

ITEM #:	<u>2</u>
DATE:	<u>05-26-26</u>
DEPT:	<u>AAMPO</u>

## TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: FFY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT**

### BACKGROUND:

To receive federal funds for regional transportation projects, it is necessary for them to be included in the Ames Area MPO's (AAMPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The AAMPO's current TIP contains projects programmed for federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2026 through 2029 and was adopted on July 8, 2025. The TIP may be amended as outlined below:

1. Request for amendment(s) by member agency of MPO staff
2. Recommendation by the Transportation Technical Committee
3. Initial review by Transportation Policy Committee; Setting of public hearing date (**this action**)
4. Minimum 10-day public comment period
5. Public hearing and final approval by Transportation Policy Committee

The AAMPO recently amended the FFY 2026-2029 TIP on January 27, 2026 (click [here](#) to view the committee action form) but has now received another amendment request from the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT).

The Iowa Transportation Commission recently amended the Iowa DOT's 2026 Five Year Program to move up a phase of the Interstate 35 widening project (**see attached project location map**) to state fiscal year (SFY) 2027 with a letting date in July 2026. While July 2026 is in SFY 2027, it is in FFY 2026 due to the federal fiscal year starting on October 1 instead of July 1. As such, the project must be amended into the FFY 2026-2029 TIP rather than simply be included in the FFY 2027-2030 TIP, and since the northern extent of the project falls within the [AAMPO metropolitan planning area](#), the project must be included in the AAMPO's TIP.

This project includes the widening of Interstate 35 to six travel lanes from E 1st St (County Road E63) near Huxley to 0.5 miles north of 260th Street near Ames. The project totals \$32,067,000 in funding, with \$26,339,450 in National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) federal-aid funding. **This change does not impact the AAMPO's current funding levels.**

The final phase of the Interstate 35 widening project is already programmed in the AAMPO's TIP in FFYs 2028-2030 and will carry the 6-lane widening northward to 0.6 miles north of US Highway 30.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Set June 9, 2026, as the date of public hearing for the amendment to the FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program.
2. Do not approve this amendment request.

**MPO DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Processing this amendment to the TIP will allow the Iowa DOT to proceed with their I-35 widening project on schedule. Additionally, the Transportation Technical Committee unanimously recommended its approval.** Therefore, it is the recommendation of the MPO Director that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

[Project Location Map.pdf](#)