

## Press Release

### Federal Fiscal Years 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

DES MOINES, Iowa – January 13, 2008 - The Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMAMPO) will be hosting a **public input meeting** to receive input and comments on the *Federal Fiscal Year 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2009-2012) amendments. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 20, 2008, in the DMAMPO's Meeting Room, Merle Hay Centre, 6200 Aurora Avenue, Suite 300W, Urbandale, IA.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority requests amendments to the FFY 2009-2012 TIP to incorporate the following changes:

- Line 11: Add Infrastructure Grant as a federal funding type and increase 5309 federal funding from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000;
- Line 14: Increase heavy duty buses from three to eight and increase 5309 federal funding from \$849,600 to \$2,350,560;
- Line 24: Increase federal funding from \$20,000 to \$40,000;
- Line 32: Add the DART Facility Expansion project with \$320,000 in 5307 federal funding;
- Line 40: Add the Transit Travel Trip Planner project with \$180,000 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) federal funding;
- Line 41: Add the Sixteen RideShare Vehicles project with \$344,971 in CMAQ federal funding;
- Line 42: Add the Western Suburban Express – Operating and Capital project with \$660,000 in CMAQ federal funding;
- Line 45: Add the Fareboxes – Software Upgrade project with \$80,000 in 5307 federal funding; and,
- Line 46: Add the Paratransit Cameras – Replacement project with \$80,000 in 5309 federal funding.

DART's request for amendments to the FFY 2009-2012 TIP are because of an increase in federal funding by more than 20% of the original funding amount and the addition of new projects into the TIP. The DMAMPO updates the TIP annually and at member governments' request. The TIP contains four years of projects our member governments anticipate implementing, using federal transportation dollars. We need to inform the public of what our member governments' and our participating agencies intentions are regarding these projects and using those federal dollars.

The DMAMPO needs to inform the public of what our member governments' and our participating agencies intentions are regarding these proposals. The DMAMPO will host the public input meeting using the open forum format. We are using this format to encourage January 20 meeting attendees to express their views, to share their opinions, and to ask their questions regarding the proposed projects. One may share one's opinion with the DMAMPO staff in three ways: 1) orally at the meeting; 2) in writing via forms available at the meeting; 3) by submitting written comments to the DMAMPO after the November 18 meeting but prior to the close of the comment period on February 2, 2008.

If anyone would like to request a copy of an FFY 2009-2012 TIP, or has questions or comments, please contact staff by telephone at 515.334.0075 or by email at [zbitting@dmampo.org](mailto:zbitting@dmampo.org).