

**REGION 6 PLANNING COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
4/27/15**

INPUT PROCESS FOR ANY PLANS OR STUDIES

During the process of preparing or updating regional transportation or public transit plans Region 6 Planning Commission will reach out to low-income and minority groups. This will include holding face to face or telephone interviews where possible. We will also try to have representation from these groups on our focus groups and committees.

Some of the groups that we will strive to visit with include –

- Major employers: Swift.
- New Iowans Center at Iowa Valley Community College District downtown Marshalltown site.
- South Tama County Partnership Center in Tama.
- Hispanic Ministries with the Marshalltown Catholic Church
- Hispanic Ministries with the 1st Baptist Church in Marshalltown.
- Iowa Workforce Development new Iowans coordinator.
- Meskwaki Tribe.
- Asian grocery store owners.
- Hispanic grocery store owners.
- Primary health medical clinic in Marshalltown.
- Public health departments.
- Region 6 Cities & Counties
- County Engineers
- City Engineers
- IDOT
- Bicycle groups
- Disabled groups
- Senior citizen groups
- Veterans groups
- Limited English proficiency groups
- Economic development groups
- Parks and recreation
- Conservation Boards
- Chambers of Commerce
- Transit operators
- Regional airports
- Snowmobile groups – Marshalltown & Iowa Falls
- Other people and groups that have an interest in regional transportation.

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP):

Scope: The Long Range Transportation Plan will be reviewed and updated approximately every five years. Strategies such as surveys, personal interviews, focus groups, etc., shall be implemented to obtain input on the plan. A copy of the LRTP will be available online at www.region6planning.org and the Region 6 Planning Commission offices at 903 E. Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa. Region 6 Planning Commission will copy and mail the document to people requesting same.

Public Notice: Prior to approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan, Region 6 Planning Commission Board of Directors shall hold a public hearing on the LRTP. The public hearing notice shall comply with the Iowa Code publication requirements – the public hearing notice shall be published at least 4 but not more than 20 days prior to the public hearing. The public hearing notice shall be published in the Marshalltown Times Republican. The public hearing notice shall also be posted at the Region 6 Planning Commission offices. Press releases shall also be provided concurrently to Marshalltown Times Republican, Iowa Falls Times Citizen, Eldora Herald Register, Ackley World Journal, KDAO, KIFG, Mid-Iowa Enterprise, KFJB, Toledo Chronicle, Tama News Herald, Traer Star Clipper, Montezuma Record, South Hardin Signal Review, Grinnell Herald Register, and KGRN. The press releases shall be provided via mail, fax, or email.

Final Document: A copy of the LRTP will be available online at www.region6planning.org and the Region 6 Planning Commission offices at 903 E. Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa. Region 6 Planning Commission will copy and mail the document to people requesting same.

Amendments: Any new project, significant change in the scope of work, or change in the requested federal funding are considered amendments. The amendments must be approved by the Region 6 Planning Board of Directors. The Region 6 Board of Directors shall hold a public hearing on these amended projects at a regularly scheduled meeting. The approval procedure for an amendment shall be the same as the approval procedure for the document, which is outlined above. There are no minor amendments that do not require public participation comments.

Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP):

This annual document requires the approval of the Region 6 Planning Board of Directors. No public hearing is required for TPWP approval, but the public is allowed to provide comments at the Board of Directors and Transportation Committee meetings concerning the TPWP. If the aggregate TPWP budget changes more than 10%, it also requires Board of Directors' approval. A draft TPWP shall be reviewed by the Transportation Committee (TC) prior to full recommendation from the Board of Directors. Comments from the TC will be forwarded to the Board of Directors.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

Public Notice: Prior to approval of the annual Transportation Improvement Program, Region 6 Planning Commission Board of Directors shall hold a public hearing on the TIP. The public hearing will be held prior to the date the TIP is due to the IDOT. The public hearing notice shall comply with the Iowa Code publication requirements – the public hearing notice shall be published at least 4 but not more than 20 days prior to the public hearing. The public hearing notice shall be published in the Marshalltown Times Republican. The public hearing notice shall also be posted at the Region 6 Planning Commission offices. Press releases shall also be provided concurrently to Marshalltown Times Republican, Iowa Falls Times Citizen, Eldora Herald Register, Ackley World Journal, KDAO, KIFG, Mid-Iowa Enterprise, KFJB, Toledo Chronicle, Tama News Herald, Traer Star Clipper, Montezuma Record, South Hardin Signal Review, Grinnell Herald Register, and KGRN. The press releases shall be provided via mail, fax, or email.

Final Document: A copy of the TIP will be available online at www.region6planning.org and the Region 6 Planning Commission offices at 903 E. Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa. Region 6 Planning Commission will copy and mail the document to people requesting same.

Amendments: Any new project, a significant change in the scope of work, or a change in the requested federal funding, are considered amendments. The amendments must be approved by the Region 6 Planning Board of Directors. The Region 6 Board of Directors shall hold a public hearing on these amended projects at a regularly scheduled meeting. The approval procedure for an amendment shall be the same as the approval procedure for the annual document, which is outlined above.

Minor Changes: Any minor TIP changes can be approved by the Region 6 Planning Commission Board of Directors without a public hearing. These include moving a project from one fiscal year to another, or adjusting the total project costs.

Application: Annually Region 6 Planning will accept applications for the Region 6 Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Alternatives Program. Application instructions and forms will be provided to Region 6 Cities and Counties, County Engineers, City Engineers, IDOT, Parks & Recreation, Conservation Boards, Bicycle Groups, Meskwaki Settlement, Development-Betterment Groups, Historical Societies, and other people interested in regional transportation funding.

General Policies

Public Involvement Procedures: The public involvement procedures are reviewed

annually and updated as needed. Any amendments shall be approved by the Region 6 Board of Directors. Region 6 Planning Commission Board of Directors will publish a notice in the Marshalltown Times Republican to notify the public that the public involvement process will be amended.

Transportation Committee and Region 6 Board of Directors Meeting Notices:

These meeting notices are subject to Iowa Open Meetings law. The agendas shall be posted at the Region 6 Planning Offices, mailed/emailed to committee members, and mailed to other interested groups. The meeting notice/agenda shall also be mailed in press release format to the Marshalltown Times Republican, Iowa Falls Times Citizen, Eldora Herald Register, Ackley World Journal, KDAO, KIFG, Mid-Iowa Enterprise, KFJB, Toledo Chronicle, Tama News Herald, Traer Star Clipper, Montezuma Record, South Hardin Signal Review, Grinnell Herald Register, and KGRN. These notices shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed at least 4 days, but not more than 20 days prior to the meeting.