



# Commission in Review

May 2017

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

## NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Jun. 28, 2017  
3:30 p.m.

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

## APA TRAINING SERIES

"2017 Planning Law  
Review"

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

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

Call (309) 793-6302,  
Ext. 138 or e-mail  
[rbruce@bistateonline.org](mailto:rbruce@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.

## FY2018 Quad Cities and Region 9 Work Programs for Transportation Planning Presented

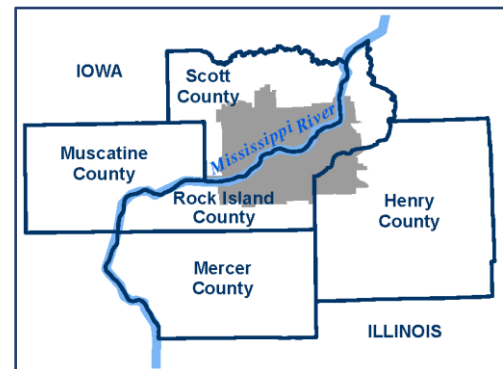
As part of the Bi-State Regional Commission agency budgeting process, staff annually prepare the Transportation Planning Work Programs (TPWPs) for the Quad Cities metropolitan planning area (MPA) and Region 9, serving rural Scott County and Muscatine County. The TPWPs reflect staff work/tasks/activities for the upcoming fiscal year 2018, and include budgets for transportation planning short and long-range activities, delineating federal, state, and local planning funds. Activities include staffing transportation meetings, technical assistance, such as grant writing and traffic or trail studies/analysis, as well as the development of various modal planning and transportation funding programming. These activities represent nearly 50% of the Bi-State Regional Commission budget as a whole, and are supported with matching funds from membership dues.

The transportation planning effort for metro transportation planning amounts to \$845,641 in federal, state and local funding for the metro area. Additionally, some a planning study for trails and greenways in Rock Island County area and transit planning are noted in the metro area work program. In Region 9, a total effort of \$61,345 is planned. The Region 9 program utilizes \$9,468 in local Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program carryover funds to support the planning effort.

Overall, federal funding under the FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) is flat and reflects the challenges faced nationally to find revenue sources to replenish the Highway Trust Fund in order to improve the nation's and our Region's transportation network. The Commission approved resolutions to authorize application of the federal transportation planning grants with the States of Iowa and Illinois, assurance of match and execution of the respective grant agreements.



Region 9 Transportation Planning Area



Quad Cities Metro Planning Area

## Workshop Held Focusing on Complete Streets

As part of a grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health, Bi-State Regional Commission hosted a 2-hour workshop on May 23, 2017 at the Bettendorf Library to showcase opportunities to incorporate more walkable, bikable, and accessible streets within our region. Representatives from the Active Transportation Alliance spoke on the benefits and myths about what it means to be a “Complete Street.” The non-profit is based in Chicago and advocates creating healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities by advancing walking, bicycling, and transit use in communities.

Benefits of Complete Streets include opportunities for increased physical activity and better air quality by shifting people from cars. There is an inclusiveness when children, older adults, and those with disabilities can go places without travel barriers. More people out bicycling and walking are “eyes on the street” and provide a social, community aspect where people can meet and interact.

One myth about Complete Streets is they apply to all streets. Actually, evaluation of the neighborhood or location is important to determine if walking or bicycling in the area is in demand and needed to get to essential services, such as grocery, bank, school or office. Complete Streets can occur within the existing right-of-way by re-striping from a 4-lane to 3-lane facility and adding bicycle lanes. The perception that “everyone drives” limits movement of households without vehicles, children, and persons not able to drive.

Representatives from the Cities of Bettendorf and Muscatine highlighted their local efforts to incorporate active transportation into their communities. Bettendorf has 13 miles of separated trails, 2 miles of bicycle lanes, and 12 miles of recreation trails. The city incorporates Complete Streets language into their comprehensive plan, and has a shared-use trail study to guide trails development in the community. In 2015, the city was designated a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Bicyclists, and has created a Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee to support the promotion of active lifestyles.

In Muscatine, the city developed both Complete Streets and Sidewalk Policies as part of a Wellmark Grant and Blue Zones certified community designation. The city’s Complete Streets Policy was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> best nationally in 2013 by Smart Growth America. The policy was put to use on a segment of Cedar Street that serves a school, YMCA, hospital, and retail and employment areas. The corridor went from virtually no non-motorized travel to 15,000 trips per year by walkers and bicyclists. Before and after photos show the striking difference for Cedar Street. The success has cemented the Complete Streets concept in the community and is being applied to their largest project along Mississippi Drive between the river and their downtown. Lessons learned to-date were to get community support, implement viable and visible project locations, and be flexible, adapting to the site conditions.



*Tanglefoot Lane Separated Trail and Bike Lanes (2012)*



*Cedar Street, Muscatine (Before)*



*Cedar Street, Muscatine (After)*

## QUAD CITIES AREA COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

“Complete Streets” refers to public right-of-way that is designed for the safety and accessibility of multiple users, regardless of ability. As a standard practice in the Quad Cities Area, a balanced approach in design and operation of the transportation system within public right-of-way will be taken as feasible, giving consideration to:

- Types of users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motor vehicles and freight interests in design and operation;
- Project surroundings in context with how and who will use the facility to determine what accommodations users will be provided; and
- Service levels for all users anticipated by adopted comprehensive or system-wide plans.

Approved 10/28/08 Transportation Policy Committee

## QCTrails.org and Be Healthy QC Win National Award

The Quad City Health Initiative and Bi-State Regional Commission have received the “Trails for Health Award” from American Trails in recognition of the Be Healthy QC Coalition and [QCTrails.org](http://QCTrails.org). The Trails for Health Award recognizes a community’s commitment to improving access to trails and promoting their use and importance for increasing physical activity.



The award was announced at American Trails’ 23rd International Trails Symposium held in Dayton, Ohio in May. The National and International Trails Awards Program is one way American Trails recognizes the tremendous contributions and successes of exemplary people across the globe who are working to advance trails. American Trails is the only national nonprofit organization working on behalf of all trail types.

[QCTrails.org](http://QCTrails.org) was developed to encourage area residents to become more active by making information available about over 300 miles of land and water trails in the Quad Cities, Illinois-Iowa region. The website provides tools to help users find over 75 trails that support a wide variety of activities - from walking paths and hiking and biking trails to paddling/water and equestrian trails. “We are very excited to receive this award,” said Denise Bulat, Executive Director of Bi-State Regional Commission. “Since [QCTrails.org](http://QCTrails.org) is a free, user-friendly, interactive, and mobile-responsive website that highlights the Quad Cities’ ideal position at the intersection of two national trail systems, the American Discovery Trail and the Mississippi River Trail.”



[QCTrails.org](http://QCTrails.org) was developed through a partnership between the Quad City Health Initiative and Bi-State Regional Commission as part of Be Healthy QC (BHQC). The partnership has featured contributions from many local organizations. [QCTrails.org](http://QCTrails.org) was made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION  
FY 2016-17 Program Budget Status Report  
Through Month of April – 83% of Year**

<b>ADOPTED BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$2,073,608.00</b>	<b>EXPLANATION:</b>
<b>EXPENDED THROUGH APRIL:</b>	<b>\$ \$1,505,966.37 (72.6%)</b>	
<b>STAFF LEVEL BUDGETED:</b>	<b>25.00 F.T.E.</b>	
<b>STAFF LEVEL STAFF LEVEL MAINTAINED:</b>	<b>21.25 F.T.E.</b>	

**MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SERVED DIRECTLY AND ACTIVITIES DURING APRIL:**

**ALEDO** – MMRLF Coord.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Economic Development Plan; Website Transition Support; Rhubarb Festival Map; Census BAS Asst.

**ALPHA** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Census BAS Asst.; Planning Meeting.

**ANDALUSIA** – RICWMA Staffing; MPO Trans. Coord.; Riverfront Council; Website Support; Municipal Code Proposal; Census BAS Asst.

**ANDOVER** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Website Development.

**ANNAWAN** – Joint Purchasing Council; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Trails Planning/Trails Grant Assistance; Census BAS Asst.

**ATKINSON** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Trails Planning; Website Support; Census BAS Asst.

**BETTENDORF** – Air Quality Asst.; Drug/Alcohol Testing Consort.; I-74 Bridge Coord.; IAQC Transit Planner Coord. and FTA 5339 Grant Administration; Joint Purchasing; QCICNet; Riverfront Council; RLF Loan Admin.; Scott Co. Housing Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Coord. and Trails Counting; REAP Plan Update; MPO Trans. Coord. STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation.

**BLUE GRASS** – Reg. 9 Transp. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Grant Application.

**BUFFALO** – Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord.; Trail Planning Coordination; IDPH Nutrition Grant.

**CAMBRIDGE** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Census BAS Asst.

**CARBON CLIFF** – Joint Purchasing; RICWMA Staffing; MPO Trans. Coord.; Trail Planning, GRT Coord.

**COAL VALLEY** – Joint Purch.; MPO Trans. Coord.; MUNICES Coord.; RICWMA Staffing; Floodplain; Business Dev. Brochure; Mapping Asst; Census BAS Asst.

**COLONA** – Joint Purchasing; Floodplain; MPO Coord./IL84 Context Sensitive Solutions

**CORDOVA** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support.

**DAVENPORT** – Air Quality Asst.; IAQC Transit Planner Coord.; Trails Planning; FTA 5339 Grant Admin.; Joint Purchasing; QCICNet; Riverfront Cncl.; RLF Loan Admin.; Scott Co. Housing Cncl.; Solid Waste Coord.; Dav. Schools Haz. Mit. Plan; Trails Planning; PICH-Safe Routes to Schools Planning; MPO Trans. Coord. & Traffic Data; STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation; Complete Streets Coord.; Grants and Mapping Assistance.

**EAST MOLINE** – Air Quality Asst.; E9-1-1 Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; Joint Purchasing; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; RLF Admin.; RMS Coord.; Interop. Proj.; MPO Trans. Coord. STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation; Trail Planning & GRT Coord.; Zoning Ordinance; Parcel Mapping Asst.; Census BAS Asst.; Grant Appl.

**ELDRIDGE** – Drug & Alcohol Consort.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Trails Planning; MPO Trans. Coord. STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation.

**GALVA** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Census BAS Asst.

**GENESEO** – HCEDP Part.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Trail Planning; Zoning Map Update and Voting Districts Population Inquiry.

**HAMPTON** – MUNICES Coord.; RICWMA Staffing; MPO Trans. Coord.; Riverfront Council; Census BAS Asst.

**HENRY COUNTY** – HCEDP Part.; Joint Purch.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Plan.; Trail & Greenway Plan./Coord.; Legis. Priorities Asst.; MPO Trans. Coord.; Zoning Review; Fact Sheet Update; Census BAS Asst.

**HILLSDALE** – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

**KEWANEE** – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Census BAS Asst.

**LECLAIRE** – Joint Purchasing; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord.; Trails Planning; Zoning/Subdivision Ordinances.

**LONG GROVE** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Planning Inquiries; Survey & Grant Assistance.

**MCCAUSLAND** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Grant Assistance.

**MILAN** – E9-1-1 Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; Joint Purchasing; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; RICWMA Staffing; MPO Trans. Coord.; RLF Admin.; RMS Coord.; Interoperability Project; Cons. Dispatch Study Asst.; Fact Sheet Update; Hennepin Canal Trail Event Map, Logo & Brochure; Census BAS Asst.; Comp Plan Update Proposal.

**MOLINE** – Air Quality Asst.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; I-74 Bridge Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Cncl; RLF Adm.; RMS Coord.; Trails Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord. STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation; PICH-Safe Routes to Schools Planning; Interop. Proj.; Census BAS Asst.

**MUSCATINE CITY** – Air Quality Asst.; Joint Purch.; Reg. 9 Transportation Coord.; Complete Streets Planning; MMRLF Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Trails Planning/ADT Coord.; Trails Use Count Collection; Port Study/Planning Coord.

**MUSCATINE COUNTY** – Air Quality Asst.; Joint Purch.; Reg. 9 Coord. & Port Study Status; Trails Plan./ADT Coord.; Transit Mobility Coord.; MMRLF Coord.; Cedar River Watershed Planning; Floodplain Mapping Meeting.

**NEW BOSTON** – Transit Mobility Coord./HSTP Planning.

**OAK GROVE** – E9-1-1 Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord.; Census BAS Asst.

**ORION** – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Community Brochure Development/Photos; Census BAS Asst.

**PORT BYRON** – RICWMA Staffing; MPO Trans. Coord.; Riverfront Council; Census BAS Asst.

**PRINCETON** – Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord.; Trail Planning.

**RAPIDS CITY** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; MPO Trans. Coord.; Census BAS Asst.

**RIVERDALE** – Riverfront Council; MPO Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Trails Coord; Website Support.

**ROCK ISLAND CITY** – Air Quality Asst.; E9-1-1 Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; Joint Purch.; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; Riverfront Cncl.; RICWMA Stfg.; RLF Loan Admin.; RMS Coord.; Interop. Proj.; PICH-Safe Routes to Schools Planning; Trails Coordination; MPO Trans. Coord. & STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation; Census BAS Asst.

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY** – Air Quality Asst.; E9-1-1 Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; Joint Purchasing; LEPC Committee; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; RICWMA Stfg & Website Support; RMS Coord.; Trail Coord.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Passenger Rail; Floodplain Coord. Efforts; Haz. Mit. Planning Coord.; QC Health Initiative, PICH-Safe Routes to Schools Planning; MPO Trans. Coord.; Enterprise Zone App.; Census BAS Asst.; Graphics Asst.– Business Cards; Forest Preserve Plan Update Proposal.

**SCOTT COUNTY** – Financial Mgmt – Scott Co. KIDS and Scott Co. Hsg. Cncl.; Air Quality Coord.; I-74 Bridge Coord.; Joint Purch.; QCICNet, Reg. 9 Transportation Coord. & MPO Trans. Coord.; RLF Admin.; Local Food Systems Coord.; Complete Streets Planning; Trail Planning/ADT Coord.; REAP Plan Update; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Interop. Project; QC Health Initiative; PICH- Safe Routes to Schools Planning; Countywide IT Services/Equipment Coord.; Hazard Mitigation Plan Update; QC & Co EPC Meetings; Zoning Review.

**SHERRARD** – Joint Purchasing; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Website Support; Census BAS Asst..

**SILVIS** – E9-1-1 Coord.; IL Intergov. Comm. Coord.; Joint Purch.; MUNICES Coord.; QCICNet; RICWMA Stfg.; RMS Coord.; MPO Trans. Coord. STBG/TASA Funding Evaluation; Trails Planning & GRT Coord.; RLF Loan Admin.; Zoning Inquiry; Mapping Asst.; Census BAS Asst.

**VIOLA** – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Graphics Asst.; Census BAS Asst.

**WALCOTT** – Reg. 9 Transportation Coord.; RLF Admin; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Coord.

**WEST LIBERTY** – Air Qual. Coord.; Reg. 9 Transportation Coord.; Trails Plan/ADT Coord. Solid Waste Coord.; Musc. Co. Haz Mit Plan; MMRLF.

**WILTON** – Air Qual. Coord.; Reg. 9 Transp. Coord.; Traffic Counting Asst.; Solid Waste Coord.; MMRLF.

**WINDSOR** – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; CDBG Grant Asst; Census BAS Asst.

**WOODHULL** – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

## **Bi-State Report – April**

**COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Provided information to Henry County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) board. Attended IA RELAT meetings. Attended Iowa Regional Council meeting. Assisted members with legislative priorities. Communicated with Mercer and Muscatine Counties' economic development officials to discuss development efforts and strategies. Facilitated park/rec directors meeting. Held planning meeting on land development around I-74 reconstruction. Submitted the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2017 Progress Report* to the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Participated in EDA's quarterly conference call.

### **DATA/GRAPHICS/MAPPING/ON-LINE SERVICES**

**Data Center:** Staff responded to 14 data and map requests in April 2017 including 5 from local governments, 2 from private citizens, and 7 from non-profits. The data section of the Bi-State website had 27 page views. The data warehouse site ([www.greaterqcregion.org](http://www.greaterqcregion.org)) is being updated and had 165 visits and 263 page views. Staff continued to work on the Census Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS).

**Graphics/GIS/Mapping:** Be Healthy QC (BHQC) – QCTrails.org Website and Safe Routes to Schools Mapping; Census Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) Program Coordination; QC Chamber Mapping; QC Street Map (Folded & Wall Versions) Distribution; QC Metro Area STBG Data/GIS; QC Metro Area Travel Model Data/GIS; Region-wide Aerial Photo Update Coordination; Travel Time Study Mapping; Update/Maintain GIS Data for Street Centerlines, Traffic Counts, MPA Boundary, Federal Functional Class Routes, Urban Areas, Corporate Limits, Landmarks, Rail, Trails, and other layers.

**www.bistateonline.org:** Total pages viewed for April 2017 was 2,092 and top pages viewed included: Home Page (568); I-74 Bridge Construction Update (335); Our Staff (86); Documents (83); Search (51); Contact Us (47); Quad Cities Metro Long Range Transportation Plan (43); Who We Are (43); and Average Daily Traffic Counts (38).

**ENVIRONMENTAL, RECREATION, RIVERFRONT SERVICES:** Responded to inquiries & assisted with trail/recreation project funding assistance/grants and trail use counting. Served Rock Island County Waste Management Agency (RICWMA) with coordination of meetings, budget development, oversight, and management of waste disposal and recycling programs, including drop-off recycling program, reporting, and overall agency administration. Conducted recycling survey data collection for solid waste plan update. Attended XStream Clean-up planning meetings. Responded to RICWMA telephone inquiries from general public & media concerning solid waste and recycling issues. Continued coordination of issues related to Bi-State Region Clean Air Partnership and strategies for emission reduction. Started developing foundation grant request for alternative fuels/vehicles workshop. Continued multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation planning. Attended River Action meetings. Organized and held bi-monthly meeting of Quad City Riverfront Council.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUMS AND REGIONAL SERVICES:** Continued assistance to the Joint Purchasing Council (JPC). Worked on the following bids: utility supplies and copier paper. Staffed Quad Cities Area intergovernmental forums and meetings of managers, administrators, and chief elected officials. Continued coordination and planning for the awarded Department of Justice interoperability grant. Assisted with Rock Island Arsenal issues. Participated in QC Emergency Planning Committee meeting and disaster readiness conference. Participated in Chamber QC Region-DC legislative priorities trip.

**REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF):** Administered Bi-State RLF Program: Prepared meeting cancellation notice and financial summary report. Provided information to potential applicants. Continued receiving job creation information from active companies. Administered Mercer/Muscatine RLF Program (MMRLF): Prepared financial summary report. Provided information to potential applicants. Worked with Aledo, Muscatine City and County, West Liberty, and Wilton to identify potential projects for gap financing.

**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT:** Attended related meetings, presented information, and continued staff coordination of river crossing issues. Coordinated transit alternatives and road congestion mitigation during I-74 reconstruction. Continued 2050 travel demand model development. Held Iowa interdisciplinary traffic safety meeting. Monitored status of bridge restrictions. Prepared monthly reports of federal transportation programs and coordinated related funding/reporting. Monitored air quality emission issues and exceedances. Worked on connections of American Discovery Trail (ADT)/Grand Illinois Trail and Mississippi River Trail and attended related meetings, as well as other trails planning and grant assistance. Conducted trails counter analysis and research. Facilitated issues related to Bi-State Regional Trails Committee. Continued Complete Streets community policies effort. Participated in Partnership in Community Health (PICH) grant facilitation – Safe Routes to School and QCTrails.org. Coordinated Bi-State Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium random testing program. Monitored MPO and Iowa Region 9 FY17 Transportation Planning Work Programs, and worked on finalizing FY18 TPWPs. Monitored MPO & Region 9 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017-20 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) including facilitating TIP revisions and maintenance of data entry in Iowa Transportation Project Management System (TPMS) as part of transportation improvement programming. Initiated MPO & Region 9 FFY2018-21 TIPs. Continued MPO STBG and TASA funding evaluation process. Administered Iowa Quad Cities (IAQC) and Illinois Region 2 transit coordinator positions, and facilitated budget discussions. Administered Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5339 grant process. Monitored status of implementation of passenger rail service to Chicago. Participated in webinars, workshops, and conferences on various transportation topics related to Complete Streets, walking, and bicycles.