

Questions and Answers

MPO/RPA Quarterly
March 22, 2023

2

Q:

(To Systems Planning)

We received an inquiry about a warehousing/logistics company exploring a truck park and was interested in any grants/funding that might help with that development.

Would the Iowa DOT be aware of anything?


A:

We have listed a few potential funding items below with the most appropriate being a proposed federal program.

[Linking Iowa's Freight Transportation System \(LIFTS\) program](#)
[Safer Highways and Increased Performance for Interstate Trucking Act \(SHIP IT\) \(proposed\)](#)
[Rural Surface Transportation Grant](#)
[INFRA](#)


Q:

(To Systems Planning Bureau)

Regarding reviewing boundaries of urban areas and metropolitan planning area boundaries, would the MPO need to schedule something with the DOT or is the DOT planning something with the MPOs?



A:

Jeff Von Brown noted his team and the Iowa DOT district planners will be reaching out to their respective MPOs once the packets have been created. Iowa DOT is waiting on confirmation that the GIS files that are currently available are the correct ones.



Q:

(To Systems Planning Bureau)

During our conversations regarding State TAP, we had a discussion regarding eligible costs associated with CE, NEPA and or planning... just curious if there will be additional conversations regarding this in the future?



A:

During the IJA implementation discussions, there was discussion of potential limitations to PE/CE/ROW but that was not included in the final recommendation to the Commission, which continued to allow these uses.



Q:

(To Systems Planning Bureau)

During one of our quarterly meetings we had a discussion that Iowa DOT was going to reallocate CMAQ projects to Carbon Reduction funding. I am just curious if Iowa DOT has ultimately decided how the expenditures for the State funding will take place and if in fact, CMAQ projects will be reprogrammed to CR?



A:

If the DOT uses Carbon Rection funds for ICAAP projects it will be based on the efficient use of our federal funds. We still need to evaluate the current ICAAP projects to see which ones would fit into the Carbon Reduction eligibilities, but we will likely end up using the state Carbon Reduction funds for some of these ICAAP projects. Also note that there are many other factors at play when managing many different federal funds at the State level, including August Redistribution and the lapsing of funds.