

# IOWA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Workshop Overview

March 12, 2019  
Iowa DOT – Materials Conference Room

(Two hours and 40 minutes)  
Begin at 9:30 am

1. Commission Input Commission 10 min.
  - **Purpose:** Commission discussion of items.
  - **Requested Action:** N/A
2. Director's Report Mark Lowe, Director 10 min.
  - **Purpose:** Director update of activities at the DOT.
  - **Requested Action:** N/A
3. Administrative Rules 10 min.
  - Chapter 520 – Regulations Applicable to Carriers Melissa Spiegel, Director  
Motor Vehicle Division
  - Chapter 529 – For-Hire Interstate Motor Carrier Authority
  - Chapter 607 – Commercial Driver Licensing
  - Chapter 181 – Statewide Standard for Permitting Mitchell Dillavou, Director  
Certain Implements of Husbandry Highway Division
  - **Purpose:** Provide an overview of proposed rule amendments. These proposed rule amendments and notices of intended action were previously emailed to the Commission.
  - **Requested Action:** Review the proposed rule changes prior to the workshop as action will be requested on these rules at the business meeting.
4. Future Commission Meeting Dates 5 min.
  - Danielle Griggs  
Traffic Operations
  - **Purpose:** Review Commission meeting schedule from June 2019 to June 2020. Also, discuss plans for future Capitol meetings and tour/workshop/business meeting schedule for the three tours in the summer.
  - **Requested Action:** Be prepared to discuss meeting dates. Action will be requested at the afternoon business meeting.

5. 2019 Highway Program Balance Report 5 min.  
Don Tebben  
Office of Program Management
- **Purpose:** Present the latest FY 2019 monthly highway program balance report. Through January, receipts to the Primary Road Fund have come in \$35.2 million above forecast. Through the February letting, project costs are \$4.9 million below programmed amounts. When combined with the \$19.3 million over-programmed amount we began FY 2019, the current highway program balance is \$20.8 million under-programmed.
- The forecast low Primary Road Fund balance for FY 2020 improved significantly with a projected low balance in November of 2019 of positive \$20.4 million.
- **Requested Action:** N/A
6. Potential 2019-2023 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 10 min.  
Stu Anderson, Director  
Planning, Programming and Modal Division
- **Purpose:** In order to address deteriorating roadway conditions resulting from the extreme winter weather, the department is recommending consideration of an amendment to fiscal year 2019 of the 2019-2023 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. This amendment would increase the statewide contract maintenance line item in the back of the program by \$12 million to permit the hiring of contractors to patch, repair, and place pavement overlays on relatively small stretches of highway with the worst conditions.
  - **Requested Action:** Provide comments during the workshop. This item is included on the afternoon business meeting agenda in the event you are comfortable with this recommendation. If further discussion and/or consideration are desired, the business meeting action item can be deferred.
7. Passenger Rail Overview/Depot Grant Recommendation 15 min.  
Amanda Martin  
Office of Rail Transportation  
Stu Anderson, Director  
Planning, Programming and Modal Division
- **Purpose:** As explained in Mark Lowe's February 20 email to the Commission, the department is recommending your consideration of awarding \$400,000 of state passenger rail funding to partially cover the shortfall for completing the final phase of Fort Madison railroad station depot improvements. This project has been ongoing for over a decade and is nearly complete. This will allow the historic depot to again serve as the Amtrak station for this statewide significant passenger rail service. In addition to discussing this recommendation, a brief overview of passenger rail in Iowa will be provided.

- **Requested Action:** Provide comments during the workshop. This is for review this month and action will be requested at the April business meeting.
8. Washington, D.C. Trip Discussion 10 min.  
Mark Lowe, Director
- **Purpose:** Provide an update on plans for the Washington, D.C. trip.
  - **Requested Action:** Provide comments during the workshop.
9. Commission Handbook 5 min.  
Kathy Fehrman, Chair
- **Purpose:** Discuss the final draft of the document which has been updated based on comments and feedback from the February workshop.
  - **Requested Action:** Provide comments during the workshop. A final version will be presented for Commission action at the April business meeting.
10. RISE Projects 10 min.  
- Annual Review of RISE Participation per Job Craig Markley, Director  
- Waterloo Local Development Office of Systems Planning
- **Purpose:** Provide an overview of one RISE project. The RISE material is available on the Commission material website for your review. If you have any questions that you would like responses prior to the workshop, please contact Craig Markley at 515-239-1027 or at [craig.markley@iowadot.us](mailto:craig.markley@iowadot.us) by Thursday, March 7, at 5:00 pm.
- Also, per Commission guidance, after every calendar year when the latest construction cost index information is available, staff provides analysis and a recommendation on changes to the maximum RISE participation per job figure.
- **Requested Action:** Review the project summary material prior to the workshop as action on the RISE grant will be requested at the business meeting. A change to the maximum RISE participation per job figure is not recommended at this time; however, if there is consensus to make a change, the formal action to do so would occur at the April business meeting.
11. Fiscal Year 2020 Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Program Amendment 10 min.  
Kris Klop  
Office of Rail Transportation
- **Purpose:** Back in October, the Commission approved the FFY 2020 Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Program. After onsite project reviews with the railroads and highway jurisdictions, the determination was made that several of the crossings should not be improved. Therefore, an amendment will be proposed to remove those crossings from the program and replace them with alternative projects. This material is being presented for information this month and action will be requested at the April business meeting.
  - **Requested Action:** Provide input and comments during the workshop.

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| 12. Five-Year Program Discussion | 60 min.   |
| - Investment Alternatives        | <p>Charlie Purcell, Director<br/>Project Delivery Bureau</p> <p>Matt Haubrich<br/>Organizational Improvement</p>                  |
| - Program Development            | <p>Stu Anderson, Director<br/>Planning, Programming and<br/>Modal Division</p> <p>Don Tebben<br/>Office of Program Management</p> |
- **Purpose:** This item is a continuation of the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program discussion. From an asset management perspective, past presentations and analyses will be brought together to discuss the trade-offs of different investment levels in different categories. This is intended to be helpful as the Commission considers how to allocate program funds in years where there is available funding.
- Program development discussion for the 2020-2024 Highway Program will continue with an updated state and federal funding forecast, a cost/schedule update for projects already in the Program, and a review of program candidates and options. Action will be requested at the afternoon business meeting for the statewide line item recommendation presented in February.
- **Requested Action:** Provide comments and guidance during the workshop and specifically, provide initial thoughts on program directions. It is expected an additional workshop will be necessary in March to continue the discussions prior to the April meeting.