



Commission in Review

December 2008

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

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Jan. 28, 2009
3:30 p.m.

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

APA TRAINING SERIES

"Infrastructure, CIP, and
Alternative
Transportation"

Wed., Jan. 21, 2009
3-4:30 p.m.

Bi-State Conf. Room
1504 Third Ave., R.I.
Call (309) 793-6302,
Ext. 138 or e-mail
ppearson@bistateonline.org
to register.

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.

Census 2010 is on the way

The 2010 Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) is happening now! Bi-State staff will begin contacting local governments within the next few weeks to discuss possible adjustments to census geographies in your community, such as tracts, block groups, and Census Designated Places (CDPs). These changes will be based on areas of population growth or decline in your community, as well as special land use areas.

Please look for your letter of invitation to meet with Bi-State staff in order to review and provide input on the Census geographies in your community. This will ensure that the information for your community is correct and will provide an opportunity to discuss potential effects of the changes.



2010 CENSUS: IT'S IN OUR HANDS

The letter of invitation will list specific times that are available for representatives from your community to schedule an appointment with Bi-State staff. Staff will reserve enough time to meet with representatives from *every community*, but appointments will be available on a first-come first-serve basis, so please schedule your meeting as soon as possible *after* receiving the letter of invitation. This will allow for all revisions of census geographies to be submitted before the deadline required by the Census Bureau. Bi-State Regional Commission will be overseeing this program on a county-by-county basis for all five counties in the Bi-State Region.

The Census Bureau will also be asking community leaders to coordinate Complete Count Committees. These committees are teams of volunteers such as local leaders, faith-based groups, schools, businesses, media outlets, and others who are appointed by elected officials and work together to make sure entire communities are counted. The committees develop targeted outreach plans specific to their communities to supplement what the Census Bureau is already doing and ensure a strong response rate.



Many local communities had Complete Count Committees during Census 2000, and the Census Bureau is expecting similar committees for Census 2010. In fact, you may begin forming your community's Complete Count Committee now by appointing municipal staff and community leaders to the cause. Additional guidelines for Complete Count Committees are expected to be released by the Census Bureau soon. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 309-793-6302 ext. 133.

Bi-State Receives "Clean Audit" Opinion

The Commission accepted the Financial and Compliance Report for fiscal year 2008 as presented by John Malvik, Chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee. McGladrey & Pullen prepared the audit, noting Bi-State complied with all laws, regulations, contracts and grants. The Commission once again received the highest audit opinion a "Clean Audit" with no findings or questioned costs. Congratulations staff!!



Transportation 2008 Accomplishments and “To Do” List for 2009

In light of the season, Gena McCullough, Planning Director, outlined the “Nice List” of accomplishments for the 2008 Calendar Year as well as the holiday wishes our local governments have for transportation in the future.

Successful implementation of the Quad City Area Wayfinding system and Incident Management System Deployment occurred this year providing better guidance to attractions and alerting travelers to current road conditions on the Interstates in the Quad City Area. Another leg of the American Discovery Trail/Mississippi River Trail was opened at the Rock Island Arsenal, completing the crossing at the Mississippi River. Passenger rail efforts were furthered with the completion of a passenger rail feasibility study from Chicago to Quad Cities in January 2008 and a recent rail station and switching yard relocation study for the Illinois Quad Cities. Word was received of successful Iowa Clean Air Attainment grants for a Davenport-Muscatine Employee Shuttle by Riverbend Transit, Muscatine-Wilton Employee Shuttle by MuscaBus, and a public education grant planned by Bi-State as part of the recently expanded Bi-State Air Quality Task Force. Additionally, there is a pending ICAAP application for a riverfront circulator in the Quad City metro area to serve employment centers and tourism attractions.



On the “To Do List,” the Departments of Transportation are planning a public meeting in late January 2009 on I-74 and the final Environmental Impact Statement, which precedes the milestone Record of Decision to then allow construction engineering to begin. All are looking in anticipation for the next Transportation Reauthorization which will occur after October 2009. The Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan is nearing completion, and the Quad City Area Transportation Plan is about to begin. Ms. McCullough noted a regional list being readied for the proposed economic stimulus package. The list includes a number of ready-to-go transportation projects. She also noted trail projects to get underway in 2009, including Credit Island Trail Bridge in Davenport and connection between Weed Park and Wildcat Den in Muscatine County.



As Santa gears up, better not pout for projects in progress. Scott and Muscatine Areas are awaiting word on fine particulate nonattainment designations by the USEPA. A list of upcoming Quad City Area bridge restrictions was distributed. Support for air service and passenger rail implementation will continue. Efforts to coordinate human services transportation in the region to better mobility is underway. A number of roadway projects were also outlined.

Bridge Restriction Notices for 2009

In its continuing coordination efforts since 1981, Bi-State Regional Commission has contacted annually the authorities responsible for repairs and construction on the Mississippi and Rock River bridges in the Quad City Metropolitan Area. The following restrictions are planned:

Mississippi River (Iowa/Illinois) Bridge Location	Restriction	Timeline	Status
I-74 Mississippi River (Iowa/Illinois)	Overhead bridge replacement at Lincoln Road, Bettendorf. Nighttime lane restrictions, only between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., to be announced.	March through December 2009	Winter '09 letting
I-280 Mississippi River (Iowa/Illinois)	Patching (Iowa). Nighttime lane restrictions, only between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., to be announced.	Summer 2009	Winter '09 letting
Government Bridge Mississippi River (Rock Island Arsenal)	Swing span gives right-of-way to river barge traffic. Expect periodic vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian delays. Commercial river traffic asked to voluntarily delay locking through between 5:30 - 7:00 a.m. and 2:45 - 4:15 p.m.	Summer 2009	—
Rock Island Viaduct (Rock Island Arsenal)	Railroad Mainline Repair. Rock Island Gate Closure with 2-3 week intermittent lane closures on Ft. Armstrong Avenue and Rock Island Drive.	April 2009 (45 days)	—

The Quad Cities Metropolitan Area spends up to 70% of its funds on maintenance and reconstruction projects. Maintaining the existing transportation system is one of the highest priorities of the urban area, particularly with aging infrastructure. Residents can consider transit options by contacting Bettendorf Transit at (563) 344-4085, Davenport Citibus at (563) 888-2151, or MetroLINK at (309) 788-3360 or visiting www.qctransit.com.