

PUBLIC TRANSIT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

CALENDAR - STATE FISCAL YEAR (APRIL 1 - JUNE 30)

APRIL

- 01 Consolidated Transit Funding Public Hearing due
- 25 Regional/Small Urban System Quarterly Charter Report due
- 30 3rd Quarter Fuel Tax Report due
- 30 Regional/Small Urban System DBE (October-March) Semi-Annual Reports due
- 30 Triennially, Regional/Small Urban System DBE Project Worksheet (for next three Federal Fiscal Years, October 1 - September 30) due
- 30 Large Urban System Quarterly Charter Report due to FTA
- 30 Large Urban Quarterly TrAMS Reports (if in TAM) due to FTA

MAY

- 01 Consolidated Transit Funding Applications (including Statewide 5339, 5310, 5311, Public Transit Infrastructure Grant, and AMOCO Loan) due
- 01 Passenger Transportation Plans due
- 15 3rd Quarter Statistical Report due

JUNE

- 01 Large Urban System DBE (October-March) Semi-Annual Report due to FTA
- 15 Triennially, State and Large Urban System DBE (Next three FFYs) Goals Published for Comment (45 days before August 1)
- 30 2 CFR 200 Audit (Previous State Fiscal Year) due
- 30 Record Vehicle odometer readings at end of service or prior to start of service on July 1
- 30 End of Fiscal Year

***THIS FULL CALENDAR CAN BE FOUND IN THE TRANSIT MANAGER'S HANDBOOK

<https://iowadot.gov/transit/handbook/TMHandbookBinder.pdf>

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

TRANSIT MANAGER HANDBOOK TRAINING:

May 1, 2025, and May 2, 2025, an email will be sent out on how to register for this training soon. If you have any questions reach out to Jamie by email at jamie.wingert@iowadot.us

TRANSIT RETREAT:

Registration is now open for the Transit Retreat that is being held in Des Moines, Iowa from June 25, 2025, to June 26, 2025. For more information and to register go to: <https://www.transitretreat.org/>

TRANSIT DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT

PAT INRACHAVONGSA TRANSIT DIRECTOR

Pat became the Transit Director for SEIBUS late June of 2024. Before his time at SEIBUS, Pat worked at Metro Waste Authority (MWA) as the Customer Care Supervisor. Prior to MWA, he worked at Hertz Local Edition as the District Manager for over 8 years. Pat oversaw the locations in Des Moines, Ankeny, Urbandale, and Ottumwa with a combined fleet size of over 500 vehicles. He attended Iowa State University then transferred to AIB College of Business to finish his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Sales and Marketing. In his free time, Pat enjoys riding his bicycle and loves RAGBRAI if he is able. He also enjoys fishing in the summer, and most of all, Pat enjoys spending time with his boys, Laddon, 5 and Ambrose, 1.



IPTA RIDERSHIP SURVEY

Please forward out this survey to help IPTA gather results for their Economic Impact Study.



https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cMYgmTkm7oheFyS

Public Transit: 2025 Commission Timeline

	25-Jan	25-Feb	25-Mar	25-Apr	25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec	Jan-26
FFY 2024 Transit Program (vehicle replacement)													
Applications Received (consolidated app due May 1)					Brent								
Bus Applications Review (TIP)													
Commission workshop													
Commission approval													
Public Transit Infrastructure Grants (PTIG)													
Applications Received (consolidated app due May 1)					Brent								
Applications Review													
Commission workshop													
Commission approval													
SFY 2026 STA Special Projects Program													
Calculate available \$ for STA Special Projects and post in BlackCat													
Applications Due Oct 1													
Application Review													
Commission workshop													
Commission approval													
CY 2026 Intercity Bus Program													
ICB proposed funding changes to Commission workshop													
Calculate available \$ for ICB, NOFO - send out August 1													
Applications Due Oct 1													
Application Review													
Commission workshop													
Commission approval													

Status of Grants		
Grant Name	TrAMS Grant Status	Contracts Status
ICAAP Projects	FTA approved 2/24/2025	Contracts Out
FFY 2024 5311 (FY 2025 5311 Formula and CY 2025 ICB)	FTA approved 3/3/2025	Contracts Out
DART Transit Shelters TAP	Transmitted 11/19/2024	
FFY 2023 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Award 5339	Transmitted 12/10/2024	
FFY 2022 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Award 5339	Transmitted 12/10/2024	
FFY 2022 Bus Replacement Discretionary Award 5339	Transmitted 12/10/2024	
FFY 2024 5310 (FY 2025 5310 Rural and Urban Formula)	Transmitted 01/28/2025	
FFY 2023 Public Transit Program (Vehicle Replacements) Amendment CMAQ		
FFY 2024 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula		
FFY 2024 Carbon Reduction Program		
FY 2023 STBG Flex Funding Grant		
Flex Funds from MAPA		
FY 2023-2024 Innovative Coordinated Access & Mobility Project [HIRT]		

Transit Managers: Please forward Iowa DOT emails to pertinent staff within your organization. Emails with training or other announcements are sent only to transit managers with the expectation they will be forwarded to the correct staff members in your organization. Your help is greatly appreciated so everyone gets the news and information they need.

HIGHLIGHTING UPDATES TO TRANSIT AGENCIES

CLINTON MUNICIPAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (MTA)

The Municipal Transit Administration's (MTA) building at the Central Transfer Point (CTP) at the 6th Avenue South & Second Street is nearing its completion. Security cameras will be installed in and around the building for the safety and security of passengers. The passenger waiting area will be open 6 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday - Friday, and on Saturdays from 8 AM to 3:00 PM. The bus station building will be secured and closed on Sundays and Holidays, when the MTA buses are not operating.

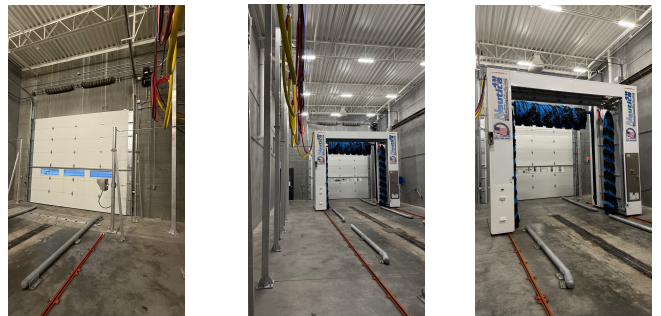
The new bus station building has a climate-controlled waiting area for the bus passengers. The waiting area is facing the street, so the passengers are able to see the buses as they pull into the transfer point.



SIOUXLAND INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL (SIMPCO)

SRTS installed a bus wash in October 2024 to wash 45 vehicles and a shop truck using PTIG grants of \$600,000 (80% state participation and 20% local participation). Drivers use their keycards to open the entrance door and select bus or van. The undercarriage receives a high-pressure cleaning as the vehicle enters the wash. After pulling up to the wash system, the gantry will wash the vehicle with one top brush and two side brushes. Once the wash is finished, the driver goes through the reverse osmosis spot rinse. The exit door will automatically open for the vehicle to be parked in the garage or to exit the garage.

This bus wash unit has benefited our transit system by keeping fleet cleaned daily, reducing external bus wash expenses, and improving the quality of the vehicles



FY 2024 RIDERSHIP AND MILEAGE STATISTICS COMPARED TO FYS 2023 AND 2019

With the final Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 statistics in, the following tables show the comparisons to Fiscal Years 2023 and 2019. Ridership and revenue mileage continue to grow from the previous year, but the statistics still have not caught back up with 2019 (i.e. pre-COVID).

System Type	2024 vs. 2023				2024 vs. 2019			
	Rides Difference		Miles Difference		Rides Difference		Miles Difference	
Regional	79,697	3.6%	211,601	1.9%	(403,407)	-15.1%	(2,431,104)	-18.0%
Small Urban	89,622	9.8%	4,732	0.3%	(168,487)	-14.4%	(98,317)	-5.2%
Large Urban	1,859,273	13.1%	230,346	1.9%	(3,886,150)	-19.5%	(1,777,124)	-12.3%
TOTAL	2,028,592	11.7%	446,679	1.8%	(4,458,044)	-18.7%	(4,306,545)	-14.4%

System Type	2024		2023		2019	
	Rides	Miles	Rides	Miles	Rides	Miles
Regional	2,276,714	11,105,009	2,197,017	10,893,408	2,680,121	13,536,113
Small Urban	1,000,318	1,787,810	910,696	1,783,078	1,168,805	1,886,127
Large Urban	16,093,032	12,677,167	14,233,759	12,446,821	19,979,182	14,454,291
TOTAL	19,370,064	25,569,986	17,341,472	25,123,307	23,828,108	29,876,531

KRISTIN'S KEYWORDS

We've made it to Spring Break! We've had an active few months, so I'm guessing we could all use break.

In December, Iowa DOT released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for electric vans and light-duty buses plus charging stations. As a DOT, under Federal Transit Administration (FTA) rules, we are able to award any responsive, responsible bidder. Therefore, after reviewing responses to specifications, ensuring proper certifications were signed, and the companies were in good standing with the Federal government through sam.gov, Iowa DOT notified two van bidders, one 25' bus vendor, two 30' bus vendors, and six charging station vendors of their selection of contracts. It is expected these contracts will be in place by mid-April. Iowa's public transit agencies will be able to order off these contracts at that time, with vendor options to be posted on our procurement website. Due to the unpredictable costs seen over the last several years, each contract will only be for one year, with four one-year extensions possible. With Matt in the lead role and Laura and Emma contributing greatly, this procurement is coming to fruition.

Thank you to those public transit managers who gave input on features they'd prefer on the electric vehicles. The next procurement on the docket is for gas or diesel, non-electric, buses; Laura will lead that effort.

Iowa's FY 2025 FTA Section 5311 grant was awarded by FTA earlier this month. Eligible rural and small urban public transit agencies should have received those contracts through Seamless for digital signatures. If you have not seen that contract in your inbox, please contact Amy. For updates on other grants, please see the grant status chart included in this newsletter. We intend to provide this chart in each newsletter and the IPTA conference presentations to keep everyone up-to-date.

With uncertainty of funding amounts, availability, and timing, 2025 has been bumpy. Iowa DOT's transit team has and will continue to keep the transit managers apprised of what we know, when we know it. I do ask that all you do the same for us - if you're hearing news about federal funding or projects, please pass this along to help expand our knowledge. You may just have the scoop on information we haven't heard or read yet.

As always, thank you for all you do for public transit in Iowa.

- *Kristin*



2025 IOWA PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

Date: May 13, 2025

Location: FFA Enrichment Center

City: Ankeny, IA

Registration Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9GZ69QL>



WHO TO CONTACT

► FIND YOUR TPA!

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