

**IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING NOTICE**

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

THURSDAY, July 16, 2026, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the June 18, 2026 meeting.
3. Hold a Public Hearing of the [INRTA Final FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#).
4. Consider approval of the [INRTA Final FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#).

Discussion Items

1. Project updates (TA-SA/TAP and STBG)
2. General discussion
3. Adjournment

www.bhcmpo.org/rta

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	Alex Davis	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 Clarksville (Small City At Large)	Jerald Heuer	Mayor

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 Bonner	Executive Director
Butler County Conservation	Matt Wilken	Executive Director
Chickasaw County Conservation	Chad Humpal	Director
Grundy County Conservation	Nick Buseman	Executive Director
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 Clarksville (Small City At Large)	Jerald Heuer	Mayor

**IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
POLICY BOARD**

THURSDAY, June 18, 2026

MINUTES

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

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Title	Representing	Role
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
Steve Geerts	Mayor	City of New Hampton	Policy Board Member
Greg Barnett	Supervisor	Butler County	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice Chair)
Joel Wikner	Councilmember	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Keith Wieland	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Mark A. Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Brad Bleichner	Mayor	City of Independence	Policy Board Member
Alex Davis	County Engineer	Buchanan County	TTC Member
John Riherd	County Engineer	Butler County	TTC Member
Landon Moore	County Engineer	Bremer County	TTC Member
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC Member
Jeff Skalberg	County Engineer	Grundy County	TTC Member
Michael Schares	Mayor	City of Dunkerton	TTC Member
Roman Lensing*	County Engineer	Chickasaw County	TTC Member
Matthew Schmitz *	City Manager	City of Independence	TTC Member (Online)
Krista Billhorn*	District Planner Supervisor	IADOT	Attendee (Online)
Nick Fratzke	Director of Transportation	INRCOG	RTA Staff
Oghogho Oriakhi	Transportation Planner I	INRCOG	RTA Staff
Sanzida Rahman Setu	Transportation Planner II	INRCOG	RTA Staff

*Online Attendees **

The meeting started with the approval of the agenda. Motion was made by Schildroth, seconded by Wikner to approve the agenda. Motion carries unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the May 21, 2026, meeting. Motion was moved by Schildroth, seconded by Wieland to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Up next, Barnett (Chair) called for a motion to consider the letter of support for Black Hawk County State Recreational Trails application. The board discussed the application by the Black Hawk County Conservation to relocate and install a historic 100-year-old bridge near Hwy 218 by La Porte City. The County Conservation is preparing the grant application and requested INRCOG to support the project. Motion was made by Schildroth, seconded by Hildebrandt. The motion carried unanimously and approved unanimously.

Discussion Items

1. Project updates (TASA/TAP and STBG).

- Buchanan County is expecting to wrap up the W-45 project in a few months. Additionally, the deconstruction of boxed culvert project is being started.
- Grundy County started working on the Twin Cell 12-by-10 box culvert project, with the contractor already completing the third and fourth concrete pours.
- Bremer County has paved 10 miles of B21, and the project check plans have been submitted. Additionally, two federally funded bridge projects are scheduled for next year.
- Black Hawk County in partnership with the City of Waterloo has completed four miles of paving Donald St between Sage Rd and Raymond Rd. Another federally funded bridge project will start next month on Winslow Rd. Additionally, two new projects and one federal aid plan are due next year.
- City of Independence is starting the state street resurfacing project. The engineering services agreement for the design of Phase II of the Enterprise Dr. Trail project will be presented to the City Council for approval at its upcoming meeting.
- Chickasaw County is working on several federal aid and local projects.

2. Draft RTA FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Public Input Session

Fratzke presented the STBG and TA/SA allocation for the draft FY 2027 -2030 RTA TIP. From the STBG fund, Buchanan County V62 Reconstruction project was recommended for \$1,700,000 and Chickasaw County V21 Reconstruction project was recommended for \$1,400,000 in FY2030. From TA/SA, the City of Independence 6th Ave SW Trail Extension project was recommended for \$400,058 and Butler County Utica Ave Trail project was recommended for \$360,000 in FY2028.

3. Iowa DOT's Planning Study on Hwy 63 and C 57 Cedar Wapsi intersection

Billhorn provided an update on the ongoing feasibility study, noting that a response had previously been sent to a letter from the residents living near Hwy 63 and Cedar Wapsi intersection, addressing many of the same questions discussed during the meeting. The feasibility study is nearing completion, with final comments currently being incorporated. Once finalized, the DOT will review the two proposed options and decide on the preferred alternative. After a decision is reached, DOT plans to meet with Black Hawk County and the City of Denver to discuss the selected option and next steps. She noted that lowering the speed limit near the intersection is not recommended because it could create inconsistent traffic speeds and increase safety risks. Instead, advisory 55 mph signs are used to encourage drivers to slow while maintaining more consistent traffic flow. She also explained that adding a second set of stop signs in the median is not feasible because the median is too narrow to safely accommodate stopped vehicles. Additionally, flashing stop signs are typically used where drivers frequently run stop signs, which is not the issue at this intersection. Crash data shows that most collisions occur after drivers stop and then misjudge gaps in traffic while crossing or turning, so flashing stop signs would not effectively address the primary safety concern.

4. General Discussion

- **Iowa DOT's - Research Solutions: New approaches to quantify impacts of superloads on Iowa's roads:** The board discussed proposed legislation related to super loads and oversized vehicle permitting. There are concerns about the potential impacts on county roads and bridge monitoring and local oversight.

There being no further discussion, Barnett called for a motion to adjourn. Hildebrandt moved the motion, seconded by Wikner. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Sincerely,
Sanzida Rahman Setu
RTA Staff



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INRTA TIP 2027-2030**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) will hold a public hearing at the INRCOG Center, 229 E. Park Ave., Waterloo, Iowa, on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of this hearing is to solicit public comment on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for fiscal years 2027-2030. This document affects federal transportation programming for persons in Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, and Grundy Counties, excluding the Waterloo-Cedar Falls metropolitan area. All transportation projects receiving federal funding must be listed in the TIP, including highway, bridge, non-motorized, transit, and planning projects. Copies of the draft TIP are available at the INRCOG office or can be viewed at www.bhcmtpo.org.

It is your privilege to attend this hearing to express your views concerning the draft Transportation Improvement Program, 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. Following the hearing, the RTA will consider all oral and written comments before adopting the final TIP and submitting it to the Iowa Department of Transportation.

For additional information, you may contact Nick Fratzke at (319) 235-0311 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays or at nfratzke@inrcog.org.
COL-IA-604014

RESOLUTION OF THE IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY POLICY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority (INRTA) HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE Regional Planning Affiliation for Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, and Grundy Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board, in cooperation with the state, is conducting a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning process pursuant to 23 CFR 450 (b); and

WHEREAS, the INRTA FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a product of this ongoing planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board has included the open participation of the public in the development of the TIP in conformance with the Board's approved Public Participation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2027 selection year of the highway, transportation alternatives, and transit elements of the TIP are financially feasible, based upon anticipated federal, state, and local resources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa Northland Regional Transportation Authority Policy Board hereby approves the Final FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Passed and adopted this 16th day of July 2026.

Greg Barnett, Chair

ATTEST:

Nick Fratzke, INRCOG Director of Transportation