

The Iowa County

magazine



July 2022

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
Preferred Vendor of the Month - IP Pathways



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ISAC's Mission:

To promote effective and responsible county government
for the people of Iowa.

ISAC's Vision:

To be the principal, authoritative source of representation,
information and services for and about county government
in Iowa.

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Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Almost everyone has heard about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in some manner. The BIL became law in November of 2021 and runs through FFY 2026. The BIL was touted as the largest infrastructure investment in U.S. history, and it has lived up to its hype. Iowa's share of the funding for FFY 2022 is roughly \$726 Million dollars. The funds to Iowa under the FAST ACT would have been \$585 Million.

The BIL is the 6th Federal funding bill since the implementation of the RPAs, MPOs and TMAs with ISTEA in 1991. The other previous Acts included TEA-21 in 1998, SAFETEA-LU in 2005, MAP-21 in 2012, and the FAST ACT in 2015.

The BIL includes most of the programs that have been in the previous Acts, but with every new Act, there are changes and differences.

The table to the right shows the latest estimate of the Highway Formula Programs in the BIL. For counties, the items to note are the creation of a Bridge Formula Program (BFP), the increase in the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), the creation of a Farm-to-Market Supplement (FM), and the increase in the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Under the FAST ACT, most of the programs all have increases in them over the subsequent fiscal years. BFP, Rail Highway Crossings Programs (RHCP), and EV Charging stations hold steady through the life of the BIL. Not all of the programs listed are available for counties. Urban and state projects receive funding through these other programs as well.

Representatives of the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), the Iowa County Engineers Association (ICEA), the American Public Works Association of Iowa (APWA), along with the RPAs, MPOs, TMAs, and other stakeholders have been meeting since December 2021 to work out an equitable distribution of the funds in the BIL. The finalized negotiated breakdown of the BIL will be brought to the Iowa Transportation Commission for approval with implementation to begin October 1, 2022.

The BIL does have some negative drawbacks to it. Most notably, with the increase in funding, the match requirements for federal funds increased as well. This increased match burden has reduced the ability for DOT to "Swap" monies



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- Board Governance
- Special Assessments



Des Moines International Airport

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

with local agencies. The reduced Swap has forced the “federalizing” of county projects. How to handle the Swap issue has also been a part of Iowa’s internal negotiations with BIL stakeholders.

As with prior federal bills, the BIL includes discretionary grants that are competitive in nature. RAISE, INFRA, BIP, Rural, SS4A, along with numerous others are being sought after by ICEA to fund larger projects that the Formula Programs cannot handle or for projects that really have no funding options in the Formula Programs.

In 2021, ICEA submitted an unsuccessful RAISE Grant application for replacement of eight county bridges. That application is still alive and is being re-worked for submittal to the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) in 2022. ICEA feels strongly that applications need to be submitted for bridge replacements, pavement rehabilitations, safety plans, safety improvements, and highway/rail grade crossings, just to name a few. Creation of a Discretionary Grant Committee and development of workable project oversight is the current focus of ICEA in getting the discretionary dollars to Iowa.

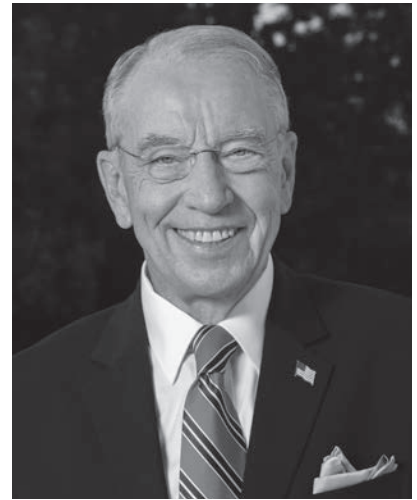
ICEA is excited about the BIL and the potentials it has to improve the Secondary Roads of Iowa. ICEA will be working to make the most efficient use of the Formula Programs and to pursue as many discretionary funds for Iowa as possible.

	Obligation Limit 90.652%		
	Total	State Primary	Local System
National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	\$324,956,881	\$324,956,881	\$0
Redistribution of Certain Authorized Funds (STBG past)	\$4,422,004	\$2,211,002	\$2,211,002
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)	\$142,204,108	\$29,247,708	\$112,956,400
Bridge Formula Program	\$93,410,180	\$25,986,436	\$67,423,744
Total Redistr, STBG and Bridge Formula Program	\$240,036,292	\$57,445,146	\$182,591,146
STBG for MPOs and RPAs	\$97,696,259	\$0	\$97,696,259
FM Supplement	\$4,034,000	\$0	\$4,034,000
Off-system Bridge from STBG (Incl. \$4.231M City BR FM Equiv)	\$11,226,141	\$0	\$11,226,141
DOT STBG Allocation	\$29,247,708	\$29,247,708	\$0
Bridge Formula Program	\$93,410,180	\$25,986,436	\$67,423,744
Redistribution of Certain Authorized Funds (STBG past)	\$4,422,004	\$2,211,002	\$2,211,002
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)	\$31,772,088	\$26,772,088	\$5,000,000
Highway Safety Improvement Program - Local	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000
DOT Allocation	\$26,772,088	\$26,772,088	\$0
Railway-Highway Crossings Program	\$5,178,486	\$0	\$5,178,486
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program (CMAQ)	\$10,933,500	\$3,933,500	\$7,000,000
Bus Replacement Program	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000
Iowa's Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000
Iowa DOT CMAQ Activities	\$3,933,500	\$3,933,500	\$0
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	\$14,636,723	\$0	\$14,636,723
TAP for MPOs and RPAs	\$9,636,723	\$0	\$9,636,723
Statewide TAP	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000
Recreational Trails Program TAP Set-aside (RTP)	\$1,246,299	\$0	\$1,246,299
State Planning & Research Program (SPR)	\$11,038,599	\$10,486,363	\$552,236
Metropolitan Planning Program (PL)	\$2,616,700	\$0	\$2,616,700
National Freight Program	\$15,141,698	\$13,627,528	\$1,514,170
Protect Program	\$16,355,387	\$16,355,387	\$0
Carbon Reduction Program	\$14,383,778	\$10,489,248	\$3,894,530
65 % Distribution by Population	\$9,349,456	\$5,454,925	\$3,894,530
35% Any Area	\$5,034,322	\$5,034,322	\$0
Total BIF FY2022 Apportionment:	\$688,296,431	\$464,066,140	\$224,230,290
Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP)	\$37,914,363	\$18,388,466	\$19,525,897
Total FY2022 Apportionments with HIP:	\$726,210,794	\$482,454,606	\$243,756,187

Infrastructure in Iowa

Iowans depend on reliable infrastructure each day to move goods, conduct business and simply get from point A to point B. That's why last fall, I supported once-in-a-generation bipartisan infrastructure legislation to ensure more of your tax dollars come back to Iowa to boost much-needed infrastructure improvement projects – projects that will help ensure Iowa counties and cities remain competitive in our global economy.

While roads and bridges often come to mind when considering what constitutes “infrastructure,” other physical infrastructure assets are just as important in supporting our communities and our economy. For example, water transportation infrastructure along the second longest river in North America – the Mississippi River – supports nearly 175 million tons of freight every year. According to a Reuters report, over 60 percent of corn and soybeans exported from the United States is shipped along the Mississippi. Iowa farmers – who rank first in the country in corn production and second in soybean production – depend on the Mississippi River to export their products and feed the world.



Senator Chuck Grassley
www.grassley.senate.gov

However, some lock and dam systems along this critical waterway are nearly a century old, which is why lock and dam modernization is one of Iowa's top five infrastructure improvement priorities. One major pinch point is Lock & Dam 25, which was first constructed in the 1930s. Barges traveling along the Mississippi, carrying valuable goods to market, often get delayed here by the current century-old lock chamber. Newer, more modern barges are too large to pass through, requiring a cumbersome disassembling process that can take hours.

In January, I helped lead a bipartisan and bicameral group of lawmakers alongside Senator Durbin of Illinois in urging the Army Corps of Engineers to utilize funding from the infrastructure bill to modernize locks and dams along the upper Mississippi River. And by February, the Army Corps announced an \$829 million investment in locks and dams, including for the construction of a new 1,200 foot lock at Lock & Dam 25. Modernizing this system by adding a new, much larger chamber will cut down pass-through time to just 30 minutes. Simply put, this overdue project will make it more efficient for manufactured goods and agricultural commodities produced in Iowa to be transported to market, keeping shipping costs low and in turn lowering costs for producers and consumers alike.

On the other side of the state, a project to expand a critical drinking water system got a much-needed funding boost. The Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, which will provide affordable rural water to northwest Iowa communities in Lyon and Sioux counties, recently received \$75.5 million from the infrastructure bill. Project leaders plan to use this investment to finish 17 miles of pipeline, construct two meter buildings, and build a new pump station in the northwest corner of the state.

Once completed, the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System will supply tens of thousands of Iowans with clean, reliable drinking water for decades to come. It's just one of many similar projects that now have much-needed funding to finish the job. In sum, \$227 million was authorized by the bipartisan infrastructure bill over the next five years for Iowa's Clean Water State Revolving Fund program and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund – both of which support Iowa's ongoing effort to further improve water quality.

Infrastructure in Iowa

While significant water projects are underway on both sides of the state, projects to improve our roads, bridges and airports have also ramped up. Iowa leads the nation in the overall number of structurally deficient bridges, and roughly 29 percent of our major roads are in poor or mediocre condition – potentially leading to more accidents and causing more vehicle damage. In fact, the American Society for Civil Engineers estimated in 2019 that bad road conditions cost Iowa motorists an average \$336 per year.

Iowans shouldn't be forking over more of their hard-earned money for something that can be prevented by leveraging the taxes you already pay. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act allocates \$4.2 billion for repairing roads in Iowa, and it contains \$431 million for bridge repair. From road improvements along Highway 61 in Scott County to bridge repairs in Boone County, our roads and bridges are getting the updates and improvements they need to ensure safer travel, a better quality of life and a flourishing economy for all Iowans.

Whether it's waterways and airports or roads, bridges, and rural broadband, infrastructure investment is essential to ensuring Iowans and Iowa's robust economy continue to thrive for generations to come. I'll keep working to bring more of your hard-earned tax dollars back to our great state so that our infrastructure can continue to support our people and businesses well into the future.



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BIL Major Investment in State and Local Infrastructure

Counties play a major role in America's transportation and infrastructure network, owning and operating 44 percent of public roads and 38 percent of bridges, more than any other level of government. Simultaneously, counties directly support 40 percent of public transit systems and 34 percent of airports that keep our residents connected in every corner of the country and throughout the globe. Ranging far beyond transportation, America's 3,069 counties own and operate public utility systems, water and wastewater systems, jails, hospitals and clinics, and more. As intergovernmental partners, counties rely on our federal and state partners to help meet the needs of our communities.

On November 15, 2021, President Joe Biden signed a major investment in state and local government infrastructure: *the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (P.L. 117-58), officially enacting the five-year, \$973 billion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In addition to providing authorizations for a wide variety of programs, the BIL also makes advanced appropriations for FY 2022 through FY 2026 to several federal agencies. Typically, federal appropriations are made over one fiscal year by an appropriations act.



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Within the \$973 billion is \$550 billion in new investments for all modes of transportation, water, power and energy, environmental remediation, public lands, broadband, and resilience. To distribute funding, the BIL directs covered federal agencies to make investments in a variety of ways, including through contract authority from the federal Highway Trust Fund, authorizations, advance appropriations, and loans and loan guarantees. Covered agencies include the:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The majority of the BIL's new investments are directed to USDOT. The remaining funding is divided among other infrastructure sectors, including water (\$55 billion); broadband (\$65 billion); energy and power (\$73 billion); environmental remediation (\$21 billion); western water infrastructure (\$8.3 billion); and resiliency (\$46 billion).

Major county priorities were accomplished by the BIL's enactment, including significant new resources for local bridges, a three-year extension of the Secure Rural School program, establishment of a new competitive grant program for broadband (open now!), expansion of intergovernmental opportunities, considerable increases for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds, new resources for resiliency, and much more.

As a result of the BIL, counties will now be able to deliver safer, more efficient, and more accessible transportation systems for both our citizens and the many urban dwellers whose daily commutes take them through our communities each day. We will be able to replace dangerous lead pipes and aging water systems, complete broadband connections, and enhance the resiliency of our local infrastructure against natural disasters. The BIL is an opportunity for counties to invest in infrastructure that makes a difference at home.

BIL Major Investment in State and Local Infrastructure

Federal leaders have recognized the need to invest in local communities, and America's cities, towns, counties, and states are ready to work together to maximize these opportunities. At the local level, we are doing our part; however, rebuilding and modernizing America's infrastructure cannot and should not be done in a silo. Rather, it requires intergovernmental cooperation at all levels of government, and the partnership of the private sector, to meet our shared goals of maintaining excellent public infrastructure that is safe, efficient, accessible, and inclusive of all residents.

Several BIL programs that counties are eligible for are open now, currently totaling around \$7 billion in FY 2022. Of the open opportunities, only local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and tribes can apply for the newly established Safe Streets and Roads for All Program administered by the USDOT. This \$1 billion discretionary grant program is intended to support safety improvements on local roads and bridges that are inclusive of all users of the road.

To learn more about this program and other opportunities for county governments, visit [NACo's BIL implementation page](#) that features direct links to apply, as well as a full funding matrix that breaks down the BIL opportunities open to counties. Additionally, to learn more about the BIL, view [NACo's comprehensive analysis of the infrastructure law](#).

PROGRAM	Y	SUB-AGENCY	FY 2022 FUNDING...	FIVE-YEAR FUNDING LE...	TYPE OF FUNDING	DESCRIPTION	HOW CAN COUNTIES A...	SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY RE...	FEDERAL COST SHARE
38 National Fish Passage Program	Department of the Interior	Fish and Wildlife Service	\$40 million	\$200 million	Competitive	Provides grants for dam removal, public safety barriers...	Contact local Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office		50%
39 Airport Infrastructure Grants: Contract Tower Competitive Grant Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Aviation Admin...	\$20 million	\$100 million	Competitive	Supports recipients of the FAA contract tower progra...	Apply directly to USDOT as an airport sponsor	Sponsored airport must have an approved operational ...	100%
40 Airport Infrastructure Grants: Formula	Department of Transportation	Federal Aviation Admin...	\$3 billion	\$14.98 billion	Formula	Provides funding for airport infrastructure, including ...	Airports that receive an allocation from USDOT re...	Airports eligible under the Airport Improvement ...	Generally 75%
41 Airport Terminal Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Aviation Admin...	\$1 billion	\$5 billion	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to replace aging terminals ...	Apply directly to USDOT as a local public agency / airpor...	Local public agencies can apply directly to the U.S. ...	80% for large and medium-sized airports; 95% for small...
42 Bridge Investment Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$2.45 billion	\$12.2 billion	Competitive	Provides funding projects to replace, rehabilitate, ...	Apply directly to USDOT		50% - 80%
43 Carbon Reduction Program (reflects 65% population-based sub-allocation)	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$801.88 million	\$6.42 billion	Formula	Sub-allocates 65% of the program total based on ...	Funding is sub-allocated based on statutory formulas	Funding flows through MPOs and RTPOs	80%
44 Charging and Fueling Grant Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$300 million	\$2.5 billion	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to improve public ...	Apply directly to USDOT	50% of total program funds will be awarded through ...	80% (if contracting with a private entity, that entity is ...
45 Congestion Relief Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$50 million	\$250 million	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to advance innovative, ...	Apply directly to USDOT	Project must be located in an urbanized area with a ...	80%
46 Construction of Ferry Boats and Ferry Terminal Facilities Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$178.4 million	\$912 million	Formula	Provides funding for the construction of ferry boats ...	Funding is allocated to states based on statutory ...	County must own/operate ferry system	80%
47 Healthy Streets Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$100 million	\$500 million	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to install cool and/or porous...	Apply directly to USDOT		80% - 100%
48 Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Programs (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America ...)	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$1.55 billion	\$14.01 billion	Competitive	Provides funding for a variety of eligible highway, ...	Apply directly to USDOT	Project costs must reasonably be expected to ...	60% for appropriated funds; 60% to 80% for contract ...
49 Prioritization Process Pilot Program	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$10 million	\$50 million	Competitive	Provides grants to support data-driven approaches to ...	Apply directly to USDOT	MPOs over 200,000 are eligible	
50 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation ...	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$25 million	\$140 million	Competitive	Supports projects that strengthen, stabilize, ...	Apply directly to USDOT	Counties must be located in a state that borders the ...	Generally 80%
51 PROTECT Program: Community Resilience and Evacuation Routes Grants	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$25 million	\$140 million	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to strengthen and protect ...	Apply directly to USDOT		Generally 80%
52 PROTECT Program: Planning Grants	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$25 million	\$140 million	Competitive	Supports technical capacity building and general ...	Apply directly to USDOT		100%
53 PROTECT Program: Resilience Improvement Grants	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$175 million	\$980 million	Competitive	Provides funding for projects to protect surface ...	Apply directly to USDOT		Generally 80%
54 Reconnecting Communities Program: Capital Construction Grants	Department of Transportation	Federal Highway Admin...	\$145 million	\$750 million	Competitive	Provides funding for eligible projects that will restore ...	Apply directly to USDOT	Must be the owner of an eligible facility (defined as ...	50%

Broadband Consulting Service Now Available to Local Governments

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has retained FG (Fiberutilities Group) to provide broadband consultation services to local governments beginning September 2021 through August 2023. This assistance is made possible by the OCIO at no additional cost.

Facilitated by FG, the Broadband Together™ program consists of eight sequential steps that provide the basic structural components required for cities and counties to frame their unique approach to meeting broadband goals. The final step creates a strategy document to be expanded upon in whatever manner is deemed appropriate to action by the Iowa cities and counties.

Funding broadband in your community requires appropriate definition of both the project and the service provider, as well as an actionable roadmap. Using the Broadband Together™ program approach, FG will help cities and counties develop their broadband strategy.

Overview of the Broadband Together™ Program

Step 1: Broadband Goals and Definitions

This step leads participants through a discussion that articulates specifically what attributes broadband could have in the community. This formal definition becomes the “true north” that helps frame subsequent discussions.

Step 2: Broadband Delivery Methodology

This step outlines the options and the pros and cons of various broadband delivery structures, including public private partnerships.

Step 3: Basic Broadband Data

This step quantifies both the existing broadband products and the providers per the Iowa broadband map. A basic internet profile of service providers is performed along with a rudimentary user survey to identify perceived gaps.

Step 4: Broadband Currency

This step aids in the identification and cataloging of any noncash currency that communities could provide to support the delivery of new broadband services and generate greater demand for broadband.

Step 5: Broadband Adoption Initiatives

This step explores options for communities to leverage in order to build support, increase constituent understanding, and generate greater demand for broadband.

Step 6: Project Costing Considerations

This step outlines "Plan - Build - Operate" project components inclusive of the elements of a broadband project, including high level cost examples.

Step 7: Project Funding Alternatives

This step leverages the information gathered in the previous steps and reviews options for how funding alternatives could integrate into your broadband approach.

Step 8: Broadband Strategy Document

This step focuses on compiling a strategy document that defines the community's direction for future action. This final step is a well-defined starting line for your broadband journey.

Q&A

FG has been retained by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) of Iowa to provide free strategic consulting services to Iowa cities and counties. FG can be used as an educational resource to better understand broadband, provide opportunities to enhance or expand broadband alternatives, coordinate various broadband-related resources or work with the service provider you select to explore broadband options.

WHO can benefit from FG's services?

Cities and counties interested in understanding broadband as it exists today, and how they may be able to enhance, improve or expand additional broadband opportunities locally.

WHY is broadband more critical than ever?

As a foundation, broadband provides critical infrastructure for economic development, growth and community sustainability. In the wake of COVID, a new normal has impacted our communities as basic life services such as work, education and healthcare shifts to a content-rich, digital-delivery model. Recently, the need for broadband has become more essential and more urgent as cities and counties adapt to the realities of a global pandemic and the availability of government program funding.

WHAT benefits will I receive in the Broadband Together program?

FG offers consultation and expertise in the key areas of broadband strategy development, including:

- Strategic consulting and advisement
- Broadband planning approaches
- Guidance related to the definition and delivery of broadband
- Terminology and capabilities of broadband
- Insights on the economics of broadband
- Methods and considerations for roadmap development
- Understanding the current local broadband landscape
- Options related to evaluation and/or assessments
- Possible paths to achieve desired outcomes
- Possible funding alternatives

FG will advise and consult at no additional cost to help formulate your broadband strategy. Your roadmap, however, may require additional fee-based services. As a neutral party, FG can connect you with additional resources, such as:

- Local, regional or state contacts
- Stakeholder engagement services
- Third party vendors or partners
- Potential funding sources, if appropriate
- Broadband project management

HOW do I engage FG?

Contact the OCIO or email FG at BroadbandTogether@NetworkBetter.com



ocio.iowa.gov

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Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: (515) 281-5503



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FG does not represent or partner with any specific technology services, service providers, or hardware vendors, nor do we engage in legislative issues or lobby for state or federal broadband rules or funding. We are an agnostic consulting firm specializing in broadband strategy.

About FG

FG, formerly known as Fiberutilites Group, is an Iowa-based network services company. We provide unmatched and unbiased industry expertise with a full spectrum of network services to help government, healthcare, and business network better.

FG has been retained by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) of Iowa to provide free strategic consulting services to Iowa cities and counties seeking assistance in developing a comprehensive broadband roadmap for their community. FG can be used as an educational resource to better understand broadband, provide opportunities to enhance or expand broadband alternatives, coordinate various broadband-related resources or work with the service providers you select to explore broadband options.

Preferred Vendor of the Month - IP Pathways

It Takes a Layered Approach to Keep Your County's Data and Networks Safe

Every 39 seconds a cyberattack happens, 43% are targeting small and medium-sized enterprises, and in 2021 the average cost of a data breach was \$3.9 million. Cyberattacks have become so prevalent now, it's not if you'll get attacked, but when and how much it will cost you.



IP Pathways

www.ippathways.com

One of our clients, a college in Iowa, suffered a cyberattack on its production environment that could have resulted in a 100% loss of data, but because we had an immutable backup in one of our IP Pathways' data centers, we were able to flip the switch and help them restore 100% of their data. Iowa counties are in a particularly difficult position of being a good steward of their residents' data, and for this reason alone, are often a target of attack.

At IP Pathways, we look at security as a multi-layered solution and believe to truly protect your organization, you need more than just firewalls and antivirus software. Believe it or not, we are still meeting organizations that think those two elements are enough to keep them safe.

Firewalls and Backup

Firewalls and a good, off-site backup solution are certainly our first recommended line of defense. As we began to dig deeper into the existing security protocols of the organizations we serve, the most common gaping hole we find is a fully executable and annually tested disaster and recovery plan. Most commonly we're finding this strategy is an organization's goal, but it often falls through the cracks when staffing shortages and budget considerations become more important.

We see many organizations that do perform some penetration testing but just not frequently enough. It's imperative that as you're continuing to make changes to your environment, you're also taking the time to invest in all the tests required to ensure you're going to be safe before the next attack.

DNS Security

With this cybersecurity foundation in place, you can layer on additional software and network protections. One important function that people are happily investing in is DNS security. It's a solution that allows you to block your users from going to malicious sites ultimately reducing your risk.

Multi-Factor Authentication

Next, having a fully managed multi-factor authentication (MFA) solution in place can stop as many as 98% of cyberattacks in their tracks. Many cyber insurance companies are beginning to require MFA or your premiums will skyrocket, or you may not be insurable at all.

Mobile Device Management

Ensuring that all the personal devices your employees are bringing into your organization or network are secure is another critical component of a layered security strategy. This threat is particularly important to organizations with hybrid and remote workers.

Managed Security and Threat Analytics

Having a trusted partner to monitor your environment who can instantly respond to suspicious events is vital protection and worth the investment. Attackers are only getting smarter and more sophisticated requiring your cybersecurity solutions to rise to meet the challenge of stronger and harder to detect threats.

Preferred Vendor of the Month - IP Pathways

End User Education

After addressing your environment, you need to focus on end user education. Phishing attacks are on the rise, and all it takes is one user on the network clicking a link in an email to compromise your entire system. We can test your end users, grade them, and re-test if they continue to fail. This identifies weaknesses in your users before a hacker exploits them.

At IP Pathways we continue to evaluate and validate technologies to ensure our clients have access to the latest security tools. No cybersecurity product or service can guarantee you won't get attacked, but we can help you find the right mix of products and technologies to keep you safer and more protected at every layer of your organization.



One of our biggest strengths is helping your organization ensure your technology investments meet your business objectives. More than just selling you hardware or software, our technology and cloud consultants become part of your team fighting cyberattacks now and in the future.

IP Pathways is headquartered in Des Moines, with offices in Kansas City and Omaha, data centers in Des Moines and Omaha, and cloud infrastructure available through AdaptiveCloud™. We're here to help you conquer and thrive in the ever-evolving world of cybersecurity. We've been consulting with organizations for the last 14 years and welcome the opportunity to work through your challenges.

We are proud to be part of the 17th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser event and pleased to contribute to the scholarship event. Investing in future Iowa leaders is an important part of our legacy.

We'd love to help you stay safe, secure, and completely out of the headlines, giving local government and residents more peace of mind. Schedule a free cybersecurity assessment on our website at <https://www.ippathways.com/county/> or call us at 877.363.3895.

ISAC Preferred Vendor Program

ISAC preferred vendors are commercial enterprises, professional associations, or private groups who pay a fee to be associated with ISAC. ISAC knows that companies are looking for ways to build and to strengthen their relationships with counties who need their services. With that in mind, ISAC offers the Preferred Vendor Program to provide companies with the greatest exposure to county officials and employees. Our preferred vendors are uniquely positioned to build and deepen relationships with county officials in all 99 Iowa counties.



Jacy Ripperger

ISAC Marketing Coordinator
jripperger@iowacounties.org

Why did we create this program?

This program offers companies the ability to have year-round exposure to county officials while helping to support ISAC events throughout the year. The income from this program helps to offset the cost of member services, including government relations, education, events, and communications.

What is the benefit?

The program minimizes costs for companies by offering packaged perks rather than charging on a per-item basis. This makes budgeting easier for companies looking for a one-stop-shop approach. Our preferred vendor packages ensure that companies won't miss any opportunities to communicate with county officials throughout the year.

What are the package options?

ISAC offers a wide range of packages that fit every budget. Four levels of preferred vendor packages range from \$10,000 with the maximum exposure to \$1,000 annually. Year-round perks in the magazine, on our website, and at ISAC events guarantee that county officials across Iowa are able to connect with our preferred vendors.

What is an endorsed preferred vendor?

ISAC endorsed companies are key business partners that share a common goal of providing quality services to our members. We have long-standing, board-approved partnerships with these companies.

To view a list of all ISAC preferred vendors and endorsed companies, please visit the ISAC website www.iowacounties.org.



High Performance Leadership Academy

Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with the most fundamental leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

NACo and the Professional Development Academy created the interactive program in collaboration with the late General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, private sector executives, and local government officials—all to enable your existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potentials.

More than 5,000 participants have enrolled from counties across the country since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand



5,000+ Participants to Date



1,600+ Counties & Associations



\$ 5.5 Million+ In Scholarship Savings

for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented: to the point that NACo now has four scheduled opportunities to attend each year.

The Academy has proven relevant and non-disruptive for self-paced and collaborative learning. Participants have the opportunity to engage with peers from other counties and receive expert guidance from program facilitators throughout the 12 weeks of course materials, all with a flexible 4-5 hour per week time commitment.

The cost per enrollee begins at \$1,645. Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details for your state.

To enroll, visit the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy webpage at [NACo.org/Skills](https://www.naco.org/Skills).

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at treinas@pdaleadership.com.



National Association of Counties (NACo)

www.naco.org



"This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better."

- General Colin Powell,
(April 5, 1937 - October 18, 2021)

Top 10 Participating Counties and Associations:

Hennepin County, MN
Fairfield County, OH
Texas Association of Counties
Montgomery County, MD
Douglas County, NE
Riverside County, CA
Tulare County, CA
Maricopa County, AZ
Sutter County, CA
Hamilton County, OH

2022 NACo WIR/RAC Conference

“America can’t succeed unless rural America succeeds.”

NACo’s WIR Conference and Rural Action Caucus were held in Anchorage, Alaska in May. My first WIR Conference I attended was in 2014 in Anchorage, also.

I don’t remember which speaker made the quote (I need to take better notes), but you probably are aware that Alaska is very rural. And much of the time, inaccessible. Eighty percent of its goods are imported through the Anchorage Port Authority. Most of it is distributed by regular road transportation, but much of the state doesn’t have any roads. Supplies have to be flown in, boated in, or skied in. These areas are referred to as bush country or even the outer bush. Now we are not just talking about food and fuel. They have to consider services like public health, mental health, and public safety. A panel of those individuals involved in the behavioral health field talked about the difficulties in providing services to those in the bush. One of the speakers suggested we watch “Yukon Men” to get a feeling of what it is like in those remote parts of Alaska. I watched a bit of the program. Well dramatized, of course. But I realized that they deal with things most would never dream of dealing with.

One of the field trips was to an agricultural research farm about an hour north of Anchorage. Alaska is the most food insecure state in the country. As mentioned before, 80% of their food is imported. The state has six different climate zones and relatively young and acidic soils. So, its efforts regarding food production are a bit unique. Since the growing zones are so diverse, there are 260 varieties of potatoes. Sugar kelp and oysters are also on the menu, along with a variety of grasses for livestock production. Interestingly, the state has only one FSA office. Can you imagine!? They have to play by a whole set of different rules up there.

At a general session, Brent Goodman from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources talked about some of the good things the federal administration is doing and a lot of the bad things. He pretty much lambasted Biden et al. for obstructing oil development on federal lands (I assume there is a lot.), which is costing Alaska a lot of lost jobs. He said it is a direct assault on energy and mining and that Alaska is the exception to federal rules. On another completely unrelated note, Alaskans make fun of Minnesota’s 10,000 lakes. They have 3,000,000.

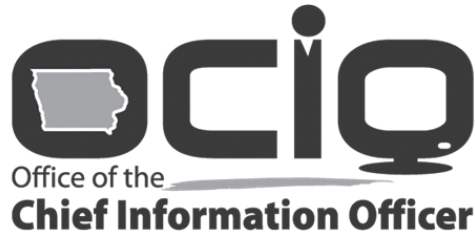
So, the reason I was there in the first place. At the Board of Director’s meeting, Julie Rodriguez, White House Intergovernmental Affairs Director, Zoomed in with a short report on housing affordability, infrastructure, and water funding. The White House has a very good working relationship with NACo staff. The Finance Committee reported a revenue increase of \$456,000. The membership retention rate is at 99%, which is completely unheard of. So keep those dues paid up. You don’t want to be left out of all the good things NACo is doing. Brian Namey reported that with the new census numbers, some counties may be looking at a change in dues and number of votes allotted to counties. Manuel Ruiz from Santa Cruz County, Arizona gave a heartfelt retirement speech and then offered up an amendment to the bylaws. His concern is that elections for 2nd Vice President were pretty much controlled by a few large states like California, Texas, Florida, and others. His proposal would allow for a rotation among the four regions to select the VP. The Board of Directors do not vote this proposal up or down. It has to be presented to the General Membership at the Annual Conference and approved or denied at that meeting. Also, we will be voting for a new 2nd VP this July. It looks to be a very good and interesting conference in Adams County, Colorado. I hope see many of you there. This conference in July will be my last as your ISAC appointee to the NACo Board of Directors. By the time you read this article, the ISAC Board will have appointed a new representative to NACo. I’m sure whoever is selected will represent Iowa well, just as I have tried to for the past nine years.



Melvyn Houser

ISAC NACo Board Representative
Pottawattamie County Auditor
melvyn.houser@pottcounty-ia.gov

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2022 Calendar

July 2022

- 13 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser
(Otter Creek Golf Course, Ankeny)
- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference
(Adams County/Aurora, Colorado)

August 2022

- 2-4 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat
(Mills County)
- 24-26 ISAC Annual Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2022

- 20-23 ISSDA Fall Jail School
(Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines)

October 2022

- 9-12 Assessors Fall School
(Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines)

November 2022

- 10 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(Hilton Downtown Des Moines)

December 2022

- 13-16 ISSDA Winter School
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 14-16 ICEA Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

2022 ISAC Preferred Vendors

Endorsed Elite Preferred Vendors

County Risk Management Services, Inc.
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Elite Preferred Vendors

IP Pathways
Summit Carbon Solutions

Endorsed Platinum Preferred Vendor

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MidAmerican Energy
Northland Securities, Inc.
Office of the Chief Information
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Schneider Geospatial
Tyler Technologies

Gold Preferred Vendor

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Cott Systems
Custom Tree Care
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ISG
Kofile
Neapolitan Labs
Purple Wave Auction, Inc.
Out Services Group

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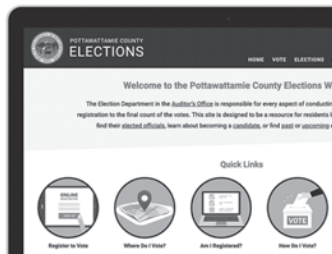
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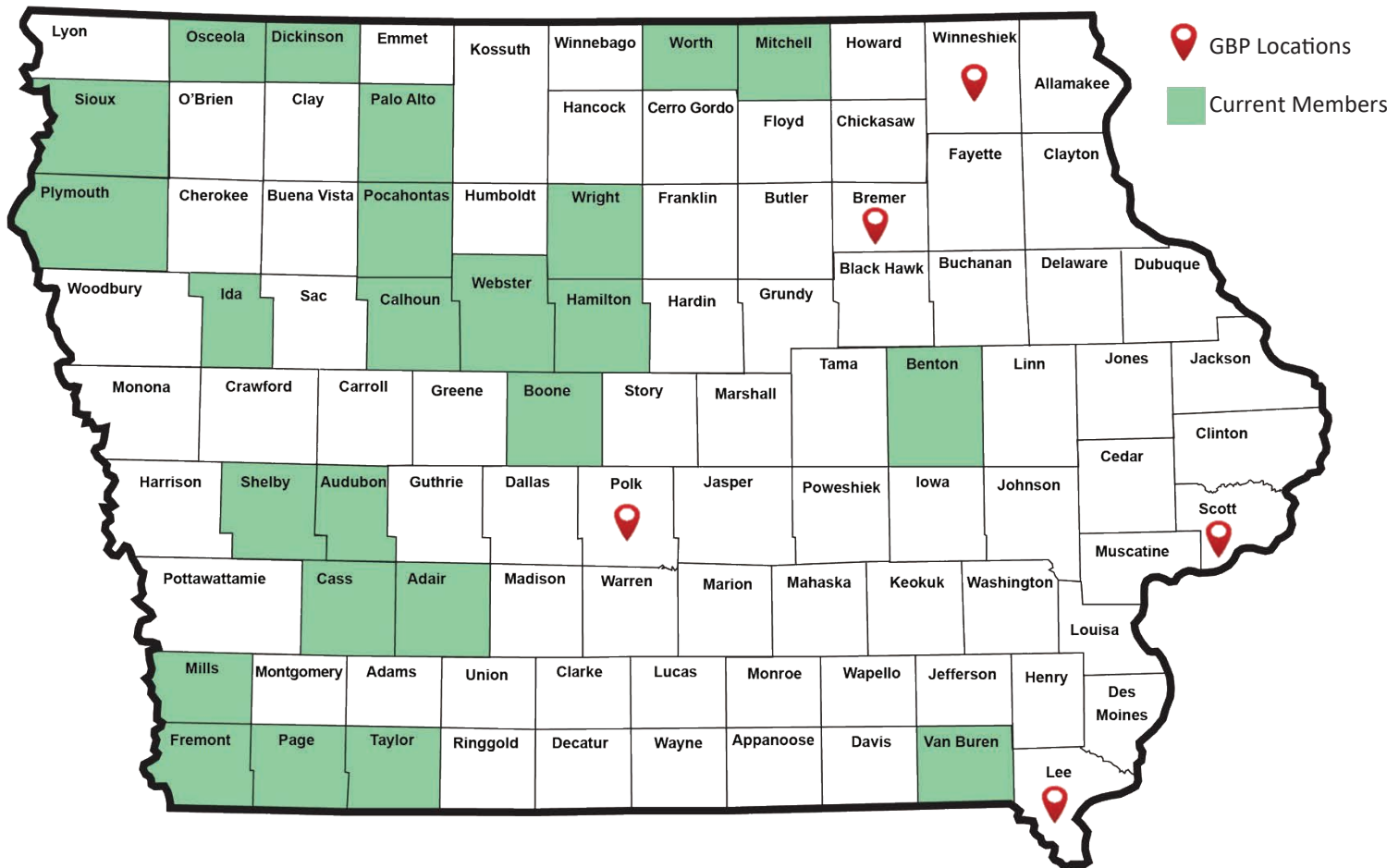
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Pools Are Trending in Iowa

In Iowa,
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in a risk-sharing pool.

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80%

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at least one risk-sharing pool.*

* According to the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRiP)

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