

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- American Planning Association, Iowa Chapter's Annual Conference held in Burlington (page 1)
- 4 local projects awarded REAP grants (pages 2-3)
- Tri-State Development Summit to be held in Mount Pleasant (page 4)
- October is National Community Planning Month (page 5)
- Available funding sources & Transit Director Position Available (pages 6 – 8)
- SEIRPC Staff (page 9)

## 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

## Iowa Planners Descend on Burlington!

From October 19 to 21, Burlington had the distinguished honor of hosting the annual conference of the American Planning Association (APA) – Iowa Chapter. This three-day event, titled 'Bridges to the Future', served as an opportunity to showcase the City of Burlington (and the surrounding Southeast Iowa region) to visiting planning professionals from all around the state. While the conference included presentations on a variety of topics relevant to 21st Century planning in practice, the local region provided the inspiration for a number of presentation topics, as well as special mobile tours highlighting certain locations in the Burlington area.



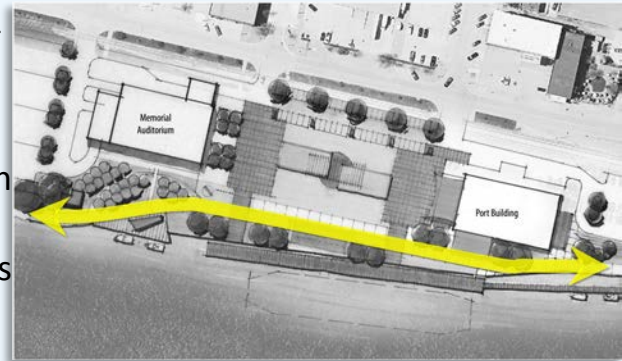
These included a tour of Downtown and its many recent redevelopment projects, a visit to adaptive reuse sites along Highway 61/Roosevelt Avenue, and a tour of Burlington's foremost

parks Crapo and Dankwardt. Keynote Speakers included Mayors Shane McCampbell and Hans Trousil, as well as Jake Tanumihardjo, Des Moines County Community Coordinator of a public health program, based at Great River Medical Center. Finally, a 'Progressive Dinner' highlighted three different local restaurants for conference attendees – Martini's Grille (for appetizers), The Drake (for the main entrée), and The Uptown Ivy Bake Shoppe (for dessert). Nearly 200 people attended this event, primarily held at the PZAZZ! Convention & Event Center, with a Thursday evening award ceremony at the Capitol Theatre, downtown.

## REAPing the benefits of great planning

SEIRPC is excited to announce that four separate projects in our 4-county region have been selected to receive grant funding from the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP), administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Three of these were awarded in the City Parks and Open Spaces category, while the fourth was in the County Conservation category.

First, the City of Burlington received \$150,000 for the Riverfront Landing Trail, a half mile segment of trail along the Mississippi River in Downtown Burlington. This will be the centerpiece of a larger overhaul of the riverfront area, to be undertaken in conjunction with the flood mitigation project. It will also serve as a connector between the county's Flint River Trail and the bike and pedestrian infrastructure of Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.



Next, just a few months after the completion of the first segment of the PORT Trail, the City of Fort Madison received \$125,000 to be used for the Phase 2 Middle School Connector, a half-mile east-west segment between the first phase and 48th Street. This new segment will also provide a direct, off-road trail connection between Ivanhoe Park and the recently constructed Baxter Sports Complex.



## REAP awards (cont'd)

The City of Columbus Junction was awarded \$74,000 to acquire 2 acres of land and establish the Toddtown Access Boat Landing, which will allow residents better access to the Iowa River. This will include a dedicated access road and parking lot, along with interpretive and directional signage. In addition, Columbus Junction has the distinction of having the number one ranked project in the 'Small Cities' category (for cities of under 5,000 people). Congratulations to Development Director Mallory Smith and the City of Columbus Junction on this substantial achievement.



Lastly, Des Moines County was awarded \$250,000 to acquire 105 acres of land, for the eventual establishment of the Linder Recreation Area. This area consists of oak hickory woodland, remnant prairie, and grassland. It provides habitat for several endangered species of bat. Congratulations to these communities! For more information on REAP grants, contact Planning Director Zach James at 319 753 4313 or e-mail [zjames@seirpc.com](mailto:zjames@seirpc.com)



## **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tri-State Development Summit to be held Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa**

Save the date for the 20th Anniversary Tri-State Summit. The Summit is to be held Friday, November 18, 2016 at Iowa Wesleyan University in Mt. Pleasant, IA. The theme for this summit is “Stronger Together.” The summit’s goal is to bring together Tri-State area leaders to define common issues, to develop an ongoing dialogue to effectively address those issues, and to improve the quality of life of the entire tri-state region through economic development activities.

Members of the Tri-State Development Steering Committee are pleased to announce the addition of Audrain County, Missouri, which becomes the 36th county to comprise the one “Tri-State of Mind” for western Illinois, northeast Missouri and southeast Iowa. Counties served now include 14 in Illinois, 14 in Missouri and 8 in Iowa, making the population impacted over 700,000. Our four county region is proud to be part of this organization.

To register for this event or for more information, go to  
<http://tristateofmind.org/stronger-together/>

**STRONGER  
TOGETHER**



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

## Brought to You by Planners

Did you know that October is National Community Planning Month? The American Planning Association established this as an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the valuable work planners do in local communities every day. Such planning efforts take many diverse forms, from economic development and downtown revitalization, to land conservation and infrastructure enhancements. This year's theme is Civic Engagement – how planners work to engage the public, elected officials, and other local leaders in shaping the future of our communities.



Burlington  
Lightscape Project –  
Steve Frevert,  
Downtown Partners

Monkey Run Park,  
Columbus Junction  
– Mallory Smith,  
Community Dev.  
Director



Big Hollow Recreation  
Area, Des Moines  
County – Chris Lee,  
Conservation Director



In recognition of this, the APA created a special social media campaign called Brought to You by Planners. With signage materials provided on the APA website, planning and development professionals were invited to take photos of noteworthy, well-planned projects in their communities. And planners in Southeast Iowa answered the call! Check out this sampling of great planned spaces in our region. If you haven't been to any of these places before, we'd encourage you to check them out!

Union Block  
restoration, Mount  
Pleasant – Jack  
Swarm, Building &  
Zoning  
Administrator



## Available Funding Sources

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, HRDP	Funding for historic preservation projects.	Local governments, non-profits	4/28/2016
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 access 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	8/15/2016

## Available Funding Sources (cont'd)

PAGE 7

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
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)	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	10/01/2016
CDBG Sustainable Community Demonstration	Innovative and creative projects to support community sustainability. Projects might include green energy and streetscape or storm water 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)

PAGE 8

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

## Transit Director Position Available

The Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission (SEIRPC) seeks a motivated and skilled professional to serve as Transit Director of the Southeast Iowa Bus (SEIBUS) public transit service. SEIBUS serves Des Moines, Henry, Lee, and Louisa counties, providing approximately 135,000 rides annually within the region.

The Transit Director is responsible for the management, promotion, operation and procedural functions of SEIBUS and administration of SEIRPC, Iowa DOT and Federal Transit Administration policies as they pertain to transit. The position reports to the SEIRPC Executive Director.

Required: A bachelor's degree, five years management experience and related experience to budget management, personnel relations, excellent oral and written communication, project planning and execution and analytical application or equivalents.

Preferred qualifications include prior private or public transportation and labor relations experience. Salary commensurate with educational background and experience with a range of \$50,000 to \$65,000. SEIRPC is an IPERS employer and offers a fringe benefit package.

For full consideration submit a resume and cover letter to be received no later than Wednesday, November 2, 2016 by email to [dlaughlin@seirpc.com](mailto:dlaughlin@seirpc.com) or by mail: Debbie Laughlin, SEIRPC, 211 N. Gear Ave, Ste 100, West Burlington, IA 52655. EOE/AA





## **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)