

**OMAHA–COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY
COUNCIL OF OFFICIALS MEETING MINUTES**

June 18, 2025

The June 18, 2025 Council of Officials Meeting was held at The Venues at the Granary 5555 Granary Plaza, Suite 101, Ralston, NE 68127. Registration and lunch began at 11:00 a.m.

A. Welcome and Introductions:

1. Call to Order and Introductions – President Festersen called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

Members Present:

Scott Belt	Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisor
Andy Biller	Council Bluffs Airport Authority
David Black	Mayor, City of Papillion
Patrick Boyle	Director of Community Engagement, Metropolitan Community College
Paula Dennison	City Administrator, City of Gretna
Steve Dethlefs	Supervisor, Washington County
John Ewing Jr.	Mayor City of Omaha
Pete Festersen	City Council President, City of Omaha
Mike Friend	Commissioner of Douglas County
Don Groesser	Mayor, City of Ralston
Rusty Hike	Mayor, City of Bellevue
Douglas Kindig	Mayor, City of LaVista
Tom McCormick	Chairman, Papio Missouri River Natural Resources District
Dave Roth	Omaha Airport Authority
Angela Winquist	Mayor, City of Glenwood

Other Guests:

Meghan Engberg	Community Development Planner, City of Ralston
Dan Freshman	Chief Building Official, City of Ralston
Jerry McCall	Owner, Educational Consulting Services
Steve McCoy	Chief Strategy & Technology Office, Omaha Airport Authority
Chris Meeks	Government and Community Relations Strategist, OPPD
Jacquelyn Morrison	Deputy Chief of Staff- Economic Development, City of Omaha
Stephanie Muller	Vice President, Customer Experience MUD
Terri Pohl	Advocacy and Communication Manager, Front Porch Investments
Eva Roberts	Director of Operations and Impact, Front Porch Investments
Chris Solberg	Deputy Director of Community Development, City of LaVista
Kristine Stokes	Development Service Director, City of Gretna
Mark Stursma	Deputy City Chief, City of Papillon
Julie Thacker	Director, Business Development, MUD
Reggie Wortman	City Planner, City of Gretna

MAPA Staff:

Natasha Barrett	Christina Brownell	Sue Cutsforth	Rachel Goettsch	Laura Heilman
Michael Helgerson	Saul Lopez	Carlos Morales	Julie Smith	Connie Viner
Elizabeth Zeller				

B. Welcome City of Ralston –

Mayor Don Groesser & Douglas County Commissioner Mike Friend welcomed members and guests to the City of Ralston and Douglas County for the June 18, 2025 Council of Officials Quarterly Meeting.

C. Director's Remarks - (Information)

Mr. Helgerson provided an update on MAPA projects, activities and events, including: Safe Streets and Roads

for All (SS4A) project & MOU status; NADO 10-State conference in Denver, CO; the Nebraska Transportation Conference where MAPA presented on Integrated Transportation Systems; and the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Annual Conference held in Seattle, WA. where former Mills County Supervisor Carol Vinton completed her term as NARC President.

D. Business – **(ACTION)**

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Approval of the December 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kindig, Second by Boyle to approve the December, 2024 meeting minutes.
Motion carried.

- b. Approval of the March 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kindig, Second by Boyle to approve the March 12, 2025 meeting minutes.
Motion carried.

2. FY 2026 Officer Elections

- a. Council Of Officials President to serve from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
b. Council Of Officials Vice President to serve from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Kindig nominated the following: Washington County (NE) Supervisor, Steve Dethlefs to serve as President of the Council of Officials, and Mayor Allen Hadfield, City of Treynor (IA), to serve as Vice President of the Council of Officials.

Motion by Kindig, Second by Hike to approve the Election of Council President Steve Dethlefs, Council Vice President Alan Hadfield.
Motion carried.

- c. Iowa Small Communities/Counties Representative of Board
d. Nebraska Small Communities/Counties Representative on Board

Hike nominated the following: Mayor Douglas Kindig, City of La Vista (NE) to serve as the Nebraska Small Communities Representative on the Board of Directors and Mayor Angie Winquist, City of Glenwood (IA) to serve as the Iowa Small Communities Representative on the Board of Directors.

Motion by Hike, Second by Dethlefs to approve the Election Mayor Douglas Kindig to serve as the Nebraska Small Communities Representative on the Board of Directors and Mayor Angie Winquist to serve as the Iowa Small Communities Representative on the Board of Directors.

3. FY 2026 Budget & Work Program

- a. FY 2026 Budget
b. FY 2026 Final Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
c. FY 2026 Community Development Work Program (CDWP)

Mr. Helgersen presented the Strategic Framework and FY 2026 Budget Overview to include a review of the agency's strategic goals, revenues and expenses for the upcoming fiscal year. MAPA's CDWP focuses on: (1) Information Sharing and Knowledge Building; (2) Planning in Place; (3) Disaster Recovery and Resilience; and (4) Blight and Reinvestment Strategies. The focus of the FY 2026 UPWP is: (1) Regional Transportation Planning; (2) Leadership in Data Resources; and (3) Regional Collaboration and Convening Conversations.

Mr. Morales presented to the Council the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), replacing what was previously referred to as the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Key work for the current and

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upcoming year will have a continued focus on safety and linking the MTP and Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP). Updates to the Travel Demand Model to a base year 2022 will assist with demographic data/projection and updated land use projections.

Motion by Belt, Second by Winkvist to approve the FY 2026 Budget and Work Programs.
Motion carried.

E. The Granary Project – Gordon Whitten, Chiefs Executive Officer, I See it Ventures

Mr. Gordon Whitten provided a brief update to the Council on projected growth of Downtown Ralston along with current and planned development projects.

F. Featured Speaker – Mr. David Roth – Chief Executive Officer, Omaha Airport Authority

Mr. Roth presented to the Council on the BUILD OMA Project, including a brief history of the Omaha Airport Authority and the work and development over the years while executing OAA's master plan. Mr. Roth provided an overview of the work of the BUILD OMA project including the Terminal Modernization Program (TMP) Planning & Design and recent progress towards the construction of the Central Pavilion and terminal expansion. Mr. Roth showed the history of the total number of passengers that travel through Eppley Airfield; presented the Council with visuals of the Upper & Lower Level Floorplan, and noted new dining and retail options that will be located in the Central Pavilion with a focus on local brands. The total budget for the TMP is approximately \$950m with work expected to be completed in 2028.

Adjournment – President Festersen adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.