

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY

COUNCIL OF OFFICIALS ANNUAL MEETING October 5, 2022

The October 5, 2022 Council of Officials Meeting was held at Bella Terre Vineyard & Reception Hall in Glenwood, Iowa

MINUTES

- A. Call to Order and Introductions – President Festersen called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm
- B. Welcome: Supervisor Carol Vinton, Mills County & Mayor Ron Kohn welcomed all council members and guests.
- C. Call to Order and Introductions – President Festersen called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members Present:

Patrick Boyle	Community Relations Director, Metropolitan Community College
Steve Dethlefs	Supervisor, Washington County
Pete Festersen (President)	City Council President, City of Omaha
Allen Hadfield	Mayor, City of Treynor
Douglas Kindig	Mayor, City of La Vista
Ron Kohn	Mayor, City of Glenwood
Sharon McNutt	Mayor, City of Silver City
Jacquelyn Morrison	Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Omaha
David Owens	Airport Planning & Engineering, Omaha Airport Authority
Douglas Shere	Mayor, City of Malvern
Michaela Valentin	Government & Community Relations Manager, OPPD
Carol Vinton (Vice-President)	Supervisor, Mills County
Matthew Walsh	Mayor, City of Council Bluffs
Andy Young	Mayor, City of Pacific Junction

Other Guests:

Donna Berry	Senator Grassley's Office
Brian Bills	City of Red Oak
Corie Boerner	Guest
Anna Boeye	Boeye Tech & Design LLC
Beau Boeye	Boeye Tech & Design LLC
Stephaine Bowden	Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce
Cale Brodersen	City of LaVista
David Brown	Guest
Elijah Brown	Guest
Gregory Brown	Guest
Maggie Brown	Guest
John Brownell	Guest
Jason Carbee	HDR
Colin Cassard	Guest
Lauren Cencic	Metro Transit
Richard Crouch	Mills County
Paula Dennison	City of Gretna
Steve Dennison	Guest
Meridith Dillon	Front Porch Investments
Michael Dwyer	Arlington Planning Commission
Sydney Embray	Lamp Rynearson
Amber Farnan	City of Glenwood
Niki Ferguson	Advance Southwest Iowa Corp

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Mark Ford	FFG Consulting
Brandon Garrett	City of Council Bluffs
Joe George	City of Malvern
Mary Gunderson	Mills County
Matthew Henkes	Iowa West Foundation
Amber Holle	JEO
Michael Holton	City of Treynor
Emily Holtzclaw	Jacobs Engineering, Inc.
Tess Houser	Front Porch Investments
Dianna Irick	Mills County
Holly Jackson	Mills County
Marlene Knight	Lamp Rynearson
Keegan Korf	Emspace + Lovgren
Audra Krueger	Mills County
Ryan Kuehl	Investors Realty
Mark Lincoln	Mills County
Karna Loewenstein	Guest
Jon Lorson	Tri-Valley Bank
Maurisa Mansaray	Guest
Gibril Mansaray	Guest
Jon Markt	HDR
Brandon Marriott	Glenwood Area Chamber
Vicki Mauer	City of Pacific Junction
Shalimar Mazetiz	Advance Southwest Iowa Corp.
Jerry McCall	Educational Consulting Services
Stephaine McCoy	Omaha Airport Authority
Morgan McCullough	HDR
Kyle McLaughlin	Olsson
Craig Mielke	Alfred Benesch & Company
Dave Morgan	Guest
Paul Nelson	Paul Luther LLC
Korrena Neppi	City of Pacific Junction
Joey Norris	Dream Forge, LLC
Kim O'Connor	City of Pacific Junction
Stephen Osberg	Greater Omaha Chamber
Patty Parham	City of Pacific Junction
Terry Parham	City of Pacific Junction
Vicki Quaites-Ferris	Empowerment Network
Andrew Rainbolt	Grow Sarpy
Jeff Riesselman	City of Omaha
Eva Roberts	Front Porch Investments
Carol Robertson	Mills County
Jennie Rubek	Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce
Tom Rymph	Guest
Katie Salerno	Olsson
Matt Selinger	JEO
Carrie Shalters	Montgomery County Family YMCA
Larry Shalters	Omaha Hydro Pump
Jeff Siegler	Speaker-Revitalize or Die LLC
Jessica Smith	Alfred Benesch & Company
Jeff Sobczyk	City of Omaha
Jeff Sockel	Alfred Benesch & Company
Chris Solberg	City of LaVista
Keith Station	City of Omaha
Mark Stursma	City of Papillion
Ashley Rae Turner	Emspace + Lovgren

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Kristin Veldhouse	HDR
Jake Weiss	HDR
Jeremy Williams	HDR
Larry Winum	Glenwood State Bank
Michelle Woodtke-Franks	Iowa West Foundation
Brett Woolery	Guest

MAPA Staff:

Grant Anderson	Natasha Barrett	Michael Blank	James Boerner	Christina Brownell
Lindsey Button	Sue Cutsforth	Matt Eash	Isabelle Fleming	Rachel Goettsch
Travis Halm	Laura Heilman	Mike Helgerson	Carlos Morales	Ryan Ossell
Shawna Silvius	Julie Smith	Jodi Woolery	Elizabeth Zeller	

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes – (ACTION)

1. June 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vinton, Second by McNutt to approve June 1, 2022 meeting minutes.

E. DIRECTORS REMARKS – (Information)

Mr. Helgerson provided an update to the Council on MAPA projects and activities and previewed the MAPA 2022 Annual Report.

F. KEYNOTE SPEAKER – (Information)

Jeff Siegler, CEO of Revitalize or Die, LLC presented a keynote presentation to the Council on fighting civic apathy and building civic pride. Jeff has assisted hundreds of communities with their revitalization, economic sustainability, and community development during the course of his career. Utilizing a background in urban planning, downtown district management, revitalization, real estate, economics and organizational development, his diverse background and expertise lends a unique vantage point for addressing community concerns.

G. REGIONAL AWARD PRESENTATION – (Information)

President Festersen presented Front Porch Investments with the 2022 Regional Service Award. Front Porch Investments was founded in 2021 to bring about coordinated leadership to and strategic investments in affordable housing and homelessness prevention in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area. Through two rounds of funding in 2022, Front Porch Investments demonstrated the value of its strategic framework, leveraging millions of dollars in ARPA funds to develop new, sustainable models for affordable housing throughout the region. Front Porch Investments is guided by the Regional Assessment of Housing Affordability, Needs, & Priorities report and exemplifies the collaborative approach for which the Regional Service Award was created—bringing public, private, nonprofit and philanthropic partners together to tackle the region’s most pressing housing challenges and reshape local policies. This is the second year in a row that the Regional Service Award has been awarded to an organization working to promote housing stability and affordability—reiterating the fundamental role that housing plays in the region’s quality of life and providing opportunities for all to thrive. Meredith Dillon, CEO of Front Porch Investments accepted the Regional Service Award on behalf of Front Porch Investments.

Vice President Vinton presented Korrena Neppel, City Clerk for the City of Pacific Junction, the 2022 Regional Citizenship Award. In 2019 the City of Pacific Junction was devastated by the spring flooding that impacted communities throughout the MAPA region. For more than three years, Korrena has served as the point of contact for impacted homeowners and the community’s overall recovery efforts. As a flood survivor herself, Korrena has demonstrated selfless leadership during the immediate flood recovery response, the COVID-19 pandemic, and changes in city leadership and key staff in partnering agencies. Throughout the project, her dedication and worth ethic have benefited more than one-hundred households as they have looked to her for guidance during periods of uncertainty and transition. Korrena has persisted to help the City and its residents

obtain state and federal aid in coordination with multiple levels of government. She is a wonderful representative of and champion for a small but determined community.

Mayor Doug Kindig presented David Brown the Award of Merit, MAPA's highest honor for service. From 2003 until his retirement in 2022, David Brown, served as President & CEO of the Greater Omaha Chamber. Such a long tenure at a regional Chamber of Commerce opened up tremendous opportunities for collaboration and cooperation across municipal and county boundaries. As a planning agency, MAPA was fortunate to work with a Chamber leader who himself had an educational background in planning and expertise in industrial site selection. David worked tirelessly to improve the quality of people's lives in the Greater Omaha region through economic development, and understood that improvements to the built environment are necessary to offer the lifestyle options our diverse workforce desires. David provided key insight into the development and implementation of Heartland 2050 Regional Vision—helping forge and sustain important partnerships on which the project's success has been built. Under David's leadership, the Chamber collaborated with MAPA on many endeavors, most recently through the ConnectGO Regional Transportation Strategy, MAPA's Transit Return on Investment Study, Metro Smart Cities, the Regional Development Report, and economic development projects throughout the MAPA region.

- H. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Vinton. President Festersen adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.