



420 Watson Powell Jr. Parkway, Suite 200
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Phone: 515.334.0075
www.dmampo.org

NOTICE OF MEETING

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

4:00 p.m., Thursday, November 17, 2011

Des Moines Area MPO Office

TENTATIVE AGENDA

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.

1. **Call To Order**
2. **VOTE: Approval of Agenda**
3. **VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes**.....Page 3
 - Approve the October 20, 2011, meeting minutes
4. **VOTE: Approval of October 2011 Financial Statement**.....Page 7
5. **REPORT and VOTE: Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Request**.....Page 12
 - Report on two Transportation Improvement Program Amendment requests; consider approval.
6. **REPORT and VOTE: DART Federal Funding Transfer Request**.....Page 13
 - Report on DART's request to transfer federal funding from FHWA to FTA; consider approval.
7. **REPORT and VOTE: Trail Counter Checkout Procedures**Page 15
 - Report on trail counter checkout procedures; consider approval.
8. **REPORT: Fiscal Year 2013 Appropriations Requests**.....Page 16
 - Presentation of projects submitted for the 2012 on Fiscal Year 2013 Washington D.C. Trip.
9. **REPORT: 2011 Freight Intermodal Study**.....Page 19
 - Report on the results from the 2011 Freight Intermodal Study.
10. **REPORT: The Tomorrow Plan Update**.....Page 20
 - Brief update on The Tomorrow Plan.

Altoona Ankeny Bondurant Carlisle Clive Dallas County Des Moines DART Grimes Johnston Mitchellville Norwalk Pleasant Hill Polk City Polk County Urbandale Warren County Waukee West Des Moines Windsor Heights

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

11. **REPORT: *Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification***.....Page 21
 - Report on a Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification.
12. **REPORT: *Surface Transportation Policy Update***.....Page 22
 - Brief update on the STP Funding Subcommittee’s discussion regarding the STP Funding Process.
13. **REPORT: *Surface Transportation Program Status Reports***.....Page 23
 - Brief report on the Surface Transportation Program and Surface Transportation Program Transportation Enhancement Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Status.
14. **INFORMATION: *Transportation Management Association Update***.....Page 24
15. **INFORMATION: *Congressman Latham’s Iowa Community Conference***.....Page 27
 - Information about the Iowa Community Conference, which will focus on transportation and housing, scheduled for November 21 in West Des Moines.
16. **INFORMATION: *Accessibility Guidelines for Public Right-of-Way***.....Page 29
 - Information about proposed rulemaking from the US Access Board regarding proposed accessibility guidelines for pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way.
17. **INFORMATION: *Transportation Funding Updates***.....Page 30
 - Information about proposed rulemaking from the US Access Board regarding proposed accessibility guidelines for pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way.
18. **INFORMATION: *MPO Progress Report***.....Page 33
19. **Other Non- Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
20. **Next Meeting Date**
 - 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 22, 2011, MPO Office
21. **Adjournment**

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 3

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve minutes of the October 20, 2011, Policy Committee meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the October 20, 2011, Policy Committee meeting are enclosed on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the October 20, 2011, Policy Committee meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 20, 2011 Des Moines Area MPO Conference Room Des Moines, Iowa

The MPO held a meeting at 4:00 p.m. on October 20, 2011, in the Des Moines Area MPO Conference Room. Before the meeting, the MPO staff sent agenda packets to the MPO's representatives and posted the agenda at the MPO office at 3:03 p.m. on October 14, 2011. **The fiscal year-to-date publication cost of meeting minutes for the MPO: \$387.21. In addition to these published tentative minutes, there also may be additional Meeting Notes on 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.**

Representatives Present:

Gerald Nolin, City of Altoona
Carl Metzger, City of Ankeny
Mark Arentsen, City of Bondurant
John Edwards, City of Clive
Ted Weaver, City of Clive
David Chelsvig, City of Cumming**
Mark Hansen, Dallas County
Jamie Schug, Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority
Chris Coleman, City of Des Moines
Chris Johansen, City of Des Moines
Pat Kozitaza, City of Des Moines
Frank Cownie, City of Des Moines
Allen McKinley, City of Des Moines
Kandi Reindl, City of Des Moines
Robert Mahaffey, City of Des Moines
Tom Armstrong, City of Grimes
Jim Lane, City of Norwalk
Martha Miller, City of Pleasant Hill
Tom Hockensmith, Polk County
A.J. Johnson, City of Urbandale
Mike Carver, City of Urbandale
Bill Peard, City of Waukee
Ted Ohmart, City of West Des Moines
Jody Smith, City of West Des Moines
Marketa George Oliver, City of Windsor Heights

Mike Clayton, Iowa Department of Transportation*

Representatives Absent:

Kyle Mertz, City of Altoona
Craig Block, City of Ankeny
Steve Van Oort, City of Ankeny
Ruth Randleman, City of Carlisle
Paula Diernfeld, City of Johnston
Brian Laurenzo, City of Johnston
Doyle Scott, Madison County**
Peggy Olson, City of Mitchellville
Tim Zisoff, City of Indianola**
Gary Mahannah, City of Polk County
Angela Connolly, Polk County
Robert Andeweg, City of Urbandale
Dean Yordi, Warren County
Russ Trimble, City of West Des Moines
Don Smithy, Des Moines International Airport*
Tracy Troutner, Federal Highway Administration*
Julia Castillo, Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency**
Mark Bechtel, Federal Transit Administration*

* Advisory/Non-Voting Representatives
** Associate/Non-Voting Representatives

Others Present:

Glen Lyons, Transportation Management Association
Gary Fox, City of Des Moines

Staff Present:

Jonathan Wilson, General Counsel
Todd Ashby, Executive Director
Jennifer Zelle, Administrative Assistant
Dylan Mullenix, Principal Transportation Planner
Nathan Goldberg, Senior Transportation Planner
Nokil Park, Senior Transportation System Modeler
Luke Parris, Associate Transportation Planner
Zach Young, Associate Transportation Planner
Bethany Wilcoxon, Associate Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

MPO Chair Chris Coleman recognized a quorum and called the October 20, 2011, meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization October 20, 2011, meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's September 22, 2011, meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. September 2011 Financial Statement

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 2011 Financial Statement, as presented and as attached.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Annual Review*

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Annual Review*.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment DART Alternatives Analysis Corridor*

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the *Horizon Year 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment DART Alternatives Analysis Corridor*.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Appropriations Requests

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 7.

8. Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority Federal Funding Transfer

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 8.

9. Congestion Management Status Report Data Collection

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 9.

10. Federal Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program Revisions

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 10.

11. The Tomorrow Plan Update

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 11.

12. Surface Transportation Policy Update

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 12.

13. Trail Counters Update and Checkout Procedures

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 13.

14. Transportation Enhancement Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Status Reports

MPO staff presented; discussion only on item 14.

15. Transportation Management Association Update

Transportation Management Association staff presented; discussion only on item 15.

16. September 2011 Progress Report

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 2011 Progress Report, as presented and as attached.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

18. Next Meeting Date

4:00 p.m., Thursday, November 17, 2011, Des Moines Area MPO.

19. Adjournment

Hearing no objection to the contrary, Chair Coleman adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 4

ISSUE:

VOTE: Review and approve the October 2011 Financial Statement.

BACKGROUND:

The October 2011 Financial Statement is enclosed on the following pages.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the October 2011 Financial Statement.

STAFF CONTACT:

Stephanie Ripperger, sripperger@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Transaction Summary for Month Ended October 2011

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|---------------------|
| Interest Income | | | |
| Interest Income - Checking (October 2011) | | 1.14 | |
| Interest Income - IPAIT (October 2011) | | 2.09 | |
| Deposits | | | |
| October 2011 | | 0.00 | |
| | | 3.23 | |
| TOTAL INCOME/DEPOSITS - OCTOBER 2011 | | | \$3.23 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Per Vendor Payment Report for October 2011 | | 57,539.16 | |
| | | 57,539.16 | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES - OCTOBER 2011 | | | \$57,539.16 |
| NET INCOME - OCTOBER 2011 | | | -\$57,535.93 |

Quickbooks Reconciliation Summary for Month Ended October 2011

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------|---------------------|
| BEGINNING QUICKBOOKS CHECKING BALANCE (as of October 1, 2011) | | | \$299,841.60 |
| Cleared Checks & Payments | | -205,974.39 | |
| Cleared Deposits & Credits | | 1.14 | |
| Total Cleared Transactions | | -205,973.25 | |
| CLEARED QUICKBOOKS CHECKING BALANCE (as of October 31, 2011) | | | \$93,868.35 |
| Uncleared Checks & Payments | | -5,939.75 | |
| Uncleared Deposits & Credits | | 720.84 | |
| Total Uncleared Transactions | | -5,218.91 | |
| QUICKBOOKS CHECK REGISTER BALANCE (as of October 31, 2011) | | | \$88,649.44 |
| Checking Account Balance (as of October 31, 2011) | | 93,868.35 | |
| IPAIT Account Balance (as of October 31, 2011) | | 227,917.92 | |
| Total Account Balance | | 321,786.27 | |
| TOTAL CASH BALANCE (as of October 31, 2011) | | | \$321,786.27 |

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Expenses by Vendor Detail

Amount

October 2011

Adobe Store

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Purchase of Adobe In-Design Software (*To be refunded) | 238.00 |
| | <u>238.00</u> |

Advanced Network Technologies

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Netcare Service - November 2011 | 1,350.00 |
| | <u>1,350.00</u> |

Amazon

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Ink Cartridge for Canon CLI-226 | 67.83 |
| Splitter | 20.08 |
| | <u>87.91</u> |

American AED, Inc.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Purchase of Defibrillator | 1,199.00 |
| | <u>1,199.00</u> |

American Business Phones

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Installation of 44 AMP Batteries | 491.00 |
| | <u>491.00</u> |

Bethany Wilcoxon

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Travel Reimbursement - National Housing Conference, Washington, D.C. | 337.00 |
| Mileage - September 2011 | 67.65 |
| | <u>404.65</u> |

Century Link (Qwest)

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Local Telephone Service & Relocation of Lines - August 2011 | 711.32 |
| | <u>711.32</u> |

Dahl's Foods

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Beverages for In-House Meetings | 16.99 |
| | <u>16.99</u> |

Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors, & Roberts,P.C

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Legal Fees - RPSD - August 2011 | 294.00 |
| Legal Fees - General Services, August 2011 | 1,750.00 |
| Legal Fees - Special Serviced, August 2011 | 731.50 |
| | <u>2,775.50</u> |

Des Moines Register

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Publication of Meeting Minutes - MPO, Exec & Special Exec | 387.21 |
| | <u>387.21</u> |

Hy-Vee

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Refreshments for RPSD Outreach Session | 25.62 |
| | <u>25.62</u> |

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Expenses by Vendor Detail

Amount

October 2011

| Vendor | Amount |
|---|-----------------|
| Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System | |
| September 2011 Contribution | 4,966.17 |
| | <u>4,966.17</u> |
| Jason's Deli | |
| Breakfast for the Science & Conservation Forum, November 1, 2011 (RPS | 75.16 |
| | <u>75.16</u> |
| Jennifer Zelle | |
| Mileage - September 2011 | 4.40 |
| | <u>4.40</u> |
| KC Real Estate | |
| Dishwasher | 727.92 |
| | <u>727.92</u> |
| Lowe's | |
| Lock Boxes for Trail Counters | 337.93 |
| | <u>337.93</u> |
| Merle Hay Mall | |
| Office Rent Annual CAM Reconciliation | 488.26 |
| | <u>488.26</u> |
| Nathan Goldberg | |
| Mileage - September 2011 | 28.60 |
| Expense Reimbursement - Beverages for In-House Meetings | 69.39 |
| | <u>97.99</u> |
| Nationwide Retirement Solutions | |
| Deferred Comp Contribution - PPE 10.2.11 | 321.93 |
| | <u>321.93</u> |
| NokilPark | |
| Mileage - September 2011 | 67.10 |
| | <u>67.10</u> |
| Palmer's Deli | |
| Birthday Cake | 28.34 |
| | <u>28.34</u> |
| Paychex, Inc. | |
| Flex Program Reimbursement | 50.00 |
| Flex Program Administration Fee | 71.75 |
| Flex Program Reimbursement | 225.00 |
| | <u>346.75</u> |

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Expenses by Vendor Detail

Amount

October 2011

Payroll

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Payroll 10/2/11 - Processing Fee | 119.85 |
| Payroll 10/2/11 - Employee Wages | 15,654.36 |
| Payroll 10/2/11 - Payroll Taxes | 5,268.67 |
| Payroll 10/16/11 - Processing Fee | 111.07 |
| Payroll 10/16/11 - Employee Wages | 15,229.77 |
| Payroll 10/16/11 - Payroll Taxes | 5,197.70 |
| | <u>41,581.42</u> |

Pella Public Library - Pella

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Meeting Room Deposit - CIRTPA LRTP PIM | 25.00 |
| | <u>25.00</u> |

Target

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Clocks for Office | 43.23 |
| Water for In-House Meetings | 5.25 |
| | <u>48.48</u> |

The Printing Station

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Printed Note Cards | 181.71 |
| | <u>181.71</u> |

Todd Ashby

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Mileage - August/September 2011 - Kansas City, MO | 440.00 |
| | <u>440.00</u> |

Walgreens

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Batteries | 12.70 |
| | <u>12.70</u> |

Winterset Public Library

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Meeting Room Damage Deposit - PIM Winterset Public Library November | 25.00 |
| Meeting Room Charge - PIM Winterset Public Library | 35.00 |
| | <u>60.00</u> |

Zach Young

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Mileage - September 2011 | 40.70 |
| | <u>40.70</u> |

57,539.16

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 5

ISSUE:

REPORT and VOTE: Consider requested revisions to the MPO's *Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2012-2015 TIP).

BACKGROUND:

The City of West Des Moines and Warren County have requested the following revisions to the FFY 2012-2015 TIP:

Sponsor: City of West Des Moines
Project: SW Connector - Phase III
Project Number: STP-U-8260(624)-70-77
Change: Move \$539,000 in Demonstration funds from FFY 2010 to FFY 2012
Revision Type: Amendment

Sponsor: Warren County
Project: SW Connector Interchange/Corridor
Project Number: HDP-CO91(61)-71-77
Change: Move \$1,802,000 in STP funds from FFY 2010 to FFY 2012 and project termini
Revision Type: Amendment

The MPO staff notes the West Des Moines and Warren County requests are amendments and are subject to MPO approval and a public comment period. The MPO staff held a public input meeting on November 10, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. at the West Des Moines Public Library.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the MPO approve the amendments to the FFY 2012-2015 TIP to add the City of West Des Moines SW Connect – Phase III project and the Warren County SW Connector Interchange/Corridor project.

STAFF CONTACT:

Luke Parris, lparris@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075; and,
Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 6

ISSUE:

REPORT and VOTE: Consider the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority's (DART) request to transfer federal funding.

BACKGROUND:

DART annually submits a request to the MPO to transfer Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds from the Federal Highway Administration to the Federal Transit Administration and into DART's FTA grant.

Included, immediately following, is a copy of DART's letter requesting the transfer.

If the MPO approves this request at its November meeting, staff will send a letter to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Office of Public Transit requesting that DART be allowed to expend \$799,000 in STP funds in Federal Fiscal Year 2012.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the MPO approve DART's request for the transfer of \$799,000 in STP funds to expend in Federal Fiscal Year 2012.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.



September 26, 2011

Todd Ashby
Executive Director
Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization
420 Watson Powell, Jr. Way, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Transfer of Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Dear Mr. Ashby:

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) requests the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) concurrence to transfer the Committee's \$799,000 in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The purpose of this transfer is for the purchase of three heavy-duty buses, which is incorporated into DART's capital plan for 2012 (FTA separates STP funds from formula fund grants).

Please place this item on the October MPO meeting agendas and, if approved by the committees, request that the Iowa DOT in turn ask the FHWA to have these funds transferred to DART's FTA grant IA-95-X012. If you have questions, please contact me at (515) 283-5005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra Meyer".

Debra Meyer
Capital Planning Manager, DART

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 7

ISSUE:

REPORT and VOTE: Consider approval of the MPO's proposed trail counter checkout procedures.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2011, the MPO staff presented a draft version of the terms and conditions and checkout procedures for the MPO's Trail Counting Program. The document is divided into three parts, including:

Part I: Terms and Conditions

Part II: Trail Counter Installment and Placement Recommendations

Part III: Data Analysis and Reporting

Part I describes the responsibilities of the MPO staff and the member governments (borrower). This section also covers ownership of data, checkout procedures and contracting. Part II provides recommendations for installing and placing the infrared counters in the field. Part III outlines how the MPO staff will store, analyze and report data back to the member governments.

The MPO staff collected comments from the Transportation Technical Committee, Executive Committee, Policy Committee, and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Roundtable. The Terms and Conditions have been updated to reflect these comments.

Included, as a supplemental item, is the final copy of the MPO's Trail Counting Program terms and conditions and checkout procedures.

The MPO staff notes that the trail counters were received on October 25, 2011. The MPO staff is in the process of ordering lock boxes and preparing the counters to be checked out.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the MPO receive and file the Trail Counting Program Terms and Conditions.

STAFF CONTACT:

Zach Young, zyoung@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 8

ISSUE:

REPORT: Presentation of projects submitted for the Federal appropriations and the annual trip to Washington, D.C.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO staff has initiated the annual process of working with MPO member governments and participating agencies to develop a list of priority transportation projects for Federal Fiscal Year 2013 appropriations to discuss with congressional members during the Greater Des Moines Partnership's 2012 trip to Washington, D.C.

Letters of intent for projects wishing to be included in the listing were due on October 21, 2011. Included, immediately following, is the draft listing of projects received.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind moving forward with the annual appropriations/DC trip process include the following:

- December 2011/January 2012 - Surface Transportation Program Funding Subcommittee meets to identify priority projects from the assembled listing;
- January/February 2012 - MPO committees take action to approve the project listing and priority projects;
- February through April 2012- deadlines to complete project applications for congressional offices; and,
- May 9-11, 2012 - Greater Des Moines Partnership trip.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075; and,
Nathan Goldberg, ngoldberg@dmampo.org;
(515) 334-0075.

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization/Greater Des Moines Partnership Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Transportation Appropriations Requests

Surface Transportation Projects

| Government/Agency | Project Name | Project Description | Total Project Cost | FFY 2013 Funding Requested |
|---|--|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| City of Des Moines | Southeast Connector | Four-lane complete street connecting Downtown Des Moines to US-65 | \$ 65,000,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| City of Johnston | Northwest 70th Avenue Reconstruction | Reconstruction of NW 70th Avenue from NW 86th Street to NW 107th Street from a rural two-lane roadway to an urban four-lane divided roadway. Construction of an interchange on I-80 from the recently completed Alice's Road/105th Street overpass as well as paving six-lane connecting roads north to Ashworth Road in Waukee and south to Wendover Road in West Des Moines | \$ 12,200,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| City of Waukee | Alice's Road/105th Street Interchange and Connecting Roads | Construction of a six-lane arterial boulevard with additional left and right turn lanes, storm sewer improvements and water main construction | \$ 16,600,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| City of Waukee | Alice's Road Extension - Ashworth Road to University Avenue | Reconstruction and siding of Grand Avenue from South 50th Street to the Raccoon River Park entrance | \$ 14,500,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| City of West Des Moines Iowa Department of Transportation | Grand Avenue - Phase Five I-80 Interchange at US-65 and side roads in Altoona | Reconstruction of mainline pavement and ramps at I-80/US-65 interchange and side roads | \$ 10,500,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| DART | University/Ingersoll Loop | Very Small Starts application for Bus Rapid Transit on the Ingersoll/University Loop Route | \$ 27,700,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| DART | Advanced Card Readers | Advanced smart card reader and fare payment system to replace DART's current farebox system | \$ 20,000,000.00 | \$ 1,500,000.00 |
| Polk County | NW 66th Avenue Reconstruction and Kempton Bridge Replacement | Reconstruction of NW 66th Avenue and the Des Moines River Bridge from NW 26th Street to NW Beaver Drive | \$ 2,400,000.00 | \$ 500,000.00 |
| Surface Total | | | \$ 193,648,000.00 | \$ 16,000,000.00 |

Trail Projects

FFY 2013 Funding Requested

| Government/Agency | Project Name | Project Description | Total Project Cost | Requested |
|---------------------|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| City of Bondurant | Bondurant Regional Trail Head | Construction of a trailhead in downtown Bondurant to provides access to the Chichaqua Valley Trail, the Gay Lea Wilson Trail, and the Future Mud Creek Trail to Altonna | \$ 910,000.00 | \$ 910,000.00 |
| City of Bondurant | Bondurant/Chichaqua Valley Trail Connector | Construction of a trail connection between the existing Chichaqua Valley Trailhead to the City of Bondurant's 2nd Street Trail to Lake Petocka. | \$ 1,016,448.00 | \$ 791,448.00 |
| City of Johnston | Northwest Beaver Drive Trail | Construction of a multiuse trail along NW Beaver Drive from NW 66th Avenue to Eagle Crest Drive. | \$ 2,500,000.00 | \$ 1,000,000.00 |
| City of Norwalk | Norwalk Great Western Connection Trail - Phase 1 | Construction of a 10' wide 1.5 mile trail from HWY 28 to the intersection of North Ave and 50th Street. | \$ 722,160.00 | \$ 450,000.00 |
| City of Polk City | Polk City Trail Connector | Construction of a 3.4 mile trail to connect the Neal Smith Trail to the High Trestle Trail. | \$ 3,000,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| Polk County | Polk County Trail Connections | Construction of a 10' wide 2.4 mile trail project to extend the Gay Lea Wilson Trail between the City of Ankeny to the City of Des Moines | \$ 3,000,000.00 | \$ 1,120,000.00 |
| Polk County | Polk County Trail Connections | Construction of a 10' wide 8.3 mile trail to connect the City of Des Moines to the Chichaqua Valley Trail with a connection in the City of Bondurant. | \$ 3,560,750.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| Polk County | Polk County Trail Connections | Construction of a 10' wide 4.6 mile trail constructed around Easter Lake creating a connection between Easter Lake Park and Ewing Park. | \$ 3,149,100.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 |
| Trails Total | | | \$ 17,858,458.00 | \$ 10,271,448.00 |
| Grand Total | | | \$ 211,506,458.00 | \$ 26,271,448.00 |

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 9

ISSUE:

REPORT: Report on the *2011 Intermodal Feasibility Study*.

BACKGROUND:

In September 2010, the MPO contacted with The Fennimore Group to study the feasibility of developing a truck-rail intermodal freight facility in central Iowa. The MPO's Freight Roundtable requested the MPO conduct this study following the 2009 closure of the Newton intermodal facility, which was the only facility located in central Iowa. The study profiles current and project freight volumes in central Iowa, discusses operating and market requirements necessary to develop an intermodal facility, and provides an analysis of whether an intermodal facility could be sustained in central Iowa.

The study concludes that freight volumes in central Iowa only provide between 14 to 23 percent of the volumes necessary to warrant an intermodal facility. However, the Freight Roundtable and the project consultant are continuing to discuss the study's findings to ensure that all commodities, particularly agricultural – based goods, were factored into the study, and also to study smaller-scale alternatives to the larger-scale intermodal facility considered in the study.

[A copy of the 2011 Intermodal Feasibility Study is included in the agenda's supplemental materials.](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dylan Mullenix, dmullenix@dmampo.org;
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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 10

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on *The Tomorrow Plan*.

BACKGROUND:

During the week of October 24, 2011, the first series of public input meetings was held. Staff and the consultant team hosted five meetings throughout the greater Des Moines metropolitan area. Locales included the Lakeside Center in Ankeny, the Des Moines Central Library, the Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge, the Windsor Heights Community Center, and the Doanes Park Youth Lodge in Pleasant Hill. Staff will provide additional information at the November 17, 2011, meeting.

On October 20 and 21, 2011, project staff attended a grantee convening in Washington D.C. Staff will provide a summary of the event at the November 17, 2011, meeting.

Staff is working to plan the next speaker-series event to occur prior to the end of the year. The goal of the event will be to educate the public about regional planning.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 11

ISSUE:

REPORT: Brief report on an administrative modification to the MPO's *Fiscal Years 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2012-2015 TIP).

BACKGROUND:

Polk County requested the following revision to the FFY 2012-2015 TIP.

Sponsor: Polk County
Project: NW Beaver Drive: Aurora Ave. to I-35/80 Overpass
Project Number: STP-S-C077(173)--5E-77
Change: Move \$668,000 in Surface Transportation Program
funds from FFY 2013 to FFY 2012
Revision Type: Administrative Modification

The MPO staff notes that Polk County's request is considered an administrative modification and is not subject to formal MPO approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 12

ISSUE:

REPORT: Brief update on potential revisions to the MPO's Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding process.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO Executive Committee directed the MPO staff to review the MPO's STP funding process and to meet with the STP Funding Subcommittee to develop any potential revisions to the MPO's STP funding process. The goal of this review and any subsequent changes is to ensure the STP funding process can adequately fund regional priority projects, particularly in light of reduced earmark funding.

MPO staff met with the STP Funding Subcommittee on October 26, 2011, to discuss the need for potential revisions to the STP funding process. Staff posed the following questions to the subcommittee:

- Does the STP Policy need to be revised to accommodate the reduction of earmark funding and ensure regional priority projects are funded?
- Should the STP Policy be revised to provide additional funding to planning studies that traditionally received earmarked funding?
- Should the STP Policy be revised to provide funding to small MPO member governments that do not typically receive STP funding?
- Should the STP process be tied directly to the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan?

The subcommittee concurred that a review of the STP funding process was needed due to the reduction of earmarked funding. The subcommittee identified the importance of prioritizing regional projects, considering funding projects from all MPO member governments, and the importance of funding projects that attract funding commitment from other sources.

The MPO staff will continue to work with the subcommittee and the MPO Executive Committee to refine any recommended revisions to the STP funding process.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 13

ISSUE:

REPORT: Brief report on the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and STP Transportation Enhancement (TE) Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Status Reports.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO staff emailed semi-annual STP and STP TE status reports to each member government and participating agency that has an STP and/or STP TE project programmed in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 on September 30, 2011. The completed status reports of programmed FFY 2012 STP and STP TE projects were due on October 28, 2011.

The MPO staff will provide an update on any outstanding STP and STP TE status reports and notes that the STP Funding Subcommittee will review the status of programmed FFY 2012 STP and STP TE projects at their next available meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 14

ISSUE:

INFORMATION: Transportation Management Association (TMA) Rest Your Car program performance through October 2011.

BACKGROUND:

The TMA's Rest Your Car program is a volunteer-based program that allows commuters to track trips made using alternatives to single-occupant vehicles. Tables and figures summarizing the performance of the TMA Rest Your Car program through October 2011 are included on the following pages.

Additionally, the TMA and the Transit 2030 Task Force hosted a passenger rail event on Monday, October 24, 2011.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

CONTACT:

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TMA Rest Your Car Performance Report

TABLE 1 Rest Your Car Program Performance through October 2011

| | June 2011 | July 2011 | August 2011 | Sept. 2011 | Oct. 2011 | Calendar Year to Date |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Total Miles Reported | 454,480 | 411,598 | 478,657 | 443,052 | 435,510 | 4,550,999 |
| Total Reports Made | 11,062 | 9,943 | 11,671 | 10,831 | 10,472 | 109,534 |
| Total Persons Reporting | 1,088 | 1,067 | 1,104 | 1,044 | 1,017 | 10,679 |
| Average Miles/Report | 41.1 | 41.4 | 41.0 | 40.9 | 41.6 | 41.5 |
| New Members | 38 | 29 | 49 | 34 | 20 | 430 |

Source: Transportation Management Association, 2011.

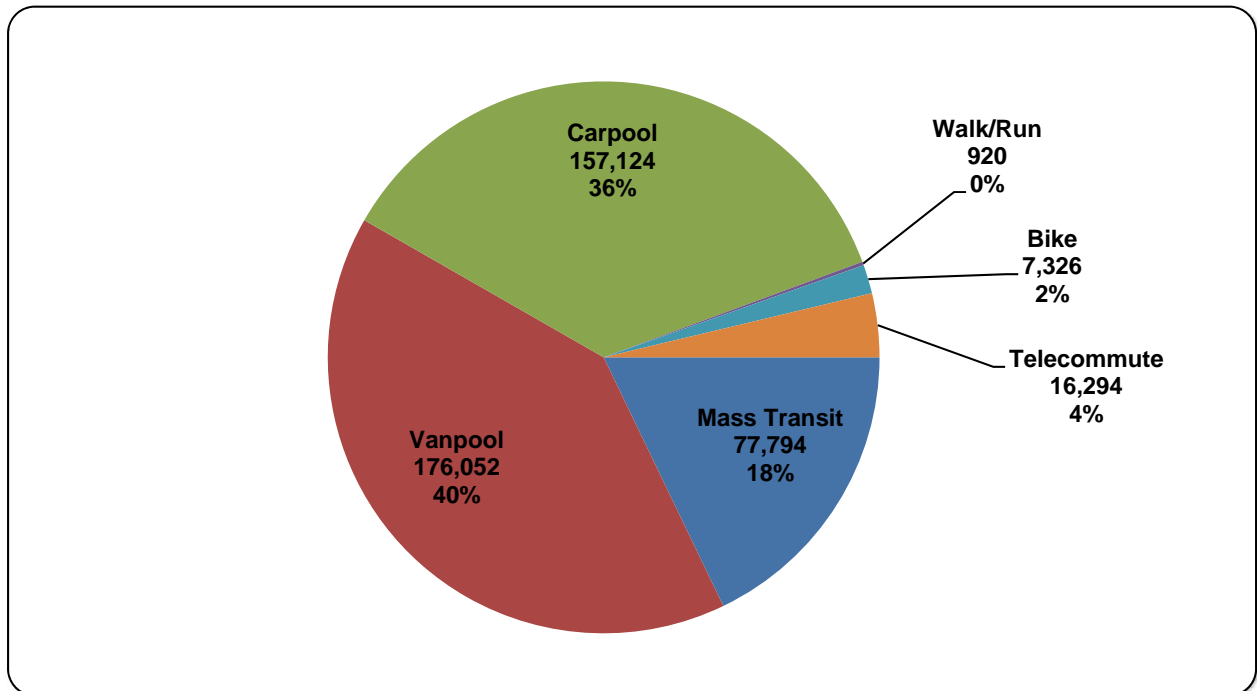


FIGURE 1 Rest Your Car Miles Reported by Commute Type, October 2011

Source: Transportation Management Association, 2011.

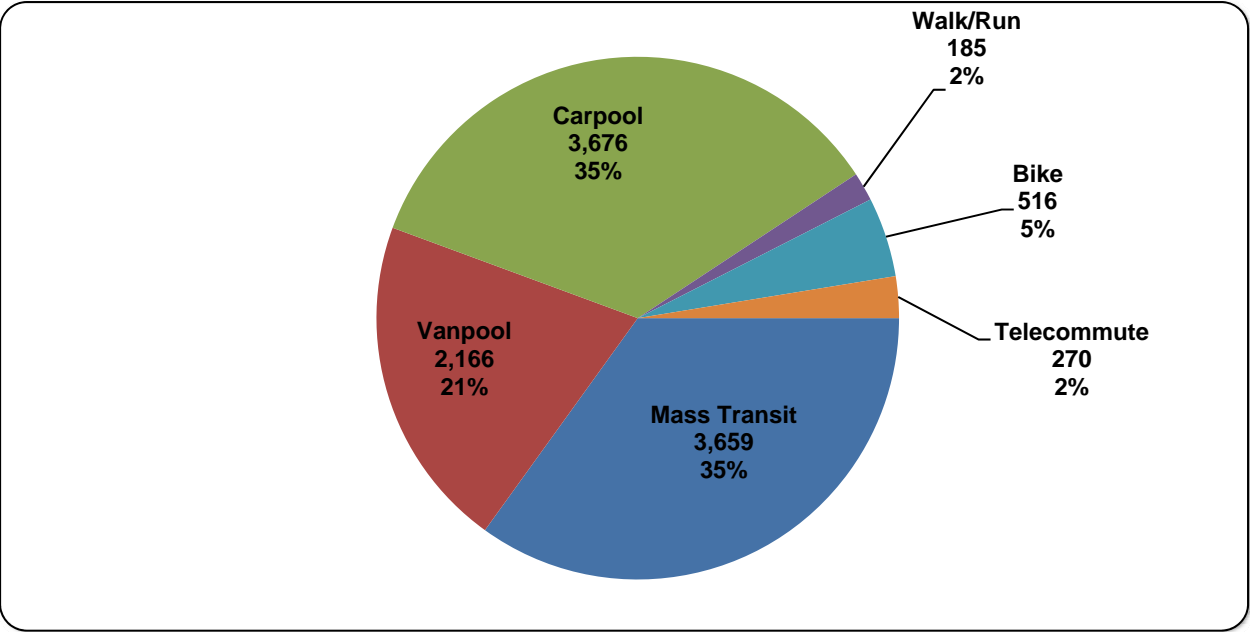


FIGURE 2 Rest Your Car Reports by Commute Type, October 2011
 Source: Transportation Management Association, 2011.

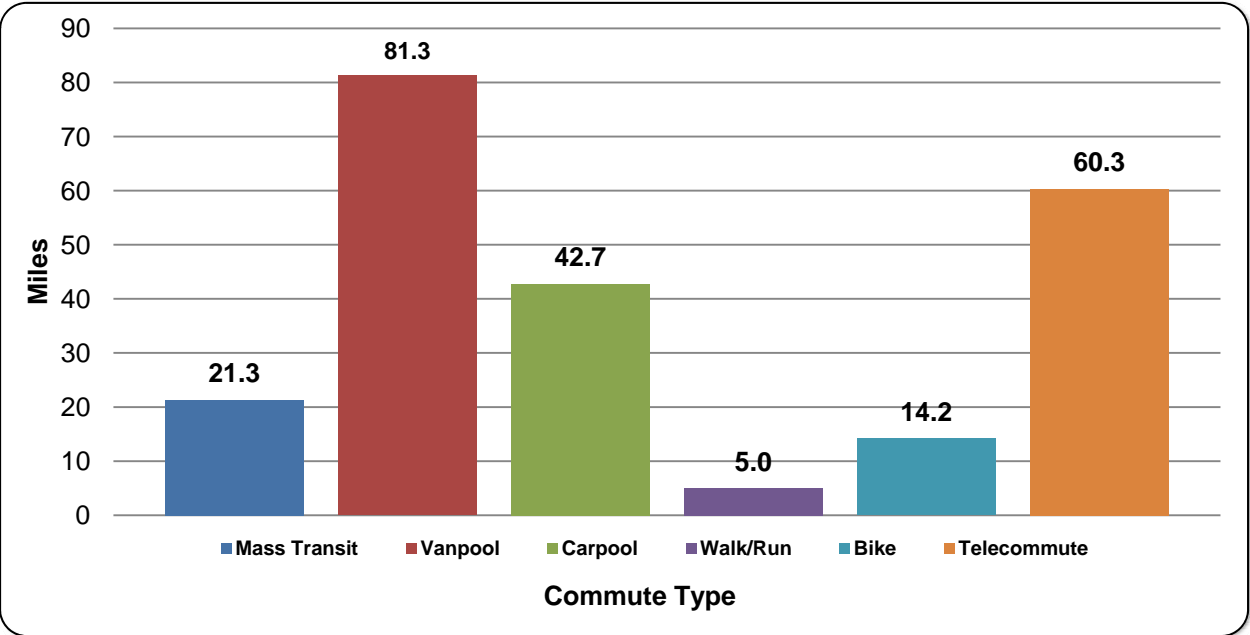


FIGURE 3 Average Round Trip Commute Distance by Commute Type, October 2011
 Source: Transportation Management Association, 2011.

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 15

ISSUE:

INFORMATION: November 21, 2011, Iowa Community Conference in West Des Moines.

BACKGROUND:

Congressman Tom Latham will host the Iowa Community Conference on November 21, 2011, in West Des Moines. The focus of the event will be housing and transportation. Governor Terry Branstad will deliver the keynote address, and panelists will include representatives from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The registration deadline was November 11, 2011, and the registration fee is \$50.

Included, immediately following, is a press release announcing the event.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

CONTACT:

Michele Mustain, Congressman Latham's Ames Office;
(515) 232-2885

www.tomlatham.house.gov

Tom Latham

Contact: Fred Love (202) 225-5476

**IOWA COMMUNITY CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION
IOWA CONGRESSMAN LATHAM INVITES COMMUNITY LEADERS TO 2011 EDITION OF
LONG-RUNNING CONFERENCE IN WEST DES MOINES**

AMES, Iowa, Oct 26 -

Iowa's small business owners, farmers, community leaders and concerned citizens are invited to participate in the 2011 version of the Iowa Community Conference scheduled to take place on November 21st at the West Des Moines Marriott. The Iowa Community Conference, which is a tradition that dates back more than 60 years, will focus on topics related to housing and transportation issues this year.

"At times like this, every community is looking for new ways to improve infrastructure and create economic activity," said Congressman Latham, who chairs the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development. "That's why I'm inviting Iowa community leaders to take part in this year's conference to discuss how we can help strengthen communities with a focus on housing and transportation."

The 2011 Iowa Community Conference will feature a keynote address from Iowa Governor Terry Branstad. Other panel discussions will include Federal Transit Administration Regional Administrator Mokhtee Ahmad and Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator Lubin Quinones to talk about transportation issues. Steve Eggleston, a field office director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Tim Severin, director of community planning and development for Iowa and Nebraska, will be on hand to discuss housing issues.

Since its founding just after World War II, the conference has aimed to help local leaders in Iowa work with the federal government to build stronger communities. The tradition began when Iowa Congressman Charles Hoeven, who represented what was then known as Iowa's Eighth Congressional District, began inviting mayors and other elected officials from his district to come to Washington, D.C. for discussion of local concerns each year.

The Conference was held each year in Washington by Congressman Hoeven, who represented Iowa in Congress from 1943 to 1965, and his successor Congressman Stanley Greigg, who served one term from 1965 to 1967. The tradition continued with Congressman Wiley Mayne, who served from 1967 to 1975, Congressman Berkley Bedell, serving from 1975 to 1987, and Fred Grandy, serving from 1987 to 1995. Congressman Latham has upheld the tradition by hosting the conference every year since he was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Registration for the conference is open until November 11th. For more information or to register for the conference, contact Michele Mustain in Congressman Latham's Ames Office at (515) 232-2885 or [click here to view a pdf of the conference registration form](#).

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 16

ISSUE:

INFORMATION: Proposed accessibility guidelines for pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way.

BACKGROUND:

The US Access Board is proposing accessibility guidelines for the design, construction, and alteration of pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way. The guidelines ensure that sidewalks, pedestrian street crossings, pedestrian signals, and other facilities for pedestrian circulation and use constructed or altered in the public right-of-way by state and local governments are readily accessible to and usable by pedestrians with disabilities.

These guidelines, if passed, could impact local governments with transportation projects involving pedestrian facilities. Comments on the proposed rulemaking can be made until November 23, 2011.

Included, as a supplemental item to this agenda packet, is a an overview of the proposed guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

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Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011

Item No. 17

ISSUE:

INFORMATION: Update on state fuel tax and federal transportation reauthorization.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO Executive Committee, at its November 9, 2011, meeting, discussed the Governor's Transportation 2020 Citizen Advisory Commission's recommendation to increase the state fuel tax by eight to ten cents. The Executive Committee asked for MPO staff to draft a letter to Governor Branstad in support of this recommendation; a draft of this letter will be shared with the MPO at the November 17, 2011, meeting.

Included, immediately following, is the executive summary of a report made by the Governor's Transportation 2020 Citizen Advisory Commission, that includes the recommendation of a fuel tax increase.

The Executive Committee also discussed the recently released bill, *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century* (MAP-21), developed by the US Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works. MAP-21 is a reauthorization bill that would maintain current transportation funding level, plus inflation, for two years.

A summary of MAP-21, including potential implications for the MPO, are included as a supplemental item to the agenda packet.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Iowa is fortunate to have an extensive public roadway system that provides access to all areas of the state and facilitates the efficient movement of goods and people. However, it is also a tremendous challenge for the state, cities and counties to maintain and improve this system given flattening revenue, lost buying power, changing demands on the system, severe weather, and an aging system.

This challenge didn't appear overnight and for the last decade many studies have been completed to look into the situation and the legislature has taken significant action to begin addressing the situation. In addition, the Iowa DOT and Iowa's cities and counties have worked jointly and independently to increase efficiency and streamline operations. All of these actions have been successful and resulted in significant changes; however, it is apparent much more needs to be done.

A well-maintained, high-quality transportation system reduces transportation costs and provides consistent and reliable service. These are all factors that are critical in the evaluation companies undertake when deciding where to expand or locate new developments. The Commission heard from many Iowans that additional investment in Iowa's roadway system is vital to support existing jobs and continued job creation in the state of Iowa.

Beginning June 2011, the Commission met regularly to review material and discuss potential recommendations to address Iowa's roadway funding challenges. This effort included extensive public outreach with meetings held in seven locations across Iowa and through a Transportation 2020 website hosted by the Iowa DOT (www.iowadot.gov/transportation2020).

Over 500 people attended the public meetings held through the months of August and September, with 198 providing verbal or written comment at the meetings or through the website. Comments were received from a wide array of individuals. The public we heard from overwhelmingly support increased funding for Iowa's roads. In addition, we heard that our recommendations should be based on the following principles:

- Additional revenues are restricted for road and bridge improvements only, like 95 percent of the current state road revenue. This includes fuel taxes and registration fees.
- State and local governments continue to streamline and become more efficient, both individually and by looking for ways to do things collectively.
- User fee concept is preserved, where those who use the roads pay for them, including non-residents.
- Revenue-generating methods are fair and equitable across users.
- Increase revenue generating mechanisms that are viable now but also begin to implement and set the stage for longer-term solutions that bring equity and stability to road funding.
- Continue Iowa's long standing tradition of state roadway financing coming from pay-as-you-go financing. Iowa must not fall into the situation that other states are currently facing where the majority of their new program dollars are utilized to pay the debt service of past bonding.

Recommendations

Based on a thorough analysis of relevant data, material and extensive public comment, the Commission recommends that the Iowa DOT include the following recommendations in their 2011 report to the Iowa legislature in order to raise, at a minimum, an additional \$215 million annually in road user fees to be spent by the counties, cities and state on Iowa's roads and bridges. Securing this additional revenue is

vital to address deficient bridges on priority city, county and state highways; deteriorating roadway conditions that have the greatest impact on the movement of goods and people; and continued development of corridor projects.

Following is a summary of the recommendations which are fully documented on page 22.

- 1. Increase the state fuel tax rates across the board by eight to ten cents.
Estimated Annual Revenue: \$184 million to \$230 million**
- 2. Increase the “Fee for New Registration” from five percent to six percent.
Estimated Annual Revenue: \$50 million**
- 3. Iowa DOT should evaluate and recommend a funding mechanism in their report to the legislature that applies to alternatively fueled, hybrid and high fuel efficiency vehicles (including commercial vehicles).**
- 4. Consistent with existing Code of Iowa requirements, new funding should go to the TIME-21 Fund up to the cap (\$225 million) and remaining new funding should be distributed consistent with the Road Use Tax Fund distribution formula.**
- 5. The Code of Iowa should be changed to require the study of the sufficiency of the state’s road funds to meet the road system’s needs every two years instead of every five years.**
- 6. Iowa DOT should at least annually convene meetings with cities and counties to review the operation, maintenance and improvement of Iowa’s public roadway system to identify ways to jointly increase efficiency; efficiency actions should be quantified, measured and reported to the public on a regular basis.**
- 7. By June 30, 2012, Iowa DOT should complete a study of vehicles and equipment that use Iowa’s public roadway system but pay no user fees or substantially lower user fees than other vehicles and equipment.**

Agenda Report

MPO Policy Committee

November 2011
Item No. 18

INFORMATION:

INFORMATION: Presentation of the October 2011 Progress Report.

BACKGROUND:

The monthly Progress Report is a summary of work performed by the MPO staff. The October 2011 Progress Report will be emailed as a supplemental item before the MPO Policy meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

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