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Subject: Recovery Act - Local Project Letting Deadline

To: Iowa Metropolitan Planning Organizations
Regional Planning Affiliations
Cities
Counties
Other Recovery Act Funding Recipients

Date: August 28, 2009

From: Stuart Anderson, Director
Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Iowa Department of Transportation

Subject: Recovery Act - Local Project Letting Deadline

It has been an extremely busy summer for all parties as we've worked together to implement the provisions of the Recovery Act. Through your efforts and our partnership, the implementation has gone extremely well. We thank you all very much for your hard work. We're now approaching crunch time to assure that all local projects are let by January 20, 2010. As stated in our May 13, 2009 memo, *"in order to meet the deadline to fully obligate the Recovery Act funding,*

local agency construction projects must be let for bids no later than January 20, 2010. Any Recovery Act funds not let by that time will be transferred to the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) for programming. This will be done to assure that the Recovery Act funding is not lost to the state of Iowa. We are implementing these provisions to avoid this situation."

Our goal is to have no RPA/MPO Recovery Act funding or freight rail Recovery Act funding transferred to Iowa DOT and we will do whatever we can to assist meeting that goal. Unfortunately, extending the letting deadline beyond January 20, 2010, is not feasible because of Recovery Act deadlines for obligating funds. With the January 20, 2010, deadline, you need to be aware that the following deadlines apply:

* Deadline for turning in check plans: September 29, 2009

* Deadline for turning in final plans and project development certificate: October 20, 2009

There is a little flexibility with these plan deadlines; however, you need to remain in constant communication with your Iowa DOT project manager regarding project status.

Shawn Majors, Office of Program Management, is keeping track of Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Recovery Act funding balances and has provided a summary spreadsheet after each letting. Please continue to work with Shawn to assure that RPA/MPO Recovery Act funding is fully utilized within each RPA and MPO area.

Planning agencies that have questions may contact Shawn Majors at 515-239-1288 or shawn.majors@dot.iowa.gov. Local agencies that have construction questions may contact Charlie Purcell at 515-239-1532 or charlie.purcell@dot.iowa.gov.

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