

## **CVPD Now has Certified Grant Administrators**

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) has recently published its list of certified Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Administrators. As of March 2022, the IEDA requires all Iowa communities receiving CDBG funding to work with a Certified Grant Administrator in management of the CDBG awards.

Becoming a Certified Grant Administrator (CGA) requires attending IEDA training sessions, proving competency through a certification exam, and illustrating an in-depth knowledge of state and federal funding requirements and regulations. A CGA is responsible for assisting local governments with CDBG-related funding management including submittal of documents and policies for release of funds, environmental reviews, labor standards compliance, procurement, Section 3 compliance, Fair Housing requirements, reporting, reimbursements, project monitoring, income verification, and project close-out. Certification is valid for three years, may require supplemental training on new topics, rules, or policies, and requires all certified administrators to remain in good standing.

CVPD Executive Director, Nichole Moore, and Julie Pribyl, Program Support Specialist have both obtained the certification to assist communities in managing essential CDBG funding dollars.

### **New Website— [www.cvpdcog.com](http://www.cvpdcog.com)**

Chariton Valley Planning & Development Recently developed a new website. Please visit [www.cvpdcog.com](http://www.cvpdcog.com) to find exciting news and projects going on in our 4 county council of governments region or in our 7 county transportation region.

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## **Railroad Merger Affects**



Canadian Pacific (CP) and Kansas City Southern (KCS) Railway's merger in December 2021 has the capability to reshape the railroad industry. Canadian Pacific railroad has more than 12,000 miles of track in the US and Mexico that stretches coast to coast and includes a rail line north out of Kansas City. Kansas City Southern has track that goes south from KC to the Gulf ports in Mississippi, Louisiana and both coasts of Mexico. The two railroad companies meet in just one place, the KCS Joint Agency Yard in Kansas City's East Bottoms. This merger creates the first transnational railway system by providing a connection from the wheat fields and oil fields in Canada to the ports in the Gulf of Mexico.

The combined companies' projects foresee spending more than \$250 million dollars on track improvements to accommodate increased traffic and potential passenger rail opportunities. There are some rail traffic projections estimate predicting an increase of approximately 65% by 2025 in portions of the U.S. Although it is uncertain how much increase the CP line could experience in the Chariton Valley Transportation Region in Iowa, there is great potential. Local entities that are impacted by Canadian Pacific rail traffic include Appanoose, Monroe, and Wayne Counties. Specific communities that have CP railroad tracks in their city limits are Seymour, Jerome, Mystic, Rathbun and Moravia. All impacted jurisdictions will want to be attuned to developments and ensure safety is accommodated at all railroad approaches, crossings, bridges, and overpasses. CVTPA will work to provide up-to-date information to the region as details become available. The official Federal decision is anticipated in early 2023.

[An iconic railroad is merging with one in Canada — and that could be good news for Kansas City | KCUR 89.3 - NPR in Kansas City. Local news, entertainment and podcasts.](#)



## **5-2-1-0 Funds used to Promote Lifestyles for Healthy Kids – Centerville Lakeview Elementary School**

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) chose Centerville to receive funding for the 5-2-1-0 – Healthy Choices Count Program. CVPD serves as administrator of funds in the region, providing strategic planning assistance to community 5-2-1-0 committees, program guidance, and fiduciary oversight. The “5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count!” initiative, brings evidence-based strategies for healthy living into communities, schools, early care and out-of-school programs, health care practices and workplaces. These efforts are designed to reach children and adults where they live, learn, work and play. This three-year grant will involve community partners to help establish opportunities to improve healthy living.



This year the one community partner selected was the Centerville Lakeview Elementary School. The school recently received four new water bottle filling stations in the gymnasium through 5-2-1-0 grant funds. Water bottle filling stations are an excellent way to encourage children to develop healthy drinking habits to be well hydrated from a safe drinking source. Appanoose County’s childhood obesity rate is higher than both the State of Iowa and the national average (17%). Having the water filling stations available provides a free way for students to avoid consuming sugary drinks from a vending machine. The physical education class at Lakeview Elementary School also received new jump ropes. The students were excited to replace old, breaking ropes and eagerly participated in jumping competitions.

Curious Kids childcare has been implementing 5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices for approximately 12 months. The center has worked to include education and promotion of healthy eating habits for the young children in their care. The childcare center was eager to participate in the grant program to expand to a wholistic approach to include more physical activity options for the children. The center received outdoor equipment and educational learning stations.

The 5-2-1-0 advisory committee will continue to meet and explore other possibilities that expand the “healthy choices count” philosophy into community programs and events. CVPD will work with year 2 funding for Centerville—”Let’s Get Healthy” projects.

More information about the program can be found at [www.iowahealthieststate.com](http://www.iowahealthieststate.com).

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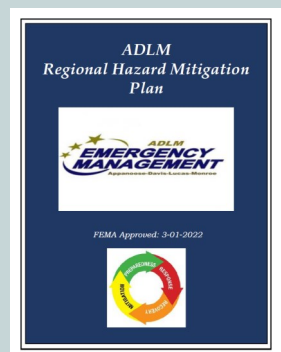
## **ADLM Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved!**

Hazard Mitigation Plans are critical documents that assist jurisdictions in avoiding or minimizing the effects of disasters and are also a requirement for post-disaster recovery funds.

Iowa Homeland Security recently awarded federal grant funding to assist with the five-year update of the FEMA approved Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans. CVPD Council of Governments collaborated with ADLM Emergency Management to complete a regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Appanoose, Davis, Lucas, and Monroe Counties. The 700+ page document receive approval from Iowa Homeland Security and FEMA (March 2022) upon first submission.

Wayne County also received grant funds to assist with the preparation of the Wayne County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This document was developed during the FY22 and is currently being evaluated by Iowa Homeland Security and FEMA.

The new plans require each community and the county pass a formal resolution to approve/adopt the plan. Upon the jurisdiction acceptance and Federal approval, the participating cities and counties will then become eligible for grant funding to accomplish the outlined goals and strategies. Complete documents can be viewed at the CVPD office or your local Emergency Management office. They may also be found on the CVPD website: [www.cvpdcog.com](http://www.cvpdcog.com).



# **First CVPD Region Homes for Iowa House Ordered!!!**

## PROJECTS BY COUNTY

**CVPD Council of Governments is excited to announce the first order of a HFI structure to be placed in Chariton! The deliver is anticipated for late in the 2022 or early 2023 calendar year.**

Homes for Iowa, Inc. (HFI) is a nonprofit organization aiming to increase the supply of affordable housing in rural areas. In partnership with Iowa Prison Industries, houses are being constructed at a Housing Production Center at the Newton Correctional Facility which allows inmates to learn trade skills such as plumbing, electrical work, and carpentry. Iowa Councils of Government manage the sale of the homes in coordination with HFI and other community partners. Chariton Valley Planning & Development Council of Governments is the local facilitator for HFI inquiries/applications.



Homes are purchased directly from HFI and delivered to the designated site for \$95,000 for a 3 bedroom and now \$76,000 for a 2 Bedroom. Eligible buyers can earn up to 100% of the statewide median income to qualify for the program. Developers/Homeowners are responsible for the lot acquisition, site preparation, foundation, utility hook-ups, concrete work, and

any additions (such as a garage). Call CVPD today to get your information and order started!

## **Passenger Transportation Planning Meetings**

CVPD provides administration for Iowa Department of Transportation to RPA 17. The counties include Appanoose, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe, Wayne Counties, the City of Albia and the City of Centerville (regional cities over 5,000 population). One critical component in the administration is ensuring quality public transit services are provided to residents of rural counties.



CVPD partners with two public transit agencies who provide service to this region, 10-15 Transit and Southern Iowa Trolley. Our agency facilitates public meetings to gather input on how to improve services or resolve potential conflicts. These meetings were an opportunity for residents and service providers to get more information about securing a ride, access, potential partnerships to increase service, frustrations with current system, and to clear up any misconceptions that people may have.

These meetings have produced exciting opportunities to improve services. 10-15 Transit recently developed a partnership with local Veteran's Affairs offices to establish a FREE trips to the nearest V.A. hospitals/clinics to ensure proper care is provided to the veterans. SIT also identified the need for better coordination with local V.A. offices and will be working to develop a partnership. The RPA and TAG committee members are also working to identify potential partners to sponsor blocks of time that would allow residents to ride for free and sustain healthier lifestyles by getting groceries, medications, attending appointments, etc.



### **Appanoose County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers; Davis Bacon monitoring Centerville water project; Public informational meetings for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long Range Planning; Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings, document and approval. Moravia Sewer Project Monitoring, Centerville housing assessment award & contract. Centerville Trolley scheduling, 5-2-1-0 projects.

### **Lucas County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers, Public informational meetings for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Planning. Passenger Transit Mtgs, County Transportation Brochures distributed, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings, document, & approval; City of Chariton Employee Manual approval, HFI housing application & site inspections

### **Monroe County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers, and beginning Public informational meeting for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Planning. Passenger Transit Mtgs, County Transportation Brochures distributed, Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan approval, Albia Zoning Code Update, Albia Ordinance Code Update, Albia Housing Assessment award & contract,

### **Wayne County**

Ongoing transportation administration to county, county engineers, & transit providers; Public informational meeting for Transit Planning, Regional Trails & Long-Range Passenger Transit Mtgs, Planning. County Transportation Brochures distributed, Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings, document drafting & submittal, supportive services for housing development, HFI housing site inspection & meetings, Corydon waste water wage monitoring

For current information visit **CVPD** on Facebook or [www.cvpdcog.com](http://www.cvpdcog.com)

## **Albia & Centerville Awarded Housing Assessment Grant**

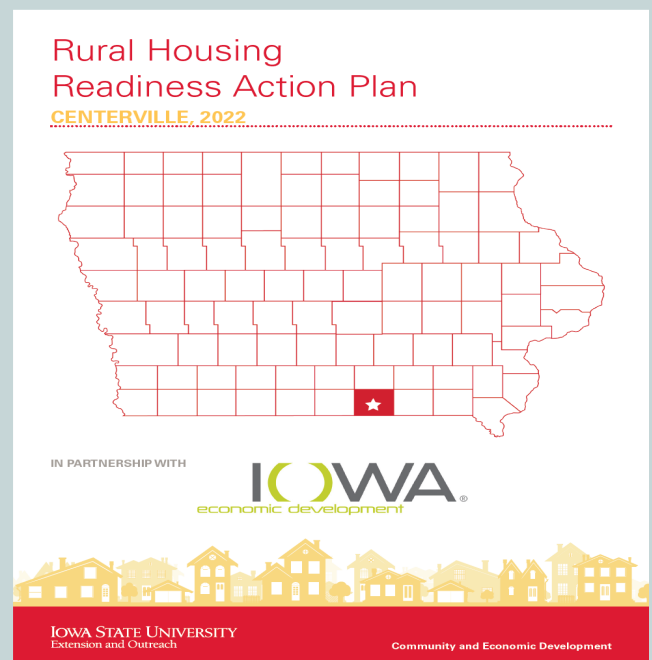
CVPD Council of Governments applied for grant funds for the City of Centerville and the City of Albia. Both have been awarded a “Rural Housing Assessment” grant through Iowa Economic Development Authority. Albia and Centerville have been working with CVPD and Iowa State University Extension & Outreach to implement the grant.

Iowa’s “Rural Housing Assessment Grant” works to empower communities to assess their current development environment and enact changes resulting in the creation of policies and procedures that are attractive to potential developers. A Housing Needs Assessment involves an evaluation of demographic data, economic characteristics and trends, current housing inventory and characteristics, government policies and incentives, and the adequacy and availability of selected community services, and collecting the input of area stakeholders and residents. The hard data collected will supplement data gathered locally can be used to implement changes in development codes, local ordinances, and housing incentives specific to community needs.

Those who can benefit from a Housing Needs Assessment are broad. Typically, a Housing Needs Assessment is used by local governments to identify housing issues and solutions. It can also be used to make strategic decisions related to the housing market and is often used as a basis for future housing and policy decisions and/or to secure financing for various housing programs and projects. Additionally, the assessment can be used by local entities (government, economic development, chamber of commerce, etc.) to attract and encourage residential development activity and investment. Such assessments can also be used by social services organizations to understand housing issues specific to their interests and allow them to focus on ways to meet the needs of certain special needs populations (e.g. homeless, disabled, etc.). These assessments are also used by private developers and non-profit entities to identify areas of development potential so that they can strategically develop the types of housing most needed in the community.

“This will be a beneficial tool for the city to use as they work to develop a comprehensive approach to improve Albia’s and Centerville’s housing stock” comments Nichole Moore, Director of Chariton Valley Planning & Development COG. “Housing continues to be a significant challenge throughout southern Iowa and the nation. These county seats have been diligently working to enforce strict ordinances that address or remove an abundance of dilapidated structures and many other organizations are implementing rehab or construction programs. This document will provide comprehensive guidance to keep all entities working in the same direction for greater impact” Moore continued. The City of Centerville has partnered for several years with Chariton Valley Regional Housing Trust fund and Indian Hills Community College Building Trades classes to construct one or two new homes for LMI residents to purchase. Several other private individuals or organizations have also committed to positively impacting the housing market of Centerville.

The City each provided \$5,000 that will be matched by \$5,000 grant funds for the development of this valuable document. For more information on this go to <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/communities/rural-housing-readiness-assessment>



## *Funding Options*

<b>Source/Program</b>	<b>Funding Uses</b>	<b>Eligible Applications</b>	<b>Usual Due Date</b>
Solid Waste Alternative Program	Emphasis for selected projects is placed on tonnage avoided or reduced, sustainability, & ability to replicate	Local governments, public & private groups	October 1, January 1, April 1 & July 1 Annually
Alliant Hometown Challenge Grants	Dollar-for-Dollar match to local fundraising for one-time safety related projects for local response teams	Local governments, private non-profits	Rolling Cycle
CDBG Water & Sewer Fund	Grants to assist cities & counties with sanitary sewer improvements, water system improvements, wastewater treatment improvements, storm water improvements & rural water connections.	Cities & Counties	October 1, January 1, April 1 & July 1 Annually
Monroe County Endowment Funds	Charitable projects within the county	Non-Profit organizations	Fall
Iowa Living Roadways Community Visioning Project	Planning & design resources to make meaningful transportation improvement to local landscape (including trails)	Cities with population of less than 10,000 and rural counties	September
Federal Recreational Trails	Development & maintenance of motorized & non-motorized recreational trails	Local governments & nonprofits	October
Statewide Transportation Enhancement	Enhancement transportation through trails, historic, archeological, scenic, or environmental projects	Local governments	October
Value-added Producer Grant	USDA funding for planning and working capital for value-added agricultural products	Independent producers, farmer & rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer group, business venture	October
Iowa Water Trails Program	Projects related to current and future water trails areas	Local governments	October
Advertising Grant Program	CITR- Advertisements for a local event that will attract tourism to region	Non-Profit organizations, county government, & private business in good standing with CITR	October
Heritage Tourism Grant Program	CITR- restoration, acquisition, labeling of Heritage Tourism Site	Non-Profit organizations, county government, & private business in good standing with CITR	October
Promotion Grant Program	CITR- design cost for websites, interactive marketing, etc. related to local tourism	Non-Profit organizations, county government, & private business in good standing with CITR	October
Print Grant Program	CITR- costs associated with design & production of printed promotional brochures for local tourism	Non-Profit organizations, county government, & private business in good standing with CITR	October
Destination Iowa	Investment in projects to bolster the quality of life in Iowa's communities & attract visitors	Non-Profit organizations, county governments, private business	October
Fish Habitat Program	Fish habitat development projects and related improvements to fisheries, land acquisition for such projects	County Conservation Boards	November
Solid Waste Management Grant Program	USDA funds to help with various waste projects including studies & implementation	Communities with less than 10,000 residents; rural counties	December
RPA 17 Transportation Alternative Program Grant	pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, and community improvements such as historic preservation, vegetation management	Entities & communities in Appanoose, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe & Wayne Counties	December 1 Annually
Pathfinders RC&D Revolving Loan Program	Creation, retention & expansion of small business and/or enterprise	Small business services of nature resource, value-added agriculture, facilities/services for low-income, under employed or elderly. Appanoose, Davis, & Monroe County	Ongoing

## ***CVPD MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS—CONTRACTED SERVICES***

- Provide administrative, management assistance, Technical Assistance, Project Development
- Prepare updates to model codes , Assist local governments in preparation or revision of local ordinances.
- Coordinate on new or updated comprehensive plans or other functional plans.
- Prepare local government brochures, fact sheets, or other promotional materials.
- If there is a service you need assistance with, just ask. We can provide outreach to consultants when needed.
- Transportation Planning
- Grant Administration ,Community Assessments , Grant/Funding Alerts , Community Profiles , Funding Searches
- Environmental Planning , Hazardous Mitigation Planning
- Personnel Policy Development & Updates
- Regional Planning Services – Zoning

Some services require additional contract billing for costs. (Contact Nichole with questions)

## ***FUNDING DOWNTOWN PROJECTS***

Many communities in the CVPD region are struggling to maintain the integrity of their historic downtown buildings. Below are potential funding opportunities that may assist with those projects:

**Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program**— assists with redevelopment, rehabilitation or deconstruction of buildings to stimulate economic growth and reinvestment in the community.

**Downtown Housing Grant**— assistance for projects supporting downtown revitalization through new & renovated housing options.

**Downtown Loan Guarantee Program**—encourages communities to reinvest & reopen stronger after COVID-19. The loan guarantee is for downtown revitalization projects.

**Downtown Revitalization Fund CDBG**— provides grants to communities for downtown façade improvements.

**Derelict Building Program**—Communities 5,000 & fewer can request financial assistance to address/rehabilitate neglected structures that have sat vacant for at least 6 months.

**Historic Preservation & Cultural and Entertainment District Tax Credit Program**— provides a state income tax credit for the sensitive, substantial rehabilitation of historic buildings.

**Nuisance Property & Abandon Building Remediation Loan Program**— Loan funds may be used for the demolition or remediation and reuse of residential, commercial or industrial structures.

**State Historic Preservation Office Grants**— Iowa State Historic Preservation Office provides a number of financial incentive opportunities to support building rehabilitation efforts.

**Workforce Housing Tax Credits**—Developers building, rehabilitating, or developing housing in downtown upper floor spaces in order to meet workforce housing needs may be eligible to receive certain state tax incentives.

## ***CVPD EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

<b><i>Larry Davis</i></b>	Lucas County Supervisor	Chairperson
<b><i>Mark McGill</i></b>	Appanoose County Supervisor	Vice Chairperson
<b><i>Joe Crall</i></b>	Private Sector	Treasurer
<b><i>Denny Amoss</i></b>	Monroe County Supervisor	Member
<b>6 <i>David Dotts</i></b>	Wayne County Supervisor	Member



# PASSENGER TRANSIT PLANNING CENTERVILLE HISTORIC TROLLEY



## LET HPC TROLLEY DO THE DRIVING!

Centerville's Historic Trolley service is provided by the Centerville Historic Preservation Corporation (HPC). The trolley provides services to Centerville & Appanoose County area. If you are looking for a unique way to travel book the trolley and enjoy! Narrated historic tours are available by appointment and tours can be customized to fit any group's needs. The trolley is frequently rented for weddings, events, and tour groups! The ADA accessible trolley is available year-round, and the bench seating accommodates 22 to 28 adults.

The valued volunteers of HPC along with CVPD work together on the historic transportation preservation trolley needs and scheduling. CVPD works on this as a cherished component of Chariton Valley Transportation Planning Affiliation planning efforts in the region. CVPD assists the corporation to ensure operation of the trolley for future uses.

If you looking for wedding, party or family gathering transportation—now is the time to book your dates. **Call or text Nichole at 641-895-8812** to get more information about rates and times.

Email at: [www.centervillehistorictrolley@gmail.com](mailto:www.centervillehistorictrolley@gmail.com)

## RPA 17 UPDATING TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DOCUMENTS

DOT's Regional Planning Affiliations are funded through FHWA and FTA sources, as well as local financial support. RPAs provide the Iowa DOT with the following required items.

- **Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)**—outlines the annual transportation planning activities each MPO/RPA will undertake during the next state fiscal year.
- **Public Participation Plan (PPP)**—outlines the process each MPO/RPA will follow to adequately involve the public in the their transportation planning activities.
- **Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**—provides direction and guidance for each MPO/RPA to make efficient transportation investment decisions over a 20-year planning horizon.
- **Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)**—promotes joint, coordinated passenger transportation planning programs and provides needs-based justification for passenger transportation projects.
- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**—identifies the capital and non-capital transportation projects proposed for federal-aid funding or action for each MPO/RPA over the next four-year period.

RPA 17 (CVPD) will be completing new PTP, PPP and LRTP over the next two years. Annual document completion include TPWP and TIP. **RPA 17 TAP applications for enhancement projects are due annually December 1.**

### FUN FACTS:

Iowa has no state insect, although there was a groundswell of support for the ladybug a few years back. The honeybee is the most popular choice among those states that have state insects; the ladybug is popular, too.

### State of Iowa Motto:

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain.

The motto **makes the clear statement that the liberties of the Iowa citizenry are very important and that they are willing to defend them.** Our Liberties We Prize and Our Rights We Will Maintain is also displayed on Iowa's flag.





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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CVPDCOG>



*We hope you enjoyed our newsletter. Look for more information on our Facebook page, website and our next newsletter edition. Have a Great Day and Stay Safe!*

*Nichole & Julie*