

**AMES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: DRAFT FY 2010 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (TPWP)

BACKGROUND:

As a part of the federal regulations governing MPO's, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provide planning funds to reimburse these agencies for transportation planning activities. The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) administers this program.

The proposed program activities include several areas. The major activity will be updating the 2005 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This update is due to be completed by September 30, 2010. The update will include the following two elements that the Ames City Council identified as important and directed that they be addressed:

- Establish alternative Level of Service (LOS) criteria that may be used when meeting the current LOS "C" requirement leads to adverse impacts on the surrounding existing neighborhood.
- Identify a method for establishing a system-wide Level of Service for bicyclists and pedestrians.

In addition, a main planning activity element is to ensure an integrated transportation system. Another integral element is review of development plans to determine impact on the transportation system. Beyond subdivision and major site development activity, this review includes potential changes to the Land Use Policy Plan or Urban Fringe Plan, which are closely linked to the transportation system. A major transit element will be moving forward with the Ames - Des Moines corridor study.

The other elements of the TPWP include the general work of administering the MPO and CyRide activities, as well as public involvement. Once again, the TPWP includes the potential of retaining an Administrative Consultant to assist with planning activities.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the draft FY 2010 TPWP and set May 26, 2009, as the date of public hearing.
2. Modify the draft FY 2010 TPWP to change the areas of emphasis and set May 26, 2009, as the date of public hearing.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Ames Area Planning Organization's Technical Committee reviewed the draft TPWP and unanimously recommended approval. Therefore, it is recommended by the Administrator that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the draft FY 2010 TPWP and setting May 26, 2009, as the date of public hearing.



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2010

DRAFT

March 2009

INTRODUCTION

The Ames Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) was officially designated on March 17, 2003. This designation was the result of the Ames urbanized area having a population of greater than 50,000 people in the 2000 census. The AAMPO boundary was then designated based on the existing urbanized areas and the City of Ames Land Use Policy Plan. The majority of the area is within the corporate limits of Ames. Small areas outside of the corporate limits in Story County and Boone County are included in the MPO boundary because of the need to plan for the eventual inclusion of these areas within the city.

The AAMPO is generally the stand-alone metropolitan area of Ames. Ames is located in central Iowa and is served by I-35, U.S. Highway 30, and U.S. Highway 69. Surface transportation needs are met through over 200 centerline miles of streets. The community has a very progressive mass transit system, CyRide, which carries approximately 4,400,000 bus passengers per year. The majority of users have Iowa State University ties; however, the bus system serves the entire community. The MPO is served by the Ames Municipal Airport, which serves general aviation needs for business, industry, and recreation users. Over 38,150 aircraft operations occur annually. Union Pacific Railroad provides freight service to the area by dual east-west mainline tracks and a northern agricultural spur.

The City of Ames City Council, the Story County Board of Supervisors, and the Boone County Board of Supervisors approved a 28-E Agreement that provides for the governing of the organization by a Transportation Policy Committee. That committee is made up of the following people:

City of Ames City Council members and the Mayor (7)

Ann Campbell

Riad Mahayni

Matthew Goodman

Dan Rice

Jim Popken

Ryan Doll

Jami Larson

Boone County representative (1)

Mike O'Brien

Story County representative (1)

Wayne Clinton

Ames Transit Agency (CyRide) representative (1)

Bob Anders

Iowa Department of Transportation non-voting representative (1)

Mike Clayton

Federal Highway Administration non-voting representative (1)

Tracy Troutner

Federal Transit Administration non-voting representative (1)

Mark Bechtel

In addition, the Policy Committee will appoint various committees, as appropriate, to advise them. In particular, a Technical Committee was appointed to advise on the programming decisions that involve project issues. Members of the Technical Committee are as follows:

Ames Municipal Engineer
Tracy Warner

Ames Traffic Engineer
Damion Pregitzer

Ames Operations Administrator
Dave Cole

Ames Transportation Planner
Vacant

Ames Director of Planning and Housing
Steve Osguthorpe

Ames Long Range Planner
Charlie Kuester

Transit (CyRide) Director
Sheri Kyras

Iowa State University representative
Cathy Brown

Boone County representative
Bob Kieffer

Story County representative
Darren Moon

Federal Highway Administration (FHA) non-voting representative
Tracy Troutner

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) non-voting representative
Mark Bechtel

Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Non-voting representative
Mike Clayton

Funds shown for the 2010 fiscal year include new funds and carryover funds from the previous Transportation Planning Work Programs.

WORK ELEMENTS

In general, the overall metropolitan planning goals for the AAMPO are to:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users
- Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight
- Promote efficient system management and operation
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system

The following documents are developed, updated, or maintained on an annual basis:

- Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Public Participation Plan (PPP)
- Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- Passenger Transportation Development Plan (PTDP):

As part of an effort to coordinate and develop services with human service agencies and other transit agencies, a Passenger Transportation Development Plan has been developed, and is updated annually. CyRide, representing AAMPO, has met locally with human service agencies and transportation providers in an effort to further this goal.

TPWP Development:

In general, the TPWP is a living, working document that is utilized throughout the year through the course of coordination with other governmental and transportation agencies, technical committee members, and private citizens. There is a multi-phase public participation process carried out in creating the TPWP. In addition to informal input throughout the year, there is formal input sought at the Policy Committee public hearings for the Draft and Final TPWP and at a Public Input session. In an effort to increase public awareness and involvement, AAMPO staff meets with community groups such as Iowa State University classes and committees, Ames Chamber of Commerce, and civic organizations such as Rotary International. The TPWP also includes elements gathered at other meetings and events such as PTDP workshops, MPO quarterly meetings, and public informational meetings. Also, information was presented and public comment gathered at City Council sessions regarding Context Sensitive Solutions and Complete Streets.

Administration

Task Objective: Administration of AAMPO Transportation Planning.

Project Description: The fiscal year 2010 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) and the budget will be monitored and amended as needed. Progress reports will be prepared in accordance with the required schedule for each of the work elements involved with the approved TPWP.

The FY 2011 TPWP and budget will be prepared. The financial audit for FY 2010 will be initiated.

Payment will be made for the participation in the Statewide Urban Standard Design and Specifications manuals and the Pavement Management program through the STP funding in the TIP.

Staff: Administrator (Public Works Director)
Municipal Engineer
Traffic Engineer
Transportation Planner
City Clerk
Public Works Administrative Assistant
Finance Director
Clerical

Time: 700 hours

Cost: \$59,900 (19%)

Work Products (with estimated completion):

- Transportation Planner selection (tentative)
- TPWP maintenance, budget monitoring (on-going)
- FY 2011 TPWP development (May 2010)
- Administration of requests for Congressionally directed appropriations (on-going)

Previous Work:

- FY 2009 TPWP maintenance, budget monitoring
- FY 2010 TPWP development
- Grand Avenue "earmark" administration

Transportation Improvement Program

Task Objective: State and federal project programming for AAMPO member agencies.

Project Description: The Federal Fiscal Year 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan (FY 10-13 TIP) will be maintained and amended as necessary. The FY 2011-14 TIP for Surface Transportation Projects and Enhancement Projects will be developed. Coordination with the IDOT Statewide Transportation Improvement Program will also be undertaken.

Staff: Administrator (Public Works Director)
Transportation Planner
Public Works Administrative Assistant
Municipal Engineer
Traffic Engineer
Transit Director
Transit Coordinator
Transit Planner
Finance Director
Budget Officer
City Clerk
Clerical

Time: 250 hours

Cost: \$20,492 (6.5%)

Work Products:

- Maintain 2010-13 TIP (on-going)
- Complete 2011-14 TIP (May 2010)
- Amend 2010-13 TIP (as necessary)

Previous Work:

- Completed 2010-13 TIP
- Maintained 2009-12 TIP

Comprehensive Planning

Task Objective: Integrate transportation planning and land use planning for AAMPO member agencies.

Project Description:

- Review subdivisions and development projects to determine transportation impact
- Analysis related to economic activities
- Forecasting activities related to transportation planning
- Attend relevant conferences pertaining to MPO planning issues
- Updating/amending the bikeways plan, as necessary
- Updating/amending the Land Use Policy Plan and Urban Fringe Plan, as necessary
- Traffic counts along area streets
- Traffic accident data analyses
- Street alignment and traffic signal concept layouts
- Utilization of a regional ITS architecture will be completed
- Research on mobility issues relating to walks, paths, safe routes, etc. will be conducted
- Participation in and support of Highway 30 Coalition activities

Staff: Traffic Engineer
Municipal Engineer
Administrator (Public Works Director)
Transportation Planner
Director of Planning & Housing
Planning Staff
Transit Planner

Time: 250 hours

Cost: \$20,492 (6.5%)

Work Products:

- Updated Safe Routes to School maps (as necessary)
- Participation in CIRTPA Bicycle Roundtable (on-going)
- City of Ames Bicycle Map update (as necessary)
- Integrate multi-modal (non-motorized) LOS (as directed)
- Maintain/update transportation network model

Previous Work:

- Analyze fringe area growth impacts on transportation
- Development traffic study review (Regional commercial, Aquatic Center)
- Safe Routes to School map updates
- Downtown parking map update
- Central Iowa Bicycle Roundtable
- Neighborhood traffic calming coordination

Transit Planning

Task Objective: Enhance a coordinated, accessible, and efficient transit system

Project Description: Planning efforts will reflect prioritization of the following areas:

- Incorporating safety and security in transit (transportation) planning
- Participation of transit operators in metropolitan and statewide planning
- Coordination of non-emergency human service transportation
- Planning for transit system management and operation to increase ridership
- Make transit capital investment decisions through effective systems planning

This item involves transit planning issues related to land use and development issues, ridership surveys and analyses, and the study of student and commuter service. Meetings will be held to facilitate the (locally developed) coordinated public transit/human-services transportation plan to improve transportation services for the low-income, aging and disabled populations within the community. Efforts will concentrate on improving operating efficiencies of current services and eliminating gaps where and when transportation is not available.

The Transportation Planner may conduct various planning and ridership studies throughout the year.

Staff: Transit Director
Transit Planner
Transit Coordinator
Transit Operations Supervisor
Transportation Planner

Time: 350 hours

Cost: \$31,526 (10%)

Work Products:

- Work towards maintenance/update of the PTDP (on-going)
- Administration of Ames Alternative Analysis Study (on-going, description follows)
- Administration of Ames – Des Moines Corridor Study (on-going, description follows)
- Corridor and facility expansion studies (as necessary)
- Bus stop amenities planning (on-going)

Previous Work:

- On-going planning activities
- Participation in TIP and TPWP development
- Leading human service/transportation provider workshops
- Update of PTDP
- Ames Alternatives Analysis Study
- Facility Master Plan

Transit Planning (continued)

Alternative Analysis Study

Task Objective: Conduct Alternative Analysis study of Orange Route corridor between Iowa State Center and Iowa State University campus.

Project Description: An Alternatives Analysis (AA) Study will be conducted of the Iowa State Center to Iowa State University campus corridor identified currently as the Orange Route. The Ames Transit Agency recently completed a smaller Transit Feasibility Study looking at seven corridors in the community that had either current transportation/growth issues or future identified growth. The study identified transportation options to resolve corridor problems of which the Orange Route is operating at near maximum capacity. It was determined through the Transit Feasibility Study that the Orange Route may qualify for Small New Starts funding to establish a Bus Rapid Transit corridor which would operate more like a light rail type system only using more cost-efficient buses. The AA study will analyze specific route options in more depth regarding transit-only corridors, provide detailed information on bus stop upgrades, and analyze route speed increases that could be realized with extended green technology. This study will also analyze the financial capacity/needs of the Ames community to undertake a project such as Bus Rapid Transit. At the conclusion of the AA Study, a locally preferred alternative – the “proposed action” – will be determined.

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| Federal (5339) | \$160,000 |
| Local (CyRide) | \$40,000 |
| Total Cost | \$200,000 |

Ames-Des Moines Corridor Study

Task Objective: Conduct study of I-35 corridor between Ames and Des Moines to determine the feasibility of implementing transit alternatives as opposed to the single occupant vehicle travel along this corridor.

Project Description: This planning study would determine the feasibility of implementing transit improvements to reduce single occupant automobile traffic along Interstate 35 between the City of Ames and City of Des Moines. The study would provide essential information to key decision-makers in Des Moines, Ames, and Ankeny to implement future transportation improvements along this corridor. The study would examine the following:

- Identify need/potential ridership in the Ames-Des Moines corridor
- Analyze potential transportation modes to serve forecasted ridership demand
- Refine best alternative details
- Identify potential funding sources
- Identify benefits of implementation

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority, Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency, and CyRide would co-sponsor the project through a coordinated effort from the following potential organizations: Iowa State University, City of Ames, City of Ankeny,

Greater Des Moines Partnership, Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Iowa Department of Transportation's Office of Public Transit. Any recommendations from this study would be incorporated into the IDOT's state-wide needs corridor analysis due to the state legislature in December 2009. A consultant would be hired to complete the study.

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| State (STA) | \$100,000 |
| Local (CyRide) | \$0 |
| Total Cost | \$100,000 |

Public Participation

Task Objective: Incorporate a public involvement process that fosters public participation throughout the planning and transportation decision-making process.

Project Description: Informational meetings, as well as public hearings, will be held to obtain public input and feedback on on-going activities of AAMPO. The Public Participation Plan is posted online at <http://www.cityofames.org/workswweb/default.htm>.

Currently, the City of Ames maintains a website on which the activities of the AAMPO are included. Items include the meeting schedule and the approved TIP and TPWP as well as links to LRTP and PTDP information. One work task may be to develop a stand-alone website for AAMPO, also having links from the City website.

An additional goal will be to review the AAMPO Public Participation Plan (PPP) to make suggestions for improving outreach activities and strengthening public input.

Staff: Administrator (Public Works Director)
Transportation Planner
Public Relations Officer and Intern
Director of Planning & Housing
Transit Director
Transit Planner
Traffic Engineer
Municipal Engineer

Time: 250 hours

Cost: \$20,492 (6.5%)

Work Products:

- Stand-alone AAMPO website (January 2010)
- Public meetings for TIP and TPWP input (April 2010 and as needed)
- Update letters to neighborhood groups and interested parties (on-going)
- Consider update of the PPP to reflect SAFETEA-LU requirements

Previous Work:

- Public meetings for TIP, TPWP, and PTDP
- Public meetings for project input sessions
- Update letters to neighborhood groups and interested parties

Committee Support

Task Objective: Provide information, background material, and viable alternatives to the committees to assist them in making fully informed decisions.

Project Description: Support for the Policy and Technical Committees will be conducted on an as needed basis. Work elements include reports, records management, correspondence, planning of meetings, and supporting materials. If a Transportation Planner is pursued, a representative will attend the Technical Committee meetings and assist with planning and scheduling Citizen Advisory Committee meetings, as necessary.

Staff: Administrator (Public Works Director)
Transportation Planner
Municipal Engineer
Traffic Engineer
Operations Administrator
Planning Director
Transit Director
Clerical Staff

Time: 250 hours

Cost: \$20,492 (6.5%)

Work Products:

- Technical Committee and Policy Committee meetings/minutes (as scheduled)
- Conduct Citizen Advisory Committee meetings (as necessary)

Previous Work:

- Technical Committee and Policy Committee meetings/minutes

Long Range Transportation Plan

Task Objective: Provide framework for orderly, efficient growth of an integrated, multi-modal transportation network.

Project Description: Work will continue on the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update. The updated LRTP will be compliant with SAFETEA-LU requirements. Work activities will include evaluation of Land Use Policy Plan for compliance, reviewing traffic impact studies for major site developments, alternative network development and analysis, updated transit analysis, update the transportation model, public participation opportunities, and completion of final report.

Also, new development proposals and project locations will be reviewed for compliance with the Long Range Transportation Plan. All modes of travel will be considered.

Staff: Transportation Planning Consultant
Administrator (Public Works Director)
Public Works Administrative Assistant
Municipal Engineer
Traffic Engineer
Transit Director
Transit Coordinator
Transit Planner
Finance Director
Budget Officer
City Clerk/Clerical

Time: 500 hours (additional work from consultant)

Cost: \$141,870 (45%)

Work Products:

- Continue work on update to LRTP - assuring SAFETEA-LU compliance (Sept. 2010)

Previous Work:

- Assure proposed transportation networks are integrated and consistent with the LRTP (to be conducted as projects are submitted and needs arise)
- Evaluation of regional commercial areas and large scale mixed-use developments
- Begin update to 2035 LRTP

BUDGET SUMMARY FY 2010

Funding Sources

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| FTA 5303 | \$ 26,068 |
| FHWA PL | \$ 76,582 |

Carryover Funds

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| FHWA PL | \$125,176 |
| FTA 5303 | \$ 24,385 |
| Local * | <u>\$ 63,053</u> |

TOTAL \$315,264

* The local match for salaries and other expenses is a part of the City Council adopted 2008/2009 budget for all personnel and associated expenses. Costs billed will be for those specified. The main source of local-match funds will come from the City of Ames Road Use Tax allocation.

The federal funds identified, above, are specifically designated for planning activities. FHWA Surface Transportation Funds will also be used through the 2010 TIP for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan update activities.

Work Element Expense Summary **

| <u>Element</u> | <u>Funding Source</u> | | | <u>Element Total</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>FTA 5303</u> | <u>FHWA PL</u> | <u>Local</u> | |
| Administration | \$ 3,000 | \$ 44,920 | \$ 11,980 | \$ 59,900 |
| Transportation Improvement Program | \$ 1,500 | \$ 14,894 | \$ 4,098 | \$ 20,492 |
| Comprehensive Planning | \$ 1,500 | \$ 14,894 | \$ 4,098 | \$ 20,492 |
| Transit Planning | \$ 22,067 | \$ 3,153 | \$ 6,306 | \$ 31,526 |
| Public Participation | \$ 1,500 | \$ 14,894 | \$ 4,098 | \$ 20,492 |
| Committee Support | \$ 1,500 | \$ 14,894 | \$ 4,098 | \$ 20,492 |
| <u>Long Range Transportation Plan</u> | <u>\$ 19,386</u> | <u>\$ 94,109</u> | <u>\$ 28,375</u> | <u>\$141,870</u> |
| Source Total | \$ 50,453 | \$201,758 | \$ 63,053 | \$315,264 |

** New FY 2010 funds have been combined with the carryover amounts for expense allocations. **Carryover funds will be used first** before new allocations.