

**OMAHA–COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

October 24, 2024

The Board of Directors met at the MAPA offices, 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha. Board Chair Kindig called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Patrick Bloomingdale	Chief Administrative Officer, Douglas County
Angi Burmeister	Sarpy County Commissioner
Mike Friend (rep Roger Garcia)	Douglas County Commissioner
Rusty Hike	Mayor, City of Bellevue
Douglas Kindig – Chair	NE Small Communities/Counties Representative (Mayor, City of La Vista)
Jacquelyn Morrison (rep. Mayor Jean Stothert)	Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Omaha
Carol Vinton – Vice Chair	IA Small Communities/Counties Representative (Mills County Board of Supervisors)

Members/Officers Absent

Scott Belt	Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors
Don Rowe	Omaha City Council
Matt Walsh	Mayor, City of Council Bluffs

MAPA Staff

Grant Anderson	Court Barber	Christina Brownell	Sue Cutsforth
Matt Eash	Elise Emanuel	Michael Helgerson	Laura Heliman
Carlos Morales	Elizabeth Zeller		

MAPA Guest

Bryce Ruff – Greenheart Systems, Inc.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA of the October 24, 2024 meeting agenda – (Action)

MOTION by Vinton, SECOND by Burmeister to approve the agenda of the October 24, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES of the September 26, 2024 meeting – (Action)

MOTION by Burmeister, SECOND by Hike to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS – (Information)

1. AGENCY REPORTS

a. Executive Director’s Report – Mr. Michael Helgerson

Mr. Helgerson provided an update to the Board on agency projects, activities and events including: MAPA hosted Trail Workshop and Council of Officials Annual Meeting featuring Kevin Belle from Rails to Trails Conservancy; MAPA in the News: Open House for the Council Bluffs / Missouri River Multimodal Bridge Planning & Environment Linkages Study; NARC Executive Director Conference and Board Retreat in Dayton, OH.; meeting; Safe Street for All Grant Awards.

- b. Staff Report – Christina Brownell, Director of Administration - Department Update
Mrs. Brownell provided an update on Admin/HR department updates including: recap of the Nebraska HR Conference hosted by SHRM Nebraska; agency staffing; agency automation and implementation of a new Human Resources Information system (HRIS) - BambooHR; compliance items such as Final 2025 DOL Overtime Ruling and Nebraska Sick Leave Bill Initiative; and current and upcoming staff training.

E. CONSENT AGENDA – (Action)

- 1. FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES of the October 16, 2024 meeting.
- 2. NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH PROCLAMATION
- 3. CONTRACT PAYMENTS –
The Board considered for approval the final contract payments listed below.
 - a. Oracle America Inc (NetSuite) - PMT #7 –\$ 12,687.30

MOTION by Hike, SECOND by Vinton to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

- 1. Bryce Ruff - Omaha, NE
Mr. Ruff introduced himself and company, Greenheart Systems, a societal infrastructure system company focused on community restoration and development.

G. OLD BUSINESS –

- 1. RESOLUTION 2025–05: TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #2 – (ACTION)
The Board considered for approval Resolution 2025–05: TIP Amendment #2, which includes changes to projects sponsored by Metro Transit, City of Omaha, City of Bellevue and City of Papillion.

MOTION by Vinton, SECOND by Hike to approve Resolution 2025–05: TIP Amendment #2.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

- 2. RESOLUTION 2025–06: LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) AMENDMENT #4 – (ACTION)
The Board considered for approval Resolution 2025–06: LRTP Amendment #4, which includes changes to 13 projects with cost increases, 3 projects with scope changes; and the addition of 18 projects, CRP-MAPA funding categories, and additional earmark FAA AIP funding to align with recent awards.

MOTION by Morrison, SECOND by Hike to approve Resolution 2025–06: LRTP Amendment #4.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

H. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. FY 2025 BUDGET – (ACTION)
 - a. “MAPA Cash Reserve Plan”, replacing “MAPA Investment Strategy”
The Board considered for approval the FY 2025 Budget item, replacing the “MAPA Investment Strategy” with the “MAPA Cash Reserve Plan”.

MOTION by Burmeister, SECOND by Vinton to approve the New MAPA Cash Reserve Plan to replace the MAPA Investment Strategy.

AYES: Burmeister, Freind, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton,

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

2. MAPA PROJECT SELECTION POLICY GUIDE – (ACTION)

The Board considered for approval of the MAPA Project Selection Policy Guide.

- a. Project Selection Policy Guide
- b. Call for Projects for the following funding programs: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)

MOTION by Morrison, SECOND by Vinton to approve the MAPA Project Selection Policy Guide and Call for Projects for TAP, CRP AND STBG funding programs.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

3. RESOLUTION 2025–07: NEBRASKA REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACCELERATOR CHARTER – (ACTION)

The Board considered for approval of the Resolution 2025–07: Nebraska Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Charter. The Nebraska Regional Accelerator was formed as a collaboration of the Nebraska DOT, City of Omaha, City of Lincoln, Sarpy County, Douglas County, Lancaster County, MAPA, Lincoln MPO, Metro Area Transit, and StarTran to promote the accelerated and improved delivery of infrastructure as needed to support economic health and quality of life throughout the region.

MOTION by Friend, SECOND by Vinton to approve the Resolution 2025–07: Nebraska Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Charter.

AYES: Burmeister, Friend, Hike, Kindig, Morrison, Vinton

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED.

4. CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT (CPRG) PROJECT UPDATE – (INFORMATION)

Mr. Morales provided an update to the Board on the coordination with regional municipalities in the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) for the development and implementation of a Regional Priority Climate Action Plan.

I. DISCUSSION –

1. 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS - NEBRASKA AND IOWA – (INFORMATION)

Mr. Helgerson provided an update to the board on MAPA's Legislative Committee for the upcoming legislative sessions in Nebraska and Iowa.

2. 2025 NARC NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS – WASHINGTON, D.C., FEBRUARY 9-12, 2025 – (INFORMATION)

Mr. Helgerson discussed the upcoming 2025 NARC National Conference of Regions, held annually in Washington, D.C. for councils of government, metropolitan planning organizations, and other regional organizations, and their local elected leaders and professional staff. The conference draws a national audience consisting of elected city, county, and state officials, diverse professionals, academics, and private sector representatives to discuss key policy issues and determine a legislative agenda for the year ahead, targeting topics central to members and their local elected officials. Mr. Helgerson noted that MAPA officials that are interested in attending should reach out to the MAPA team for more information.

J. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS – None.

K. ADJOURNMENT – Board Vice Chair Vinton adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.