

Announcements, Conference, and Grant Opportunities

MACOG Wins Excellence in Planning Award— MACOG, SEMA, and Office of Homeland Security were recognized by the Missouri Chapter of the American Planning Association with a 2008 Excellence in Planning Award for Project Implementation for the Statewide Homeland Security Regionalization program. In announcing the award, the APA Chapter noted the extensive collaborative network necessary for the regionalization program to be a success and the regional planning and prioritization that ensured the most effective investment of public dollars for homeland security initiatives. The Mid-MO RPC serves the Area F RHSOC with administrative, financial and grant oversight assistance.

State Emergency Management Agency - Public Information Officers (PIO) Training Opportunity—This two and one-half day train course is intended for new or less experienced Public Information Officers (PIO). The training is designed for Emergency Management Personnel including fire and law enforcement, and will cover topics such as: the role of a PIO in emergency management, conducting aware-

ness campaigns, news release writing, and media interviews. The classes are set at 30 participants and will be conducted at the Activity and Recreation Center, 1701 West Ash Street in Columbia on March 1st 2009. Registration online at <http://training.dps.mo.gov> or fax a completed application to: 573.526.9262 attention June Simonton. If you need further assistance or need special accommodations contact June Simonton at 573.526.9121.

MEDC Winter Conference—February 9-10. Jefferson City, Capitol Plaza Hotel. The Missouri Economic Development winter conference features a three hour workshop/ presentation by Ed Morrison, Center for Regional Development, Purdue University on "new approaches for economic development based on networks". See the MEDC website -www.showme.org.

MoDOT Open House Briefings on Bridge Improvements—Callaway County. Tuesday, February 10. Hatton Community Hall, 3752 State Road E, 4-6 pm. Briefing to discuss planned improvements to the Four Mile Bridge on Route E, located approximately 1.5 miles east of Route DD in

Callaway County. **Moniteau County.** Tuesday, February 10. MoDOT's Jamestown Maintenance Facility. 327 South Mill Street in Jamestown. 4-6 p.m. Briefing to discuss planned improvements to the Moniteau Creek Bridge on Route D, approximately four miles southeast of Route KK.

Disaster Training Program Tested In Region F -Region F RHSOC offered three pilot programs to train volunteers in Shelter Operations. The large scale, three-hour, training sessions were conducted via satellite feed November 22nd, December 1st - 2nd and December 9th. A three-hour shelter simulation followed trainings, giving participants an opportunity for decision making and planning.

"The satellite feed allowed us to offer the training, at least once, in each of the thirteen Region F counties," stated Lisa Binkley, Mass Care/Volunteer Coordinator. "It's important to have enough local volunteers trained to work in disaster shelters, and this project has allowed us to train over 200 volunteers we can activate if needed." Additional training will continue.

Calendar

February 10 - Missouri Department of Conservation - "Distinguishing Your Community By Its Natural Resources". Jefferson City. Conservation Employees Credit Union. 1-4:30. Contact Lee Ann Jestis at 573.657.9779 or leeannjestis@mmpc.org

February 10 - Area F Homeland Security Oversight Committee. 1:30pm. Meeting to be held at Cole County Fire Station #4. 5206 Monticello Road, Jefferson City.

February 12 - Lincoln's Birthday. MidMo RPC office closed.

February 16 - Washington's Birthday (Observed). MidMo RPC office closed.

February 17 - Economic Development Advisory Committee. 09:00 am. Meeting will be held at the Columbia Regional Airport. For additional information contact Colleen Vollman at 573.657.9779 or colleenvollman@mmpc.org

February 25 - Mid Mo RPC Board of Directors Meeting. 5:00pm. MidMo RPC Office in Ashland.



206 E. Broadway, PO Box 140
Ashland, Missouri 65010
Phone: 573-657-9779
Fax: 573-657-2829

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission

February 2009

Community and Economic Development Activities

One of the guiding principles for the Mid Missouri Regional Planning Commission is to *promote community and economic development*. Following is a list of economic and community development activities that MidMo RPC staff is currently assisting membership in completing.

Boone County:

- **Ashland.** Preparation of the Ashland Comprehensive Plan. Staff is editing draft document for presentation to planning commission on Feb. 10, 2009.
- **Boone County/Columbia.** Assisting REDI with federal and state funding options for a proposed data center.

- **Centralia.** Assisting the community with a community development block grant application for the demolition of an unsafe structure. Application deadline May 1, 2009.

- **Hartsburg.** Assisting the community in evaluating current zoning policies, & developing a visioning workshop for community leaders.

- **Rocheport.** Assisting in the preparation of Federal Home Loan Bank for rehabilitation needs for Senior Housing complex.

Callaway County:

- **Callaway County.** Prepared CDBG Industrial Infrastructure grant (approved- \$248,550) for road improvements to Sinclair Research Center. Currently completing environmental assessment requirements.

- **Holts Summit.** Preparing community wide income survey for

use in securing grant funds for needed city wastewater plant improvements.

- **Auxvasse.** Assisting with the preparation of MoDNR recreational trails grant.

Cole County:

- **Centertown.** Completed income survey for eligibility for USDA and CDBG funding applications.
- **Russellville.** Assisting community leaders in developing downtown revitalization strategy and identification of funding options.
- **St. Martins.** Assisting Senior Center with CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant. Application due April 1, 2009.

Cooper County:

- **Boonville.** Completing administration close-out requirements for CDBG industrial infrastructure grant (Caterpillar).
- **Otterville.** Assisting community leaders with preparation of a CDBG grant for street and drainage improvements. Due May 1, 2009.

Howard County:

- **Howard County.** Assisting with the preparation of a CDBG Industrial Infrastructure Grant and environmental assessment for CMMG.
- **Howard County.** Funding assistance for capacity building activities for county economic development program.
- **Glasgow.** Assisting community leaders in developing downtown revitalization strategy and identification of funding options.

- **Glasgow.** Assisting the Lewis Library Board with a five-year plan.
- **New Franklin.** Assisting in the preparation of Federal Home Loan Bank for rehabilitation needs for Senior Housing complex.

Moniteau County:

- **Moniteau County.** Funding assistance for capacity building activities for county economic development program
- **California.** Administration close-out activities for CDBG housing administration grant for the Senior Center housing complex and assisting in the preparation of Federal Home Loan Bank for rehabilitation needs for Senior Housing complex.
- **California.** Final edit and submittal of California Stormwater Management Plan. (February 15, 2009).

Regional Activities:

- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).** Planning document used to justify federal funding assistance for community and economic development in the region. Final edit before issuing draft document for review.
- **Annual Economic Development Seminar.** May 20. Boonville. Regional seminar focusing on heritage tourism development. Key-note speaker: Peter Jorgensen, Silos and Smokestacks Program in Iowa.
- **Regional Transportation Plan.** Completion of regional transportation planning document for the MidMo RPC region. Draft available June, 2009.

Callaway #2 Public Meeting

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will host a second meeting regarding a possible second nuclear unit at the Callaway Plant site from 1 to 4 pm and from 6 to 9 pm on Thursday, Feb. 18 with open houses sched-

uled from noon to 1 pm and 5 to 6 pm. The meetings will be held in Champ Auditorium at Westminster College, 501 Westminster Avenue, in Fulton. To reach Champ Auditorium, turn left onto 7th Street in front of the Winston Churchill

Memorial and follow 7th Street past the Berlin Wall Art Sculpture.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kenny Kunze
Chairman
Presiding Commissioner
Moniteau County

Gabe Craighead
Vice-Chairman
Commissioner
Callaway County

Debby Lancaster
Secretary/RHSOC Chair
Mayor of Huntsdale

Pat Cunningham
Treasurer
City Clerk/Administrator
New Franklin

Steve Rasmussen
Budget Chairman
City Administrator
City of Jefferson
Cole County

Les Hudson
Personnel Chair
Director Planning
And Protective Services
City of Fulton

Eddie Brickner
TAC Chair
Presiding Commissioner
Copper County

Darrel King
EDAC Chair
County Assessor
At Large-Moniteau County

Marsha Broadus
At-Large-Howard County

Ron Brown
City of Tipton
Moniteau County

Lowell Eaton
Presiding Commissioner
Howard County

Steve Eidson
City Engineer
City of Fayette
Howard County

Marc Ellinger
Presiding Commissioner
Cole County

Norris Gerhart
Mayor of California
Moniteau County

Mike Kalaf
Mayor of Lohman
Cole County

Karen M. Miller
Commissioner
Boone County

Pamela Murray
Holts Summit
Callaway County

Bill Watkins
City Manager
City of Columbia
Boone County

Top Transportation Priorities for 2009

In January, the Missouri Department of Transportation issued a press release identifying the passage of primary safety belt legislation as its top priority for 2009. Currently, Missouri's safety belt law only allows secondary enforcement, meaning that drivers cannot be pulled over for failure to wear a safety belt. Violations can only be cited after drivers have been stopped for breaking another law.

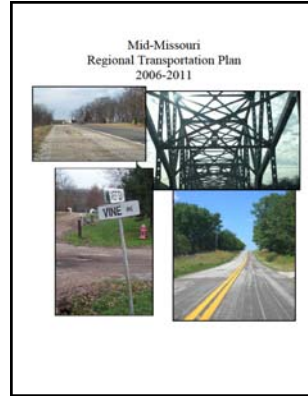


It is estimated that passage of primary safety belt legislation would substantially increase the proportion of Missourians who wear safety belts from 76% in 2008, save as many as 90 lives per year and prevent 1000 serious injuries. An amendment to the safety belt law would also provide no less than \$16 million from a federal incentive grant. This grant is only available through 2009.

MoDOT is partnering with the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety to advocate passage of primary safety belt legislation. A bill to amend Missouri's safety belt law and allow primary enforcement is expected in the legislature this session. More information is available at www.saveMOlives.com.

The Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission is in the process of updating its Transportation Project List for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Plan. The list is a comprehensive compilation of the Planning Commission's transportation initiatives, such as transit, rail, and state-system road and bridge projects. The Regional Transportation Plan is a component of the Planning Commission's role as a MoDOT Planning Partner and aids both parties in evaluating the region's transportation needs.

Copies of the current Transportation Project List were given to all in attendance



at the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and RPC meetings held Jan. 28, in Ashland. The RPC encourages all of its members to review the list to determine additional projects, projects already completed and/or corrections that need to be made. To request a copy of the Transportation List or for any questions, additions or corrections contact Conor Henley at (573) 657-9779 or conorhenley@mmpc.org.

Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC)

The Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC) met on January 20th 2009 at Cole County #4 Fire Station. In this meeting the 15 disciplines represented in the RHSOC viewed presentations given by eight of the Area F disciplines. A total of 13 presentations were given on this day.

On February 10th 2009, the RHSOC will meet again at Cole County #4 Fire Station for the final decision making process and will select projects from the approved proposals.

The Mid Missouri Regional Planning Commission will submit to SEMA the projects that the RHSOC has chosen for the Fiscal Year 2008 grant cycle. The deadline for the FY08 grant application submitted by the Mid Missouri Regional Planning Commission is due to SEMA by February 27, 2009.

Volunteer Sector	Continuation of: shelter development, volunteers and volunteer data base, county special needs task force, work with counties on pet sheltering, shelters willing to be hard wired for generators, provide community disaster education	\$65,000
Volunteer Sector	Disaster training and education	\$13,000
HRST	Two XD-2i portable explosive detectors and one Ahura First Defender handheld Raman Spectrometer	\$77,000
Emergency Management Agencies	Portable Generators throughout region F	\$325,000
Health Department	Functional exercise to test points of distribution / mass prophylaxis	\$38,000
Health Department	Prime mover for Public Health Trailer: 1/2 ton, 4x4 extended cab pick-up-truck	\$18,439
Police Agencies	Robotic platform for chemical/radiological detection and flash resistant uniform	\$167,360
Fire Agencies	Training and Exercise for Region F Incident Support Teams	\$45,000
County Government	Continuation of narrow band base radios repeaters and accessories	\$310,000
Agriculture	13 power washers for decontamination	\$16,897.92
County Government	Survey of radio controlled outdoor sirens placement	\$30,000
Fire Agencies	Continue update of radios for P-25 compliance	\$100,000

Area F Trailers Dispatched to Southeastern Missouri For Winter Storm Disaster Relief Missouri Receives an Emergency Declaration for the January 26-29 2009 Winter Storm

On February 2nd President Barack Obama approved Governor Jay Nixon's request for an emergency declaration for the January 26-29, winter storm that left 117,050 homes and business in southeast and southern Missouri without power. The emergency declaration allows federal assets and resources to assist the State of Missouri's emergency response. In addition to this federal and state response, the Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC) assets have also been

deployed to the southeast storm damaged areas.

Seven Region F RHSOC counties sent trailers with supplies purchased through Homeland Security FY06 Grant funds. The assists in disaster response included hundreds of cots, special needs cots, oversized cots, blankets, pillows, and trailers to assist in sheltering residents in winter storm damaged areas in Southeast Missouri. At the peak of the disaster response, 55 shelters were opened, sheltering 10,772 people in Southeast

Missouri. The Counties involved in this mass response were: Osage County sent to New Madrid Counties, Cole County sent to Ripley and Butler Counties, Camden, Cooper and Morgan Counties sent to Stoddard County, Audrain and Callaway Counties sent to Scott County.

The sheltering supplies received in the city of Baxter, Stoddard County also afforded storm victims a hot meal. This disaster relief effort assisted many of the residents with much need food items in a time of emergency.



Missouri Department of Conservation presents . . . DISTINGUISHING YOUR COMMUNITY BY ITS NATURAL RESOURCES

February 10, 2009 • 1:00-4:30 • Conservation Employees Credit Union
2901 W. Truman Blvd. • Jefferson City, Missouri

Missouri communities have seen consistent growth in the last decade, especially in the more rural regions. Our vast natural resources are key elements that have helped attract developers and companies looking to locate or expand their businesses to the state. The Missouri Department of Conservation would like to join local governments in the development process to assist in distinguishing our communities by showcasing our natural assets. Forging a strong partnership through a collaborative

planning process will ensure the economic vitality of our communities and the preservation of our natural resources. This half-day training session will provide valuable information to help local and regional government officials understand the linkages between successful development and the preservation of natural resources. The workshop will also demonstrate and highlight natural resources-based Geographical Information Systems (GIS) applications that can be used

to benefit communities. The Missouri Department of Conservation's forestry staff is equipped to assist in the planning process, helping communities value their natural resources and capitalize on their benefits.

The following speakers and topics are on the agenda for this presentation:

Making the Case for Trees in Public Policy and Development Management - Doug Hermes

Case Study- Columbia's Natural Resource Inventory- Mark Duewell, MSDIS Program Manager and Wenbo Song, MSDIS Technician

Distinguishing Your Community by Its Natural Resources - Patti Banks

Engaging Department of Conservation Expert Resources - Justine Gartner & Steve Westin, MDC

If you would like to attend, please contact Lee Ann Jestis, 573-657-9779 or leeannjestis@mmpc.org.

2nd Annual Mid-Mo RPC Economic Development Seminar

On May 20, 2009, the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission will be holding its 2nd annual economic development seminar at Turner Hall in Boonville, Missouri. This year's focus will be on Heritage Tourism. The scheduled speaker will be Peter Jorgensen from the Silos and Smokestacks Program in Northeast Iowa. In addition, there will be a discussion of an economic study that was completed; the study positively reflects the cost benefits of this program in Northeast Iowa. The discussion will turn to the mid-Missouri region and how this region can develop and promote heritage tourism as an economic development tool.

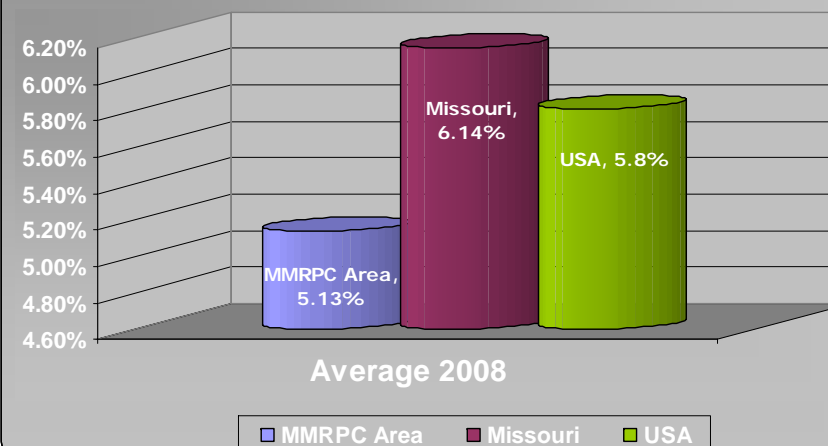
National Heritage Areas are formed through the membership of businesses and organizations in established NHA boundaries. The Silos and Smokestacks Program is comprised of 37 counties and includes 20,000 square miles and focuses on agri-tourism as it pertains to the history and culture of the area. The mid-Missouri region is currently exploring the use of economic development tools such as the Regional Cuisines Program and agri-tourism to promote tourism in the region. Both of these aspects of rural culture and production fit into the scope and outreach of heritage tourism.

There are currently 40 National Heritage Areas in the nation, "National Heritage

Areas expand on traditional approaches to conservation by supporting large-scale, community centered initiatives that engage citizens in the preservation and planning process. Committed to protecting and promoting the cultural, historical and natural assets of a region, National Heritage Areas play a vital role in maintaining both the physical character and cultural legacy of the United States." Currently, within Missouri's boundaries, there are 12 counties in western Missouri that are part of the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area.

For more information contact Colleen Vollman colleenvollman@mmpc.org or Lee Ann Jestis at leeannjestis@mmpc.org, or phone (573) 657-9779.

Average Unemployment Rate 2008



The average annual unemployment rate for 2008 shows the Mid Missouri region as having a more stable employment base than that of the state and of the nation. The average annual unemployment rate for the Mid-Missouri region was (5.13 percent) for 2008, which is lower than the state of Missouri (6.14 percent) and of the USA (5.8 percent).

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the national rate rose from 6.8 to 7.2 percent for the month of December 2008, and that the state of Missouri had also risen from 6.8 to 7.3 percent. The Mid Missouri Regional Planning Commission which includes Boone, Callaway, Cole, Cooper, Howard and Moniteau counties had a much lower rate 5.07 that rose to 5.13 percent in December.