



MEMO

To: Mayor and Members of the Ames City Council

From: Steven L. Schainker, City Manager

Date: April 14, 2026

Subject: Approval of the Appointment of Steve Schainker to the Executive Board of Directors of the Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance

The Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance (MIPA) was created in August 2021 for the purpose of supporting economic and community development activities in Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Story, and Warren Counties. In 2022, MIPA was designated an Economic Development District (EDD) by the US Economic Development Administration. The City of Ames has been a member of MIPA since its inception.

The membership fee for MIPA has remained at \$9,965 since the City first joined. In return for the membership fee the MIPA staff serves as a resource to the City regarding available federal and state grants, helps prepare grant applications as requested by a member, and provides grant administration and planning services for an additional fee.

For example, MIPA serves as the administrator of several regional organizations and initiatives on a contractual basis. Below is a list of the current affiliated organizations:

- [Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund \(CIHTF\)](#)
- [Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance \(CIRTPA\)](#)
- [Central Iowa Workforce Development Board \(CIWDB\)](#)
- [Dallas County Local Housing Trust Fund \(DCLHTF\)](#)
- [Metro Home Improvement Program \(MHIP\)](#)
- [Story County Housing Trust \(SCHT\)](#)

From the beginning, I have served as a member of the Executive Board for MIPA. MIPA staff now is requesting that each governing body take formal action to approve the appointment of their employee to the Board. Therefore, I am requesting that the City Council authorize me to represent the City of Ames by serving on the MIPA Executive Board of Directors.