



A Bright Look Ahead™

The Update

Serving Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Montgomery, Page,
Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties

SWIPCO · Southwest Iowa Planning Council-Region XIII

January 2012

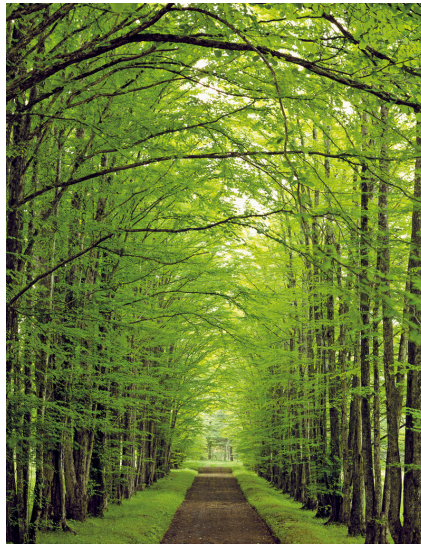
RPA GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant applications are available for Regional Transportation Enhancement Projects in Cass, Fremont, Montgomery, and Page Counties from the Southwest IV Transportation Planning Agency.

\$125,000 in funding is expected to be available through fiscal year 2013 by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Eligibility projects include facilities for pedestrians or bicycles; acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites; scenic or historic highway programs, including tourist and welcome centers; landscaping and other scenic beautification; historic preservation; rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structure, or facilities; preservation of abandoned railway corridors; control and re-

moval of outdoor advertising; archaeological planning and research; mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff; safety



and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists; and establishment of transportation museums.

Projects must meet requirements including provide a commitment of at least 20 percent of eligible costs; project sponsors may be a city, county, public agency, private non-profit or an individual. Public agencies, private non-profits, and individuals must have a city or county as a co-sponsor to the project. Sponsors must be willing to maintain the project for 20 years and must demonstrate a relationship to transportation.

Applications are available online at www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/trans_enhance.htm. You may also request a copy by contacting Courtney Harter at 1-866-279-4720 or courtney.harter@swipco.org. Completed applications are due to the SWIPCO office by 4:30 p.m. March 1, 2012.

RLF FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE

SWIPCO still has funds available in its Revolving Loan Program. Funds can be used by current businesses or businesses just getting started. SWIPCO's program can make loans from \$2,000 to \$125,000 with interest rates starting at 4%. Funds can be used for a variety of business related expenses including equipment purchases, working capital, and purchasing inventory. Businesses located in Cass, Fremont, Montgomery, Page and Shelby counties are eligible.

For more information please contact Courtney Harter at 1-866-279-4720 or at courtney.harter@swipco.org.

CITY ORDINANCE ASSISTANCE

The State Code of Iowa requires the re-codification of city codes every five years. Southwest Iowa Planning Council planning department is available to assist with the re-codification process.

SWIPCO staff will review the current code, convert the code to model code format, consolidate new and existing ordinances into one document, review and revise new ordinances with staff and the council, and assist in the adoption of the new code including public notification.

For more information, or to set up a meeting, please contact Barb Barrick at 1-866-279-4720 or barb.barrick@swipco.org.

BUDGET ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Southwest Iowa Planning Council wants to help your community with its annual budget. Community Development Specialist Barb Barrick has 12 years of experience as a community financial officer to share with SWIPCO's municipalities.

Services available include review taxes levied, review outstanding debt, review revenue and service rates, assist with preparation of the budget, and assist with eliminating deficits in fund balances.

For more information, or to schedule a meeting, please contact Barrick at 1-866-279-4720 or barb.barrick@swipco.org.

LEWIS FIRE STATION RIBBON CUTTING

Lewis Mayor Don Cohrs and former Iowa Governor Chet Culver, as well as members of the Lewis Fire Department, held a ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday January 10 for the new fire station. The project, which totaled approximately \$435,000, received \$285,950 in state funding through the I-Jobs II program.



GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant	Next Deadline	Grant	Next Deadline
Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy	On- Going	CDBG Water/Sewer	November 2012
IFA Project Based Housing	On-Going	CDBG Housing	December 2012
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	On-Going	CDBG Community Facilities	January 2012
Economic Development Set Aside	Last Monday of Each Month	Peter Kiewit Foundation (Quarterly)	April 2012
Iowa West Foundation (Quarterly)	April 1	Regional Transportation Enhancement	January 2012

MOBILE DATA UNITS INSTALLED

Twelve Southwest Iowa Transit Agency buses have mobile data units installed.

The mobile data unit is a computer tablet that will allow faster and more accurate tracking of rides as well as reducing the amount of driver paperwork.

Manifests are sent directly to the vehicles, and the drivers then use the tablets to indicate when and where individuals begin and end their rides. Time and mileage are automatically noted through GPS tracking, and the units allow our dispatchers to use live data when scheduling new riders.

Installation of the units and training were provided January 9-13.



Route Match representative D Logan trains SWITA drivers Virgil Koontz, Harvey Misenor, Bill Hildebrand, and Tammy Butcher.

HOUSING AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Southwest Iowa recently received two grant awards for housing improvements.

Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund received \$266,151 from the State Housing Trust Fund. This grant will fund various projects, including Owner occupied home repair; homeownership assistance; lead based paint stabilization; purchase/rehab/resell; and demolition.

The Red Oak Chamber and Industrial Association received a \$90,000 grant from Federal Home Loan Bank for repair of 15 owner-occupied, single family housing units in the City of Red Oak.

If you have any questions about these grants, or would like additional information, please contact Jeremy Middents at 1-866-279-4720 or jeremy.middents@swipco.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Red Oak ~ January 14: Mary Carrick and Todd Brooks Cabaret at the Wilson Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Contact 712-623-3135 for additional details and ticket information.
- Missouri Valley ~ January 21: Missouri Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner & Silent Auction at the Eagles Club. Social hour begins at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Entertainment, awards, and silent auction. Tickets are \$15. Please contact Deb Earleywine at 712-642-2553 with questions.
- Red Oak ~ January 26: Ag Estate Planning Seminar at the Montgomery County History Center at 6 p.m. Contact 712-623-4821 for details.
- Red Oak ~ February 4: Legislative briefing at the Montgomery County Family YMCA at 8 a.m.
- Red Oak ~ February 4: Red Oak Rotary Club Daddy/Daughter Dance at the Gold Fair Building at 6:30 p.m. Contact 712-623-6079 for details.
- Woodbine ~ March 23: Main Street Annual Meeting & Community Update at the Shadow Valley Golf Course.

Happy Anniversary

To

Dave Riedemann
January 9 ~ 5 years

And

Jeremy Middents
January 10 ~ 12 years

Happy Birthday

To

Mark Hansen
January 6

DATES TO REMEMBER

- SWIPCO Policy Council Meeting Thursday January 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic
- SWIPCO office closed Monday February 20 in observance of President's Day
- SWIPCO Policy Council Meeting Thursday February 23 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic
- RLF Board meeting Friday February 24 at 9:30 a.m. in Atlantic



SWIPCO Policy Council

Cass County

Frank Waters
Dave Jones

Fremont County

Brian Kingsolver
Cara Morgan

Harrison County

Gaylord Pitt
Sherman Struble

Mills County

Richard Crouch

Montgomery County

Donna Robinson
Brad Wright

Page County

James Richardson
Byron Harris

Shelby County

James Burmeister
Terry Arentson

Pottawattamie County

Lynn Grobe

At-Large

Dorothy Duran
Clint Fichter
Mike Kolbe

NEW CONSTRUCTION PROPOSALS BEING ACCEPTED

SWIPCO needs home developers for the Single Family New Construction Program. The SFNC program provides a 25% down payment to homebuyers that are at or below 80% of the county median income. The homes must have a selling price under \$150,000 and meet Energy Star and Iowa Green Street requirements.

Other requirements include: a single family dwelling unit, but can be detached, attached, or condominium style structures; units must be stick-built housing; builder/developer fee cannot exceed 15% of sale price; builder must provide construction financing; units must be under construction by

March 15, 2013; and construction cannot occur within a flood plain.

Proposals must include the lot location, property ownership, estimated sale price including developer fee and a breakdown of costs, description of home including square footage, housing style, number of bed/baths, description of basement and number of garage stalls; and certification that Iowa Green Street criteria will be followed. Please include floor plans and picture/drawing of front elevation.

Proposals are due by noon on Friday February 3, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact Jeremy Middents at 1-866-279-4720.

Steve Andersen	Transit Director	Tammy DeBord	Administrative Assistant	Jeremy Middents	Housing Director
Barb Barrick	Community Development	Mark Hansen	Fleet Mechanic	Daurine Petersen	Transit Assistant
Christy Bates	Transit Assistant	Sandy Hansen	Housing Specialist	Dave Riedemann	Housing Programs
Crystal Cappel	Finance Director	Courtney Harter	Community Development	Teresa Wright	Transit Assistant
Kelly Davis	Transit Coordinator	Karen Mauer	Finance Manager	Eric Weinkoetz	Executive Director
		John McCurdy	Community Development		

