



THE REVIEW

CALENDAR

The Region XII Council of Governments Newsletter

June 2026

June

- 10 - **RPA TAC**
10:00 AM, COG Board Room
- 17 - **RDC Loan Review Comm.**
11:30 AM, COG Training Room
Mid Iowa Dev. Fund
3:00 PM, Virtual
- 18 - **Executive Board Meeting**
12:30 PM, COG Training Room

July

- 3 - Independence Day Observed;
Office Closed
- 8 - **RPA TAC**
10:00 AM, COG Board Room
RDC Loan Review Comm.
11:30 AM, COG Training Room
- 9 - **Executive Board Meeting**
5:00 PM, COG Training Room
Policy Council
6:00 PM, COG Training Room

August

- 12 - **RDC Loan Review Comm.**
11:30 AM, COG Training Room
- 13 - **Executive Board Meeting**
12:30 PM, COG Training Room

EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Muir, Chair
Greene Co. Supervisor

Ranell Drake, Vice Chair
Sac Co. Supervisor

Stephanie Hausman, Treasurer
Carroll Co. Supervisor

Steve Smith, Secretary
Guthrie Co. Supervisor

Don Mosinski
Audubon Co. Supervisor

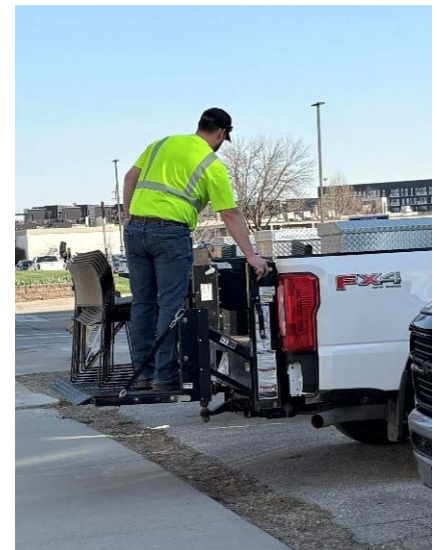
Dave Muhlbauer
Crawford Co. Supervisor

Iowa Waste Exchange Assists COG Associate Member

The Iowa Waste Exchange, a program of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources administered by the Region XII Council of Governments, recently partnered with the City of Des Moines to coordinate the reuse of high-quality furnishings and equipment from the former City Hall and Armory facilities. Through this initiative, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and community partners were provided the opportunity to obtain reusable office furniture, storage equipment, tables, chairs, and related items that still held significant functional value.

The project helped reduce disposal, hauling, and moving expenses for the City of Des Moines while extending the useful life of materials that may have otherwise entered the waste stream. The effort also generated meaningful cost savings for participating organizations by reducing or eliminating the need to purchase new furnishings.

One participating organization was the City of Dallas Center, an associate member of Region XII Council of Governments, which will transition into a new City Hall facility later this summer. By obtaining reusable furnishings and equipment through the Iowa Waste Exchange, City Administrator John Cook and city staff were able to secure quality items for the new facility while significantly reducing costs associated with furnishing the building. The project demonstrates how material reuse partnerships can support both fiscal responsibility and waste diversion goals for Iowa communities.



Homes for Iowa Update

Homes for Iowa (HFI) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that has been working to train offenders, reduce recidivism (reincarceration), and benefit Iowans since 2019.



As Homes for Iowa grows and expands, new updates and opportunities are on the horizon. HFI orders placed before July 1 will lock in current pricing. The HFI board reviews pricing each June, and in past years there has typically been a modest increase. Securing pricing now can help provide greater certainty for your project budgeting. By submitting an order in the coming weeks will help secure a place in the 2026 production schedule. A typical build timeline is approximately six months. This timeline is less about year-end delivery and more about ensuring alignment with a project's broader timeline and planning.

HFI continues to see an increase in activity. Looking ahead, the HFI building site expansion will be complete this summer. This expansion will nearly double capacity and positions the HFI program to meet growing housing demand across the State. Currently, HFI is able to construct 24 homes at one time, and that will increase to 45 with the expansion.

The Homes for Iowa program has a broad impact, with nearly 700 trainees having come through the program and 159 homes delivered since 2020. For more information on Homes for Iowa, please visit www.homesforia.com.

City of Manilla Benefits from 5-2-1-0 Funds

The City of Manilla has been the recipient of 5-2-1-0 Healthy Living grant funds for the past three years. These funds have helped further physical activity and reduce screen time throughout the community.

In year one, the city was awarded funds to complete a planning process, which evaluated the city's assets and weaknesses to allow those to be built on with implementation funds in years two and three.

Implementation funds from the two years were utilized to benefit the community, businesses, and organizations within the community. The City of Manilla utilized funds to purchase and install new playground equipment in Schram Park. The Manilla Public Library purchased flexible seating and tables for children to use. The Manilla Little League's fence was constructed utilizing a portion of grant funds. Little Hawks Childcare Center was able to purchase a number of items to keep the children off screens, and more physically active including, a BEAM projector, board games, and sun shades for the outdoor playground.



Western Iowa Transit Quarter 3 Stats

25,603 rides
148,871 revenue miles

2026 Region XII Partnership Program

The COG's Partnership Program is an opportunity for private, non-government businesses and organizations to become a part of the COG's mission to provide various needed services to the region's cities and counties. Partners listed below. For more information, contact Rick Hunsaker at rhunsaker@region12cog.org. This list contains all partners as of May 22, 2026.

PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP - \$2,000

GOLD MEMBERSHIP - \$1,000

The Andersons Marathon Holdings LLC, Denison
Commercial Savings Bank, Carroll
Home State Bank, Jefferson

SILVER MEMBERSHIP - \$500

Bank Iowa, Denison
Bruner, Bruner, Reinhart & Morton, LLP, Carroll
Central Iowa Surveying, Jefferson
Crawford County Trust & Savings Bank, Denison
Dakota Business Finance, Sioux Falls
Greene County Medical Center, Jefferson
Guthrie County REC, Guthrie Center
Holmes-Murphy & Associates, West Des Moines
Iowa Corn Processors, Glidden
Mid-Iowa Insurance & Real Estate, Carroll
Midland Power Cooperative, Boone
New Way, Scranton
Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative, Glidden
United Bank of Iowa, Carroll

BRONZE MEMBERSHIP - \$250

Audubon County Memorial Hospital & Clinics, Audubon
Badding Construction, Carroll
Breda Telephone Corporation dba Western Iowa Networks, Carroll
Carroll County Growth Partnership, Carroll
Community State Bank, Paton
Coon Rapids Municipal Utilities, Coon Rapids
Core-Mark Midcontinent dba Farner-Bocken, Carroll
Corn Belt Telephone, Wall Lake
Denison Municipal Utilities, Denison
Drees Company, Carroll
Farmers State Bank, Lake View
Farmers State Bank, Yale
Feld Fire, Carroll
First State Bank, Lake View
Game One, Carroll
Guthrie County Hospital, Guthrie Center
Iowa Trust, Panora
JEO Consulting Group, Carroll
Manning Regional Healthcare Center, Manning
Marne Elk Horn Communications, Elk Horn
Panora Telecommunications, Panora
Principal Financial/Matt Ramaekers, Carroll
St. Anthony Regional Hospital, Carroll
Snyder & Associates, Atlantic
Templeton Savings Bank, Templeton
Veenstra & Kimm, West Des Moines
Wall Lake Lumber Company, Wall Lake

Upcoming Grants

| Funding Program | Purpose | Deadline | Eligible Applicants |
|---|--|--|---|
| State Recreation Trails Fund (Iowa DOT) | Acquisition, construction or improvement of recreational trails | July 1, 2026 | Local governments, non-profit organizations |
| Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) | Emphasis for selected projects is placed on tonnage avoided or reduced, sustainability and ability to replicate. | July 1, 2026 January 1, 2027 | Local governments, public or private groups |
| Warren H. Timmerman Charitable Trust | Funding for projects in Carroll County | July 8, 2026 | Local governments, non-profit organizations in Carroll County |
| Gilbert and Barbara Renze Charitable Foundation | Funding for projects Carroll and Sac Counties | July 8, 2026 | Local governments, non-profit organizations in Carroll and Sac Counties |
| Resource Enhancement and Protection (Iowa DNR) City Parks and Open Spaces | City parks and open space; county conservation, including land acquisition, facility repair and upgrades, and equipment; and private/public open space acquisition | August 15, 2026 | Local governments and County Conservation Boards |
| Resource Enhancement and Protection (Iowa DNR) County Conservation | Funding is available to counties for land easements or acquisition, capital improvements, stabilization and protection of resources, and environmental education, etc. | August 15, 2026 | County Conservation Boards |
| CDBG Community Facilities Fund | This annual competitive program offers grants to assist communities for a variety of projects including day care facilities, senior centers, vocational workshops and other community service facilities. | August 17, 2026 | Cities and Counties |
| CDBG Commercial Facades | This program assists communities with impactful downtown exterior improvement projects that eliminate slum and blight conditions. Project buildings must be located within a downtown target area. | August 17, 2026 | Cities |
| CDBG Upper Story Housing Program | Maximum grant amount is \$250,000.00 and applicants must have successfully completed a Commercial Facades project to be eligible. | August 17, 2026 | Cities |
| Iowa West Foundation | Grants focused on four core outcomes: Belonging, Financial Stability, Opportunity and Well-Being. Grants can be provided in one of four categories: Program Grants, Operating Grants, Capital Grants, and Launch Grants. | September 15, 2026 January 15, 2027 May 15, 2027 | Local governments and non-profit organizations in Audubon, Carroll and Crawford Counties. |
| CDBG Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Fund | Grants to assist cities and counties with sanitary sewer system improvements, water system improvements, water and wastewater treatment facilities, storm sewer projects related to sanitary sewer system improvements, rural water connections, and stormwater conveyances to mitigate flood risks. | September 1, 2026 May 1, 2027 | Cities and Counties |
| IDNR Food Storage Capacity Grant | The competitive grant opportunity helps efforts to expand storage and cold storage of donated food. | Open | Food banks, food pantries, and other non-profit organizations. |

Recently Awarded Grants

| Funding Program | Recipient | Amount | Project |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Carroll Community Foundation | City of Dedham | \$5,000 | Swing set and park benches |
| Carroll Community Foundation | Maple River Area Park | \$3,000 | Swing set and park benches |
| Carroll Community Foundation | City of Arcadia | \$12,000 | Park Improvements |
| Audubon County Community Foundation | Brayton Community Club | \$10,862 | City Hall Updates |
| Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant | Audubon County Sheriff's Department | \$18,000 | License Plate Readers |

Additional grants are available through private foundations and ongoing programs. If you are looking for funding for a specific project, please contact Chris Whitaker, cwhitaker@region12cog.org or 712-775-7811, for assistance in locating funding opportunities.

STAFF

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WESTERN IOWA TRANSIT

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