

# What's Happening

for Community Leaders

March/April 2016

## Road construction projects set for Omaha-Council Bluffs Metro Area

Get ready to adjust your travel time to work or errands and watch for more lane changes and closures. Several major road construction projects in MAPA's Transportation Management Area (TMA) of Douglas and Sarpy Counties and the City of Council Bluffs are underway currently or will get underway during the summer and fall months.

Phase 3 of the Interstate 80/Interstate 680 Interchange bridge construction is happening right now in Douglas County. This involves building the east half of the bridge while keeping two lanes of traffic open.

The I and L Streets Collector-Distributor Road to Northbound I-680 is closed along with the I and L Street Loop Ramps to I-80 Eastbound and I-680 Northbound. Phases 4 and 5 of the project begin in mid-July and early October, respectively, with construction of the west half of the bridge over I-80 and the railroad and traffic limited to one lane.

### Metro Area Road Projects

#### Douglas County:

- I-80 / I-680 Interchange bridges

#### Sarpy County:

- Hwy 370 from Hwy 75 to 48th Street
- Hwy 75 & Hwy 34 Interchange

#### Council Bluffs:

- I-29 & US 275 / IA 92
- I-80 WB west of S. 24th Street thru the West System Interchange

In Sarpy County, construction is affecting Highway 370 and Highway 75. Repair work to two westbound bridges is underway on Hwy 370 from Hwy 75 to 48th Street. One lane is closed between the bridges for pavement repair. There are alternating lane closures for eastbound pavement repair work between the bridges. Two eastbound bridges will undergo repairs from late-July to late-November. On Highway 75 just north of the Platte River, crews are constructing secondary roads and ramps for an interchange with Highway 34. In September, southbound traffic will shift to the northbound lanes.

In Council Bluffs, the next phases of the Interstate System Improvement Program are taking place. First, northbound Interstate 29 from Exit 47 to US 275/Iowa Hwy 92 is scheduled to open in early May and, along with it, traffic moving from westbound I-80 to I-29 southbound shifts to the northbound lanes.

In late May, southbound traffic on I-29 shifts to northbound lanes with one lane southbound and two lanes northbound and one northbound lane at the south cross-over. Starting in late June, north and southbound traffic will both be in the new northbound lanes with two lanes in each direction.

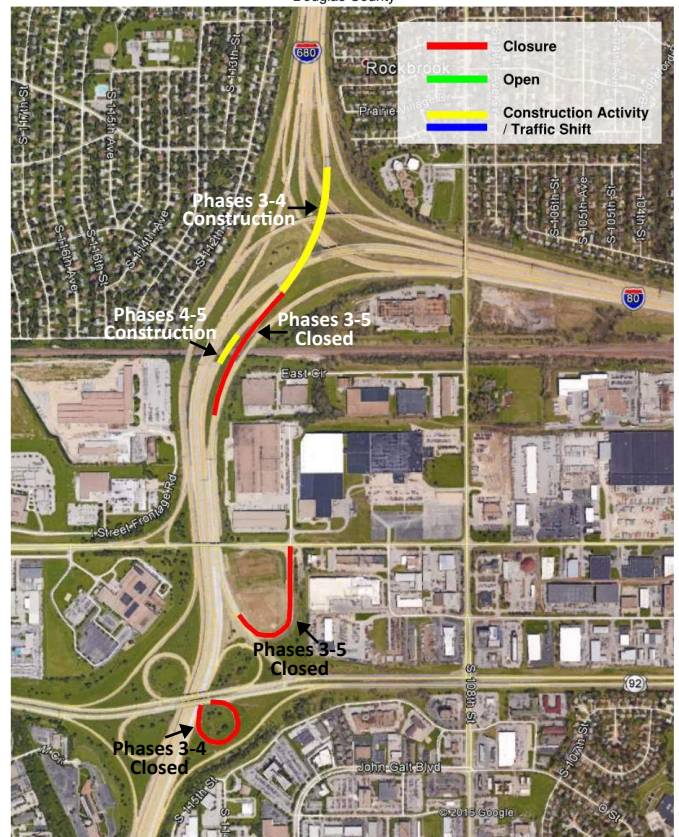
Other closures starting in late May along southbound I-29 include the entrance ramp from US 275/Iowa Hwy 92 and the exit loop ramp from I-80 westbound. That exit ramp closure becomes a full closure in late summer through November 2016.

I-80 westbound will shift south to new pavement within the West System Interchange just west of 24th Street during the summer. US 275 and Iowa Hwy 92 and I-29 are expected to be back to full capacity by November.



### Omaha - Council Bluffs Metro TIM

2016 Major Construction  
Douglas County



## Heartland 2050 Summit focuses on neighborhood revitalization and mixed-use development

Success stories in neighborhood revitalization and redevelopment took center stage at the Heartland 2050 “20/20 Vision” Summit.

Margaret May, Executive Director of the Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council in Kansas City, Missouri, and Dan Lofgren, Chair of Envision Utah and CEO of Cowboy Partners in Salt Lake City, Utah, shared their messages of progress in helping rebuild neighborhoods and developing prosperous communities available to all residents.

The Ivanhoe Neighborhood has been experiencing an unprecedented renaissance since 1997 when community revitalization work began, resulting in an economic impact.

Cowboy Partners focuses on building innovative, imaginative, and inviting residential communities and mixed-use neighborhoods. It is a pioneer in redevelopment projects and affordable housing.

The summit also included a series of breakout sessions focused on urban, suburban and rural projects within the region which fall under the six Heartland 2050 goals of Economic Development, Education, Health and

Safety, Housing and Development, Infrastructure and Resources.

Mark your calendars for the next Heartland 2050 Summit on August 2, 2016. For questions regarding Heartland 2050, contact Karna Loewenstein, Heartland 2050 Coordinator at [kloewenstein@mapacog.org](mailto:kloewenstein@mapacog.org) or 402-444-6866, ext. 225.



Heartland 2050 Summit speakers discuss next steps for furthering community development during the 20/20 Vision Summit on February 24th. (L to R) Margaret May, Julie Stavneak, Andy Wessel, and Dan Lofgren.

## MAPA releases its draft Transportation Improvement Program project list for FY2017-2022

Trail extensions and road construction are some of projects the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) has in its prioritized list of top projects for MAPA funding in the FY2017-FY2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

MAPA is wrapping up the public comment period on the project list. The Project Selection Committee found the projects listed below, in prioritized order under each funding category, meet the requirements for selection.

### Nebraska Surface Transportation Program (STP)

- 180th Street, Blondo St. to Maple St., Phase II
- 36th Street, Sheridan to Platteview Rd., Phase II
- 66th and Giles

### Nebraska Systems Management Surface Transportation Program (STP)

- Omaha Signal Network Implementation

### Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)

- West Papio Trail, Millard Connection
- Council Bluffs City/Pottawattamie County, Connector Trail

### 5310 (Elderly and Disabled Funding)

- Capital Projects  
(Either purchase of lowered floor minivan or small transit bus)
  - Bryant Resource Center
  - Housing Authority of the City of Omaha
  - Crossroads of Western Iowa
  - Florence Home for the Aged
  - City of Papillion
  - City of Bellevue

- Heartland Family Service
- Region 5 Services
- SWITA
- Notre Dame Housing
- Operations Projects
  - Bryant Resource Center
  - Florence Home for the Aged
  - Heartland Family Service
- City of LaVista
- New Cassel Retirement Center
- City of Council Bluffs
- New Cassel Retirement Center
- Black Hills Works
- City of Council Bluffs

Projects receiving the highest scores through MAPA's project selection process are prioritized and programmed into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in the earliest fiscal years available, subject to project phasing. Projects listed in FY2021 and beyond are subject to re-application and future evaluation by the Project Selection Subcommittee. Projects listed from 2017 to 2020 are considered firm commitments for future funding. Projects listed in 2021 and beyond are illustrative and may be subject to future prioritization. Project construction and completion may occur over multiple years.

The document may be accessed at <http://mapacog.org/reports/fy2017-transportation-improvement-program-tip/>.

Written comments regarding the FY2017 TIP projects which were selected should be submitted by 4 p.m. April 29, 2016, via mail or email to:

Metropolitan Area Planning Agency  
2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102  
Email: [mapa@mapacog.org](mailto:mapa@mapacog.org)  
Phone: (402) 444-6866  
Fax: (402) 951-6517



## Grant funding opportunities available in 3rd quarter of 2016

Don't forget to monitor upcoming deadlines for grant opportunities.

The charts show grant application deadlines in the third quarter of 2016 for both the States of Nebraska and Iowa.

For questions regarding grant opportunities, please contact Lynn Dittmer, Community and Economic Development Manager at 402-444-6866, ext. 230 for more information.

Iowa Grants	Application Deadline
State Recreational Trails Program	July 1, 2016
Solid Waste Alternatives Program	July 1, 2016
Peter Kiewit Foundation	July 15, 2016
Vision Iowa (CAT)	July 15, 2016
REAP - City Parks & Open Space	August 15, 2016
REAP - Private/Public Open Space Acquisition	August 15, 2016
REAP - County Conservation	August 15, 2016
Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy	September 1, 2016

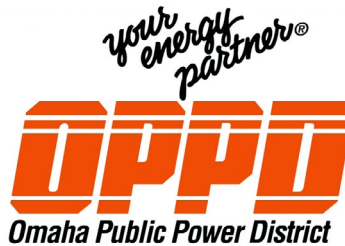
Nebraska Grants	Application Deadline
Peter Kiewit Foundation	July 15, 2016
Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program	August 2016
CDBG - Owner Occupied Rehabilitation	August 5, 2016
CDBG - Public Works	August 8, 2016
Recreational Trails Program Grant	September 2016
Nonpoint Source Water Quality Grants (Sec 319)	September 2016
CDBG - Comprehensive Development	September 15, 2016

## Major changes to OPPD North Omaha Station take effect

Big changes are underway at Omaha Public Power District's North Omaha Station to ensure its compliance with tighter clean air rules.

Coal burning operations are in the process of shutting down. By the end of April, Units 1, 2 and 3 at the North Omaha Station will stop burning coal, a process which began earlier this spring. Unit 3 will remain operational until October 31, 2016, but will burn natural gas, while Units 1 and 2 are being retired immediately.

Constructions crews began working in 2015 on Units 4 and 5. This work will allow those units to be retrofitted to burn natural gas in 2023.



## Sarpy County Transit Study initial outreach gets underway

Faced with the fastest-growing population in the State of Nebraska and the needs brought by neighborhood development, Sarpy County joined MAPA in conducting a study to assess additional transit services which would be beneficial in meeting the needs of county residents.

MAPA hosted three public meetings during the initial outreach period to gain feedback on the needs of those who live and work in Sarpy County and what types of additional services would be beneficial to them. A survey is available through April 30, 2016 at <http://mapacog.org/calendar/news/sarpy-county-transit-study/>.

Stakeholder meetings for Sarpy County employers, governmental agencies, paratransit and non-profit groups began in April along with meetings of the steering committee for the project.

Feedback from these groups, surveys and public meetings will be the basis for determining possible options for expanded transit. Those options will be presented for public comment yet this summer. It is anticipated the study will be completed in early 2017.



Nick Weander, a transportation planner with Olsson Associates, discusses transit options at a public meeting in Bellevue.

# CALENDAR

## May 2016

- May 11th – Heartland 2050 Executive Committee 8 a.m.
- May 13th – RPA/Tech Committee 11 a.m.
- May 18th – Finance Committee 8:30 a.m.  
Coordinated Transit Committee 10:30 a.m.
- May 20th – Transportation Technical Advisory Committee 10 a.m.
- May 26th – MAPA Board of Directors 1:30 p.m.
- May 30th – MAPA Offices Closed Memorial Day

## June 2016

- June 8th – Heartland 2050 Executive Committee 8 a.m.
- June 15th – Coordinated Transit Committee 10:30 a.m.
- June 22nd – Finance Committee 8:30 a.m.
- June 24th – Transportation Technical Advisory Committee 10 a.m.
- June 26th – NARC 50th Annual Conference June 29th Salt Lake City, Utah
- June 30th – MAPA Board of Directors 1:30 p.m.

## Long Range Transportation Plan Outreach

Development continues on MAPA's 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) with another round of public outreach just being completed. When finished, the LRTP will forecast the region's transportation needs for the next 34 years.

Staff hosted 14 public meetings recently. Feedback from the public, through surveys and activities involving the prioritization of goals and strategies, will be included with the information gathered from the Metro Area Travel Improvement Study (MTIS) in the next stages of the LRTP development process.

The planning process will continue through the summer with a draft plan being released in the Fall of 2016.



MAPA Board Chairman and Mills County Supervisor Ron Kohn participates in an activity to rank goals and strategies for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.



Community Engagement Coordinator Jeff Spiehs explains the process behind the development of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan to a member of the public at the Westroads Flagship Commons.



A Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce member reviews goals and strategies for long range transportation needs during the "Coffee and Contacts" event on March 8th.

### Metropolitan Area Planning Agency

2222 Cuming St., Omaha, NE 68102-4328

P: 402.444.6866 F: 402.951.6517

Email: [mapa@mapacog.org](mailto:mapa@mapacog.org)

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