

IPTA Mid-Year Meeting

IOWA | DOT

November 9, 2026

Iowa DOT Public Transit Introductions

- **Tammy Nicholson**, Modal Transportation Bureau Director
- **Kristin Haar**, Public Transit Director
- **Brent Paulsen**, Transit Programs Manager
- **Jeremy Johnson-Miller**, Transit Grants Manager
- **Laura Lutz-Zimmerman**, Transit Programs Administrator
- **Matt Oetker**, Transit Programs Administrator
- **Jamie Wingert**, Compliance and Training Specialist
- **Amy Colwell**, Administrative Support
- **Emma Simmons**, Transit Planner
- **Nyonnua Quayeh**, Transit Intern

Upcoming Training

- **Transit Asset Management Fundamentals for Iowa Transit Providers**
  - November 17 & 18, 9:00 to 11:00 am online
  - Register https://www.intrans.iastate.edu/events/tam-fundamentals-for-transit-providers/
- **Transit Manager's Handbook Training**
  - January 26, noon - 5:00 pm & January 27, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm
  - 800 Lincoln Way, Ames- Garden Level White Pole Road Conference Room
  - To register email Jamie Wingert Jamie.wingert@iowadot.us
    - Name
    - Transit Agency
    - Phone number
    - Email address

Transit Manager's Handbook Updates

- Next update planned for January 2027
- Changes to Chapter 9 Procurement
- Send additional suggestions to Jamie Wingert

Subrecipient Request for Advanced Authority to Incur Costs for Capital Funds

Allows transit agencies to incur costs before the grant is executed

- Current TIP that includes justification for the project
- Included in an FTA grant application requesting funds for the project

Subrecipient assumes full responsibility for all costs of services and items purchased prior to the execution of a contract with the Iowa DOT.

- Fill out form, sign, and submit to your TPA
- https://iowadot.seamlessdocs.com/f/AckmntofFinRespUnderAdvAuthtoIncurCosts
- TPA will review and send an approval letter
- Reimbursement cannot be requested until after the grant is executed and a contract is in place with Iowa DOT.

Access to Documents and Reports

Organizing documents before retiring or changing positions ensures a smooth transition and prevents coworkers from hunting down or recreating relevant documents.

- Use a shared folder for the current documents.
- Update file permissions when someone new is hired
- Clearly label the documents and revision dates
- When a document is updated, archive the old
- Update your website? Check that the required items do not get removed.

New Public Transit Swag Design Available

- 12 years ago, Iowa DOT designed a ‘Ride Transit’ logo to celebrate Transit Week
- Iowa DOT staff printed our own shirts, but also used the logo on lapel pins to handout at events
- Logo has been refreshed
- Will make the files available to Iowa’s transit systems to print any “swag” your systems may want
- Amy sent out the digital file to utilize the logo. If you need her to resend it, please let her know



FTA Grants Update

- Formula Grants for 5310, 5311 and 5339 Formula Program executed
- Carbon Reduction Program and Interregional Express Bus (IRX Bus - 380) transmitted and in review with FTA
- Discretionary Iowa Low-No Project and Iowa Bus Replacement Project to be submitted this fall

FY2026 5339b Statewide Application

- Federal Request: $11,575,810
- 24 vehicles
- 9 transit agencies

Mark Your Calendars!
2027 Iowa Passenger Transportation Summit

- Date: **May 25, 2027**
- Location: FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny, Iowa
- Registration will be sent out at the beginning of the year

Accessible Web Documents

- If you are wanting to post any documents on the Iowa DOT webpage, they will need to be accessible starting April 26, 2027
- Please make sure your public hearing notices you send to post on the DOT's page are accessible
- State of Iowa Web Resource: https://dxtraining.iowa.gov/accessibility-and-inclusivity

Grants & Contracts – Progress Report

FY2026

- **23** expired grants closed
- **$216,209** ARPA/CRRSSA *new* projects
- **$1.26M** PTIG reallocated
- **$4.8M** ICB reallocated

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

- October 3, 2025 – Executive Order issued to update program guidance
- Iowa DOT Civil Rights Bureau – re-certification of DBEs to align with new federal guidelines
  - ➢ *Plan has not been approved by USDOT*
- Iowa DOT Public Transit to start its goal setting plan based upon published DBE listing

Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan

- Iowa DOT must update the TAM Plan every 4 years
- Includes all rural and small urban systems
- Assess physical condition of transit assets
  - Facility – Admin, maintenance, garage, HVAC, etc.
  - Vehicles – utilize condition reporting in PTMS
  - Document condition ranking, offer justification to maintain State of Good Repair (SGR)
  - Final Plan submitted September 30, 2026

TAM Plan Findings

- 6.8% increased costs across all vehicle types (5yr average)
- 30% exceed the federal useful life benchmark
- Need $11 million annually to maintain SGR of vehicles
- 3.8 average rating of all facilities, on a 1-5 scale
  - Pavement cracking/buckling, aging components like drainage, HVAC, garage doors and equipment

- FY22-25, secured more $37 million in B/BF funding for construction or facility improvements at 7 agencies
- FY25, secured $45 million in B/BF funding for the replacement of 110 vehicles statewide

Year End Review Reminders

- Year end reviews are underway. Regional and small urban systems are being completed first, followed by large urbans.
- Please review all of the statistics in the year end review. The statistics in the year end review will become the approved statistics. Approved statistics are used for formula funding projections.
- We will be reviewing the status and disposition of contracts during year end reviews.
- Generally, year end reviews are a chance for you to touch base with the TPA, too. Bring up concerns or questions that you may have to your TPA.

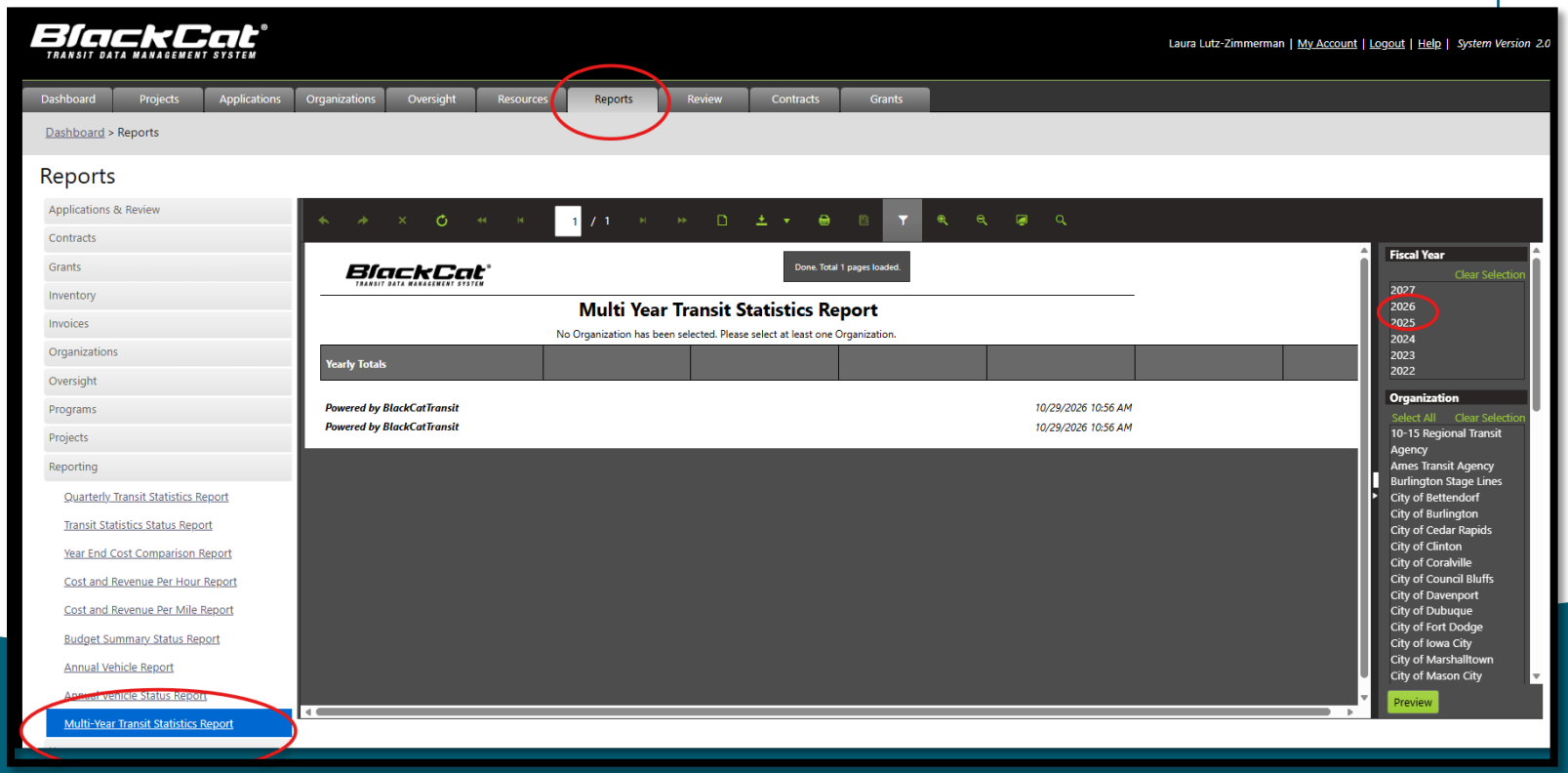
Blackcat Tools/Reports

Remember there are several reports in Blackcat that can be helpful in reviewing your transit agency metrics:

- ✓ Revenue Vehicle Report
- ✓ Vehicle Mileage Comparison Report
- ✓ Year End Milage Comparison Report
- ✓ Vehicle Disposal Report
- ✓ Year-end Cost Comparison Report, Cost per Mile and Cost per Hour
- ✓ Multi-Year Transit Statistics Report

Multi-Year Transit Statistics Report

- Starting this year, a new report was added to Blackcat – Multi Year Transit Statistics Report
- You can look at 3 & 5 year totals, means and percent change for selected transit statistics



Let’s look at the data a little closer

BlackCat® TRANSIT DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Multi Year Transit Statistics Report

Yearly Totals	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
Total Rides	98,348	95,595	100,288	102,419	111,439
Elderly Rides	9,899	8,705	7,378	9,749	14,488
Disabled Rides	33,939	39,995	44,357	48,400	53,424
Vehicle Miles	877,859	977,157	965,029	892,603	895,793
Revenue Miles	747,419	741,262	716,296	690,871	713,458
Deadhead	130,440	235,895	248,733	201,732	182,335
Revenue Hours	21,294	24,882	24,401	24,939	21,892
Operating Costs	$2,535,479	$2,638,966	$2,697,654	$2,228,669	$2,245,959
Passenger Revenue	$132,954	$145,713	$121,123	$138,500	$146,721
Contract Revenue for Operations	$1,094,370	$1,319,648	$1,316,590	$1,278,317	$990,571
Other Revenue for Operations	$263,036	$259,617	$234,237	$100,773	$31,916
Local Tax	$64,550	$60,903	$57,457	$56,512	$67,550
FTA for Operations	$704,173	$796,378	$1,289,267	$1,125,379	$1,798,802
STA for Operations	$576,435	$607,667	$534,544	$555,892	$534,817

Let's look at the data a little closer (2)

BlackCat TRANSIT DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Multi Year Transit

Yearly Totals	2026 - 2025 Change (%)	5 Year Total	5 Year Mean	3 Year Total	3 Year Mean
Total Rides	2.88%	508,089	101,617.80	294,231	98,077.00
Elderly Rides	13.72%	50,219	10,043.80	25,982	8,660.67
Disabled Rides	-15.14%	220,115	44,023.00	118,291	39,430.33
Vehicle Miles	-10.16%	4,608,441	921,688.20	2,820,045	940,015.00
Revenue Miles	0.83%	3,609,306	721,861.20	2,204,977	734,992.33
Deadhead	-44.70%	999,135	199,827.00	615,068	205,022.67
Revenue Hours	-14.42%	117,408	23,481.60	70,577	23,525.67
Operating Costs	-3.92%	$12,346,726	$2,469,345	$7,872,099	$2,624,033
Passenger Revenue	-8.76%	$685,012	$137,002	$399,790	$133,263
Contract Revenue for Operations	-17.07%	$5,999,497	$1,199,899	$3,730,608	$1,243,536
Other Revenue for Operations	1.32%	$889,579	$177,916	$756,890	$252,297
Local Tax	5.99%	$306,971	$61,394	$182,909	$60,970
FTA for Operations	-11.58%	$5,713,998	$1,142,800	$2,789,817	$929,939
STA for Operations	-5.14%	$2,809,356	$561,871	$1,718,646	$572,882

Iowa DOT Bus Procurement

- DOT is still working on a new procurement for vans, light duty and medium duty buses.
- The procurement solicitation will be finalized and issued once year end reviews are completed.
- At this time your options for vehicles purchases are: do your own procurement, purchase from another state schedule or wait until the new procurement is in place.

➔If purchasing from another state, please contact your TPA for guidance. For example, if purchasing from Washington you will need to sign a cooperative agreement with Washington DES and will be responsible for ensuring compliance with Buy America and FVMSS

Vehicle Dispositions

- Reminder, you cannot dispose a vehicle until you have received a replacement vehicle except in very specific cases outlined in the Transit Manager Handbook.
- However, after you have purchased a replacement vehicle, you have 45 days to dispose of the vehicle. If you need to retain the vehicle for longer, you will need to request delayed disposition, retention, or prepare a fleet contingency plan.
- During the upcoming year, TPAs will be reviewing vehicle dispositions with reimbursements to ensure vehicles are being properly disposed.

First Security Interest (Liens) on Titles

- Reminder: All vehicles funded through the Public Transit Section, must follow the title/registration/plates process outlined in the Transit Manager's Handbook

- **If your vehicle is paid for via a contract with DOT**
  - your vehicle application title and/or official registration need to be submitted through your TPA
  - a lien must be on title until the vehicle has meet federal useful life

    Please use "Iowa Department of Transportation" in first security interest box. The address is 800 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50010. The FEIN is 42-6004226

- We are finding titles are not being filled out correctly and DOT is not receiving the titles.

Questions?

Iowa DOT Public Transit
515-233-7870
https://iowadot.gov/transit

