

Newsletter

South Eastern Council of Governments, Dakota BUSINESS Finance,
and South Eastern Development Foundation

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Patrick Andrews Joins SECOG Staff.....	2
SECOG Communities Awarded TAP Grants	2
Sioux Falls MPO Year End Report.....	2
Drive to Help Recruitment Bonus.....	3
Recent DENR Funding in Region.....	3
Menlo Heights Townhome for Sale	4
Upcoming Project Deadlines	4
SEDF Offers Governor's Houses in SF	4
DBF & SEDF Approved Loans	5
SECOG Calendar.....	9

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Director's Corner



Workforce development continues to be a huge issue for SECOG's region. The unemployment rate for Sioux Falls MSA in February was 2.3%. That compares to a rate of 2.7% statewide and 5% nationally. For years, this region relied on increasing its population by having people relocate from the rural areas of the state to this region. However, it is now at the point where literally thousands of jobs are open in this region and there simply are not the bodies to fill those positions or the people that are available to take the positions lack the skill-set and training to be able to fill those positions.

There are many components to this dilemma. The State of South Dakota is actively working to try and find people from other states to relocate here and the results have been slow to materialize. Another way to address workforce is through training. I was recently asked to serve on the University Center Advisory Council which is in the process of revising its structure and offerings to better serve enrollment. Suggested changes include a change to have USD become the lead institution and a change to the governance structure including the addition of a Community Advisory Group. It will be redesigning its structure to focus more on providing more associate degrees and certificates. This component also includes having a discounted tuition rate for those working toward an associate degree.

The University Center plan to target priority populations like the 1/3 of high school graduates who do not plan on attending college, under-represented minority populations, adult learners who never attended college or are seeking to return, and current workers seeking additional skills or a higher degree. Education has changed through the years. Hopefully, these changes will allow the University Center to grow its enrollment and also assist the area with its workforce challenges at the same time.

Patrick Andrews Joins SECOG Staff



Patrick Andrews joined SECOG's staff in April as a Land Use Planner. In this position Patrick will provide land use planning assistance to SECOG's members.

Patrick graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning and went on to earn a Juris Doctorate from the University of Nebraska College of Law. Before coming to SECOG, he was a practicing attorney in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Patrick looks forward to getting to know SECOG's members. Please contact him with any questions at patrick@secog.org.

SECOG Communities Awarded TAP Grants

The following two communities within SECOG's region each received TAP funding awards in 2016 to be used for transportation alternative projects:

Crooks: The \$400,000 TAP award will assist the City of Crooks in financing a trail along West Avenue (Highway 137), the main north/south street in the City. The safety and improvement of this road, and the provision of a safe transportation alternative, especially for children, was identified as the number one concern in the community. A ten foot wide path will be constructed along West Avenue with a landscaped grass boulevard separating the path from the highway.

Tea: The \$96,634 TAP award will assist the City of Tea in financing Phase 2 of the City's Shared Use Path project. The City will construct a ten foot wide path within the Tea Athletic Complex. The path will connect to existing and future residential developments and the City's downtown business district.

Sioux Falls MPO 2015 Year End Report



The Sioux Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) receives federal funding to conduct continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning and programming activities for its study area, including the Cities of Brandon, Crooks, Harrisburg, Hartford, Sioux Falls, and Tea, as well as portions of Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties.

The 2015 Year End Report for the Sioux Falls MPO is now posted at: <http://siouxfallsmpo.org/resources/publications/>. Highlights of the transportation planning activities include: completion of the [2040 Go Sioux Falls MPO Long-Range Transportation Plan](#), work on the [I-229 Major Investment Study](#), and continued efforts to develop and implement work activities to address the priorities identified in the [Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan](#). Additional information on these activities and more can be found at <http://siouxfallsmpo.org/>.

Overall, the Sioux Falls MPO completed just over \$2.1 million in transportation planning activities in 2015, which continues work to improve a coordinated multi-modal transportation system in the region.



Do you have the **Drive To Help**?

Volunteers are needed to lend a ride to seniors and persons with disabilities with a need for transportation to health appointments and grocery shopping.

Contact Melissa Gibson
367-HELP (367-4357)
melissa@secog.org

Volunteer Recruitment Bonus!

Receive a **\$25 Gift Card** for referring a volunteer driver who passes the qualification process and provides their first ride.

Qualification Requirements

- . Valid Driver's License
- . Automobile Insurance
- . Clean Driving Record
- . Clean Criminal Record



Recent DENR Funding in SECOG Region

	Project	DWSRF Loan	DWSRF Principal Forgiveness	CWSRF Loan	CWFCP or Build America Grant
Brandon	Lift Station			\$2,598,000	
Canton	Dakota Street Improvements	\$760,000		\$1,648,000	
Chancellor	Water Meter Replacement	\$180,000	\$90,000		
Dell Rapids	10th St./Hwy 115 Improvements	\$705,000			\$1,037,000
Dell Rapids	Waste Water Treatment Facility			\$2,386,000	\$3,372,000
Prairie Meadows	Wastewater Collection Improvements			\$800,000	\$588,000
Wakonda	Drinking Water Improvements	\$1,378,000	\$948,000		\$552,000
Total		\$3,023,000	\$1,038,000	\$7,432,000	\$5,549,000

Menlo Heights Townhome for Sale \$99,900

The South Eastern Development Foundation (SEDF) has *one* unit left for sale in the Menlo Heights Townhome complex, located near downtown Sioux Falls at the corner of 10th and Menlo. Unit 207 is a two bedroom townhome with a one car garage listed at \$99,900. It has all new carpet and paint. The sale price includes all appliances including a dishwasher and washer and dryer. HOA fees of \$155 per month include all lawn care and snow removal, water and sewer, and insurance on the building.

The unit qualifies for FHA financing with 3.5% down payment and for the City's Homebuyers Assistance Program. Call Lynne Keller Forbes at 367-5390 to schedule a showing.

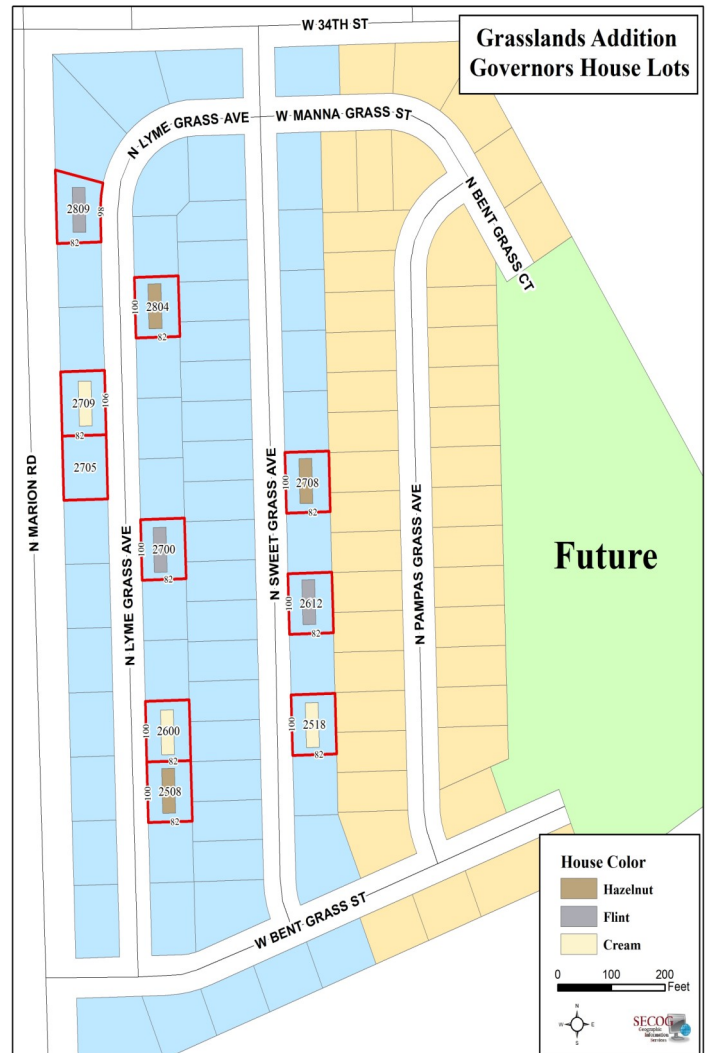


Upcoming Project Deadlines

Please contact Leslie Mastroianni (Clay, McCook and Minnehaha) or Melissa Gibson (Lincoln, Turner and Union) if you are interested in applying for any of the following programs:

June	Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant
July 1	DENR Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loans
July 15	Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Letter of Intent
July 15	SDDOT Community Access Grant, Industrial Park Grant
July 31	Build SD

SEDF Develops Governor's Houses in Sioux Falls



South Eastern Development Foundation (SEDF) has acquired lots in the Grasslands Addition in northwest Sioux Falls. Governor's Houses will be placed on these lots to provide affordable housing within the City of Sioux Falls. The first three bedroom, two bathroom house has been delivered to 2809 N. Lyme Grass Ave and will include a two car garage and all appliances for \$139,900.

Interested parties should contact Lynne Keller Forbes at 605-367-5390. For more information about the Governor's House program and eligibility requirements, visit the SECOG website at www.secog.org.

Dakota BUSINESS Finance and SEDF Approve Additional Loans

With a Twist

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation and Dakota BUSINESS Finance

Purpose: Purchase land and construct event facility

Community: Harrisburg

Participating Lender: Rick Anderson with Frontier Bank



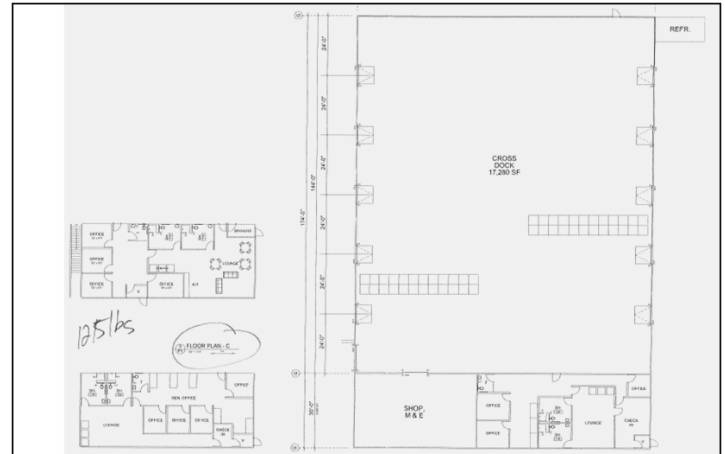
Midwest Fresh Logistics

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation and Dakota BUSINESS Finance

Purpose: Purchase land and construct refrigerated warehouse

Community: Dell Rapids

Participating Lender: Tim Walker with Bremer Bank



DataSync

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation

Purpose: Working capital

Community: Sioux Falls



Black Diamond Properties

Financing Source: Dakota BUSINESS Finance

Purpose: Purchase land and construct two chalets

Community: Lead

Participating Lender: Brian Zirpel with Security State Bank



Dakota BUSINESS Finance and SEDF Approve Additional Loans

Erberts & Gerberts

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation

Purpose: Refinance existing debt

Community: Sioux Falls



Addy Disposal

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation

Purpose: Purchase equipment

Community: Canistota



Blue Haven Barn and Gardens

Financing Source: South Eastern Development Foundation and Dakota BUSINESS Finance

Purpose: Purchase land and construct event facility

Community: Rural Sioux Falls

Participating Lender: Matt Nelson with Bank Midwest





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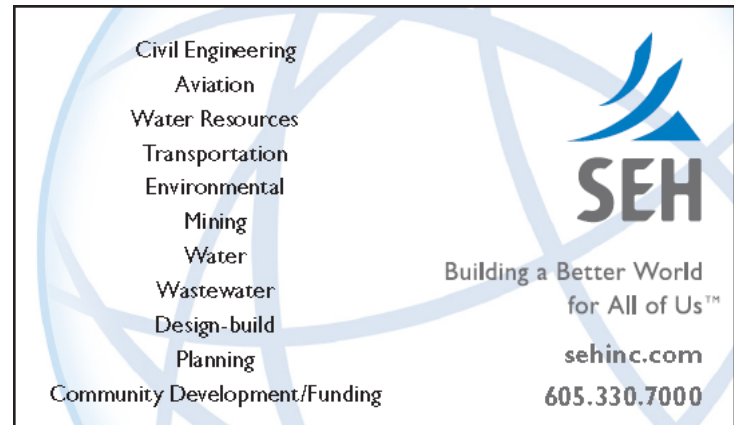
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SECOG Calendar

CAC Meeting May 10

TAC & UDC Meeting May 11

SEDF Board Meeting May 12

DBF Board Meeting May 12

SEDF Board Meeting June 15

DBF Board Meeting June 15

SECOG Board Meeting June 15

CAC Meeting July 13

TAC & UDC Meeting July 14

SEBF Board Meeting July 20

DBF Board Meeting July 20

CAC-Citizens Advisory Committee

DBF-Dakota BUSINESS Finance

SECOG-South Eastern Council of Governments

SEDF-South Eastern Development Foundation

TAC-Technical Advisory Committee



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