



**Contact:**  
Gunnar Olson  
Public Information Officer  
Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority  
golson@ridedart.com  
515.283.5008

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Monday, March 28, 2011

## **DART Seeks Public Input on Future of Public Transit in Greater Des Moines**

The public is invited to a series of meetings next week to help answer a question that is central to the future of Greater Des Moines: What kind of public transit system needs to be developed by year 2035?

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority has teamed up with a nationally recognized transit planning firm, Transportation Management and Development, to develop a regional transit plan called DART Forward 2035. When complete later this year, the plan will service as a guide for the DART Commission on near- and long-term investments in public transit in Greater Des Moines over the next 25 years.

The study got under way last fall with rider surveys and an analysis of the transit market, and now it has reached an important stage – public input. DART has scheduled the first of two rounds of public meetings, starting with four meetings in the first week of April.

### **Des Moines Central Library, 1000 Grand Avenue**

- **11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 5**
- **5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6**

### **Urbandale Public Library, 3520 86th Street**

- **5:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 5**

### **Ankeny City Hall, 410 West First Street**

- **5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7**

Those who cannot make one of the meetings are encouraged to fill out an online survey, available at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/DARTforward](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DARTforward).

The information gathered from these meetings and through the survey will be used to develop specific recommendations for updating DART's transit system. Those recommendations will be complete by this summer, and a second round of public meetings will follow for the public to give feedback.

More information about the planning study is available online at [www.ridedart.com/dart-forward-2035.cfm](http://www.ridedart.com/dart-forward-2035.cfm).

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is the public transportation provider that serves Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that makes getting around the Greater Des Moines area easier and more convenient. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit our website at [www.ridedart.com](http://www.ridedart.com) or call 515.283.8100.