

**BLACK HAWK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MEETING NOTICE**

**INRCOG BOARD ROOM
229 EAST PARK AVENUE
WATERLOO, IA**

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023, 10:00 AM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the June 8, 2023 meeting.
3. Hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the final FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) www.bhcmpo.org.
4. Review the Iowa MPO federal Planning (PL) funding distribution process proposals and consider approval of a recommendation to forward to the Iowa DOT.

Discussion Items

1. Review draft 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Chapters
 - a. Chapter 1 – Overview
 - b. Chapter 2 – MPO Profile
 - c. Chapter 6 – Freight
2. Project updates.
 - a. City and county project updates (TAP and STBG)
 - b. MET Transit Study
 - c. 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan
3. General discussion.
4. Adjournment.

BLACK HAWK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023

MINUTES

Chair Kobliska called the meeting of the Black Hawk County Metropolitan Area Transportation Policy Board to order at 10:00 AM.

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Rob Green	Mayor	City of Cedar Falls	Policy Board Member (Vice-Chair)
DeAnne Kobliska	Mayor	City of Evansdale	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Scott Becker	Councilperson	City of Gilbertville	Policy Board 1 st Alternate
George Wessel	Mayor	City of Hudson	Policy Board Member
Gary Vick	Mayor	City of Raymond	Policy Board Member
Rosalyn Middleton	Board Member	MET Transit Board	Policy Board Member
Aric Schroeder	City Planner	City of Waterloo	Policy Board 2 nd Alternate
Keith Kaspari	Director of Aviation	Waterloo Regional Airport	Policy Board 1 st Alternate
David Sturch	General Manager	MET Transit	TTC Member
David Wicke	City Engineer	City of Cedar Falls	TTC Member
Cathy Nicholas	Engineer	Black Hawk County	BPAC Committee Member
Doug Schindel	Engineer	AECOM	Attendee
Michelle Sweeney	Engineer	AECOM	Attendee
Aldina Dautović	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	MPO Staff (MPO Secretary)
Kyle Durant	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	MPO Staff
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	MPO Staff

The first item was approval of the agenda. It was moved by Green, seconded by Wessel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the June 8, 2023 meeting. It was moved by Vick, seconded by Green to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the final FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Chair Kobliska declared the Public Hearing open at 10:01 AM. Durant said the TIP document was sent to the DOT, FHWA, and FTA for comments. Minor suggestions were sent back and implemented. Two public input meetings took place: one in person and one virtually. One person attended the virtual meeting but did not have comments related to the TIP document. Proof of publication is on file. Durant noted that changes to projects cannot be made until after October 1st. Chair Kobliska declared the Public Hearing closed at 10:03 AM. It was moved by Vick, seconded by Green to approve the FY 2024-2027 TIP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to review the Iowa MPO federal planning (PL) funding distribution process proposal and consider approval of a recommendation to forward to the Iowa DOT. Durant said the state is required to review federal planning funds every decennial census. A proposal was recently made by a couple of MPOs in which each MPO would receive the prior year's allocation of funds as a base, with any new or additional PL funding to the state allocated by each MPO's share of the urbanized area population growth from 2010-2020. This methodology would ensure that no MPO in Iowa loses PL funding even if their population decreased. The current PL formula would result in all but two MPOs receiving less funding, including the Black Hawk County MPO. Staff recommendation is to use the proposed alternative. The proposed alternative would benefit MPOs as a whole and also benefit the Black Hawk County MPO. It was moved by Green, seconded by Wessel to approve the proposed PL funding distribution.

Next was Discussion Items:

1. Review draft 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Chapters 1, 2, and 6

Kaspari noted that he will send staff comments to implement into chapter 6.

2. Project Updates

- a. City and county project updates (TAP & STBG)

Cedar Falls

Wicke said sections of the Seerley Street culvert are being poured for the Main Street project. The contractor is working on sanitary sewer improvements between 21st and 22nd street, and 9th to 10th Street. Base pavements are being prepared for 6th to 9th Street. Cedar Heights Drive, Lake Street Trail, and Union Road Trail have punch list items remaining.

- b. MET Transit Study

Sturch said the consultant is reviewing the route restructuring plan. Two open house meetings were held: one at Central Transfer Station and one at the Hawkeye Community College Van G. Miller Learning Center. Additional open house sessions will be held later this summer and in the fall.

- c. 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Durant said staff will be presenting additional draft chapters at MPO meetings over the next two months. The full draft LRTP will be taken out for comment at two public meetings in early fall and will be presented at the November MPO meeting for consideration of approval.

In general discussion, Fratzke shared a Letter of Support drafted to Iowa State Legislators urging to push forward passenger rail efforts in Iowa. The letter also encourages Iowa to rejoin the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission in order to have representation and involvement in future passenger rail efforts in nearby states. Green suggested including signatures from each Mayor. The group agreed to review the letter's language and provide comments and signatures to staff. Kaspari noted that the House is debating a Reauthorization Bill, where select committees are proposing that communities in the Essential Air Service programs, which includes Waterloo, provide 5% matching funds to continue air service. Kaspari shared concerns over the bill, noting its impact on sustaining air service in smaller communities. Kaspari is reaching out to congresswoman, Ashley Hinson, and will share updates with the group.

There being no further business, it was moved by Green, seconded by Wessel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Aldina Dautović
Secretary