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**The MPO Wants to Know: Public Participation**

In an effort to better understand public views, the MPO has launched a series of online surveys about various transportation-related topics. The survey results will help the MPO develop plans and projects for the future. The responses also will be shared with appropriate roundtables and policymakers. For a list of available surveys, please visit the MPO website at <http://www.dmampo.org/user/survey.html>. Below are the results of the public participation survey, which was distributed to build upon the updates recently incorporated into the MPO’s *Public Participation Plan*.

*Question 1. The MPO’s public outreach consists of three primary components: public meetings, publications, and the website. How have you been involved with the MPO? (Please check all that apply)*

Attended public meetings .....	55.6%
Received publications .....	77.8%
Visited website.....	88.9%

*Question 2. The MPO holds the Citizen Transportation Congress semi-annually in an effort to educate the public about the role the MPO plays in the community and to gather comments from the public regarding general transportation issues. Have you attended a Citizen Transportation Congress?*

Yes .....	22.2%
No.....	77.8%

*Question 3. If you answered no to question two, what could the MPO do to encourage you to participate in the Congress?*

Schedule conflicts most often prevent individuals from attending the Citizen Transportation Congress. As one respondent stated, “Personal and work schedules will always take precedence.” Another individual would like part of the Congress to address a light rail system for Des Moines.

*Question 4. The MPO currently distributes its newsletter, InTouch, on a quarterly basis. How often would you like to receive news updates from the MPO?*

Weekly .....	0.00%
Bi-weekly .....	0.00%
Monthly .....	22.2%
Quarterly .....	66.7%
Semi-annually .....	11.1%
Annually .....	0.00%
Never .....	0.00%

*Question 5. The MPO occasionally publishes pamphlets, informational brochures, and fact sheets. Is there a specific topic you would like the MPO to address in one of these publications?*

Respondents would like more information on a light rail system as well as trails in the area. Other individuals would like staff to continue to clearly articulate the role of the MPO.

*Question 6. The revamped MPO website has been functional for several months now and continues to evolve. What other feature(s) would you like to see on the website? (Please check all that apply)*

Data sheets .....	50.0%
Photo features from around the metro .....	33.3%
PowerPoint presentations from public meetings.....	33.3%
Section on overall project status throughout the metro .....	16.7%

*Question 7. The MPO launched its blog last spring. The blog covers a variety of transportation-related stories from around the globe. Are there specific topics you would like to learn more about?*

Respondents would like to learn more about balanced growth. Another individual would like more information about the blog itself.

*Question 8. What other means should the MPO utilize to engage the public? (Please check all that apply)*

Develop a leadership development program for students interested in transportation planning .....	50.0%
Host lunch and learns.....	50.0%
Publish videos of meetings online .....	16.7%
Utilize other social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, etc.).....	33.3%
Coordinate all transportation means .....	16.7%