



SPECIAL EDITION

OCTOBER 21, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT

The Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will host a public meeting to receive comments on an amendment to the *Federal Fiscal Years 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2011-2014 TIP). The meeting starts at **6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at the Ankeny Public Library - 1210 Northwest Prairie Ridge Drive, Ankeny, Iowa.**

The Iowa Transportation Commission approved amendments to the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program (Program) that will accelerate the installation of median cable barrier along the interstate system, advance the letting of some highway projects into Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 from FY 2012, and add others to the program.

In September, Governor Chet Culver urged the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) to accelerate plans to install cable barriers in medians of Iowa interstates where data indicated that it may provide the most benefit to travelers. The governor was responding to concerns over a spike in median crossover crashes causing serious injuries and fatalities.

The Transportation Commission added 12 new projects that involve investments in interstate stewardship and non-interstate pavement preservation for FY 2011, with construction expected to begin next construction season. Those projects in the MPO Planning Area are as follows:

- Iowa 160/415 in Ankeny - \$3,500,000.

Changes to the Transportation Improvement Program were possible because of additional funding that was made available after the program was approved earlier this year. Those funds include:

- Additional FFY 2010 federal aid - \$60 million;
- Carryover highway funds from FY 2010 - \$30.5 million, primarily as a result of favorable bid lettings; and,
- Iowa DOT operations budget reversion, resulting from an effort by the department to reduce operational spending - \$8 million.

The DOT considers the addition of federal funds and the addition of projects to the TIP to be amendments. The TIP is updated annually and at the request of member governments and participating agencies. The TIP identifies regionally significant projects and contains four years of project the MPO member governments and participating agencies anticipate implementing using federal transportation dollars.

The MPO staff will host the meeting using an open forum format to encourage attendees to express their views and opinions and to ask questions regarding the proposed amendments. One may share their opinion with MPO staff in three ways: 1) orally at the meeting; 2) in writing via forms available at the meeting; or, 3) by submitting written comments to the MPO after the November 30, 2010, meeting but prior to the close of the comment period on December 6, 2010. The FFY 2011 -2014 TIP is available on the MPO website, <http://www.dmampo.org/>. If anyone has questions or comments, please contact the MPO staff by telephone at (515) 334-0075 or via email at bwilcoxon@dmampo.org.

