
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING — JUNE 2023

The Transportation Commission met for an informal workshop on June 12, 2023, in Burlington. The Commission discussed the following actions:

Transportation Trends. The Department of Transportation provided an update on monthly passenger counts at Iowa's eight commercial service airports over the past five calendar years. Through April 2023, monthly passenger counts have been higher than counts for the same months in 2022. January and February counts for 2023 were the second highest over the past five years behind the same months in 2020. March and April counts for 2023 were also the second highest over the past five years behind the counts for the same months in 2019.

The Department of Transportation also provided an update on the monthly State vehicle miles of travel over the past five years. January 2023 had the highest number of vehicle miles traveled over the past five years. February 2023 vehicle miles of travel were the third highest over the past five years behind the same month in 2020 and 2022. March 2023 vehicle miles of travel were similar to miles traveled in March 2021 and were slightly lower than miles traveled in March 2019 and March 2022. April 2023 vehicle miles of travel were similar to April 2021 but lower than April 2019 miles traveled.

2023 Highway Program Balance Report. The Commission received an update on the FY 2023 Highway Program Balance. The program balance in May 2023 was negative \$94.2 million.

Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Fund Projects. The Commission was given an overview of two RISE projects:

- Mahaska County/Oskaloosa Local Development
 - The project consists of construction of approximately 10,000 feet of new roadway connecting Iowa Highway 23 and U.S. Route 63 and turn lanes at Iowa Highway 23 and 17th Avenue East, Iowa Highway 23 and Osburn Avenue, Iowa Highway 23 and the proposed connector, and U.S. Route 63 and the proposed connector located southeast of Oskaloosa.
 - The recommended RISE grant amount is approximately \$10.1 million, split between county and city funds.
- Farley Project Settlement: The city of Farley will repay approximately \$200,000 in previously awarded RISE grant funding.

Five-Year Program Discussion. The Commission received a brief overview of the actions regarding the approval of the [Iowa Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2024-2028](#).

The Transportation Commission met for a business meeting on June 13, 2023, in Burlington. The Commission took the following actions:

Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Fund Projects. The Commission approved the award of RISE funding for the Mahaska County/Oskaloosa project and the repayment from the city of Farley project.

FY 2024-2028 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. The Commission approved the program.

The Commission also met for a public input meeting on June 13, 2023. The following participants discussed transportation matters with the Commission:

- The city of Burlington provided updates on two completed projects funded with RISE and Transportation Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) moneys and four upcoming projects.
- The Highway 61 Coalition provided updates on the Highway 61 corridor project.
- The Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission provided an overview of its organization, including the services offered, new bus storage facilities in West Burlington and Mount Pleasant, and transportation projects funded between federal fiscal years 2022 and 2026.
- The Bi-State Regional Commission provided an update on the following:
 - Interstate 80 lanes.
 - Interstate 80 system study in the Quad City area.
 - Interstate 80 bridge.
 - Interstate 80 at Interstate 74 interchange.
 - Interstate 80 at U.S. Route 61 interchange.
 - Interstate 80 at the Northwest Boulevard interchange.

The Commission also heard from other organizations and citizens sharing concerns or updates over transportation-related projects.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for July 11, 2023, in Ames.

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