

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSION ORDERS

Tuesday, October 12, 2010
Hotel Julien Dubuque
200 Main Street
Dubuque

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
D-2011-14 8:00 a.m.	*Approving Minutes of the September 14, 2010, Commission Meeting Commission Comments Staff Comments	Connie Page	1
PPM-2011-15 8:05 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Des Moines	Stu Anderson	2
PPM-2011-16 8:10 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Waterloo	Stu Anderson	5
PPM-2011-17 8:15 a.m.	*2011-2015 Iowa Highway Program Amendment	Jon Ranney	8
8:20 a.m.	Adjourn/Public Input Meeting		

*Action Item

On Monday, October 11, 2010, the Commission and staff will tour transportation projects in eastern Iowa starting at 10 a.m. at the Hotel Julien Dubuque, 200 Main Street, Dubuque, and ending around 3 p.m. back at the hotel. The Commission and staff will hold an informal meeting at the Hotel Julien Dubuque beginning at 3:30 p.m. Transportation-related matters will be discussed but no action will be taken.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Director's Office Order No. D-2011-14
Submitted by Connie Page Phone No. 515-239-1242 Meeting Date October 12, 2010
Title Approve Minutes of the September 14, 2010, Commission Meeting

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve the minutes of the September 14, 2010, Commission meeting.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Cleaveland Seconded by Durham

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Cleaveland	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Durham	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Miles	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Reasner	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Sawtelle	<u>X</u>	_____	_____
Wiley	<u>X</u>	_____	_____

Division
Director

Legal

State Director

Commission Comments

Monday's Tour

Chairman Don Wiley said the Commission had a very nice tour on Monday with the best scenery and weather we could have. We saw some of the historic millwork district in Dubuque, looked at some Southwest Arterial routes, and traveled U.S. 52, Iowa 136 and U.S. 20. We also saw the Mines of Spain in Dubuque as well as the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER**

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning Order No. PPM-2011-15
 Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1661 Meeting Date October 12, 2010
 Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Des Moines (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Des Moines submitted a RISE Immediate Opportunity application requesting a grant to assist in the construction of approximately 350 feet of a northbound right-turn lane on S.W. 9th Street and approximately 1,108 feet for a new roadway to the Blank Park Zoo. The project will provide improved access necessary to support the expansion of the Blank Park Zoo on the southwest side of town.

Because this project supports a tourism attraction, staff evaluated the application as a RISE Local Development project.

The evaluation and rating for the project will be discussed.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, it is recommended the Commission reclassify the project as a RISE Local Development project in the September 2010 round of applications and award a RISE grant of \$449,725 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 _____

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	_____	_____	_____
Cleveland	_____	_____	_____
Durham	_____	_____	_____
Miles	_____	_____	_____
Reasner	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

Division
Director

Legal

State Director

Stuart Anderson, Planning, Programming and Modal Division, reviewed a RISE application from the city of Des Moines. The city submitted an immediate opportunity application to support the construction of approximately 350 feet of right-turn lane on Southwest 9th and the construction of 1,108 feet of a new roadway that turns into the Blank Park Zoo. Mr. Anderson said because this project supports the expansion of tourism, staff is considering this as a local development RISE application which also maximizes the RISE funding available to this project. Under RISE local development criteria, this project scored 36 points. The total estimated cost is \$899,449, and the city is requesting a RISE grant of \$449,725 and will provide a 50 percent local match. He introduced Mark Vukovich, Chief Executive Officer, Blank Park Zoo.

On behalf of the Blank Park Foundation, city of Des Moines, City Manager, Mayor, Parks and Rec., Mr. Vukovich expressed appreciation for the Commission's consideration of their RISE grant. The Blank Park Zoo is the third largest tourist attraction in Iowa with over 400,000 visitors in 2009 from all over the state. Recently Des Moines began the creation of a "super block," a cultural economic district like no other in Iowa. The area has tremendous economic development with South Ridge Mall, the zoo, and Fort Des Moines historic property. The zoo is going to be expanded, involving approximately \$15 million in a multi-phase project over the next ten years. They will renovate current exhibits and add to the visitor experience center. Initial construction costs are \$15 million of which approximately \$3.8 million will be infrastructure roads and park improvements. Mr. Vukovich said they estimate an increase in attendance based on other zoos in the county of their size of 25 to 30 percent so their annual attendance will go from 400,000 to 525,000.

Mr. Vukovich said the current zoo entrance was built in 1986 for about 100,000 visitors; last year they had 400,000 visitors with 675 school buses in the month of May alone. As they grow the zoo they want to have a safe environment to get people in and out of the zoo entrance which requires redoing half the street and the road coming into the zoo. This will also be the first impression that people have of the Blank Park Zoo. The new public street entrance at Blank Park will offer distribution of egress and ingress for traffic on and off Southwest 9th and will realign traffic flow more appropriately at the intersection. A right-turn lane on the new road will minimize the movements of northbound traffic to and on Southwest 9th but still take traffic through the zoo and to the north of Army Post Road where the majority of businesses are located. It will also provide an additional route for emergency response; currently, they only have one place to get fire and rescue in and this will be a secondary road.

Mr. Vukovich said Blank Park will create ten full-time jobs with benefits, 15 part-time jobs and many seasonal jobs with an estimated 100 new jobs with companies and organizations serving central Iowa including construction, subcontracting, and hospitality. They are the leading driver of restaurants and hotels in the area. The Blank Park Zoo and city of Des Moines are committed to securing resources for Blank Park's expansion and creating strategic partnerships with the city and economic development. He expressed appreciation to the Commission for taking the time to review this important project.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the recommendation of staff.

Commissioner Miles moved, Commissioner Blouin seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, reclassify the project as a RISE Local Development project in the September 2010 round of applications and award a RISE grant of \$449,725 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-2011-16
 Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1661 Meeting Date October 12, 2010
 Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Waterloo (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Waterloo submitted a RISE Local Development application in the September 2010 round requesting a grant to assist in the construction of approximately 700 feet of MidPort Boulevard northwest from West Airline Highway to provide access to five lots totaling more than 34 acres for light industrial, manufacturing and airport-related services in the MidPort America Business and Industrial Park.

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 \$231,443 or up to 50 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	_____	_____	_____
Cleveland	_____	_____	_____
Durham	_____	_____	_____
Miles	_____	_____	_____
Reasner	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

_____ Division Director _____ Legal _____ State Director

PPM-2011-16

Stuart Anderson, Planning, Programming and Modal Division, presented a RISE Local Development application from the city of Waterloo to support the construction of 700 feet of MidPort Boulevard northwest from West Airline Highway. This new roadway will provide access to five lots totaling over 34 acres in the MidPort America Business and Industrial Park. The project received a rating of 47 points in staff's evaluation, and the total estimated project cost is \$462,885. The city is requesting a RISE grant of \$231,443 and will provide a 50 percent local match. He introduced Noel Anderson, Waterloo Community Planning and Development Director.

Mr. Anderson introduced Kevin Blanshan and Andrea White, Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments, who helped the city of Waterloo in putting together this RISE application. He expressed appreciation to the Commission for considering their request. He noted the city of Waterloo has over 400 acres surrounding the Waterloo Regional Airport which is known as the MidPort Industrial Park. They have worked with the DOT on the first phases of the park that brought in ConAgra which recently expanded, doubling its size and adding 140 jobs. They are very excited about this proposal to open up four additional lots in this area and noted they have one business ready to go in next to FedEx Ground.

Mr. Anderson reviewed staff's recommendation.

Commissioner Durham moved, Commissioner Cleaveland seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$231,443 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, 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 Program Management Order No. PPM-2011-17
 Submitted by E. Jon Ranney Phone No. 515-239-1500 Meeting Date October 12, 2010
 Title 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

A proposed amendment to the highway section of the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program will be presented. The proposed amendment will allow the department to accelerate installation of median cable barrier along the interstate system, advance the letting of some highway projects into FY 2011 from FY 2012, and add others to the program.

Items included in the proposed amendment are listed below.

- Additional median cable barrier will be installed along sections of interstates 35, 80 and 380 next construction season. A total of \$5,850,000 is included for six additional projects in FY 2011.
- The advancement of four major highway projects from FY 2012 to FY 2011 with construction expected to commence next construction season.
- Twelve new projects have been added to the program in FY 2011, which involve investments in interstate stewardship and noninterstate pavement preservation.
- \$3 million annually in additional funding for statewide contract maintenance work for FY 2011 through FY 2015. These funds will be used to help address a backlog of maintenance needs associated with the deteriorating condition of the system due to harsh winter weather, flooding and its age.

Changes to the highway section of the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program are possible because of additional funding that was made available after the program was approved in June, carryover from FY 2010 primarily resulting from favorable bid lettings, and the department's efforts to reduce operational expenses that resulted in a FY 2010 budget reversion.

A list of project changes recommended for the highway section of the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program is attached.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve changes to the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program as listed.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	_____	_____	_____
Cleveland	_____	_____	_____
Durham	_____	_____	_____
Miles	_____	_____	_____
Reasner	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

Division
Director

Legal

State Director

PPM-2011-17

Jon Ranney, Office of Program Management, presented a proposed amendment to the highway section of the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement program. This proposed amendment will accelerate installation of median cable barrier along the interstate system, advance the letting of some highway projects into fiscal year 2011 from fiscal year 2012, and add others to the program. A list of the project changes recommended to the highway section is attached, and he requested Commission approval of this amendment.

Commissioner Reasner moved, Commissioner Miles seconded the Commission approve changes to the 2011-2015 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program as listed. All voted aye.

Commissioner Sawtelle said he thought the timing was good that through efficiencies we were able to find the funding to help with this important safety need as requested by the Governor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Dubuque
October 12, 2010

<u>TIME</u>	<u>DELEGATION</u>	<u>SPOKESPERSON</u>
8:20 am	Opening Remarks	Don C. Wiley, Commission Chair
8:20 am	Welcome from Dubuque	Mayor Roy D. Buol
8:25 am	Dubuque	Robert Schiesl
8:45 am	US 20 Corridor Association	David Ehler
8:55 am	Dyersville Economic Development Corp.	Jacque Rahe
9:00 am	Hiawatha	Mayor Tom Theis
9:10 am	INRCOG	Kevin Blanshan
9:20 am	Iowa City	Jeff Davidson
9:30 am	Coralville	Dan Holderness
9:40 am	South Central Iowa Transportation Coalition	Beth Danowsky
10:00 am	Bi-State Regional Commission	Denise Bulat
10:15 am	Unscheduled Delegations	