

Southern Iowa Council of Governments

Mission



The mission of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments is to provide and coordinate community and economic development primarily through the delivery of planning services, technical program assistance, grant writing, and grant administration to assist local governments and others in their efforts to improve the social and economic well-being of the region.

A Partnership of the People



SICOG has always been a partnership of local cities and counties and the people we serve. Our eight counties and 55 communities participate in every aspect of our work program. They drive our progress in producing beneficial and lasting results.

Our Promise



SICOG will continue to play a critical role in generating prosperity across our area. While unique challenges specific to our region will continue to evolve and change, our promise is to continue to work together to address the common challenges that affect the future of our area.



2016 Annual Report

Executive Board

Marvin McCann, Clarke County – Chair
 Aaron Price, Madison County – Vice-Chair
 John Twombly, Adair County – Secretary
 Ron Riley, Union County – Treasurer
 Linda England, Adams County
 J.R. Cornett, Decatur County
 Royce Dredge, Ringgold County
 Karen Zabel, City of Lenox
 Doug Davidson, Private Sector Representative
 William Trickey, Private Sector Representative
 Michelle Tullberg, Private Sector Representative
 Beth Waddle, Private Sector Representative
 Tom Lesan, Member-At-Large

Staff

Timothy Ostroski, Executive Director
 Judy Brimm, Finance Director
 Jeremy Rounds, Regional Planner
 Joel Lamb, Regional Planner
 Becky Nardy, Transportation Planner
 Nancy Groth, Office Manager & H-RLF Representative

SICOG IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE OUR 2016 PARTNERSHIPS

PLATINUM \$2,500

◆ Creston City Waterworks

DIAMOND \$1,500

◆ City of Osceola
 ◆ First National Bank of Afton & Creston
 ◆ Lenox Municipal Utilities

GOLD \$1,000

◆ Clarke County Development Corporation
 ◆ Iowa State Savings Bank of Corning, Creston, Diagonal,
 & Lenox
 ◆ John Wayne Birthplace Society, Ltd. of Winterset

SILVER \$500

◆ American State Bank of Lamoni, Osceola & Winterset
 ◆ Clarke County State Bank of Murray & Osceola
 ◆ Community Development Corporation of Greenfield
 ◆ Corning Municipal Utilities
 ◆ Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Orient,
 Saint Charles & Winterset
 ◆ Garden & Associates, Ltd. of Creston & Oskaloosa
 ◆ Greater Regional Medical Center of Creston
 ◆ Michael Foods of Lenox
 ◆ PCSB Bank of Clarinda, Corning, Creston, Lenox &
 Mount Ayr
 ◆ Precision Optical Group of Creston
 ◆ Seldin Affordable Housing Program, LLC
 ◆ Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative of Corning,
 Mount Ayr & Stanton
 ◆ TS Bank of Corning
 ◆ Tyler Insurance Services of Creston & Mount Ayr
 ◆ Union County Development Association
 ◆ Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. of West Des Moines

BRONZE \$250

◆ Adams Community Economic Development
 Corporation
 ◆ Akin Building Centers of Corning & Creston
 ◆ Bradley Angus Farms of Lenox
 ◆ City State Bank of Mount Ayr
 ◆ Clarke Electrical Cooperative of Osceola
 ◆ FNB Bank of Fontanelle & Greenfield
 ◆ Lenox Development Corporation
 ◆ Ringgold County Development Corporation
 ◆ Saylor Realty, LLC of Osceola
 ◆ Snyder & Associates, Inc. of Atlantic & Ankeny
 ◆ Southwestern Community College
 ◆ State Bank of Brooks
 ◆ Union State Bank of Greenfield
 ◆ Union State Bank of Winterset

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT!**

SICOG Project Board

Adair County

■ John Twombly
 ■ Ron Smith
 ■ John Larsen
 ■ Wayne Miller
 ★ Julie Harter
 ★ Doug Davidson
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Decatur County

■ J.R. Cornett
 ■ Douglas Foster
 ■ Allen Simmonds
 ■ Craig Stogdill
 ★ Bill Morain
 ★ Shane Akers
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Taylor County

■ Matt Churchill
 ■ Karen Zabel
 ■ Sharon Brown
 ■ Frank Sefrit
 ★ Don Keast
 ★ Michelle Tullberg
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Adams County

■ Linda England
 ■ Bert Peckham
 ■ Jordan Walter
 ■ Gary Poen
 ★ Beth Waddle
 ★ Larry Kester
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Madison County

■ Aaron Price
 ■ Mark Nitchals
 ■ Jeff Lillie
 ■ Ron Hartfield
 ★ Tom Leners
 ★ Brian Downes
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Union County

■ Ron Riley
 ■ Gary Lybarger
 ■ Shelley Burger
 ■ Lindsey Brobst
 ★ Gabe Carroll
 ★ Gary Riley
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Clarke County

■ Marvin McCann
 ■ Thomas Kedley
 ■ Kristie Frederick
 ■ Randy Wright
 ★ Joe Greving
 ★ Bill Trickey
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Ringgold County

■ Royce Dredge
 ■ Steve Fetty
 ■ John Egly
 ■ Thomas Giles
 ★ Tracy Barnes
 ★ Malcom Eighmy
 ◆ Tom Lesan

Union County

■ Public Sector
 ★ Private Sector
 ◆ At-Large

A Letter from the Executive Board Chair

Message from the Chairman, Marvin McCann

This *Annual Report*, covering January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, details the activities and services of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the members and partners of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments! Without your dedication and tireless commitment to serving the Region, we would not have experienced, as an agency, much of the successes we have this past year.



The SICOG Region continues to experience changes in part due to events from the past, reduction in public dollars, labor force challenges, and the area's agricultural production challenges. SICOG, in particular, faced quite a challenge in meeting the demands of the region, member governments, and partners.

We welcomed Taylor County back as a member of SICOG, and we look forward to continuing our mutual and prosperous relationship. As you know we have more than 63 dues-paying members – and 37 private partners all helping to make southern Iowa a great place to live, work, and grow.

Contained within this Annual Report are many successes and accomplishments. I highlight just a few of the many activities SICOG was involved with:

- Prepared 70 applications for very needed projects
- Successfully wrote and received \$8,268,630 in funds for community projects
- Returned \$127.47 dollars for every \$1 of membership dues
- Created and/or retained 36 jobs for new or expanding companies

Since its inception in 1973, SICOG has assisted our member communities and counties obtain over \$157 million in funds to complete projects ranging from playground equipment to industrial parks. SICOG has made affordable housing a reality for 684 families in our eight counties. To date, SICOG has leveraged more than \$30 million in financial institution funds through our First Time Home Buyer's program.

Our Executive Director and his staff are an integral part of how successful SICOG has been during the last 12 months. This small staff has been instrumental in large grants being awarded and large projects being completed. The Southern Iowa Council of Governments is proud to have served as a catalyst for cooperation, efficiency, economic advancement and well-being. Citizens and local governments, alike, have been well served.

Finally, I am proud of SICOG's truly amazing performance and continued important role providing assistance to the many cities and counties we serve. I would like to say that it has been my honor and privilege to serve as the Chairman of SICOG during the past year. I'd like to take this occasion to thank the SICOG staff and my fellow Executive Board members for their professionalism, integrity, and support. As we begin 2017, it is our vision to continue looking at the future, improving on an already successful delivery of services and creating stronger partnerships and alliances in the region.

With your help, we are confident we will succeed. Thank you.

Marvin McCann
Chairman

2016 SICOG Regional Priorities

- 1: **Economic Development** | Invigorate the regional economy through local development.
- 2: **Transportation** | Enhance the regional transportation system to encompass all modes of transportation for a stronger community and economic stability.
- 3: **Housing** | Ensure adequate housing for all citizens of the region, with emphasis on housing for persons of low and moderate income, elderly, and special needs.
- 4: **Local Planning and Management** | Expand and improve the functions of local governments and regional service groups related to community development.
- 5: **Community Services** | Improve existing facilities and public protection services and develop or improve social, cultural and educational opportunities for southern Iowa residents.
- 6: **Sewer/Wastewater Treatment Systems** | Protect the environmental quality in the region.
- 7: **Recreation** | Develop new and improve existing recreational facilities.
- 8: **Water Resources** | Secure and improve water resources to meet residential, commercial, industrial, and civic needs.
- 9: **Elderly Services** | Provide for the housing, transportation, and health care needs of elderly persons in southern Iowa.
- 10: **Comprehensive Planning** | Develop and implement local and regional comprehensive planning practices.
- 11: **Youth Services** | Provide programs and facilities to enrich the lives of youth in southern Iowa.
- 12: **Solid Waste** | Divert solid waste from landfills to protect and improve the region's ecosystem.
- 13: **Rural Health** | Improve access to and quality of primary health services to all citizens in southern Iowa.
- 14: **Energy** | Encourage the conservation of energy and the use of alternative energy sources in southern Iowa.
- 15: **Value-added Agriculture** | Encourage the diversification of agricultural-related products in southern Iowa.
- 16: **Other** | Provide assistance to communities in areas that are not currently addressed by other priorities.
- 17: **Social Services** | Encourage the development and implementation of local education, training, and prevention programs to promote the prosperity of communities.



The services provided to our member cities and counties are measurable and quantifiable verification of the advancements and success SICOG is making in addressing these priorities. A summary of 2016 activities for each priority area may be reviewed in the 2017 SICOG Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), available at www.sicog.com

Development of the Region in 2016

SICOG is a leader in the continued development of southern Iowa. SICOG is a designated United States Economic Development District (EDD), which allows direct access to the federal government and its economic programs. Through SICOG's assistance, thousands of jobs have been created or retained through programs sanctioned by the Economic Development Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, USDA-Rural Development, and the State of Iowa. SICOG and its affiliates are fortunate to be able to offer financing to businesses, cities, and homebuyers in the southern Iowa region through the programs outlined below.



Industrial/Business Revolving Loan Fund

Since the inception of the Industrial/Business Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in 1987, more than \$5 million has been loaned to job creators throughout the region. The initial capitalization of the fund was provided by the U.S.



Economic Development Administration to help ensure economic growth in the SICOG region. Industries and businesses which provide permanent jobs and training opportunities for the target population of unemployed, underemployed, and minority citizens and meet the established RLF criteria are considered eligible for an RLF loan. To date, 3,639 jobs have been created or retained because of the assistance afforded by the RLF. A SICOG affiliate, Southern Iowa Development Group (SIDG), implements and promotes the Industrial/Business RLF program and has supported two additional capitalization efforts in 1994 and 2009. The RLF has

made 84 loans totaling \$5,677,152.91 and has in turn revolved more than five times. At year-end, the fund has \$668,614.69 available to assist with job creation and retention in the region.

Community Investment Revolving Fund

The Community Investment Revolving Fund (CIRF) is a loan program available to SICOG member communities with a population under 3,500. CIRF was created and capitalized in 1998 as an alternative form of financing for unforeseen, emergency related community improvements. Such improvements include, but are not limited to: fixing broken public water or wastewater lines, repairing a fire truck, replacing damaged or defective equipment, or replacing the roof on City Hall due to leaks. Many communities in the region do not have large operating budgets and often cannot handle the burden of emergency one-time expenditures. Originally, when the program was created, the loan limit was \$5,000.00. As a result of growth in the fund and a demand for higher priced projects, the loan limit is now \$20,000.00. At year-end 2016, all loans have been repaid and \$40,000.00 is available for new loans.

Housing Revolving Loan Fund

In 1990, SICOG, in concert with Southern Iowa Development Group (SIDG) developed and capitalized the Housing Revolving Loan Fund (H-RLF). The H-RLF was created with the sole purpose of funding a first-time homebuyer program. The H-RLF loan is available to eligible homebuyers in SICOG's eight county region where a 25% local match has been provided. Today, the program has provided 684 loans to first-time homebuyers. The low-interest loans serve as a means to assist with the largest barrier to new buyers, the down payment. SIDG provides a dollar for dollar match up to \$5,000.00 towards a down payment on a house in the SICOG region. The SIDG has loaned \$2,404,928.00 to assist first-time homebuyers purchase homes totaling \$30,885,733.00. In calendar year 2016, twelve loans were made to first-time homebuyers in the region.



2016 Grant Activity

Murray Storm Water Project

In 2016, Murray was the first SICOG community to be awarded a CDBG grant for a storm water control project. This award of \$300,000 under the Community Facilities and Services Fund will match \$600,000 in USDA loan funding to make improvements to ditches and swales in two areas of town, creek improvements in one area, and underground storm drains and pipes to convey water away from developed areas to nearby waterways outside of town. The project will include “green” urban infiltration practices, most notably several hundred feet of bioswale development. Bioswales offer pre-treatment of urban storm water coming off streets, roofs, yards, and parking areas, thereby slowing the flow of rainwater and snowmelt into streams. Pre-treatment using native plantings will reduce the volume of pollutant chemicals into the waterway. These include fuel and oil from roadways, sediment and yard chemicals, among others. Final design is underway and the project should be bid in 2017. This project is part of infrastructure upgrades, including water and sewer mains, in preparation of a major street upgrade project planned for the next few years.

The picture below is an example of a bioswale:



USDA Grants and Loans Awarded for Infrastructure

In 2016, SICOG was involved with the submittal of several USDA loan/grant applications for water, sewer, and storm water projects. This work helped secure matching funds and a record of nine CDBG grants for these types of projects. SICOG was involved in the preparation of successful USDA grant/loan applications totaling over \$5 million for the following municipalities: Adair, Murray (2 projects), and Lenox.

SICOG also successfully applied for USDA Community Facilities grants for police patrol cars for Creston and Fontanelle. In Bridgewater, SICOG secured a USDA SEARCH grant to fund a preliminary engineering report for a storm water project to address flooding.

A Record Year With Nine CDBG Grant Awards

In early 2016, SICOG submitted 13 CDBG grant applications totaling over \$2.7 million. Of these, 9 applications were awarded. Murray and Mount Ayr were the big winners, with two awards each. Four water/sewer applications were awarded: Murray (water mains), Mount Ayr (water mains), Lenox (sewer treatment plant), and Davis City (sewer mains and lagoons). Murray was also awarded funds for a storm water project (see article above). Four Cities received funds for owner-occupied rehabilitation programs: Bedford, Earlham, Lamoni, and Mount Ayr. In the fall and winter of 2016, SICOG was again at work on 4 housing applications, a downtown revitalization application, a storm water project application, and a child daycare renovation application.

Recreational Facilities

SICOG staff worked with the communities of Bridgewater, Corning, Cromwell, Lenox, Murray, and Winterset and also with Clarke County during 2016 on planning for and identifying funding sources available to develop recreational facilities. These valuable, quality of life improvements have become increasingly important not just to youth, but also to people of all ages. Projects have included trail planning, field lighting, playground improvements, a recreational complex, an RV park/campground, and a shelter.

Winterset Area Skate Park

After years of fundraising and grant activity, the \$195,000 Winterset Area Skate Park project was fully funded in 2016. In 2016, SICOG prepared two successful applications. The largest grant was \$36,150, funded from the Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism Program. The other grant was \$20,000 from the Greater Madison County Foundation. These grants matched over \$100,000 in local donations and other small grants, including a Tony Hawk Foundation grant prepared by SICOG a few years ago. The 6,000 square-foot skate park is now under construction and will soon offer a durable concrete surface with ramps and obstacles to provide fun and exercise for area youth.



2016 Grant Activity

Housing Rehabilitation

In 2016, SICOG completed CDBG housing rehabilitation programs in Greenfield (5 homes) and Lorimor (5 homes). A small investment by these cities leveraged hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to fund improvements to the safety, efficiency, and livability of these homes. In the spring of 2016, IEDA announced that \$2.709 million in Community Development Block Grants was awarded for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation in the SICOG region. The grants were awarded to the Cities of Bedford (5 homes), Earlham (5 homes), Lamoni (6 homes), and Mount Ayr (6 homes). SICOG assisted these cities in the preparation of these grant applications and is currently administering these grants. During 2016, SICOG also assisted the cities of Creston, Greenfield, Lenox, and Osceola in applying for 2017 CDBG grants to fund housing rehabilitation projects in their cities. In the pictures below, a home in the CDBG housing program is shown before and after rehabilitation.



Van Wert Awarded FEMA Fire Grant

In 2016, FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) was awarded to the Van Wert Fire Department. They were awarded \$101,143 for personal protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus. The AFG program funds 95% of the costs of equipment, personal protective equipment, training, wellness and fitness, vehicles, and building modifications. SICOG submitted four applications in 2016 that will hopefully be awarded in 2017. These applications include the Creston, Lamoni, New Virginia, and Weldon fire departments.

Greenfield Awarded \$10,000 for Healthy Iowans Program

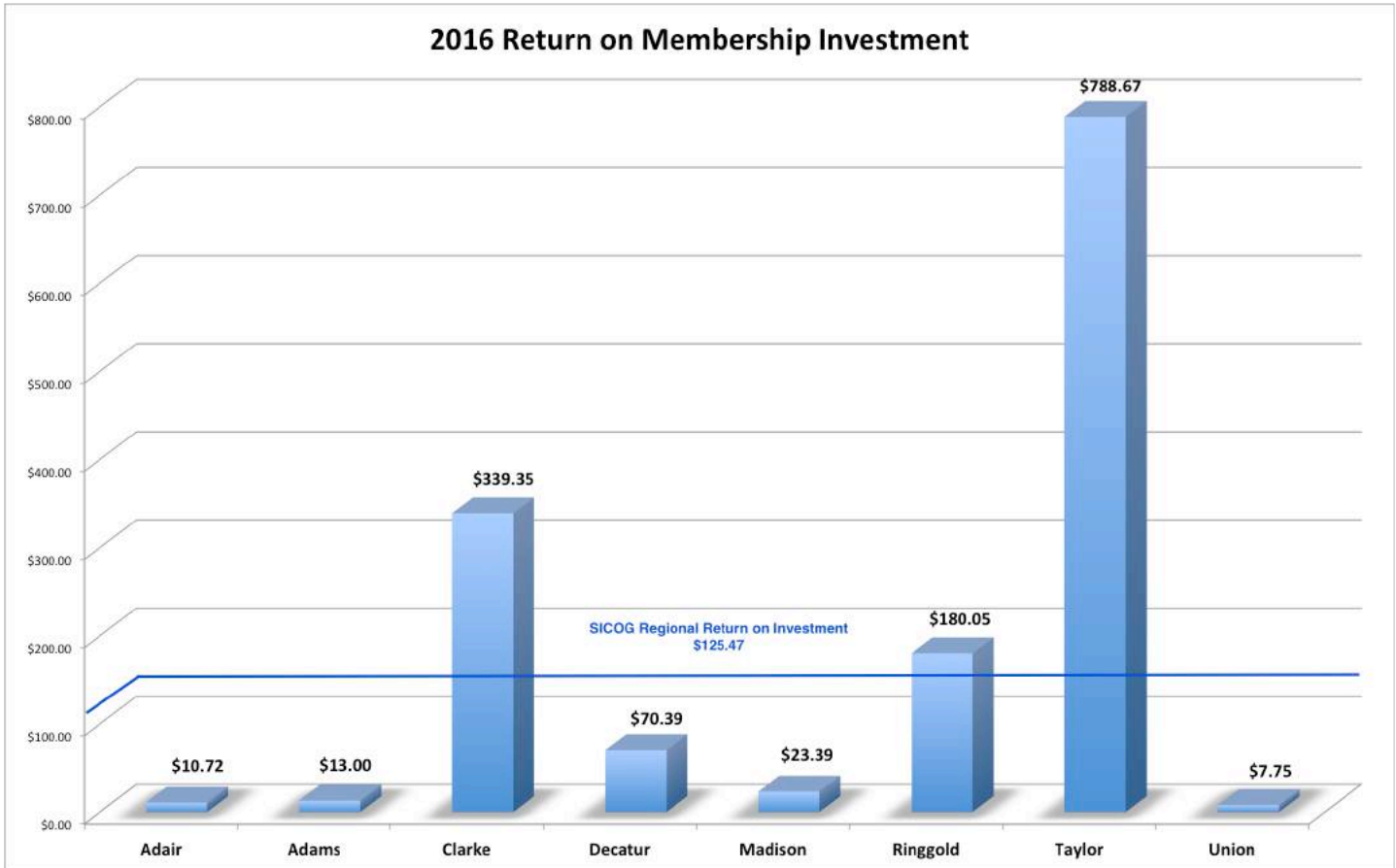
SICOG staff facilitated a coalition representing the City of Greenfield, Greenfield Chamber Main Street, Adair County Health Systems, Greenfield Community Development Corporation, Adair County ISU Extension, Nodaway Valley Community Schools, Lions Club of Iowa, and other interested citizens who worked together to develop wellness projects utilizing a \$10,000 Healthy Iowans Grant. A series of collaborative meetings was held with a steering committee comprised of coalition representatives to shape ideas for projects that will engage community members, encourage healthy physical activities, and combat obesity. Final projects to utilize the grant funds include hands-on gardening education for local students by growing produce from seed to harvest in the school greenhouse, a summer walking program, an unplugged event (electronic blackout) on the courthouse square, distribution of free bicycle helmets and rider safety education to local first grade students to promote bike safety among area youth, scholarships to attend healthy meal preparation courses, and a mini aquaponics workshop offered through ISU Extension. The committee is also seeking to improve community-wide pedestrian safety through participation in a Transportation Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP) study provided by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Lenox and Adair - Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Fund

The City of Lenox continued progress on a trail loop, near its school, funded in part by an RPA 14/ATURA TAP grant they received during 2015. In 2016, an engineering firm was procured by the city and development of the concept statement and design plans began. The total project cost is estimated at \$188,101. Once completed, the 8-foot wide trail will connect the school, depot, rodeo grounds, and athletic fields.

The City of Adair also continued work on their historic Adair Viaduct (5th Street Bridge) rehabilitation project, funded by up to \$250,000 in regional TAP funds and \$1 million in Iowa DOT City Bridge funds. Less than ten open spandrel arches have been identified by the state historic bridge inventory, of which the Adair structure is a distinguished example. As a regionally important crossing and a well-preserved example of an uncommon structural type in Iowa, the Adair viaduct is both historically and technologically significant.

43 Years of Investment



Historical Overview of Grant Funding By SICOG Membership		
County	1972 through 2015	Calendar Year 2016
Adair County	\$8,741,701.49	\$74,745.25
Adams County	\$15,025,459.15	\$52,385.25
Clarke County	\$21,690,553.09	\$3,151,185.25
Decatur County	\$18,085,623.09	\$595,328.25
Madison County	\$13,503,210.09	\$366,780.25
Ringgold County	\$14,304,668.49	\$923,835.25
Taylor County	\$16,229,896.12	\$3,007,185.25
Union County	\$34,342,480.18	\$97,185.25
Region	\$6,072,242.00	\$361,482.00
Dexter	\$745,785.00	\$0.00
New Virginia	\$622,046.00	\$0.00
Van Meter	\$223,537.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$149,587,201.70	\$8,268,630.00

2016 Planning Activity

Comprehensive Planning and Zoning

In 2016, SICOG continued work on updating comprehensive plans for Lenox and Clarke County. These plans will guide development decisions within Lenox and two miles outside of the city limits and in the rural areas of Clarke County and on all County-owned property. Once its plan is updated, SICOG will assist Clarke County in updating their zoning ordinance. The update will address issues of concern to County officials, changes in Iowa law and definitions, and new best practices for rural zoning. SICOG continues to focus on local planning and management in order to help our members function more efficiently and make sustainable development decisions.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

SICOG continued preparation of hazard mitigation plans for counties and the jurisdictions within them. In 2016, SICOG completed the Decatur County Hazard Mitigation Plan and continued work on the plan for Adair County. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (IHSEMD) fund the plans. The plans address hazards that affect all areas of each county and identify their assets and how they could be affected. The planning process involves a series of public meetings where information is discussed to help understand the risks and determine which projects should be pursued, and then prioritize those projects. A completed hazard mitigation plan, once adopted by local jurisdictions such as the county, cities, and schools, and approved by FEMA, opens the door to FEMA and State funding for hazard mitigation projects. Such projects include tornado safe rooms, flood control projects, electric facility upgrades, and many other infrastructure projects.



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

SICOG staff members have been busy over the past year working on the 2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that is designed to bring together public and private sectors in the creation of an economic road map to guide and support our regional economy. The CEDS document includes background information on the region and outlines a plan of action that promotes economic development and opportunity. Development of the CEDS involves a very detailed and thorough process that provides many benefits for the SICOG region. Numerous cities, counties, economic development groups, and various SICOG boards participated in on-line surveys and met to discuss their goals, priorities, and projects planned for the coming years. This annual process assists our member organizations in prioritizing their activities and focuses the efforts of the SICOG organization toward helping our communities, businesses, and organizations reach these goals.



RPA 14/ATURA Transportation Planning

SICOG provides for the administration of the RPA 14/ATURA region (Adams, Taylor, Union, Ringgold, and Adair Counties) and establishes continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative region-wide transportation planning within the five-county area. Activities during 2016 included the development of planning documents, ongoing planning activities of a technical nature in support of regional transportation issues and priorities, establishment of methods to be employed in the conduct of specific transportation planning work elements, and provision of opportunities for public input and comments. During calendar year 2016, over \$8 million in projects were programmed for fiscal year 2017 in the region.

Technical Assistance Provided in 2016

Adair County

County – Adair County Hazard Mitigation Plan update
 County – Fairgrounds; LED lighting funding options
 County – Lake Orient tornado safe room project
 Adair – DTR façade – CDBG grant administration
 Adair – Economic Development - business
 Bridgewater – Completed assistance for engineering study for storm water project
 Bridgewater – Recreation/park projects
 Fontanelle – City hall and fire department needs; funding options
 Fontanelle – Radar speed sign; funding options
 Greenfield – Sewer mains & sewer plant; funding options
 Greenfield – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration
 Greenfield – Downtown Revitalization; funding options
 Greenfield – Police department needs; funding options
 Greenfield – Transportation Engineering Assistance Program
 Greenfield – Wellness projects
 Orient – Community needs; funding options
 Orient – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Stuart – Economic Development - business

Adams County

County – Business; funding options
 County – Civil War Monument/Cemetery; funding options
 County – County Care Facility; funding options
 County – Hazard Mitigation Plan update FEMA application
 County – Limited English Proficiency planning document
 County – Request for proposal – architectural firms
 Corning – Ball field lighting funding
 Corning – Economic Development - business
 Corning – Housing Rehab Programs
 Corning – Housing Subdivision
 Corning – NSP – CDBG grant administration
 Corning – Water plant – CDBG grant administration

Clarke County

County – Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance update
 County – Funding options
 County – REAP Grant Application for East Lake Park improvements
 Murray – New recreational complex funding
 Murray – Storm water facility – CDBG grant administration
 Murray – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Murray – Water mains – CDBG grant administration
 Osceola – CDBG Housing Sustainability application
 Osceola – Economic Development - businesses
 Osceola – Fire extinguisher training products; funding options
 Osceola – Sewer – CDBG grant administration
 Osceola – Tornado safe room; funding options
 Osceola – Trail funding
 Osceola – Wellness coalition

Decatur County

County – Completed Hazard Mitigation Plan update
 Davis City – Economic Development - business
 Davis City – Sewer mains project application
 Davis City – Staffing; funding options
 Decatur City – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Garden Grove – Community needs; funding options
 Lamoni – Assistance to Firefighters Grant application
 Lamoni – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration
 Lamoni – Dilapidated building improvements; funding options
 Lamoni – Trail; funding options
 Lamoni – Water plant – CDBG grant administration
 Lamoni – Water tower installation – CDBG funding options
 Leon – Economic Development - business
 Leon – Lead inspection – housing complex
 Leon – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Van Wert – Community needs; funding options
 Weldon – Community projects; funding research

Madison County

County – Civil war cannons; HRDP funding options
 Earlham – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration
 Earlham – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Earlham – Water mains – CDBG grant administration
 Macksburg – Addressed concern over nuisance abatement
 St. Charles – Community needs; funding options
 Winterset – Economic development – assisted living complex
 Winterset – Economic development - business
 Winterset – Downtown Revitalization; CDBG funding options
 Winterset – Sewer – CDBG grant administration
 Winterset – Survey for DTR grant application

Ringgold County

County – Discussed GIS maps/public health and emergency management
 County – Hazard Mitigation Plan update FEMA application
 County – Health Management Plan
 County – Reviewed draft IEDA CAT application for county nature center
 Diagonal – Water building; funding options
 Diagonal – Water lift control panel
 Mount Ayr – Airport funding paving/lights
 Mount Ayr – Airport zoning
 Mount Ayr – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration
 Mount Ayr – Economic Development - business
 Mount Ayr – Lead inspection – housing complex
 Mount Ayr – Sewer plant/mains – CDBG grant administration
 Mount Ayr – Storm water system improvements; funding options
 Mount Ayr – Trail improvements; funding options
 Tingley – Project funding

Technical Assistance Provided in 2016

Taylor County

Bedford – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration
 Bedford – Economic Development - business
 Clearfield – Beautification projects
 Clearfield – Community center renovations
 Clearfield – Prepared land use map
 Clearfield – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Gravity – Community needs; funding options
 Lenox – CDBG Housing Sustainability application
 Lenox – City Hall building repair; funding options
 Lenox – Community Development
 Lenox – Comprehensive Plan update
 Lenox – Depot; funding options
 Lenox – Researched Iowa Code
 Lenox – Land use survey
 Lenox – Library; funding options
 Lenox – Trail funding
 Lenox – Transportation Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP)
 Lenox – Wastewater treatment facility improvements CDBG application
 Lenox – Zoning Ordinance
 New Market – Sewer lagoons/mains – CDBG grant administration

Union County

County – Union County – CDBG grant administration
 Arispe – Classification road
 Creston – Adams Street Bridge
 Creston – Amtrak Station/stop decision
 Creston – Arts center building; funding options
 Creston – Assistance to Firefighters Grant application
 Creston – CDBG Housing Sustainability application
 Creston – Downtown Revitalization
 Creston – Economic Development; businesses
 Creston – Fire Department application to acquire additional building
 Creston – Housing Feasibility Study – Workforce Tax Credit
 Creston – Hurley Creek – WIRB grant administration
 Creston – McKinley Lake – WIRB grant administration
 Creston – NSP – CDBG grant administration
 Creston – Sound system; funding options
 Creston – Technical Service for possible DTR façade
 Creston – Urban Revitalization Plan
 Creston – USDA funding application for police patrol car
 Creston – Wastewater treatment facility improvements 2017 CDBG grant application
 Cromwell – Playground improvements funding
 Lorimor – CDBG Housing Sustainability administration

Associate Members

New Virginia – Community trees; funding options
 Van Meter – Community needs; funding options
 Van Meter – Downtown façade and water facilities grant options
 Van Meter – Tax abatement issues
 Van Meter – Urban Revitalization Plan

ATURA

ATURA – Administration
 ATURA – Long Range Transportation Plan
 ATURA – Passenger Transportation Plan
 ATURA – Public Participation Plan
 ATURA – Southern Iowa Trolley – planning/funding
 ATURA – STP application & ranking process
 ATURA – TAP grant assistance
 ATURA – Title VI Plan update
 ATURA – Traffic counters
 ATURA – Transportation Improvement Program
 ATURA – Transportation Planning Work Program

SICOG Region

Region – Assisted SWIPCO and MAPA with a presentation about COGs to the Southwest Iowa Clerk/Administrator's Association
 Region – Business assistance funding options
 Region – CDBG and HTF funding
 Region – Community Facilities – CDBG grant administration
 Region – Creston Rotary Club presentation
 Region – Hazard Mitigation Planning
 Region – Housing inspections update
 Region – Radon test kits – CDBG housing administration
 SICOG – Grant database development and research
 SICOG HTF – Iowa State Housing Trust Fund grant application

Non-members or Miscellaneous

Adair County Historical Society – Grant administration for museum improvements
 Clarke County Hospital, Osceola – safety initiative; funding options
 Diagonal Community Schools – regional planning for USDA Application
 Low Rent Housing Agency of Leon – environmental & lead inspection
 Low Rent Housing Agency of Mount Ayr – environmental & lead inspection
 Mount Ayr Community Schools – regional planning for USDA application
 Precious People Learning Center, Lenox – funding options
 Restoration of a downtown building in Orient – funding options
 St. Malachy School, Creston – tornado safe room – funding options
 Union County Habitat for Humanity – grant options/income limits
 Union County Historical Society – Museum expansion funding options



SICOG...

Rising
to meet the needs
of our region.



**Southern Iowa Council of Governments
2016 Annual Report
Celebrating 43 Years of Service**

Southern Iowa Council of Governments

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