



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2667	House Committee:	PASSED 15-5 (2/18/26)
Committee:	Transportation	House Floor:	
Floor Manager:	Rep. Megan Jones	Senate Floor:	
Date:	March 4, 2026	Governor:	
Staff:	Brad Trow (1-3471)		

Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Board

House File 2667 codifies the composition and duties of the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Board.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 – NEW SUBSECTION – [Iowa Code section 307.22]:

The section amends the planning and programming activities of the Department of Transportation to include the requirement that its planning and programming comply with the statewide urban design standards and specifications developed by the SUDAS board created in section 2 of the bill.

Section 2 – NEW SECTION – [Iowa Code section 307.22A] – statewide design and specifications board:

The section creates the Statewide Design and Specifications Board under the Department of Transportation. The panel is charged with developing statewide urban design standards and specifications. The board’s work will be published as a manual, which shall be put on the internet. And the panel

The Board shall be comprised of 15 members:

- Three employees of the Department of Transportation;
- Two people appointed by ISAC;
- Two people appointed by the League of Cities;
- Two people appointed by the Home Builders Association of Iowa;
- One person appointed by the Associated General Contractors of Iowa;
- One person appointed by Master Builders of Iowa;
- One person appointed by the Asphalt Association of Iowa;
- One person appointed by the Iowa Real Estate Developers Association;
- One person appointed by the Iowa Concrete Paving Association; and
- One person appointed by the Associated Builders & Contractors of Iowa.

Board members are appointed for four years, and if a seat becomes vacant it shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Members serve without compensation and may not receive reimbursement from the state for any expenses. State employees on the board do not have to take time off from work to serve.

If the Board makes changes to the SUDAS manual, they are required to publish an analysis estimating the cost variations that come from the changes made.

The Board is not subject to Iowa Code section 4A.5, which would dissolve the Board after four years of existence.

Section 3 – NEW SUBSECTION [Iowa Code section 331.301]:

The section inserts a new subsection requiring that a county that approves a project plan that does not comply with the SUDAS manuals must pay the additional costs that result from non-compliance, and a property owner cannot be assessed any costs relating to a non-compliant project that is on or adjacent to the owner's property.

Section 4 – NEW SUBSECTION [Iowa Code section 364.3]:

The section inserts a new subsection requiring that a city that approves a project plan that does not comply with the SUDAS manuals must pay the additional costs that result from non-compliance, and a property owner cannot be assessed any costs relating to a non-compliant project that is on or adjacent to the owner's property.

AMENDMENT

H-8126, by Jones: The amendment makes several changes to the bill. The first change is to strike the introductory paragraph of Section 2 and insert new language setting out how the board will operate. DOT shall coordinate with Iowa State University's Institute for Transportation to oversee SUDAS, which is responsible for developing statewide urban design standards and specifications. The board is required to publish a design manual and specifications manual on Iowa State's website.

The amendment also makes changes to the composition of the SUDAS board. The amendment reduces ISAC, League of Cities, and the Homebuilders Association to one member each. The amendment adds two members from the American Council of Engineering Companies and one member from the Iowa state building and construction trades council.

The amendment requires that the SUDAS board members appointed by DOT, the American Council of Engineering Companies, ISAC, and the League of Cities be professional engineers licensed by the state.

The amendment changes where the bill requires information to be put on the internet. Instead of the DOT's website, any analysis of changes made to the manuals will be posted on Iowa State's website.

The amendment strikes sections 3 and 4 of the bill and inserts a new provision that requires when a city council approves a city street project that does not conform with the SUDAS standards, the person managing the project is required to submit a report to the city council laying out the costs incurred by not following the design standards and specifications. The new section also prohibits a city from changing the approved project design standards and specifications after a project has begun.

The amendment also makes numbering changes and revises the bill's title.