

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- New London and Mount Pleasant receive CDBG Grants (page 1)
- State of Iowa Recreational Trails Program & additions to the Flint River Trail Project (pages 2 & 3)
- SEIBUS driver profile – Chris Crowner (page 4)
- Tri-State Summit Development to be held June 8<sup>th</sup> in Canton, Missouri (page 5)
- CAT applications available to local communities (page 6)
- Available funding sources (pages 7 – 9)
- SEIRPC Staff (page 10)

## SERVICES:

- Transportation Planning
- Special Studies and Plans
- Land Use Planning
- Land Use Administration
- Project Management
- Community Development
- Ordinance Codification
- Grant writing & administration
- GIS Mapping and analysis
- Revolving loans for business
- Public transportation, van pools, employee transportation
- Housing development & rehabilitation
- Program management
- Economic Development Services

## **New London receives Community Development Block Grant**

The City of New London was recently awarded \$228,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding for owner-occupied rehabilitation of homes. Six homes within a targeted neighborhood can receive up to \$24,999 for rehabilitation assistance, with additional funding available for lead paint hazards. For information or to apply for assistance, call Sara Hecox at 319-753-4311 or by email at shecox@seirpc.com.



## **Mount Pleasant receives grant for sewer system**

The City of Mount Pleasant was informed earlier this month that it has received \$600,000 from the Community Development Block Grant program to complete upgrades to the community's sanitary sewer system. The total project is \$1.5 million. Congratulations to the City of Mount Pleasant.

It isn't too early to begin planning for the next round of CDBG applications. CDBG water/sewer applications will be due in January, 2017. An added bonus in 2017 is the quarterly acceptance of applications for the CDBG program.

Please contact Tracey Lamm, Regional Development Coordinator, with any questions at 319-753-4306.

## State Recreational Trails Program

The Iowa Department of Transportation recently notified Regional Planning Agencies that the legislative appropriation for the State Recreational Trails (SRT) program for State Fiscal Year 2017 is \$2.5 million. While the bill has not yet been signed by the Governor, Iowa DOT is currently accepting project applications due by July 1st in anticipation that this appropriation becomes final in the next several weeks. Please contact Zach James, SEIRPC Planning Director at [zjames@seirpc.com](mailto:zjames@seirpc.com) or 319-753-4313 if you have interest in submitting an application for the State Recreational Trails Program.

### Flint River Trail Projects

Speaking of the State Recreational Trails Program, SEIRPC staff worked with Des Moines County Conservation and French Reneker Associates, Inc. to repurpose remaining funds from a previous State Recreational Trails grant for the Flint River Trail. The remaining funds were used to create two trailheads along the existing Flint River Trail and develop a new trail that was formally a dirt county road. Read more about each of these improvements below:



### South Trailhead

Located along North Prairie Grove Road, this site will include a natural parking area reinforced with GeoWeb to limit rutting from car tires. The improvements will also include a new Flint River Trail Sign and landscaping.

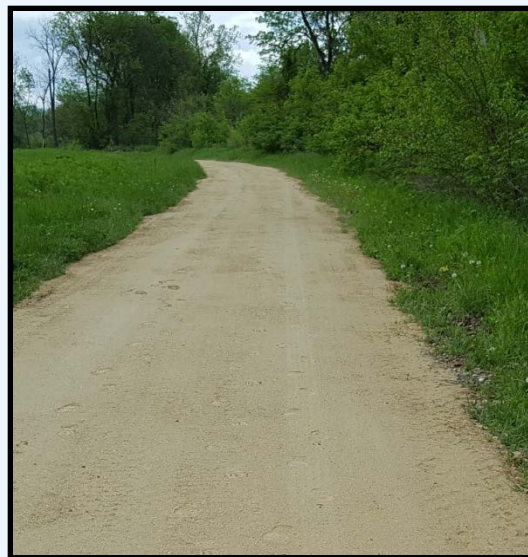
## Flint River Trail Projects (continued)

### New Section of Trail

Recently, 155<sup>th</sup> Street was changed from a Level B county road to a conservation easement. This allowed the former dirt roadway to be converted to a new section of the Flint River Trail, filling a 1,700 foot gap in the middle of the existing trail. The new surface will make this a much better surface than the former county road.



*Previous Dirt Road Surface*



*New Limestone Trail Surface*

### North Trailhead

Located off of 180<sup>th</sup> Street on the South side of Big Hollow Recreation Area, this project includes a shared trail/road entrance into Big Hollow that leads to a new parking area for trail and park users.



## SEIBUS PROFILES – Chris Crowner

Chris is a full time SEIBUS driver who manages the Louisa County route. Chris is a skilled driver with vast knowledge and charisma. Chris joined SEIBUS in June of 2014, and has quickly become an integral team member. Chris came to SEIBUS with 16 years of truck driving experience and she has been a successful instructor of various driving certifications. Recently, she has been putting these training skills to work at SEIBUS. Chris has been training other SEIBUS drivers on the CTAA PASS BASIC course, which is a required credential with the Medicaid Modernization transition.

Chris' hometown is Fort Madison, Iowa. Chris' family includes her husband Randy, two step-sons Jason and Matthew, her daughter Andrea, son-in-law Pete and one granddaughter Audrey. Chris enjoys writing and performing music, she has been a vocal music director for ten years. Her other hobbies include sewing, painting and riding motorcycles.

### Where is the most interesting place you have visited?

"I have visited lots of places that are very interesting. It's between camping in the Redwoods (breathtaking!), throwing snowballs in July in Canada and watching the sun set at Midnight and come up at 3:00am."

**My favorite TV show...** "The Walking Dead "

### What's your favorite line from a movie?

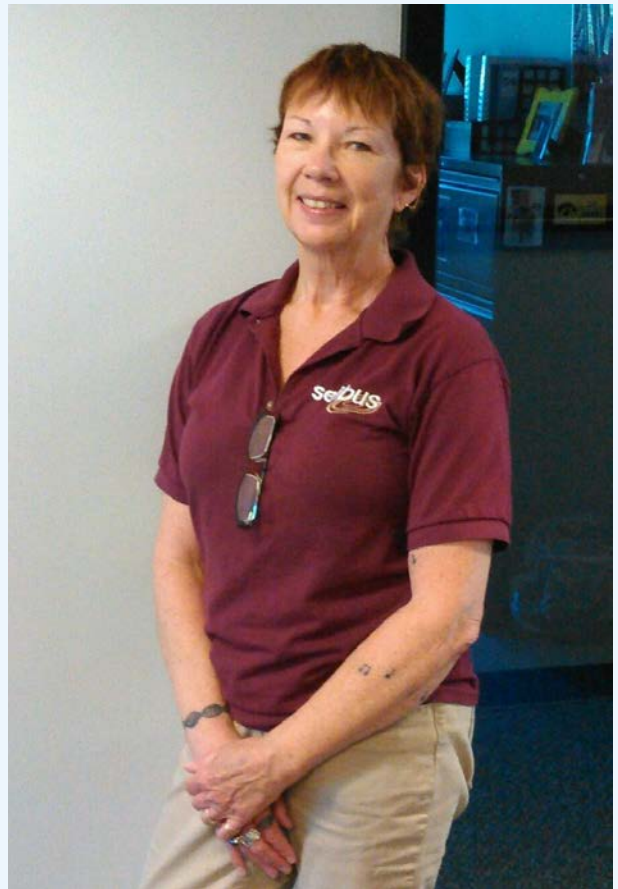
"Anger throws intelligence out the window" (It's actually from a training video entitled Driven to Distraction)

### If you would have any job, what would it be?

"I would be a professional student."

### What is your favorite thing about working for SEIBUS?

"ALL THE PEOPLE!!"





## ***Tri-State Development Summit to be held June 8, 2016 in Canton, Missouri***

On behalf of the Tri-State Development Summit, we are pleased to invite you to the Workforce Housing Task Force Summit on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 in Canton, Missouri. The summit will be held at the Merillat Chapel in the Robert W. Brown Performing Arts Center at Culver-Stockton College. Registration will begin at 9:00, including a light breakfast. The summit will take place from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon, with lunch provided.

We will welcome David Dangler as our keynote speaker. Mr. Dangler is the National Director of Rural Initiatives for Neighbor Works America. Other speakers include Michael Mohrfeld from Green Oak Development, Lloyd Thola from Lloyd Thola Construction, a representative from the Tri-State Development Summit, Donald Patrick from North East Community Action Corporation, Carla Potts from North East Community Action Corporation, Dan Eberhardt from Southeast Iowa Regional Planning, and Elaine Davis from Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials. Speakers will cover a variety of topics including federal and state housing initiatives and innovative financing opportunities. In addition to the speakers, this event will provide an exciting opportunity to learn more about how the tiny homes movement can play an important part in housing development. Attendees will learn about the benefits of these innovative, energy-efficient, and affordable homes.

If you have any questions, please contact Carla Potts at 573-324-6622 or [cpotts@necac.org](mailto:cpotts@necac.org). Additional information about the Tri-State Development Summit can be found at [tristateofmind.org](http://tristateofmind.org).

Strengthening Southeast Iowa  
in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa Counties since 1973

PAGE 6



**Community  
Attraction  
& Tourism Program  
applications  
available to local  
communities**



The Community Attraction and Tourism program is a state of Iowa program designed to assist communities with projects that will attract visitors to the community. Past projects in the SEIRPC region that have received funding through the CAT program include the Donnellson Public Library, the Louisa County Fair Youth Learning Center, Salem Public Library, Mediapolis Community Pool, the Morning Sun Community Center/Laura Rock Gallery.

Applications for this program are accepted quarterly. If your community is considering enhancements to any facility in order to attract visitors to the community or to provide recreational amenities please contact Tracey Lamm, Regional Development Coordinator, to learn the fine points of the program and what you will need to do in order to submit a successful application. Tracey can be reached at 319-753-4306 or via email to [tlamm@seirpc.com](mailto:tlamm@seirpc.com).



## Available Funding Sources

PAGE 7

SOURCE/PROGRAM	USES	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	DUE DATE
CDBG Funds, IEDA	Downtown Revitalization/Façade program	Local gov/non profits	1/1/2016
Water Recreation Access Grant, IDNR	IDNR funding for docks, boat ramps, shoreline projects, etc.	Local governments	1/1/2016
Iowa Great Places, IEDA	Funding for cultural initiatives and major projects that make an area unique.	Local governments	1/1/2016
Alliant Energy Foundation	Community Enhancement Projects.	Local governments, non-profits	1/1/2016
Derelict Buildings Program, IDNR	For cities under 5,000. Provides assistance for cleanup and reuse of derelict buildings. Contact SEIRPC for more information.	Local governments	2/1/2016
Historic Resource Development Program, HIS	Funding for historic preservation projects.	Local governments, non-profits	4/1/2016
Iowa Arts Council Project Grants, IAC	Funds public arts projects and programs	Artists, local governments, schools, non-profits	5/1/2016
Affordable Housing Program, FHLB	Grant program through Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) of Des Moines that funds rental and home ownership projects	Cities, counties, non-profits with a partnership through local banks.	5/1/2016
Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program, IDNR	Cost share funding for wildlife projects, including land acquisition, forestry work, fencing, etc.	County conservation boards	5/1/2016
Matching Assets to Community Health, Wellmark	Supports projects at a \$1:1 ratio which promote active living in built environments, increase acces to and consumption of nutritious foods.	501c3 organizations	5/15/2016
REAP Roadside Vegetation	Research and demonstration projects, education programs and materials, roadside inventories, purchase of special equipment to implement roadside vegetation management.	Local governments, non-profits, individuals, private entities	6/1/2016
Community Attraction and Tourism, IEDA	Tourism, recreation, entertainment capital projects	Local governments, non-profits	7/1/2016
State Rec Trail Grant, IDOT	Grants for recreational trails	Local governments	7/1/2016
Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP), IDNR	Recreational and conservation projects, including: land and easement acquisition, park development and multipurpose recreational projects.	Local governments	8/1/2016



## Available Funding Sources (cont'd)

PAGE 8

SOURCE/PROGRAM	USES	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	DUE DATE
CDBG Funds, IEDA	Water/Sewer applications	Local Governments	11/15/2016
CDBG Funds, IEDA	Community Facility applications	Local Governments/non profits/daycares/ senior living	12/1/2016
Solid Waste Management Grant, IDNR	Funds to help with various solid waste projects including studies and implementation.	Local governments	12/1/2016
Solid Waste Alternatives Program, IDNR	Programs to encourage landfill alternatives - recycling, diversion, etc.	Local governments	12/1/2016
Regional Surface Transportation Program (STP)	Applications are submitted to SEIRPC for primarily road projects. Competitive awards are made to cities and counties separately. Contact SEIRPC for additional information.	Local governments	12/31/2016
Regional Transportation Alternatives (TAP) Program	Applications are submitted to SEIRPC for alternative transportation projects like trails, and trail bridges, roadway beautification and other uses. Contact SEIRPC for more information.	Local governments	12/31/2016
CDBG Sustainable Community Demonstration	Innovative and creative projects to support community sustainability. Projects might include green energy and streetscape or stormwater projects.	Local governments	12/31/2016
CDBG Funds, IEDA	Housing Applications	Local Governments	1/15/2016
State Revolving Fund (IFA)	Assist in financing design and construction of wastewater facilities, clean water infrastructure, drinking water infrastructure, soil and erosion control and storm water projects.	Local Governments	Ongoing
CDBG Economic Development Set Aside, IEDA	Grants and loans to businesses expanding or starting up. Contingent on businesses giving hiring preference or effort to LMI individuals.	Local Governments	Ongoing
Brownfields Tax Credits, IEDA	Assist in redevelopment of brownfield or grayfield sites, including vacant, industrial, commercial or downtown properties.	Local governments, non-profits, private business	Ongoing



## Available Funding Sources (cont'd)

SOURCE/PROGRAM	USES	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	DUE DATE
Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP), Iowa DOT	Provides 100 hours of engineering assistance for operations and traffic safety issues.	Local governments	Ongoing
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), Iowa DOT	Provides grants for low-cost, systemic safety improvements in the \$10,000/mile range, focusing on lane departure crashes.	County governments	Ongoing
CDBG Public Facilities Set Aside, IEDA	Grants and loans to local governments for infrastructure supporting job creation for low to moderate income workers	Local Governments	Ongoing



## SEIRPC Office Staff Listing (with years of tenure in 2016)

**SUSAN COFFEY**, GRANT ADMINISTRATOR: [scoffey@seirpc.com](mailto:scoffey@seirpc.com) (23 yrs)

**DAN EBERHARDT**, REGIONAL PLANNER II: [deberhardt@seirpc.com](mailto:deberhardt@seirpc.com) (17yrs)

**MIKE NORRIS**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: [mnorris@seirpc.com](mailto:mnorris@seirpc.com), (13yrs)

**ZACH JAMES**, PLANNING DIRECTOR: [zjames@seirpc.com](mailto:zjames@seirpc.com) (11 yrs)

**JEFF HANAN**, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: [jhanan@seirpc.com](mailto:jhanan@seirpc.com) (11 yrs)

**SARA HECOX**, GRANT ADMINISTRATOR: [shecox@seirpc.com](mailto:shecox@seirpc.com) (11 yrs)

**CAROLYN LEES**, TRANSIT SCHEDULER: [cless@seirpc.com](mailto:cless@seirpc.com) (10 yrs)

**TRACEY LAMM**, REGIONAL DEV. COORDINATOR: [tlamm@seirpc.com](mailto:tlamm@seirpc.com) (9 yrs)

**CHRIS RALPH**, HOUSING INSPECTOR: [cralph@seirpc.com](mailto:cralph@seirpc.com) (9 yrs)

**DEBBIE LAUGHLIN**, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: [dlaughlin@seirpc.com](mailto:dlaughlin@seirpc.com) (8 yrs)

**SHERRI JONES**, PLANNING ASSISTANT: [sjones@seirpc.com](mailto:sjones@seirpc.com) (8 yrs)

**GERALD HEUBNER**, TRANSIT MAINTENANCE MGR: [gheubner@seirpc.com](mailto:gheubner@seirpc.com) (8 yrs)

**LORI GILPIN**, FINANCE DIRECTOR: [lgilpin@seirpc.com](mailto:lgilpin@seirpc.com) (4 yrs)

**STACEY FINCHER**, RECEPTIONIST: [sfincher@seirpc.com](mailto:sfincher@seirpc.com) (3 yrs)

**JARRED LASSITER**, REGIONAL PLANNER: [jlassiter@seirpc.com](mailto:jlassiter@seirpc.com) (1 yrs)

**EMERY ELLINGSON**, REGIONAL PLANNER: [eellingson@seirpc.com](mailto:eellingson@seirpc.com) (1 yrs)

**NICOLE BAKER**, TRANSIT DIRECTOR: [nbaker@seirpc.com](mailto:nbaker@seirpc.com) (1 yrs)