

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSION ORDERS

Tuesday, April 8, 2008
Embassy Suites
101 East Locust Street
Des Moines

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
D-2008-62 8:00 a.m.	*Approving Minutes of the March 11, 2008, Commission Meeting Commission Comments Staff Comments	Connie Page	1
PPM-2008-63 8:05 a.m.	*Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – City of Dubuque (Delegation)	Stuart Anderson	2
8:15 a.m.	Public Input Session		

*Action Item

On Monday, April 7, 2008, the Commission and staff will tour transportation projects in central Iowa starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Ankeny airport and ending at the Embassy Suites, 101 East Locust Street, in Des Moines around 3:30 p.m. at which time the Commission and staff will hold an informal meeting. Transportation-related matters will be discussed but no action will be taken.

Commission Comments

1. Commission's Tour of Central Iowa.

Chairman Cleaveland expressed appreciation to the DOT staff for the tour on Monday. We started at the Ankeny airport. The Commission had the opportunity to tour the Motor Vehicle Division headquarters in Ankeny, a very nice facility the state should be proud of. We traveled south on I-80; toured the entire I-235 project in the Des Moines area, I-35, Grand Avenue, Mills Civic Parkway; and toured a weigh station on I-80 in Dallas county. The Commissioners and Director Richardson also met with Governor Culver.

2. Thanks to Commissioners Suzan Boden and Barbara MacGregor.

Chairman Cleaveland said this is the last commission meeting for Commissioners MacGregor and Boden. To each he presented a certification of appreciation for their dedicated service to the state of Iowa as transportation commissioners serving from May 1, 2000, to April 30, 2008. Chairman Cleaveland said it has been an honor and pleasure to serve with them and he learned so much from both.

Commissioner Crawford said it is bittersweet to have Commissioners MacGregor and Boden leave. For eight years they helped the Commission through some difficult times. There were changes in the way the Commission did planning for the state of Iowa that created some angst within the state because it was, in some instances, a drastic change. Both of these ladies had the courage to hang in there when things were not as smooth as we would like them to be, and she thought, as a result, the state is better.

Commissioner Boden expressed appreciation to DOT staff; everyone has been first rate and professional. It has been a great experience and staff should be proud of themselves. She said being on the Commission has been a great opportunity. She has gotten to know Iowa very well and we should all be proud of it. It is a wonderful state.

Commissioner MacGregor said she agrees with Commissioner Boden. She may be off the Commission but she will continue to talk to people about transportation and how well served Iowa is by the professional DOT staff and commissioners. Iowa is fortunate, and it has been her pleasure to serve on the commission.

3. Thank You to Staff

Commissioner Blouin expressed appreciation to staff for all the information the Commission received as they worked on the five-year plan.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning Order No. PPM-2008-63
Submitted by Stuart Anderson Phone No. 515-239-1312 Meeting Date April 8, 2008
Title Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Application – Dubuque (Delegation)

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The city of Dubuque submitted a RISE Immediate Opportunity application requesting a grant to assist the construction of 1,580 feet of new roadway south of Chavenelle Road in the Dubuque Industrial Center West.

The improvements are necessary to provide access to the site of the proposed Hormel Foods Corporation facility. This company conforms to the legislative requirements of the RISE program.

The roadway will support:

- The creation of 196 new jobs at Hormel Foods Corporation's Dubuque facility.
- \$142,709,600 in associated capital investment.

The RISE cost per job assisted will be \$2,269.34, and there will be a total capital investment of \$320.85 for each RISE dollar requested.

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the capital investment and job creation commitments, it is recommended the Commission award a RISE grant of \$444,791 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

	Aye	Vote Nay	Pass
Blouin	_____	_____	_____
Boden	_____	_____	_____
Cleaveland	_____	_____	_____
Crawford	_____	_____	_____
MacGregor	_____	_____	_____
Sawtelle	_____	_____	_____
Wiley	_____	_____	_____

Division
Director

Legal

State Director

PPM-2008-63

Stuart Anderson, Office of Systems Planning, presented a RISE immediate opportunity application from the city of Dubuque for funding to assist in the construction of 1,580 feet of new roadway. Using a power point map, he reviewed the location of the project in the Dubuque Industrial Center West. This project is necessary to provide access for a proposed Hormel Foods corporation facility. Hormel Foods is a multi-national manufacturer of food and meat products headquartered in Austin, Minnesota, and this 327,000 square foot processing facility will produce ready-to-eat packaged meals for distribution to grocery retailers across the country.

Mr. Anderson said this project will result in the creation of 196 new jobs within two years of project completion and have an associated capital investment of about \$142.7 million. The average starting wage of the positions to be created is 102 percent of the regional average wage rate, and the company's benefit package includes paid time off, medical/dental/vision/life insurance, disability and 401(k) plan.

Mr. Anderson said we will recommend a RISE grant of \$444,791 which is 80 percent of the total road cost of \$555,989. RISE funding will be contingent on the creation of 196 new jobs within two years of project completion. This results in a RISE cost per job assisted ratio of \$2,269.34 and a capital investment per RISE dollar of \$320.85. He introduced David Heiar, Dubuque Economic Development Director.

Mr. Heiar expressed appreciation for the Commission's consideration of Dubuque's application and the DOT staff's help with the application process. This is an exciting project for the city of Dubuque. Hormel Corporation anticipates building a "green" or sustainable state-of-the-art manufacturing facility which fits well with the goal of the city council to make their community a "green" community. They also look at this construction project as the first phase of Hormel's investment in the community. Hormel anticipates the growth of the microwaveable food industry and has set up this facility so it can easily be expanded in the future. This project also helps the city of Dubuque diversify its economic base. Over the last several years, Dubuque has had success in the growth of white-collar, college-educated positions. Now they have launched a new initiative called "Project Hope – Helping Our People Excel" which is geared toward people with fewer skills, less education, or are unemployed. This project ties in well with that initiative.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the recommendation of staff.

Commissioner Blouin moved, Commissioner Sawtelle seconded the Commission, based on the capital investment and job creation commitment, award a RISE grant of \$444,791 or up to 80 percent of the total RISE eligible project cost, whichever is less, from the city share of the RISE fund. All voted aye.