

Conference calendar

Date	Event Name	Location	Contact
July 2014			
10	Midyear Iowa County Engineers Association Conference	Ames	Keith Knapp
September 2014			
15	Introduction of Federal-Aid Right of Way Requirements for Local Public Agencies	Charles City	Keith Knapp
17	Introduction of Federal-Aid Right of Way Requirements for Local Public Agencies	Manchester	Keith Knapp
19	Introduction of Federal-Aid Right of Way Requirements for Local Public Agencies	DeWitt	Keith Knapp
23	Iowa Streets and Roads Workshop	Ames	Beth Richards
24–25	Iowa Streets and Roads Annual Conference	Ames	Beth Richards
24–25	2014 MINK Conference	St. Joseph, MO	Keith Knapp
October 2014			
8	Fall Safety School	Fairfield	Keith Knapp
9	Fall Safety School	Cedar Rapids	Keith Knapp
10	Fall Safety School	Waverly	Keith Knapp
14–17	NHI: Fracture Critical Inspection Techniques for Steel Bridges	Ames	Sharon Prochnow
21	Fall Safety School	Cherokee	Keith Knapp
22	Fall Safety School	Red Oak	Keith Knapp
23	Fall Safety School	Ames	Keith Knapp

Contact information

Keith Knapp, 515-294-8817, kknapp@iastate.edu

Sharon Prochnow, 515-294-3781, prochnow@iastate.edu

Beth Richards, 515-294-2869, brich@iastate.edu ■

Event details and online registration

Watch for details and online registration information, by specific dates and events, on the online calendar, www.intrans.iastate.edu/mors/calendar/. ■

ideas and innovative solutions to day-to-day issues that occur within local transportation agencies. The results of similar regional and Missouri-focused competitions were also discussed.

Then, several Iowa county engineers talked about some of the new or innovative approaches that they had used for the following: gravel road maintenance, hard surface pavement maintenance, thin maintenance surface options, fuel tank clean out, plow blades, plow truck lighting, and trailer fabrication. Roundtable discussions followed on, among other things, snow and ice removal policies, budgeting, and bridges.

Research ideas

A good portion of the meeting included the discussion and prioritization of potential research and outreach ideas for consideration by the Iowa Highway Research Board. A total of 21 ideas that focused on a wide range of subjects were suggested and discussed, then narrowed down to six:

- Dyed fuel use on roadways
- Manual on proper removal of traffic control devices
- Feasibility of gravel road recycling
- Innovative frost boil treatments
- Soil screw abutment use

- Equipment replacement optimization and lease/own comparison

The subjects proposed above for either research or outreach projects are considered by the Iowa Highway Research Board along with many other subjects that are suggested by others for funding. A number of the focus group suggestions, as noted above, have resulted in projects.

For more information

Summaries of focus group meetings from the last several years, along with video clips of various presentations, are available online, www.iowadot.gov/research/countyfocus-group.html. ■