



THE TOMORROW PLAN .COM

Partnering for a Greener Greater Des Moines

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

8:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 30, 2013
Des Moines Area MPO Office
420 Watson Powell, Jr., Way, Suite 200
Burnham Conference Room
Des Moines, Iowa

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. **Call To Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **REPORT: The Tomorrow Plan Draft**.....Page 2
 - Report on The Tomorrow Plan.
4. **REPORT: MPO Certification Review Update**Page 3
 - Report on the quadrennial review of the MPO.
5. **REPORT: Environmental Justice**.....Page 4
 - Report on the inclusion of disadvantaged populations in Greater Des Moines area planning processes.
6. **REPORT: Mobilizing Tomorrow Overview**.....Page 5
 - Report on *Mobilizing Tomorrow: A Transportation Plan for a Greener Greater Des Moines*, the MPO's next long-range transportation plan.
7. **REPORT: Related Transportation Activities**.....Page 6
 - Report on various transportation-related activities of interest to the committee.
8. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
9. **Adjournment**

Agenda Report

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

July 2013
Item No. 3

ISSUE: The Tomorrow Plan Draft

REPORT: Report on The Tomorrow Plan.

BACKGROUND:

Over the past two years, the MPO has led a regional consortium in developing The Tomorrow Plan. The product of input from elected officials, stakeholders, staff members, and thousands of Greater Des Moines residents, the plan recognizes that we are many distinct communities working as one region to compete globally and to leave a sustainable legacy for future generations. It focuses on the economy, the environment, community vitality, and regional cooperation. As implementation of the plan gets underway, it will save communities and the region money, draw resources to the region, and prepare us for future growth.

The executive summary of The Tomorrow Plan is included as a supplemental item.

The consortium also is beginning work on some early implementation strategies. These relate to greenways, watersheds, and water trails. More information will be provided at the July 30th meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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Agenda Report

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

July 2013
Item No. 4

ISSUE: MPO Certification Review Update

REPORT: Report on the quadrennial review of the MPO.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) certify metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) every four years. The MPO's quadrennial review took place from April 29th through May 1st. The purpose of the review was to highlight good planning practices, to share information among the organizations, and to ensure that the MPO's transportation planning process meets federal regulatory requirements.

FHWA and FTA commended the MPO for The Tomorrow Plan, which "shows a commitment by the MPO to include sustainable planning as part of the metropolitan area's long range transportation planning," and for its public involvement efforts. The two agencies recommended the MPO update its *Public Participation Plan*, enhance its environmental justice analysis, and make the next long-range transportation plan more user-friendly; staff will look to the Partners Committee as we work to address these recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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Agenda Report

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

July 2013
Item No. 5

ISSUE: Environmental Justice

REPORT: Report on the inclusion of disadvantaged populations in Greater Des Moines area planning processes.

BACKGROUND:

One of the recommendations that came out of the MPO's certification review was to enhance our environmental justice analysis. In June 2011, the MPO identified seven degrees of disadvantage, or types of traditionally disadvantaged populations, as the analytic basis for ensuring compliance with Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*, which states that "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

These seven degrees of disadvantage include:

- Linguistically isolated;
- Non-white population;
- Persons in poverty;
- Carless households;
- Persons with a disability;
- Single heads of households with children; and,
- Persons over 65.

Maps highlighting areas identified as disadvantaged through this process are included as supplemental items. The MPO plans to use this information to develop its Transportation Improvement Program, in prioritizing funding for projects, and in determining meetings locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

STAFF CONTACT:

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Agenda Report

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

July 2013
Item No. 6

ISSUE: Mobilizing Tomorrow Overview

REPORT: Report on *Mobilizing Tomorrow: A Transportation Plan for a Greener Greater Des Moines*, the MPO's next long-range transportation plan.

BACKGROUND:

Mobilizing Tomorrow: A Transportation Plan for a Greener Greater Des Moines, the MPO's next long-range transportation plan, is slated to be wrapped up by September 2014. Mobilizing Tomorrow will serve as the transportation implementation component of The Tomorrow Plan and will expand upon the many transportation-related elements of The Tomorrow Plan. Mobilizing Tomorrow also will address MAP-21 and other federal requirements.

The MPO will use public comments gathered throughout The Tomorrow Plan's development. MPO staff also will solicit input on more transportation-specific topics throughout the plan's development. MPO staff is working to develop a public participation strategy for Mobilizing Tomorrow.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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Agenda Report

The Tomorrow Plan Partners Committee

July 2013
Item No. 7

ISSUE: Related Transportation Activities

REPORT: Report on various transportation-related activities of interest to the committee.

BACKGROUND:

The MPO is working on numerous transportation-related activities of interest to the committee. These include a rail port study to analyze the current rail and freight network, determine impacts of approved and proposed changes to the network, and study economic benefits;

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Report and discussion only.

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