

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Mar 21, 2025 10:00 AM Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83794470199?pwd=10LZ6zuaLT9qH6TBHz96CWBZsJlXlO.1>

📍 2222 Cuming Street Boardroom, Main Level ▾

TTAC Voting Members

- **Jarrold Walker** (NDOT)
- **Mark McLaughlin** (City of Omaha)
- **Alex Evans** (City of Papillion)
- **Todd Pfitzer** (Douglas County)
- **Maurice Hinchey** (NDOT)
- **Bryan Guy** (City of Omaha)
- **Sherri Levers** (Metro)
- **Matt Cox** (Council Bluffs)
- **Dan Owens** (Omaha Airport)
- **Eric Williams** (Papio NRD)

TTAC Non-Voting Members, Virtual Attendees, & Guests

- **John Selmer** (OBI Creative)
- **Jason Carbee** (HDR)
- **Andy Wicks** (Council Bluffs)*
- **Adam Denney** (Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig)*
- **Craig Wacker** (FHWA)*
- **Dan Carpenter** (Benesch)*
- **David Goedecken** (City of Bellevue)*
- **Joan Green** (E&A)*
- **Kaine McClelland** (NDOT)*
- **Matt Selinger** (JEO Consulting)*
- **Morenike Atejiroye** (City of Omaha)*
- **Scott Suhr** (Iowa DOT)*
- **Travis Halm** (Iowa DOT)*
- **Sydney Embray** (City of Omaha)*

MAPA Staff

- **Court Barber**
- **Jim Boerner**
- **Lindsey Button**
- **Elise Emanuel**
- **Carlos Morales**
- **Elle Ward**

*Attended Virtually

AGENDA

Meeting called to order by Todd Pfitzer at 10:02AM. Quorum requirements were met.

Action Items

For TTAC Approval

A. Approval of the Minutes from the [February 21, 2025 Meeting](#)

There were no comments on the minutes.

Alex Evans motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Pfitzer. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recommendations to MAPA's Board of Directors

A. Draft MAPA FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - Open Public Comment Period

Carlos Morales presented the MAPA FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with an overview and breakdown of the budget categories. Said categories were notably reduced from previous years where up to 12 categories were present, down to now only 4 in effort to reduce administrative burden. There were no questions or comments. Morales then requested a favorable recommendation to open a public comment period.

Maurice Hinchey motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Pfitzer. The motion was carried unanimously.

B. [Amendment 5 to the FY2025 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#)

Court Barber presented the amendment, which consisted of moving FTA 5310 funding from 2024 and 2025 that did not get obligated to the current TIP. There were no questions or comments. Barber then requested a favorable recommendation to approve Amendment 5.

Matt Cox motioned to approve, seconded by Dan Owens. The motion was carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

C. Public Comment

Members of the public were offered an opportunity to speak. There were no comments.

D. Population Allocation Land Use for the Transportation Demand Model

Carlos Morales presented the land use proposed for the model update. The Travel Demand Model is currently being updated in accordance with the new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (formerly known as the Long Range Transportation Plan). The slowed population growth in the region, in opposition with previously predicted numbers, is one factor contributing to changes in the model. Land use is high in the TMA, so MAPA has considered existing development and constraints to result in a grid product of available acreage. Morales then asked for questions.

Travis Halm asked if Mills County is in the MPO, or if it was going to be added, as part of it was included in the available acreage grid. Morales stated that part of Mills County was incorporated to provide additional information, as there are going to be many near future investments taking place in Mills which felt relevant to include. Jim Boerner clarified that I-29 and I-34 traffic flow from Mills County into the MPO is substantial, so including that portion of Mills County in the model made sense to facilitate more informed recommendations. Travis Halm then added that the decreased projections are consistent with statewide trends that he is seeing outside of the MAPA region.

Alex Evans asked how this would be impacting the Heartland 2050 data and projection, as that tool is used in the City of Papillion's planning. Morales answered that the Heartland 2050 data and its resultant projection comes directly from the Travel Demand Model, and will be updated once the overall model update is completed. Scott Suhr then asked how the Loess Hills in Iowa were classified. Boerner stated that he will follow up with Suhr about that, but the classifications that were used came directly from the counties. Evans asked about the remaining process in updating the model and when the allocation workshop would be to provide comments on MAPA's updated Travel Demand Model. Morales explained the steps for calibrating the model with an expected completion date of June. Lindsey Button stated that the allocation workshop will be held after the RPAC meeting from 12PM-1PM on April 4th, 2025.

Bryan Guy asked how population was allocated to parcels that were already developed, and if redevelopment and increasing density was taken into consideration throughout the process of updating the model. Morales answered by saying that redevelopment and city center allocation could be scenarios that MAPA looks into but at the moment they are only looking at available acreage. Boerner followed up by saying that they will look at TOD development and the street car as growth potential, and that suitability in the model is more broadly based on a number of criteria which will be elaborated in the allocation workshop after RPAC. Mark McLaughlin stated that density scenarios should be explored more and that it would be relevant to the City of Omaha's CIP. Boerner responded by saying that MAPA should become more flexible with model updates despite the 5 year timeframe that they have for it, and that MAPA has an expectation for themselves to contribute to the CIP with the updated model efforts.

E. State and Federal Policy Updates

Carlos Morales, Elle Ward, and Court Barber presented a summary of legislative bills in Nebraska, Iowa, and the federal government related to MAPA planning activities. Morales highlighted automated enforcement for red light violations on the Nebraska side, and a hands-free driving bill on the Iowa side. Ward and Barber spoke about the uncertainty regarding the proposed RTP Full Funding Act of 2025 and stated that MAPA currently has no position on it and will continue to monitor as more information becomes available.

Mark McLaughlin asked for more clarification about the potential impact to TAP, and Morales answered that the RTP allocation is a set-aside, so the amount states currently receive for TAP will not be affected. Eric Williams asked for reconfirmation that this will not impact MAPA's TAP, to which Morales and Barber confirmed, with Barber informing that RTP funds do not go to MAPA but instead to the Game & Parks Commission.

F. Member Agency Updates (time permitting)

- Sherri Levers (**Metro Transit**) - Construction update.
- Todd Pfitzer (**Douglas County**) - Project update.
- Dan Owens (**Omaha Airport Authority**) - Construction update.

Pfitzer asked if the Omaha Airport Authority had been receiving any feedback on the construction, and if it was mostly positive or negative. Owens responded that most feedback was positive and supportive, but some people have been frustrated with their experiences, especially staffing difficulties that have resulted in challenges transporting wheelchair users across the construction. Carlos Morales stated that he appreciates the Uber and shared services line at the airport and how it decreases congestion. Owens responded that that specific lane will be moved to the first drop-off lane.

- Eric Williams (**Papio NRD**) - Project update.

Williams then asked a question about funding availability. Court Barber answered stating that there is not as much concern about formula funding than discretionary funding, but it is still true that for programming beyond 2026 it is always going to be technically uncertain. Jarrod Walker said that, in his personal opinion, Barber's assessment of funding stability was fair, and that project applications should be mindful of the current administration's priorities, safety and economic return, in order for the best funding results. Williams then asked for clarification that it was indeed formula funding that should be okay. Court responded by saying that yes, formula funds like TAP, STBG, and CRP should be fine and MAPA would advise for him to proceed with his formula funding projects and applications, which was seconded by Walker.

- Mark McLaughlin (**City of Omaha**) - General update.
- Bryan Guy (**City of Omaha**) - General update.
- Jarrod Walker (**NDOT**) - General update.
- Matt Cox (**Council Bluffs**) - Bidding update.

Pfitzer asked how favorable the bids were, and Cox responded just under 10%.

- Maurice Hinchey (**NDOT District 2**) - Construction updates.

Pfitzer asked if after new construction was completed if Hinchey was going to do a press release instructing people on how to drive on them. Hinchey stated he'd have to follow up about that internally.

- Carlos Morales (**MAPA**) - General update.

G. Additional Business (time permitting)

There was no additional business.

Meeting adjourned at 11:07AM by Alex Evans, seconded by Pfitzer.

Future Meetings & Events

- **MAPA Board of Directors:** Mar 27, 2025
- **RPAC:** Apr 4, 2025
- **TTAC:** Apr 18, 2025

Meeting Quorum: The presence of ten (10) members of TTAC at an officially called meeting shall constitute a quorum.