**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSION ORDERS**  
Tuesday, June 12, 2012  
Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Suite 200  
420 Watson Powell Jr. Way  
Des Moines

<table>
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<th>ITEM NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>D-2012-65 8 a.m.</td>
<td>*Approve Minutes of the May 8, 2012, Commission Meeting</td>
<td>Connie Page</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Commission Comments</td>
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<td>Staff Comments</td>
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<td>D-2012-66 8:05 a.m.</td>
<td>*Administrative Rules 761 IAC 25,123 and 124 Sponsorship Programs</td>
<td>Paul Trombino III</td>
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<td>H-2012-67 8:10 a.m.</td>
<td>*Transfer of Jurisdiction – Iowa 86 in Dickinson County</td>
<td>John Adam</td>
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<td>PPM-2012-68 8:15 a.m.</td>
<td>*Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Grinnell (Delegation)</td>
<td>Craig Markley</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>PPM-2012-69 8:20 a.m.</td>
<td>*Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Rock Rapids (Delegation)</td>
<td>Craig Markley</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>PPM-2012-70 8:25 a.m.</td>
<td>*2013-2017 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program</td>
<td>Jon Ranney</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Adjourn/Public Input Meeting</td>
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*Action Item*

On Monday, June 11, the Commission and staff will tour central Iowa transportation projects starting at 9:30 a.m. from the Des Moines MPO offices at 420 Watson Powell Jr. Way in Des Moines. Following the tour, the Commission and staff will hold an informal meeting at the Des Moines MPO offices beginning at 3 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-2012-65  
Submitted by: Connie Page  
Phone No.: 515-239-1242  
Meeting Date: June 12, 2012  

Title: Approve Minutes of the May 8, 2012, Commission Meeting

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:  
It is recommended the Commission approve the minutes of the May 8, 2012, Commission meeting.

COMMISSION ACTION:  
Moved by Reasner  
Seconded by Yanney  

Aye Nay Pass  
Blouin X  
Cleaveland X  
Miles X  
Reasner X  
Rose X  
Wiley X  
Yanney X
DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The Federal Highway Administration has approved the use of acknowledgment signs on public rights of way identifying sponsors in exchange for the performance of highway-related services or monetary contributions from the sponsors. Specific guidelines were issued by FHWA on March 13, 2012, and the provisions in these rules were determined by FHWA to meet those guidelines.

761 IAC 123 provides for sponsorship of individual rest areas on the interstate system in Iowa. Following an open and transparent request for proposal (RFP) process administered in accordance with 761 IAC 20, a sponsor will be determined for each rest area. Sponsors will submit the agreed-upon highway-related service or monetary contributions and provide signs meeting department specifications for placement of the acknowledgment signs near the sponsored rest area. The department will install and maintain the signs for a period determined in the RFP. Sponsors may also provide interior signs for placement by the department in a designated area inside the primary rest area building.

761 IAC 124 provides for the sponsorship of the department's highway helper fleet. Following an open and transparent RFP process administered in accordance with 761 IAC 20, a sponsor will be determined for the highway helper fleet. Sponsorship benefits will include identification on acknowledgment signs similar to the rest area sponsorship program and will also include the placement of the sponsor's logo on highway helper vehicles.

761 IAC 25 is being amended to include the following highway-related sponsorship programs as listed exemptions from the "noncompetition by government" restrictions found in Iowa Code 23A.2(1); adopt-a-highway, rest area and highway helper sponsorships.

All revenue from these programs will be deposited into the Primary Road Fund which supports the operation of the facilities being sponsored.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve the attached rules.
ITEM 1. Amend subrule 25.2(8) as follows:

25.2(8) Design, construction, reconstruction, inspection and maintenance of highways including, but not limited to, signs erected in the right-of-way and acknowledgment signs used in the adopt-a-highway, rest area sponsorship and highway helper sponsorship programs.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following new 761—Chapter 123:

CHAPTER 123
REST AREA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

761—123.1(307) Introduction and purpose. The rest area sponsorship program is an exchange of a monetary contribution from a person, a firm, or an entity, for public recognition in the form of identification displayed on an acknowledgment sign on the main-traveled way of an interstate highway in advance of the exit for a rest area, and an interior sign within the primary rest area building. The purpose of the program is to provide contributory support for the primary road fund. The rest areas are funded through the primary road fund and provide a public service.

761—123.2(307) Contact information. Information relating to the issuance of requests for proposals when sponsorship opportunities become available may be obtained from the Office of Maintenance, Iowa Department of Transportation, 800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010 or by telephone at 515-239-1971.

761—123.3(307) Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires.

“Acknowledgment sign” means an official sign placed within the right-of-way which meets all design and placement guidelines for acknowledgment signs as covered in Part 2 of the MUTCD, and all sign design principles covered in the most current edition of the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings Book,” as published by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and is intended only to inform the traveling public that a
highway-related service, product or monetary contribution has been sponsored by a person, firm or entity.

“Advertise” means to provide information on a sign which includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: promotional offers, location directions, listing of amenities, descriptive words or phrases, telephone numbers, Internet addresses including domain names, slogans or any message that is extraneous to the identification of a single-sponsoring person, firm or entity.

“Identification” means a display on an acknowledgment sign which is limited to the name of the sponsor or a registered or unregistered trademark in addition to or instead of the name of the sponsor, if such mark is used consistently by the sponsor whenever and wherever the firm or entity’s name is visible to the public, and the medium will allow. If multiple trademarks are used by the sponsor, identification is provided only by the one in the simplest form needed to identify the sponsor.

“Interstate highway” means any highway of the primary system at any time officially designated as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

“Main-traveled way” means the portion of the roadway for movement of vehicles on which through traffic is carried, exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes. In the case of a divided highway, the main-traveled way includes each of the separated roadways for traffic in opposite directions, exclusive of frontage roads, turning roadways or parking areas.

"MUTCD" means the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted in 761—Chapter 130.
“Rest area” means an area or site established and maintained within or adjacent to the right-of-way of an interstate, freeway primary or primary highway under supervision and control of the department for the safety, recreation, and convenience of the traveling public. Subject to paragraph 123.4(1)b, if two rest areas are located in close proximity and serve opposite directions of travel, both rest areas are individually eligible for sponsorship.

“Right-of-way” means land area dedicated to public use for the highway and its maintenance, and includes land acquired in fee simple or by permanent easement for highway purposes, but does not include temporary easements or rights for supplementary highway appurtenances.

“Sponsor” means a single person, firm or entity which has been approved by the department for the rest area sponsorship program.

761—123.4(307) General provisions.

123.4(1) Scope.

a. This program is limited to the sponsorship of all rest areas located on the interstate highways in Iowa.

b. This program may be limited by the department to those rest areas located in areas where adequate spacing for acknowledgment signs along the main-traveled way is available, in accordance with the MUTCD Section 2H.08 “Acknowledgment Signs.”

123.4(2) Authority and conditions.

a. Subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 321.253, the department may erect in advance of the exit for the rest area, one acknowledgment sign per rest area, per direction of travel, on the interstate highway right-of-way along the main-traveled way.
b. The department may allow an interior sign, with size and message being approved by
the department, within the primary building which may advertise the sponsor.

c. Subject to the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 23A, the department may, through an
equitable procurement process, receive a monetary contribution from an approved sponsor. This
monetary contribution shall be deposited into the primary road fund and subsequently spent for
highway purposes, including the maintenance and operation of the rest areas.

d. The department shall have the right to discontinue the program or portions thereof, if
the program or any component part of the program is found to be in violation of federal law or
regulation.

e. The department shall have the right to terminate a sponsorship agreement for reasons,
as determined by the department, based on safety concerns, interference with the free and safe
flow of traffic, or a determination that the sponsorship agreement or acknowledgment sign is not
in the public interest.

761—123.5(307) Sponsorship agreements.

123.5(1) Federal Highway Administration approval. All sponsorship agreements are
subject to approval by the Federal Highway Administration.

123.5(2) Qualifications. A person, firm or entity may be eligible to participate as a
sponsor for the program. However, the department may deny the proposal or application from
any potential sponsor if the sponsor’s participation might be deemed by the state as a partisan
endorsement or have an adverse effect on the program.

123.5(3) Selection process. Sponsors will be approved through a fair and transparent
procurement process, as approved by the department, subject to the provisions of 761—Chapter
20.
123.5(4) Discrimination prohibited. The sponsor shall give the department written assurance of its conformity with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination based on age, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion or disability, as a condition of approval as a sponsor.

761—123.6(307) Acknowledgment sign criteria.

123.6(1) Identification displayed.

a. An acknowledgment sign shall not advertise.

b. An acknowledgment sign shall not contain any messages, lights, symbols or trademarks that resemble any official traffic control device.

c. An acknowledgment sign shall contain the appropriate lettering to indicate “REST AREA” and may contain an identification of one sponsor.

d. The department shall review the acknowledgment sign proposed by the sponsor and shall have full authority to determine whether proposed designs from sponsors advertise or provide identification.

e. The department shall not approve any acknowledgment sign proposed by the sponsor if it might be deemed a partisan endorsement or have an adverse effect on the program.

123.6(2) Design and placement of acknowledgment sign.

a. The department shall determine when adequate spacing is available to accommodate the placement of an acknowledgment sign in accordance with the MUTCD.

b. The entire sign display area shall not exceed 24 square feet.

c. The area reserved for the identification of the sponsor shall not exceed one-third of the total area of the sign and shall be a maximum of 8 square feet, and shall not be located at the top of the sign.
d. Sponsors must provide signs measuring 24 inches high and 48 inches wide fabricated from .080 aluminum with 2 inch radius corners and a one-half inch white border for placement on the acknowledgement signs.

e. The department shall inspect signs received from sponsors and if they meet the requirements contained in this rule, shall perform the installation.

f. All acknowledgment signs erected by the department shall conform to the MUTCD.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 23A.2(9) and Iowa Code section 307.24.

ITEM 3. Adopt the following new 761—Chapter 124:

CHAPTER 124
HIGHWAY HELPER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

761—124.1(307) Introduction and purpose. The department operates the highway helper sponsorship program on the primary highways to keep traffic flowing by providing minor breakdown assistance and aiding with traffic control at crash scenes. This chapter establishes the requirements for a sponsorship for this program. The purpose of this sponsorship program is to provide contributory support for the primary road fund. The highway helper fleet is funded through the primary road fund and provides a public service.

761—124.2(307) Contact information. Information relating to the issuance of requests for proposals when sponsorship opportunities become available may be obtained from the Office of Traffic and Safety, Iowa Department of Transportation, 800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010 or by telephone at 515-239-1296.
761—124.3(307) Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires.

“Acknowledgment sign” means an official sign placed within the right-of-way which meets all design and placement guidelines for acknowledgment signs as covered in Part 2 of the MUTCD, and all sign design principles covered in the most current edition of the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings Book," as published by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and is intended only to inform the traveling public that a highway-related service, product or monetary contribution has been sponsored by a person, firm or entity.

“Advertise” means to provide information on a sign which includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: promotional offers, location directions, listing of amenities, descriptive words or phrases, telephone numbers, Internet addresses including domain names, slogans or any message that is extraneous to the identification of a single-sponsoring person, firm or entity.

“Freeway primary highway” means those highways under department jurisdiction which have been constructed as a fully controlled access facility with no access to the facility except at established interchanges.

“Highway helper vehicle” means a motor vehicle included in the program as designated by the department.

“Identification” means a display on an acknowledgment sign which is limited to the name of the sponsor or a registered or unregistered trademark in addition to or instead of the name of the sponsor, if such mark is used consistently by the sponsor whenever and wherever the firm or entity’s name is visible to the public, and the medium will allow. If multiple trademarks are used by the sponsor, identification is provided only by the one in the simplest form needed to identify the sponsor.
“Interstate highway” means any highway of the primary system at any time officially designated as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

“Main-traveled way” means the portion of the roadway for movement of vehicles on which through traffic is carried, exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes. In the case of a divided highway, the main-traveled way includes each of the separated roadways for traffic in opposite directions, exclusive of frontage roads, turning roadways or parking areas.

"MUTCD" means the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted in 761—Chapter 130.

“Right-of-way” means land area dedicated to public use for the highway and its maintenance, and includes land acquired in fee simple or by permanent easement for highway purposes, but does not include temporary easements or rights for supplementary highway appurtenances.

“Sponsor” means a single person, firm or entity which has been approved by the department for the highway helper program. If the highway helper program includes more than one urban area, this definition shall not preclude the approval of one sponsor per urban area.


124.4(1) Program ownership and operation. The department shall retain ownership and operation of the highway helper program.

124.4(2) Monetary contributions. Subject to the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 23A, the department may, through an equitable procurement process, receive a monetary contribution from an approved sponsor. This monetary contribution shall be deposited into the primary road
fund and subsequently spent for highway purposes, including the maintenance and operation of the highway helper program.

124.4(3) Placement of signs. Subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 321.253, the department may erect acknowledgment signs within the right-of-way along the main-traveled way of any interstate or freeway primary highway patrolled by the highway helper vehicles.

124.4(4) Program discontinuance. The department shall have the right to discontinue the program, or portions thereof, if the program or any component part of the program is found to be in violation of federal law or regulation.

124.4(5) Termination of sponsorship agreement. The department shall have the right to terminate a sponsorship agreement for reasons, as determined by the department, based on safety concerns, interference with the free and safe flow of traffic, or a determination that the sponsorship agreement or acknowledgment sign is not in the public interest.

761—124.5(307) Sponsorship agreements.

124.5(1) Federal Highway Administration approval. All sponsorship agreements are subject to approval by the Federal Highway Administration.

124.5(2) Qualifications. A person, firm or entity may be eligible to participate as a sponsor for the program. However, the department may deny the proposal or application from any potential sponsor if the sponsor's participation might be deemed by the state as a partisan endorsement or have an adverse effect on the program.

124.5(3) Selection process. Sponsors will be approved through a fair and transparent procurement process, as approved by the department, subject to the provisions of 761—Chapter 20.
124.5(4) **Sponsor benefits.** Subject to terms mutually agreed upon by the department and sponsor during or following the procurement process, the following benefits may be offered:

   a. Identification of the sponsor on acknowledgment signs along the interstate or freeway primary highway, subject to rule 761—124.6(307).

   b. Placing the sponsor's name and logo on a highway helper vehicle, not to exceed the dimension and size requirements for the particular highway helper vehicle, as determined by the department.

124.5(5) **Discrimination prohibited.** The sponsor shall give the department written assurance of its conformity with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination based on age, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion or disability, as a condition of approval as a sponsor.

761—124.6(307) **Acknowledgment sign criteria.**

124.6(1) **Identification displayed.**

   a. An acknowledgment sign shall not advertise.

   b. An acknowledgment sign shall not contain any messages, lights, symbols or trademarks that resemble any official traffic control device.

   c. An acknowledgment sign shall contain the appropriate lettering to indicate “HIGHWAY HELPER” and may contain an identification of one sponsor.

   d. The department shall review the acknowledgment sign proposed by the sponsor and shall have full authority to determine whether proposed designs from sponsors advertise or provide identification.

   e. The department shall not approve any acknowledgment sign proposed by the sponsor if it might be deemed a partisan endorsement or have an adverse effect on the program.
124.6(2) Design and placement of acknowledgment sign.

a. The department shall determine when adequate spacing is available to accommodate the placement of an acknowledgment sign in accordance with the MUTCD.

b. No more than one acknowledgment sign per interstate or freeway primary route per direction shall be installed within an urban area. If routes run concurrently, each route may be afforded one acknowledgment sign per direction, at the department’s discretion.

c. The entire sign display area shall not exceed 24 square feet.

d. The area reserved for the identification of the sponsor shall not exceed one-third of the total area of the sign and shall be a maximum of 8 square feet, and shall not be located at the top of the sign.

e. Sponsors must provide signs measuring 24 inches high and 48 inches wide fabricated from .080 aluminum with 2 inch radius corners and a one-half inch white border for placement on the acknowledgment signs.

f. The department shall inspect signs received from sponsors and if they meet the requirements contained in this rule, shall perform the installation.

g. All acknowledgment signs erected by the department shall conform to the MUTCD.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 23A.2(9) and Iowa Code section 307.24.
DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

District 3 has negotiated the transfer of jurisdiction of a portion of Iowa 86 to the county. The transfer segment extends from station 1329+54 northerly to 100th Street at the Minnesota state line and continuing easterly the south ½ of 100th Street east to the relocated intersection of Iowa 86 and 100th Street, approximately 0.87 mile.

The county and the state have examined the physical condition of the roadway segment proposed for transfer and have agreed that the segment will be transferred in its present condition. The proposed transfer to the county will take place upon completion of construction of relocated Iowa 86 and notification by the state to the county of the time and date of the official transfer.

The state will prepare and forward a quitclaim deed to the county for the proposed Iowa 86 transfer segment.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commission approve the transfer of jurisdiction for a portion of Iowa 86 as described above to Dickinson County.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Cleaveland Seconded by Rose

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Division Director

Legal

State Director
EXHIBIT A

Transfer of Jurisdiction
Location

DICKINSON COUNTY
Description: That portion of Iowa 86 from Sta. 1329+54 northerly to 100th Street at the Minnesota state line and continuing easterly the south ½ of 100th Street east to the relocated intersection of Iowa 86 and 100th Street, approximately 4,614 feet (0.87 mile) in length.
DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Grinnell submitted a RISE Immediate Opportunity application requesting a grant to assist in construction of approximately 2,700 feet of new roadway west of Iowa 146 located on the south side of Grinnell. This project is anticipated to be completed by July 2013.

These improvements are necessary to provide access to the site of Brownells Inc.’s distribution facility for firearm accessories, gun parts, ammunition and gunsmith tools, and 134 acres for light industrial purposes. This company conforms to the legislative requirements of the RISE program.

The roadway will support:

- The creation of 162 new jobs at this facility.
- $10,218,162 in associated capital investment.

The RISE cost per job assisted will be $8,366.09, and there will be a total capital investment of $7.54 for each RISE dollar requested.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission, based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, award a RISE grant of $1,355,306 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE Fund.
Craig Markley, Office of Systems Planning, presented a RISE immediate opportunity application from the city of Grinnell to construct approximately 2,700 feet of new roadway west of Iowa 146 located on the south side of Grinnell. The completed improvement will provide access to the site of Brownells Inc.’s distribution facility for firearm accessories, gun parts, ammunition, and gunsmith tools and also provide access to 134 acres for light industrial purposes.

Mr. Markley said the proposed project will result in the creation 162 new jobs within three years along with an associated capital investment of more than $10.2 million. Average starting wage of the positions to be created is $25.16 an hour which is 142 percent of the Poweshiek county average wage rate of $17.70 per hour. RISE grant recommended is $1,355,306; local participation is 20 percent or $338,827 for a total cost of $1,694,133. RISE cost per job assisted is $8,366.09. Total capital investment per RISE dollar is $7.54. He introduced Gordon Canfield, Mayor of Grinnell.

Mayor Canfield expressed appreciation to the Commission for considering this project and to DOT staff for all they have done and in particular, Rebecca Law, who has been their primary contact person. He introduced Pete Brownell, President of Brownells; Mark Trost, Brownells; Kay Cmelik, Grinnell City Clerk; and Mike Anthony, Shive-Hattery. Mayor Canfield said this is a big project for Grinnell. This is a home-grown Poweshiek county business that is expanding, and they are looking forward to that expansion in Grinnell.

Mr. Markley reviewed staff’s recommendation.

Commissioner Rose moved, Commissioner Yanney seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, award a RISE grant of $1,355,306 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund. All voted aye.
GENERAL INFORMATION
Applicant: Grinnell

Project Location and Description: Construction of approximately 2,700 feet of new roadway west of Iowa 146 located on the south side of Grinnell.

Associated Economic Development: The project provides access to the site of Brownells Inc. distribution facility for firearm accessories, gun parts, ammunition and gunsmith tools and 134 acres for light industrial purposes. The project will result in the creation of 162 new jobs and more than $10.2 million in associated capital investment.

ECONOMIC IMPACT
Total Roadway Project Cost: $1,694,133
RISE Funds Requested: $1,355,306; Grant; $1,355,306; Loan $----
Effective Project Cost to RISE Program: $1,355,306
Local Participation: $338,827; Sources: City of Grinnell
Non-RISE Total Capital Investment: $10,218,162
(Private: $298,162; Private: $9,920,000)

Direct Jobs Created: 162; (Other, Potential Future Jobs: 0)
Direct Jobs Retained: 0; Total Direct Jobs Assisted, Short-Term: 162
Number of Existing Jobs: 0
Project Average Wage Rate of New Jobs: $25.16/hr.
100% Poweshiek County Average Wage Rate: $17.70/hr.

KEY RATIOS
Local Match Ratio: 20% ($338,827/$1,694,133)
RISE Cost Per Job Assisted (Created): $1,355,306/162 = $8,366.09
Total Capital Investment Per RISE Dollar: $10,218,162/1,355,306= $7.54

CONCLUSIONS
Narrative: Based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, staff recommends a grant of $1,355,306 or up to 80 percent of total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE Fund.
DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Rock Rapids submitted a RISE Immediate Opportunity application requesting a grant to assist in construction of approximately 350 feet of Pearl Street north of Iowa 9 located on the northeast side of Rock Rapids. This project is anticipated to be completed by December 2012.

This improvement is necessary to provide access to the site of Simply Said’s vinyl wall décor manufacturing and distribution facility. This company conforms to the legislative requirements of the RISE program.

The roadway will support:

- The creation of 25 new jobs at this facility.
- $950,000 in associated capital investment.

The RISE cost per job assisted will be $4,955.80, and there will be a total capital investment of $7.67 for each RISE dollar requested.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission, based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, award a RISE grant of $123,895 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 Nay Pass
Blouin _______ _______ _______
Cleaveland _______ _______ _______
Miles _______ _______ _______
Reasner _______ _______ _______
Rose _______ _______ _______
Wiley _______ _______ _______
Yanney _______ _______ _______

Division Director Legal State Director
Craig Markley, Office of System Planning, reviewed a RISE immediate opportunity application from the city of Rock Rapids to construct approximately 350 feet of Pearl Street north of Iowa 9 on the northeast side of Rock Rapids. The completed improvement will provide access to the site of Simply Said’s vinyl wall décor manufacturing distribution facility. The proposed project will result in the creation of 25 new jobs and $950,000 in associated capital investment. The average starting wage of the positions to be created is $14.40 which 103 percent of Lyon county’s average wage rate of $13.98 per hour.

Mr. Markley said the RISE grant recommended is $123,895; local participation is 20 percent or $30,974 for a total cost of $154,869. RISE cost per job assisted is $4,955.80. Total capital investment per RISE dollar is $7.67. He noted the Rock Rapids delegation is participating by telephone and he introduced John Hulshof, Rock Rapids Development Director.

Mr. Hulshof introduced Jordan Kordahl, City Administrator; James Hoy, Rock Rapids Municipal Utility General Manager; and Gary Kurth, DeWild, Grant, Reckert & Co. Mr. Hulshof said this is Rock Rapid’s first attempt at a RISE grant, and he expressed appreciation to DOT staff, particularly Rebecca Law, for her patience with them as they navigated this process for the first time. Simply Said is a home-grown company that has had a marvelous local growth pattern. Three years ago they were working in their basement with their office over the garage; two years ago they rented a vacant store front in town; one year ago they purchased another vacant building in the downtown area and now they have the opportunity to do something on Pearl Street. This project needs Pearl Street for them to continue to grow and have a potential to be a real game changer for the future of this small rural community.

Mr. Markley reviewed staff’s recommendation.

Commissioner Yanney moved, Commissioner Reasner seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, award a RISE grant of $123,895 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund. All voted aye.
RISE Immediate Opportunity Funding
Economic Analysis Summary

GENERAL INFORMATION
Applicant: Rock Rapids

Project Location and Description: Construction of approximately 350 feet of Pearl Street north of Iowa 9 located on the northeast side of Rock Rapids.

Associated Economic Development: The project provides access to the site of Simply Said's vinyl wall décor manufacturing and distribution facility. The project will result in the creation of 25 new jobs and $950,000 in associated capital investment.

ECONOMIC IMPACT
Total Roadway Project Cost: $154,869

RISE Funds Requested: $123,895; Grant: $123,895; Loan $----
Effective Project Cost to RISE Program: $123,895
Local Participation: $30,974; Sources: City of Rock Rapids
Non-RISE Total Capital Investment: $950,000
   (Public: $0; Private: $950,000)

Direct Jobs Created: 25; (Other, Potential Future Jobs: 0)
Direct Jobs Retained: 0; Total Direct Jobs Assisted, Short-Term: 25
Number of Existing Jobs: 24
Project Average Wage Rate of New Jobs: $14.40/hr.
100% Lyon County Average Wage Rate: $13.98/hr.

KEY RATIOS
Local Match Ratio: 20% ($30,974/$154,869)
RISE Cost Per Job Assisted (Created): $123,895/25 = $4,955.80
Total Capital Investment Per RISE Dollar: $950,000/$123,895 = $7.67

CONCLUSIONS
Narrative: Based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, staff recommends a grant of $123,895 or up to 80 percent of total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE Fund.
DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The 2013-2017 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program will be presented for final review and approval.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve and authorize distribution of the 2013-2017 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. It is also recommended the Commission approve the use of condemnation, if necessary, to acquire property for the projects listed in the highway section.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Cleveland Seconded by Wiley

Division Director Legal State Director

Aye Nay Pass

Blouin X
Cleveland X
Miles X
Rea X
Rose X
Wiley X
Yanney X

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.