

# ECICOG EXPRESS

SERVING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN BENTON, IOWA, JONES, JOHNSON, LINN AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

## Recent funding awards

The Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) recently announced program awards for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Housing Fund programs. ECICOG assisted the Cities of Belle Plaine and Marion in securing awards for housing rehabilitation. The City of Wyoming received CDBG funding for water system improvements, also with ECICOG's assistance.

ECICOG also congratulates the City of Brighton, which received funding through the CDBG program.

Competition for these funds increases each year. Communities considering submitting an application in the future, or resubmitting for projects yet to be funded, should contact ECICOG to begin planning for 2009.

The Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management (IHSEM) also recently announced awards for hazard mitigation activities. ECICOG received funding on behalf of Jones County and the Cities of Anamosa, Olin, Martelle, Wyoming, and Monticello for preparation of a multi-jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation plan (PDM).

The City of Wellman also received funding for a PDM, which ECICOG will assist in completing.

Contact ECICOG for more information on these and other funding assistance programs.



Representatives of IDED, the City of Marion and ECICOG celebrate the city's award for housing rehabilitation.



Representatives of IDED, the City of Wyoming and ECICOG celebrate the city's award for water system improvements.



Representatives of IDED, the City of Belle Plaine and ECICOG celebrate the city's award for housing rehabilitation.

| Grantee              | Project                | Award            | Funding Agency |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| ECICOG               | PDM                    | \$ 39,000        | IHSEM          |
| City of Wellman      | PDM                    | \$ 5,100         | IHSEM          |
| City of Wyoming      | Water Improvements     | \$200,000        | IDED           |
| City of Marion       | Housing Rehabilitation | \$214,234        | IDED           |
| City of Belle Plaine | Housing Rehabilitation | \$220,234        | IDED           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         |                        | <b>\$678,568</b> |                |

## Midwest Transportation Planning conference

June 4 thru 6, 2008

Sheraton Hotel

Iowa City



On June 4th-6th, 2008, the Johnson County Council of Governments (JCCOG) and the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) will host the 2008 Midwest Transportation Planning Conference, in Iowa City, Iowa, drawing planners, civil engineers, and agency representatives from the Midwest and Washington, D.C.

Topics to be examined this year include the latest trends in Midwestern transportation planning practice and upcoming federal transportation legislation. Many of the conference sessions will fulfill continuing education requirements for American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

ECICOG Executive Director, Doug Elliott, and community development planner, Hilary Copeland, will serve as presenters in conference sessions.

The cost to attend is \$175/person, and the registration deadline is May 1, 2008. For additional information, consult the IDOT website at [www.dot.state.ia.us](http://www.dot.state.ia.us).

### Staff Notes

**Jennifer Ryan**, ECICOG solid waste planner, and Blair Fencl welcomed their daughter, Mariah Renee Fencl, into the world on February 8, 2008. The ECICOG staff and board congratulates them on the big event. Ryan is currently on leave.

**Chad Sands**, ECICOG community development planner, has written and published a novel, *Sunset on Ghawar*. The book is a geopolitical thriller filled with action and suspense, and Sands hopes the book, "changes the way you think about oil and the energy our country uses." *Sunset on Ghawar* is available on Amazon.com.

## Calendar

- March 27** ECICOG Board of Directors Meeting, ECICOG offices, 700 16<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Cedar Rapids, 1:00 p.m.
- Region 10 RPA Policy Board Meeting, ECICOG offices, 700 16<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Cedar Rapids, 2:00 p.m. (approximate start time)
- Housing Fund for Linn County Board of Directors Meeting, ECICOG offices, 700 16th Street NE, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m.
- April 10** ECICOG SWTAC Meeting, Jones County Courthouse, 500 W. Main Street, Anamosa, 1:00 p.m.
- April 24** ECICOG Board of Directors Meeting, ECICOG offices, 700 16<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Cedar Rapids, 1:00 p.m.
- Housing Fund for Linn County Board of Directors Meeting, ECICOG offices, 700 16th Street NE, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m.

ECICOG was established in 1973 to promote regional cooperation and provide professional planning services to local governments in Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Washington Counties. ECICOG also provides solid waste planning services to Tama County and transportation planning services to Cedar County.

### ECICOG Board of Directors

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Lu Barron            | James Houser     |
| Leo Cook             | Don Magdefrau    |
| Amy Correia          | Charles Montross |
| Bill Daily           | Randy Payne      |
| Gary Edwards         | Dave Plyman      |
| Don Gray             | Ed Raber         |
| Dennis Hansen        | Justin Shields   |
| Pat Harney           | David Vermedahl  |
| Ann Hearn            | Larry Wilson     |
| Henry Herwig (Chair) | Linda Yoder      |

### ECICOG Staff

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|  |    |
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| Doug Elliott, <i>Executive Director</i>        | 22 |
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| Mary Rump, <i>Transportation Services</i>      | 28 |
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