Sharing resources among Iowa’s agencies

If you are interested in creating shared transportation projects, the Transportation Sharing Project Manual may be a helpful resource. Developed by the Iowa DOT, the Iowa Department of Economic Development (Iowa DED), and the Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Iowa, this manual offers guidelines and information on forming joint transportation projects.

In 1995, Governor Branstad designated a Blue Ribbon Task Force to make recommendations for maximizing Iowa’s resources for road construction and maintenance. The Task Force appointed a Sharing Subcommittee to study transportation sharing projects already in place and under development. The Transportation Sharing Project Manual is a result of that subcommittee’s activities.

Included in this manual is information about:
- existing transportation sharing pilot projects
- initiating transportation sharing projects
- project selection criteria
- project implementation
- legal problems and possible solutions
- resources and sample documents

To obtain a copy of this manual, or other project sharing publications, contact the Iowa DOT, 515-239-1111; Community and Rural Development Division at the Iowa DED, 515-242-4922; or the Institute of Public Affairs, 319-335-4520.

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**Possible flowchart for selecting, implementing, and evaluating shared projects**

1. **Entity A: City**
   - Exchange ideas for potential shared projects
     - Select top ten projects

2. **Entity B: County**
   - Exchange ideas for potential shared projects
     - Select top ten projects

3. **Entity C: Iowa DOT**
   - Exchange ideas for potential shared projects
     - Select top ten projects

   **Select top five projects with most "sharing potential"**

**Determine costs of each of the top five projects**

**Determine how each entity would allocate costs of shared project**

**Determine cost to each entity if it bore the project expense alone**

**Decide on which projects to share**

**Determine a leader to spearhead the project**

**Receive written statements of intent from each entity regarding the project**

**Establish record keeping to provide accountability for all entities**

**Develop a work plan**

**Implement the work plan**

**Schedule regular meetings to monitor the project & consider additional cooperative efforts**

**Evaluate completed project**