

BLACK HAWK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD & TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD JOINT MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

MINUTES

Smock (Chair) called the meeting of the Black Hawk County Metropolitan Area Transportation Policy Board and Transportation Technical Committee to order at 10:00 AM.

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
Ryan Brennan	Assistant County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC member
Lisa Smock	Mayor	Elk Run Height	Policy Board Member (Chair)
DeAnne Kobliska	Mayor	City of Evansdale	Policy Board Member (Vice-Chair)
Scott Becker	Councilperson, Mayor Pro Tem	City of Gilbertville	Policy Board 1 st Alternate
Aric Schroeder	City Planner	City of Waterloo	Policy Board 2nd Alternate
John Donorff	Planner II	City of Waterloo	Attendee
David Wicke	City Engineer	City of Cedar Falls	TTC member
David Sturch	General Manager	MET Transit	TTC member
Tony Hemann	AECOM	AECOM	Attendee
Curtis Young	Chair CSAC	Waterloo CSAC	Attendee
Gail Bunz*	Mayor	City of Hudson	Policy Board Member
Mark Durbahn*	Senior Project Manager	AECOM	Attendee
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	MPO Staff
Sanzida Rahman Setu	Transportation Planner II	INRCOG	MPO Staff
Oghogho Oriakhi	Transportation Planner I	INRCOG	MPO Staff

**Attended Online*

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

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the July 10, 2025, meeting. It was moved by Kobliska, seconded by Kurtenbach, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Hold a Public hearing to review and adopt the Final FY 2026-2030 Passenger Transportation Plan. Fratzke reported that the PTP goals and objectives were submitted to the DOT with no feedback, and the DOT intends to use the plan as a reference for MPOs. Fratzke added that the adopted plan will remain a living document that can be amended. Becker moved to approve and adopt the Final FY 2026–2030 Passenger Transportation Plan, seconded by Kobliska. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

1. Upcoming FY 2027-2030 STBG - TASA Funding Opportunities
Fratzke informed all to begin preparations as we approach the next funding circle, while noting the recent impact of the federal shutdown and that we are waiting for federal offices to reopen as we approach STBG, TASA, and CRP cycles. Fratzke reviewed the available funds for FY29 and FY30. For TASA/TAP, borrowing ahead is allowed, but the final fiscal year must remain fiscally constrained. Fratzke added that, as the IJIA Act expires in September, and with the One Big Beautiful Bill (OB BB) not prioritizing carbon reduction initiatives, some program adjustments may occur depending on administrative direction.
2. Update of the Cedar Valley Trails and Recreation Guide.
Rahman provided insight on plans to update the interactive trail guide planned for release in January 2026, noting challenges with inconsistent trail designations and the decision to adopt

state standards. Oriakhi added that the update will enhance interactivity, highlight loops, and improve user experience. Ritch suggested adding QR codes and asked about the timeline. Fratzke explained that materials must be submitted to Cedar Falls Tourism by January 1 and emphasized the goal of creating consistent digital and print maps that include QR codes for users.

3. Evansdale REAP grant application approval – Angels Park & Meyers Lake Integrated Water Quality Improvement. Fratzke noted the City of Evansdale REAP grant application coordinated by INRCOG has been approved. Kobliska added that they are working with the DNR on native plantings, including recommendations related to geese management, and expressed excitement about the parks.
4. Subcommittees for Implementation of FY 2026–2030 (PTP) Project Initiatives.
Oriakhi updated the group on the formation of subcommittees and their role in guiding initiative implementation over the next five years. In response to Ritch’s question about high-speed rail, Fratzke explained that it is not directly included but noted ongoing participation in the Midwest Rail System initiative with Dubuque-area partners. Fratzke added that future legislation may support this effort and highlighted benefits for freight rail, passenger rail infrastructure, tourism, and regional mobility
5. Project updates.
 - a. City and county project updates
Kobliska announced that Lafayette Rd in Evansdale is now complete and that the city received a Smoothness award from the Iowa Paving Association. Haeman reported that in Waterloo, Phase 1 of the La Porte Road project is nearly complete, with paving in progress, and the Bob Street intersection is expected to be completed by spring. Phase 2 is progressing toward completion, while Phase 3 is approximately six months behind schedule and may extend into 2027. Schroeder added that a RISE grant has been submitted to support access to the South Waterloo Business Park. For Cedar Falls, Wicke noted that the Main Street reconstruction by 18th street, including a new roundabout, is now complete, and traffic is flowing smoothly.
 - b. MET Transit - “How to Ride” Signage
Sturch reported that the signage with QR code signs linking to multilingual bus maps to be installed on benches and shelters has been sent to the City of Waterloo for approval. The MET Board has approved the agreement, and it now awaits final approval from Waterloo City Council.
 - c. NEIA NEPA Study
Durbahn provided updates on the traffic model received from the DOT, and HR Green has completed projections and alternatives. They are reviewing options for the Plaza Dr and Sage Rd extensions, as well as roadway segments around Elk Run. The next steps include review with INRCOG and then the steering committee.

6. General discussion.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Kobliska, seconded by Kurtenbach. Motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Oghogho Oriakhi
Secretary