

What Is The Region 10 Regional Planning Affiliation?

In 1994, the Iowa Department of Transportation created the Regional Planning Affiliations (RPAs) to implement the provisions of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). RPAs were established to allow for local participation in the transportation planning and programming process.

The RPAs role was renewed in future reauthorizations of the federal transportation program, including the current program, known as the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21).

The Region 10 RPA, which is staffed by the East Central Iowa Council of Governments, was founded to serve the local governments of Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington Counties.

Region 10 RPA's Planning Process

MAP-21 stresses the importance of a 3-C Planning Process, whereby the process shall remain comprehensive, collaborative, and continuing.

Accordingly, the Region 10 RPA process:

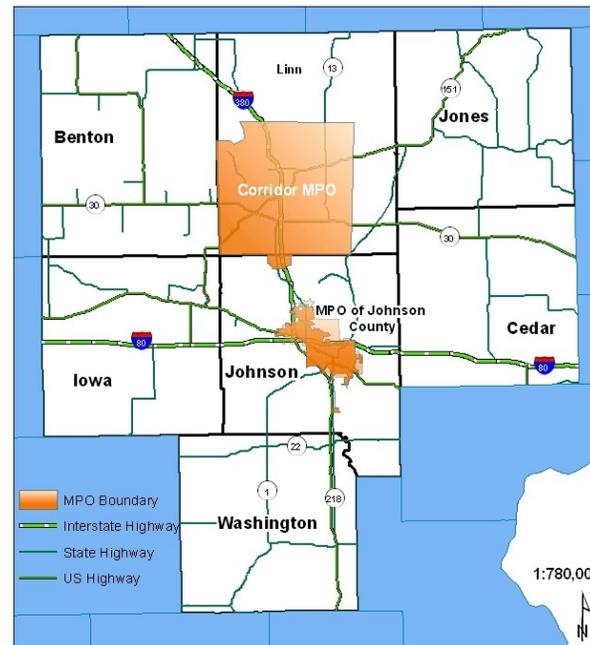
- Incorporates all modes of transportation (freight and passenger) including highways, transit, trails, rail, waterways, and pipelines
- Includes representatives of the various transportation modes, and opportunities for input from non-traditional partners and the public
- Provides a mechanism to update transportation planning efforts, if locally necessitated

Since the 3-C planning elements are reiterated in MAP-21, they remain the emphasis of the planning process in Region 10.

Formation of the RPA

The Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA) is governed by a fourteen-member Policy Committee made up of elected officials appointed by the Board of Supervisors in the seven affiliated counties. Some Policy Committee responsibilities include:

- Development and implementation of a public involvement plan to offer citizens the opportunity to help identify transportation issues, needs, and priorities
- Preparation of short- and long-term planning documents which describe the existing transportation system, identify issues, discuss needs, provide policy direction, and define the direction for planning and project development during the designated term
- Development of a program of projects to show the transportation improvements proposed in the region during the next three years, using state and federal funds



ECICOG Transportation Planning Area in white

Region 10 Application Information

Important Dates

Applications are distributed to affiliated cities and counties annually in early October.

The deadline for application submittals is December 15.

Qualifications for Funding

- Incorporated cities and counties are eligible for funding. *Private sponsorship will require a public agency co-sponsor.*
- Minimum of 20% non-federal match is required.
- Federal funds are available on a reimbursement basis.
- Project contracts must be led by Iowa DOT.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the "Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process" must be used.
- Plans and specifications require Iowa DOT approval.
- Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
 - Federal Equal Employment Opportunity
 - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
 - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - Federal (Davis-Bacon) Wage Rates
 - Title VI

Contact Information

If you would like more information on applications, please contact Mary Rump 319-365-9941 ext. 128 or mary.rump@ecicog.org.

Regional Funding Programs

A portion of federal funds available in Iowa has been distributed to RPAs to allow for localized decision making. Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds are available for regional programming.

STP

The STP program is intended to aid jurisdictions with the funding for any road or bridge projects on the federal aid system, for transit capital improvements, or for transportation planning activities.

TAP Enhancement

The TAP program is intended to fund the enhancement or preservation activities of transportation related projects. Eligible project categories include, but are not limited to:

- Facilities for pedestrians and bicycles
- Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites
- Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas
- Landscaping and other scenic beautification
- Historic preservation
- Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors
- Control and removal of outdoor advertising
- Archeological planning and research
- Mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff
- Safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Historic displays at tourism and welcome centers
- Transportation museums

ECICOG

The East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) is an intergovernmental council established in 1973 under Chapter 28E and provided for under Chapter 28H of the Code of Iowa. Governed by a board of directors comprised of elected officials and private citizens, ECICOG was created to promote regional cooperation and to provide professional planning services to local governments in Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington Counties. A portion of our operations is supported by a per capita assessment paid by these counties.

If your local government or community organization would like to know more about regional transportation planning or the RPA process, please contact us.

We look forward to serving you.



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Region 10 Regional Planning Affiliation

SERVING THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS OF
BENTON, CEDAR,
IOWA, JOHNSON,
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COUNTIES

