

MOVING FORWARD



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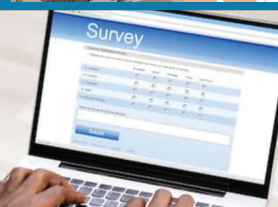
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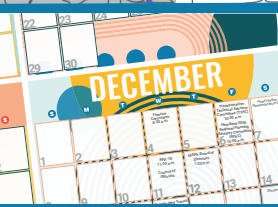
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MAPA & RPA-18 Call for Projects

At its Oct. 26 meeting, the **MAPA Board of Directors** opened a call for projects for four regional programs receiving federal transportation funding for Fiscal Year 2025.

Communities within the **Transportation Management Area (TMA)** are eligible to apply for this funding. The TMA covers Douglas, Sarpy and the urbanized portion of Pottawattamie County.

Local units of government including cities, counties and public transit agencies can apply for this funding.

Applications are due by January 12, 2024.

For more information and applications:
tinyurl.com/MAPACall4Projects.

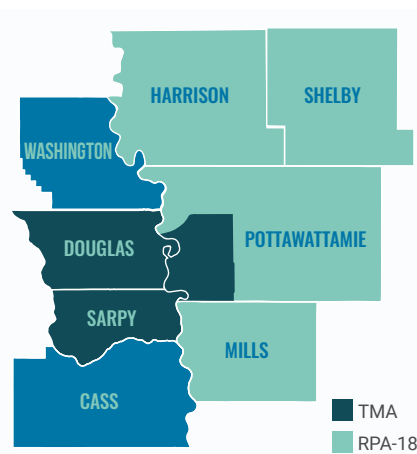
Regional Planning Affiliation 18 (RPA-18) is taking applications for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Regional Transportation Alternatives (TA-Set Aside/TASA) funding for Fiscal Year 2025.

Regional Planning Affiliation 18 covers Harrison, Shelby, Mills and the non-urbanized portion of Pottawattamie County.

Local units of government including cities, counties and public transit agencies are eligible for STBG and TA Set-Aside funding.

Applications for the RPA-18 funding are due by January 26, 2024.

Learn more and find applications at tinyurl.com/RPA18CallforProjects.



MAPA presents its 2023 Annual Awards

MAPA recognized a champion for regional trail connections and a Malvern organization with a mission to build a strong community for all ages with its 2023 Annual Awards presented Oct 4 at the Council of Officials Annual meeting in Papillion.

Eric Williams, Natural Resources Planner for the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (NRD) and Omaha Public Power District Board of Directors Chair, received the MAPA’s 2023 Regional Citizenship Award while the Malvern Area Betterment Association (MABA) received MAPA’s 2023 Regional Service Award.



Pictured L-R: Mills County Supervisor Carol Vinton, MAPA Board Vice-Chair; Omaha City Councilmember Pete Festersen, MAPA Council of Officials President; Eric Williams, Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and Mike Helgerson, MAPA Executive Director.

The Regional Citizenship Award honors an individual who recognized regional problems and initiated and supported policies which required a shared regional effort and contributed to the region’s quality of life.

In his role at the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, Williams has led the design and construction of major trail projects including the Western Douglas County Trail and multiple phases of both the West Papio Trail and Beltline Trail, plus restoration of the Lied Bridge and MoPac Trail after significant flood damage in 2019. He

also led the project to ensure the Highway 34/75 bridge between Sarpy and Cass County maintained a bicycle-pedestrian connection and was instrumental in securing a federal grant for the future construction of a bike and pedestrian bridge across the Elkhorn River.

The Regional Service Award is given to groups that have contributed to the metropolitan area to help improve or grow it.

Malvern Area Betterment Association (MABA) operates with the mission of building a strong community for all ages through creative projects, programs, and partnerships. MABA’s focus includes community development and beautification, volunteerism and civic engagement, educational programming, cultivation of partnerships, and creation of cultural and family-friendly events.

“The Malvern Area Betterment Association is a model of civic engagement within the MAPA region,” said Mike Helgerson, MAPA Executive Director. “It brings a broad range of skills, expertise and energy to projects to build a more livable Malvern, making the city a vibrant destination in southwest Iowa.”



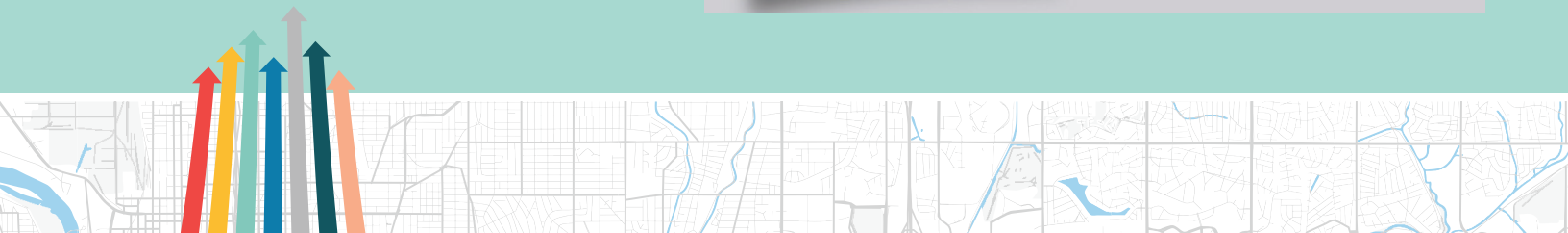
Pete Festersen, Carol Vinton, Natalie Lancial, Malvern Area Betterment Association; Mike Helgerson

MAPA's 2023 Annual Report showcases agency's work

Every year MAPA releases its annual report, which is a visual showcase of the work the agency performs on behalf of its member communities and regional partners.

MAPA’s Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report is available for download on our website at mapacog.org/about/annualreport

This annual publication recaps MAPA’s projects, initiatives, trainings and workshops during the past fiscal year.



Annual Member Survey available until January 12

Every year MAPA sends out a survey to better understand the needs of the communities it serves.

The feedback received helps staff develop programming, strategies and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.



We welcome input from multiple representatives of each community.

Survey URL: tinyurl.com/MemberSurveyFY2025

The survey is open until Jan. 12, 2024.

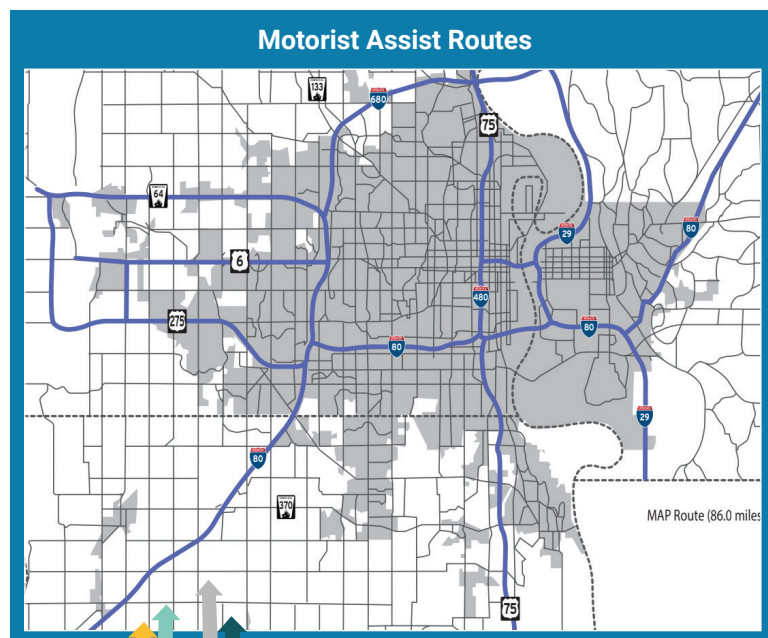
New Motorist Assist Program

Nebraska's Department of Transportation (NDOT) and State Patrol are partnering on a new motorist assist program for the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro area.

From 1997 to 2020, MAPA and the Nebraska State Patrol coordinated the Metro Area Motorist Assist (MAMA) program staffed by volunteers. The new program is a contracted service provided by Autobase.

Similar to the MAMA program, motorist assist trucks will patrol the freeway and interstate systems in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro area and will be dispatched to other NDOT roadways in the metro from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday; and for some holidays and special events. For assistance, dial *55 or 1-800-525-5555

For more information, visit <https://dot.nebraska.gov/safety/tim>



MAPA 2024 Calendars will be available soon

It's that time of year! Reserve your copy of MAPA's much-sought-after annual calendar now.

Our 2024 Calendar is being printed and will be available by mid-to-late November.



If you would like to receive a copy of this special publication, you may email mapa@mapacog.org or call 402-444-6866 to reserve your very own copy.

MAPA wins NADO photo contest category

We're excited to announce that MAPA has won an award in the National Association of Development Organizations's (NADO) annual photo contest!

MAPA won best photo in the category of Building Vibrant Places for a second year in a row.

The photo which won was snapped at the FIRST AVE Trail dedication in Council Bluffs in May 2023.

The trail is part of the urban core strategy which Omaha and Council Bluffs are working on together.

MAPA awarded a Heartland 2050 Mini-Grant to help fund the First Avenue Transit Alternatives Analysis. The alternatives analysis identified a possible future streetcar line extension from downtown Omaha into Council Bluffs along the First Avenue corridor. MAPA also awarded funding for and is working on a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study regarding a multimodal bridge to connect future transit into the corridor.



Shawna Silvius earns League's CEMO Designation

In late October, the Iowa League of Cities awarded MAPA's Economic Development Planner, Shawna Silvius, with the Certified Elected Municipal Officials (CEMO) designation.

The Iowa League of Cities bestows this award upon elected officials who continue to further their professional development while holding an office and serving the public.

Shawna is the Mayor of Red Oak, Iowa, and was elected to a second term in the November election.

Congratulations, Shawna!



Rafael Corrales accepts new position in Glenwood

This fall, MAPA staff said a fond farewell to Community and Economic Development Planner, Rafael Corrales, who accepted a position at the Glenwood Resource Center.

Rafael's impact was wide-reaching. He was instrumental in helping Pacific Junction homeowners through the lengthy home buyout process following the catastrophic 2019 floods.

Rafael will serve as the Glenwood Resource Center's Executive Officer as the facility winds down its operations.



CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2023

23 **Thanksgiving Day**
MAPA Offices Closed

24 **Thanksgiving Friday**
MAPA Offices Closed

DECEMBER 2023

01 **Regional Planning (Heartland 2050 RPAC)**
10:00 a.m.

06 **Finance Committee**
8:30 a.m.

08 **Transportation Committee**
10:00 a.m.

13 **RPA-18**
11:00 a.m.

14 **MAPA Board of Directors**
1:30 p.m.

22 **Christmas Eve Observance**
MAPA Offices Close at 12:00 p.m.

25 **Christmas Day**
MAPA Offices Closed

 U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

The preparation of this publication is financed through planning grants from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation through Iowa DOT and the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation as provided by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration and through local funds from member jurisdictions. The views and opinions MAPA expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Department of Transportation.