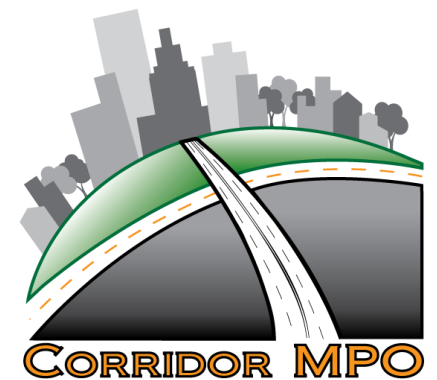




# Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization Overview





# What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

- A Federally required entity
- A representative group of local stakeholders
- Leader of the transportation planning process for the metropolitan area
- The region's policymaking organization responsible for prioritizing transportation initiatives



# Who is the Corridor MPO?

- The Corridor MPO is a partnership of metro area governments that strive to make a safe and efficient transportation network through smart transportation planning and civic engagement with the goal of attracting and retaining people and businesses in order to create a better community.

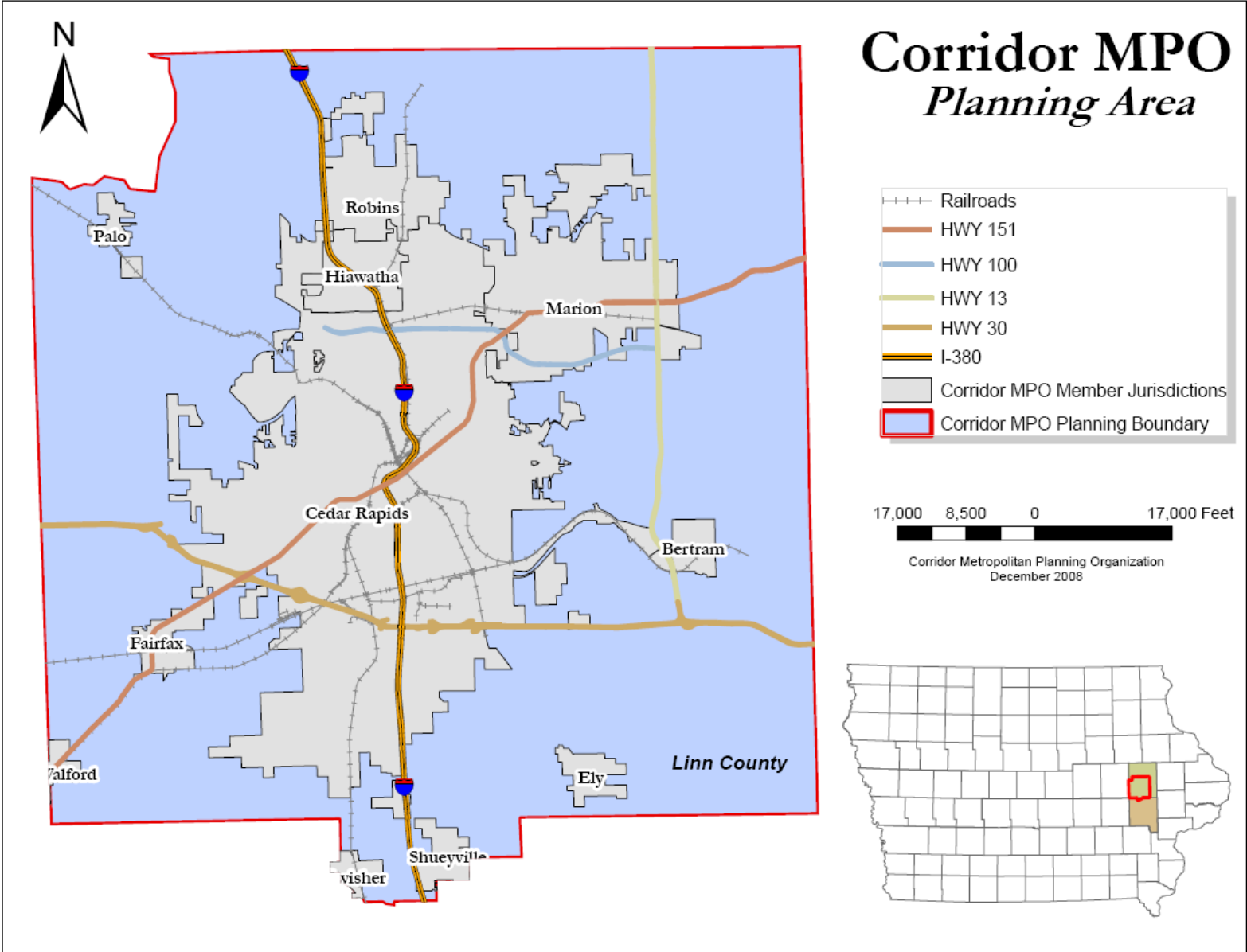


# Corridor MPO Membership

- Monica Vernon – Cedar Rapids
- Mayor Ron Corbett – Cedar Rapids
- Don Karr – Cedar Rapids
- John Schnipkoweit – Cedar Rapids
- Samantha Dahlby – Cedar Rapids
- Bill Bogert – Cedar Rapids
- Ann Poe – Cedar Rapids
- Jeff Pomeranz – Cedar Rapids
- Pat Ball – Cedar Rapids
- Julie Sina – Cedar Rapids
- Dave Elgin – Cedar Rapids
- Mayor Snooks Bouska – Marion
- Tim Mooney – Marion
- John Bender – Marion
- Cody Crawford – Marion
- Supervisor Lu Barron – Linn County
- Supervisor Ben Rogers – Linn County
- Mayor Tom Theis – Hiawatha
- Mayor Ian Cullis – Robins
- Mayor Jim Doyle – Ely
- Mayor Jason Rabe – Fairfax
- TBD – Cedar Rapids
- TBD – Cedar Rapids



# Corridor MPO Planning Area





# Corridor MPO Facts

- Governed by a 23-member Policy Board comprised of Linn County Supervisors, Mayors, and citizen reps from
  - Cedar Rapids, Marion, Hiawatha, Robins, Ely, & Fairfax
- Officially established in 1964
- Planning area of 326 square miles or 45% of Linn County, includes 90% of the County's population



# Corridor MPO Facts

- Responsible for the development of regional plans and the annual distribution of \$4 million dollars in federal funds to local transportation projects
- Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm
- Staffed by Cedar Rapids' Community Development Department



# Examples of Corridor MPO Responsibilities

- Generally, the preparation of transportation-related plans
- “Transportation-related” can be expanded to include land use, preservation, the environment, and other topics of metro area interest
- Transportation includes all modes
  - Walking, bike, automobile, & transit





# Why is Transportation Planning Important?

- Environment
- Economy
- Land use
- Safety & health
- Mobility & accessibility
- Social equity
- Communities & neighborhoods



# How does the Corridor MPO impact Citizens?

- The Corridor MPO estimates the metro population will have an increase of 95,000 people by the year 2040 or 45% growth.
- All of these people will need homes, employment, schools, and retail and recreational opportunities.
- What will make all of this possible?

**A Comprehensive Transportation System**



# How does the Corridor MPO impact Citizens?

- In order to attract and retain citizens, a transportation system that provides choices in navigating the metro area in a safe and efficient manner will be essential.
- A transportation system must provide citizens choices in getting to work, shopping, or play such as:
  - Taking public transit (i.e. buses),
  - Riding a bicycle,
  - Driving an automobile,
  - Or simply walking on sidewalks and trails.



# How does the Corridor MPO impact Citizens?

- Seeks to provide a transportation system that allows for mobility options for all citizens
- The type and location of roads in that transportation system has a direct impact on how land develops and how people access that land.



# Long-Range Transportation Plan

- Includes all modes of transportation
- Requires the cost of projects to be taken into consideration when making the plan – The plan can't be “pie in the sky.”
- Makes us think about the future, but is updated every 5 years so changing conditions can be considered
- **Connections 2040**



# Connections 2040

## Key Points

- Recommends Complete Streets
- Recommends roadway standards
- Recommends a Land Use Vision Plan
- Roadway Vision Plan - \$690 million
- Trail Vision Plan - \$91 million
- Fiscally Constrained Plan
  - Roadway Plan - \$173 million
  - Trails Plan - \$35 million
- Recommends mode split for MPO funding



# Funding for Trails

- The Corridor MPO believes a comprehensive trail system includes not only separated trails but on-street facilities such as bike lanes or sharrows.
- On April 19, 2012, the Corridor MPO decided to dedicate 80% of its federal funding over the next five years towards trail and trail component projects.
- Recently funded projects (\$4,487,437 for FY16)
  - CEMAR Trail from Cedar Lake Loop to CR city limits
  - CEMAR Trail from Marion city limits to Hwy. 100
  - CEMAR Trail from Hwy. 100 to Legion Park
  - CEMAR Trail from Thomas Park to 7<sup>th</sup> St.
- \$3.9 million in funding still available for FY16



# Funding for Trails – Next Steps

- Identify metro trail system.
- Identify street network that is ready for striping projects (bike lanes or sharrows).