

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

**SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) refers to the geographic area within which AAMPO is responsible for metropolitan transportation planning. At a minimum, the MPA must cover the urbanized area and the contiguous geographic areas likely to become urbanized within the 25-year forecast period covered by the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This expanded urbanized area now includes Gilbert.

The 2010 urbanized areas released from the Census Bureau for the Ames area extend beyond the current MPA boundary of the AAMPO, requiring the MPA boundary to be adjusted to include the expanded urbanized area. This expanded area now includes Gilbert and a greater portion of Story County. **Creating the new boundary only necessitates that the AAMPO include the new areas in transportation planning activities. This map change does not shift or expand the jurisdiction or funding responsibility of any of the associated governmental bodies.**

Recently, AAMPO staff has been working with the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) toward smoothing and adjusting the urbanized boundary, resulting in a slightly larger area better suited to the transportation needs for the Ames area. This smoothed boundary, known as the FHWA Urban Area Boundary (UAB), was approved by the Iowa DOT and FHWA last month. This revised UAB was utilized in developing the adjusted MPA boundary. A map is attached showing the current and adjusted MPA boundaries.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the MPA boundary adjustment for submission to the Iowa DOT and FHWA.
2. Approve the MPA boundary adjustment with Policy Committee modifications for submission to the Iowa DOT and FHWA.

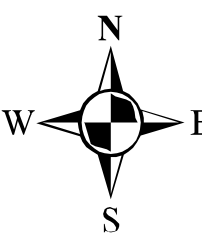
**ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:**

AAMPO staff drafted the MPA boundary adjustment while working collectively with the Iowa DOT, FHWA, and Technical Committee members, who provided input on the boundary adjustment for the staff to consider and address.

Therefore, it is recommended by the Administrator that the Transportation Policy Committee approve the attached MPA boundary adjustment for submission to the Iowa DOT and FHWA.



# Ames Area MPO



## Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary Map

### Legend

- Current MPA Boundary
- Adjusted MPA Boundary
- CORP\_LINES\_20120614
- Urban Area Boundary 2010
- IA\_BLOCK\_2010
- CENSUS\_URBANIZED AREA\_2010
- County
- Airport
- Airport Runway
- Rail
- Lakes
- Rivers
- Interstate
- US Highways
- IA Routes
- Secondary Roads
- Municipal Streets
- Ramps

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles

### Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary

Submittal to Iowa DOT for FHWA approval.  
Adjusted Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary  
as identified by local officials.

Authorizing Officials:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Policy Committee Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

