

# **COMMISSION MINUTES**

**December 9, 2025**

# IOWA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Agenda / Commission Orders

December 9, 2025

Lincoln Highway Conference Room, Iowa DOT Complex  
Ames, IA

ITEM NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	PAGE
1:00 p.m.			
D-2026-38	*Approve Minutes of the November 12, 2025 Commission Meeting	Jill Smith	2
	Commission Comments		
	DOT Comments		
TD-2026-39	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) - Altoona	Deb Arp	4
SO-2026-40	*FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program Recommendations	Jan Laaser-Webb	6
TD-2026-41	*Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Intercity Bus Program	Matt Oetker	12
TD-2026-42	*2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program Amendment	Shawn Majors	14
1:10 p.m.	Adjourn		
*Action Item			

On Tuesday, December 9, the Commission and staff will meet informally at 9:30 a.m. in the Lincoln Highway Conference Room. 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-2026-38  
Submitted by Jill Smith Phone No. 515-239-1067 Meeting Date December 9, 2025  
Title Approve Minutes of the November 12, 2025 Commission Meeting

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve the minutes of the November 12, 2025 Commission meeting.

<b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b>			Vote	
			Aye	Nay
			Pass	
Moved by <u>Anderson</u>	Seconded by <u>Mulgrew Gronen</u>	Anderson	<u>x</u>	_____
		Arnold	<u>x</u>	_____
		Gaesser	<u>x</u>	_____
		Juckette	_____	_____
		Mulgrew Gronen	<u>x</u>	_____
		Quirk	<u>x</u>	_____
		Stutsman	<u>x</u>	_____

  

_____ Division Director	_____ Legal	_____ State Director
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Commissioner Gaesser called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm on December 9, 2025, in the Lincoln Highway Conference Room at the Iowa DOT in Ames, Iowa.

Commissioners present: Ray Gaesser, Mary Mulgrew Gronen, Bill Anderson and Brian Quirk. Sally Stutsman and Rich Arnold were via phone. Linda Juckette was absent.

**D-2026-38**

Jill Smith, Executive Assistant

Commissioner Gaesser asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2025, Commission meeting.

Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Mulgrew Gronen seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

**Commission Comments**

Commissioner Stutsman wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

**DOT Comments Comments**

Director Marler thanked the Commission for their hospitality during lunch - it was a wonderful time for intentional connection. He also echoed the wishes for a happy holiday.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER

Transportation Development Division  
Division/Bureau/Office Local Systems Bureau Order No. TD-2026-39  
Submitted by Debra Arp Phone No. 515-239-1681 Meeting Date December 9, 2025  
Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Altoona

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

The city of Altoona submitted a RISE Local Development application in the September 2025 round requesting a grant to assist in construction of approximately 1,085 feet of 33rd Street NW and intersection improvements including turn lanes along 34th Avenue NW at 42nd Street NW, 33rd Street NW and 25th Street NW with a traffic signal at 25th Street NW located on the northwest side of town.

This project is necessary to provide improved access to four lots totaling more than 216 acres for industrial purposes. This project is anticipated to be completed by September 2027.

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 \$2,402,703 from the city share of the RISE Fund and \$318,578 from the county share of the RISE Fund for a total of \$2,721,281 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less.

<b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b>			Vote		
	Aye	Nay	Pass		
Moved by <u>Mulgrew Gronen</u>	Anderson <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
Seconded by <u>Stutsman</u>	Arnold <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
	Gaesser <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
	Juckette _____	_____	_____		
	Mulgrew Gronen <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
	Quirk <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
	Stutsman <u>x</u>	_____	_____		
_____ Division Director	_____ Legal	_____ State Director			

**TD-2026-39**

Debra Arp, Local Systems Bureau

The City of Altoona submitted a RISE Local Development funding request to assist in construction of approximately 1,085 feet of 33rd Street NW and intersection improvements including turn lanes along 34th Avenue NW at 42nd Street NW, 33rd Street NW and 25th Street NW with a traffic signal at 25th Street NW located on the northwest side of town.

This project is necessary to provide improved access to 4 lots totaling approximately 216 acres for industrial purposes.

Under our RISE Local Development criteria, this project received a rating of 43 points and is anticipated to be completed by September 2027.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$5,442,562. The City of Altoona has requested a RISE grant of \$2,721,281 or up to 50 percent of RISE-eligible project costs.

It is recommended the Commission, based on the capital investment commitment and potential for future job creation, award a RISE grant of \$2,402,703 from the city share of the RISE Fund and \$318,578 from the county share of the RISE Fund for a total of \$2,721,281 or up to 50 percent of the total RISE-eligible project cost, whichever is less.

Commissioner Mulgrew Gronen moved and Commissioner Stutsman seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER**

Systems Operations Division  
 Division/Bureau/Office Traffic Operations & Safety Bureau Order No. SO-2026-40  
 Submitted by Jan Laaser-Webb Phone No. 515-239-1349 Meeting Date December 9, 2025  
 Title FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program Recommendations

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

One-half percent of the Road Use Tax Fund is used for traffic safety improvements or initiatives to reduce traffic safety fatalities and serious injuries on public roads throughout Iowa.

The program provides three funding areas for candidate safety projects:

1. Site-specific improvements
2. Traffic control devices
3. Studies and outreach

The candidate projects and the recommendations from Department staff and the state/county/city program advisory committee have been presented to the Commission for review and approval.

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve the FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program as attached.

<b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b>			Vote	Aye	Nay	Pass
			Anderson	x	_____	_____
			Arnold	x	_____	_____
			Gaesser	x	_____	_____
Moved by <u>Quirk</u>	Seconded by <u>Mulgrew Gronen</u>		Juckette	_____	_____	_____
			Mulgrew Gronen	x	_____	_____
			Quirk	x	_____	_____
			Stutsman	x	_____	_____
_____ Division Director	_____ Legal	_____ State Director				

FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program

Site-Specific Projects Recommended for Award

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
16 <sup>th</sup> NW & Mill Creek Pkwy – roundabout	City of Clinton	\$1,400,980	\$500,000	\$500,000
US 18 & US 71 – roundabout	City of Spencer	\$5,200,683	\$500,000	\$500,000
Division St & W Burlington Ave – roundabout	City of Burlington	\$1,413,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Forest Ave – lane conversion	City of Des Moines	\$3,700,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Main St & Burlington Ave – pedestrian improvements	City of Fairfield	\$373,000	\$212,630	\$212,630
IA 100 & 44 <sup>th</sup> St – offset right turn lane	City of Marion	\$465,970	\$459,920	\$459,920
9 intersections – destination lighting	Dubuque County	\$236,000	\$236,000	\$236,000
Canoe Rd – shoulders, edge rumbles, safety edge, 6" markings	Fayette County	\$1,543,387	\$467,295	\$420,000
F46 curve & intersection – realign, widen, center & edge rumbles, safety edge	Iowa County	\$813,894	\$500,000	\$500,000
F58 – shoulders, center & edge rumbles, safety edge, 6" markings	Cedar County	\$2,681,995	\$326,854	\$326,854
US 30 & 300 <sup>th</sup> Ave – reduced conflict intersection	City of DeWitt	\$1,900,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
29 <sup>th</sup> Ave & 31 <sup>st</sup> St – roundabout	City of Marion	\$605,100	\$500,000	\$500,000
W38 – shoulders, center & edge rumbles, 6" markings	Washington County	\$4,022,751	\$500,000	\$470,000
Hammond Ave & Ridgeway Ave – roundabout	City of Waterloo	\$1,200,000	\$500,000	\$470,000



FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program

NE Alice's Rd & Berkshire Pkwy – roundabout	City of Clive	\$1,946,000	\$500,000	\$445,000
NE Beaverbrooke Blvd & NE Gateway Dr – roundabout	City of Grimes	\$2,207,000	\$500,000	\$445,000
Boyson Road – raised median & roundabout	City of Hiawatha	\$1,270,143	\$500,000	\$445,000
B45 – paved shoulders, shoulder rumbles, safety edge, 6" markings	Clayton County	\$4,082,537	\$500,000	\$445,000
395 <sup>th</sup> Ave – paved shoulders, center & edge rumbles, 6" markings	Jackson County	\$1,948,550	\$500,000	\$445,000
K42 – paved shoulders, flatten foreslopes	Plymouth County	\$587,790	\$500,000	\$445,000
				<u>\$8,765,404</u>

FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program

Traffic Control Devices Recommended for Award

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
Canoe Rd & Apple Rd– speed feedback signs	City of Clermont	\$7,254	\$7,254	\$7,254
Portable temporary traffic signals	City of Waterloo	\$61,075	\$61,075	\$50,000
Portable temporary traffic signals	Palo Alto/Pocahontas Counties	\$63,385	\$63,385	\$63,385
Each of 2 intersections – flashing yellow arrow, 12” lenses, camera detection	City of Algona	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$40,000
US 6 & 8 <sup>th</sup> St – backplates, camera detection, pedestrian improvements	City of Newton	\$109,000	\$109,000	\$100,000
8 stop & 10 chevron sites – solar flashing beacons	Humboldt County	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$26,000
Sign Replacement Program	Local Systems Bureau	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
				<u>\$486,639</u>

FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program

Studies & Outreach Recommended for Award

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
Traffic Safety Research Program			\$500,000	\$500,000
				<u>\$500,000</u>

**SO-2026-40**

Stuart Anderson, Transportation Development Division  
on behalf of Jan Laaser-Webb, Traffic Operations & Safety Bureau

This program is funded with one-half percent off the top of the Road Use Tax Fund to support traffic safety improvements or initiatives to reduce traffic safety fatalities and serious injuries on public roads throughout Iowa.

This program provides funding for site-specific improvements, traffic control devices, and studies and outreach. We reviewed all the applications and have presented the recommendation to the Commission last month for initial review.

It is recommended that the Commission approve the FY 2027 Traffic Safety Improvement Program as attached with the Commission Order.

Commissioner Quirk moved and Commissioner Mulgrew Gronen seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER**

Division/Bureau/Office Transportation Development Division  
Modal Transportation Bureau Order No. TD-2026-41  
 Submitted by Matt Oetker Phone No. 515-239-1765 Meeting Date December 9, 2025  
 Title Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Intercity Bus Program

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

The Modal Transportation Bureau requests approval for the CY 2026 Intercity Bus Program. The funding recommendations are listed below:

SYSTEM	PROJECT	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Greyhound Lines	Iowa Operations – Chicago to Denver	\$319,860
Greyhound Lines	Iowa Operations – Chicago to Des Moines	\$304,153
Greyhound Lines	Iowa Operations – Chicago to Des Moines	\$284,481
Greyhound Lines	Iowa Operations – Indianapolis to Des Moines	\$186,095
Greyhound Lines	Iowa Operations – St Louis to Des Moines	\$363,686
Greyhound Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$707,702
Greyhound Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$707,702
Jefferson Lines	Iowa Operations – Existing Routes	\$375,851
Jefferson Lines	Iowa Operations – Start-Up Routes	\$671,349
Jefferson Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$701,250
Jefferson Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$701,250
Jefferson Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$701,250
Jefferson Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$701,250
Jefferson Lines	One over-the-road motorcoach	\$701,250
City of Fort Dodge	Marketing of existing service	\$7,500
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$7,434,629</b>

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve the CY 2026 Intercity Bus Program funding recommendations as listed above.

**COMMISSION ACTION:**

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Anderson	x		
Arnold	x		
Gaesser	x		
Moved by <u>Anderson</u> Seconded by <u>Quirk</u>			
Juckette			
Mulgrew Gronen	x		
Quirk	x		
Stutsman	x		

Division Director  
 Legal  
 State Director

**TD-2026-41**

Matt Oetker, Modal Transportation Bureau

It is recommended that the Commission approve the CY 2026 Intercity Bus Program funding recommendation for the 15 projects that are listed on the Commission Order.

Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Quirk seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Transportation Development Division  
Program Management Bureau Order No. TD-2026-42  
Submitted by Shawn Majors Phone No. 515-239-1288 Meeting Date December 9, 2025  
Title 2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

A proposed amendment to the highway section of the 2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program will be presented. Due to project schedule changes, the addition of \$5.1 million for right of way costs associated with the widening of I-35 from N of 315<sup>th</sup> St. to 0.5 mi N of E-57 is recommended for fiscal year 2026.

In addition, it is recommended the Commission approve the use of condemnation, if necessary, to acquire property for the project included in this amendment.

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve this amendment to the highway section of the 2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. It is also recommended the Commission approve the use of condemnation, if necessary, to acquire property for the project included in this amendment.

<b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b>			Vote	
			Aye	Nay
			x	Pass
Moved by	<u>Mulgrew Gronen</u>	Seconded by	<u>Quirk</u>	
			Anderson	x
			Arnold	x
			Gaesser	x
			Juckette	
			Mulgrew Gronen	x
			Stutsman	x
			Quirk	x
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Division Director	Legal	State Director		

**TD-2026-42**

Shawn Majors, Program Management Bureau

A proposed amendment to the highway section of the 2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program was presented today during the Commission Workshop. Due to project schedule changes, the addition of \$5.1 million for right of way costs associated with the widening of I-35 from N of 315th St. to 0.5 mi N of E-57 is recommended for fiscal year 2026.

It is recommended that the Commission approve the amendment to the highway section of the 2026-2030 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. It is also recommended the Commission approve the use of condemnation, if necessary, to acquire property for the project included in this amendment.

Commissioner Mulgrew Gronen moved and Commissioner Quirk seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.