Display the QR code
for ID-verifiers to scan

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Pilot testing Iowa's Mobile ID program will help the state prepare for launch

As technology advances and more people embrace the convenience of doing their shopping, banking and other business online, the need for additional tools to streamline these activities – and make them more safe – have increased as well.

To reduce the risk of fraud and identity theft while making everyday transactions faster and easier, Iowa DOT is piloting Iowa Mobile ID, a highly secure, convenient, and private digital option for showing and verifying a person's identity.

Once launched statewide, the free and easy-to-use Iowa Mobile ID application will give Iowans the option to show their smart phone whenever they need to prove their identity or age, such as when purchasing alcohol, boarding a plane, or renting a car. Businesses that choose to

accept Iowa Mobile ID will have confidence that the digital credential is backed by Iowa DOT, just like a traditional ID card. And use of Iowa Mobile ID will be voluntary; no one will be required to use or accept it.

"Iowa Mobile ID is a secure, private, and convenient way to carry identification," explained Toni Smith, Emerging Technology Program Manager at Iowa DOT. "Several other states have already launched similar technologies, and we're excited to bring our own version to Iowa."

The pilot project involves purchasing a variety of devices and testing Iowa Mobile ID across multiple platforms to ensure the technology works well for all users. The project will also investigate how Iowa Mobile ID could be used differently by brick-and-mortar businesses, online retailers,

and traveling vendors who opt to accept it.

"Iowa Mobile ID is the next evolution in ID management," Smith said. "We already use our phones for so many things, from credit cards to health information to car keys. This is a convenience with built-in security. The app can only be unlocked with biometrics or by entering a six-digit pin. And information cannot be shared without the user's permission – they have to consent to share it before it will be released."

To learn more about this project and subscribe to updates, visit Idea #3798.

IOWA DOT RESEARCH
iowadot.gov/research
ideas.iowadot.gov

IOWA DOT
Research