



# Chariton Valley PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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*Pictured L-R seated: Elizabeth Simpson, Clarke County Development; Sharon Kline, Chariton Chamber and Development Corporation; Brenda DeVore, Prairie Trails Museum; Mark Eckman, Iowa Tourism Department; Jerome Thompson, Iowa Historical Society.*

*Pictured L-R standing: Max Proctor, Davis County Supervisor; Dean Kaster, Appanoose County Supervisor; Larry Davis, Lucas County Supervisor; Linda Neer, Tourism Lucas County; Gert Patterson, Chariton; John McCurdy, Chariton Valley Planning and Development; and Dennis Ryan, Monroe County Supervisor.*

# MONTHLY POST

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## Iowa's Great Places Update

The Historic Hills Advisory Committee recently completed the next step of the [Great Iowa Places](#) initiative.

Jerome Thompson, State Curator with the Iowa Historical Society and Mark Eckman, Iowa Department of Tourism, traveled to Centerville to listen and see the Historic Hills Advisory Committee explained why the Historic Hills Corridor should be named one of Iowa's great places.

The purpose for the gathering was to obtain feedback from Thompson and Eckman in preparation for the group's next step, which is to go before the Iowa Great Places citizen's advisory council.

The citizen's advisory council, appointed by Governor Vilsack, will serve as the selection committee to determine which of the 150 applications received from across the state will receive the nod for further help from the state.

That assistance includes the support of the state's 18 agencies, who will work closely to help the three Iowa Great Places reach their goals.

John McCurdy, Community Planner with Chariton Valley Planning and Development says the pair offered constructive suggestions.

"Now that we've made a few adjustments based on the feedback we received, we're ready to go," says McCurdy.

The group will deliver the final presentation some time in late September with the notification of the Iowa Great Place designation anticipated in November.

For more information contact [John McCurdy](#) at Chariton Valley Planning and Development, 641.437.4359.



## Historic Hills presents regional transportation plan to IDOT Commissioners

After working together to develop a regional transportation plan, Historic Hills Advisory Committee members traveled to Waverly, Iowa to present their goals to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Commissioners.

The map below illustrates the roadways offered to the IDOT commissioners for consideration. Presentations were as follows:

**Highway 2:** Jason White, Appanoose County Development; Recommendation: Two lane reconstruction of Highway 2 from West Grove to Centerville with adjacent multi-use trail from Sharon Bluffs State Park to Centerville.

**Interstate 35:** Stacy Gibbs, Clarke County Development;

Recommendation: The recently approved overlay for Interstate 35 in Northern Clarke County will better serve the growing business and industry of South Central Iowa.

**Highway 5:** Dan Tomitech, Albia Industrial Corporation; Presentation: Extend Highway 5 from Des Moines through Albia and down to Moravia to accommodate additional traffic expected due to Honey Creek Resort State Park.

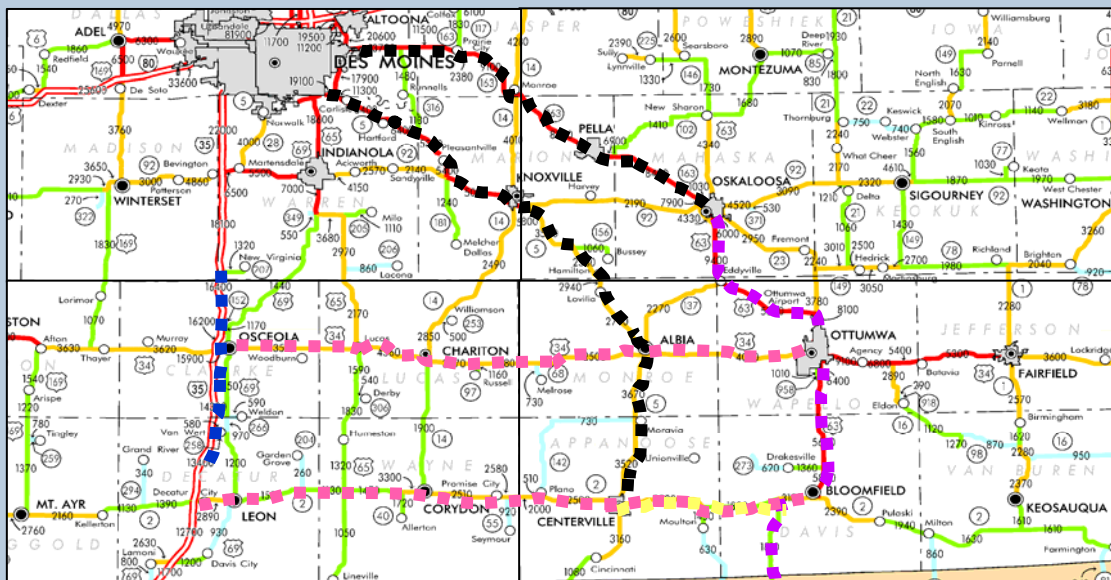
Regional Transportation Planning: John McCurdy, Chariton Valley Planning and Development.

McCurdy's portion of the presentation focused on the pilot project—Appanoose County Transportation and Land Use Study.

McCurdy says the study assessed the current system and detailed inventory of existing land uses to determine where future growth should occur.

"Urban models are used in Iowa's nine MPOs and a few smaller communities. The hope is that the Appanoose pilot study will be used as a rural model throughout the corridor," explains McCurdy.

For more information, contact [John McCurdy](mailto:John.McCurdy@charitonvalleyplanning.com), 641.437.4359



Historic Hills Regional Transportation Plan

- Historic Hills Corridor—Highway 34 and Highway 2
- Interstate 35
- Highway 5
- Highway 2