

Contact Erin Hockman Marketing and Communications Manager ehockman@ridedart.com 515-283-8132

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, June 21, 2018

DART names Matthew Harris as new business and community partnerships manager

DART is excited to welcome Matthew Harris of Des Moines as business and community partnerships manager, starting July 16. In this position, Matt will be responsible for expanding DART's partnerships program to grow transit options within the region and diversify revenue for the agency.

The position came about, in part, due to feedback from funding analysis workshop participants that the business community wants to do more to support DART, and likewise, the DART Commission would like to continue to grow business and community partnerships.

According to DART Chief External Affairs Officer Amanda Wanke, "Community and business partnerships are essential to DART's goal of providing mobility services that ensure Greater Des Moines continues to be a top ranking place to live. Matt brings tremendous experience in fundraising, sales, and community relations, as well as a passion for our region, which will help grow partnerships that increase transit access and diversify funding for DART."

Harris has extensive relationship building and partner cultivation experience from his time spent with the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, and Des Moines Performing Arts. He is also skilled in program development, which will be crucial in this new role as he leads strategies to develop new partnerships.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is the public transportation provider in and around Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that connects thousands of people every day to jobs, school, medical appointments, entertainment and more. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at ridedart.com or call 515-283-8100.

###