

Approved and Adopted on July 10, 2008
Approved and Adopted Amendments November 2009

**SIouxLAND INTERSTATE
METROPOLITAN PLANNING
COUNCIL (SIMPCO)**

**METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

**Public Participation Plan
2008**

This process was prepared with funds provided through the
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Policy Board Members

Jim Rixner, Chairperson	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Sandra Ehrich, Vice-Chairperson	City of South Sioux City, Nebraska
Sid Seward	City of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Craig Anderson	Plymouth County, Iowa
	City of Dakota City, Nebraska
Brent Hoffman	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Ross Jordan	Union County, South Dakota
William McLarty	Dakota County, Nebraska
William Merrill	City of North Sioux City, South Dakota
Mark Monson	Woodbury County, Iowa
Marvin Sorensen	Sioux City Transit System, Sioux City, Iowa
Ken Beaulieu	Dakota Dunes CID, South Dakota

Transportation Technical Committee Members

Christopher R. Payer, Chairperson	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Paul Nolan, Vice-Chairperson	City of South Sioux City, Nebraska
Jim Ferneau	City of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Fred Kellogg	Dakota County, Nebraska
Jeff Dooley	Dakota Dunes CID, South Dakota
Jill Wanderscheid	City of Sioux City, Iowa
Curt Miller	Sioux Gateway Airport, Sioux City, Iowa
Kory Menken	City of North Sioux City, South Dakota
Jeff Harcum	City of Sioux City, Iowa / Transit System
Bob Peters	City of Dakota City, Nebraska
Raymond K. Roggow	Union County, South Dakota
Tom Rohe	Plymouth County, Iowa
Mark Nahra	Woodbury County, Iowa

Non-Voting Members

Mark Bechtel	Federal Transit Administration – Region VII
Justin Luther	Federal Highway Administration – Nebraska
Mark D. Hoines	Federal Highway Administration –S. Dakota
Brad Remmich	South Dakota Department of Transportation
Ron Schlautman	Nebraska Department of Roads
Dakin Schultz	Iowa Department of Transportation
Tracy Troutner	Federal Highway Administration – Iowa

Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council Staff

Michelle Bostinelos	Transportation Planning Director
Dwight Lang	Co-Executive Director
Jane Gilbert	Co-Executive Director
Kellee Van Bruggen	Transportation Planner
Eric Sanders	Transportation Planner/GIS Specialist

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	2
Introduction	4
Regulations and Requirements	5
Routine/Ongoing Activities	8
Major Documents and Public Participation Techniques	10
How to Get Involved	20
Individuals and Organizations	21
Summary Chart of Major Documents	25
SIMPCO MPO Study Area Map	26
Addendum	27

INTRODUCTION

The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has developed this **Public Participation Plan (PPP)** for the Sioux City Metropolitan Planning Area (herein after referred to as the “Metropolitan Planning Area”). The Metropolitan Planning Area consists of the cities of Sioux City and Sergeant Bluff, Iowa; Dakota City and South Sioux City, Nebraska; North Sioux City and Dakota Dunes Community Improvement District, South Dakota; the unincorporated portions of Woodbury and Plymouth County, Iowa; Dakota County, Nebraska and Union County, South Dakota within the planning boundary. This PPP was put together under the direction of the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT), Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), and South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT).

It is the purpose of the **SIMPCO MPO Public Participation Plan** to provide all citizens of the Metropolitan Planning Area an opportunity to voice their opinions and express their concerns about the transportation issues of the Metropolitan Planning Area’s multimodal and intermodal transportation planning and programming vision and initiatives. The SIMPCO MPO was responsible for the preparation of this PPP, with guidance given by local and county officials, the SIMPCO MPO Transportation Technical Committee, Policy Board, and through citizen input. The information in this plan represents the first step in a continuing participation process that will be reviewed and modified as necessary to meet the demands of its charge.

Michelle Bostinelos
Transportation Planning Director
Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
1122 Pierce St. P.O. Box 1077
Sioux City, Iowa 51102
Telephone (712) 279-6286
Fax (712) 279-6920 Email: mbostinelos@simpco.org

REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

It is the purpose of this Public Participation Plan to adhere to the principles of environmental justice as defined by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12898, and all other U.S. DOT statutes and regulations. It is also the purpose of this PPP to follow the legislation passed in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota that allows public involvement in the process by following versions of the Open Meeting Law and the Public Records Law.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 greatly expanded public involvement in transportation planning and programming. The legislation and related guidance take a performance approach to public involvement where State and local transportation agencies custom design their own public involvement processes in response to local conditions. In 1998, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) was signed into law. TEA-21 built on the initiatives established by ISTEA, which was at the time, a major authorizing legislation for surface transportation. TEA-21 combined the continuation and improvement of ISTEA programs with new initiatives to meet the challenges of improving safety as traffic continued to increase at record levels.

On August 10, 2005, the President signed the federal transportation legislation know as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This legislation builds upon the ISTEA and TEA-21. SAFETEA-LU requires that the SIMPCO MPO update the Public Participation Plan to include certain groups and agencies which need to be contacted during the development of future plans. Many elements of the SIMPCO MPO's public participation process have not needed change with the passing of this bill but a new document has developed from this legislation. SAFETEA-LU calls for a *Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan*; this process needs to be developed with the input of representatives from public, private, and non profit transportation and human services providers, as well as the public. The SIMPCO MPO has developed a Coordinated Plan referred to as the *Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)*. The SIMPCO MPO assembled a list of individuals based on SAFETEA-LU criteria and invited those individuals to participate in

the Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee (CTIC). Another change from TEA-21 to SAFETEA-LU is a requirement to employ visualization techniques to enhance the document and make it more user friendly. Another stipulation that SAFETEA-LU requires is that environmental and cultural groups should be contacted about upcoming/continuing issues. SAFETEA-LU requires that these environmental and cultural resource agencies be consulted with during the development of the Public Participation Plan, the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Plan.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or natural origin in programs that receive federal financial assistance. To learn more about Title VI, log on to www.usdoj.gov and search for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Executive Order 12898

Executive Order 12898, enacted in 1994, addresses environmental injustices in minority areas and low-income areas. It gives the right for all people to be treated equally when it comes to environmental issues. To read more about Executive Order 12898, visit www.epa.org/fedrgstr/eo/eo12898.htm

Open Meeting Laws

The Open Meeting Law of Iowa was established in 1999. It states that meetings should be open to the public except if permitted as closed. The Committee must keep minutes; they must show the date, time, members present, and the actions that happened during the meeting. These public records must be placed in an accessible form for public inspection. To read more of the Chapter 21 Open Meeting Law of Iowa at www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/1999/21

The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was passed by the Nebraska 84th Legislature in 1975. This Act allows public access to all meetings and gives guidelines and provisions to attendees and those holding the meeting. To read more of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, visit <http://www.ago.state.ne.us/public/openmeetings.htm>

The South Dakota Open Meetings Law states that all public agency meetings shall be open to the public with special provisions dealing with teleconference meetings. To read more about the South Dakota Open Meetings Law visit, <http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Statute=1-25-1&Type=Statute>

Public Record Laws

The Public Records Law of Iowa was established in 1999. This legislation makes sure that every person has a right to look at public records and may copy them. Citizens are allowed to look at these records during normal business hours or at another arranged time. To read more of the Chapter 22 Public Records Law of Iowa visit, www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/1999/22

The Nebraska Public Records Statues which was last amended in 2000 gave citizens the right to copy public records. This differed from the 1961 amendment to the Nebraska Public Records Statues which allowed citizens to make memoranda or abstracts of the document. To learn more about the Nebraska Public Records Statues visit, <http://www.ago.ne.gov/public/publicrecords.htm>

The South Dakota Open Records Law requires that a public servant should keep records and documentation that is available to the public at their request during normal business hours. To learn more about the South Dakota Open Records Law, visit <http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=1-27-1>

ROUTINE/ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Media is an important outlet to share transportation issues with the public. Here is a list of the following activities, with short descriptions, that the SIMPCO MPO is committed to doing to keep the public informed.

- ◆ Minutes and Agenda Dissemination: Currently, the SIMPCO MPO distributes approximately 250 monthly newsletters through the mail and over email to local and statewide officials. SAFETEA-LU updates will be included in these mailings, which are sent to every local government in the area, economic development officials, transit interests, legislators, interested citizens, bicycle/pedestrian groups, freight stakeholders, environmental resources agencies, and cultural/historic agencies.

- ◆ News Releases: News releases will be distributed to all newspapers and radio and television stations that either originate, or have significant coverage of circulation, in the area. These news releases will announce informational meetings, plans, and products (i.e. Public Participation Plan, Transportation Planning Work Program, and Transportation Improvement Program) and will always be made available for public review in at least one location per county.

Gatherings are another important outlet to share transportation issues with the public. Here is a list of the following gatherings that are organized and held when needed or asked, with short descriptions.

- ◆ Advisory Committee: If necessary, an Advisory Committee shall be composed of individuals representing different groups, low-income populations, community organizations, minorities, public bodies, and local stakeholders. The committee will serve as a source of contact for the public and will provide input to the SIMPCO MPO on SAFETEA-LU documents and processes.

- ◆ Presentations to Organizations: Presentations to various organizations will occur when requested and may be done at the suggestion of the SIMPCO MPO should the need warrant.

- ◆ Public Input Meetings: Public input meetings will primarily be held to inspect documents such as this Public Participation Plan (PPP), the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The official notice for the public hearing will be placed in the newspapers and posted on the SIMPCO MPO's website.

- ◆ Meetings with Cities: Staff will be available to speak at any city council meeting or other local public meeting.

- ◆ Open Meetings: The Transportation Technical Committee and Policy Board meetings of the SIMPCO MPO shall be open to the public. Notice of these meetings, in the form of regular agenda and minute's dispersal, will be sent to media outlets through the normal process and will also be posted on the SIMPCO MPO's website

MAJOR DOCUMENTS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TECHNIQUES

The SIMPCO MPO will actively seek input for all documents and processes concerning SAFETEA-LU and its implementation within and beyond the Metropolitan Planning Area. Several methods of seeking public opinion have been practiced in the past by the SIMPCO MPO and other agencies. These methods were revisited to ascertain their applicability to SAFETEA-LU. In addition, new methods to seek public input were added to the list. This list, like those found elsewhere in this document, is not all-inclusive. Methods to inform the public and receive their opinions and concerns about SAFETEA-LU and its work products will be added and tried when necessary and warranted. Conversely, methods, which prove to be unreliable or unfeasible, will be discarded when possible. Required meetings/public input meetings will be maintained regardless of their performance. These methods will be used to varying degrees depending on the purpose for their use. All methods will be studied for use at any particular time and the greatest number of methods, which prove practical and useful, will be utilized.

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

The purpose of a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is to serve as a guiding document of information on existing transportation related systems and to project future needs based on locally derived goals, and objectives to support growth in the Metropolitan Planning Area. The Long Range Transportation Plan is not a funding plan, but a framework for the selection of future transportation projects based on identifying areas of need and developing a means of addressing such while maintaining a “fiscal constraint,” a requirement of SAFETEA-LU. The Long Range Transportation Plan is updated once every five years with the exception for updating the plan with amendments to the document. The following is a general guideline process for the Long Range Transportation Plan:

- ◆ During the draft development phase, staff develops a document with the input from interested state and local parties. Some of these organizations include but

- are not restricted to, concerned citizens, natural resources agencies, cultural/historic agencies, the media, and numerous others.
- ◆ Once a draft is developed, staff posts it on the SIMPCO website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>. Copies of the draft are also available at the SIMPCO office, in local city halls, and county courthouses.
 - ◆ The SIMPCO MPO informs the local media about informational meetings on the current plan.
 - ◆ Once the entire Long Range Transportation Plan is established, the SIMPCO MPO will open up the 30-day comment period and will hold a public input meeting for the public to discuss the document. The Long Range Transportation Plan will be once again updated on the SIMPCO website and copies will be available at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses. There will be a public input meeting during the 30-day comment period that gives the public time to review the document further and contact the staff with suggestions/concerns via mail, email, telephone, fax, or in person.
 - ◆ The adoption of the document will be held after the 30-day comment period has commenced. The adoption of the Long Range Transportation Plan takes place at a regularly scheduled MPO meeting.
 - ◆ After the document's adoption, copies can be found on the SIMPCO website <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html> and hard copies can be found at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.

In regards to the Amendments and Review process, the Long Range Transportation Plan is a working document and will be updated and revised as various local, regional, state, and national characteristics, factors, and requirements change, which ultimately affect the transportation network in and around the Metropolitan Planning Area. The LRTP will be updated at least once every five years. The review and updating will ensure continual citizen involvement and the LRTP's overall viability as the Metropolitan Planning Area's long-range transportation planning document.

As required by SAFETEA-LU, the plan shall be subject to a public comment period of no less than 30 days, announced in the regional newspapers via public notice, and available at SIMPCO and in every courthouse and city hall in the Sioux City Metropolitan Planning Area. This process shall be approved by both the MPO Transportation Technical Committee and the Policy Board. Amendments to this process shall be made in similar fashion.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The purpose of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is to serve as an organized structure of information on improvements to be made in the Metropolitan Planning Area to transportation. The Transportation Improvement Program is updated annually with the exception for updating the plan with amendments to the document. The following is a general guideline process for the Transportation Improvement Program:

- ◆ During the draft development phase, staff develops a document with the input from interested state and local parties. Some of these organizations include but are not restricted to, concerned citizens, natural resources agencies, cultural/historic agencies, the media, and numerous others.
- ◆ Once a draft is developed, staff posts it on the SIMPCO website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>. Copies of the draft are also available at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.
- ◆ The SIMPCO MPO informs the local media about informational meetings on the current plan.
- ◆ Once the entire Transportation Improvement Program is established, the SIMPCO MPO will open up the 15-day comment period and will hold a public input meeting for the public to discuss the document. The Transportation Improvement Program will be once again updated on the website and there will be copies in the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses. There will be a public input meeting during 15-day comment period that gives the public time to review the document further and contact staff with suggestions/concerns via mail, email, telephone, fax, or in person.

- ◆ The adoption of the document will be held after the 15-day comment period has commenced. The adoption of the Transportation Improvement Program takes place at a regularly scheduled MPO meeting usually in the month of July.
- ◆ After the document's adoption, copies can be found on the SIMPCO website <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html> and hard copies can be found at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.

In regards to the amendment and review process of the TIP, the TIP is a programming document and will be updated and revised as various local, regional, and state, and national characteristics, factors, and requirements change, which ultimately affect the transportation network in and around the Metropolitan Planning Area. The TIP will be reviewed at least once annually. The review and updating will insure continual citizen involvement and the TIP's overall viability as the Metropolitan Planning Area's transportation improvement document.

Revisions are defined as changes to a TIP that occur between scheduled periodic updates. There are two types of changes that occur under the umbrella of revision. The first is a major revision or "Amendment". The second is a minor revision or "Administrative Modification".

Amendment

An amendment is a revision to a TIP that involves a major change to a project included in the TIP. This includes an addition or deletion of a project or a major change in project cost, project phase initiation dates, design concept, or scope (e.g. change project termini or the number of through lanes). Changes to projects that are included only for illustrative purposes do not require an amendment. An amendment is a revision that requires redemonstration of fiscal constraint or a conformity determination. Changes that affect fiscal constraint must take place by amendment of the TIP.

Administrative Modification

A minor revision to a TIP is an administrative modification. It includes minor changes to project phase costs, funding sources, previously-included projects, and minor changes to project/project phase initiation dates. An administrative modification is a revision that does not require redemonstration of fiscal constraint or a conformity determination.

Amendment vs. Administrative Modification

There are four main components that can be used to determine whether a project change constitutes an amendment or an administrative modification. They include the following:

- ◆ **Project costs** – Determination will be made based on the percentage change or dollar amount of change in federal aid. Projects in which the federal aid has been changed by more than 30 percent or total federal aid increases by \$2.0 million or more will require an amendment. Anything less can be processed with an administrative modification.
- ◆ **Schedule changes** – Changes in schedules of projects which are included in the first four years of the TIP/STIP will be considered administrative modifications. Projects which are added or deleted from the TIP/STIP will be processed as amendments.
- ◆ **Funding sources** – Additional federal funding sources to a project will require an amendment. Changes to funding from one source to another will require an administrative modification.
- ◆ **Scope of Changes** – Changing project termini or changing the amount of through traffic lanes will be processed as an amendment. Other examples of changes that require amendment include changing the type of work from an overlay to reconstruction, or changing a project to include widening of the roadway.

Amendment/Administrative Modification Procedures

When requesting an amendment or administrative modification to the TIP, member entities must complete an Amendment Form or an Administrative Modification Form. These must be filled out and returned to staff 10 days before the MPO TTC meeting so that the information can be reviewed and verified by staff. This will also allow the

revisions to be posted in the agenda before it is sent out to members and to follow public participation procedures of posting changes at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. The second step of the process is the TTC review of the amendment or administrative modification proposal and recommendation to the Policy Board. A favorable vote from the Policy Board will allow the amendment to be added to the TIP. It is important to note that all TIP amendments/administrative modifications that require action by the Policy Board will be listed on the MPO Agenda prior to the meeting. This agenda will be posted 24 hours in advance of the meeting on the SIMPCO website: <http://www.simpco.org/simpco/agendas.html>. Notice of the meeting will also be published in the Sioux City Journal and the agenda will be posted in the SIMPCO offices. All meetings of the MPO are open to the public and where the public will have opportunity to comment on TIP amendments/administrative modifications.

Major updates will be conducted as follows:

- Step 1** Member entities fill out Amendment Form or Administrative Modification Form and return to staff 10 days in advance of the MPO TTC meeting
- Step 2** TTC review and recommendation of proposed changes to the Policy Board
- Step 3** Policy Board review and possible recommendations to the TTC
- Step 4** Policy Board final review after possible requested TTC changes
- Step 5** Policy Board final approval of the TIP

Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)

The purpose of a Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) is to serve as a guiding document of information addressing current and projected transportation needs for the Metropolitan Planning Area from a planning perspective. The Transportation Planning Work Program is updated annually with the exception for updating the plan with amendments to the document. The following is a general guideline process for the Transportation Planning Work Program:

- ◆ During the draft development phase, staff develops a document with the input from interested state and local parties. Some of these organizations include but

are not restricted to, concerned citizens, natural resources agencies, cultural/historic agencies, the media, and numerous others.

- ◆ Once a draft is developed, staff posts it on the website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>. Copies of the draft are also available at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.
- ◆ The SIMPCO MPO informs the local media about informational meetings on the current Work Program.
- ◆ Once the entire Transportation Planning Work Program is established, the SIMPCO MPO will make a statement to the media to inform the public where a copy of the Work Program can be found. The Transportation Planning Work Program will be once again updated on the website and there will be copies in the SIMPCO office, in the local city halls and county courthouses. There will be a 15 day comment period that follows the media announcement. This gives the public time to review the document further and contact staff with suggestions/concerns via mail, email, telephone, fax, or in person.
- ◆ The adoption of the document will be held after the 15-day comment period has commenced. The adoption of the Transportation Planning Work Program takes place at a regularly scheduled MPO meeting usually in the month of May.
- ◆ After the document's adoption, copies can be found in the SIMPCO website <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html> and hard copies can be found at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.

Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)

The human services transportation provisions of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) are to improve transportation services for persons with a disability, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs. Coordination will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services and facilitate the most appropriate cost effective services possible with available resources. The purpose of the Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) is to incorporate the federal requirement for coordinated planning, as well as

address needs base project justification for all transit projects. The Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) is updated every five years. Between updates, a yearly review of the document is required. The following is a general guideline process for the Passenger Transportation Plan:

- ◆ During the draft development phase, staff develops a document with the input from the Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee (CTIC) which is made up of representatives from public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers as well as the public.
- ◆ Once a draft is developed, staff posts it on the website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>. Copies of the draft are also available at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.
- ◆ The SIMPCO MPO informs the local media about informational meetings on the current plan
- ◆ Once the entire Passenger Transportation Plan is established, the SIMPCO MPO will present the plan at Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee meetings for the public to discuss the document. The Passenger Transportation Plan will be once again updated on the website and there will be copies in the SIMPCO office, in the local city halls and county courthouses. There will be a 30-day comment period that follows a Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee approval. This gives the public time to review the document further and contact staff with suggestions/concerns via mail, email, telephone, fax, or in person.
- ◆ The adoption of the document will be held after the 30-day comment period has commenced. The adoption of the Passenger Transportation Plan takes place at a regularly scheduled MPO meeting usually during the month of March.
- ◆ After the document's adoption, copies can be found in the SIMPCO website <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html> and hard copies can be found at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.

Public Participation Plan

It is the purpose of the MPO Public Participation Plan (PPP) to provide the citizens of the Metropolitan Planning Area an opportunity to voice their opinions and express their concerns about the transportation issues of the Metropolitan Planning Area's multimodal and intermodal transportation planning vision and initiatives. The purpose of a Public Participation Plan is to serve as a guiding document to receive public input throughout the region. The Public Participation Plan is updated once every five years with the exception for updating the plan with amendments to the document. The following is a general guideline process for the Public Participation Plan:

- ◆ During the draft development phase, staff develops a document with the input from interested state and local parties, citizens, environmental resource agencies, cultural/historic agencies, and local stakeholders.
- ◆ Once a draft is developed, staff posts it on the website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>. Copies of the draft are available at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.
- ◆ The SIMPCO MPO informs the local media about informational meetings on the current plan.
- ◆ Once the entire Public Participation Plan is established, the SIMPCO MPO will open up the 45-day comment period and will hold a public input meeting for the public to discuss opinions about the document. The Public Participation Plan will be once again updated on the SIMPCO website and there will be copies in the office, in the local city halls and county courthouses. There will be a public input meeting during the 45-day comment period that gives the public time to review the document further and contact staff with suggestions via mail, email, telephone, fax, or in person.
- ◆ The adoption of the document will be held after the 45-day comment period has commenced. The adoption of the Public Participation Plan takes place at a regularly scheduled MPO meeting.
- ◆ After the document's adoption, copies can be found on the SIMPCO website <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html> and hard copies can be found at the SIMPCO office, local city halls and county courthouses.

To compare the similarities and differences of the Public Participation Process for each plan, refer to the Summary Chart of the Major Documents located on page 22.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Any public input is always welcome. Staff can be contacted at the following:

SIMPCO Transportation Department

Michelle Bostinelos — Transportation Planning Director

mbostinelos@simpco.org

Eric Sanders — Transportation Planner/GIS Specialist/Modeler

esanders@simpco.org

Kellee Van Bruggen — Transportation Planner

Kellee@simpco.org

Dwight Lang — Co-Executive Director

Dwight@simpco.org

Jane Gilbert — Co-Executive Director

JGilbert@simpco.org

Our Mailing Address is:

Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council

1122 Pierce St. P.O. Box 1077

Sioux City, IA 51102

Telephone (712) 279-6286

Fax (712) 279-6920

www.simpco.org

-Meeting times and dates can be found on the website calendar

-A downloadable version of the drafts and documents can be found on the website at <http://www.simpco.org/transportation/publications.html>.

Information can also be obtained by contacting or visiting staff during normal business hours from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Monday to Friday.

INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The following are non-exhaustive lists of individuals and organizations within the Metropolitan Planning Area that are to be contacted about the Public Participation Planning Process and the implementation in the Metropolitan Planning Area. In addition, this contact list will also be used in the development of the SIMPCO MPO planning documents.

MPO Policy Board

Iowa

City of Sergeant Bluff
Plymouth County
City of Sioux City
Woodbury County
City of Sioux City Transit System

Nebraska

City of Dakota City
City of South Sioux City
Dakota County

South Dakota

Union County
City of North Sioux City
Dakota Dunes Community Improvement District

Non-voting Members

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Iowa Department of Transportation (IowaDOT)
Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR)
South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT)

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

Iowa

City of Sergeant Bluff
City of Sioux City
Sioux Gateway Airport
City of Sioux City Transit System
Plymouth County
Woodbury County

Nebraska

Dakota County
City of South Sioux City
City of Dakota City

South Dakota

Dakota Dunes Community Improvement District
City of North Sioux City
Union County

Non-voting Members

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Iowa Department of Transportation (IowaDOT)
Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR)
South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT)

Natural Resources /Cultural Agencies

Iowa

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Air Quality Bureau
Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Water Quality Bureau
Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Water Quality Certification
Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Forestry Bureau
Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Conservation and Recreation Division
Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Environmental Hazardous Conditions
Iowa Department of Transportation - Office of Location and the Environment
Office of State Archaeologist
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Environmental Council
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Nebraska

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
State Historical Society of Nebraska
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
National Park Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Nebraska Industrial Council on the Environmental

South Dakota

South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
South Dakota Department of Environment of Natural Resources

Federal

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Natural Resources Conservation Services

Other Interested Parties

Siouxland Trails Foundation
Tri-State Trekkers Walking Club of Siouxland
Siouxland Cyclists
Easter Seals Iowa
Easter Seals Nebraska
1000 Friends of Iowa
Sierra Club Iowa Chapter
Sierra Club Nebraska Chapter
Sierra Club South Dakota Chapter
Siouxland Chamber of Commerce
South Sioux City Chamber of Commerce
Home Builders Association of Greater Siouxland
Mid America Transportation and Aviation Museum
Milwaukee Railroads Historic District
Downtown Partners Sioux City
Sioux City Growth Organization
Siouxland Economic Development Corporation
The Siouxland Initiative
185th Air Refueling Wing/Iowa Air National Guard
Union Pacific Railroad
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Chicago Central and Pacific Railroad
Nebraska Northeastern Railway
Mel's Trucking
Weinrich Truck Lines
Brown Transfer Co
Marx Distribution
JPS Trucking Co
R TI Trucking
Terra Express Inc
Tera Industries
Don Buhrman Trucking
ABF Freight System Inc.
Vitran Express
Central Petroleum Transport Co
Saber Inc.
Midwest Continental Inc.
Big Soo Terminal
Yellow Transportation Inc.
Fedex Freight
Con-Way Freight-Central
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
American Indian Council
La Casa Latina
Siouxland Unidad Latina
New Iowan Center

Media

Newspapers

Sergeant Bluff Advocate
Sioux City Globe
The Weekender
Dakota County Star
Leader-Courier
North Sioux City Times
Sioux City Journal

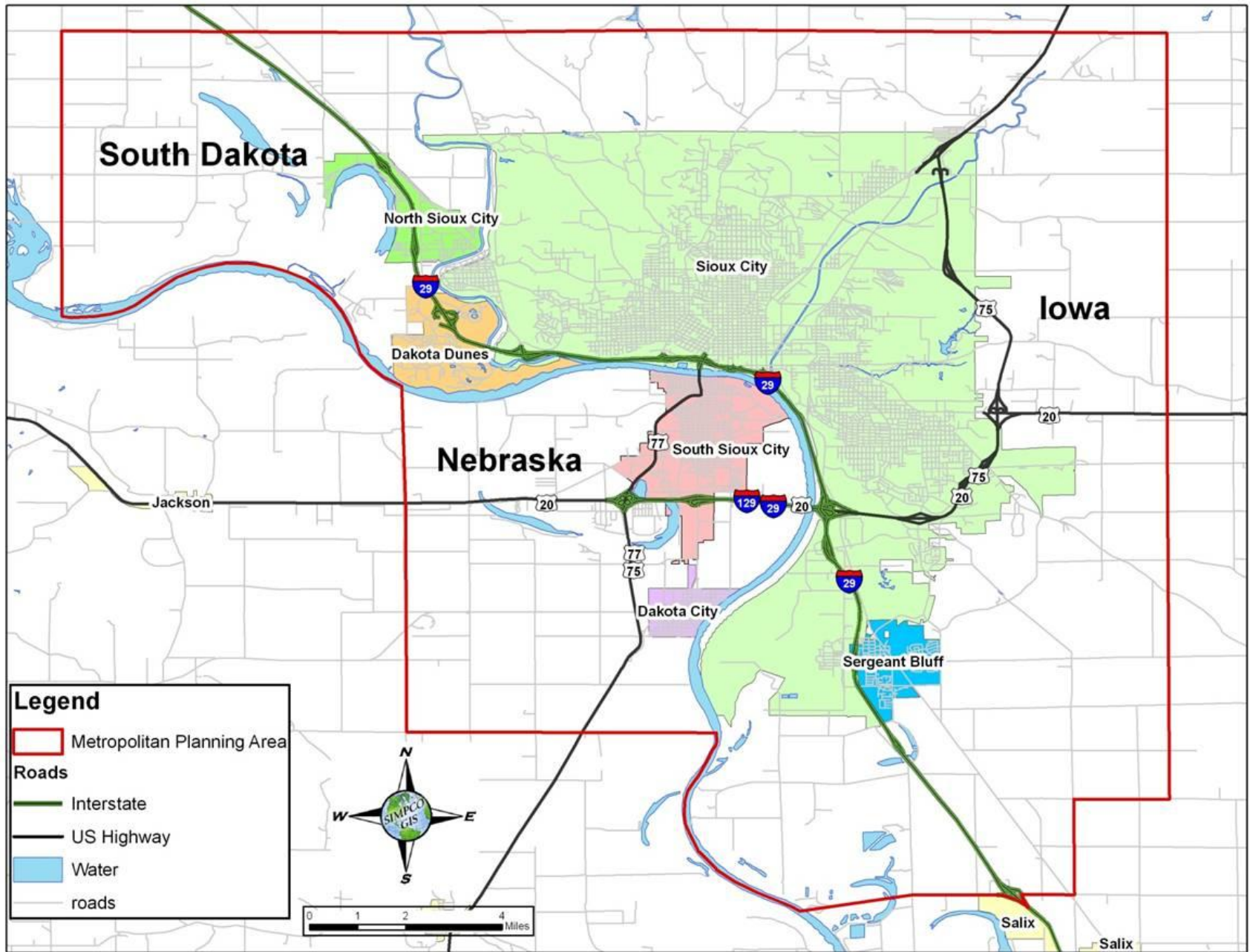
Radio Stations

KGLI – KG95
KKMA – Kool 95
KMNS
KMSC
KSCJ
KSEZ
KSFT
KSUX
KTFC
KWIT/KJOI

Television Stations

KCAU
KTIV
KMEG
KPTH
Cableone

Plan	Description	Updated	Draft Development	Public Meetings/Draft Availability	Public Comment Period	Adoption	Availability
Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	A guiding document of information on existing transportation related systems and to project future needs out 25 years	Every five years	Staff; with input from interested state and local parties, environmental and cultural/historic agencies	A draft is posted on SIMPCO's website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses	30 Day Comment Period with a public input meeting during the comment period	Adopted during a regularly scheduled MPO meeting	SIMPCO office and website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	An organized structure of information on improvements to be made within the Metropolitan Planning Area	Annually	Staff; with input from interested state and local parties, environmental and cultural/historic agencies	A draft is posted on SIMPCO's website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses	15 Day Comment Period; Public input meeting is generally scheduled in June for approval during the July meeting	Adopted during the regularly scheduled MPO meeting; usually in July	SIMPCO office and website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses
Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)	A guiding document of information addressing current and projected transportation needs within a 4 year span	Annually	Staff; with input from interested state and local parties	A draft is posted on SIMPCO's website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses	15 Day Comment Period following a media announcement verifying its location	Adopted during the regularly scheduled MPO meeting; usually in May	SIMPCO office and website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses
Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)	A document that coordinates transportation access to minimize duplication and keep cost effective service	Every five years – with a yearly review	Staff; Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee (CTIC)	A draft is posted on SIMPCO's website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses	30 Day Comment Period following a Coordinated Transportation Issues Committee (CTIC) approval	Adopted during a regularly scheduled MPO meeting; usually in March	SIMPCO office and website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses
Public Participation Plan (PPP)	A document that outlines the steps taken to involve the public throughout the planning process	Every five years	Staff; with input from interested state and local parties, environmental and cultural/historic agencies	A draft is posted on SIMPCO's website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses	45 Day Comment Period with a public input meeting during the comment period	Adopted during a regularly scheduled MPO meeting	SIMPCO office and website under the publications tab and can be found at local city halls and county courthouses



SIMPCO Metropolitan Planning Organization
Addendum to the FY 2008 Public Participation Plan

On June 17, 2008 and June 23, 2008 surveys were sent out to the Natural Resources/Cultural Agencies and other interested parties that were listed under the Individuals and Organizations section of the Public Participation Plan. The survey was sent out to gather information from these organizations about how they would like to be notified about transportation activities in the area. The organizations were asked to choose from the following options:

- Please contact me by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website www.simpco.org
- Please contact me by letter with a hard copy of the document to be reviewed
- Please contact me by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website www.simpco.org
- Please contact me by email with an electronic copy of the document attached to the email
- Please telephone me when documents are available for review
- I do not want to be notified of future transportation issues/projects in the MPO planning area
- Other

It was asked that the surveys be returned to SIMPCO by July 1, 2008. Thirty-one out of seventy-nine surveys were originally returned which is a 39% response rate. Staff then made follow-up phone calls/emails to those agencies who did not respond to the initial survey. The first round of follow-up phone calls/emails was made on July 7, 2008 which garnered more responses. The second round of phone calls/emails started immediately afterwards and were finished by July 29, 2008.

Seventy-nine surveys were sent out and only fourteen organizations have not responded to any of the three times they were contacted. Six organizations said that they would like to be contacted by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website. Fourteen organizations would like to be contacted by letter with a hard copy of the document. Ten organizations would like to be contacted by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website. Twenty-three organizations would like to be contacted by email with an electronic copy attached. No organizations wanted to be contacted by telephone and twelve organizations did not want to be notified about transportation activities.

The following chart shows how each individual organization responded to the survey.

	Organization	Contact by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by letter with a hard copy of the document	Contact by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by email with an electronic copy attached	Telephone when documents are available for review	DO NOT WANT TO BE NOTIFIED	Other	NO RESPONSE
1.	185 th Air Refueling Wing				X				
2.	1000 Friends of Iowa				X				
3.	ABF Freight System Inc.				X				
4.	Big Soo Terminal	X							
5.	Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad		X						
6.	Brown Transfer Company						X		
7.	Central Petroleum Transport	X							
8.	Chicago Central & Pacific Railway								X
9.	Con-Way Freight-Central				X				
10.	Downtown Partners of Sioux City				X				
11.	Don Buhrman Trucking								X
12.	Easter Seals Iowa	X						*Only PTDP	
13.	Easter Seals Nebraska				X				
14.	FedEx Freight				X				
15.	Hirschbach Motor Lines Inc.						X		
16.	Home Builders Association of Greater Siouxland			X					
17.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Air Quality Bureau			X					
18.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Conservation and Recreation Division								X
19.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Environmental Hazardous Conditions							*combine with Iowa DNR CRD	X

	Organization	Contact by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by letter with a hard copy of the document	Contact by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by email with an electronic copy attached	Telephone when documents are available for review	DO NOT WANT TO BE NOTIFIED	Other	NO RESPONSE
20.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Forestry Bureau							*combine with Iowa DNR CRD	X
21.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Water Quality Bureau								X
22.	Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Water Quality Certification							*combine with Iowa DNR WQB	X
23.	Iowa Department of Transportation – Office of Location and Environment			X					
24.	Iowa Environmental Council						X		
25.	Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation				X				
26.	JPS Trucking Company								X
27.	K&B Transportation Inc.						X		
28.	Krahmer Rod Trucking						X		
29.	La Casa Latina			X					
30.	Marx Distribution				X				
31.	Mel's Trucking				X				
32.	Mid America Transportation and Aviation Museum			X					
33.	Midwest Continental Inc.		X						
34.	Milwaukee Railroads Historic District				X			*email and letter	
35.	National Park Service		X						
36.	Natural Resources Conservation Services – Iowa Office								X

	Organization	Contact by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by letter with a hard copy of the document	Contact by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by email with an electronic copy attached	Telephone when documents are available for review	DO NOT WANT TO BE NOTIFIED	Other	NO RESPONSE
37.	Natural Resources Conservation Services – State Conservationist (Nebraska)				X			*only NE projects	
38.	Natural Resources Conservation Services – General Administration (South Dakota)			X				*email and letter	
39.	Nebraska Department of Aeronautics		X						
40.	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality		X						
41.	Nebraska Department of Natural Resources						X		
42.	Nebraska Game & Parks Commission		X						
43.	Nebraska Industrial Council on the Environment				X				
44.	Nebraska Northeastern Railway		X						
45.	Nebraska State Historical Society		X						
46.	New Iowan Center						X		
47.	Office of State Archaeologist						X		
48.	Saber Inc.						X		
49.	Saia Motor Freight		X						
50.	Sierra Club Iowa Chapter				X				
51.	Sierra Club Nebraska Chapter						X		
52.	Sierra Club South Dakota Chapter								X
53.	Sioux City Growth Organization	X							
54.	Siouxland Chamber of Commerce				X				
55.	Siouxland Cyclists	X							
56.	Siouxland Economic Development Corporation				X				

	Organization	Contact by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by letter with a hard copy of the document	Contact by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by email with an electronic copy attached	Telephone when documents are available for review	DO NOT WANT TO BE NOTIFIED	Other	NO RESPONSE
57.	Siouxland Trails Foundation	X							
58.	Siouxland Unidad Latina								X
59.	South Dakota Department of Environmental & Natural Resources		X						
60.	South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks		X						
61.	South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office						X		
62.	South Sioux City Chamber of Commerce				X				
63.	State Historical Society of Iowa				X				
64.	Terra Express/Terra Industries								X
65.	The American Indian Council								X
66.	The Nature Conservancy – Iowa Field Office			X					
67.	The Nature Conservancy – Nebraska Field Office				X			*also email meeting agendas	
68.	The Nature Conservancy – South Dakota Field Office						X		
69.	The Siouxland Initiative			X					
70.	Tri-State Trekkers				X				
71.	Union Pacific Railroad Transportation Department		X						
72.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Rock Island District Office		X						
73.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers				X				

	Organization	Contact by letter when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by letter with a hard copy of the document	Contact by email when documents are available on the SIMPCO website	Contact by email with an electronic copy attached	Telephone when documents are available for review	DO NOT WANT TO BE NOTIFIED	Other	NO RESPONSE
74.	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency			X					
75.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services		X						
76.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services – Ecological Service Office				X				
77.	Vitran Express								X
78.	Weinrich Truck Lines				X				
79.	Yellow Transportation Inc.				X				
	TOTALS	6	14	10	23	0	12		14