

**IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING NOTICE**

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

A. Introductions

B. Policy Board Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the December 19, 2024 meeting (pages 3-5).
3. Hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of an amendment to the FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) regarding the Brandt Park Trail project in Denver (page 6).

C. Discussion Items

1. Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.
 - a. Review [Chapter 3](#)
2. Iowa DOT guidance on TPWP amendments.
3. Project updates (TA SA/TAP and STBG).
4. General discussion.

D. Adjournment

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Everyone can come to this meeting. If you need special help to join, call INRCOG at (319) 235-0311 at least two days before the meeting.

Policy Board Members (Term Ending 12/31/2026)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County	Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor
Bremer County	Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor (Vice Chair)
Buchanan County	Keith Wieland	Supervisor
Butler County	Greg Barnett	Supervisor (Chair)
Chickasaw County	Scott Cerwinske	Supervisor
Grundy County	Mark Schildroth	Supervisor
City of Waverly	James Bronner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Brad Bleichner	Mayor
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Dunkerton (Small City At Large)	Michael Schares	Mayor
City of La Porte City (Small City At Large)	Jane Whittlesey	City Clerk
City of New Hampton (Small City At Large)	Steve Geerts	Mayor

Transportation Technical Committee Members (Term Ending 12/31/2026)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County	Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer
Bremer County	Landon Moore	County Engineer
Buchanan County	Brian Keierleber	County Engineer
Butler County	John Riherd	County Engineer
Chickasaw County	Roman Lensing	County Engineer
Grundy County	Jeff Skalberg	County Engineer
City of Waverly	James Bronner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Matthew Schmitz	City Manager
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Dunkerton (Small City At Large)	Michael Schares	Mayor
City of La Porte City (Small City At Large)	Jane Whittlesey	City Clerk
City of (Small City At Large)		

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Members (Term Ending 12/31/2026)

Representing	Name	Title
Black Hawk County Conservation	Mike Hendrickson	Executive Director
Bremer County Conservation	Andrew Hockenson	Director
Buchanan County Conservation	Ben Bonar	Executive Director
Butler County Conservation	Matt Morris	Executive Director
Chickasaw County Conservation	Chad Humpal	Director
Grundy County Conservation	Nick Buseman	Executive Director
City of Waverly	James Broner	City Administrator
City of Independence	Matthew Schmitz	City Manager
City of Denver (Small City At Large)	Joel Wikner	Councilmember
City of Dunkerton (Small City At Large)	Michael Schares	Mayor
City of La Porte City (Small City At Large)	Jane Whittlesey	City Clerk
City of (Small City At Large)		

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IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

MINUTES

Chair Barnett called the meeting of the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to order at 1:00 PM.

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice-Chair)
Greg Barnett	Supervisor	Butler County	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Mark Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Joel Wikner	Councilmember	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Michael Schares	Mayor	City of Dunkerton	TTC Member
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC Member
Landon Moore	County Engineer	Bremer County	TTC Member
Brian Keierleber	County Engineer	Buchanan County	TTC Member
John Riherd	County Engineer	Butler County	TTC Member
Roman Lensing	County Engineer	Chickasaw County	TTC Member
Gary Mauer	County Engineer	Grundy County	TTC Member
Gary Vick	Mayor	City of Raymond	Attendee
Krista Billhorn	District Transportation Planner	Iowa DOT	Attendee (Online)
Matt Rector	Regional Director	Senator Grassley	Attendee
Kyle Durant	Transportation Planner	INRCOG	RTA Staff (Secretary)
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	RTA Staff

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

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the November 21, 2024 meeting. It was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Schildroth to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of an amendment to the FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) regarding the Highway Bridge Program project on T25 over Small Stream in Butler County. It was moved by Moore, seconded by Schildroth to open the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing opened at 1:01 PM. Riherd stated that the federal funding is increasing by over 30 percent, necessitating an amendment. Durant said proof of publication is on file, and no public comments were received. There being no further discussion, it was moved by Lensing, seconded by Wikner to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing closed at 1:03 PM. It was then moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Keierleber to approve the amendment to the FY 2025-2028 TIP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was to hold a Public Hearing and consider approval of the final 2024 Public Participation Plan (PPP). It was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Barnett to open the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing opened at 1:05 PM. Durant said the RTA is required to update this document every five years, with adoption one year prior to the due date of the Long-Range Transportation Plan update. The document outlines the minimum processes the RTA will follow to involve the public in the transportation planning and programming process. The draft document was made available to the public for a minimum 45-day comment period. The draft was also sent to the Iowa DOT for review and comments. Proof of publication is on file, and no public comments were received. There being no further discussion, it was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Schildroth to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing closed at 1:08 PM. It was then moved by Schildroth, seconded by Moore to approve the final 2024 PPP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was Election of Officers for 2025. It was moved by Schildroth, seconded by Moore to nominate Greg Barnett as Chair and Duane Hildebrant as Vice-Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Next was Discussion Items:

1. RTA Membership for 2025-2026

Durant explained that the Bylaws mandate RTA staff to reach out to mayors every two years in December to solicit and accept nominations for the Policy Board, Transportation Technical Committee (TTC), and Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) representatives for cities at-large. Earlier this week, an email was sent to mayors requesting nominations. The nominations will be voted on by the mayors, and the four candidates with the most votes will serve as the representatives for cities at-large. Additionally, RTA staff will contact the County Board of Supervisors to replace any outgoing board members.

2. Project Updates (TASA/TAP and STBG)

Grundy County

Mauer said the bridge on D10 will be open soon.

Butler County

Riherd reported that work on T55 near Unverferth Manufacturing has paused for the winter. The city bridge replacement project in Greene is now in the project closeout phase. Staff are preparing plan submissions for the STBG project on T16, which includes significant ADA improvements in Dumont. The county will share the costs for the ADA work. Butler County is the lead applicant for a RAISE application for a multi-county bundled bridge project.

Black Hawk County

Nicholas said the large culvert replacement project on Dubuque Road (Old US Hwy 20) was let in November.

Buchanan County

Keierleber said the STBG project on W35 (Quasqueton Diagonal Blvd) is in the January letting. Buchanan County included the V62 bridge replacement project in a multi-county Bridge Improvement Project application. The \$5 million project would consume approximately 10 years' worth of the county's bridge funds. It's imperative that the county receive additional funding to replace the bridge. Bids for the Taylor's Ford Bridge Project exceeded the engineering estimate by \$1 million. The requirement for hot riveting in the design of the historic bridge is likely driving the high costs. As a result, the bids were rejected, and the county is exploring the best path forward. Durant noted that the project includes \$184,000 in TAP funds programmed through the RTA. At the March TAP programming session, the County may request a reduced project scope, apply for additional funds through a new application, or remove the project from the program. TAP applications are due by February 7, 2025.

Bremer County

Moore said work on the 270th St bridge replacement project is wrapping up. Work on C50 has paused for the winter.

In general discussion, Durant said additional draft chapters of the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan will be sent out for review early next year.

There being no further business, it was moved by Moore, seconded by Wikner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Durant
Secretary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Policy Board will hold a public hearing at the INRCOG Center, 229 E. Park Ave., Waterloo, Iowa, on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of this hearing is to present for public comment the following amendment to the RTA's FY'25-'28 Transportation Improvement Program: changing the project termini for the Brandt Park Trail project in Denver programmed in FY'25. The project termini are State St E 0.4 miles to Brandt Park. The proposed project termini are sidewalk from Forrest Ave/N State St northeast to trail loop; trail loop within Brandt Park.

It is your privilege to attend this hearing to express your views concerning the proposed amendment, or you may submit your written comments to the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments, 229 E. Park Ave., Waterloo, Iowa 50703, through the time and date of the hearing as specified above. The public is hereby notified that if no changes are made to the proposed amendment stated above, it will be considered for adoption without further public comment.

For additional information, you may contact Kyle Durant at (319) 235-0311 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays or at kdurant@inrcog.org.