



A Bright Look Ahead

# The Update

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

**SWIPCO** · Southwest Iowa Planning Council-Region XIII

May 2014

## WATER AND SEWER CDBG AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced its Community Development Block Grant awards in April. Three cities within the SWIPCO region were among the awardees.

The City of Anita was awarded \$300,000 for construction improvements to the city's water system. This will allow the city to provide a reliable water source and to comply with ten state standards. The total cost of the project is \$1.3 million.

The City of Braddyville was awarded \$159,000 for a water improvement project. The project will reduce water loss

within the city limits and complete the final upgrade needed to the system.

The City of Thurman was awarded \$229,000 for improvements of the city's water system. These improvements will increase the system's reliability and sustainability. Total cost of Thurman's project is estimated at \$525,000.

SWIPCO staff worked closely with the cities and their engineers to prepare the grant applications and will perform grant administration for the projects.

Three other towns in the

region also received water/sewer grants; Henderson, Macedonia, and Hancock with assistance from MAPA of Omaha.

Now is the time to consider any potential CDBG projects your city may have for the FY15 applications due in November. If your city is considering a project, please contact Courtney Harter at 866-279-4720 or [courtney.harter@swipco.org](mailto:courtney.harter@swipco.org) to discuss how SWIPCO can assist with the application process, including income surveys, engineering procurement, and writing the application.

## HOUSING CDBG AWARD

The City of Missouri Valley received a \$231,000 grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Community Development Block Grant Housing Sustainability program.

The grant is to rehabilitate six low to moderate income, owner-occupied single family housing units within a targeted area of the community. The funding is

for whole house rehabilitation to ensure the homes meet Iowa minimum housing rehabilitation standards.

For information on how your community can apply for a housing community development block grant please contact Jeremy Middents a 866-279-4720 or [jeremy.middents@swipco.org](mailto:jeremy.middents@swipco.org).



## RPA AWARDS

The Regional Planning Affiliation 13 (RPA-13) awarded three Regional Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grants to projects for fiscal year 2015.

The City of Atlantic was awarded \$39,888 to complete the Bull Creek trail extension project.

The City of Clarinda was awarded \$35,000 to complete the trail extension surrounding the Lied Recreation Center.

The City of Red Oak was awarded \$82,000 for the next phase of the Red Oak Trails Project.

The projects may begin work in October 2014.

Enhancement awards are made to communities and organizations interested in pursuing transportation related projects within Cass, Fremont, Montgomery, and Page counties.

For additional information about the Regional Transportation Alternatives Program, please contact Courtney Harter at 866-279-4720 or [courtney.harter@swipco.org](mailto:courtney.harter@swipco.org).

## SWIPCO ASSISTS WITH GRANT AWARDS

SWIPCO's Planning Department assisted communities with several awards announced this spring.

Mills County Fair Board was awarded \$150,000 from the Iowa West Foundation for construction of a new community building.

The City of Imogene was awarded \$21,000 from Iowa DNR Derelict Building Program to rehabilitate one of the city's historic buildings.

The City of Anita was awarded a Cass County Community Foundation grant for \$2,000 to replace the flooring in its community building.

In Addition, the City of Villisca was awarded \$1,100 to plant native grasses along the future Lover's Lane Trail.

If your community is looking for grant funding, or needs grant writing assistance, please contact Courtney Harter at 866-279-4720 or [courtney.harter@swipco.org](mailto:courtney.harter@swipco.org).

## MOSAIC RECEIVES IFA PROJECT BASED HOUSING GRANT

Mosaic of Western Iowa received a \$50,000 grant from the Iowa Finance Authority's Project Based Housing Grant to make an existing single-family home in Logan accessible for three persons with disabilities.

Mosaic manages the property as rental housing specifically for Intellectually disabled persons as a part of their supported living services.

The Project Based Housing Grant program provides gap financing for the development of affordable single-family and multifamily housing units that are otherwise not able to be financed through local housing trust fund programs.

SWIHTF previously approved the project for IFA Project Based Housing Grant consideration.



## WASH BAY ADDITION

The wash bay addition project is underway and making progress.

The concrete has been poured in the parking area. It needs to harden completely, approximately another two weeks, and then the re-striping will take place.

The steel arrived the first week of May, and is going up smoothly. The outside of the building should be done by the middle of the month, and then the inside work will begin.



### SEMI-ANNUAL DRIVER TRAINING HELD

The semi-annual driver training was held April 5 at the Atlantic Golf and Country Club.

The drivers received the new editions of the Driver Manual the policy council approved in March.

Tom Good, a retired employee of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, presented training on harassment in the workplace.

In addition to the trainings, the awards for the year were presented. Driver of the Year was awarded to Barb Smithson of Missouri Valley. She was chosen for her excellent customer service, dependability, flexibility, and professionalism.

Five drivers were also recognized with Outstanding Driver awards. This is awarded to drivers

with great customer service, dependability, and professionalism. Drivers recognized were Ron Bowen, Montgomery County; Ivan Hixon, Pottawattamie County; Richard Retz, Mills County; Leroy Smithson, Shelby County; and Ron Weirich of Cass County.

In addition, 15 drivers updated their CPR and first aid training.

### GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant	Due Date	Grant	Due Date
REAP— Historical Resource Development Program	May 15, 2014	REAP—Roadside Vegetation	June 1, 2014
State Recreational Trails	July 1, 2014	Iowa West Foundation (Quarterly)	July 1, 2014
Solid Waste Alternatives Program (Quarterly)	July, 2014	Peter Kiewit Foundation (Quarterly)	July, 2014
Vision Iowa (CAT)	July 15, 2014	REAP—City Parks & Open Space	Aug. 15, 2014
REAP—County Conservation	Aug. 15, 2014	REAP—Private/Public Open Space Acquisition	Aug. 15, 2014
Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy	Sept. 1, 2014	Federal Recreational Trails	Oct. 1, 2014
Statewide Transportation Alternatives	Oct. 1, 2014	REAP—Conservation Education Program	Nov. 2014
CDBG— Water/Sewer	Nov. 2014	CDBG Housing	Dec. 2014
CDBG Community Facilities	Jan. 15, 2015	CDBG Downtown Revitalization	Jan. 22, 2015
RPA-13 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	Feb. 2015	DNR Derelict Building Program	Feb. 2015
Land and Water Conservation Fund	March 2015	Keep Iowa Beautiful	March 2015
Economic Development Set Aside	Ongoing	IFA Project Based Housing	Ongoing
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Contact SWIPCO	Land and Water Conservation Fund	Contact SWIPCO

## STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

### Christy Bates ~ Transit Assistant 7 years



Christy Bates has been with SWIPCO/SWITA for seven years in May. Her duties include entering data information from driver timesheets into the payroll computer software. She also answers phones, radios, dispatches, and helps walk-in clients.

Christy lives in Atlantic and has two sons, Devin and Dillon, in college. In her free time she can be found walking her dog or doing yard work with her fiancé, Bill. She also enjoys reading, exercising, and spending time with her family.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- *Tues. May 20 SWIHTF Meeting at 10 a.m. in Atlantic.*
- *Thurs. May 22 SWIPCO Policy Council Meeting at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic.*
- *Monday May 26 Memorial Day, SWITA/SWIPCO offices closed.*
- *Thurs. June 26 SWIPCO Policy Council Meeting at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic.*
- *Fri. July 4 SWIPCO/SWITA offices closed.*

## STAFF BIRTHDAYS

- Jeremy Middents, Housing Director, May 28
- Karen Mauer, Finance Manager/Human Resource, June 6

## SWIPCO Policy Council

### Cass County

Frank Waters

Dave Jones

### Fremont County

Brian Kingsolver

Cara Morgan

### Harrison County

Gaylor Pitt

Sherman Struble

### Mills County

Richard Crouch

### Montgomery County

Donna Robinson

Brad Wright

### Page County

James Richardson

Byron Harris

### Shelby County

Charles Parkhurst

Terry Arentson

### Pottawattamie County

Lynn Grobe

### At-Large

Don Kearney

Paul Griffen

Mike Kolbe

*Outstanding Drivers and Driver of the Year, left to right: Richard Retz, Leroy Smithson, Barb Smithson, Ron Bowen, and Ron Weirich.*



Barb Barrick Community Development

Christy Bates Transit Assistant

Crystal Cappel Finance Director

Kelly Davis Transit Coordinator

Tammy DeBord Executive Assistant

Jason Ehrig Page Community Development

Mark Hansen Fleet Mechanic

Sandy Hansen Housing Coordinator

Courtney Harter Community Development

Karen Mauer Finance Manager

John McCurdy Executive Director

Jeremy Middents Housing Director

Daurine Petersen Outreach Specialist

Dave Riedemann Housing Administrator

Nicole Steffens Housing Specialist

Teresa Wright Transit Assistant

