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City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

February 28, 2014, Edition No. 118

Weekly Update:

1. Dredging: Per Jon Koch - The public notice for our dredging permit is finally going out and is open until March 29th. The permit will be issued soon after, but it does mean no dredging until then. We may be able to get special permission to do the mouth of the marina if we get into trouble early. It looks like we may have a wet spring so plenty of water and high levels should help us. The Army Corp seems receptive to allowing extended dredging along the riverfront so we can clean up the "islands" that form and grow weeds in front of the Riverview Center and fountain area. This should really allow us to make that area look much nicer and cleaner. Depending on the river level this may require a clam-shell on a crane to remove but once done shouldn't need to be repeated for several years.
2. Bi-State: Attached please find a copy of the *Commission in Review* for January 2014. The *Commission in Review* is intended to assist the over 400 elected officials from our member governments in being better informed of their Commission's activities.
3. University of Iowa: Please see the attached update on the Sustainable Communities projects.
4. 9th Street: Attached is an additional option that I asked staff to put together for 9th Street to more closely simulate what is working on Harrison Street at Colorado School right now.
5. GATSO: GATSO exercised the first or 2 years worth of optional renewals which extends the contract to March 7, 2015. After these 2 years (Years 5 and 6), the agreement allows for automatic extensions with withdrawal options.
6. Blue Zones: We are working to wrap up the Community Policy portion for submittal in May for review and designation. We have one outstanding policy for Council and School review and adoption - a basic policy dealing with Park & Rec related activities and joint use of facilities. This should be before the Council in March or April at the latest.
7. MMRLF Brochure: Please see a draft of the updated Mercer Muscatine Revolving Loan Fund brochure (Bi-State).
8. League Leadership Summit: The Iowa League of Cities invites you to attend the 2014 Leadership Summit. This two-day event will provide elected and appointed city leaders an opportunity to gather and discuss challenges facing our cities. The event will focus on how leadership at the local level can better address contemporary issues in local government. The 2014 Leadership Summit will occur in Des Moines on April 25-26, 2014. The inaugural Leadership Summit will provide insight into city issues as well as provide useful strategies to take back to your community. The event will feature a keynote presentation by Mayor Ted Ellis, Mayor of Bluffton, Indiana and former President of the National League of

"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain

Cities. His presentation will provide attendees with a stimulating and thought provoking illustration of leadership at the local level. Other topics that will be presented include ethics, nuisance abatement, strategic planning and economic development. Additional Information and Full Event Schedule. Please join us for the event and encourage other city officials from your city to attend this important training. The training is open to both elected and appointed city officials. The event serves as Part Four of the Municipal Leadership Academy (MLA); attendance at previous MLA sessions is not a prerequisite for attendance at the Leadership Summit. Overview of Online MLA Offerings. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this event. Mark Tomb, Director of Membership Services Iowa League of Cities Iowa League of Cities | 500 SW 7th St, Suite 101 | Des Moines, IA 50309 Main: (515) 244-7282 | Fax: (978) 367-9733 | www.iowaleague.org [https://For](https://www.iowaleague.org/MLA2013/Pages/MLA2013Part4.aspx) online information and registration - www.iowaleague.org/MLA2013/Pages/MLA2013Part4.aspx



Commission in Review

January 2014

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

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Feb. 26, 2014
3:30 p.m.

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

APA TRAINING SERIES

"Using Subdivision
Regulations in the 21st
Century"
Wed., Mar. 12, 2014
3-4:00 p.m.

Third Floor 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.*

Illinois Passenger Rail Service Coming Soon

A status report by the Illinois Department of Transportation on implementing passenger rail service from Chicago to Quad Cities was given by Joe Shacter, Director of Public and Intermodal Transportation. He provided an update based on the status of engineering to date. Phase I of the effort is 79 mph service with two round trips daily (four trains per day) between Chicago and the Quad Cities. Intermediate stops are planned for La Grange, Naperville, Plano, Mendota, Princeton and Geneseo. Phase II is the extension of that service to Iowa City which will depend on how the State of Iowa proceeds.

Mr. Shacter reiterated that Phase I - Chicago to Quad Cities has 30% engineering completed and procurement of rolling stock is underway as well as establishing construction, maintenance and service agreements between the appropriate responsible parties. Key project partners include the Federal Railroad Administration, Amtrak, Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) and Illinois Commerce Commission, among some of the stakeholders. The DOT is working with the ICC on rail signals and gates at crossing. Analysis also includes structure and rail diagnostics for determine existing conditions. Additional efforts to develop stations in Geneseo and Moline are in progress.



In 2010, both DOTs submitted a grant to the Federal Railroad Administration and were awarded \$230 million. Of this, \$177 million has been committed to Illinois for Phase I and \$53 million has been committed to Iowa for Phase II. Based on the revised costs, it is anticipated that Illinois will need \$78 million to match the project, up from \$45 million. A layover facility will need to be included in the Illinois project since there has been no decision to move forward by Iowa. Between Rock Island and Silvis, a second mainline is being added as well as other sidings, signaling and positive train control.

Mr. Shacter indicated that the project completion goal is late 2015. The ILDOT will have a more definitive timeline within a few months. The presentation was followed by comments and questions by Commissioners.

Rock Island Arsenal

William Takakoshi with Hurt, Norton & Associates, Inc. presented information on legislative efforts and issues related to the Rock Island Arsenal. Hurt, Norton has been working for the Quad Cities Area on Arsenal issues since 1998 and has assisted with many legislative issues amounting to over \$100 million in accomplishments.

Mr. Takakoshi recommended thanking the legislators that serve the Bi-State Region and their staff for the items that support the Arsenal in the FY 2014 Omnibus appropriations bill and the FY 2014 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The knowledge of funding levels over 2014 (\$520 million) and 2015 (\$521 million) allows the Department of Defense to plan as opposed to dealing with continuing resolutions. In addition, \$150 million was provided for Industrial Mobilization Capacity for arsenals in the United States. However, a 20% cut to all Army headquarters was announced months ago. It is not known what will make up the 20% cut, but likely all segments of the Army will be touched, and these cuts will impact employment on the island.



He emphasized the importance of Senator Durbin's position as Chairman of the Senate Defense Subcommittee. This position has been key historically in the Pentagon, and the senator's knowledge of the Arsenal will be helpful. He noted Congressman Loebsack is on the House Armed Services Committee. Representative Frelinghuysen of New Jersey was recently appointed Chairman of the House Defense Subcommittee. Representative Frelinghuysen represents Picatinny, New Jersey and has been a champion of the Picatinny Arsenal. This change makes Senator Durbin's position even more important to balance Department of Defense decisions.

The Arsenal Support Program Initiative (ASPI) promotes the commercial use of underutilized capacity at arsenal facilities by partnering with private sector partners. The program is sunsetting so companion language is needed to maintain the existing partnerships leasing space on the Arsenal. He also noted the Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center is important to protecting the Island from Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) because the factory would be difficult to move to another location. However, he does not believe a BRAC will occur until 2017 following the 2016 presidential election.

Aerial Photography Project Flying High!

Plans are moving forward for the acquisition of GIS-quality digital aerial photos and other products across the Bi-State Region in the spring of this year. Staff have been working with local jurisdictions to coordinate coverage areas and products in this joint effort. Consortium members have selected Kucera International, out of Willoughby, OH to provide aerial mapping services for the project. Participants include: (IA) Clinton, Mercer, Muscatine & Scott Counties and (IL) Henry County and the cities of Aledo, Carbon Cliff, Coal Valley, East Moline, Milan, Moline, Port Byron, Rock Island, and Silvis. Products include digital color orthophotography, LiDAR, digital elevation models, digital terrain models, contours, and planimetric mapping. Staff coordinated similar multi-jurisdictional efforts in 2005 and 2009. Participants anticipate a 25-40% cost savings by coordinating the flight and purchasing aerial products together.

Watch the sky for the planes collecting imagery. They'll be in the air between mid-March and mid-April, when the snow has melted, there is no flooding, and no leaf cover. Think spring! For more information, contact Lisa Miller, Data/GIS Director at 309.793.6302, ext. 133 or lmiller@bistateonline.org.

BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FY 2013-14 Program Budget Status Report
Through Month of December – 50% of Year

ADOPTED BUDGET:	\$2,155,265.00	EXPLANATION:
EXPENDED THROUGH DECEMBER:	\$1,102,946.34 (47.0%)	
STAFF LEVEL BUDGETED:	25.25 F.T.E.	
STAFF LEVEL STAFF LEVEL MAINTAINED:	23.75 F.T.E.	

MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SERVED DIRECTLY AND ACTIVITIES DURING DECEMBER

ALEDO – Website Support; RLF Coord.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Plng; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Economic Develop. Strategic Plan Presentation; Mercer Co. Events Flyer.

ALPHA – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

ANDALUSIA – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support.

ANDOVER – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

ATKINSON – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

BETTENDORF – Joint Purchasing; Scott Co. Housing Council; IAQC Transit Planner Coord. & Transit Issues; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; I-74 Bridge Coord.; Drug/Alcohol Testing Consort.; RLF Loan Admin./Marketing; Trail Coord.; DOJ Interoperability; Air Quality Asst.; NSBP/EDA Apps.; Trails Counting Asst.; QCICNet; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; ICAAP Resolution follow-up; Cities' Engineering Conference; STP Evaluation Process and Forest Grove Road/Drive Coordination.

BLUE GRASS – Reg. 9 Transportation Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

BUFFALO – Trail Planning Asst.; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

CAMBRIDGE – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

CARBON CLIFF – RICWMA Staffing; Joint Purchasing; Trail Planning; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

COAL VALLEY – Joint Purchasing; RICWMA Staffing; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst., Village Board Strategic Planning.

COLONA – Joint Purchasing; Gen. Data/GIS/Mapping Asst..

CORDOVA – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council & Riverfront Planning; Website Support..

DAVENPORT – Joint Purchasing; Riverfront Council, RiverVision; Scott Co. Housing Council; Solid Waste Coord.; RLF Loan Admin.; Transit Funding & NTD Asst.; IAQC Transit Planner Coord. and Transit Issues; QCICNet Interoperability Project; BRAC/OEA Coord.; Air Quality Asst.; Davenport Schools Hazard Mitigation Plan; Legislative Priorities Asst.; IMCP/EDA Grant with QC Chamber; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Cities' Engineering Conference; STP Evaluation Process and Forest Grove Road/Drive Coordination; Graphics/Map Asst. Mayor Gluba Wash DC trip.

EAST MOLINE – IL QC Intergov. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; RICWMA Staffing; RMS Coord.; Riverfront Cncl.; Interoperability Proj.; RLF Admin.; MUNICES; Air Quality Asst.; Trail Plng; Consol. Disp. Study Asst.; QCICNet; Econ. Dev. Strategic Plan; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Park/Rec Planning Outreach; STP Eval. Process.

ELDRIDGE – Solid Waste Coord.; Drug & Alcohol Consort.; Website Support; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; STP Evaluation Process

FRUITLAND – Region 9 Transportation Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.

GALVA – Broadband Coord.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; HCEDP.

GENESEO – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Trails Planning; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; GIS/Mapping Asst..

HAMPTON – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support.

HENRY COUNTY – Joint Purch.; HCEDP Part.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Plan; Trail Coord.; Workforce Dev. Board; Legislative Priorities Asst.; Comp. Plan & Zoning Mapping/GIS; EDA/USDA Grant; Evacuation Plan; Fact Sheet Update; Illinois Grants for Local Gvts.; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Plan for HCEDP Springfield Trip.

HILLSDALE – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

KEWANEE – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning;

LECLAIRE – Joint Purchasing; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Planning; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

LONG GROVE – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

MCCAUSLAND – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord., Solid Waste Coord.; Stormwater Meeting.

MILAN – Joint Purchasing; RICWMA Staffing; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; RMS Coord.; RLF Admin.; Interoperability Project; MUNICES Coord.; Cons. Dispatch Study Asst.; QCICNet ; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst..

MOLINE – MUNICES Coor.; IL QC Intergv. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coor.; Joint Purch.; I-74 Bridge Coor. & Southern Sec.; RICWMA Staff.; RMS Coor.; Riverfront Cncl./ River-Vision; RLF Ln Adm.; Trails Coor.; ITEP Grant Rev.; Interop. Proj.; Rail Coor.; Air Qual. Asst.; Park/Rec Pln.; Cons. Disp. Stdy Asst.; QCICNet; Aerial Photo Coor. Asst.

MUSCATINE CITY – Trail Planning; Reg. 9 Transportation Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Joint Purchasing; Air Quality Asst.; RLF Coord.; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Graphics asst. - Chamber member window clings

MUSCATINE COUNTY – Trails Planning; Website Support/Development/Redesign; Reg. 9 Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Joint Purch.; Transit Mobility Coord.; Hazard Mitigation Plan; Air Quality Asst.; OEA Grant Coord.; EDA RLF Coord.; Comprehensive Plan; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

NEW BOSTON – Website Support; Grant Research; Mercer Co. Events Flyer.

OAK GROVE – E9-1-1 Coord.; Consolidated Dispatch Study.

ORION – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Water System Mapping.

PORT BYRON – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Zoning Administration Inquiry..

PRINCETON – Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Planning;; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.;

RAPIDS CITY – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council.

RIVERDALE – Riverfront Council; Trail Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Haz Mit Plan.

ROCK ISLAND CITY – IL QC Intrgy. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purchasing; Riverfront Council; RiverVision; RICWMA Stfg.; MUNICES Coord.; RMS Coord.; RLF Loan Adm.; Interop. Proj.; Air Quality Asst.; Workforce Dev. Bd.; Consol. Dispatch Study App; QCICNet; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; Status of EDP Appl.; STP Eval. Process

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY – E9-1-1 Coord.; LEPC Committee; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; RICWMA Stfg.; Electronic Collection Event & Website Support; Joint Purchasing; Trail Coord.; WIB Part.; RMS Coord.; FFC Revisions Coord.; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Passenger Rail; Air Quality Asst.; Legislative Priorities Asst.; QCICNet; Evacuation Plan; Hazard Mitigation Plng. Appl.; QC Health Initiative; STP Evaluation Process; Graphics Asst. – Business Cards.

SCOTT COUNTY – Financial Management - Scott Co. KIDS; Scott Co. Hsg. Cncl.; Joint Purchasing; I-74 Bridge Coord.; Trail Plng.; RLF Admin.; Reg. 9 Transportation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Interop. Project; Goals Booklet; OEA; Passenger Rail; Housing Assessment; Budget Report; Air Quality Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; QC Health Initiative.

SHERRARD – Website Support; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Joint Purchasing Council Info; Mercer Co. Events Flyer; Inquiry re: TIF, Aerial Photo & Mapping.

SILVIS – E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purchasing; IL Intergov. Comm. Coord.; RICWMA Stfg.; RMS Coord.; CDAP Grant Admin.; Trail Planning; Consol. Dispatch Study App.; QCICNet; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; TIF/Enterprise Zone & Utilities GIS/Mapping Asst.

VIOLA – Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Logo Development; Mercer Co. Events Flyer.

WALCOTT – Reg. 9 Transportation; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Coord.; RLF Marketing; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.

WEST LIBERTY – Reg. 9 Transportation; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Muscatine Co. Haz Mit Plan; Air Quality Coord.

WILTON – Reg. 9 Transportation; Solid Waste Coord.; Muscatine Co. Haz Mit Plan; EDA Application; Air Quality Coord.; Water/Sewer System Maps.

WINDSOR – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning; Mercer Co. Events Flyer.

WOODHULL – HCEDP Participation; Transit Mobility/HSTP Planning.

Bi-State Report – December

COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Attended Henry County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) meetings. Continued administration of EDA/USDA Rural Jobs and Innovation Challenge Grant Program on behalf of multiple member governments in Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties. Attended IA RELAT meetings. Attended Iowa Regional Council, Illinois Regional Council, Northwest Municipal Association, QCCVB Annual, and Quad City Health Initiatives-NPAW Panel meetings. Assisted members with legislative priorities. Printed 2013 CEDS Progress Report. Held 2013-14 APA audio-conference training for planning commissioners/planners/citizen planners. Prepared RFP and assisted in consultant selection for the Regional Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Program in partnership with the Quad City Chamber of Commerce. Investigated funding as potential scope of work for a Mississippi Riverfront Land Use and Economic Development Analysis.

DATA/GRAFICS/MAPPING/ON-LINE SERVICES:

Data Center: Staff responded to approximately 12 data and map requests in December 2013 including 5 from local governments, 1 from a non-profit, 2 from businesses, 1 from the media, and 3 from private citizens. The data section of the Bi-State website had 61 page views. The data warehouse site (www.greaterqcregion.org) had 259 visits and 458 page views. Staff continued work on data collection and population and employment projections for the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan and the data sections for the Moline Park & Recreation Plan and the Muscatine County Comprehensive Plan.

Graphics/Mapping: 2014 Aerial Photo Flyover Coordination; 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Coordination; Eastern Iowa Community College District Mapping; Distribution of 2008-09 QC Street Map (Folded & Wall Versions); Iowa Transit Systems – “Roadeo” Logo Development; Surface Transportation (STP) Ranking Assistance; Travel Model Data and GIS Assistance; Update/Maintain GIS Data for Street Centerlines, Traffic Counts, MPA Boundary, Federal Functional Class Routes, Urban Areas, Corporate Limits, Landmarks, Rail, Trails, and other layers.

www.bistateonline.org. Top pages viewed for December 2013 include: Home Page (704); Documents Section (88); Joint Purchasing Council (74); Our Staff (70); and Careers (67).

ENVIRONMENTAL, RECREATION, RIVERFRONT SERVICES: Responded to inquiries & assisted with trail/recreation project funding assistance/grants. Served RICWMA with coordination of meetings, oversight and management of waste disposal and recycling programs, reporting, and overall agency administration. Responded to RICWMA telephone inquiries from general public & media concerning solid waste and recycling issues. Attended River Action meetings. Continued coordination of issues related to Bi-State Region Clean Air Partnership and strategies for emission reduction. Continued “Make Air Quality Visible” strategic plan update process. Continued multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation planning. Organized bi-monthly meeting of Quad City Riverfront Council.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUMS AND REGIONAL SERVICES: Continued assistance to the Joint Purchasing Council (JPC). Worked on the following bids: Sign Materials & Sign Posts; 2014 Water Treatment Chemicals; 2014 Turf Chemicals and Seed; 2014 Janitorial; 2014 Can Liner; and 2014 Food Service Supplies. Staffed Quad Cities Area intergovernmental forums and meetings of area recreation directors, managers and administrators, and chief elected officials. Continued coordination and planning for the awarded DOJ interoperability grant. Assisted with Rock Island Arsenal issues.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF): Administered Bi-State RLF Program: Prepared meeting cancellation notice and financial summary report. Closed on Bettendorf company loan. Provided information to potential applicants. Continued receiving job creation information from active companies. Administered Mercer/Muscatine RLF Program: Provided information to potential applicants. Assisted in MMRLF Board recruitment.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT: Attended related meetings, presented information, and continued staff coordination of river crossing issues. Monitored progress of household travel survey and continued travel model enhancements project with consultant team. Worked on urban 2045 LRTP travel model development. Continued IL Region evacuation planning effort. Coordinated trails analyses, and data requests. Participated in Iowa-Illinois interdisciplinary traffic safety team meeting. Monitored status of MAP-21 implementation. Prepared monthly reports of federal transportation programs, coordinated related funding/reporting. Continued air quality emission reduction efforts of Air Quality Task Force. Worked on connections of American Discovery Trail (ADT)/Grand Illinois Trail and MRT, and attended related meetings, as well as other trail planning and grant assistance. Organized bi-monthly meeting of the Bi-State Regional Trails Committee. Coordinated Bi-State Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium, and continued random testing program. Monitored urban and Iowa Region 9 FY14 Transportation Planning Work Program and FFY14-17 TIPs, and need for data entry in Iowa TPMS as part of transportation improvement programming. Conducted MPO STP project selection process. Administered IAQC and Illinois Region 2 transit coordinator positions. Facilitated MAP-21 transit funding issues and assisted with NTD data analysis. Prepared for transit summits as part of Regional Transit Development Plan update, including MPO area Transit Summit. Served inquiries and assisted with transportation funding programs and transportation information for legislative efforts. Participated in Davenport/Bettendorf Engineering Conference, ILDOT Performance Management Advisory Group and IA Passenger Rail Advisory Committee. Participated in transportation webinars on various topics.



Project Updates: December 2013

School of Urban and Regional Planning – Field Problems

Connectivity master plan and wayfinding (Year-long)

Students presented their work-to-date in a teleconference with project partners (Andrew Fangman, John Sayles, Sarah Lande) on December 2nd. A key deliverable that this group has identified for Muscatine is the development of a bicycle and pedestrian master plan. Muscatine needs a bicycle/pedestrian master plan as part of the Blue Zones Project™ designation, and it fits into the broader mission of the project. Students met with trails committee in Muscatine on Tuesday, December 10th to discuss the current infrastructure and the development of the master plan. The group has also completed initial coding for the virtual wayfinding application that will be delivered to Muscatine in the spring. Students have completed a mid-year report that will be evaluated by UI faculty the week of December 16th. The group was also notified that they were accepted to present this project at the National American Planning Association conference in Atlanta, GA this coming April.

Mississippi riverfront redevelopment plan (Year-long)

Students presented their work-to-date in a teleconference with project partners on December 3rd. Students spent much of this month completing a report that covers the group's work-to-date that will be evaluated by UI faculty the week of December 16th. The group has now received enough survey responses to reach a level of statistical significance. The group was also notified that they were accepted to present this project at the National American Planning Association conference in Atlanta, GA this coming April.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – Honors Rhetoric, in partnership with Iowa Digital Engagement and Learning (IDEAL)

Digital media messaging (Fall 2013)

Honors rhetoric students completed two trips to Muscatine on November 13th and November 17th to conduct interviews for their podcasts. The students split up into 6 groups focusing on riverfront redevelopment, connectivity and the Hispanic community in Muscatine. One group encountered recording problems and had to follow-up with phone interviews. The podcasts will be completed by the end of the week of December 16th and turned over to the IISC and Muscatine shortly thereafter. The podcasts are similar to what one would hear from a story on NPR, but includes photos and music to help the student's narration and interviews.

Tippie College of Business

The Marketing Institute – Field Immersion Projects

Population/Workforce survey and analysis and branding campaign (Year-long)

Marketing students have completed a focus group targeted at young professionals in Muscatine. About 20 people attended. They were asked questions regarding their current opinions on Muscatine and what could be done to make the community's marketing more appealing to young professionals. The group is finalizing its analysis of the community survey, and will form recommendations and conclusions from this survey and their SWOT analysis. These recommendations will culminate in a recommended branding campaign for Muscatine in the spring semester (starting late-January).

College of Public Health – Nutrition Intervention Clinical Trials

Public health/childhood nutrition interventions (Fall 2013)

Rich – I am still waiting on individual reports from each group on the final assessments of this project. I will send additional information your way when I receive it. Public Health graduate students have completed their presentations and workshops to their local Muscatine organizations, including the YMCA after school program and the Sunset Park After School program, although one or two groups will be doing follow-up training sessions after the semester is completed. Each project was focused on improving nutrition for Muscatine children. One group worked with preschool teachers to help them educate and implement an intervention for preschool parents on increasing fruits and vegetables in their children's diet. A second group worked with Amy Hessel at the Muscatine YMCA to utilize a presentation developed by the students about portion sizes for teenage girls. It includes a presentation and handouts focusing on portion control and utilizing MyPlate to plan healthier meals. A third group worked with the YMCA on training staff to understand the importance of dairy in teenage girls, and in particular, increasing the consumption of dairy in girls ages 11-14 in the YMCA's after-school programming.

School of Art and Art History/ ArtsShare

Public art project (In development, Fall 2013 – Spring 2014)

This project was put on hold due to the busy schedules of the community project partners and the MFA graduate students who will be working on projects. We will be re-connecting over the next month to better identify which projects to move forward with next semester. MFA student Yelena Mass is working with ArtsShare, the IISC, and Melanie Alexander and Laura Liegois to develop 3 – 4 different public art concepts. The following public art concepts are in discussion: 1) a project at the Water Pollution Control Plant, involving making a fountain out of left over parts at the plant, 2) 1 or 2 large public art pieces that may be permanent or not permanent along the Mississippi River, 3) Smaller 'pop-up' public art pieces scattered throughout downtown and the community using recycled materials, and 4) As part of the Earth Day event, a project inviting children to make flower pots and decorate as well as plant in them as part of the larger Earth Day event. The next steps include communicating with the Water Pollution Control Plant on a public art piece, identifying sculpture designs and locations for the riverfront public art, and inventorying potential recycled goods that can be used as 'pop-up' art. The implementation of these projects will occur in the spring 2014.

SPRING 2014 PROJECTS

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Dietetic Internship Program/College of Public Health – Community Outreach

Blue Zones Project™ Restaurant Certification (Spring 2014)

Muscatine was designated as a Blue Zones Project demonstration site in January 2013. The Blue Zones Project seeks to make individuals and communities healthier and happier through physical and environmental changes to a community. Part of the Blue Zones Project focuses on local restaurants and making healthy improvements to menus and the overall eating environment. Interns with the Dietetic Internship Program will be assisting local Muscatine restaurants in making these changes.

College of Engineering – Senior Design, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Rich – The supervising faculty member in the College of Engineering and me will meet with Randy Hill over the winter break to ensure that these projects identified by John Lutz will be appropriate projects for the spring.

Northeast corridor project (Spring 2014)

In recent years, the City of Muscatine has encouraged commercial development in the northeast section of the city. In preparation of the development, Snyder and Associates created a land use and infrastructure plan, which the city has implemented. Now, after city and private investment that resulted in parcels being developed, there is a desire to revisit the original land use and infrastructure plan. Students will analyze the plan against the actual development, and, where appropriate, enhance the concepts contained in the plan. Examples of work tasks include traffic impact analysis around the developments, planning and designing additional road connections that will further support growth, analyze the design of proposed and existing intersections, design and layout the location of sewer extensions, and investigate impacts on storm water management.

Regional water detention plan (Spring 2014)

Mad Creek traverses the eastside of the City of Muscatine is prone to flash flooding of low-lying properties. The City of Muscatine signed a Project Partnership Agreement with the US Corps of Engineers in September 2008 for the construction of flood mitigation structures along Mad Creek to reduce the risk of damage to existing developed properties, especially in the historic district. The construction was completed in November of 2012. A rational next step is the investigation of a regional storm water detention plan for properties north of the current flood structures that will accommodate land development. Students have the opportunity to complete a regional hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of the watershed north of the City of Muscatine. Tasks involved in the project include the estimate of storm water runoff under present and future development scenarios, the location of a detention facility that will reduce the impact of flooding to properties south of 180th St, the design of an outlet structure and routing of the discharge.

Recreational Trail System (Spring 2014)

The City of Muscatine seeks to increase the recreational opportunities by expanding the existing trail system. Currently, there are more than 10 miles of paved and unimproved trails and walkways. However, many of the trails are not interconnected and are absent from some regions within the city.

To address the lack of trails and poor connectivity, the students of the School of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Iowa are preparing a connectivity study, which will include recommendations on trail improvements and expansions (see above). Senior Design engineering students have the opportunity to complete the engineering plans for construction the new trails as proposed in the above referenced plan. Tasks that will consist of the layout, cross-section design of the trails, design of bridging structures for waterways and ravines where necessary, and design and location of ancillary structures to support trail activities.

School of Urban and Regional Planning

Downtown River-Facing Façade Design Project (Spring 2014)

This project is determinate upon the School of Urban and Regional Planning enrolling two 1st year graduate students with a background in architecture in the spring 2013 Community Development course, as well as employing an architect to oversee the students. IISC is working to recruit students for this project. At this point, this project does not appear to be feasible due to the fact that the 1st year graduate students are not enrolling in the Community Development course and that at least some of this design work will be completed by the riverfront redevelopment group.

ISU College of Design and PLACE program in partnership with the IISC

Sustainable Dog Park (Potential, Spring 2014)

This project appears to have found an ISU faculty contact in Matthew Gordy. Susan Erickson has accepted Matthew into the PLACE program, and as long as he can find ISU students to complete the project, this project will move forward in the Spring 2014.

0

100

200

400 Feet



Date Source: Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium, City of Muscatine, Prepared by: Andrew Fangman, City Planner Date: February 13, 2014

