

simpco

MEMBERSHIP
WELCOME PACKET

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



6401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City, IA 51106
(712) 279-6286
www.simpco.org



Thank you for being a member of SIMPCO. Your support and investment in the Siouxland region are highly valued by us. It's through the backing of our members that we are able to promote growth and positive change in the community. Your support allows us to continue developing crucial community initiatives that drive economic growth, improve transportation, sustain our current housing stock, replace aging infrastructure and enhance the quality of life.

WELCOME



MEET OUR STAFF

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FUNDING SOURCES

01

Membership Dues

Communities that become part of SIMPCO pay membership dues calculated on a per capita basis. These fees are utilized to leverage funds for federal and state initiatives like economic development and transportation. They support research, data collection, information dissemination, discussions, collaboration, events, and trainings.

02

Administration Fees

SIMPCO administers a number of federal and state programs on behalf of member communities and agencies. These programs help member communities develop plans and implement strategies that will most effectively meet their needs.

03

Grant Writing Services

SIMPCO's staff provides assistance with grant applications for a variety of federal, state and foundation-funded programs that benefit communities and enhance the quality of life of their citizens. Fees for some grants may be negotiated.

04

Direct Planning Services

SIMPCO's staff offers direct planning services to member communities, such as grant-writing, project administration, special project development, and coordination. They can provide on-site assistance within the community. Cities and Counties have the option to request a professional staff member for a specific number of hours or days per week at an agreed-upon fee.



SERVICES

Community Development (CD) offers a variety of project development and technical assistance:

- Comprehensive & Strategic Planning
- Grant Writing & Administration
- Housing Needs Assessments
- Housing Development
- Special Project Coordination
- Natural Resources Planning
- Hazard Mitigation & Control
- Water Issues Research
- Land Use & Zoning Regulations
- Codification Services
- Accessibility Assessment & Training
- Budgeting Assistance

SERVICE AREAS

IOWA

- Woodbury
- Plymouth
- Cherokee
- Ida
- Monona

NEBRASKA

- Dakota County

SOUTH DAKOTA

- Union County

Transportation Planning Division involves the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) & the Regional Planning Affiliation (RPA):

- Long-Range Transportation Plans
- Transportation Improvement Programs
- Travel Demand Forecasting
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Active Transportation Planning
- Transit Planning



Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS)

The Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS) is dedicated to providing public transportation for persons of all ages, including those who may require specialized transportation. SRTS offers a service with direct pick-up and specific-destination delivery on clean, comfortable, ADA-accessible buses with seat belts. Car seats are also available for young clients.

Service is available to meet the needs of all people, not just a specialized population. Our service can be used for medical appointments, shopping, school, and work. Critical medical needs such as dialysis, physical therapy or other scheduled appointments can be easily accommodated. Contract transportation is available for businesses to assist in transporting employees to work safely and efficiently.

SRTS has modern, well-maintained mobility device lift-equipped buses and trained drivers that provide demand-response transportation using a 24-hour advance-notice-requested service.

Service area includes Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, and Woodbury in Iowa, Dakota County in Nebraska, and Southern Union County in South Dakota.

CONTACT SRTS Scheduling:

Local Phone: (712) 279-6919 or Toll Free: 800-881-2076

TDD/TTY users may place a reservation by calling RELAY Iowa: 800-735-2942

Office hours for scheduling rides are from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



DIVISIONS

Community Development

The Community Development (CD) Division of SIMPCO provides a variety of services for member communities including planning services, grant writing and administrative services, research and informational service and other forms of technical assistance. SIMPCO accomplishes this through partnerships with local governments that foster intelligent growth and provide for the current and future needs of the region.

Economic Development

The Economic Development (ED) Division of SIMPCO provides a variety of services for member communities including assisting local downtown improvement groups with efforts to revitalize the main street and central business districts, providing technical assistance to local communities and counties with needs assessments and resource identification for economic development planning, collaborating with multiple economic developments and business groups, and providing information to promote sustainable economic development efforts throughout the region.

GIS Mapping

SIMPCO offers a wide range of GIS mapping services to our members. Whether you request a static map, interactive map, or both, we can customize these maps to showcase zoning and land use, transportation routes, demographic and economic data, GPS-collected data such as city utilities, and much more. Our GIS staff at SIMPCO are also equipped to coordinate collaborative, regional projects with partners to address our member's needs.

Transportation Planning

The Transportation Division of SIMPCO houses the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Siouxland Regional Planning Association (SRTPA) for the Siouxland region. The SRTPA provides transportation planning services for Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth and Woodbury counties in Iowa. The MPO conducts transportation planning activities within the Sioux City metro area which includes Sioux City, Sergeant Bluff, a portion of Woodbury and Plymouth counties in Iowa; South Sioux City, Dakota City and a portion of Dakota County in Nebraska; North Sioux City, Dakota Dunes and a portion of Union County, South Dakota.

The planning activities conducted by the SRTPA and the MPO are funded through FHWA and FTA sources, as well as local financial support. The SRTPA and the MPO are responsible for the following work items:

- **Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)** - outlines the annual transportation planning activities the SRTPA/MPO will undertake during the fiscal year
- **Public Participation Plan (PPP)** - outlines the process the SRTPA/MPO will follow to adequately involve the public in transportation planning activities
- **Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** - provides direction and guidance for the SRTPA/MPO to make efficient transportation and provides needs-based justification for passenger transportation projects
- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** - identifies the capital and non-capital transportation projects proposed for federal and state aid funding or action for the SRTPA/MPO over the next four-year period
- **Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP)** - designed to promote joint, coordinated passenger transportation planning programs that further the development of the local and regional public transportation systems for SIMPCO's MPO and SRTPA

The SRTPA and MPO work closely with the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, and local city/county staff on work products.

Housing

The mission of SIMPCO’s housing division is to further the preservation and new construction of affordable housing to grow affordable housing opportunities for low-to-moderate income persons and families within its service area.

SIMPCO and the WICIRHTF’s Owner-Occupied Housing Repair/Rehab Programs are designed to help low to moderate-income residents in the service area maintain their homes in safe, decent, and livable conditions. Our service area includes Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, and Woodbury Counties in Iowa (excluding Sioux City).

When funding is available the programs work to complete home repairs that assist in maintaining the integrity of the homes in our communities. Eligible repairs include roofing, electrical work, plumbing, window replacement, foundation work, painting, siding, handicapped accessibility, and other repairs as determined necessary.

Program applications are accepted continuously and will be reviewed on a first-ready, first-serve basis until funding has been exhausted. If funding is unavailable, the applicant will be placed on a waitlist and contacted when more funding is available.

2024 Income Guidelines

SIMPCO and WICIRHTF housing programs are limited to individuals and families who are at or below 80% of the median family income limits. HUD determines this limit each year.

| Household Size | 1 person | 2 persons | 3 persons |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Cherokee | \$52,950 | \$60,500 | \$68,050 |
| Ida | \$48,550 | \$55,500 | \$62,450 |
| Monona | \$48,550 | \$55,500 | 62,450 |
| Plymouth | \$55,950 | \$59,200 | \$71,950 |
| Woodbury | \$51,800 | \$59,200 | \$66,600 |



BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Board and committee members have vital roles in ensuring effective governance by enabling in-depth exploration of critical areas and needs, promoting informed decision-making, and enhancing oversight.

If you are interested in joining any of the mentioned boards or committees below, kindly contact SIMPCO's Executive Director, Michelle Bostinelos, at mbostinelos@simpco.org.

SIMPCO Executive/Finance Committee

The Executive/Finance committee serves as the recommending board to the Council of Officials and Board of Directors in matters relating to finance, budgets, contracts, personnel, benefits, project management and as the nominating committee for the Council of Officials and Board of Directors elections. *Meetings are held at 7:30 a.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month.*

Board Members:

Jon Winkel, Mayor - City of Sergeant Bluff (Chairman)

Dan Moore, Council Member - City of Sioux City (Vice Chairman)

Lance Hedquist, City Administrator - City of South Sioux City (Treasurer)

Bob Padmore, City Manager - City of Sioux City

Aaron Lincoln, City Administrator - City of Sergeant Bluff

Kelly Kreber, Mayor - City of Hinton

Dan Bousquet, Council Member - City of South Sioux City

Keith Radig, Supervisor - Woodbury County

Mark Monson, Board Member - Sergeant Bluff Planning & Zoning

Gary Bogenrief, Council Member - City of North Sioux City

SIMPCO Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is the governing body of the organization. Responsibilities of the Board of Directors include: implementing policies, Interlocal governmental cooperation, project management, approval of plans and programs, budget approval, perform regional clearing house review and comment for federally assisted or insured programs and projects, appointment of the Executive Director, contract with member jurisdictions for planning services, contract with federal, state and local governments to manage projects and administer grant funds, provide adequate insurance coverage for the protection of the organization and appoint members to Boards/Committees. *Meetings are typically held six times per year and are tentatively scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of January, March, May, August, October and December.*

Each paying dues member has a seat on the Board of Directors.

Western Iowa Community Improvement Regional Housing Trust Fund (WICIRHTF) Board of Directors

The WICIRHTF Board of Directors is the governing body which oversees the improvements of housing in the counties of Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, and Woodbury counties in Iowa. The Board consists of equal parts representing local government officials and private sectors. *Meetings are typically held the fourth Thursday during the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.*

Board Members:

Keith Radig, Supervisor - Woodbury County (Chairman)

Gary Horton, Supervisor - Plymouth County (Vice Chairman)

Bryan Petersen, Supervisor - Cherokee County

Devlun Whiteing, Supervisor - Ida County

Scott Brekke, Residential Lender - Great Southern Bank, Sioux City

Bill Anderson, Director - Cherokee County Area Economic Development Corporation

Robert Meyer, Loan Officer - Bank First, Onawa

Vince Phillips, Supervisor - Monona County

Charlie Persinger, Director - Monona County Economic Development

Jason Rasmus, Market President - Availa Bank, Sioux City

Rita Frahm, President - Ida County Economic Development

Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS) Board of Directors

The SRTS Board of Directors is the governing body empowered to conduct the business for the Siouxland Regional Transit System. *Meetings are typically held the fourth Thursday during the months of January, March, May, June, September, and November.*

Board Members:

Keith Radig, Supervisor – Woodbury County (Chairman)
Gary Horton, Supervisor – Plymouth County (Vice Chairman)
Devlun Whiteing, Supervisor – Ida County
Bryan Petersen, Supervisor – Cherokee County
Vince Phillips, Supervisor – Monona County

SIMPCO Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) TTC

The Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) is the advising board to the MPO Policy Board. The TTC is made up of technical staff representing areas of planning, engineering, and public administration from jurisdictions within the MPO. In combination of the SIMPCO staff, the committee conducts research, develops technical tools and analysis for the region and advises the MPO Policy Board on technical and administrative issues related to regional transportation planning within the metropolitan area of Sioux City. *Meetings are typically the Wednesday proceeding the first Thursday during the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.*

Committee Members:

Aaron Lincoln, City Admin – City of Sergeant Bluff (Chairman)
Tom Rohe, Engineer – Plymouth County (Vice Chairman)
Jill Wanderscheid, Neighborhood Services Manager – City of Sioux City
Mark Nahra, Engineer – Woodbury County
Mike Collett, City Manager – City of Sioux City / Airport
Andrew Tramp, District Manager – Dakota Dunes CID
Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent – Dakota County
Lance Hedquist, City Admin – City of South Sioux City
Gordon Phair, Engineer – City of Sioux City
Jason Allen, Transit Operations Supervisor – City of Sioux City / Transit
Andrew Nilges, City Admin – City of North Sioux City
Bob Kratky, City Admin – City of Dakota City
Jerry Buum, Highway Superintendent – Union County

SIMPCO Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board

The Policy Board is the governing body of the MPO. The MPO is a group composed of locally elected officials, state department of transportation officials, and transit operators who provide a forum in order to determine transportation objectives to meet the needs of the Sioux City metropolitan area. The Policy Board is comprised of elected officials representing the different areas within the boundary of the MPO. *Meetings are typically the first Thursday during the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.*

Board Members:

Ken Beaulieu, Supervisor - Dakota Dunes CID (Chairman)
Keith Radig, Supervisor - Woodbury County (Vice Chairman)
Craig Anderson, Supervisor - Plymouth County
Dan Moore, Council Member - City of Sioux City
Carol Clark, Council Member - City of Sergeant Bluff
Mike Tokarczyk, Advisory Board Member - City of Sioux City / Transit
Bob Giese, Commissioner - Dakota County
Ron Haase, Council Member - City of Dakota City
Mike Dailey, Commissioner - Union County
Kodi Benson, Council Member - City of North Sioux City
Julie Schoenherr, Council Member - City of Sioux City
Carol Schuldt, Council Member - City of South Sioux City

Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC is made up of technical staff representing areas of planning, engineering, and public administration from jurisdictions within the SRTPA planning area (Cherokee, Ida, Monona Plymouth and Woodbury counties in Iowa). In combination with SIMPCO staff, the committee conducts research, develops technical tools and analysis for the region and advises the SRTPA Policy Board on technical and administrative issues related to regional transportation planning within the rural planning area. *Meetings are typically the second or third Wednesday during the months of January, March, May, June, September, and November.*

Committee Members:

Jeff Williams, Engineer - Ida County (Chairman)
Tom Rohe, Engineer - Plymouth County (Vice Chairman)
Scott Kruse, Engineer - Monona County
John Meis, Engineer - City of Cherokee
Mark Nahra, Engineer - Woodbury County
Jason Vacura, Engineer - City of Le Mars
Brian Pearson, Transit Director - Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS)
Sarah Tracy, Engineer - Cherokee County

Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA) Policy Board

The Policy Board is the governing body of the Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA). The SRTPA is a group composed of locally elected officials, state department of transportation officials, and transit operators who provide a forum in order to determine transportation objectives to meet the needs of the rural areas in Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth and Woodbury counties in Iowa. The Policy Board is comprised of elected officials representing the SRTPA planning area. *Meetings are typically the fourth Thursday during the months of January, March, May, September, and November.*

Board Members:

Gary Horton, Supervisor - Plymouth County (Chairman)
Keith Radig, Supervisor - Woodbury County (Vice Chairman)
Devlun Whiteing, Supervisor - Ida County
Brad Pick, Council Member - City of Le Mars
Vince Phillips, Supervisor - Monona County
Bryan Petersen, Engineer - Cherokee County
Craig Schmidt, Mayor - City of Cherokee

To keep informed about upcoming meetings and events, or to access meeting agendas and minutes, you can either scan the QR code provided below or visit our website at: <https://simpco.org/about-us/meetings/>

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ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES

SIMPCO Regional Policy & Legislative Affairs Committee

The committee reviews and prioritizes regional legislative issues for recommendation to the Board of Directors. The committee may make recommendations to the SIMPCO Board of Directors. *Meetings are typically held the first Thursday of the month from September until April.*

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (CEDS)

The Committee oversees development of the five-year economic development plan for SIMPCO's Economic Development District (Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth and Woodbury, counties in Iowa and Dakota County in Nebraska). The purpose of the group is to provide regional collaboration in sharing economic growth information, implementation of the action steps as outlined in the five-year plan, and grant applications. They also identify gaps and overlap in economic development strategy and update the five-year planning document. The CEDS committee can make a recommendation to the SIMPCO Board of Directors. *Meetings are typically held quarterly.*

SIMPCO Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Bicycle/Pedestrian Roundtable

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Roundtable is a group of local stakeholders who have an interest in bicycle/pedestrian issues within the metropolitan area of Sioux City. The committee discusses and implements projects that help to improve the bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure with the MPO. Past and current projects have included: decorative bike racks, bike racks on buses, on-street bicycle network, bike-to-work day events, safe routes to school, walking school bus, sidewalk deficiencies analysis, downtown greenspaces, bike lanes, and trail connectivity. Current members include representatives from: city and county staff, Iowa DOT, Sioux City Blue Zones, Sioux City Community School District, Siouxland Trails Foundation, Siouxland District Health, Siouxland Cyclists, Downtown Partners, local bicycle shops and citizens interested in bicycle/pedestrian issues. The committee may make recommendations to the MPO TTC and the MPO Policy Board. *Meetings are typically held quarterly.*

SIMPCO Transportation Advisory Group (TAG)

The Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) is tasked as the advisory committee to the development of the Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) a required document for both the SIMPCO MPO and SRTPA with the goal to link health and human services, private transportation providers and public transit to help improve the mobility of people with disabilities, low-income populations and the elderly. The TAG may make recommendations to both the MPO and the SRTPA. *Meetings are held twice annually.*

Dakota County Rural Economic Development (RED) Committee

The Dakota County RED committee is a group that collaboratively advances community and economic development strategies and projects in Dakota County, Nebraska. Their goals include enhancing property, promoting commerce and industry, supporting business retention, recruitment, and expansion, enhancing workforce development, and exploring select commercial and industrial sites. *Meetings are typically held quarterly.*

Water Resource Committee

The Water Resources Committee is an advisory group to the SIMPCO Board of Directors. The committee discusses issues and concerns with area rivers and flooding. *Meetings are typically held quarterly.*

Iowa's West Coast Initiative Committee (IWCI)

The IWCI encourages entrepreneurship in Woodbury, Plymouth, and Monona counties by connecting and inspiring entrepreneurs to collaborate, explore ideas, and take entrepreneurial action. *Meetings are typically held on the second Tuesday of each month.*

Region IV Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

The role of the LEPC is to form a partnership with local governments and industries as a resource for enhancing hazardous materials preparedness. The Region IV service area is Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth and Woodbury counties in Iowa. *Meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday during the months of January, July, and October with the exception of April which is determined by the commission.*

Region IV Hazardous Materials Response Commission

The Commission was established by a 28E Intergovernmental Agreement for Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth and Woodbury counties in Iowa. They are the governing body of the Region IV LEPC. *One annual meeting is typically held on the fourth Wednesday of April.*



CONTACT US

Thank you again for your support and investment in the Siouxland region. Your contributions make a real difference.



Thank you!

SIMPCO

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