

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

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

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025, 10:00 AM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the April 10, 2025 meeting.
3. Hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the FY 2026 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP).

https://bhcmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2-mpo_fy_26_tpwp_text-1.pdf

Discussion Items

1. Project updates.
 - a. City and county project updates
 - b. MET Transit Study
 - c. 2026 – 2030 Passenger Transportation Plan
 - d. NEIA NEPA Study
 - e. SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
2. General discussion.
3. Adjournment.

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**BLACK HAWK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD &
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD JOINT MEETING**

THURSDAY, May 08, 2025

MINUTES

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

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
DeAnne Kobliska	Mayor	City of Evansdale	Policy Board Member (Vice-Chair)
Lisa Smock	Mayor	City of Elk Run Heights	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Scott Becker	Councilperson, Mayor Pro Tem	City of Gilbertville	Policy Board 1 st Alternate
Aric Schroeder	City Planner	City of Waterloo	Policy Board 2nd Alternate
John Dornoff	Planner II	City of Waterloo	Attendee
David Struch	General Manager	MET Transit	TTC Member
Aric Schroeder	City Planner	City of Waterloo	Policy Board 2nd Alternate
Steven Kjergaard	Director of Aviation	Waterloo Reg. Airport	Policy Board 1st Alternate
Gail Bunz*	Mayor	City of Hudson	Policy Board Member (Online)
David Wicke	City Engineer	City of Cedar Falls	TTC Member
Rob Werner	Public Works Director	City of Gilbertville	TTC Member
Mark Durbahn*	Senior Project Manager	AECOM	Attendee (Online)
Tony Hemann	ACOM Technical Services	AECOM	Attendee
Krista Billhorn	District Planner	DOT	Attendee
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	MPO Staff
Oghogho Oriakhi	Transportation Planner I	INRCOG	MPO Staff

*Attended Online

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

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the April 10, 2025, meeting. It was moved by Kurtenbach, seconded by Becker to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next item was to hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the FY 2026 Transportation Planning Work Program

- a. The public hearing was called to order by Chair Smock at 10:01 a.m. Fratzke explained that the Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) serves as a framework for staff to justify their work and track the hours invested. It details the members of various committees and boards and is organized into sections outlining goals and objectives, performance measures, and processes. The program is monitored monthly, and reports are submitted to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for reimbursement. The TPWP has been open to public comment for the past 30 days, during which no comments were received. Fratzke requested final comments while the hearing remained open. With no comments made, Lisa (Chair) closed the public hearing at 10:05 a.m. Motion moved by Kjergaard, seconded by Kobliska to approve the TPWP for FY 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Up next discussion Items

1. Project Updates

a. City and County Project updates

Kobliska reported for the City of Evansdale, the Lafayette Rd project is experiencing delays and will remain closed until June. Asphalt on Roosevelt Rd is scheduled to begin on Sunday to minimize traffic disruption. Additional signage will be installed to assist individuals who may not be familiar with standard traffic signs. Stormwater improvements in the area are planned to take place alongside the asphalt work. Kobliska expressed being impressed with the performance of both the contractors and the engineers involved. Wicke provided an update for the City of Cedar Falls, stating that the Main Street reconstruction project is currently focused on the intersection at 18th St and Main St. Traffic on Main Street remains open until work at the 18th Street intersection is completed. The project is now in its final phase. Schroeder reported the City of Waterloo's continued progress on 11th Street Bridge, though the exact reopening date remains uncertain. Hamann stated that Jamie, the City of Waterloo Engineer, tentatively mentioned the project would be ready within the next two weeks. Hamann added that paving for Phase One of the La Porte Rd project is set to begin next week. Phase Two, acquisition has been approved, and Phase Three is currently in the early stage. Smock stated that for the City of Elk Run Height the project on Lafayette Rd is progressing and going according to schedule.

b. MET Transit Study

Sturch had no updates regarding the MET Transit Study.

c. 2026 – 2040 Passenger Transportation Plan

Fratzke noted that the update has been submitted to the DOT, except for the goals and priorities section, which is currently being updated in collaboration with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Fratzke also referenced the recent ICOG retreat, emphasizing the valuable networking opportunities with other Councils of Governments (COGs) to exchange ideas and explore strategies for updating various documents.

d. NEIA NEPA Study

Durbahn stated that the focus is to get the traffic analysis done, working with DOT to run various scenarios, and anticipating that the piece is completed in the next two weeks. Durban added that this Phase of the study is scheduled to be completed by Fall 2025, and the next phase will be to complete the environmental aspects.

e. SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Fratzke reported that in 2022, the MPO was awarded a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant to conduct a study on pedestrian-involved vehicle accidents, in partnership with Stanley Consultants. The study was completed and formally adopted by the Waterloo City Council recently. A key recommendation from the study was the conversion of 5th Street from one-way to a two-way street. The MPO was one of only three jurisdictions in the state to approach the SS4A program regionally, rather than on a county-by-county basis. Although the region does not experience a high rate of crashes, Waterloo showed notable crash data, which made it a focal point of the study. Durbahn added that the City of Waterloo intends to apply for an SS4A Implementation Grant in June. To be eligible, an approved Action Plan is required. Although studies on 4th, 5th, and 6th Streets have already been completed, these corridors were not originally included in the Action Plan. Next steps would be reviewing and amending the action plan to incorporate these streets ahead of the grant submission deadline in June. Fratzke mentioned that the bone of contention is who would facilitate that process to make the amendments, and Schroeder stated it could be a challenge to be completed with deadlines for the implementation grant in June.

f. MPO Critical Urban Freight Corridors

Fratzke mentioned that the DOT is looking for CUFC, and the DOT needs proposals of where MPOs would like to see additional miles allocated. Fratzke mentioned that at one point in time, on US 57, Vikings rd. to US 218 was once designated as a CUFC, and Undesignated for some reasons. Improvements around that region, Greenhill rd., Cedar Falls industrial area would be considering recommending that area to the policy board. Fratzke reported that the DOT is seeking proposals for Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFC) and has asked MPOs for input on mileage allocation. He noted that the Highway 27 segment from Viking Road to Highway 218 was once designated as a CUFC but was later undesignated for unknown reasons. With ongoing improvements in the surrounding area, including Greenhill Road and the Cedar Falls industrial zone, Fratzke suggested this corridor could be a strong candidate for re-designation by the Policy Board.

Aric mentioned the NEIA being fully designated, but with the ongoing study it could. Billhorn stated they recommend Greenhill on US 57 to US 218, but it fell off due to traffic projections. Struch proposed US 63 from Downtown Waterloo to north of US 218, Fratzke mentioned it based on Freight traffic. Durbahn stated that something up to 63 would be great, as it could help with potential funding opportunities. They have some models of freight traffic flow, and the initial piece could be from Elk Run Height to US 63. Billhorn mentioned that there are currently 150 miles from the state for urban corridors designation for the region. Fratzke mentioned working on the proposed section for the CUFC, and with no MPO Policy Board meetings before the submittal deadline, would communicate the outcome to the policy board members. Smock (chair) asked if everyone was good with the proposal, there was no decent.

2. Next was general Discussion.

Billhorn mentioned that the DOT is carrying out a feasibility study for US 63, and Cedar Waspsie Road by an in-house consultant. Focusing on safety concerns and determining whether it's worth conducting engineering.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was moved by Becker, seconded by Kobliska and Kjergaard. Motion carried Unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Oghogho Oriakhi
Secretary