

## Area Transportation Partnership

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Each year an Area Transportation Improvement Program (ATIP) is developed and incorporated into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The ATP-7:

- Solicits candidate projects for federal funding
- Sets investment targets for each category
- Ranks projects by category
- Integrates the lists of projects into the four year ATIP

Categories of projects in the ATIP are:

- MnDOT road and bridge (NHPP and STP)
- STP rural (county roads/bridges)
- STP small urban (over 5,000 population) (city streets/bridges)
- Transportation Alternatives (TA)
- Transit Capital
- Highway Safety Improvement Program

### Background

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) gave the states more flexibility in determining transportation solutions and required the development of a Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) continued this flexibility.

MnDOT responded by decentralizing the program decision-making process to a more regional level (i.e. the districts). The Area Transportation Partnerships were established by each district to facilitate broader input to the project selection process. ATP-7 covers the 13 counties of Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Nobles, Rock, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan.

The 2012 federal transportation bill (MAP-21) has taken a more performance-based approach and is focused on the National Highway System.

### Membership

Members of ATP-7 include (see other side for names):

- 4 MnDOT District 7 representatives
- 2 Regional Development Commission representatives
- 4 County representatives
- 3 City (over 5,000 population) representatives
- 2 Transit representatives
- 1 MAPO representative

Note: Currently there are five elected officials on ATP-7. MnDOT is responsible for staff support.

For more information including meeting notices and minutes go to <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/atp/>

### Schedule of Activities

- November – January - Solicit projects for four fiscal years
- February - Evaluate and prioritize

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For more information visit: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/atp/>

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- March - Develop ATIP
- April - Public review and comment
- May - Submit ATIP to MnDOT Central Office
- June - Draft STIP review and comment
- July - STIP approval by Commissioner
- November – STIP approval by Federal Highway Administration

## **ATP Members**

### **Transit:**

Patrick LaCourse, Brown County Family Services: 507-354-8246  
 Craig Rempp, Greater Mankato Transit System: 507-387-8655

### **Cities:**

Steve Koehler, P.E., New Ulm City Engineer: 507-359-8245  
 Mike Kuhle, Mayor, City of Worthington: 507-360-9012  
 Jeff Johnson, P.E., Mankato City Engineer: 507-387-8640

### **Counties:**

Ryan Thilges, P.E., Blue Earth County Engineer: 507-304-4025  
 Don Wachal, Jackson County Commissioner: 507-841-1827  
 Tim Stahl, P.E., Jackson County Engineer: 507-847-2525  
 Jack Kolars, Nicollet County Commissioner: 507-327-9987

### **Regional Development Commissions (RDC):**

Matt Widboom, Southwest RDC: 507-360-6632  
 Terry Genelin, Region 9: 507-665-6613

### **Mankato Area Planning Organization (MAPO):**

Seth Greenwood, P.E., Nicollet County Engineer; 507-931-1760

### **MnDOT:**

Ronda Allis, District Planning Director: 507-514-2332  
 Peter Harff, P.E., Asst District Engineer, Program Delivery: 507-304-6194  
 Lisa Bigham, P.E., Asst. District Engineer, State Aid: 507-304-6105  
 Greg Ous, P.E., District Engineer: 507-304-6101

### **ATP Acronyms:**

ATP – Area Transportation Partnership  
 ATIP – Area Transportation Investment Program  
 STIP – State Transportation Investment Program  
 HSIP – Highway Safety Improvement Program  
 BROS – Bridges off-system (off the federal aid system)  
 NHS – National Highway System  
 STP – Surface Transportation Program  
 TAP – Transportation Alternative Program (enhancements, safe routes)  
 NHPP – National Highway Performance Program  
 MNGo – Minnesota Go – MnDOT’s 50 year Vision  
 MnSHIP – MnDOT State Highway 20 year Investment Plan  
 FAST Act – current federal transportation act  
 TED – Transportation Economic Development (competitive grant)  
 MAPO – Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization

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