



Commission in Review

February/March 2017

Serving local governments in Muscatine and Scott Counties, Iowa;
Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties, Illinois.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Apr. 26, 2017
3:30 p.m.

Scott Co. Admin. Bldg.
6th Floor Conf. Room
600 West 4th Street
Davenport, Iowa

APA TRAINING SERIES

"2017 Planning Law
Review"

Wed., Jul. 05, 2017
3-4:30 p.m.

Third Floor Conf. Room
1504 Third Ave., R.I.

Call (309) 793-6302,
Ext. 138 or e-mail
ppearson@bistateonline.org
to register.

Please arrive prior to
3:00 p.m. to sign in and
for materials.

CIR VIA E- MAIL

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Mission Statement:

*To serve as a forum
for intergovernmental
cooperation and
delivery of regional
programs and to
assist member local
governments in
planning and project
development.*

CEDS 2017 Progress Report Underway

The CEDS, or Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, is updated fully every 5 years and updated as a progress report in the interim years. Since the last full CEDS was completed in 2016, Laura Berkley, Senior Planner, presented information on the 2017 CEDS Progress Report. She reported that the Gross Regional Product was up to \$19.54 million (in 2015 dollars), which is the most recent data available. Unemployment is down, but the workforce is also shrinking. According to economic modeling software JobsEQ, overall jobs are projected to increase by less than 1% by 2021, with Health Care and Social Assistance; Construction; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services being the sectors with the largest growth.

Ms. Berkley highlighted a few topics included in the Opportunities and Threats discussion with the following themes: Arsenal, Infrastructure, Fiscal Matters, and Education and Workforce Training. Items within those criteria are the potential for another Base and Realignment Commission (BRAC) affecting the Arsenal, I-74 bridge, passenger rail, Davenport Transload Facility, Exelon, internet connectivity, the Illinois budget effects, and attracting a young workforce.

Ms. Berkley stated that additional topics are included in the progress report, and progress toward goals set in the 2016 CEDS will also be outlined. She also mentioned that not every community has turned in their economic development projects to include in the report. At the March meeting, Bi-State staff provided a draft of the 2017 CEDS Progress Report to the Commission for review and opened the public comment period. The draft is available on the Bi-State website, and will lay on the table until April when staff will ask for approval of the CEDS Progress Report before it is sent to EDA.

2018 IL Transportation Enhancement Program Cycle

The Illinois Department of Transportation has announced the grant cycle of the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, ITEP, will open on October 2, 2017. Applications will be due December 1, 2017 with selected projects announced in spring 2018. Grants are awarded up to 80% of total project cost up to \$2 million. All applicants must be in compliance with the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), which includes registering at www.grants.illinois.gov and fulfilling all other related requirements and documents.

Eligible projects include but are not limited to: bicycle and pedestrian facilities; landscape/streetscape and other scenic beautification; conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to trails; historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities; and vegetation management in transportation rights-of-way. More information on ITEP can be found at <http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/local-transportation-partners/county-engineers-and-local-public-agencies/funding-opportunities/ITEP>.

Member governments are encouraged to contact Bi-State Regional Commission for technical assistance on a first come, first served basis based on staffing availability. Please contact Bryan Schmid at (309) 793-6302 ext. 123 or bschmid@bistateonline.org.

Bi-State's Role in the I-74 Bridge Corridor Project

The largest infrastructure project in the Bi-State Region's history will begin this year due to the persistence and leadership of all those involved. The Bi-State Regional Commission adopted the Interstate 74 Bridge corridor project as the number one transportation priority in the Bi-State Region in 1998. Since that time, four long-range transportation plans have been developed by the Bi-State Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the project has continued to be the top priority. There have been over 14 changes in engineering and planning leadership between the Illinois and Iowa Departments of Transportation and over 20 chief elected official changes on the Transportation Policy Committee since 1998. With all of these changes, the Bi-State Regional Commission has continued to communicate a unified message of support for the project.

The I-74 Mississippi River Bridge Corridor project has received significant federal funding due to the support of our federal delegation throughout the past 20 years. Over \$88 million in federal discretionary dollars have been received through the teamwork of federal staff and Bi-State coordinating the paper work and funding requests. One of the largest sums of federal discretionary dollars was \$67.4 million in the 2005 transportation act, SAFETEA-LU. In fact, Bi-State was one of the few organizations invited to testify in one of three hearings held prior to the signing of SAFETEA-LU.

Bi-State policy members and staff also have worked with the Iowa and Illinois DOTs to insure the project was included in their Transportation Improvement Programs. Local governments and Bi-State staff participated in an advisory committee since the inception of the project and assisted in coordination of public information opportunities.

The I-74 Bridge Corridor project schedule began in 1995 with a Major Investment Study and continues as follows:

Schedule:	Fiscal Year
Major Investment Study	1995-1998
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	1999-2005
Final EIS/Preliminary Engineering	2005-2008
Record of Decision (ROD) - Project Accepted by Federal Highways	2009
Lincoln Road Overpass Complete	2009
I-74/53rd St. Complete	2013
Final Design Complete	2016
Iowa ROW and Demolition Complete	2015
Moline/Bettendorf Central Business District Projects	2015-2017
Illinois ROW and Demolition	2010-2018
North Section, Middle Road to 53rd Street Design	2016-2018
Final Mainline I-74 Construction	2018-2021*
*(Central Bridge Section, bluff to bluff begins calendar year 2017)	
Existing Bridge Demolished	2021
North Section Construction with Cost of \$152 Million	TBD

The project has been value engineered to reduce costs with a construction period reduction from 8 to 3.5 years. The bridge will have increased protection for seismic occurrences and barge collisions and is being built to last 100 years. The 7.8 Mile Corridor will cost \$1.17 Billion in Year of Expenditure, which includes \$152 million already spent on engineering, ROW acquisition, demolition, and portions of the project corridor previously completed. The remaining costs for the Central Bridge Section from Avenue of the Cities to Middle Road is \$863 million.