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**FORWARD MOVEMENT ON EXPRESS BUS SERVICE AND RIDESHARE PROGRAM FOR REGION
UPDATE ON COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION STEERING COMMITTEE PLANS**

The Steering Committee formed based on the Iowa DOT's Commuter Transportation Study is now moving forward with more specific plans for both an express bus service and a ridesharing program.

The committee has developed a preliminary timeline for the express bus service, which would be an interregional fixed route bus service connecting Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. This timeline proposes pilot service implementation in 2017, in advance of the planned I-80/I-380 interchange construction, scheduled to begin in 2018. The committee is currently working on identifying a funding source and gathering additional information to determine specific needs of commuters for the proposed bus route.

The rideshare program, an online system that would provide a way for the public to find carpool matches, also has a preliminary timeline set with potential implementation as early as October. A request for proposals will be released within the month to select a contractor for the program.

Both the express bus service and the rideshare program, along with a potential subscription bus service and vanpool program, were suggestions of the Iowa Commuter Transportation Study. The study was conducted by the Iowa DOT, per the request of the Iowa legislature in order to identify the needs of commuters in the I-380 corridor.

For more information on the Steering Committee and the Iowa Commuter Transportation Study visit www.ecicog.org/commuter-plan

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