IOWA NORTHLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MEETING NOTICE

INRCOG BOARD ROOM
229 EAST PARK AVENUE
WATERLOO, IA

THURSDAY, October 15, 2026, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

Actionable Items

1. Approval of the agenda.
2. Review and consider approval of the minutes for the September 17, 2026 meeting.

Discussion Items

1. Project updates (TA-SA/TAP and STBG)
2. FHWA Highway Cost Allocation Study (HCAS) and Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF)

General discussion

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, September 17, 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
Steve Geerts	Mayor	City of New Hampton	Policy Board Member
Joel Wikner	Council member	City of Denver	Policy Board Member
Michael Schares	Mayor	City of Dunkerton	Policy Board Member
Keith Wieland	Supervisor	Buchanan County	Policy Board Member
Mark A. Schildroth	Supervisor	Grundy County	Policy Board Member
Duane Hildebrandt	Supervisor	Bremer County	Policy Board Member (Vice Chair)
Ritch Kurtenbach	Supervisor	Black Hawk County	Policy Board Member
Greg Barnett	Supervisor	Butler County	Policy Board Member (Chair)
Jeff Skalberg	County Engineer	Grundy County	TTC Member
Cathy Nicholas	County Engineer	Black Hawk County	TTC 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
Matthew Schmitz *	City Manager	City of Independence	TTC Member (Online)
Cherrie Northrup*	Planning Administrator	Black Hawk County Conservation	Attendee
Mark Crawford*	Project Manager	Crawford Engineering & Surveying, Inc.	Attendee
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 Hildebrandt to approve the agenda. Motion carries unanimously.

Next was to review and consider approval of the minutes for the July 16, 2026, meeting. Motion was moved by Hildebrandt, seconded by Schildroth to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Up next Barnett commenced the discussion items.

Discussion Items

1. **Project updates (TASA/TAP and STBG).**
    - Black Hawk County has finished project engineering work for the federally funded bridge project on Winslow Rd. The County is expecting federal aid for Eagle Rd bridge replacement project over Miller Creek.

- Bremer County has two CHBP funded bridge projects scheduled for November 2026 letting and two raised bridge projects scheduled for December 2026 letting. Additionally, two STBG funded culvert replacement projects are scheduled for next year.
- Butler County held a bid letting in September 2026 for a federally funded bridge project. Additionally, the county engineers are assisting the County Conservation Department with a TAP funded project that involves work on approximately a two-mile asphalt trail. Current work is progressing from Cedar Avenue through Dumont toward Franklin County.
- Grundy County's STP funded T37 project bid was in September 2026.
- Buchanan County's STP funded W45 project is nearing completion, and the design side is progressing well. They are currently developing plans for other projects.
- City of Denver's asphalt reconstruction project on the State street is underway, and they had bid letting for Brandt Park Bike Lane construction project.
- City of Independence Enterprise Drive Trail Phase II project is currently under design. The BUILD grant application for 1st St West was unsuccessful, and the City is awaiting a debrief with the Federal Department of Transportation before determining whether to re-apply. The treatment plant project is currently under construction, with a total project cost of approximately $60 million.

2. General Discussion

- **INRTC OnBoard Public Transit Service Overview**
  Fratzke provided a general overview of OnBoard Public Transit, INRCOG's regional demand-response riding service that operates in the six-county region. The discussion included current fares, service availability, and the ability to provide trips between surrounding communities and the metro area. Ridership is approximately 3,000 trips per month, with a plan to hire additional drivers to increase capacity. The Board discussed improving public awareness through social media, printed materials, local businesses, libraries, and community events. Online scheduling is available through the new software but has not yet been implemented, with the current system requiring approximately 24 hours advance notice for rides.

- **Iowa DOT's Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO)**
  Setu discussed Iowa DOT NOFOs for three funding programs - Federal Recreational Trails, Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP), and statewide TASA/TAP applications due October 1, 2026. The discussion involved eligible projects, including regional trails, active transportation, safe routes to school, transit, and projects that reduce transportation related environmental impacts for ICAAP and TASA applications. The group also discussed a resident's request to place rumble strips on Highway 21 median and plans to contact the DOT's traffic and safety office to determine eligibility and whether improvements are already planned.

- **Iowa Trails and Bike Summit**
  Fratzke talked about the annual Iowa Trails and Bike Summit on October 2, 2026, at Iowa State University in Ames and encouraged members interested in bikes and trails to attend.

Barnett asked for any additional business or concerns. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn. Hildebrandt moved the motion, seconded by Wikner. The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Sincerely,
Sanzida Rahman Setu
RTA Staff

TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM

Highway Cost Allocation Study

August 2026

© Getty Images

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) invites State departments of transportation and transportation partners to participate in the Highway Cost Allocation Study (HCAS) Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF). This initiative allows State DOTs to collaborate in developing methodologies, tools, and findings related to the ongoing Highway Cost Allocation Study, as required by Section 11530 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, while strengthening their own capabilities to conduct future State-level studies.


© Getty Images

Help build the new Federal and State HCAS methodology and tools.

FACTSHEET

Join us in Shaping the Future of the Highway Cost Allocation Study

Influence National Methodologies

Actively participate in structured forums and technical discussions to help mold the data frameworks, modeling approaches, and findings of the ongoing Federal HCAS.

Improve Data Quality

Collaborate through workshops and peer exchanges to address data gaps and ensure State-specific highway characteristics and traffic conditions are represented accurately.

Modernize and Strengthen State HCAS Programs

Leverage technical expertise, advanced methods, and cutting-edge modeling approaches to enhance and modernize State-level cost-allocation studies.

Pilot and Validate New Solutions

Test advanced cost-allocation tools in the real-world environment to ensure applicability across States that have varying data availability, policy objectives, and system conditions.

Receive Complete Implementation Resources

Gain access to toolkits, source code, technical documentation, implementation guidance, and best practices to support future studies.

Through recurring meetings and technical workshops, this pooled-fund study will shape the ongoing Federal study while establishing nationally consistent, State-relevant, advanced approaches on how highway costs are allocated among different user classes.

Collaborate → Develop → Test → Implement → Apply

Join the HCAS Transportation Pooled Fund Today

Learn more about the HCAS TPF at the QR code, https://pooledfund.org/Details/Solicitation/1665, or contact Getachew.Mekonnen@dot.gov.

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

TPF TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND

Except for the statutes and regulations cited, the contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the States or the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide information regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

Unless otherwise indicated, FHWA is the source for all images in this document.