Executive Committee Appointments.
- Appointees will be shared prior to the election of officers.

Officers

- The Nominating Committee may elect to meet prior to the November meeting of the Policy Committee to develop a short list of potential officers.
- After Executive Committee representatives are announced, the Nominating Committee can put forward nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary / Treasurer. If needed, time will be provided during the meeting to deliberate.
- The committee will then vote to elect its officers for Calendar Year 2027.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Strategic Framework Implementation

Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations

Regional Planning & Federal Excellence

Enhance Partnerships & Services

Purpose-Driven Innovation

RECENT

- Audit underway
- Office space updates nearly complete
- Board member 1-1 meetings
- Executive Committee review of Strategic Framework

UPCOMING

- Appointments of Exec members and nomination of Officers
- Policies/procedure revisions forthcoming
- Strategic Framework update continues in November
- Director review in November

Strategic Framework Implementation

Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations

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Purpose-Driven Innovation

RECENT

- FY 2030/2031 STBG application cycle nearly complete
- Completed Active Transportation Plan
- Submitted PROTECT grant application

UPCOMING

- Drafting of FY 2028 Unified Planning Work Program
- Implementation efforts of recently completed plans

Strategic Framework Implementation

Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations

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Enhance Partnerships & Services

Purpose-Driven Innovation

RECENT

- Data Bike collection wrapped up
- Trail conditions report
- 1-1 meetings with board members and member staff
- Participate in GDMP's Government Policy Committee

UPCOMING

- Member service requests for next UPWP
- Continue monitoring federal legislative issues following mid-term elections

Strategic Framework Implementation

Strengthen MPO Governance & Operations

Regional Planning & Federal Excellence

Enhance Partnerships & Services

Purpose-Driven Innovation

RECENT

- Continued coordination on Grimes Lines abandonment
- Future 435: Data collection complete for alternatives study
- RFQ for roadway safety audits program
- RFPs for other Safe Streets for All supplemental planning projects, pending FHWA agreement

UPCOMING

- Grimes Line meetings
- Contract negotiations for Funding Optimization Study

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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