

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSION ORDERS

Tuesday, March 11, 2008
Materials Conference Room
Ames DOT Complex

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
D-2008-58 8:00 a.m.	*Approving Minutes of the February 12, 2008, Commission Meeting Commission Comments Staff Comments	Connie Page	1
PPM-2008-59 8:05 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Altoona (Delegation)	Stuart Anderson	2
PPM-2008-60 8:15 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Ankeny (Delegation)	Stuart Anderson	3
PPM-2008-61 8:20 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Urbandale (Delegation)	Stuart Anderson	4
8:30 a.m.	Adjourn		

*Action Item

On Monday, March 10, the Commission and staff will meet informally at 2:00 p.m. in the Materials conference room at the DOT complex in Ames. Transportation-related matters may be discussed but no action will be taken.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Director's Office Order No. D-2008-58
Submitted by Connie Page Phone No. 515-239-1242 Meeting Date March 11, 2008
Title Approving Minutes of the February 12, 2008, Commission Meeting

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve the minutes of the February 12, 2008, Commission Meeting.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Boden Seconded by Crawford

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Boden	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cleaveland	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Crawford	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MacGregor	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Sawtelle	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Wiley	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Division Director Legal State Director

Staff Comments:

1. AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) Briefing in Washington, D.C.

Nancy Richardson, Director, said she recently attended the AASHTO annual Washington briefing for state DOTs. Most of the discussion was about federal funding concerns related to both the last year of SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users) and the reauthorization.

At the state level Ms. Richardson reported that TIME-21 (Transportation Investment Moves the Economy in the 21st Century) bills have come out of both the House and Senate transportation committees. She said that, while the two bills are not identical, there are many similarities. The two chambers will now try to merge the language of the two bills into a single bill to come out of Ways and Means. Both bills generate around \$125 million annually by 2012 and grow from there to about \$175 million in revenue for the TIME-21 fund in 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning Order No. PPM-2008-59
Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1312 Meeting Date March 11, 2008
Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Altoona (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Altoona submitted a RISE Local Development application in the February 2008 round requesting a grant to grade and pave approximately 2,020 feet of Adventureland Drive N.E. and 11th Avenue N.E. in the Altoona Northeast Industrial Area Phase II.

The evaluation and rating for the project will be discussed.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$490,000 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE funds.

COMMISSION ACTION:						
			Blouin	_____	_____	_____
			Boden	_____	_____	_____
			Cleaveland	_____	_____	_____
Moved by _____		Seconded by _____	Crawford	_____	_____	_____
			MacGregor	_____	_____	_____
			Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
			Wiley	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____				
Division Director	Legal	State Director				

PPM-2008-59

Stu Anderson, Office of Systems Planning, presented a RISE local development application from the city of Altoona requesting RISE funding to grade and pave approximately 2,020 feet of Adventureland Drive N.E. and 11th Avenue N.E. in the Altoona Northeast Industrial area. Using an aerial map, Mr. Anderson pointed out the location of the roadway improvements. These improvements will provide access to phase two of the industrial park area opening over 37 acres for development. This area has access to Interstate 80 which runs east/west across the north side of the development and has access off the First Avenue interchange. In addition, these lots are anticipated to be served by a future rail spur.

Mr. Anderson said this project received a rating of 46 points and is estimated to cost \$980,000. The city is requesting a RISE grant of \$490,000 and will provide a 50 percent local match. He introduced Jeff Mark, Altoona City Administrator.

Mr. Mark introduced Vern Willey, Altoona Community Services Director; Ed Skinner, project developer; and Charles Lessmann, Brent Culp and Eric Cannon, Snyder and Associates. He said this is phase two. Phase one allowed them to put in Adventureland Drive and open the industrial park which has been extremely successful with several companies locating there including Iowa Cold Storage Facility, Interstate Detroit Diesel, and Edge Data Business Communication Center. As a result of the RISE grant, total phase one valuation is over \$21 million for the community of Altoona. Phase two is an opportunity to build White's Warehousing facility and a rail spur to the Iowa Interstate Railroad which will open up the opportunity for warehousing and shipping type transportation businesses to locate in Altoona. He expressed appreciation to the Commission for considering their application.

Ed Skinner said he has been working on this project since 1990, and it has been a cooperative effort between private and almost every public agency including the metropolitan planning organization, Congress, and Iowa Departments of Economic Development and Transportation. He expressed appreciation for the support they have received from DOT staff.

Mr. Skinner said today they are asking to extend the first RISE project which was done in 1998. In 2000 they added Central Trailer with a \$2.4 million assessment and Ryder Trucks with a \$1 million assessment. In 2001 they added Interstate Diesel which was a \$4 million addition.

Mr. Skinner said Iowa Cold Storage is the gem of this total operation and is assessed at a little over \$10 million. Iowa Cold Storage transports meat products from the state of Iowa. They have been designated as a port for the city of Des Moines, and they have clearance to ship meat products to Russia, China and Australia. Based on their projections, they will almost double in size in the next five years. At this point in time, they have a total of 7,200,000 cubic feet of space for storage and are full. In 2007, 207 million pounds of meat was stored and then

transported to other areas, states, and nations. In January 2008, 25 billion pounds and in February 2008, 26 billion pounds were transported. With the rail service and this RISE project, they will be able to attract meat from Illinois because of the bottleneck that occurs with the rail lines in Chicago. We will transport out of Iowa to other nations from this location.

Mr. Skinner said this RISE project is an extension of what they already have; it is an additional 2,020 feet of roadway that will accommodate Merchants. This will also provide access for Whiteline Storage which has an option on eight acres to triple their size. Mr. Skinner said Iowa Cold Storage will go from around 56 to 135 full-time employees and Merchants will add approximately 35 new full-time jobs, taking them up to around 100. This project cannot happen without the assistance of the city of Altoona and the Commission, and he appreciates the Commission's support.

Commissioner Crawford asked the current status of the rail line. Mr. Skinner said they have a meeting Thursday to put it all together. The Iowa pilot project and rail grant awards are dated in 2005 and 2006. The agreement will be signed Thursday. They will then let bids for the rail to go for the first phase which will take care of Merchants transfer. The second phase to the west will take the rail to Iowa Cold Storage. He noted there is currently an agreement between Iowa Cold Storage and Merchants so at the present time meat is loaded onto trucks and taken to the Merchants operation in downtown Des Moines and loaded on a train.

Mr. Skinner said two years ago Congress appropriated \$1 million for the second phase. The Bush administration didn't go along with that and took it off the books and re-appropriated it this year. That came through at \$1.17 million and just recently the Federal Highway Administration notified them they will fund it at a 92 percent level. That funding will be administered by the DOT. They hope to have the rail spur in place and operational by July 1.

Commissioner MacGregor said we have heard there are problems with shipping through Chicago. As she understands it with the port authority you can avoid Chicago completely. What is the time frame for a shipment from Altoona? Mr. Skinner said to avoid Chicago they go west to Omaha and put a train together so that the Union Pacific can take it from there to the coast. The other direction is to go south through Norfolk Southern and take it to ports out of the south and New Orleans. He invited the Commission to Altoona to tour the industrial complex.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the recommendation of staff.

Commissioner Crawford moved, Commissioner Sawtelle seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$490,000 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE funds. All voted aye.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning Order No. PPM-2008-60
Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1312 Meeting Date March 11, 2008
Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Ankeny (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Ankeny submitted a RISE Local Development application in the February 2008 round requesting a grant to widen S.E. Oralabor Road from S.E. Convenience Boulevard east to S.E. Four Mile Drive.

The evaluation and rating for the project will be discussed.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$883,013 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE funds.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Division Director Legal State Director

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	_____	_____	_____
Boden	_____	_____	_____
Cleaveland	_____	_____	_____
Crawford	_____	_____	_____
MacGregor	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

PPM-2008-60

Stuart Anderson, Office of Program Management, said the city of Ankeny has requested RISE local development funding to assist the reconstruction and widening of approximately 2,800 ft. of S.E. Oralabor Road from S.E. Convenience Boulevard east to S.E. Four Mile Drive. This improvement is necessary to provide adequate access for planned and potential RISE eligible development. The project received a rating of 52 points and is estimated to cost \$1,766,025. The city is requesting a RISE grant of \$883,013 and will provide a 50 percent local match. He introduced Mayor Steve VanOort, Ankeny.

Mayor VanOort introduced Tim Moorman, Director, and Curtis Brown, Asst. Director, Economic Development for the city of Ankeny. On behalf of the citizens of Ankeny, Mayor VanOort expressed appreciation to the Commission for considering this grant application to assist with the widening of Oralabor Road, which will help the expansion plans of Pioneer and Accumold. Combined, the two companies plan to create over 200 jobs in the next two years and open up opportunities for future development. This project is located north of the Ankeny Regional Airport which also plays a major factor. Mayor VanOort said they will invest over \$15 million in building and equipment over the next two years. The roadway project will facilitate growth in the state of Iowa's targeted bio-technology and advanced manufacturing industries and strengthen Iowa's economy.

Mayor VanOort expressed appreciation to DOT staff for their assistance in this project. The city of Ankeny appreciates its relationship with the Iowa DOT and its ongoing work to make Iowa better.

Commissioner Blouin asked if the development will take place north or south of Oralabor Road. Mayor VanOort said the Pioneer development will be on the north side and Accumold will locate on the south side. Commissioner Blouin said there isn't a lot of room to the south because of the airport right of way. Mayor VanOort said correct; it is a light commercial industrial park and a number of businesses located there are looking to expand. The LGI complex is building an 80,000 square foot building and Pioneer will utilize over 60,000 square foot for laboratory space.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the recommendation of staff.

Commissioner Crawford moved, Commissioner MacGregor seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$883,013 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE eligible project costs, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund. All voted aye.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning Order No. PPM-2008-61
Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1312 Meeting Date March 11, 2008
Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Urbandale (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Urbandale submitted a RISE Immediate Opportunity application requesting a grant to assist the installation of three turn signals along Meredith Drive at intersections with 125th Street, East Loop Street and 121st Street.

The improvements are necessary to provide access to a proposed expansion at Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. This company conforms to the legislative requirements of the RISE program.

The roadway will support:

- The creation of 150 new jobs at Marsh & McLennan Companies Inc.
- \$97,211,337 in associated capital investment.

The RISE cost per job assisted will be \$3,500, and there will be a total capital investment of \$185.16 for each RISE dollar requested.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, it is recommended the Commission award a RISE grant of \$525,000 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	_____	_____	_____
Boden	_____	_____	_____
Cleaveland	_____	_____	_____
Crawford	_____	_____	_____
MacGregor	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

Division Director Legal State Director

PPM-2008-61

Stuart Anderson, Office of Systems Planning, said the city of Urbandale submitted a RISE immediate opportunity application requesting funds to assist in the installation of three traffic signals and associated fiber optic interconnect along Meredith Drive. Using a map he reviewed the location of the project west of Interstates 35/80. The requested improvements will provide adequate access for a proposed expansion at Marsh & McLennan Company, a global professional services firm specializing in risk and insurance services, risk consulting and technology, and human resources consulting. This project will result in the creation of 150 new jobs within two years of project completion and an associated capital investment of approximately \$97 million dollars. The average starting wage of the positions to be created is \$21.02 per hour which is 103 percent of the Polk county average wage rate.

Mr. Anderson said staff will recommend a RISE grant of \$525,000 which is 80 percent of the total project cost of \$656,250. RISE funding will be contingent on the creation of 150 new jobs within two years of project completion. This results in a RISE cost per job assisted ratio of \$3,500 and a capital investment per RISE dollar of \$185.16. He introduced Urbandale Mayor, Robert Andeweg.

Mayor Andeweg introduced Mike Carver, city councilman, and Dave McKay, city engineer, Urbandale; and Julie Einck, Greater Dallas County Development. He expressed appreciation for the Commission's consideration of their RISE grant request. Urbandale is proud it has been named by CNN Money magazine for the second time for cities under 50,000 to be number 39 in the country as far as places to live. Previously, they were number 53. They are proud of that designation and are working hard to improve on that.

Mayor Andeweg said they are proud of their residential area as well as their expanding professional office parks, and the Paragon Office Park is a gem in their community. CitiGroup has built there; and Marsh & McLennan has a building under construction for occupation at the end of this quarter/ first part of the second quarter, and they have already announced a 50,000 square foot expansion that will create additional jobs for the city and the region. Mayor Andeweg said with the Commission's help they will be able to not only retain jobs but also attract and create new jobs within the Des Moines metro area and the state of Iowa that could have possibly been lost to the state. The city appreciates the Commission's consideration of their application. Mr. Anderson reviewed staff's recommendation.

Commissioner Blouin moved, Commissioner MacGregor seconded the Commission award a RISE grant of \$525,000 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE eligible cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund. All voted aye.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 am.