

MOVING FORWARD



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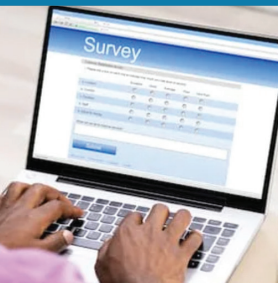
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Director's Farewell to 2023

There is no slow down for the MAPA staff this time of year as we embark on some major projects. It's a truly exciting time to be playing a role in shaping the future of transportation, economic development and resiliency across the region.

It's been a pivotal year with many new projects, new partnerships, and development of our agency's Strategic Plan. This effort, led by MAPA's Board of Directors, provides a framework to focus our work as an agency during the next five years. The plan reaffirms our commitment to serving as a shared resource for the region, investing in the professional development of our staff and local staff around the region, and identifying opportunities to work collaboratively beyond administrative boundaries.

If you haven't had an opportunity to take our Annual Member Survey (link and QR code on page 2), we'd love to hear from you. The feedback we hear through the survey and our community visits guides the development of our work plan for the upcoming year. It's also a great opportunity to share what you're working on and identifying ways that MAPA can assist—whether it's developing a strategic plan for your community, GIS mapping, drone photography, or helping secure a grant.

We're all privileged to have the opportunity to work with each of you to put together the pieces of projects to grow and invest in our communities. It's challenging but exciting work and there have never been more opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between communities across the region.

On behalf of the MAPA staff, I wish you all the happiest of holiday seasons and hope you get to spend time with those who mean the most to you. We're looking forward to continuing to work with our members and partners in the new year.

Sincerely,

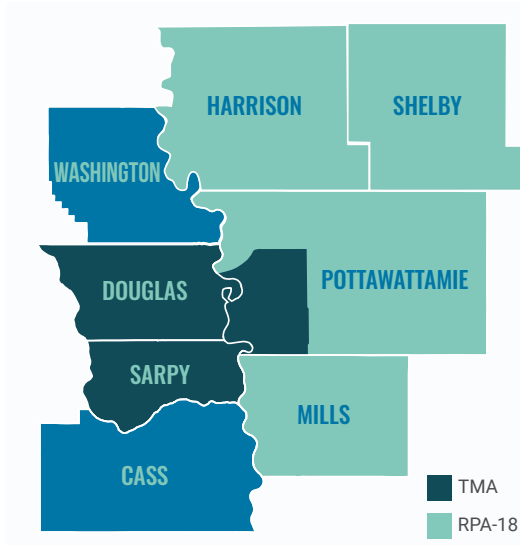
Mike Helgerson,
Executive Director



Calls for Projects end in January

MAPA has two open calls for projects for federal transportation funding.

MAPA's Transportation Management Area (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, go to: 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 can apply for this funding.

Applications are due by January 26, 2024. Learn more and find applications at the link: tinyurl.com/RPA18CallforProjects

MAPA Calendars have arrived

MAPA's highly anticipated annual calendar is here and you can pick up a copy at the MAPA offices at 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha. You also may contact MAPA at mapa@mapacog.org or (402) 444-6866 to have a copy delivered.



MAPA starts work on regional pollution reduction project

MAPA is working to align efforts on local, regional and statewide climate action plans. Projects and strategies included in these plans will be eligible for competitive implementation grant funding. (Project info: mapacog.org/projects/cprg)

Learn how MAPA can help your community secure funding to implement projects in your area. Contact Carlos Morales at cmorales@mapacog.org or by phone at 402-444-6866 x3220.

Member Survey ends in January

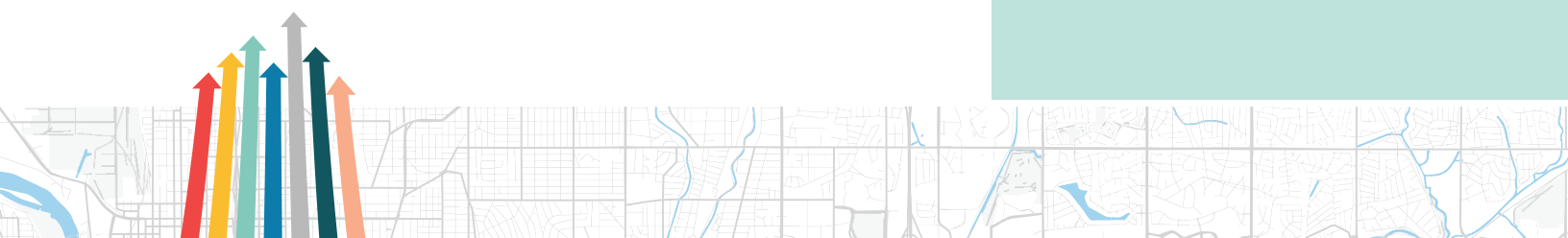
As our Executive Director mentioned in his year-end message, MAPA's annual member survey is still available.

The survey aims to better understand the needs of the communities MAPA serves.

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

We would like as many people as possible within each community to complete the survey before it closes on **January 12, 2024**. Use the following link to take the survey.

Survey: tinyurl.com/MemberSurveyFY2025



MAPA Transportation Planner heads to Iowa DOT in new role



Transportation Planner Travis Halm starts a new position this month with the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) as its Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA)/Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Coordinator.

In his new position Travis will work closely with agencies like MAPA. We wish Travis best of luck in this exciting new endeavor!

CALENDAR

JANUARY 2024

- 01** **New Year's Day**
MAPA Offices Closed
- 10** **RPA-18**
11:00 a.m.
- 15** **Martin Luther King Day**
MAPA Offices Closed
- 17** **Finance Committee**
8:30 a.m.
Coordinated Transit Committee (CTC)
10:30 a.m.
- 19** **Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)**
10:00 a.m.
- 25** **MAPA Board of Directors**
1:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2024

- 02** **Heartland 2050 Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC)**
10:00 a.m.
- 14** **Finance Committee**
8:30 a.m.
RPA-18
11:00 a.m.
- 16** **Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)**
10:00 a.m.
- 19** **Presidents' Day**
MAPA Offices Closed
- 21** **Coordinated Transit Committee (CTC)**
10:30 a.m.
- 22** **MAPA Board of Directors**
1:30 p.m.

Joyful Wishes

from the MAPA team!



MICHAEL HELGERSON



CHRISTINA BROWNELL



RACHEL GOETTSCH



RYAN OSSELL



GRANT ANDERSON



LINDSEY BUTTON



CHARLIE HARRINGTON



SHAWNNA SILVIUS



COURT BARBER



JOSH CORRIGAN



LAURA HEILMAN



JULIE SMITH



NATASHA BARRETT



SUE CUTSFORTH



SAUL LOPEZ



OWEN STUCKEY



MICHAEL BLANK



MATTHEW EASH



AMANDA MORALES



CONNIE VINER



JIM BOERNER



BRADLEY GREFF



CARLOS MORALES



JODI WOOLERY



ELIZABETH ZELLER



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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