



# Commission in Review

January 2010

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

## NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Feb. 24, 2010  
3:30 p.m.

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

## APA TRAINING SERIES

“Redevelopment &  
Revitalization  
for a New Era”

Wed., Mar. 17, 2010  
3-4:30 p.m.

Third Floor Conf Room  
1504 Third Ave., R.I.

Call (309) 793-6302,  
Ext. 138 or e-mail  
[ppearson@bistateonline.org](mailto:ppearson@bistateonline.org)  
to register.

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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.*

## Mercer-Muscatine Revolving Loan Fund Plan

Mark D. Hunt, Bi-State Regional Commission Economic Development Project Manager, provided the Commissioners an overview of the Mercer-Muscatine County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Plan. The plan is required as part of Bi-State’s pending application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a grant to capitalize an RLF serving Mercer and Muscatine Counties. Commissioners approved the Plan at their January meeting.



Mr. Hunt explained the proposed RLF will be capitalized by EDA at \$750,000, with an additional \$250,000 coming from local governments in Mercer and Muscatine Counties. The plan states local match will be provided on a project-by-project basis, with local governments bringing match to the fund only when they have a project within their boundary. Once the fund has met its match requirements, a participating local government is no longer required to bring additional match to the fund, so long as subsequent loans are of equal or lesser value to any previous loan sponsored by the local government.

The plan also stipulates the creation of a seven-person Loan Administration Board that will make decisions on loan requests. As the grant recipient, Bi-State staff will administer the grant and is responsible for loan servicing. Bi-State may contract for loan services and can use a portion of the RLF interest to finance administrative costs.

The fund could be used to make loans to businesses that either create or retain jobs and is considered gap financing.

## Census 2010 Update

Census 2010 is just two months away! April 1, 2010 is Census Day, and the goal is for every resident to be counted. Learn more on how your community can be involved at:  
<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/index.php> .

Census forms will start arriving in March, with a second form sent to every household in April. Census workers will begin going door-to-door as a follow up to the non-returned forms beginning in May.

The Census is still hiring for temporary jobs. If interested, call 1-866-861-2010. You will be prompted to enter your zip code and then will be directed to your local office.

The Census has moved into the technology age. You can now follow the census via twitter, Facebook, and blogs. Each media is filled with useful census information and answers to many frequently asked questions. Check out the Census Director’s blog at: <http://blogs.census.gov/2010census/> .

United States  
**Census  
2010**



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

## Long Range Transportation Plan for 2040 Underway

Great metropolitan areas start with a plan. Every five years, the Quad City Area updates the Long Range Transportation Plan. The update process examines and reflects changes in our transportation system, planning for Year 2040. Quad City travel needs, traffic safety, and congestion are evaluated.

The Bi-State Transportation Policy and Technical Committees oversee plan preparation. These committees are made up of local elected officials and technical staff. In the next year, they will work with Bi-State staff to prepare a full draft update by December 2010. The update will include transportation goals, and collection of existing and proposed transportation system recommendations.

Initial public input forums are planned for February 2nd and 4th, and prior to the adoption of the plan in 2011 by the Bi-State Regional Commission board. To examine the existing 2035 long range transportation plan, go to the direct link at <http://www.bistateonline.org/ser/tra/lon.shtml>. The Commission will be receiving regular updates on the plan development by Bi-State transportation planning staff throughout the next year.

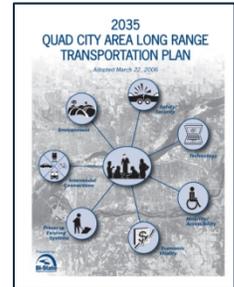


Figure 1 Snapshot of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan

## Clean Air Regulations In the Bi-State Region

Status of air quality levels and public education efforts was provided by Gena McCullough, Planning Director. She reviewed the six common air pollutants, specifically detailing information on ozone and fine particulates.

There have been no exceedances for ozone, but there have been approximately six for fine particulates both in Muscatine and the Quad Cities. It will be another month before data is verified to determine whether these exceedances have led to a nonattainment designation, particularly for the Muscatine area where there is a strong possibility.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is currently reopening the evaluation of the ozone standard. The current standard is 75 parts per billion, and consideration is being given to lowering the standard between 60-70 ppb. The Quad City Area three-year average of 8-hour primary standard is 66 ppb (2007-2009). USEPA is also considering a secondary standard for protection of sensitive vegetation and ecosystems.



Ms. McCullough stressed that the standards are evaluated under regulations of the Clean Air Act and only consider health based data. No economic consideration is given based on the legislative requirements. In a conference call with other councils of governments as part of the National Association of Regional Councils, there is interest in opening up the Clean Air Act for evaluation and legislative revisions due to the narrow focus of the current review process. This will continue to be a concern discussed with legislators.

Ms. McCullough shared the status of the Bi-State Clean Air Partnership and encouraged voluntary participation by each and every local government in our Bi-State Region.

## Commission Selects New Officers for 2010

Acting on the Nominating Committee's recommendation, the Commission unanimously selected Bettendorf's Mayor Mike Freemire as the new Chair for 2010. The other new officers are:

Vice-Chair	Danny McDaniel, Mayor, City of Colona
Secretary	Dennis Pauley, Mayor, City of Rock Island
Treasurer	Chris Gallin, Chair, Scott County Board of Supervisors