CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL
CIRTPA
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ALLIANCE

Josh Wuebker, City of Perry
Transportation Policy Committee Chair

Matt Ferrier, City of Perry
Transportation Technical Committee Chair

939 Office Park Road, Suite 306
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Phone: 515.304.3524
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance
Transportation Policy and Technical Committees
–
9:30 a.m., November 19, 2026
Hybrid Meeting
939 Office Park Road, Suite 306, West Des Moines, IA 50265

1. **Call to Order**
2. **VOTE: Approval of Agenda**
3. **VOTE: Approval of Meeting Minutes** ..... Page 3
   - Approve the September 17, 2026, meeting minutes.
4. **DISCUSSION: Opportunity for Regional Transportation Issues to be Discussed and Public Input** ..... Page 4
   - Opportunity for communities or individuals to present regional transportation issues for discussion or provide comments on items on the agenda.
5. **REPORT and VOTE: CIRTPA Financial Statements** ..... Page 5
   - Report on the financial statements; consider approval.
6. **REPORT and VOTE: Invoices and Contracts** ..... Page 6
   - Report on invoices and contracts for CIRTPA; consider approval.
7. **REPORT and VOTE: FFY 2028 TAP and Small Communities Applications** ..... Page 7
   - Report on the Small Communities and TAP revised applications; consider approval.
8. **REPORT and VOTE: Calendar Year 2027 Meeting Dates** ..... Page 8
   - Report on the proposed meeting dates for Calendar Year (CY) 2027; consider approval.
9. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: *Federal Fiscal Year 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* Revision Requests** ..... Page 9
   - Report on the requests to amend projects in the FFY 2027-2030 TIP; consider approval.
10. **REPORT and OPTIONAL VOTE: Proposed Meeting Between HIRTA and Central Iowa City Managers** ..... Page 10
    - Report on a proposed meeting between HIRTA and Central Iowa City Managers.
11. **REPORT: CIRTPA 2026 SS4A Implementation Grant Applications** ..... Page 12
    - Report on CIRTPA's 2026 SS4A Implementation Grant Applications.
12. **REPORT: Iowa DOT 2027 Summer Traffic Count Program** ..... Page 14
    - Report on Iowa DOT's Summer Traffic Count Program.
13. **REPORT: Status of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern Merger** ..... Page 15
    - Report on opportunity to provide feedback regarding the UP and NS merger.
14. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**

The CIRTPA receives federal funding and may not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint form, call 515-304-3524.

15. **Next Meeting Date**
    - Approval of the next meeting date for 9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 21, 2027, hybrid meeting.
16. **Adjournment**

Virtual login information is available below.
Please join the Microsoft Teams meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2618456038317904?p=jcpwvUaHcZo4JMMXAw
Meeting ID: 261 845 603 831 790 4
Passcode: XP64Tw2E

November 2026
Item No. 3

ISSUE: Approval of Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Report on the minutes of the September 17, 2026, Joint Committee Meeting; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

Click here for a copy of the September 17, 2026, meeting minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the September 17, 2026, CIRTPA Joint Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 4

ISSUE: Opportunity for Regional Transportation Issues to be Discussed and Public Input

DISCUSSION: Opportunity for communities or individuals to present regional transportation issues for discussion.

BACKGROUND:

CIRTPA sets aside time each month for individuals and non-CIRTPA communities within the CIRTPA planning area to come in and discuss regional transportation issues or provide comments on items on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Public discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 5

ISSUE: CIRTPA Financial Statements

REPORT AND VOTE: Report on the Financial Statements; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

CIRTPA staff continually track CIRTPA's finances and prepares monthly and/or quarterly statements detailing all transactions.

Click here for a copy of the financial documents.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Financial Statements.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 6

ISSUE: Invoices and Contracts

REPORT AND VOTE: Report on invoices and contracts for CIRTPA; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

Invoice – MIPA *Budgeted Expense*

MIPA bills for work conducted on CIRTPA's behalf on a bi-monthly basis. MIPA's September Fiscal Year 2027 invoice covers work conducted for the period beginning September 1, 2026, through October 31, 2026.

If approved, CIRTPA staff will proceed with reimbursing MIPA.

Click here for a copy of the FY 2027 September & October MIPA invoices for services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the proposed invoices.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org;
Andrew Collings, acollings@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 7

ISSUE: FFY 2028 TAP and Small Community Applications

REPORT and VOTE: Report on the Small Communities and TAP revised applications; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

FFY 2019 was the first year federal STBG funding was made available to small communities. Of the over $6 million that CIRTPA receives in STBG funding, 4.4% or approximately $270,000 is allocated to communities with a population under 5,000. TAP applications have been solicited since 1994 with current guidance provided by the Iowa DOT since 2023. CIRTPA is receives approximately $651,000 in TAP funding annually.

The draft applications will be distributed prior to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Small Community & TAP applications.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 8

ISSUE: Calendar Year 2027 Meeting Dates

REPORT and VOTE: Report on the meeting dates for Calendar Year (CY) 2027; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

CIRTPA staff annually issue a proposed CIRTPA meeting schedule for the upcoming calendar year. CIRTPA is required to issue its upcoming meeting dates to comply with the State of Iowa's Open Meetings Law. CIRTPA staff asks for feedback on any known conflicts with the proposed schedule. All meetings are proposed for 9:30AM in a hybrid setup.

Included, below, is the proposed Calendar Year 2027 CIRTPA meeting schedule.

CIRTPA JOINT COMMITTEE	
THURSDAY	JANUARY 21, 2027
THURSDAY	MARCH 18, 2027
THURSDAY	MAY 20, 2027
THURSDAY	JULY 15, 2027
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 16, 2027
THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 18, 2027

CIRTPA TTC COMMITTEE*	
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 18, 2027
THURSDAY	APRIL 15, 2027
THURSDAY	JUNE 17, 2027
THURSDAY	AUGUST 19, 2027
THURSDAY	OCTOBER 21, 2027
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 16, 2027

*TTC meeting dates are not standing and only held when necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Calendar Year 2027 meeting dates.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 9

ISSUE: *Federal Fiscal Year 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* Amendment Requests

REPORT AND OPTIONAL VOTE: Report on the amendment requests to the *Federal Fiscal Year 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program*; consider approval.

BACKGROUND:

CIRTPA staff have requested the following revisions to the *Federal Fiscal Year 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* (FFY 2027-2030 TIP):

Sponsor: HIRTA
Project: TPMS #12297
Federal Aid Amount: $200,000
Federal Aid Type: STBG (Regional)
Total Cost: $250,000
TIP Projects Modifications: None necessary
Change: Add project (Mobility Manager Positions) to FFY 2027 of the TIP – transit side only.

Sponsor: Iowa DOT
Project: TPMS #54712
Federal Aid Amount: $992,000
Federal Aid Type: PRF, STBG (FA)
Total Cost: $992,000
TIP Projects Modifications: None necessary
Change: Remove project from FFY 2027 of the TIP. Project was let in FFY 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the proposed amendments to the FFY 2027-2030 TIP.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 10

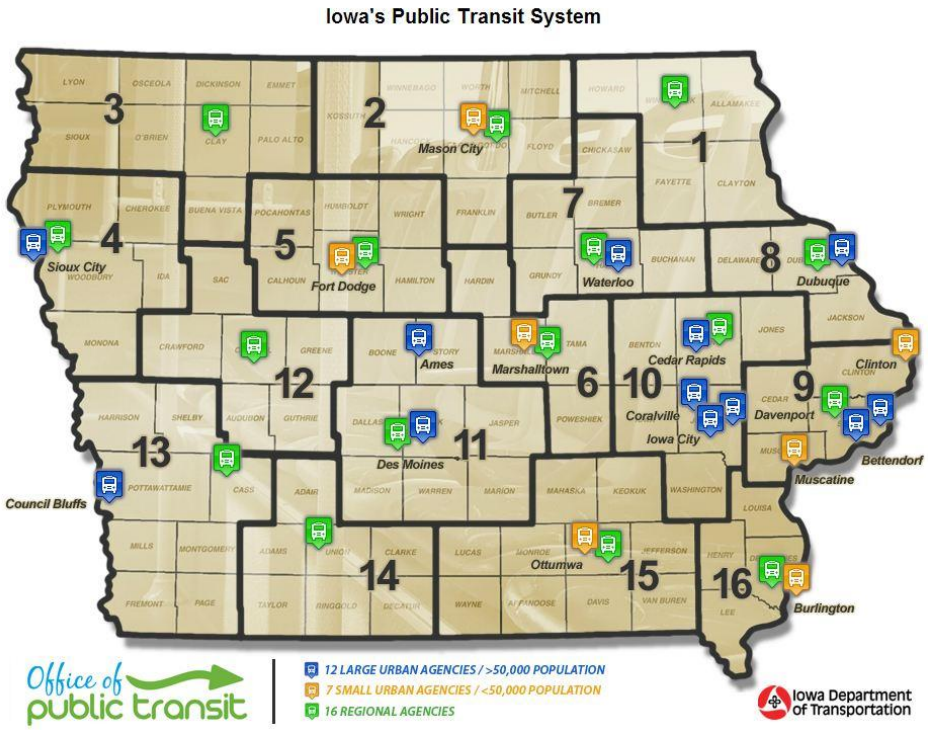
ISSUE: Proposed Meeting Between HIRTA and Central Iowa City Managers

REPORT AND OPTIONAL VOTE: Report on the proposed meeting between HIRTA and central Iowa city managers.

BACKGROUND:

In the State of Iowa, there are 35 public transit systems that covers all 99 counties. They include:

- 12 large urban agencies
- 7 small urban agencies
- 16 regional agencies



In Region 11 there are two large urban area agencies and one regional agency. DART serves the Des Moines urban area/Polk County and CyRide serves the Ames urban area. For everywhere else outside Polk County and the Ames area, HIRTA is the transit provider.

MPOs and RPAs in Iowa support transit within their regions by conducting multimodal transportation planning and coordinating services. This is illustrated by the deep connection between transit and CIRTPA's planning documents. The LRTP includes transit performance metrics and analysis within the document. CIRTPA also must create and

adopt a 5-year Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) that promotes a joint, coordinated passenger transportation system between public transit, human service agencies, and private providers. CIRTPA also must facilitate Transportation Advisory Groups (TAGs) within the region. TAGs are local meetings where MPOs/RPAs and the local transit agency meet to discuss current events and plan for the short and long-term future for transit in the region.

Currently, transit agencies across Iowa are facing a variety of challenges. These include:

- Funding constraints
- Service reductions
- Labor shortages and workforce challenges
- Aging fleets

Central Iowa is no different and faces all the above and more in terms of challenges to the transit system. To facilitate information and communication of transit issues and needs, CIRTPA staff are proposing to facilitate a transit meeting with communities in the CIRTPA region. This meeting would be held in conjunction with HIRTA and would focus on providing information on the current state and future of transit in CIRTPA's seven-county planning area. Staff are requesting permission to serve as a neutral 3rd party to provide information on transit and facilitate transit questions and answers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Facilitate an informational meeting on transit in central Iowa in conjunction with HIRTA.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Andrew Collings, acollings@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 11

ISSUE: CIRTPA 2026 SS4A Implementation Grant Applications

REPORT: Report on CIRTPA's 2026 SS4A Implementation Grant Applications.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 2026 CIRTPA Meeting, the Board approved of CIRTPA adding four SS4A projects to the Long-Range Transportation Plan's project list. A summary of those projects can be found below:

Community	Project	Total Cost	Grant Request	Local Match
City of Adel	The City of Adel, Iowa, proposes the conversion of approximately one mile of U.S. Highway 169 from a two-lane rural cross-section to a three-lane urban roadway, extending from Greenwood Hill Drive south to 302nd Street.	$7,938,000	$6,350,400	$1,587,600
City of Nevada	West Lincoln Way Widening and Shared Use Path	$3,300,000	$2,640,000	$660,000
City of Newton	Project Description: E 12th St & 1st Ave E (Hwy 6); E 12th St N Sidewalks; S 12th Ave W & Hwy 14 intersection and corridor; Iowa Speedway Dr. & 1st Ave E (Hwy 6) Sidewalk Improvements	$4,904,500	$3,923,600	$980,900
City of Pella	University Street from Highway 163 to East 8th Street	$3,857,000	$3,085,600	$771,400
		$19,999,500	**$15,999,600**	**$3,999,900**

Staff helped communities submit applications for funding. On October 30, the US DOT announced SS4A awards and the City of Adel was awarded their request of $6,350,400.

Click here for a link to the 2026 SS4A Awards

Two other awards were made within the central Iowa region. These include:

- **Des Moines Area MPO** - $14,832,000 Award
  - The project will implement 9 roadway safety projects across the region that address speeding, failure to yield, and pedestrian crossing risk on the high-injury network and high-risk network.
- **Polk County** - $5,293,960 Award
  - The project will upgrade public safety communications infrastructure that supports roadway crash response, traffic incident management, and post-crash care across Polk County. The project will replace 479 end-of-life mobile radios used by law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, emergency management, and public works; upgrade the Des Moines Police Department backup public safety answering point; and replace primary dispatch infrastructure at the Polk County Sheriff's Office, including 12 dispatch consoles, 15 backup radios, and an interoperability gateway.

Other CIRTPA communities may have infrastructure needs that align with SS4A funding priorities. Staff will facilitate discussion on the potential for future SS4A applications.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Andrew Collings, acollings@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 12

ISSUE: Iowa DOT 2027 Summer Traffic Count Program

REPORT: Report on Iowa DOT's Summer Traffic Count Program.

BACKGROUND:

In the summer of 2027, the Iowa DOT will be conducting traffic counts in the northwest quadrant of the state. In the CIRTPA region this includes counts on the primary (including interstate), secondary, and municipal systems in Boone and Story Counties. The DOT would like input from cities and counties regarding activities that will affect traffic flows during the 2027 summer months, any local traffic count programs, and any locations of special interest or concern to communities. This program is provided at no cost to cities or counties.

To assist in gathering input, the DOT has created a checklist for communities to use located HERE. City maps are available HERE, and county maps are available HERE. Additional guidance can also be found in I.M.8.240.

Major route traffic counts were conducted in Jasper and Marion Counties in 2026. In 2028, counts will be conducted in Polk, Dallas, Madison (major routes only), and Warren Counties. The map can be found HERE.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org

November 2026
Item No. 13

ISSUE: Status of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern Merger

REPORT: Report on opportunity to provide feedback regarding the UP and NS merger.

BACKGROUND:

Union Pacific (UP) and Norfolk Southern (NS) have initiated the process of a transcontinental merger. The timeline is/was as follows:

- July 28, 2025: Boards of Directors for UP and NS approved the merger agreement.
- December 18, 2025: Initial full merger application filed with the Surface Transportation Board (STB).
- April 20, 2026: UP and NS refiled their revised merger application.
- May 28, 2026: The STB accepted the revised application, placed proceedings temporarily in abeyance, and requested supplemental data.
- July 27, 2026: Companies completed and submitted all supplemental information and customer protection commitments to the STB.
- August 18, 2026: The STB officially lifted the abeyance and adopted a formal procedural timeline.
- September 4, 2026: Notices of intent to participate were due.
- **November 13, 2026: Deadline to file responsive environmental information comments.**
- **November 18, 2026: Deadline to file responsive application comments.**
- December 3, 2026: Preliminary DOJ and USDOT comments are due.
- February 16, 2027: Responses to comments are due.
- March 2027: Public hearings to take place before final briefs
- May 28, 2027: Final briefs are due, followed by the close of the evidentiary record.
- Second half of 2027: The STB is expected to issue its final decision within 90 days of the close of the record.

Additional details regarding the two upcoming deadlines and how to submit comments can be found from the DOT HERE.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Alyssa Schaeffer, aschaeffer@midiowaplanning.org