

Minutes of the
REGION 9
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Serving Rural Scott County and all of Muscatine County

Thursday, June 11, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Scott County Secondary Roads
950 Blackhawk Trail Road, Eldridge, IA
Mike Limberg, Chair

Technical Committee Members Present

Michael Limberg (Virtual)	Mayor of City of Love Grove
Ross Paustian	Scott County Board of Supervisors
Scott Sauer	River Bend Transit Board

Others Present

Gena McCullough	Bi-State Regional Commission
Jerry Mohr	Public
Zach Sutton	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. Public Hearing on the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9 (LRTP) and on the Transportation Improvement Program Iowa Region 9 FFY 2027-2030 (TIP). Mr. Paustian opened the public hearing at 10:02 a.m., by consensus, for comments on the LRTP and the TIP. Mr. Sutton first presented on the LRTP, explaining why Region 9 has a long-range plan and what all goes into it. He highlighted the future roadway and trail projects in the plan as well as the public input solicited and received. While there was no feedback from the public on the draft document, both the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office had commented. The Iowa DOT indicated that they would like to see projects in environmentally sensitive areas called out in the document, and the IA SHP office wished to see mention of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Section 106 compliance. To address the DOT's comments, a table was added to Chapter 6 calling out four projects that, due to their overlap with wetlands, are potentially in environmentally sensitive areas. To address the SHP's comments, language will be added to Chapter 6 discussing the NHPA and Section 106. Mr. Sutton highlighted the public meeting that was held on May 14, which no public attended; public hearing notices that had been published on the Bi-State website and in the *Quad City Times* and *Muscatine Journal* in advance of the meeting. He concluded the presentation on the LRTP by noting that, following a recommendation for approval by the Policy Committee, the plan would then be taken to the June 24 meeting of the Bi-State Regional Commission who would be voting on the final approval of the plan. There were no public comments on the LRTP.

Mr. Sutton then presented on the draft of the FFY 2027-2030 Region 9 TIP document. The presentation included a brief overview of what a TIP document is, as well as the process of creating and amending the TIP. The presentation also included a table of the projects in the TIP for the next fiscal year (FFY 2027) with a cost greater than \$1 million. Following the presentation, Mr. Paustian motioned to close the public hearing. Mayor Limberg seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to close the hearing.

2. Approval of Minutes of the April 23, 2026 Region 9 Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Paustian asked for a motion to approve the Transportation Policy Committee minutes from the April 23, 2026 meeting. Mr. Sauer motioned, Mr. Paustian seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.
3. Consideration of Revisions to the Public Participation Plan. Ms. McCullough informed the group of a substantive proposed revision to the Region 9 Public Participation Plan, by which the advanced notice required for the public to request reasonable accommodation for a meeting would be changed from 24 hours to 72 hours. She noted other minor edits in the wording as it appeared in the appendix of the TIP for their reference. Mr. Sauer moved to approve the revisions to the Region 9 Public Participation Plan as presented. Mr. Paustian seconded the motion, and the revisions were approved unanimously.
4. Consideration of Approval of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan for Iowa Region 9. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Sauer motioned to recommend approval of the Iowa Region 9 2050 LRTP to the Bi-State Regional Commission, pending the addition of language regarding Section 106 compliance as presented in the public hearing, and add materials related to public involvement in the appendix. Mr. Paustian seconded the motion, and the committee voted unanimously to recommend the plan for approval to the Bi-State Regional Commission.
5. Consideration of Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program Iowa Region 9 FFY 2027-2030. Mr. Sutton noted that a series of corrections had been made to the document from the original draft. These revisions included showing Ms. Sherli Childers as River Bend's representative to the TTC, updates to Tables 2 and 6 – as well as the FFY 2027 annual element – to include the \$48,000 in STBG funds programmed for pavement data collection. He also noted that the funding numbers for project MC-28-02 had been revised, and a map key had been included for Map 2 in the document. Mr. Sauer initially motioned to approve the TIP, which Mr. Paustian seconded. However, after Mr. Sutton indicated that feedback on the document from the Iowa DOT had not yet been received, Mr. Sauer amended his motion to approve the TIP pending any non-substantive changes made to the document based on feedback from the DOT. Policy Committee members concurred with the amendment to the motion, and unanimously agreed to approve the TIP as presented. Any substantive changes if recommended by the DOT would be brought back to the Policy Committee as amendments to the document for consideration at a subsequent meeting.
6. Consideration of Approval of the Bi-State Region Transit Development Plan (TDP). Mr. Sutton provided an overview of the TDP and discussed what it is. He explained the plan provides information and guidance on future passenger transportation mobility options and human services coordination. The TDP is adopted by committees from three planning areas (Urbanized IL/IA, IL Region 2, and IA Region 9). The plan's goals include convenience, investment, affordability, land use, geographic coverage, and safety. Mr. Sutton then discussed the results of four surveys that were distributed in the spring, one each for human service agencies, transportation providers, existing riders, and the community at large. Survey respondents indicated a need for medical trips both within and outside of the county, a need for public transportation to work and other meetings, and a need for trips to social services. Many of the transportation providers also indicated that federal and state regulations cause a barrier when it comes to the coordination of transportation. Mr. Sutton then reviewed a series of maps related to the Transit Accessibility Analysis. The goal of the Transit Accessibility Analysis is to find areas and populations that are and are not served by existing transit options. The analysis used the variables of population, population density, diversity index, household median income, households below the poverty level, households with zero vehicles, and the population of 16+ who take transit to work to identify census block groups where the need for transit

is the highest in the city of Muscatine. These areas were predominantly concentrated in downtown Muscatine, but southwest Muscatine also showed a potentially high need for transit. Three other maps were shown: a service area gap analysis, average bus frequency by 5-minute walkshed, and access to residential and commercial land uses by transit. Some barriers that are discussed in the TDP include availability of funding, frequency, medical trips, shelters and access points, disconnections between destinations, and non-standard work hours. Mr. Sutton concluded the presentation and indicated that the document can be found on the Bi-State website. Mr. Sauer motioned to approve the 2026 TDP, and Mayor Limberg seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the TDP.

7. Public Comments. Mr. Mohr remarked that it was interesting how many funds the region dealt with, and that it would be interesting to see how the region addressed inflation concerns and a potential federal gas tax suspension going forward.
8. Other Business. Ms. McCullough informed the members that Iowa State Recreational Trails grant applications are due July 1, while Federal Recreational Trails applications are due October 1. REAP (Resource Enhancement and Protection) applications would be due August 14. She noted that a Scott County meeting regarding REAP would take place this summer, but she had not yet seen a date for the meeting. She then told the group that there would be a call for STBG and TAP projects this summer following the adoption of the LRTP by the Bi-State Regional Commission in June. Mayor Limberg expressed his appreciation for the work that Bi-State did to complete the LRTP, TIP, and TDP documents.
9. Adjournment. Mayor Limberg motioned to adjourn, Mr. Sauer seconded, and the meeting adjourned unanimously at 11:04 a.m.