

SOUTHWEST IOWA PLANNING COUNCIL
Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting

April 24, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

via Zoom

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order.** Chris Parks called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Rachel Goetsch, MAPA; Tami Jenson, City of Council Bluffs; Mark Lander, SWITA Transit Director; Chris Parks, SWITA Communications Coordinator.
3. **Workforce Transportation and Vanpools.** Lander discussed the expansion of vanpool partnerships through Enterprise. 5 vanpools have started for Google in Council Bluffs with active plans to add a 6th. He said it's a great resource for anyone but have seen an uptick in young people living downtown Omaha or somewhere that they don't want to have a vehicle. If a business has a group of 5 or more people interested, they can set up a vanpool where they provide the vehicle, insurance, and maintenance. The driver rides free while SWITA subsidizes a portion of the cost and often the employer will as well. Results in minimal cost for the riders.

Parks discussed attending the exploratory employment committee meeting for HSAC in Council Bluffs and highlighted the vanpool opportunity and work routes that are run like with OSI and Monogram. The committee is just getting formed.

4. **Summer Fun Bus.** Parks described the SWITA Summer Fun Bus program that is available in Atlantic, Glenwood, Harlan, Red Oak, and Shenandoah. Rides for students up to 12th grade to summer activities. Rides are just \$1 each way or \$40 for an unlimited summer pass. Register online or call the SWITA office.
5. **Other Discussion Topics.** Goetsch gave an update on the RPA 13 and 18 Safe Streets for All project. She said consultants have been selected and they are working on internal approvals. They will be setting up multiple stakeholder workshops to gather input from individuals throughout the project region.

Parks discussed the recent adoption and approval of the RPA 13 Long Range Transportation Plan. It is available on the SWIPCO website. The trail mapping project with Golden Hills is getting close to completion and will be a great resource to share.

6. **Discuss Future Meeting Date.** Next meeting tentatively set for Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at the SWIPCO Conference Room and via Zoom. Official information will be sent out later.
7. **Adjourn.** Parks adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.