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R9 Public Participation Plan

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING IN THE REGION 9 AREA

In compliance with the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the Region 9 Transportation Planning Region has approved the following public participation plan to engage interested parties and resource agencies in the transportation planning process.

The transportation planning process takes place at local, regional, tribal, state, and federal levels. It is based on comprehensive, continuing, and coordinated activities that work together to identify, prioritize, and meet transportation needs at these various levels. Public participation in this process begins with finding what opportunities are available and expressing interest or concern.

Bi-State Regional Commission is the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) designated to cooperatively facilitate public participation in the Region 9 transportation planning process in rural Scott County and all of the Muscatine County are in Iowa in cooperation with the communities and counties, and state/federal departments of transportation, and among the various modes of transportation. The RPA is charged with carrying out regional transportation planning that provides early and ongoing opportunities for involvement, timely information, reasonable access to information, adequate notification, diverse participation, and periodic review and evaluation of the participation process. This public participation plan outlines the parameters for conducting these requirements.

Public Notices

All meeting announcements and agendas of the Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee and Policy Committee shall be sent to local news media and the Regional Transportation Advisory Group (RTAG) prior to the actual meeting date no less than **48 hours** in advance. It is common practice to send meeting announcements and agendas one week in advance of a meeting. Agendas of these Committees are posted at Bi-State Regional Commission offices and on the Bi-State Regional Commission website (www.bistateonline.org) while minutes are web-posted following approval by these Committees. In addition, proposed amendments to the annual Transportation Improvement Program shall be sent to the same local media and RTAG, as well as local jurisdictions within the Region 9 area, as part of the Technical and/or Policy Committee agenda. Other transportation-related advisory committees may be posted on this website to provide added transportation-related information, such as the Bi-State Regional Trails Committee and Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force meetings. Notice of public hearings will be published in local newspapers of general circulation and posted on the Bi-State Regional Commission website per the time period noted in "Public Hearings" of this plan.

Regional Transportation Advisory Group

The intent of the federal transportation legislation is to provide a special effort for an early and continuing public involvement process which seeks out and considers the transportation needs of a diverse public, including traditionally underserved populations (Executive Order 12898-Federal Action to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations, 1994), as well as providing an opportunity for consultation with resource agencies as defined in the current transportation act. The Regional Transportation Advisory Group (RTAG) will fulfill that role (see attachment). Involvement in the RTAG is open to any interested party, business, organization, or interested citizen within the Region 9 area wanting to be involved in the transportation planning process. RTAG serves as the diverse, multi-modal advisory group to the

Transportation Technical Committee. Input from RTAG members are taken and concerns expressed and relayed to the members of the Transportation Technical Committee. Members will receive all meeting notices, as noted in Public Notices above, for the Technical and Policy Committee meetings. In addition, members will receive proposed Transportation Improvement Program amendments, Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) submission notices and proposed changes to the Public Participation Plan, Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP), Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Plan or the Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Annual TIP Project Request Notifications

Individual jurisdictions, members of RTAG, and the media shall be informed as to when Region 9 is seeking projects for inclusion in the annual Transportation Improvement Program through an announcement requesting Transportation Improvement Program annual element additions, modifications or deletions for the proposed fiscal years, as part of an annual update cycle, typically thirty (30) days prior to a draft document review by the Technical Committee.

Public Comment/Notification

The general public shall be afforded the opportunity to provide comments via the Technical and Policy Committee meetings on the annual Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) activities, Transportation Improvement Program, Regional ITS Architecture Plan, Regional Transit Development Plan, Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and the Public Involvement Process (PPP) through the process outlined under “Public Notices” above. In the case of the Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the Public Participation Plan (PPP), and the prioritization process for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program, a minimum of a thirty (30) day comment period shall be provided prior to action by the Policy Committee. In matters involving adoption of or amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP), and Regional ITS Architecture Plan, a minimum seven (7) day comment period shall be utilized prior to approval by the Transportation Policy Committee. The prioritization process of both the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program will require a minimum thirty (30) day comment/notification period to be provided prior to action by the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee. In matters involving adoption or amendments to the Transportation Planning Work Program, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Transit Development Plan, and Regional ITS Architecture Plan, a minimum of 48 hours, but typically seven (7) day comment period shall be utilized prior to approval by the Transportation Policy Committee. Additional notice may be provided through meetings of the Transportation Technical committee in advance of action by the Policy Committee.

Publications

The RPA shall publish or otherwise make available for public review, at a minimum, the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in an electronically accessible format and means (to the maximum extent practicable), such as the World Wide Web. The LRTP and TIP publications developed by the RPA will be placed on the Bi-State Regional Commission website, www.bistateonline.org. Other transportation planning publications may be posted to allow for interested parties to review and access additional RPA transportation planning information. Within these publications, the RPA may employ visualization techniques to help clarify transportation planning issues and/or activities. At a minimum, visualization techniques shall be applied to the LRTP and TIP. Visualization techniques may include maps, graphs, charts, tables, diagrams, or other methods. The LRTP will include a specific public participation outline during the update process that will be reviewed by the Technical and Policy Committees, and the results will be documented in the LRTP.

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Public Hearings

Prior to approval of the final Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee shall hold a public hearing on all the projects being considered for approval in the TIP. The Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee shall hold public hearings, as deemed necessary, for TIP amendments and prior to the approval of the Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan. Fourteen (14) days prior notice will be given for all public hearings. No other documents noted will require a public hearing but shall afford public comment opportunities, as noted under “Public Comment.”

Data

As part of non-discrimination requirements, Bi-State Regional Commission will maintain information on protected class (race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations within the Region 9 Area, including demographics and identification of potential barriers (language, mobility, temporal, or other) that may prevent underserved persons from effectively participating in the metropolitan transportation planning process. This information is contained in the Bi-State Regional Commission Title VI Program and Non-Discrimination Policy.

Accommodation

Persons requiring special material or presentation formats will be asked within a public notice for advance request of at least one week prior to a public hearing prior to consideration of adoption or approval by the Policy Committee.. Reasonable accommodations to provide documents in an accessible format, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Executive Order 13166 (Improving Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, 2000), will be made when requested by the public. For meeting notices and agendas, requests at least one working day in advance of the meeting is requested for reasonable accommodation prior to consideration of adoption or approval. Persons requesting assistance will be referred to the appropriate Bi-State Regional Commission staff who will make reasonable accommodations for translation services or other accommodations based on the request. Meetings will be held at convenient and accessible locations and times with emphasis to engage minority, low-income, and LEP populations. Receipt of public input will be taken in a variety of formats – written, oral, or other means – where accommodations are requested and reasonable.

Approved Revisions March 22, 2019

RTAG (Rural and Combined Interest List)

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP (RTAG) – Region 9 Interest March 2026

ALTER LOGISTICS COMPANY	LUTHERAN HOMES
BENNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #0603	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES
BURLINGTON TRAILWAYS	MAX'S CAB COMPANY
CALAMUS/WHEATLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #0918	MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY
CENTER FOR AGING SERVICES INC	MILESTONES AREA AGENCY ON AGING
COLUMBUS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1368	MISSISSIPPI BEND AREA EDUCATION AGENCY
COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES
COMMUNITY ACTION OF EASTERN IOWA	MSA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INC
CONTINENTAL CEMENT	MUSCATINE AREA HERITAGE FOUNDATION
CROSSROADS	MUSCATINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVERSITY SERVICE CENTER OF IOWA	MUSCATINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #4581
DM&E RAILROAD	MUSCATINE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES
DURANT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1926	MUSCATINE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
EAST CENTRAL INTERGOV ASSOCIATION	MUSCO CONSERVATION BOARD
EAST CENTRAL IOWA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)
EASTERN IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	NORTH SCOTT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #4784
EICCD BUSINESS & INDUSTRY CENTER	RIVER ACTION INC
FAMILY RESOURCES INC	RIVER BEND TRANSIT
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) – IOWA & ILLINOIS	SALVATION ARMY
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION REGION VII	SCOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FLENKER LAND ARCHITECTURE CONSULTANTS	SCOTT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
GREATER MUSCATINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & DEVELOPMENT	SCOTT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HANDICAPPED DEVELOPMENT CENTER	SCOTT COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC
HR GREEN	SENIOR RESOURCES
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	SHIVE-HATTERY INC
IOWA EAST CENTRAL TRAIN	TRINITY MUSCATINE PUBLIC HEALTH
IOWA INTERSTATE RAILROAD LTS	UNITED WAY OF MUSCATINE
IOWA MOTOR TRUCK ASSOCIATION	VERA FRENCH HOUSING
KYLE DAY, LANE AND WATERMAN	WEST LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #3975

Public Involvement Status Summary

Public Involvement Outline (9/2023 – 3/2026)

2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9

There is an expectation the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) development will include opportunities for the public to be involved. Federal planning regulations require consultation with officials responsible for other types of planning activities that are affected by transportation in the area (including state and local planned growth, economic development, tourism, natural disaster risk reduction, environmental protection, airport operations, and freight movements) or to coordinate its planning process, to the maximum extent practicable, with such planning activities. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) are required by federal law to have a long-range transportation plan. In Iowa, this requirement has been extended all Regional Planning Affiliations (RPA) in the state. The required planning factors included in the federal requirements, as outlined in 23 USC 134, are as follows:

- (A) *Support the economic vitality of the United States, the States, nonmetropolitan areas, and metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;*
- (B) *Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;*
- (C) *Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;*
- (D) *Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight;*
- (E) *Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns*
- (F) *Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes throughout the State, for people and freight;*
- (G) *Promote efficient system management and operation;*
- (H) *Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system;*
- (I) *Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation; and*
- (J) *Enhance travel and tourism.*

The adopted Public Participation Plan for the Regional Planning Affiliation – RPA 9 outlines the acceptable methods and notification requirements for such outreach. The overall Public Participation Plan can be found here: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/other-plans/region-9-tpwp>. The LRTP public involvement outline further details clear, inclusive, and transparent opportunities for citizen conversations in the development of the *2050 Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan* (LRTP) The list may be revised to add or adapt to the changing involvement needs at the plan proceeds to completion.

The following outlines proposed opportunities for public involvement in the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan. Opportunities were expanded as possibilities unfolded. The proposed opportunities are followed by a summary of results of the public involvement as it unfolded and the levels of participation.

Transportation Consultation Contacts/Meetings–Resource Agencies: Either contact and/or hold meeting to discuss environmental inventories and land use issues as these relate to transportation planning and project development. Either contact and/or hold meeting with human services organizations to discuss mobility issues and coordination of transit and travel. **Spring 2024–Spring 2026.** *Resource Agencies: Contacted via e-mail 9 federal and state resource agencies on May 15, 2026, using Bi-State Region Conservation Directory, about accepting comments on the draft long-range plan document. Iowa State Historic Preservation Office*

replied and requested that language be added addressing National Historic Preservation Act and Section 106 compliance. *Human Services Organizations: Held transit summits as follows: 4/17/24, virtual, with 18 attendees; 9/30/25 2:00 p.m. at Muscatine Center for Social Action with 7 attendees.*

- Transportation Public Input Survey:** Update and send survey to Regional Transportation Advisory Group, Regional Transit Interest Group, metro area governments, and citizens at large to solicit input on transportation planning issues in the Quad Cities, Iowa-Illinois. **Spring 2025-Summer 2025.** Released initial survey 2/21/25 and closed 5/1/2025. 21 responses. Released second survey in partnership with Muscatine Public Health 6/9/25 closed 7/4/2025. 51 responses.
- Freight Interests Survey:** Update and send survey to freight transportation interests to identify transportation system strengths, weaknesses/threats and opportunities from a goods movement perspective. **Spring/Summer 2024.** Utilized input process from Bi-State Region Freight Plan Addendum including stakeholder survey and stakeholder interviews (2023). 9 engaged.
- Presentations to Transportation Technical Committee, Transportation Policy Committee, Bi-State Regional Trails Committee, and Bi-State Regional Commission:** Periodically scheduled between June 2024-March 2026

Transportation Policy Committee: 7/24/2024, 9/25/2024, 3/26/2025, 7/11/2025, 10/31/2025, 2/19/2026, 4/23/2026, 6/11/2026.

Transportation Technical Committee: 9/18/2024, 3/13/2025, 6/20/2025, 9/22/2025, 2/12/2026, 4/9/2026, 6/1/2026.

Muscatine County Trails Committee: 2/11/2026, 4/14/2026, 6/9/2026

Bi-State Regional Commission: 5/27/2026, 6/24/2026
- Bi-State Regional Commission (BSRC) website:** Update and modify Iowa Region 9 Area Long Range Transportation Planning page on www.bistateonline.org website. Post newsworthy notices on the home page as they are needed.

On-going. Posted to: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/lrtp-region-9>
- Draft Chapter Reviews:** Sent links to review initial draft chapters to the following groups: Transportation Technical Committee, Transportation Policy Committee, Bi-State Regional Trails Committee, Davenport Trails Committee. Full draft review sent to media, RTAG and RTIG interest groups with media release and posting to website. Draft chapters were posted on or before April 2, 2026.
- Bi-State Regional Commission telephone:** Serve direct inquiries by Bi-State Regional Commission staff via telephone (309)793-6300 from interested parties. **On-going**
- Media Outreach:** Develop media releases for milestone activities, provide meeting notices, provide interviews and information, and submit public notices. **Periodically scheduled between February 2025-May 2026.** Media release 2/21/25 for survey. Media release 5/1 for notice of public input meeting. Media release 5/28 for notice of public hearing.
- Populations Under Represented in Other Outreach:** Provide targeted opportunities to discuss initial results of the plan update to solicit input and help refine transportation improvements that serve low-income, minority, and limited English proficiency (LEP) citizens. Surveys were distributed to organizations

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providing services to these populations. Examples include the Salvation Army, Muscatine Center for Social Action, and United Way Muscatine. **June 2025** *Physical surveys distributed 6/9/2025, collected 6/29/25.*

- **Presenting the Plan—Public Informational Meetings:** Hold informational meetings on full draft plan update. **May 2026**
 - One virtual public input meeting held 5/14/26. *No attendees from public.*
 - Transportation Policy Committee Public Hearing, 6/11/26 10:00 a.m. Posted public notice on Bi-State website May 27, 2026, posted in the *Muscatine Journal* and *Quad City Times* on 6/2/26.
- **Consideration of Adoption:** Present plan update to Bi-State Regional Commission for consideration of adoption. **June 2026.** *Present recommendation for approval 6/24/26.*

Other consultation opportunities between agencies and/or information from other projects, plans, and input include:

- **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Traffic Safety Action Plan:** The study will develop a comprehensive traffic safety action plan that will prioritize safety improvements. **March 2024 - May 2025.**
 - Focus Group Virtual Meetings. 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 11/14/2024 and 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. 11/20/2024.
 - Interactive Map.
 - **Traffic Safety Summit.** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 1/29/2025, Moline Public Library.
 - Virtual **Public Input Meeting.** 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., 4/30/2025.

Other plans to be consulted will include park and recreation plans, comprehensive plans, strategic goal-setting sessions, and safe routes to schools plans.

In accordance with Federal Law and policy, Bi-State Regional Commission is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Persons requiring language or physical accommodations Bi-State Regional Commission hosted meetings should notify Bi-State staff at least 72-hours in advance of the meeting date, allowing time to address reasonable accommodation at the meeting. Please call (309)793-6300 for any language, accessibility, or other type of accommodation requests. (Las personas que requieran adaptaciones físicas o de lenguaje en la reunión deben notificar al personal de Bi-State con al menos 72 horas de anticipación a la fecha de la reunión, dándole tiempo para abordar las adaptaciones razonables en la reunión. Llame al (309)793-6300 para cualquier idioma, accesibilidad u otro tipo de solicitudes de alojamiento.)

R9 LRTP Citizen Survey Results

Online Survey Outreach and Respondent Profile

In early 2025, Bi-State Regional Commission distributed two surveys to receive public input regarding transportation in Region 9. The first survey, created by Bi-State, asked respondents to answer a series of questions identifying demographic information as well as their experiences with transportation – including roadways, cycling, and public transit – in the region. Distribution of this survey included emailing the survey link to elected officials in Muscatine and Scott Counties, RPA Technical and Policy Committees, Muscatine Trails Committee, United Way of Muscatine, and Muscatine Chamber of Commerce. The second survey was originally created by Muscatine Public Health, to which two questions, one asking respondents to identify their top three transportation issues in the region and one asking respondents to identify their top three desired transportation improvements, were added. This survey was distributed digitally via Muscatine Public Health’s Facebook page, and paper copies were distributed to local organizations including the Salvation Army, Muscatine Center for Social Action, Trinity Muscatine, Robert Young Center, and Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Iowa. The initial survey had 37 responses, while the second survey had 51 responses.

Demographic Information

In the initial Bi-State survey, respondents were asked to identify their race, sex, ZIP code, and household income. Of the 19 respondents that identified their sex, 16 identified as female while 3 identified as male. All of the respondents who identified their race were white. The vast majority of respondents were from Muscatine (zip code 52761) with 18 responses. Fruitland (52749), Durant (52747), and Letts (52754) located in Louisa County on the border with Muscatine County) had one respondent each. In the second survey, all responses came from the city of Muscatine.

The most common household income range of respondents was between \$100,000 and \$150,000, with 40% of the responses. Over half of respondents reported having an income over \$75,000, while only 4 reported having a household income below \$75,000. Income information was not surveyed in the second survey.

Survey Results Summary

Q.1 Before this survey have you heard of Region 9?

Respondents were asked if they were aware of Region 9 before taking this survey. The majority of which answered “no.”

Q.2 What three things would you like to see improved for transportation in Muscatine County or rural Scott County in the next ten years?

Questions 2 and 3 were included in both surveys. A listing of the responses is at the end of this summary and categorized by transportation mode.

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Stand out comments:

- Larger network of bicycle and walking trails
- Extended public transit hours
- Decrease cost of public transit
- Better paved roads and sidewalks
- More rides on demand
- Passenger rail
- Public transportation between metro areas
- Free transportation for Medicaid and SNAP recipients

Specific locations for suggested improvements:

- Widen right of way and straighten curves on Highway 6 from West Liberty to Scott Church corner in Johnson County
- Replace Iowa 92 bridge
- Improve public transportation to QC Airport

Regarding public transit, many respondents expressed a desire for hours to be extended into the evening and weekends for second and third shift workers, as well as expanding the transit network to increase access to places of employment and adding connections to metropolitan areas like the Quad Cities and Iowa City. There was also an expressed need for increasing access for the disabled, elderly, and minors by improving ADA access on buses, offering more rides on demand, providing free transit for those under 18, and providing free transit for recipients of Medicaid and SNAP.

Non-motorized transportation comments stated interest in expanding the bike network to connect with the Quad Cities and greater rural area. They also stated interest in building trails specifically for transportation, rather than recreation, allowing them to travel to work and run errands via trail.

Comments were received regarding the physical road network and specifically about resurfacing needs in the region. The comments also indicated that respondents would like to see more visible paint markings on roads and better lighting at intersections. Other comments on roads suggested building more roundabouts and converting 4 lane highways to 3.

Q.3. What do you think are the three biggest transportation issues in Muscatine County or rural Scott County?

The word cloud below highlights the most common responses. A full list of the responses is at the end of this summary and categorized by transportation mode.

Stand out comments:

- Cost
- Hours of operation
- Lack of transportation in rural areas
- Not enough access
- This is still an area where everyone really needs their own car

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Movement: Provide for the efficient, reliable movement of people and goods by coordinating management and operations.

Land Use: Develop a transportation system that considers existing and future land uses, and encourages desired development patterns.

Balance: Balances all modes of transportation, protects and enhances the environment, and supports both the rural and urban economic vitality and tourism.

Safety/Security: Enforce and enhance programs designed to ensure the safe, secure operations and utilization of all transportation facilities/systems.

Accessibility & Mobility: Coordinate, develop, and maintain an accessible transportation system that promotes mobility for a variety of citizens and visitors, particularly those with special needs, such as the elderly, disabled, and low-income persons.

Modes: Increase connectivity, accessibility, and mobility options to encourage the multi-modal aspects of the system, such as bicycle/pedestrian, transit, air, and rail facilities and their integration.

Preservation: Emphasize the preservation of the existing system and preserve corridors for planned improvements whenever feasible.

The results can be seen in the graph below. Of the seven, respondents ranked “Modes” as the most important goal.

Q.5 How do you rate each of the following Region 9 transportation services or issues?

86% of respondents rated ease of travel by car as “Good” or “Very Good,” 23% rated ease of travel by bus as “Good” or “Very Good,” 18% rated ease of travel by bicycle as “Good” or “Very Good,” and 23% rated ease of travel by walking as “Good” or “Very Good.” 40% of respondents indicated that the region’s schools had good bike and pedestrian accessibility, compared to 9.5% who said the same about services such as grocery stores and banks. 50% of respondents rated both the condition of streets and sidewalks in the region as either “Bad” or “Very Bad”.

Q.6 In the past twelve months, how many times have you done each of the following things in Muscatine County or rural Scott County? (Please check one option for each activity)

Of the 16 respondents to this question, the activity that the most respondents indicated they had done at least once in the last year was “Used an area bicycle trail.” 62.5% of respondents reporting they had used one at least once within the past twelve months. This was the only activity in the survey that at least half of the respondents reported taking part in at least once over the past twelve months.

Q7. How do you travel to work most frequently?

A majority of respondents, 82% reported that they drive alone.

Q8. How long is the average travel time for your weekday commute?

Over half of respondents (54%) have a commute under 10 minutes and near 80% have a commute time under 20 minutes. 9% reported that they either don't work, work from home, or are retired.

Q9. How would you rate the general condition of the streets used on your average commuting day?

Responses were mixed regarding the condition of streets in the region. 31% rated the condition as either "Good" or "Excellent," 36% rated the condition as either "Poor" or "Very Poor" and 27% rated the condition as "Fair."

Q10. Invest more funds in maintaining the existing roadway system rather than constructing new roads.

71% of respondents indicated that they "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" that road maintenance should be prioritized over new road construction

Q11. Encourage alternative modes of travel, such as public transit, bicycling, and walking.

90% of respondents supported encouraging alternative modes of travel such as bicycling, public transit, and walking.

Q12. Invest in increasing capacity by adding lanes, new roads or new road connections.

An equal number of respondents supported or opposed investing increasing roadway capacity, while 50% of respondents neither supported or opposed doing so.

Q13. Add sidewalks along streets where none exist.

There was strong support among the respondents for adding sidewalks along streets where none exist with 86% answering "Strongly Agree" or "Agree". No respondents indicated that they were opposed.

Q14. Provide designated on-street bicycle lanes. (signed, striped, etc.)

57% of respondents indicated support for providing designated on-street bicycle lanes. 29% of respondents selected "Neither Agree nor Disagree," and 14% indicated that they opposed on-street bike lanes.

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Q15. Add electronic enforcement systems at intersections to stop red light running and improve intersection safety.

Q16. Add speed detection systems to encourage compliance with the speed limits.

While opinions were mixed, to somewhat supportive regarding electronic enforcement at intersections (42% agreed or strongly agreed that such systems should be added, 29% disagreed or strongly disagreed, and 29% neither agreed nor disagreed), the majority of respondents (75%) were opposed to speed detection systems such as speed cameras.

Q17. Invest in more resilient transportation infrastructure to lessen damage and delay due to natural hazards and/or extreme weather.

Q18. Support a wholistic approach to reducing fatal and serious injury traffic crashes.

Q19. Address street and sidewalk accessibility for all types of users.

There was high support for each of the last three statements, as no respondents indicated that they disagreed or strongly disagreed.

3 Things to Improve Table

Access	Network	Fiscal	Physical	Paratransit/ADA	Other	Ball
Evening hours (for teens) by Muscabus	Muscatine Rural Bus Route	cost decreased	Better roads	More rides on demand	More people using public transportation	I would love to be able to see passenger rail in our communities
transportation available 24/7	Larger network of bicycle and walking trails	Cost	I would like to see Hwy 6 from west of West Liberty to the Scott Church corner in Johnson county improved. Widened right of way, ditches to catch snow, straighten curves and just a safer road. This is only about 5 miles and carries a lot of traffic and needs to be a much safer highway.	More handicap parking	Bus transport to/from QC airport	Train service to Chicago and st louis
Extended public transit hours	More connecting bike paths	Free transportation for Medicaid and SNAP recipients (Grant funded?)	More roads get resurfaced	Bilingual drivers	More communication and consistency of bus routes	
access to public transportation in general	More use of our city busses	financial assistance for car repairs shuttle services for large companies in town at shift beg/end grants for single parents with young children to purchase decent vehicles	Safety on rural highways - seems like there's lots of crashes	more access to special needs	Partnerships with Social Service Providers	
Evening hours for public transportation	More trail connectivity in and between communities	Options to help single parents with getting food from food pantries.	Widen shoulders on rural roads.	better food pantry	Longer runways to accommodate refrigerated planes in Muscatine. #seafood	
Second and third shift worker transportation	pedestrian connectivity - bicycle, foot	Cheaper transportation for shuttle bus	Resurfacing roads that last	Ways to earn bus passes (Keeping a job for a year, community service, donating, or helping others in the shelter)	The bus route is different, better for workers	
Walkability - some areas in Muscatine don't have sidewalks, sometimes difficult to access services by foot or bike	More routes for public transportation	free pass for seniors	Better paved roads and sidewalks	More Accessible	More routes, more places to go	
24 hour bus transport	public transit schedules/routes match employee needs	People just wanting rides for free	More bridges get replaced	Better access for single parents with multiple kids and no childcare (some of kids are not receiving state Access2Care MCO transport)	More Route	
More rural transportation for small town elderly	Public transportation between metro areas? Musc to IC or QC?	, better jobs	Better markings (lines painted) on all highways	more help with family stuff	I would like to see is more routes stops in muscatine,iowa	
transportation available for people who live outside city limits	transit to outlying communities	Cost decline, need modes of free transit, community cooperation	More roundabouts and 4 to 3 lane conversions			
hours of operation increased	More rides to rural areas	Low cost transportation options other than the bus.	Buses go electric!			
hours of operations starting earlier and stopping later	Routes available in the evening (at least until 10pm)		infrastructure alternative fuels			
7 day a week public transit	The time of being open and running extended		Road safety be improved			
Free access to public transportation for minors	rides to places		Better lighting at intersections			
Greater accessibility of mass transit between communities	transportation					
	bus system					
	More transportation					
	More public transportation					
	I think it would help people who need the transportation that needs to get a ride to and from both places					
	More Times					
	More bus hours					
	Access to individual rides after hours/ or organizations able to arrange after hours rides					
	Access to rural					
	Same don't run on weekends, it would help if they did					
	Earlier start times and more stops					
	Service needs to run later in evening					
	Evening routes and sundays					
	The bus run 24/7					
	Muscabus staff has been really great to us by giving us free bus passes to hand out to clients. They are really understanding and willing to work with us too!					
	Overall, I would like to see more bus running and maybe longer hours.					

3 Biggest Issues Table

Access	Network	Fiscal	Physical/Safety	Logistics	Other	Rail
people who need a ride outside of bus hours	Walkability in towns	cost	Unsafe road sharing with bikes and cars.	people who live out in the country	People not utilizing the public transportation we have	improvement and enlargement of freight rail service for our communities
time availability	Need for more options for non motorized transport	Cost	Improvement and maintenance of existing streets/roads/trails.	Lack of information on routes/bus stops/cost/maps	People having cars and not being able to afford gas and repairs	No train service to Muscatine
hours of operation	Disconnected bike paths	Funding	Improved signage for seniors especially in town at Heinz	Lack of consumer knowledge of services/routes	No airport service	
hours of operations	lack of trail connections	Cost is the main issue	Road maintenance	complicated ticket process for onetime usage	this is still an area where everyone really needs their own car	
limited times	no evening transportation routes	ability to pay	Poorly paved roads and sidewalks	Options for families with children trying to coordinate and get food from food pantries. Sometimes the stops are far and they can't manage their children and carrying to food as well.	Abuse of it	
access to public transportation in general	Improvement and enlargement of the Mississippi River lock system.	gas money	Most roads have narrow shoulders rural areas	mom is great	route conditions	
Not enough access	Improved lane and road striping that also has reflectors in paint to help at night.	more help	Safety		No taxes	
Lack of transportation in rural areas	inefficient motor routes	gas prices	Congestion at Hwy 61 Bypass and Hwy 38		People have difficulty finding transportation for their court dates.	
Limited bus service	late night employment transportation (bus) clients report that night shuttles are "full" unaffordable car repairs before/after school transportation to daycares	Not earning passes	Safe routes to schools			
Limited transit routes/hours	short stops	cost	Distracted driving			
access to public transportation for minors, outside of school transportation	no enough transport	cost of fuel	Bad lighting at intersections on HWY 61 hard to read signs			
limited days	no rides	Cost of gas	Overtaking roads is terrible! Use concrete.			
Public access to health care in metro areas.	bus system	affordability	inefficient 4 way stops with turning lanes			
Difficulty navigate at times	not enough buses and drivers		Maintaining current infra structure			
need a bus that regularly goes to Scott County/the QC	stop a mess		Ignoring traffic laws and signs			
Public transportation lack of utilization & awareness	not enough bus		120th St in Muscatine county a traffic jam needs blink ing solar stop signs.			
lack of transportation in rural areas	Service don't run late in the evening					
route times especially evening and night in all areas and for shift workers in rural Muscatine county	not enough transportation					
access to rural	not having enough routes and not enough buses					
Times Accessibility Signage at Bus stops with times How about an app? availability	no car, no cabs or longer bus hours					
If the same people don't want to run on the weekend after you set it up						
times they stop						
more disability accessibility						
Bus don't go to certain places						
available						
routes						
not telling the locations or telling the places						
limited modes of transportation						
No area to get picked up/dropped						
Access						

Public Input Media Releases



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

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Zach Sutton

(309) 793-6300, Ext. 1127

zsutton@bistateonline.org

2050 Iowa Region 9 Long-Range Transportation Plan Public Survey & Input Opportunities

(Rock Island, February 21, 2025) — Transportation connects neighbors, businesses, and our community services. It gets us to where we want and need to go. A reliable and efficient transportation network supports a dynamic, connected, and viable region. Regional transportation priorities are reviewed and updated every five years in the Iowa Region 9 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the area covering all of Muscatine County and Scott County, excluding the Iowa Quad Cities (see map at the end of the release). The plan looks at regional economic and population changes, condition of Region 9 transportation assets, and mobility trends that may impact future use of the transportation system. These insights and identification of needs within Region 9 allow communities to plan for future growth and the best transportation to support it.

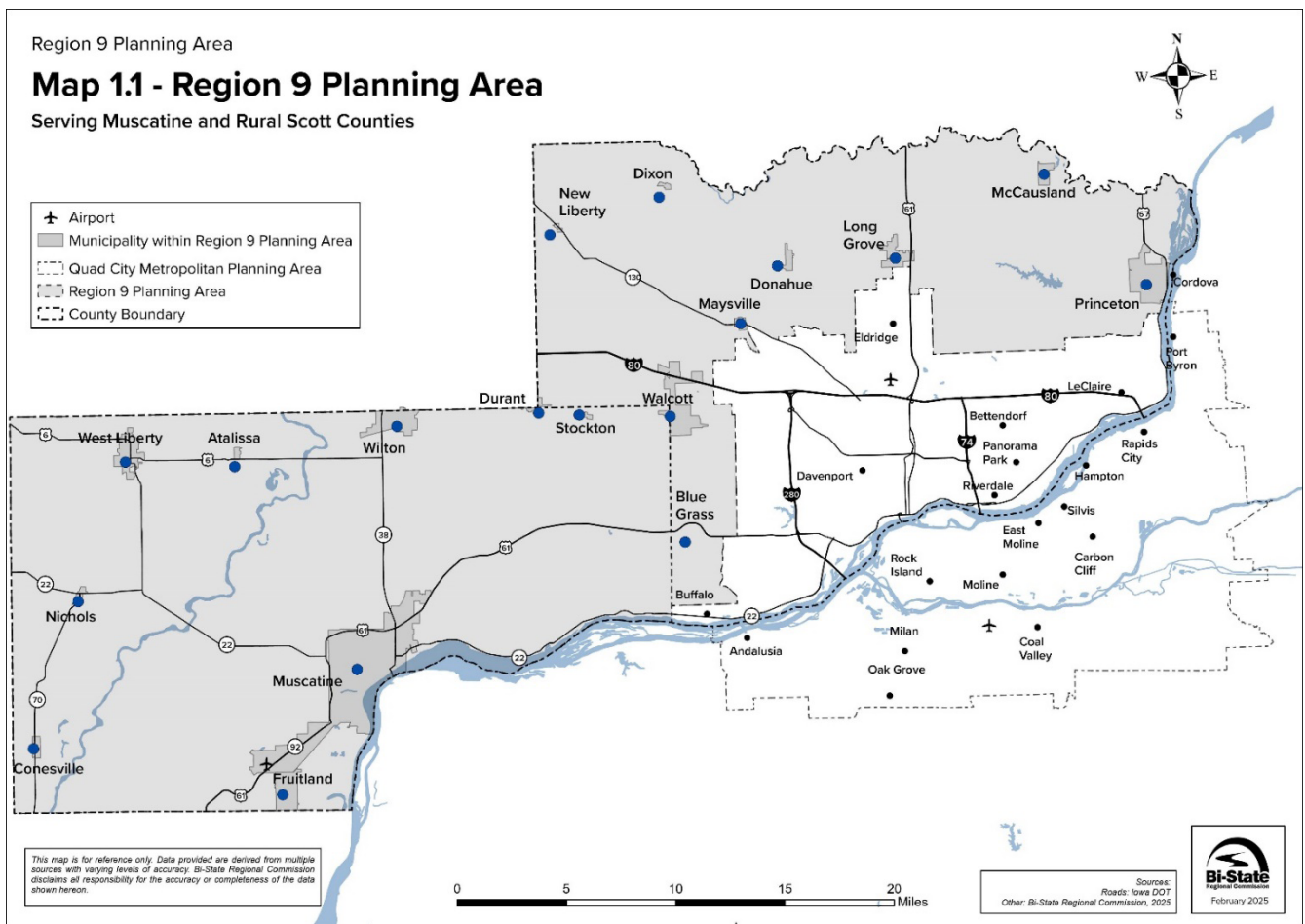
Imagine transportation in 2050. Will planning bring desired changes to our roads, bridges, bus routes, trails, sidewalks, and freight system? Are residents looking to enjoy new travel options, like passenger rail connections and more bus services for daily commutes? With nearly 1,500 miles of roadways to maintain, residents in Region 9 also may think about how cities and the counties can do this safely and effectively. Looking ahead, it's essential to consider whether the Region 9 economy will continue to focus on logistics, food production, manufacturing, and healthcare. How will our roads, bridges and other transportation assets help move people and goods? Together, public involvement can contribute to a better transportation system that benefits Region 9 for years to come!

Appendix A

The Bi-State Regional Commission is excited to invite public input through a public information survey. Go to the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PJRYCY2> to give your transportation feedback on what is working and what is not. The survey will be open through May 1, 2025. This and future public input opportunities will help shape the future of the Iowa Region 9 transportation system and economy.

In the next year, Bi-State staff will work with local officials to prepare a full draft Long Range Transportation Plan document by early 2026. The plan will include transportation goals, existing and proposed transportation systems, and other infrastructure/development recommendations. Additional public input is planned prior to the adoption of the plan in early 2026. To review the existing *2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan for Region 9*, visit <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/lrtp-region-9>.

For more information or comments on these planning efforts, contact Bi-State Regional Commission at (309)793-6300.



** END **



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FOR RELEASE MAY 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Zach Sutton

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zsutton@bistateonline.org

2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9 **Public Review & Input Opportunities**

(Rock Island, May 1, 2026) — Transportation is how we connect with neighbors, businesses, and our community. It gets us to where we want and need to go. A reliable and efficient transportation network supports a dynamic, connected, and flourishing region. Every five years, regional transportation priorities for Iowa Regional Planning Area 9 (Muscatine County and rural Scott County) are established in the Iowa Region 9 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The plan examines regional economic and population changes, as well as other trends, to provide insights into the needs within our Iowa region and allow communities to plan for future development and economic activity.

The Bi-State Regional Commission is excited to announce that the full draft of the *2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9* is available for public review. Over the next month, residents of Muscatine and Scott Counties are encouraged to provide feedback on the plan. There will be an online meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2026 where residents can join Bi-State staff and give feedback on the draft plan. Further details are below:

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, May 14, 2026	4:00- 5:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86573116905?pwd=nFaszlUbZ73tVgKFLiK9SwBfYd1je9.1 Click or copy the link above, or call: 309-205-3325 Meeting ID: 548 007 2574 Passcode: 869245

Appendix A

Additionally, you can provide feedback online, particularly if you are not able to attend the online session. Go to this link <https://arcg.is/1WTG8a4> to provide comments through June 1, 2026. The completed draft plan is available at <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/lrtp-region-9>

The 2050 Iowa Region 9 Long Range Transportation Plan will be considered for recommended adoption at a public hearing during the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee to be held in early June. The Bi-State Regional Commission will consider adoption of the plan on June 24, 2026.

To review the existing *2045 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9*, visit <http://www.bistateonline.org/>.

For more information or comments on these planning efforts, contact Bi-State Regional Commission at (309)793-6300.

* * END * *



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

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Zach Sutton

(309) 793-6300, Ext. 1127

zsutton@bistateonline.org

**Public Hearing for 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9 (LRTP) and
Transportation Improvement Program Iowa Region 9 FFY2027-2030 (TIP)**

A public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Scott County Secondary Roads Building, 950 Blackhawk Trail Rd, Eldridge, IA. Its purpose is to receive comments on the *2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9 (LRTP)* and the *Transportation Improvement Program Iowa Region 9 FFY2027-2030 (TIP)*, which includes Muscatine County and rural Scott County. Comments will be accepted through June 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. A full copy of the LRTP can be found at: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/lrtp-region-9>, and a full copy of the TIP can be found at: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/tip-and-funding-projects-region-9>.

The Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee meeting agenda will be posted one week prior to the public hearing on the same website noted above. Public interested in participating can either refer to Bi-State website calendar or contact Zach Sutton by the day prior to the meeting. Contact Zach Sutton at zsutton@bistateonline.org or (309) 793-6300, Ext. 1127 for questions or information. Persons requiring special material or presentation format should contact Mr. Sutton on or before June 3, 2024.

* * END * *

Resource Agencies Consultation Memo



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

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MEMORANDUM

To: Resource Agencies in Iowa Region 9

From: Zach Sutton, Planner
Bi-State Regional Commission

Date: May 15, 2026

RE: Review of 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9

Bi-State Regional Commission invites you to review and comment on the draft **2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9**. Draft chapters are available on the Bi-State Regional Commission website at: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/lrtp-region-9>.

As resource agencies serving Muscatine County and rural Scott County, your insight is vital to shaping a comprehensive long range plan. Your expertise in environmental stewardship, cultural and historic preservation, and natural resource management helps ensure the final document reflects a balanced, well-informed approach to regional transportation planning. We understand that there may be mitigation measures needed, which are highlighted in Chapter 6. Chapter 2 outlines our road projects where you may have comments related to your area of expertise that will help to limit fatal flaws as we move projects from concept to programming and finally to construction.

Transportation connects neighbors, businesses, and entire communities. It enables people to reach the places they want and need to go, and it supports a dynamic, resilient, and flourishing region. Every five years, the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) establishes regional priorities by examining economic and population trends, evaluating system performance, and identifying emerging needs. These insights help communities plan for future growth and ensure that transportation investments align with long-term regional goals.

Looking ahead to 2050, Iowa Region 9 has the opportunity to shape a transportation system that enhances mobility across roads, bridges, transit routes, trails, sidewalks, and freight corridors. Future improvements may include expanded travel options, such as passenger rail connections and more robust, well-used transit services. With nearly 1,500 lane miles of roadway and ten total bridges over the Mississippi, Cedar, and Wapsipinicon rivers to maintain, the region must balance system preservation with strategic expansion. As we consider how our economy may evolve, whether continuing to emphasize logistics, food production, manufacturing, and healthcare or shifting toward new sectors, planning today will help ensure a sustainable, adaptable transportation network for decades to come.

For more information or comments on these planning efforts, contact Bi-State Regional Commission at (309) 793-6300.

ZS/sdg
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Iowa Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee June 11, 2026 Minutes with Public Hearing

To be inserted

BSRC June 24, 2026 Minutes

To be inserted

2050 Long Range Transportation Public Input Summary and Response

Date Received	Last Name	Jurisdiction, Organization, or Place of Residence	Summary Comment and Response (Response in Blue)
4/21/2026	Halm	Iowa DOT	<p>Ask for specific call out of road and bridge projects in environmentally sensitive areas. Table of project in potentially environmentally sensitive areas added in Chapter 6 (Table 6.1)</p> <p>Include list of resource agencies consulted in creation of the plan. List included in Item 3 of Appendix A (Public Involvement Status Summary)</p>
4/23/2026			
6/10/2026	Scott	Iowa State Historic Preservation Office	<p>No mention of National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Section 106 compliance in the document. Added language discussing NHPA and Section 106 compliance to Chapter 6 under “Historic and Cultural Resources”</p>
6/10/2026	Survey	Survey Respondent	<p>On Hershey St. In Muscatine(right on city limits?), a bike trail ends abruptly. Just before a culvert. Trail should be extended to Lutheran Living drive, a short distance away.</p> <p>The aforementioned stretch of trail is part of the proposed ADT extension from Muscatine to the Hoover Nature Trail along County Rd G28. See Map 5.1 and Table 5.4</p>

