

Commission Workshop Summary and Commission Meeting Minutes April 13-14, 2026

April 13, 2026 Commission Workshop Summary

The Commission workshop began at 3:30 pm on April 13, 2026. The meeting was held in the Quality Inn & Suites Fort Madison near Hwy 61 in Fort Madison, IA.

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

The following items were discussed at the workshop:

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|---------|
| 1. | Commission Input | Commission | 5 min. |
| 2. | Director's Welcome | Scott Marler | 5 min. |
| 3. | Administrative Rules
- Chapter 511 – Special Permits for Operation
and Movement of Vehicles and Loads of
Excess Size and Weight | Stuart Anderson, Director
Transportation Development
Division | 10 min. |
| 4. | Transportation Trends Update | Stu Anderson, Director
Transportation Development
Division | 5 min. |
| 5. | 2026 Highway Program Balance Report | Matt Chambers
Program Management Bureau | 5 min. |
| 6. | Five-Year Program Discussion
- Program Development | Shawn Majors, Director
Program Management Bureau

Matt Chambers
Program Management Bureau | 15 min. |

The workshop ended at 4:05 pm

IOWA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Meeting Agenda / Commission Orders

Quality Inn & Suites Fort Madison near Hwy 61
6169 Reve Court, Fort Madison, IA 52627

ITEM NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTED BY	PAGE
8:00 a.m.			
D-2026-82	*Approve Minutes of the March 10, 2026 Commission Meeting	Jill Smith	3
	Commission Comments		
	DOT Comments		
TD-2026-83	*Administrative Rules · 761 IAC Chapter 511, Special Permits for Operation and Movement of Vehicles and Loads of Excess Size and Weight	Stuart Anderson	5
TD-2026-84	*Program Objectives (2027-2031 Highway Program)	Shawn Majors	13
8:10 a.m.	Adjourn		
*Action Item			
Public input meeting begins at 8:10 a.m.			

On Monday, April 13, the Commission and staff will meet informally at 3:30 p.m. in the Quality Inn & Suites Fort Madison near Hwy 61 in Fort Madison, IA. 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-2026-82
Submitted by Jill Smith Phone No. 515-239-1067 Meeting Date April 14, 2026
Title Approve Minutes of the March 10, 2026 Commission Meeting

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 Commission Meeting.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Anderson Seconded by Stutsman

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

Division Director Legal State Director

Commissioner Gaesser called the meeting to order at 8:00 am on April 14, 2026, in the Quality Inn & Suites Fort Madison near Highway 61 in Fort Madison, Iowa.

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

D-2026-82

Jill Smith, Director's Office

Commissioner Gaesser asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2026, Commission meeting.

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

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

Commission Comments

Commissioner Gaesser mentioned the excellent tour they took which served as an opportunity to hear about and see some of the projects in the area. He thanked staff for all the work they do putting together such a wonderful educational experience for the Commission. Commissioner Stutsman also thanked staff for the opportunity to see so many projects in the works and scheduled for the future.

DOT Comments Comments

Director Marler echoed his thanks to the District 5 team for the tour and thanks to the surrounding communities for their hospitality. This was a wonderful opportunity to see the many innovative and interesting things happening within transportation right here in southeast Iowa. Director Marler also acknowledged and congratulated both Stu Anderson and Shawn Majors for their successful careers at the DOT providing incredible support to the Transportation Commission and the State of Iowa as they will both be retiring in May.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Transportation Development Division Order No. TD-2026-83
Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1661 Meeting Date April 14, 2026
Title Administrative Rules—761 IAC Chapter 511, Special Permits for Operation and Movement of Vehicles and Loads of Excess Size and Weight

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The rulemaking proposes to amend Chapter 511.

The proposed rulemaking complies with House File 979 amendment to Iowa Code 321E.3 to include an alteration in the routes for which the department may issue all-systems permits under section 321E.8, a requirement for secondary roads and designated truck routes to be valid unless the local authority communicates the non-valid designation to the department in writing, and a requirement for a local authority to work with the department to find an alternate route for a permitted vehicle if all roads to the loading or unloading destination are not valid. It also now states that all not-valid designations are subject to department review and requires the department to adopt rules to resolve exemption determination disputes and establish a process for alternate route requests.

This proposed rulemaking also complies House File 979 amendment to Iowa Code 321E.12 to allow a vehicle traveling under a single trip permit to meet the statutory requirement to be registered for the gross weight of the vehicle and load by collecting the required tonnage fees along with the permit application.

The public comment period ended on March 11, 2026. The department did not receive any public comments.

A complete summary explaining the proposed rulemaking is included in the attached Notice of Intended Action.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commission approve amendment of Chapter 511.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Mulgrew Gronen Seconded by Juckette

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

Division Director Legal State Director

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT[761]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rulemaking related to special permits for operation and movement of vehicles and loads of excess size and weight and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Transportation Department hereby proposes to amend Chapter 511, “Special Permits for Operation and Movement of Vehicles and Loads of Excess Size and Weight,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 321E.3 and 321E.15.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 321E.3 and 321E.12.

Purpose and Summary

The purpose of the proposed amendments to the chapter is to comply with 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 979, sections 1 and 4.

House File 979 amended Iowa Code section 321E.3. Changes to Iowa Code section 321E.3 include an alteration in the routes for which the Department may issue all-systems permits under Iowa Code section 321E.8, a requirement for secondary roads and designated truck routes to be valid unless the local authority communicates the nonvalid designation to the Department in writing, and a requirement for a local authority to work with the Department to find an alternate route for a permitted vehicle if all roads to the loading or unloading destination are not valid. Iowa Code section 321E.3 also now states that all nonvalid designations are subject to Department review and requires the Department to adopt rules to resolve exemption determination disputes and establish a process for alternate route requests.

House File 979 also amended Iowa Code section 321E.12 to allow a vehicle traveling under a single-trip permit to meet the statutory requirement to be registered for the gross weight of the vehicle and load by collecting the required tonnage fees along with the permit application.

Regulatory Analysis

A Regulatory Analysis for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on December 10, 2025. A public hearing was held on the following date(s):

- December 30, 2025

The Department received no comments.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 761—Chapter 11.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this proposed rulemaking, which must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 10, 2026. Comments should be directed to:

Ryan Pell
Department of Transportation
DOT Rules Administrator, Office of the Director
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515.239.1358
Email: ryan.pell@iowadot.us

Public Hearing

Public hearings at which persons may present their views orally will be held as follows:

March 10, 2026
9 to 9:30 a.m.

[Microsoft Teams link](#)
Or dial: 515.817.6093
Conference ID: 248 044 266#

March 10, 2026
4 to 4:30 p.m.

[Microsoft Teams link](#)
Or dial: 515.817.6093
Conference ID: 450 340 065#

Persons who wish to make oral comments at a public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rulemaking.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing impairments, should contact Ryan Pell and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule **761—511.1(321E)**, definitions of “Emergency interstate permit” and “Permit-issuing authority,” as follows:

“*Emergency interstate permit*” means a permit issued under Iowa Code section ~~321E.29B~~ 321E.27.

“Permit-issuing authority” means the:

1. Department’s motor vehicle division for permits for movement on the primary road system.
2. Authority responsible for the maintenance of a nonprimary system of highways or streets for permits for movement on that system. However, the motor vehicle division may issue single-trip permits on primary road extensions in cities in conjunction with movement on the rural primary road system. The department may also issue all-systems permits on the secondary road and municipal systems.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** definition of “Designated truck route” in rule **761—511.1(321E)**:

“Designated truck route” when used in relation to the all-systems overweight permit in Iowa Code section 321E.8(2) means one or more of the following:

1. A route designated in a city’s code of ordinances as a truck route.
2. A route physically signed as a truck route.
3. A route designated by a city as valid for this permit, whether for a single occurrence or on a short-term or long-term basis.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 511.2(1) as follows:

511.2(1) Permits may be obtained electronically upon making application to the motor vehicle division at [www.iowadot.gov/mvd/motorcarriers/oversize-overweight-trip permits](http://www.iowadot.gov/mvd/motorcarriers/oversize-overweight-trip-permits) [iowadot.gov/motor-carriers](http://www.iowadot.gov/motor-carriers). Applications, forms, instructions and restrictions are also available by mail from the Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 10382, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-0382; in person at 6310 SE Convenience Boulevard, Ankeny, Iowa; by telephone at 515.237.3264; or by facsimile at 515.237.3257.

ITEM 4. Amend paragraph **511.4(3)“d”** as follows:

d. Emergency interstate permits issued under Iowa Code section ~~321E.29B~~ 321E.27 are effective for 30 calendar days. However, the permit will not be valid past the expiration of the applicable governor’s proclamation of disaster emergency issued under Iowa Code section 29C.6 in conjunction with the presidential declaration allowing interstate travel under the Stafford Act or the expiration of the declaration of major disaster under the Stafford Act, whichever expires first.

ITEM 5. Amend rule 761—511.5(321,321E) as follows:

761—511.5(321,321E) Fees and costs.

511.5(1) No change.

511.5(2) *Special or emergency oversize permit for certain divisible loads.* The fee for each single-trip permit issued pursuant to Iowa Code section ~~321E.27~~ 321E.9 is \$35.

511.5(3) and **511.5(4)** No change.

511.5(5) *Registration fee for single-trip permits.* A vehicle traveling under a single-trip permit may register with the department for the combined gross weight of the vehicle and load on a single-trip basis, upon payment of the applicable statutory fees, pursuant to Iowa Code section 321E.12. The department may access Iowa registration records to determine the weight for which the vehicle is currently registered prior to assessing the statutory fee under this subrule. The fee for single-trip registration is \$4 per ton exceeding 40 tons.

~~**511.5(5)**~~ **511.5(6)** *Registration fee for vehicles transporting buildings other than mobile homes or factory-built structures.* A registration fee will be charged for vehicles transporting buildings, except mobile homes and factory-built structures, on a single-trip

basis. The vehicle shall be registered for the combined gross weight of the vehicle and load, and the fee is 5 cents per ton exceeding the weight registered under Iowa Code section 321.122 per mile of travel. Fees will not be prorated for fractions of miles.

~~511.5(6)~~ **511.5(7)** *Fair and reasonable costs.* Permit-issuing authorities may charge any permit applicant:

a. A fair and reasonable cost for the removal and replacement of natural obstructions or official signs and signals.

b. A fair and reasonable cost for measures necessary to avoid damage to public property including structures and bridges.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 321.12, 321.122, 321E.8, 321E.9, 321E.12, 321E.14, 321E.15, 321E.29, 321E.29A and 321E.30.

ITEM 6. Amend rule 761—511.7(321,321E), introductory paragraph, as follows:

761—511.7(321,321E) Annual oversize permits. Annual oversize permits are issued for indivisible vehicles or indivisible loads for travel when the dimensions of the vehicle or load exceed statutory limits but the weight is within statutory limits. Routing is subject to embargoed bridges and roads and posted speed limits. The owner or operator shall select a route using the vertical clearance map and road construction and travel restrictions map provided by the department for state roads. If the owner or operator is operating under an all-systems permit, the owner or operator shall also review the road construction and travel restrictions map provided by the Iowa county engineers service bureau. Route, detour and road embargo information may be found online at www.511ia.org or the department's website for the embargo bridge maps at www.iowadot.gov/mvd/motorcarriers/bridgemap.pdf. County restriction information may be found online at www.iceasb.org/roads. Annual oversize permits are issued for the following:

ITEM 7. Amend rule 761—511.9(321,321E), introductory paragraph, as follows:

761—511.9(321,321E) Annual all-systems oversize permits. Annual all-systems oversize permits are issued by the motor vehicle division for indivisible vehicles or indivisible loads for travel on the primary road system and specified city streets and county roads when the dimensions of the vehicle or load exceed statutory limits but the weight is within statutory limits. Routing is subject to embargoed bridges and roads and posted speed limits. The department will provide a map of the authorized city streets and county roads. Permit holders shall check the county 511 map available online at www.iceasb.org/roads and consult with local officials when traveling on county roads or city streets for bridge embargo, vertical clearance, detour, and road construction information. These permits are issued for the following:

ITEM 8. Amend rule 761—511.10(312,321,321E) as follows:

761—511.10(312,321,321E) Annual all-systems overweight permits.

511.10(1) Issuance. Annual all-systems overweight permits are issued by the department for indivisible vehicles or indivisible or divisible loads for travel on the primary road system and specified city streets and county roads when the weight of the vehicle or load exceeds statutory limits but the dimensions are within statutory limits. Routing is subject to embargoed bridges and roads, including highways restricted by a local authority pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.473, and posted speed limits. The department will provide a map of the authorized city streets and county roads. Permit holders shall review route, detour and road embargo information online at www.511ia.org, check the county 511 map available online at www.iceasb.org/roads, and consult with local officials when

traveling on county roads or city streets for bridge embargo, vertical clearance, detour, and road construction information. These permits are issued for vehicles with divisible or indivisible loads provided the following are not exceeded.

a. to e. No change.

511.10(2) *Distribution of monthly credit.* In accordance with Iowa Code section 312.2(18), the department will ~~allocate the monthly credit as follows:~~ divide the monthly credit among the counties as determined by the department after consultation with county officials through their representative organizations.

~~a. — The department will maintain a list of participating counties. The list will be updated on a monthly basis as determined by the department after consultation with county officials through their representative organizations.~~

~~b. — The monthly credit will be divided among the participating counties as determined by the department after consultation with county officials through their representative organizations.~~

~~c. — The funds from the monthly credit will be distributed to each participating county based on the list of participating counties for the applicable month.~~

511.10(3) *Route exemption justification determinations, submittals, reviews and appeals.* If a local authority determines that a road segment needs to be designated as not valid for a permit issued under this rule, a written exemption justification must be provided to the department explaining the local authority's determination. The department will accept the submittal of exemption justifications in the form and manner prescribed by the department, including via communications between electronic systems. Criteria for exemption justifications and processes for disputes and appeals regarding the department's approval of submitted exemption justifications are determined by the department after consultation with county and city officials through their representative organizations. Additional guidance is published on the department's website.

a. For paved farm-to-market (FM) routes, designated truck routes, non-paved FM routes and non-FM routes, the exemption justification submittal, review and appeal process is as follows:

(1) The local authority will provide the justification and any necessary explanation for exempting the road segment.

(2) The department will either approve or deny the local authority's exemption request.

(3) If the department denies the exemption request, the local authority may appeal the department's decision. If the local authority appeals the department's decision or requests further consideration, the department will gather additional information, if possible, and may consult with additional stakeholders, including but not limited to the representative organizations for county and city officials, before making a final decision.

b. Exemption approvals are reviewed periodically at a frequency determined by the department. The local authority is to submit exemption justification renewals and updates in the form and manner described by the department.

511.10(4) *Alternate route requests.* When a permit holder is unable to reach a loading or unloading destination because all routes leading to said destination have been designated as not valid, the permit holder may request establishment of an alternate route to provide access to the loading or unloading destination via the permit. The department, after consultation with county and city officials through their representative organizations, establishes a procedure for alternate route requests. The alternate route procedure is as follows:

a. The permit holder will contact the local authority to request an alternate route. Contact information for each local public agency is obtained by clicking on the desired route

in the all-systems overweight permit map found on the department's website for motor carriers.

(1) If, upon further evaluation, the local authority chooses to designate the requested route as valid, the local authority must contact the department to remove the non-valid designation. The local authority will notify the permit holder of the removal of the non-valid designation.

(2) If the local authority establishes an alternate route, the local authority must provide written notice to the permit holder of the approved alternate route and the dates for which the route is valid. The written notice is given in the form and manner prescribed by the department or in an alternate form and manner approved by the department.

b. If the local authority does not respond to the request to establish an alternate route after five business days, or if the local authority does not make the existing route valid, provide an acceptable alternate route, or resolve the situation within seven business days, the permit holder may contact the department to request the department establish an alternate route.

(1) In establishing the alternate route, the department will consult with the local authority, if responsive, and may consult with stakeholders, including but not limited to the permit holder, and county and city officials through their representative organizations.

(2) Once the department has established an alternate route, the department will provide written notice to the permit holder and the local authority of the established alternate route and the dates for which the alternate route is valid.

Additional guidance is published on the department's website.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 312.2, 321.454, 321.456, 321.457, 321.463, 321E.2, 321E.3, 321E.8, 321E.10 and 321E.15.

TD-2026-83

Stuart Anderson, Transportation Development Division

The rulemaking proposes to amend Chapter 511.

The proposed rulemaking complies with House File 979 amendment to Iowa Code 321E.3 to include an alteration in the routes for which the department may issue all-systems permits under section 321E.8, a requirement for secondary roads and designated truck routes to be valid unless the local authority communicates the non-valid designation to the department in writing, and a requirement for a local authority to work with the department to find an alternate route for a permitted vehicle if all roads to the loading or unloading destination are not valid. It also now states that all not-valid designations are subject to department review and requires the department to adopt rules to resolve exemption determination disputes and establish a process for alternate route requests.

This proposed rulemaking also complies House File 979 amendment to Iowa Code 321E.12 to allow a vehicle traveling under a single trip permit to meet the statutory requirement to be registered for the gross weight of the vehicle and load by collecting the required tonnage fees along with the permit application.

The public comment period ended on March 11, 2026. The department did not receive any public comments.

A complete summary explaining the proposed rulemaking is included in the attached Notice of Intended Action. Therefore it is recommended that the Commission approve the amendment of Chapter 511.

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

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

Commission Comments

None

DOT Comments Comments

None

TD-2026-84

Shawn Majors, Program Management Bureau

Through ongoing workshop discussions, review of funding forecasts, review of project cost/schedule updates, and analysis of system and project level data, the Commission has identified program objectives to guide their development of the 2027-2031 Highway Program. These objectives are consistent with, and organized by, the four system objectives identified by the Commission in their adopted State Transportation Plan – Iowa in Motion 2050. These objectives are listed in the commission order.

It is recommended the Commission approve the program objectives included in the commission order for the 2027-2031 Highway Program.

Commissioner Juckette moved and Commissioner Arnold seconded a motion to approve.

There were no further questions or comments.

The vote to approve was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned 8:08 a.m.