ITEM # <u>MPO5</u> DATE: 03-22-11

## AMES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (AAMPO) TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM

<u>SUBJECT:</u> AMENDMENT TO FY 2011 – 2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Grand Avenue Extension project is an illustrative project which encompasses the extension of Grand Avenue from its existing termini at Squaw Creek Drive to South 16<sup>th</sup> Street. This project is funded primarily by congressionally directed funds.

Currently construction of a large apartment building is taking place immediately east of the Ames Christian School on South 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Ground is being broken this spring on a second apartment complex to the north of the building currently under construction. The developers of the new complex have asked that the south end of the Grand Avenue project be constructed this summer from South 16<sup>th</sup> Street north through the planned intersection that will provide access for this apartment complex and the Cold Water Golf Course.

Design work on this extension is being prepared by Howard R. Green consultants. Eighty percent of the funding for this portion of the project will be through the unobligated portion of the SAFETEA-LU earmark for "Transportation Improvements to Grand Avenue, Ames." The balance will be funded with General Obligation bonds designated by the City.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Approve the amendment to the FY 2011–14 TIP to include the above mentioned Grand Avenue project on the FY 2011 project list.
- 2. Modify the amendment to the FY 2011–14 TIP and include the above mentioned Grand Avenue project on the FY 2011 project list.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

This extension of the southerly portion of Grand Avenue is needed to serve the new apartment complex in this area. Funding is available from an earlier federal earmark for Grand Avenue, and can be matched with G.O. bonds issued by the City.

Therefore, it is recommended by the Administrator that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving the amendment to the FY 2011–14 TIP to include the above mentioned Grand Avenue project on the FY 2011 project list.