



Governance Task Force

Approved unanimously by the Task Force on 4/28/2017

Critical Themes with regard to DART Governance Identified Through Independent Research

NEED FOR TRANSIT:

Research participants agreed there is a need for regional transit in the greater Des Moines Metropolitan area, particularly for workforce and economic development.

REPRESENTATION:

89% of research participants requested direct representation of their community at the Commission level.

LEADERSHIP:

Research participants felt the use of committees would increase the effectiveness of DART particularly with communication and engagement with their work.

Further, most felt the accountability with regard to decision making must be the responsibility of the local elected officials.

Solutions Developed and Proposed by the DART Governance Task Force

Representation:

Allow one representative, per community, to serve as a DART Commissioner selected/appointed by each respective Mayor. The representative must be an elected official. The Mayor can also appoint an alternate, who does not have to be an elected official.

Standard Voting:

The elected official would have ultimate authority/responsibility to vote on the budget and all other matters. Each community would have one vote per Commissioner.

Weighted Voting:

Only in two circumstances (approval of the budget and service level decisions) would a weighted voting system be possible. To enact this option, any Commission can request with 7 days notice, and it would require 3/4's of the quorum present to pass. Weighted voting would be 1 vote/25,000 population, determined by current MPO Census information.

Use of Committees:

A more robust system of committees should be created to allow for additional participation opportunities and input/impact to planning, funding and operational processes. Each Commission Member will have the right to serve on one committee.

***Solutions proposed do impact multiple areas of the current By-laws and 28E Agreements. Complete language modifications can be found in the Executive Summary and Recommendations Report.*

Next Steps

Task Force Recommendations Presentation to DART Commission	May 3, 2017
DART Commission Workshop on Recommendations	mid-May, 2017
DART Commission Approval of Recommendations	June 6, 2017
Community Approval Process for Revised 28E Agreement	July-August, 2017
Orientation Workshop for DART Commission	Sept., 2017
First Meeting of DART Commission under new Governance Structure	Oct. 3, 2017
Approval of new DART Bylaws	Nov., 2017

This summary is intended to provide a high-level overview of the work completed by the DART Governance Task Force. For complete details and supporting information, please refer to the Research and Interview Findings Report and the Executive Summary and Recommendation Report available at :

<https://www.ridedart.com/dart-governance-task-force>

**DART Governance Task Force
Members**

Jeff Mark, City Administrator
City of Altoona
David Jones, City Manager
City of Ankeny
Frank Cownie, Mayor
City of Des Moines
Jeremy Hamp, City Council
City of Grimes
Paula Dierenfeld, Mayor
City of Johnston
Don Sandor, City Manager
City of Pleasant Hill
Bob Andeweg, Mayor
City of Urbandale
Steven Gaer, Mayor *(Task Force Chairperson)*
City of West Des Moines
Jay Byers, Chief Executive Officer
Greater Des Moines Partnership
Elizabeth Buck, Chief Community Impact Officer
United Way of Central Iowa
Gretchen Tegeler, President
Iowa Tax Payers Association

Facilitation Team

J. Scott Raeccker, Director
The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center, Drake University
Cassandra Halls, President
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Support Staff

Elizabeth Presutti, Chief Executive Officer, DART
Paul Drey, Attorney, Brick Gentry Law Firm
Gina Good, Exec. Assistant, DART

Population Weighted Vote Estimate

Name	Population		Popula- tion per 25,000	Weighted Vote 25,000
	2010 Cen- sus	2015 Cen- sus Esti- mate		
Alleman	432	443	0.02	1
Altoona	14,541	16,984	0.68	1
Ankeny	45,582	56,764	2.27	3
Bondurant	3,860	5,493	0.22	1
Carlisle*	3,876	4,168	0.17	1
Clive	15,447	17,506	0.70	1
Des Moines	204,220	210,330	8.41	9
Elkhart*	683	742	0.03	1
Granger	1,244	1,431	0.06	1
Grimes	8,246	11,853	0.47	1
Johnston	17,278	20,871	0.83	1
Mitchellville*	2,254	2,278	0.09	1
Pleasant Hill	8,785	9,314	0.37	1
Polk City*	3,418	4,323	0.17	1
Runnells*	507	516	0.02	1
Urbandale	39,463	44,062	1.76	2
West Des Moines	56,609	64,113	2.56	3
Windsor Heights	4,860	4,889	0.20	1
Polk County (MPO unincorp)	22,443	22,443	0.90	1
Total Votes				32
Total Votes without Communities Planning to Withdraw				27

This process and report have been made possible through funding assistance provided by the:

