



September 2008

Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission

45 - Day Report to Governor Chet Culver



Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission Membership

Major General Ron Dardis, Commission Chair, Johnston

Bill Bywater, Iowa City

Jim Davis, Charles City

Mike Earley, Des Moines

Jim Fausett, Coralville

Bill Gerhard, Iowa City

Karris Golden, Waterloo

Brent Halling, Perry

Mike King, Creston

Linda Larkin, Fort Madison

Nitza Lopez-Castillo, Columbus Junction

Carroll Reasoner, Cedar Rapids

Amy Truax, Parkersburg

Mark Wandro, Des Moines

Beverly Wharton, Sioux City

Ex-Officio Members

Gary Anderson, Centerville

Tim Hurley, Waterloo



Table of Contents



▶	Transmittal Letter	6
▶	Acknowledgements	8
▶	Executive Summary Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission 45-Day Report to the Governor	10
▶	Preface	16
▶	Damage Scope and Estimates	18
▶	Priority Issues	24
▶	Recommendations of the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission	28
▶	Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission Process	40
▶	Rebuild Iowa Task Forces	44



Transmittal Letter



Governor Chester J. Culver
Lieutenant Governor Patty Judge
State Capitol
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Governor Culver and Lt. Governor Judge:

As Chairman of the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission, I am pleased to provide you our report as directed in your Executive Order Seven, signed on June 27, 2008.

As you are well aware, our Commission members were very active in this first 45-Day Report timeframe. In addition to each Commissioner leading one of the nine Rebuild Iowa Task Forces, the Commission viewed the damages first-hand as members toured the vast areas affected by the disasters. In the Commission meetings scheduled in four different communities across the state, the Commission had the opportunity not only to see the impacts of the storms and flooding, but also to listen to and visit with local officials and the people who were working to recover from these disasters. In addition, Commission members were a part of the Speak Up Iowa! public input sessions held in conjunction with three of the Commission meetings.

We want to express our appreciation to the more than 600 Iowans who served as a Task Force Member or Resource Group Member in our nine Task Forces. In a very short period of time, each Task Force was able to come together, identify priorities and gaps in programs services, frame the severity of the damages around each Task Force issue, and make recommendations to the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission.

The support of the Rebuild Iowa Office was critical in ensuring that the work was completed in a timely manner. The professional team, drawn primarily from existing state agency personnel provided, the Commission and Task Forces with the subject matter expertise and the support needed to put together our recommendations.

The Commission appreciates, as well, the wide participation of members of the Iowa General Assembly. As active and engaged members of the Task Forces, General Assembly members brought valuable perspectives regarding their communities', as well as their own, concerns and issues.

This 45-Day Report is one of vision and consensus. It provides recommendations of a diverse Commission keenly aware of the concerns of all Iowans and communities, and gives priority to those recommendations that are most critical to Iowa's rebuilding in the immediate term and over time. On behalf of the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission, thank you for giving us the opportunity to help Iowa rebuild safer, stronger, and better prepared for Iowa's future. We look forward to our next assigned task.

Respectfully,



Major General Ron Dardis
Chairman, Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission



Acknowledgements



The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission held its initial meeting on July 17, 2008. From that date to the writing of this report, the Rebuild Iowa Office has worked tirelessly to convene nine citizen Task Forces, hold five statewide public input sessions, compile public feedback electronically, and staff various Task Force and Advisory Commission meetings across the state.

We are pleased to provide our 45-Day Report to Governor Culver and Lieutenant Governor Judge. The scope of the work could not have been accomplished without the many individuals and organizations who collectively contributed to this enormous effort over the last 45 days. We would like to thank the gracious communities, local leaders, elected officials, and Iowans who hosted us for our Commission meetings and welcomed and assisted us as we toured the damages in their communities. These opportunities truly confirmed the severity of the 2008 disasters, as well as the optimism that the state will recover from the events of the past six months.

Without the intense work of the more than 500 individuals who volunteered their time to serve on the nine Rebuild Iowa Task Forces, we would be unable to bring forward our recommendations with certainty of purpose. In addition, we would like to thank the 150 individuals that volunteered their concerns and suggestions at the five Speak Up Iowa! public input sessions held across the state. Their willingness to participate in the work of the Rebuild Iowa Office reflects the courage and fortitude that will see Iowa through these disasters in the coming months and years of recovery.

We also thank the Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) leadership and staff for their guidance and expertise. Their intense effort framed the critical work required to bring these issues to the forefront. The state agency personnel comprising the RIO staff offered the Commission subject matter expertise and instant linkages to their own state agencies and other organizations and institutions.

Finally, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission would like to express its appreciation to Governor Culver. His presence and support at our Commission meetings and during the tours of affected communities emphasized the Governor's caring and concern for our state, and confirmed the real value of our task. Our special appreciation goes to Lieutenant Governor Judge who has timelessly led the Rebuild Iowa Office and guided our Task Forces and Commission over the last two months.

The Commission recognizes State Public Policy Group for the staff's facilitation, staffing, planning, coordination, writing and design services.

www.sppg.com



Executive Summary

Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission

45 - Day Report to Governor Chet Culver



The 45-Day Report to the Governor from the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission should be required reading for understanding the magnitude of the impact of the disasters of 2008 on Iowans, their communities, and their lives, and for the implications for the challenges of recovery and rebuilding. The Commission respectfully submits its preliminary report along with the Commissioners' appreciation of the Governor's trust and confidence that the group could offer recommendations of value to Iowa's future.

Every word of this report is important. Every message is part of the holistic perspective on how best to move the state aggressively toward an even stronger position than prior to the tornadoes, storms, and floods. The value of Commission visits to affected areas of the state, seeing the damages first-hand, and talking with local residents and leaders shows in the emphatic statements of need and calls to action on behalf of Iowans. The Commission underscores that every Iowan, every family, every business and organization, every farm, and every community are vital to Iowa's history, tradition, and future.

The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission clearly states that its priority is for the state to take care of the people. Issues, priorities, and recommendations are built from this premise, and emanate from an understanding of the scope and magnitude of the damage the disasters brought to 85 of Iowa's 99 counties between May 25 and August 13, 2008.

Overview of Damages

Damages defy description. That a smaller state like Iowa could suffer damages to the extent that this disaster places in the top dozen or so all-time national disasters is sobering and presents Iowans with recovery challenges few states have faced.

Identifying all the damages and placing a dollar value on them is impossible. Those seeking a grand total dollar figure for all damages in the state as a result of the tornadoes, storms, and floods will be disappointed. Those data do not exist. When considering damage data from any source, the reader should apply these principles in the review. Most damage data are estimates. Data are not final, and, in some cases, the data are updated and changed daily. Some damage data have not been gathered yet, or may never be collected. Some data are gathered for specific program use and typically do not reflect a complete picture beyond what is needed by the program for which it was gathered. Data sets typically cannot be compared to one another for reasons listed here. Consequently, simply adding up all the numbers would not yield a meaningful "total damages" amount.

With all those caveats, the nine Rebuild Iowa Task Force Reports each include a section describing quantitative and qualitative data. The Commission brought forward some of those data and augmented it with additional information that is presented later in this Report. Several items of interest are included in this Executive Summary to entice the reader to seek out additional data included in this document and the Task Force Reports (<http://www.rio.iowa.gov/>).

The unmet housing cost is estimated to total \$946 million for single family and multi-family housing. Total damages to agricultural crops, grain, and grain-handling infrastructure is estimated between \$2.5 and \$3 billion. Total unmet need for damages to small and intermediate businesses is estimated at \$2.78 billion. The total unmet need for repair and rebuilding of public buildings and infrastructure is \$703 million, and the list could go on.

These figures lay the groundwork for a compelling call to action for Iowa's policy leaders in their role of supporting Iowa's recovery.

Priority Issues

Provide for the needs of Iowa's people, individually and collectively. Without hesitation and with a strong degree of emphasis, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission collectively places this as its highest priority for immediate action.

The Commission identified a number of priority issues in discussion of their experiences, the tours of impacted areas, information gained from Commission and Task Force meetings, and brought forward from the Task Force Reports. The range of issues spanned all topical areas considered by Task Forces, and demonstrated many common concerns and overarching themes for Iowa's recovery efforts in the coming weeks, months, and years.

- ▶ Take care of the people of Iowa – keep people safe.
- ▶ Determine a better way to provide information quickly and with continuity to help those who need support and assistance.
- ▶ Ensure Iowans have their immediate housing needs met.
- ▶ Make immediate assistance available to small businesses and non-profits.
- ▶ Restore a sense of order and public confidence.
- ▶ Create flexibility in the use of current program funds, policies, and regulations.
- ▶ Create flexibility in how local government can raise revenue.
- ▶ Create funding that bridges the gap between FEMA's funding availability and the immediate needs of communities to pay their bills.
- ▶ Complete floodplain mapping as soon as possible.
- ▶ Begin floodplain management and disaster mitigation planning immediately.
- ▶ Provide incentives and leadership in addressing floodplain issues and policies.
- ▶ Ensure local emergency management has the capacity to fulfill its growing responsibilities.
- ▶ Conduct integrated comprehensive planning, engaging cities, schools, counties, state, regional councils of government, and others.
- ▶ Recognize the value of the state's historical and cultural assets.
- ▶ Sustain efforts to market Iowa across the country and the world.

Recommendations

The Commission developed its preliminary recommendations to meet the challenge set forth by Governor Culver for the 45-Day Report. Some members noted that too much time has already passed, and the days continue to click by. With a sense of urgency and a strong call to action, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission requests that the state immediately move to implement its initial seven priority recommendations.

Immediate Recommendations

Recommendation 1

Provide advice and support to individuals and families, businesses, farmers, nonprofit organizations, and others seeking assistance in making their way through the challenges of rebuilding their lives in a “case management” framework. Help will be easily accessed locally across the state for all categories of need, including:

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Mental health and mental health first aid
- ▶ Health care
- ▶ Information on programs and assistance available
- ▶ Completion of applications for assistance
- ▶ Information on decision making, including protection from falling victim to unqualified contractors and fraudulent practices
- ▶ Shortcutting local, state, and federal red tape in accessing assistance

Recommendation 2

Ensure immediate needs housing for all who need to be relocated, temporarily or permanently, before cold weather arrives.

Recommendation 3

Provide incentives immediately for Iowa’s struggling small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits for restoration and rebuilding of their businesses.

Recommendation 4

Complete floodplain mapping for the entire state.

Recommendation 5

Identify and create funding options and provide flexibility for local and state governments to assist Iowa in rebuilding an even better Iowa.

Recommendation 6

Expedite the flow of funds from the federal level, through the state, and to the local levels of government.

Recommendation 7

Provide resources and capacity to ensure public health is maintained.

Subsequent Recommendations

Of course, once the initial recommendations are underway, there is an expectation that they will be supported and maintained over time. There is also an expectation that some will be developed, adjusted, and continued to the next level of implementation. The Commission also developed among its priorities a set of subsequent recommendations that will become part of the Commission’s consideration as it undertakes further work in the coming months.

1. Continue to provide advice and support to individuals seeking assistance in making their way through the challenges of rebuilding their lives in a “case management” framework while creating a lasting organizational capacity and process over time.
2. Ensure availability of adequate, affordable housing and the ability of individuals and families to rent or purchase those homes.

3. Provide incentives for Iowa's struggling small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits for restoration and rebuilding of their businesses.
4. Complete floodplain mapping for the entire state as begun under the immediate action items.
5. Identify, create, and sustain funding options and provide flexibility for local and state governments to assist Iowa in rebuilding an even better Iowa.
6. Invest in local emergency management agencies for the central coordination function and work in all areas of emergency management – preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
7. Support integrated, regional planning to address recovery, and leverage multi-jurisdictional strengths for ongoing initiatives.
8. Promote and support communications and outreach initiatives to educate and support Iowans as they recover and plan for future disasters.
9. Move state policy forward and lead the discussion with regional and local interests on floodplain and watershed management.
10. Sustain community identity, quality of life, and cultural heritage.

Rebuilding and recovery will continue for years. For many Iowans, these weeks and months since the storms have seemed impossible and crushing, but Iowans, their communities, and the state are resilient and ultimately filled with hope and determination. The Commission shares that hope and determination, and is pleased and confident that the state's leaders will proceed aggressively to ensure Iowa rebuilds stronger and better for its future.





Preface



The 2008 disasters devastated businesses, farms, homes, schools, non-profit institutions, entire communities, and people's lives across the state. The challenges are astounding. While rains continued to pour down on the state and tornadoes and high winds blasted Iowa communities and the countryside, our local and state emergency response continued, and Governor Culver and Lieutenant Governor Judge looked inward to the people of Iowa to help each other. Eighty-five of Iowa's 99 counties were declared Presidential Disaster Areas for Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, or both.

On June 27, 2008, Governor Culver signed Executive Order Seven, which set in motion an intense process to engage Iowans at all levels, to assess the damage to the extent possible, and to make recommendations to the Governor by September 2, 2008. Immediately, the Governor named a 15-member Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission (RIAC) and created the Rebuild Iowa Office to give focus and support to the recovery and rebuilding of the state.

Nine issue-specific Task Forces led by Commission members came together to bring forward information and make recommendations. The Commission, recognizing that all of the Task Force issues were critical and inextricably linked to the recovery and rebuilding of Iowa, took a focused approach in its recommendations for the initial report.

First and foremost is the health and welfare of Iowans. With lives in disarray, families, businesses, farmers, seniors, and others need help. Navigating the complexities of the many programs is daunting for anyone. For those without homes, jobs, or their livelihood, it is excruciating. As explained in one of the Commission's Speak Up Iowa! public input sessions, "...community structure and balance will forever be affected due to the aftermath of these disasters. Some will lose their friends, neighbors, and relatives. People are hurt and angry."

People have lost their homes, their neighborhoods, their schools, and their churches. Small businesses were devastated, and some may never re-open. Public buildings, historical sites, roads, bridges, and entire infrastructure systems were damaged or lost. Non-profit organizations have lost their offices, buildings, and financial support. Local governments face extraordinary challenges to sustain a tax base that is in jeopardy as a result of losses in housing and the local economy.

To begin to address the core needs of Iowans, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission spent days visiting Iowa's communities and individuals from all sectors affected by the storm. In reviewing the recommendations of the nine Task Forces, the Commission's focus remained on the health and welfare of Iowans and how best the state can address its most critical issues in the immediate future. The Commission recognized that to make Iowa an even better place to live and mitigate impacts of future disasters, it is essential to initiate those policies and practices which will be necessary as the state continues its rebuilding effort.

This 45-Day Report recognizes the value of the work completed by the Task Forces, and will look to their reports to provide grounding for continued deliberations and future recommendations. The Commission's recommendations are directed to the state and to the federal government with a great sense of urgency. With diligence and tenacity, the process will move forward with the expectation that Iowans will be an integral part of the state's rebuilding effort.



Damage Scope and Estimates



Iowa was hit hard by the tornadoes, storms, and flooding in the spring and summer months of 2008 and has the greatest level of widespread damage in the state's history to show for it. Since the first rains and winds moved into the state, officials, agencies, communities, and individuals have been challenged to identify, assess, and quantify damages. Progress in the damage tally has clearly been made; much remains to be done to have a complete picture.

The damages outlined in this 45-Day Report to the Governor reflect the information-gathering that is a work in progress. Figures change daily. There is no single expert source compiling information on all damages using standard criteria. Instead, many entities are pulling together the information they can access to help them understand the context and the degree of impact. With a total of 85 of Iowa's 99 counties declared Presidential Disaster Areas by the time the incident period closed on August 13, 2008, and damage touching every aspect of Iowans' lives and communities, the challenge remains daunting.

In response to the Governor's Executive Order Seven, calling for damage estimates by each of the nine Task Forces, those nine reports included information to better understand, quantify, or demonstrate the degree of damage and efforts that will be required to rebuild the state. The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission has reviewed and discussed those damage reports, obtained additional information and context, and presents its best perspective on damages for inclusion in this 45-Day Report to the Governor.

None of the Task Forces or the Commission were able to place a firm, final dollar figure on the damages resulting from the tornadoes, storms, and disasters. However, considerable quantitative and qualitative information was gathered to place both value and context around damages in Iowa. This portion of the Report provides quantitative information from those nine reports and additional sources to frame the magnitude of damages in Iowa.

When reading and considering this information, however, it is imperative to take into consideration its fluid nature and the diversity in types of data. Readers must note and apply the following facts as they seek to use the data presented here.

- ▶ These data are estimates.
- ▶ Data are not final, and, in some cases, the data are updated and changed daily.
- ▶ Some damage data have not been gathered yet, or may never be collected.
- ▶ Some data are gathered for specific program use and typically do not reflect a complete picture beyond what is needed by the program for which it was gathered.
- ▶ Data sets typically cannot be compared to one another for reasons listed here. Consequently, simply adding up all the numbers would not yield a meaningful "total damages" amount.
- ▶ There are other types of damages in the state that have not been collected or brought forward for the Commission and Task Force discussion, creating gaps in data around those subjects.

Those seeking a grand total dollar figure for all damages in the state as a result of the tornadoes, storms, and floods will be disappointed. Those data do not exist. The following pages, however, seek to outline damages in Iowa by topic area and key segments within those areas. Again, the source of these data is primarily the work of the nine Rebuild Iowa Task Forces, with some additional information and updates provided since the release of those reports on August 22, 2008.

As significant as Iowa's damage is in 2008, it is also important to recognize that damages would have been considerably worse in many areas without the ongoing work of communities, counties, and local and state emergency management agencies to prepare for, plan, and mitigate impacts of future disasters. Damages in some areas were minimized as a benefit of the mitigation measures that were able to be implemented with mitigation

assistance following the 1993 floods. Other areas have implemented mitigation projects as the needs are identified and justified. Iowa has a strong planning, preparedness, and mitigation focus which, taken as a whole, served the state well in the recent disasters.

Iowa's 2008 event ranks toward the top of the list of national disasters as measured by damages. Its impacts are felt not only in the dollar costs, but also in the significant harm that has come to Iowans from these tornadoes, storms, and floods. It is utmost on the minds of the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission members that Iowans' needs receive the highest priority attention.

Agriculture and Environment

- ▶ Agriculture - \$2.5 to \$3 billion, estimated total damage to crops and grain, equipment, agricultural infrastructure, and grain storage and handling facilities, provided by Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).
- ▶ Livestock – 4,100 down or lost swine, 14 small animal feeding operations, 7 confined animal feeding operations. Damage was largely confined to the Louisa County area, according to IDALS.
- ▶ Soil conservation - \$100 million in estimated repair costs for grassed waterways, terraces, water and sediment control basins, and grade stabilization structures has been reported to USDA.
- ▶ State parks - \$4 to \$5 million, including \$3.6 million in physical damages and \$1.175 million estimated for lost revenue as reported by Iowa Department of Natural Resources to the Commission.
- ▶ Forestry - \$250,000 in damages were caused by the tornadoes.
- ▶ Water Quality – No cost estimates are available at this time. Nine wastewater treatment plants were affected and were still not functioning as of July 24. Many water treatment systems were compromised.
- ▶ Landfills – Debris removal is causing landfills to fill up much more quickly than planned. Cost on average to build one additional cell - \$600,000.

Cultural Heritage and Records Retention

- ▶ Cultural organizations estimated damages - \$284,497,500 in unmet need, according to the Department of Cultural Affairs and based on a self-reported survey of cultural and arts organizations.
 - » This amount includes figures on loss of collections.
 - » This also includes estimates for cleanup, repair, or replacement of facilities, administration, and contents.
 - » This does not include lost revenue projections.
- ▶ Damage to Iowa's libraries, excluding The University of Iowa, according to the State Library of Iowa - \$20 million
- ▶ No costs have been placed on restoring lost and damaged government and historical records.

Economic and Workforce Development

- ▶ Total estimated unmet need for small and intermediate businesses - \$2.78 billion
 - » \$5.36 billion total assessed damage.
 - » Approximately 4,800 non-manufacturing small businesses and 800 intermediate businesses were impacted.
 - » Large businesses experienced an estimated \$100 million in losses.
 - » Calculations using data and evaluative materials were provided by Iowa Department of Economic Development, Iowa Finance Authority, and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division.
- ▶ Small business and non-profit corporations - \$600 million in lost revenue in one year in the Cedar Rapids area, according to a report from Iowa Commercial Realty in Cedar Rapids.

- ▶ Physical damage to businesses from a Safeguard Iowa online survey - \$426,011,267; economic loss - \$178,593,361.
- ▶ Manufacturing damages and lost income from the ISU Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) survey - \$100 million projected.
- ▶ Increase in unemployment rate from Iowa Workforce Development data – 3.9% in May; 4% in June; 4.3% in July.
- ▶ Initial claims for unemployment insurance program - increased by over 6,500 (over 44% increase) from May to June 2008, according to Mass Layoffs Statistics.

Education

- ▶ Data from responses received by an Iowa Department of Education self-reported survey of school districts and community colleges, July 2008. These are total damages.
 - » K-12 Public Schools – \$62 million
 - » K-12 Nonpublic Schools - \$1.7 million
 - » Area Education Agencies - \$7.5 million
 - » Community Colleges - \$2 million
- ▶ Regents Institutions, from FEMA report on July 29, 2008
 - » The University of Iowa - \$232,156,312
 - » Other Regents Institutions reports are pending
- ▶ Private Colleges and Universities, from FEMA report on July 29, 2008
 - » Coe College - \$1.6 million
 - » Pending: Graceland, Mount Mercy, Wartburg

Housing

Cost to communities and to the state to repair and replace the damage to housing:

- ▶ The total unmet housing need is \$946 million for single family and multi-family housing.
 - » \$90 million is for rental property
 - » \$856 million is for single family dwellings

The unmet housing need represents need remaining after all insurance and government housing program assistance is taken into account. Data compiled by coordinated efforts of the Iowa Finance Authority, Iowa Department of Economic Development, and other relevant state agencies.

Infrastructure and Transportation

- ▶ Roads and bridges
 - » Federal aid routes - \$30 million according to Iowa Department of Transportation as of August 8, 2008
 - » County roads - \$43 million according to FEMA County Survey as of July 31, 2008
 - » Roads and bridges - \$55 million according to FEMA as of July 29, 2008
- ▶ Public Transit - \$53 million according to Iowa Department of Transportation as of August 8, 2008

- ▶ Railroads, according to Iowa Department of Transportation as of August 8, 2008
 - » Class 1 railroads - \$45 to \$60 million
 - » Short line railroads - \$23 million
- ▶ Communications and Utilities
 - » Telecommunications - \$66 million according to Iowa Telecom, rural independent telephone companies, and Qwest as of August 7, 2008
 - » Public utilities (water, wastewater, power generation, communications) - \$342 million according to FEMA as of August 11, 2008
 - » Private utilities and communications companies are not eligible for FEMA assistance.
- ▶ Flood control facilities (drainage channels, pumping facilities, some flood control facilities) - \$13 million according to FEMA estimates as of August 11, 2008
- ▶ Public buildings and equipment - \$380 million according to FEMA estimates as of August 11, 2008
 - » In order for public buildings located in a floodplain to receive FEMA assistance, they must pay the first \$500,000 of cost for damage to the structure and \$500,000 of cost for damage to contents.
 - » This creates an additional unmet need for many communities.
- ▶ Total estimated unmet need for public buildings and infrastructure - \$703 million
 - » Total damages to publicly-owned buildings and infrastructure - \$798.3 million
 - » Information was compiled in cooperation with other state and federal agencies by the Rebuild Iowa Office.

Public Health and Health Care

- ▶ Basic and Other Human Needs
 - » 141 private non-profits applied to FEMA for work assistance for repairs. Thus far, 23 sites will receive approximately \$75 million, according to the August 6, 2008 FEMA presentation to the Task Force.
 - » Iowa Department of Human Services Individual Assistance program – 165 applications received as of August 5, 2008, according to DHS officials
 - » FEMA Individual Assistance – 28,713 housing assessments have been completed; 18,000 other needs requests have been received as of August 5, according to DHS officials.
- ▶ Public Health
 - » Environmental health, vector surveillance and control, disease surveillance and prevention, public health nursing, and substance abuse and prevention services - \$15,055 million, according to Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)
 - » 38,520 doses of tetanus vaccine were administered over the four weeks following the disaster, according to IDPH.
 - » 50 of 200 sand point wells in high risk areas were tested by Environmental Health Response Teams, and testing will continue, according to IDPH.
- ▶ Mental Health and Human Services
 - » Disaster recovery program costs for mental health services - \$7.8 million, according to Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - » According to DHS Mental Health staff, as of August 7, 2008:
 - Iowa Concern Hotline is available for people to call for mental health services in agricultural communities. 5,400 callers received assistance.

- 8 providers offer crisis counseling with 100 outreach workers. At least 5,800 people had brief contact with counselors at disaster recovery centers and other places where people affected by the disaster were present. Hundreds more received extended counseling services.
 - More than 2,400 people requested materials be sent to them in the mail.
- ▶ Health Care
 - » Estimated unmet needs for three hospital facilities - \$4.065 million, according to health care systems reports to the Rebuild Iowa Office
 - » Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) were deployed to two counties to provide medical care to displaced residents, according to IDPH officials.
 - » A Mobile Health Care Facility was deployed to Black Hawk County, according to IDPH officials.
 - ▶ Child Care Facilities damages - \$3.2 million according to Iowa Department of Human Services
 - ▶ Older Adults
 - » According to information provided by the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs (IDEA):
 - Older adults tend to be on fixed incomes and experience higher rates of poverty; they are more vulnerable to catastrophic events.
 - 1,900 individuals were evacuated from long-term care facilities.
 - In one Area Agency on Aging region, there was a 60% increase in requests for home and community based services.
 - Damage to senior meal site kitchens - \$3 million.
 - Area Agencies on Aging unmet needs estimate - \$14 million.

No damage reports were completed for two Task Forces, Long Term Recovery Planning and Floodplain Management and Hazard Mitigation, because damages reported in those areas would be duplicative of other Task Force damage reports.

A careful reading of this outline of damages, unmet needs, and other impacts on Iowans and their communities can only underscore the premises set forth at the beginning of this section. Iowa has suffered major damage and loss that is not yet completely quantified. It certainly is not a straightforward process to obtain data. Nonetheless, the imperative is clear. Iowa leaders must move decisively to address the priority issues identified by the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission that will begin to alleviate the hardships brought on by the disasters of 2008.



Priority Issues



The highest priority identified by the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission is ensuring the health and welfare of Iowans affected by the disasters of 2008. With thousands of Iowans without interim or permanent housing, with jobs lost and communities devastated, the State of Iowa has the central responsibility of ensuring the health and well-being of those affected by the 2008 disasters. Winter frost and freezing will put some families in jeopardy. Some businesses will not re-open. People will relocate.

While communities, families, and businesses are stymied by federal disaster program and funding rules and regulations, it is critical for Iowa to step up and determine how to bridge seemingly indestructible constraints and solve a number of critical issues immediately. **"We must act now."** That sense of urgency was reiterated time and again as the Commission grappled with identifying immediate priorities.

Coupled with the urgency to act is the need for the state to restore a sense of order and public trust. It is difficult for many to understand why federal regulations, in many cases, circumvent levels of action in providing assistance to individual homeowners, business owners, and communities. With inaction there are questions. "Will I get my job back? When can I get back into a home for my family? Can I trust the water I drink and eat the fish I catch? Why can't I get any answers?"

People need answers they can count on. In some communities, individuals have lost their homes, their jobs, their neighborhood, their school, and their church. People need help in deciphering and navigating the complexities of the various disaster programs. For some, this disaster, in addition to other extenuating issues, can result in health and mental health incidences that may precipitate long-term disorders. Small business owners and farmers may be faced with decisions on whether to close down, relocate, or find another way to make a living.

In reviewing the loss of homes in flooded areas, few individuals and families were covered by private insurance. Thousands of Iowans have lost their homes, and while some have been able to share space with friends and family, many face the reality of an Iowa winter without assurances of permanent housing. The disasters affected professionals and retirees, alike, and many Iowans are experiencing a gap between the cost of repair to their homes and its value. For renters, apartments have been lost, and many will not be repaired. Transitional housing is needed immediately, and housing stock, already in short supply, must be replenished. This will assuredly take time.

We must act now.

Iowa learned some lessons as a result of the 1993 floods and subsequent disasters. But not all of the lessons were acted upon. Thanks to our emergency management programs, there were measures taken to mitigate flooding in many areas across the state, and Iowa should be proud of its practices in conservation over the last 15 years. Unfortunately, it is certain there will be Iowa tornadoes, and it is very probable that flooding into the 500-year and 100-year floodplains will once again occur in the state. There is much to do. **We must act now.** While floodplain management may seem like an issue to address down the road, there is a realization that development in flood-prone areas and disregarding mitigation practices is no longer an option. Mitigating risks of future flood disasters requires planning, policies, and enforcement that must begin immediately.

Securing and utilizing new technologies for mapping and planning are essential. It will remain a difficult issue for state and local governments, but there is an urgency to begin these discussions and to step-up the process. Iowa's levees must be part of that discussion. They have been significant in helping manage water flow and mitigate flooding in Iowa. That will continue to be the case in many parts of the state. Iowa's levees remain central to the economic success of many areas across the state. The 2008 flooding has again raised their profile and it will be important to weigh all circumstances in planning for the future.

For some, the word "planning" seems like a euphemism for "putting things off until later." Unfortunately, at times, that becomes the case. For example, after 1993, there was considerable planning to address flood mitigation. Some of the work came to fruition, and some of it was put off until later. **But we must act now.** Planning is an

essential tool in making Iowa a better and more livable state. Planning often occurs as an autonomous exercise by the state and federal government, city and county government, school districts, regional planning organizations, and other entities. There is a need for a determined effort to integrate efforts across organizations and sectors to ensure more comprehensive planning. More focused regional planning would give Iowa an advantage in its rebuilding effort and allow the state to better address disaster mitigation.

Iowa's cities and towns, counties, businesses, non-profit organizations, and many others affected by the storm face an uncertain future as a result of lack of capital, revenue gaps, and weakened ability to generate revenue. For some, it is a cash flow issue. Whether it is help to sustain a business, move a family into another home, or ensure a community is maintaining services, it stretches all limits to wait for federal disaster relief funds. And, if the state of Iowa does not step in to assist local governments with their required federal local matching funds, communities will be hard-pressed to continue many services. Local city and county budgets have been diminished significantly as they struggle to recover. As a result of losses of property, revenues will continue to slide. With restrictions on how local government can raise revenue, it only gets worse.

Businesses and non-profits can only look to the SBA for disaster relief loans and there is reluctance for some small businesses to take on this additional debt. For non-profits, most often with very little capital, the SBA is their only recourse. Like small businesses, they provide jobs and are critical to the local economy, but will struggle to survive without some kind of assistance. **We must act now.**

There is an affordable housing crisis in Iowa. The 2008 flooding and storms destroyed thousands of homes. Transitional housing is being made available, but progress is very slow. Many families remain with relatives and friends. Others have simply moved from the neighborhood and their community. While Iowa looks to take care of immediate needs, it must also look beyond to the impending winter period. The construction season window is closing, and funding and incentives are necessary to rebuild the replacement housing that is required.

The time to truly make changes that address policies that mitigate natural disaster damages in the future is here and now. As communities and regions plan to rebuild, it is critical that the state lead the discussion. Incentives are important and will go far in helping communities deal with these difficult issues. Rebuilding public buildings and housing in floodplains put public funds in jeopardy. Recognizing that Iowa is a home rule state, the state has the responsibility to lead and provide incentives for rebuilding Iowa responsibly. **We must act now.**

The state of Iowa at all levels needs to be given a great amount of credit for its response to the disasters of 2008. State and local agencies, volunteers, churches, local organizations, and citizens came together in a coordinated response. It was an effort that reflected the true spirit of our state. With rebuilding taking place where tornadoes and floods devastated communities, it is critical to remain vigilant to ensure the public safety and public health of Iowans. Surveillance of our water, soil, and air needs to continue well into the next year. Shared information between state and local entities assure greater communication and more transparency. This is essential as Iowa moves forward.

Iowa is "open for business," and while a great deal of focus is on recovery, it is important to recognize that much of the state's long-term success depends upon current strategies. It is essential for the state to continue seeking out and incenting innovative industries to come to the state. In the past decade, greater attention has been given to our state's quality of life. Iowa needs to keep its best and brightest in the state and continue to demonstrate that Iowa is a great place to live.

Summary of Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission Priorities

- ▶ Take care of the people of Iowa – keep people safe.
- ▶ Determine a better way to provide information quickly and with continuity to help those who need support and assistance.
- ▶ Ensure Iowans have their immediate housing needs met.
- ▶ Make immediate assistance available to small businesses and non-profits.
- ▶ Restore a sense of order and public confidence.
- ▶ Create flexibility in the use of current program funds, policies, and regulations.
- ▶ Create flexibility in how local government can raise revenue.
- ▶ Create funding that bridges the gap between FEMA's funding availability and the immediate needs of communities to pay their bills.
- ▶ Complete floodplain mapping as soon as possible.
- ▶ Begin floodplain management and disaster mitigation planning immediately.
- ▶ Provide incentives and leadership in addressing floodplain issues and policies.
- ▶ Ensure local emergency management has the capacity to fulfill its growing responsibilities.
- ▶ Conduct integrated comprehensive planning, engaging cities, schools, counties, state, regional councils of government and others.
- ▶ Recognize the value of the state's historical and cultural assets.
- ▶ Sustain efforts to market Iowa across the country and the world.



Recommendations of the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission



Iowans need and want help now to regain at least some of the losses wrought by the disasters of 2008. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Iowa General Assembly do not need the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission to know that. The Commission was created to provide the state's policy leaders with a clear picture of the direction Iowans want them to take, and the Commission appreciates the opportunity to call for action toward solving the priority issues it has identified in its work since July 17.

Through these preliminary recommendations developed within the challenge of a 45-day time frame, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission speaks as one voice on behalf of Iowans in framing seven areas for immediate action to aid in wise recovery and rebuilding of the lives, communities, and the economy of Iowa. In addition, the Commission offers additional recommendations for short-term, mid-term, and longer-term rebuilding initiatives to ensure the commitment, pace, and direction of the state does not wane.

The Commission calls the state to immediate action in the following seven areas.

- ▶ Provide advice and support to individuals seeking assistance in making their way through the challenges of rebuilding their lives in a “case management” framework.
- ▶ Ensure immediate needs housing for all who need to be relocated, temporarily or permanently, before cold weather arrives.
- ▶ Provide incentives immediately for Iowa's struggling small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits for restoration and rebuilding of their businesses.
- ▶ Complete floodplain mapping for the entire state.
- ▶ Identify and create funding options and provide flexibility for local and state governments in rebuilding an even better Iowa.
- ▶ Expedite the flow of funds from the federal level, through the state, and to the local levels of government.
- ▶ Provide resources and capacity to ensure public health is maintained.

When the Commission gathered to hone in on the contents of this 45-Day Report, members knew they were obligated to spell out the scope of the damages and outline the key issues around which gaps exist, but they were eager to move to discussion of the recommendations. The intensity and commitment of the individual Commissioners in helping individual Iowans was clear from the outset, and the recommendations for immediate action reflect that priority.

Presented with nine Task Force reports, each proposing a set of recommendations focusing on its designated topic, the approach to Commission recommendations could have been to simply review and adopt that lengthy collection of deserving recommendations. In its deliberations, however, the Commission sought common themes across the issue areas addressed by the nine Task Forces, recognized the overarching needs, and crafted seven recommendations that collectively address the range of issues and gaps Iowans face.

Excellent ideas and strategies were lifted from the Task Force reports and incorporated into the immediate and subsequent recommendations. Many good ideas remain in the Task Force reports that may be considered at a later date. For now, and especially with the impetus for quick action, the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission delineates its seven recommendations and underscores them with specific suggestions for action.

Recommendations for Immediate Action

Immediate Recommendation 1

Provide advice and support to individuals and families, businesses, farmers, non-profit organizations, and others seeking assistance in making their way through the challenges of rebuilding their lives in a “case management” framework. Help will be easily accessed locally across the state for all categories of need, including:

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Mental health and mental health first aid
- ▶ Health care
- ▶ Information on programs and assistance available
- ▶ Completion of applications for assistance
- ▶ Information on decision making, including protection from falling victim to unqualified contractors and fraudulent practices
- ▶ Shortcutting local, state, and federal red tape in accessing assistance

Action Steps

1. The state should establish a highly-visible presence in localities affected by the disaster in cooperation with local disaster recovery and program organizations to provide comprehensive, reliable, and prompt assistance to lowans.
2. The state, in cooperation with leaders in affected areas, should identify the long term recovery groups actively providing services.
3. The state should augment existing recovery groups’ capacity and resources for expansion of their scope of assistance.
4. The state should provide funding to link provider agencies into a single information network through 211 for consistent statewide information and support.

Justification

In their overwhelmed state, individuals, farmers, businesses, non-profits and others are floundering in their efforts to get information and assistance. Some do not know there may be programs to help them, nor do they know where to go to find out what may be available. Navigating the maze of programs, eligibility requirements, forms, and records is enough to keep some people from seeking assistance altogether. People may be facing displacement from their home, complete loss of their possessions including personal records, health impacts or injury, loss of job or income, and loss of their social network and support system. Decision-making capacities are diminished under such stressful conditions and people are desperate to find housing, re-open their businesses, find work, stabilize their financial situations, and get on with their lives. This creates a situation ripe for making decisions that may be poor choices in the long run.

Local non-profit and volunteer agencies traditionally work with individuals and families to address individual needs. Many of those organizations were also impacted by the disasters, and their capacity is also diminished for the short term. The Commission does not know the current extent of “case management” support, that is, individual technical assistance to ensure a person or family has the information and guidance necessary to make informed decisions in this time of confusion and stress. Navigation through program guidelines and applications, advising on financial decisions, selecting qualified contractors, as well as supporting needs in mental health, education, and other family needs are all part of a case management service. The need is there for additional case management support and an expansion of information to make it easier and more understandable for those in need to seek aid from FEMA, SBA, and other existing programs at all levels of government and the private sector. To help lowans access the assistance for which they are eligible in as direct a route as possible, state and local governments, along with non-profit resources, can augment existing support and develop new capacities to handle the demand and seriousness of the situations people face. This system of face-to-face, online, and other supports must be established immediately and maintained throughout the lengthy recovery period and beyond.

Immediate Recommendation 2

Ensure immediate needs housing for all who need to be relocated, temporarily or permanently, before cold weather arrives.

Action Steps

1. The Rebuild Iowa Office, in conjunction with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, should work with, assist, and monitor FEMA's temporary housing program and be prepared to intercede with federal officials to ensure Iowa families have access to temporary housing resources as quickly as possible.
2. Encourage the use of FEMA's rental repair pilot program and assist FEMA in implementing that program and identifying rental resources that can be part of the program.
3. The state should create financial tools to accelerate market response to the need to repair or replace a wide variety of housing, and implement standards to ensure this housing is energy efficient, sustainable, and livable for all ages and abilities.
 - a. Provide funding to motivate private and non-profit market production at prices and standards of quality that meet long term energy-efficiency and sustainability goals. This production would then be available to local communities.
 - b. Support long term statewide and local recovery groups' identification of repair and production needs and efforts.
 - c. Provide gap funding for production of affordable multi-family units.
 - d. Provide additional funding to local housing trust funds for disaster recovery projects.
 - e. Review criteria to direct affordable housing tax credits toward eligible projects in disaster-affected areas.
 - f. Ensure Enterprise Zone criteria allow eligibility for projects in disaster-damaged areas.

Justification

As part of its mission and responsibilities, the Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) will serve as an impetus and partner in the ongoing efforts to meet immediate needs for temporary and longer term housing for those people in a housing crisis situation. The RIO will have links and communication with other state agencies, local governments, and federal programs to track and report the progress toward meeting immediate housing needs, as well as to be actively involved in meeting Iowans' needs. Priorities for permanent housing to replace homes lost in the tornadoes, storms, and floods include ensuring quality and affordable homes for residents in neighborhoods and communities that reflect local governments' long-term visions and plans for their cities. The state will need to support these efforts through policies, programs, and financial tools to motivate the market to respond with timeliness.

Immediate Recommendation 3

Provide incentives immediately for Iowa's struggling small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits for restoration and rebuilding of their businesses.

Action Steps

1. Develop and implement a forgivable loan program for small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits affected by the 2008 disasters.
 - a. Identify funds made available through existing programs or through new funding to create a specialized loan program.
 - b. Develop criteria for eligibility and an oversight mechanism.
 - c. Link with local and regional organizations and technical assistance providers to help identify eligible businesses.
 - d. Explore waivers for the National Emergency Grant (NEG) program that would allow the NEG money to be used for small business assistance and get further federal funding for that purpose.
2. Waive sales taxes for small businesses, microenterprises, and non-profits for materials purchased for reconstruction.
3. The state should provide an Investment Tax Credit for owners of commercial and industrial buildings that were damaged in the disasters of 2008.
 - a. Identify funds made available through existing programs or through new funding to create a specialized investment tax credit program for disaster relief.
 - b. Develop criteria for eligibility and an oversight mechanism.

Justification

With the 2008 disasters and the horrendous flooding in many communities, there is a fear that Iowa and many of these communities faced with rebuilding will lose any recent economic gains and impetus unless immediate support is provided to small businesses, business owners, workers, and non-profit organizations. There can be a domino effect of continuing economic disaster if Iowans fail to recognize and address critical issues. Simply, businesses close, jobs are lost, neighborhoods empty, schools are affected, more businesses close, businesses are not started, businesses do not move to Iowa, non-profits cannot raise funds, utility costs increase, local tax revenues decrease, people move away, and more businesses close, etc. Time is a villain to the business community. There are no state or federal disaster programs to help small businesses recover and rebuild other than the Small Business Administration (SBA). Some businesses do not want to add to their existing debt; others find it difficult to navigate the process. In any state small business incentive program, criteria are required, oversight is critical, and spending of public funds requires responsibility. Direct cash is not an option, but funding support is necessary.

Immediate Recommendation 4

Complete floodplain mapping for the entire state.

Action Steps

1. The state should expediently move forward in determining and securing funding, and in completing a statewide floodplain mapping initiative built upon the initial data gathering using LiDAR technology.
2. The state should work with federal agencies for funding and support in completing the LiDAR flying to gather the data.
3. The state should fund the remaining components to complete the floodplain mapping process, including the aerial photography and delineation of the floodplain boundaries for Iowa rivers and streams within three years.

Justification

Floodplain maps in many areas of the state have not been updated in decades. While many believe there have been changes in the floodplains, an update is required to ensure that floodplain decisions are made based on data. Iowa residents should not have to make decisions on where to live or locate a business without complete information, sometimes with disastrous results, as have occurred this year. Some cities and areas of the state have invested in their own updating efforts using various methodologies, while others need these maps to help meet the criteria as a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program. LiDAR technology offers an opportunity to capture data and map it in a process that greatly improves accuracy. Because the mapping is a digital process, those data can also be used for modeling and projections to better plan, prepare, and respond to future flood events. The relatively high investment in the technology and other components of the mapping initiative will return greater benefits to the state. There is also a greater need to study hydrologic modeling in the state of Iowa.

Immediate Recommendation 5

Identify and create funding options and provide flexibility for local and state governments to assist Iowa in rebuilding an even better Iowa.

Action Steps

1. The state should provide the local (non-federal) match to local government required by FEMA and federal programs to ensure Iowa's communities will be relieved of this burden and have adequate funds to recover and rebuild. Identify and allocate the necessary funds through a state appropriation or other state or federal sources.
2. The state should participate in a cost-share program with the federal government prior to the winter season to immediately undertake a cover-crop conservation initiative to protect the 1 million acres of bare ground resulting from the disasters.
3. The state should scrutinize the current state budget to identify funds to realign in support of recovery efforts.
4. The state should allow additional revenue-producing options for local governments to alleviate cash flow constraints due to disaster impacts.
5. The state should allow additional revenue-producing options for local governments to provide funding for rebuilding of disaster-damaged communities.
6. The state should work with local communities to seek funding to fill the gap in local revenue resulting from reduced property values and reduced property tax revenues.
7. The state should use its credit to guarantee qualifying local recovery and rebuilding obligations.
8. The state should allow expedited bid-letting and reconstruction for local governments in affected areas for disaster recovery projects.
9. The state should expand options within current state programs, such as Enterprise Zones, to extend eligibility criteria to include disaster-affected areas and recovery and rebuilding needs.
10. The state should amend Iowa Code Chapter 384 to lengthen the local disaster loan repayment term to five years.

Justification

To recover and rebuild from the 2008 disasters, state and local governments will be hard-pressed to meet the funding requirements of even the immediate needs. State and local governments will be forced to turn to new and innovative means to pay for the impacts of these disasters and retain Iowa's economic and community strengths.

Immediate Recommendation 6

Expedite the flow of funds from the federal level, through the state, and to the local levels of government.

Action Steps

1. Through all means possible, leverage Iowa's critical needs to press for immediate release of federal funds for which the state is eligible.
2. Investigate options for federal, state, and local payment processes to expedite the flow of funds.
3. Create a statewide disaster contingency fund available to cities, counties, and public educational institutions as an immediate source of gap funding.

Justification

With the magnitude of the disaster and need for immediate funding at all levels, the wait time for receipt of funds exacerbates the financial crisis at all levels and across the state. While few options are available to speed up this process, it is important to continue to apply pressure for faster action within the confines of the law.

Immediate Recommendation 7

Provide resources and capacity to ensure public health is maintained.

Action Steps

1. The state should provide adequate resources and staff capacity to replace exhausted resources and augment public health services to residents of Iowa, including:
 - a. Resources for flu vaccines and other direct services.
 - b. Improvements in water quality monitoring and reporting.
2. The state should ensure mental health services are available statewide in local communities for individuals impacted by the disasters and receive adequate funding support.
3. State and local organizations should monitor demands on critical public health and health programs and provide resources to ensure adequate capacity.
 - a. Provide resources for public health disease and injury surveillance and monitoring as well as the immunization program.
 - b. Monitor gaps in support for recovery of non-profit organizations and provide state funding support through loans or grants.
 - c. Monitor increases in substance abuse, adult and child abuse, and ensure that an appropriate service capacity exists to respond.

Justification

There are and will continue to be significant demands placed on state and local agencies, organizations, and programs that have ongoing and long-term recovery responsibilities while still meeting existing and regular demands for public health and health care services. As an example, the volume of tetanus vaccinations administered during the floods will place serious limitations on public health resources for influenza vaccinations this fall and winter.

Recommendations for Ongoing and Subsequent Action

Recommendations for the future include taking many of the immediate recommendations to the next step, and also adding several new recommendations that do not require immediate attention. Recommendations for ongoing rebuilding as a continuation of the immediate actions emphasize the bold direction needed for Iowa's future.

These subsequent recommendations must be elevated and sustained at a higher priority in the state for the coming weeks, months, and years as the Commission undertakes deliberations and its work toward the 120-Day Report.

The Commission wishes to highlight the valuable work of the nine Task Forces and indicate that many excellent strategies for the state are contained within the pages of those reports; they should not be overlooked in future recovery and rebuilding decisions. The Commission also recognizes the need for a concise and manageable volume of priority recommendations.

With that consideration, the following are the recommendations developed by the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission for subsequent action by the state, local, and federal stakeholders.

1. Continue to provide advice and support to individuals seeking assistance in making their way through the challenges of rebuilding their lives in a "case management" framework while creating a lasting organizational capacity and process over time.
 - Continue to strengthen local case management services.
 - Determine the long term sustainability of and funding mechanisms for disaster case management capacity and systems.
 - Determine the responsible coordinating entity during non-disaster times.
2. Ensure availability of adequate, affordable housing and the ability of individuals and families to rent or purchase those homes.
 - Provide funding to motivate private and nonprofit market production at prices and standards of quality that meet long term energy-efficiency and sustainability goals. This production would then be available to local communities.
 - Support long term recovery groups' identification of repair and production needs and efforts.
 - Provide gap funding for production of affordable multi-family units.
 - Provide modest assistance to stabilize family finances after the disruption of the disasters.
 - Provide resources to families displaced by the disaster to enable them to repair or replace their homes. These resources may differ based on funding sources identified, extent of damage or displacement, and opportunities to provide immediate assistance.
 - Support local housing trust funds.
3. Provide incentives for Iowa's struggling small business, microenterprises, and non-profits for restoration and rebuilding of their businesses.
 - The state should create and support job and skills training and re-training vital to the economic growth of the state as well as for businesses and Iowa's residents. As the state develops and recruits new industry, ensuring the availability of trained workers is essential. Workers affected by the disaster will benefit with quality jobs.
 - Seek additional funds through federal appropriations designated for disaster economic transition training and re-training initiatives.

4. Complete floodplain mapping for the entire state as begun under immediate action items.
 - The state should fund the remaining components to complete the floodplain mapping process, including the aerial photography and delineation of the floodplain boundaries for Iowa rivers and streams within three years.
 - Use of the floodplain data should be promoted and made available to the public over the Internet.
 - Hydrologic modeling using these new data should be developed and funded as a tool for floodplain management and for state and local decision making.
 - The state should assess, update, and install the necessary gauges in the rivers to better track and respond to real-time river levels.
5. Identify, create, and sustain funding options and provide flexibility for local and state governments to assist Iowa in rebuilding an even better Iowa.
 - Create a statewide disaster contingency fund available to cities, counties, and public educational institutions as a gap funding source for future disasters, i.e., an Evergreen Fund.
 - Allow local bond referendum vote percentages for passage to be 50% plus 1 for affected areas in a declared Presidential Disaster Area.
6. Invest in local emergency management agencies for the central coordination function and work in all areas of emergency management – preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
 - The state should support and assist local emergency management agencies in expanding their capacity to perform the full scope of local emergency management responsibilities.
 - The state should seek resources to adequately fund and support work and activities of the local emergency management agencies.
7. Support integrated, regional planning to address recovery and leverage multi-jurisdictional strengths for ongoing initiatives.
 - The state should provide seed resources and technical assistance for comprehensive regional planning.
 - Engage public, private, and non-profit sectors in multi-jurisdictional emergency planning.
 - Strongly encourage school districts, AEAs, preschools, and institutions of higher education to develop a coordinated mitigation plan and suggest membership in the Iowa Mutual Aid Compact as a best practice.
8. Promote and support communications and outreach initiatives to educate and support Iowans as they recover and plan for future disasters.
 - Provide information to points of entry, including schools and preschools, colleges and universities, AEAs, child care homes and centers, cities, counties, and other community organizations that see impacted families on a regular basis.
 - The state should design and implement a communication plan educating the public on the importance of vital and essential records, collections, archives, photographs, and other items.
 - The state should take the lead in developing and promoting educational messages about flood insurance and its value, including training for private insurance agents and non-participating communities.
 - The state, regional groups, local governments, and interest groups should capitalize on the use of existing technical information to transform it into public educational messages, jargon-free, and appealing to the sense of individual, family, and community need. An example of this is to use more meaningful terms for 100-year and 500-year floodplain risks. An example: the 100-year floodplain has a 1% chance and a 500-year floodplain has a .002% chance of flooding in a given year.

- The state should take the lead and engage communities in explaining and educating lowans about locating in or near floodplains so they can make informed decisions.
 - Conduct a broad statewide awareness campaign to provide information to the public and help remove the stigma associated with seeking mental health assistance.
 - Create close relationships with local public health agencies and a local network of agencies and organizations to share information on air and water quality issues.
 - Ensure individuals understand and recognize their risks and demonstrate personal responsibility accordingly.
9. The state should move state policy forward and lead the discussion with regional and local interests on floodplain and watershed management.
- The state should take the lead in and provide incentives and resources for communities within the watershed regions of Iowa to convene in a regional approach to floodplain planning and management.
 - The state should convene federal, local, and state program leaders with responsibilities for all related programs from transportation infrastructure to recreational sites to identify and align program requirements and coordinate their impact on the floodplain, again most effectively implemented within a watershed area. Once convened, leaders should make recommendations and plan for development and implementation.
 - The state should take the lead, provide technical assistance, and support communities and regions in developing local land use policies and practices to support floodplain management and hazard mitigation.
 - The state should develop and adopt a core or base-level land use policy to protect lowans from the impacts of flooding, based on current data and with involvement of local governments in the process.
 - The state should develop and promote urban practices that reduce stormwater issues.
 - The state should provide funding and technical support to responsible entities and agencies to ensure existing floodplain management and hazard mitigation infrastructure located in Iowa are regularly inspected and maintained.
10. Sustain community identity, quality of life, and cultural heritage.
- Use Iowa's rivers and spaces as an asset to the community and state.
 - Find alternative spaces for displaced cultural organizations and artists, and assist with the costs of acquiring those spaces.
 - Increase the support of public art associated with construction of new and damaged buildings as well as maintenance of projects.
 - Establish a greater state capacity to provide direct technical assistance and training for records management, preservation, and storage.

Each word of this 45-Day Report to the Governor carries with it a sense of urgency. The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission saw, heard, learned, and deliberated the overwhelming condition of the state. We urge Iowa policymakers to hear the compelling story contained in this report and provide lowans with all of the assistance, support, and resources possible for a wise and strong recovery.



Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission Process



In the aftermath of the severe weather and its widespread damages, Governor Chet Culver established the Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) as part of Executive Order Seven to oversee the strategic recovery efforts in Iowa and to coordinate the efforts of state agencies as they address recovery issues. The broad vision of the RIO is a resilient Iowa that will be safe, sustainable, and economically strong for its people, reaffirming its ties to the land, rivers, environment, and rich cultural history. The RIO is driven by the mission to ensure that the State of Iowa rebuilds safer, stronger, and smarter from the catastrophic flooding, tornadoes, and severe storms of 2008. The Rebuild Iowa Office is staffed with employees borrowed from state agencies and departments from more than a dozen state offices, with Lieutenant Governor Patty Judge serving as Executive Director.

The RIO has been given authority in a variety of critical areas, including the following:

- ▶ coordinating state activities concerning the rebuilding effort;
- ▶ securing funding and other resources needed for the recovery, and establishing priorities and disbursement guidelines for any such funds received;
- ▶ establishing federal and state legislative agendas associated with the recovery effort;
- ▶ establishing principles and policies for redevelopment;
- ▶ establishing timelines and benchmarks associated with the recovery effort;
- ▶ providing opportunities for public and business input;
- ▶ ensuring transparency in the recovery process; and
- ▶ speaking with one voice on behalf of all of the state of Iowa, to include advocating for the resources necessary to spur recovery and communicating progress, status, and needs of the recovery to officials, community advocates, and the public.

Executive Order Seven also established the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission (RIAC) to oversee the Rebuild Iowa Office and to provide 45-day and 120-day reports to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Iowa General Assembly on the impacts, immediate recommendations, and long-term recovery vision for the state of Iowa. Major General Ron Dardis of the Iowa National Guard serves as the Commission's Chairman. The purpose of this 15-member non-partisan Advisory Commission is to assist the Rebuild Iowa Office and the Governor by providing the vision, creativity, and leadership to identify, prioritize, and address the short-term and long-term issues of recovery. The Commission held six meetings in July and August to tour damage in affected parts of Iowa, receive updates on recovery progress, and provide input to the Rebuild Iowa Office.

Members of the Commission also serve as Task Force Chairs for the nine RIO Recovery Task Forces. The nine Task Forces were created in Executive Order Seven to help facilitate dialogue on complex recovery issues and make recommendations in focused issue areas. The Task Forces met and developed initial reports to the Commission regarding information and recommendations to the RIAC in the areas of agriculture and environment, cultural heritage and records retention, economic and workforce development, education, floodplain management and hazard mitigation, housing, infrastructure and transportation, long-term recovery planning, and public health and health care.

Task Force membership was solicited through a public process requesting Iowans to volunteer to serve in one of the nine areas. Responses were overwhelming, and all volunteers who applied were invited to participate as either a Task Force member or a Resource Group member. The Resource Group was invaluable to the Task Force, and provided members access to individuals and organizations with issue-specific knowledge and expertise. The day-long Task Force meetings included damage assessment reports from FEMA, state agencies, and other experts and stakeholders. Each Task Force was then led through a deliberative, facilitated process to identify priority issues and gaps, and immediate and long-term recommendations.

In addition to feedback from lowans during Commission and Task Force meetings, the Rebuild Iowa Office toured the state, reaching out to lowans in affected areas. Speak Up Iowa! public input sessions provided an opportunity for RIO staff and federal agencies to connect with lowans by linking them with resources, information, and assistance. In addition, the RIO sought feedback from all individuals regarding circumstances, issues, and impact related to their unique experiences with the disaster events and recovery.

There is a significant level of urgency to the work of the Rebuild Iowa Office and Advisory Commission and state-wide disaster recovery efforts in general. The timeline of activities identified by the Governor in Executive Order Seven reflects the importance of an immediate and carefully-considered approach to identifying and prioritizing the major issues, impacts, and response needs of the 2008 disasters. In just a short amount of time – 45 days – the Rebuild Iowa Office solicited public participation for the RIAC and the Task Forces, held a facilitated day-long meeting for each of the nine Task Forces, supported six meetings of the RIAC, developed nine task force reports, conducted outreach sessions in five disaster-affected areas across the state, and developed this final report that considers all information provided through the public input and comprehensive deliberation process.

Over 650 lowans participated during the 45-day information-gathering time period through Task Force meetings, Speak Up Iowa! public input sessions, and through online and telephone feedback.

Timeline of Rebuild Iowa Events and Activities – Initial 45 Days

July 17, 2008	Initial RIAC Meeting (Des Moines)
July 28, 2008	Housing Task Force Meeting (Des Moines) Economic and Workforce Development Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines)
July 29, 2008	Infrastructure and Transportation Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines) Education Task Force Meeting (Ankeny)
July 30, 2008	Agriculture and Environment Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines) Cultural Heritage Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines) Records Retention Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines)
July 31, 2008	RIAC Meeting (Cedar Rapids) Speak Up Iowa! Listening Session (Cedar Rapids)
August 5, 2008	RIAC Meeting (Wapello) Speak Up Iowa! Listening Session (Wapello)
August 6, 2008	Public Health and Health Care Task Force Meeting (Urbandale) Floodplain Management Task Force Meeting (West Des Moines)
August 7, 2008	Long-Term Recovery Planning Task Force Meeting (Urbandale)
August 11, 2008	Speak Up Iowa! Listening Session (Red Oak)
August 12, 2008	Speak Up Iowa! Listening Session (Fort Dodge)
August 13, 2008	Agriculture and Environment Task Force Meeting (Johnston)
August 19, 2008	RIAC Meeting (Cedar Falls) Speak Up Iowa! Listening Session (Cedar Falls)
August 25-26, 2008	RIAC Meeting (Urbandale)
August 29, 2008	RIAC Meeting (Telephonic)
September 2, 2008	45 - Day Report to The Governor and Lt. Governor



Rebuild Iowa Task Forces



In creating the Rebuild Iowa Task Forces to support the Rebuild Iowa Commission, nine specialized issue Task Forces were formed to address the charge of guiding decisions and making recommendations to the Commission. Iowans were asked to volunteer, and as a result, 215 Task Force members participated. Their work creates a solid grounding for this Report and subsequent work in rebuilding Iowa.

Task Forces

- ▶ Agriculture and Environment
- ▶ Cultural Heritage and Records Retention
- ▶ Economic and Workforce Development
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Flood Plain Management and Hazard Mitigation
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Infrastructure and Transportation
- ▶ Long Term Recovery Planning
- ▶ Public Health and Health Care

Agriculture and Environment

Brent Halling, Chair
Farmer
Perry

Ted Kourousis
Northwest Iowa Planning and
Development Commission
Spencer

Deb Ryun
Conservation Districts of Iowa
Chariton

Mark Ackelson
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Des Moines

Representative Mark Kuhn
Iowa General Assembly
Charles City

Drue Sander
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Ames

Senator Jerry Behn
Iowa General Assembly
Boone

Rich Leopold
Iowa Department of Natural
Resources
Des Moines

Representative Tom Sands
Iowa General Assembly Columbus
Junction

Dean Black
Iowa Cattleman's Association
Somers

Regina Lloyd
Iowa Farmers Union
Linden

Ed Ulch
Iowa Soybean Association
Solon

Kamyar Enshayan
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls

Bill Northey
Iowa Department of Agriculture
Spirit Lake

Carol Vinton
Farmer
Glenwood

Richard Gerking
West Harrison Community
School District
Mondamin

Denise O'Brien
Iowa Environmental Council
Atlantic

Heidi Vittetoe
JWV Pork
Washington

Warren Kemper
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Wapello

David Patterson
Iowa Association of County
Engineers
Washington

Wendy Wintersteen
Iowa State University
Ames

Carlton Kjos
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Decorah

Mark Rosenbury
Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Des Moines

Senator Frank Wood
Iowa General Assembly
Eldridge

Cultural Heritage and Records Retention

Karris Golden Chair Wartburg College Waterloo	Gordon Hendrickson State Historical Society of Iowa Clive	Cyndi Pederson Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs Des Moines
Arbe Bareis Kirkwood Community College Cedar Rapids	Senator Wally Horn Iowa General Assembly Cedar Rapids	Steven Peters VenuWorks Ames
Melissa Bird Keokuk County Recorder's Office Sigourney	Sheriffa Jones Iowa Lakes RC&D Spencer	Diane Rauh City of Des Moines Des Moines
Representative Carmine Boal Iowa General Assembly Ankeny	Marian Karr City of Iowa City Iowa City	Hilary Seo Iowa State University Library Ames
Senator Nancy Boettger Iowa General Assembly Harlan	Jim Kern Brucemore, Inc. Cedar Rapids	Tom Shepherd Iowa Department of Administrative Services Des Moines
Alan Clausen Hawkeye Community College Hudson	Nancy Kraft University of Iowa Libraries Cedar Rapids	Tom Smull Iowa Cultural Coalition Des Moines
Michael Dargan Waterloo Public Library Waterloo	Joan McCalmant Linn County Cedar Rapids	Lorna Truck Library Consultant West Des Moines
Douglas Elliott East Central Iowa Council of Governments Cedar Rapids	David McCartney University of Iowa Libraries Iowa City	Mary Wegner State Library of Iowa Des Moines
Sam Erickson Community Housing Initiatives, Inc. Pleasant Hill	Representative Helen Miller Iowa General Assembly Fort Dodge	Timothy Weitzel Historic Preservation Consultant and Photographer Iowa City
Jason Follett Iowa Historical Society Board of Trustees Ankeny	Thomas Moore African American Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa, Hiawatha	Inkyung Westfall City of Council Bluffs Council Bluffs
Brian Ford Rockwell Collins Cedar Rapids	Bob Neymeyer Grout Museum District Parkersburg	Sandi Yoder Iowa Museum Association West Des Moines
John Goerd Iowa Judicial Branch Department Des Moines	Joseph Nolte Fort Des Moines Museum and Education Center Des Moines	Tanya Zanish-Belcher Iowa State University Library Ames
Bernardo Granwehr Iowa State Auditor's Office Des Moines	Sue Olson National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library Cedar Rapids	
Amy Groskopf Davenport Public Library Davenport	Nancy Parrott Jasper County Recorder's Office Newton	

Economic and Workforce Development

J. Michael Earley, Co-Chair
Bankers Trust
Des Moines

Bill Gerhard, Co-Chair
Iowa State Building and
Construction Trades Council
Des Moines

Beth Brockett
Alliant Energy
Cedar Rapids

Elisabeth Buck
Iowa Workforce Development
Des Moines

Sheri Carnahan
American Federation of State
County and Municipal Employees,
Iowa Council 61
Davenport

Senator Bill Dotzler
Iowa General Assembly
Waterloo

Linda Gidley
Iowa Workforce Development
and SECC
Burlington

Jim Heckmann
Iowa Small Business
Development Center
Ames

Rick Hunsaker
Region XII Council of Governments
Carroll

Representative David Jacoby
Iowa General Assembly
Coralville

Jessica Palmer
Cedar Rapids Area Convention and
Visitors Bureau
Cedar Rapids

Michael Richards
Soya Wax
Cedar Rapids

Justin Shields
Hawkeye Labor Council/Cedar
Rapids City Council
Cedar Rapids

Mallory Smith
M Smith Agency
Columbus Junction

John Sorensen
Iowa Bankers Association
Johnston

Kelly Sydonia Armstrong
Community Main Street
Waverly

Dusky Terry
CIPCO
Cedar Rapids

Mike Tramontina
Iowa Department of
Economic Development
Des Moines

Bob Untiedt
Linn County Nonprofit Resource
Center
Cedar Rapids

Senator Pat Ward
Iowa General Assembly
West Des Moines

Denny Warrick
Manpower
Des Moines

Representative Tami Wiencek
Iowa General Assembly
Waterloo

Education

Jim Fausett, Co-Chair
Mayor of Coralville
Coralville

Beverly Wharton, Co-Chair
Briar Cliff University
Sioux City

Representative Royd Chambers
Iowa General Assembly
Sheldon

Mary Chapman
Des Moines Area Community
College
Des Moines

Michael Cormack
Cumberland-Anita-Massena Schools
Massena

Dale Crozier
MFL Mar Mac Community Schools
Monona

Ronald Fielder
Grant Wood AEA
Cedar Rapids

Keith Greiner
Iowa College Student Aid
Commission
Des Moines

Samuel Harding
Jefferson-Scranton Community
School District
Jefferson

Lori Heying
Mount Mercy College
Cedar Rapids

Beth Ingram
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

John Laverty
The University of Iowa and Cedar
Rapids School Board
Cedar Rapids

William Lawrence
American Institute of Architects
West Des Moines

Representative Mary Mascher
Iowa General Assembly
Iowa City

Lisa McGrath
Tanager Place
Cedar Rapids

Senator Paul McKinley
Iowa General Assembly
Chariton

Gregory Nichols
Iowa Student Loan
West Des Moines

Patrice Sayre
Board of Regents
Urbandale

Senator Becky Schmitz
Iowa General Assembly
Fairfield

Susan Spivey
Kaplan University
Cedar Rapids

Jere Vyverberg
Waverly Shell Rock Community
Schools
Waverly

Flood Plain Management and Hazard Mitigation

Bill Bywater, Chair
Economy Advertising/TruArt
Color Graphics
Iowa City

Wayne Klostermann
River Valley Nursery and
Landscaping, Inc.
Dubuque

Gary Taylor
Iowa State University
Ames

Pat Boddy
Polk County Conservation Board
Granger

Bob McCulley
TriOak Foods
Oakville

Deb Turnball
Nashua-Plainfield Schools
Waverly

Lynn Brant
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls

Representative Dawn Pettengill
Iowa General Assembly
Mount Auburn

Dan Wall
Howard R Green Company
Cedar Rapids

Jeb Brewer
City of Des Moines
Des Moines

Amanda Reid
Great River Christian School
Burlington

Larry Weber
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Steve DeVries
Iowa County Engineers Association
Des Moines

Larry Roehl
Louisa County
Wapello

Marianne Doonan
Bi-State Regional Commission
Rock Island

Thomas Saxen
Financial Services
Cedar Rapids

Senator Gene Fraise
Iowa General Assembly
Fort Madison

Roger Schletzbaum
Marion County
Knoxville

Shu Lin Graham
Quad City Solutions/Translation
Unlimited
Bettendorf

Erek Sittig
Nidey Peterson Erdahl and Tindal, PLC
Iowa City

Senator Jim Hahn
Iowa General Assembly
Muscatine

Representative Art Staed
Iowa General Assembly
Cedar Rapids

Dale Hedgecoth
Cedar Rapids Prairie
Cedar Rapids

Vicki Stoller
Two Rivers Levee and Drainage
Association
Mediapolis

Housing

James Davis, Co-Chair
Iowa Title and Realty Co
Charles City

Nitza Lopez-Castillo, Co-Chair
Community Development Center
Columbus Junction

Tracy Achenbach
Homeward, Inc.
Clarion

Bob Bauman
Butler County REC
Allison

Bobbi Bendickson
Habitat for Humanity of Iowa
Mason City

Lorie Bennett
City of Humboldt
Humboldt

MJ Broomfield
Southwest Iowa Planning Council
Atlantic

Pam Carmichael
Home Inc.
Des Moines

David Erickson
Davis Brown Law Firm
Des Moines

Jim Ernst
Four Oaks
Cedar Rapids

Rebecca Groff
AARP of Iowa
Des Moines

Senator Rob Hogg
Iowa General Assembly
Cedar Rapids

Senator David Johnson
Iowa General Assembly
Ocheyedan

Douglas LaBounty
Community Housing Initiatives, Inc.
Spirit Lake

Vince Lintz
Iowa Department of Economic
Development
Des Moines

Sheila Lumley
Polk County Housing Trust Fund
Des Moines

Bret Mills
Iowa Finance Authority
Des Moines

Mark Patton
Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity
Iowa City

Representative Kraig Paulsen
Iowa General Assembly
Hiawatha

Lindi Roelofse
Tama County Economic
Development Commission
Toledo

Kurt Schade
Coldwell Banker
West Des Moines

Representative Tom Schueller
Iowa General Assembly
Maquoketa

Roya Stanley
Iowa Office of Energy Independence
Des Moines

Infrastructure and Transportation

Mike King, Co-Chair
Iowa State Association of Counties
Creston

James Houser
Linn County
Cedar Rapids

John Root
Muscatine Power and Water
Muscatine

Mark Wandro, Co-Chair
Snyder and Associates
Ankeny

Representative Geri Huser
Iowa General Assembly
Altoona

Dan Sabin
Iowa Northern Railway Company
Cedar Rapids

Charles Allen
Iowa Telecom
Newton

Diane Johnson
Waverly Light and Power
Waverly

Viivi Shirley
City of Perry
Perry

Senator Joe Bolkcom
Iowa General Assembly
Iowa City

James King
Fayette County Secondary Road
Department
West Union

Thomas Stoner
Harrison County
Logan

Darren Bumgarner
Northwest Iowa Planning and
Development Commission
Spencer

Linda Kinman
Des Moines Water Works
Des Moines

William Stowe
City of Des Moines
Public Works
Des Moines

Scott Byers
NAI Iowa Realty Commercial
Cedar Rapids

Dan Mann
Eastern Iowa Airport
Cedar Rapids

Brian Willham
Shive-Hattery, Inc.
Iowa City

Patti Cale-Finnegan
Iowa Department of Natural
Resources
Des Moines

Scott Newhard
Associated General Contractors of
Iowa
Des Moines

Senator Mark Ziemann
Iowa General Assembly
Postville

Dan Curran
Worley
Cedar Rapids

Cathy Nicholas
Black Hawk County Engineer
Waterloo

Dave Elgin
City of Cedar Rapids
Cedar Rapids

Marketa Oliver
City of Windsor Heights
Des Moines

Representative Pat Grassley
Iowa General Assembly
New Hartford

Nancy Richardson
Iowa Department of Transportation
Ames

Long Term Recovery Planning

Carroll Reasoner, Co-Chair
Shuttleworth and Ingersoll, P.L.C
Cedar Rapids

Amy Truax, Co-Chair
Truax Insurance
Parkersburg

Lu Barron
Linn County
Cedar Rapids

Senator Bob Dvorsky
Iowa General Assembly
Coralville

James Erb
Mayor of Charles City
Charles City

Daniel Garrett
Midwest Housing Equity Group
Des Moines

Steve Hammes
Hammes Business Planning and Strategy
Cedar Rapids

Sara Hektoen
City of Iowa City
Iowa City

Jason Hellickson
Holmes Murphy and Associates
Cedar Rapids

Larry Hulse
City of Des Moines
Des Moines

Senator Steve Kettering
Iowa General Assembly
Lake View

Glenn Leach
Diocese of Davenport
Davenport

Craig Malin
City of Davenport
Davenport

Brenda Martin
Iowa Central Community College
Fort Dodge

A.J. Mumm
Polk County Emergency
Management Agency
Ankeny

Representative Tyler Olson
Iowa General Assembly
Cedar Rapids

Connie Peterson
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Kristin Roberts
Coe College
Cedar Rapids

Elizabeth Selk
Heritage Area Agency on Aging
Cedar Rapids

Tamara Shipman
Great River Home Health Care and
Hospice
West Burlington

Steve Smith
JE Dunn Construction
Clive

Sally Stutsman
Johnson County Board of Supervisors
Riverside

Brian Tapp
Southeast Iowa Regional Planning
Commission
Burlington

Tom Underwood
City of Lake Park
Spirit Lake

Representative Ralph Watts
Iowa General Assembly
Adel

Sue Weinacht
Hawkeye Labor Council
Hiawatha

Julie Wulfekuhle
Tom Riley Law Firm, P.L.C.
Independence

Public Health and Health Care

Linda Larkin, Chair
Agemark Assisted Living
Fort Madison

Christopher Atchison
University of Iowa Hygienic Lab
Iowa City

Douglas Beardsley
Johnson County Public Health
Iowa City

Greg Boattenhamer
Iowa Hospital Association
Des Moines

Steve Bolie
Area XIV Agency on Aging
Creston

John Dawson
Chariton Valley Planning
Development Commission
Centerville

Representative Elesha Gayman
Iowa General Assembly
Davenport

Representative Dave Heaton
Iowa General Assembly
Mt. Pleasant

Patricia Heiden
Oaknoll Retirement Residence
Iowa City

Cheryll Jones
Child Health Specialty Clinic
Ottumwa

Terry LaBelle
Child Care Provider
Altoona

Kathy Lamb
YMCA Cedar Rapids
Cedar Rapids

Linda Langston
Linn County
Cedar Rapids

John Lundell
University of Iowa
Iowa City

Tom Newton
Iowa Department of Public Health
Des Moines

Alana Poage
Louisa County Public Health
Wapello

Kris Powers
Iowa College of Natural Health
Ankeny

Senator Amanda Ragan
Iowa General Assembly
Mason City

Julie Schilling
Lee County Health Department
Fort Madison

Senator James Seymour
Iowa General Assembly
Woodbine

Ann Strellner
St. Luke's Hospital
Cedar Rapids

Sally Titus
Iowa Department of Human Services
Des Moines

Dale Todd
Project Development
Cedar Rapids

Michael Trachta
Waverly Hospital
Waverly

Sharon Treinen
AARP
Ackley

Lisa Uhlenkamp
Iowa Health Care Association
West Des Moines

Resource Groups

Resource Group members were a key part of every Task Force. More than 250 individuals served in the Resource Groups and added value to the issue discussion as subject matter experts. Their presentations, research, data, support information, and specialized expertise and experience was vital in developing the nine Task Force reports.

Agriculture and Environment

Donna Buell
Buell Law Office
Spirit Lake

Paul Govoni
Hydro-Klean
Des Moines

Laura Hartman
The Office of Congressman
Steve King
Creston

Timothy Helmbrecht
USDA Rural Development
Des Moines

Andrew Hug
Environment Iowa
Des Moines

Tolif Hunt
Whiterock Conservancy
Coon Rapids

Chad Ingels
Farmer
Randalia

JoAnn Johnson
Panora

Chris Jones
Des Moines Water Works
Des Moines

Keith Kuper
Ackley

David McMurray
Upper Mississippi, Illinois, and
Missouri Rivers Association
Burlington

Terrence Neuzil
Johnson County Board of
Supervisors
Iowa City

Gene Parkin
University of Iowa
Iowa City

Dennis Pate
Validus
Urbandale

Jerry Peckumn
Farmer
Jefferson

Chris Petersen
Iowa Farmers Union
Clear Lake

Mark Reisinger
USDA Rural Development
Des Moines

Anne Robinson
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Des Moines

Renata Sack
Waterloo

Michael Sexton
Twin Lakes Environmental Services
Rockwell City

Francis Thicke
Farmer
Fairfield

John Torbert
Iowa Drainage District Association
West Des Moines

Cultural Heritage and Records Retention

Tricia Bender
Office of the State Archaeologist
Coralville

Barbara Mitchell
State Historical Society of Iowa
Johnston

Tim Soderholm
Wells Fargo Financial
Ankeny

Dave Bernstein
State Steel
Sioux City

Russell Novotny
Virtual Interactive Families
Cedar Rapids

Jeff Stein
Archives of Iowa Broadcasting
Waverly

Jim Cross
Mitchell County Historical Society
Riceville

Scott Ourth
Warren County Board of Supervisors
Ackworth

Mary Sundet Jones
Iowa Arts Council
Cedar Rapids

Todd Garner
Substance Architecture
Des Moines

Steve Petersen
Rockwell Collins
Cedar Rapids

John Swanson
Science Station
Cedar Rapids

Kathy Gourley
State Historical Society of Iowa
Des Moines

Ned Ratekin
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls

Jerome Thompson
State Historical Society of Iowa
Des Moines

Janet Green
East Des Moines Chamber
of Commerce
Des Moines

Ryan Russell
Limo Link, Inc., and
Brucemore volunteer
Cedar Rapids

Vicki Walch
Council of State Archivists
Iowa City

Sue Grosboll
University of Northern Iowa Museums
Cedar Falls

Roderick Scott
Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance
Iowa Falls

Phil Kenealy
Aces
Cedar Falls

Gordon Smith
Involta
Cedar Rapids

Wendi Laake
Generations AAA
Davenport

Rob Smith
Architects Smith Metzger
Des Moines

Economic and Workforce Development

Mark Anderson
Northeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America
Waverly

Matthew Anderson
City of Des Moines
Des Moines

Matt Ballard
Teamsters Local 90
Des Moines

Thomas Davey
US Bank
Washington

Karin Dils
Arcadian Engineering
Oxford

Steven Dust
Greater Cedar Valley Alliance
Waterloo

Victor Elias
Child and Family Policy Center
Des Moines

Robert Elliott
Retired
Iowa City

Diane Fountain
Scooters Bar & Grill
Martelle

Kelly Fredericks
Iowa Workforce Development
Des Moines

Lily French
Iowa Policy Project
Coralville

Richard Funderburg
University of Iowa
Iowa City

Roger Grobstich
Regional, Wholesale, and Depart-
ment Store Union (RWDSU)
International Union
Hiawatha

Kirk Hiland
Iowa Realty Commercial
North Liberty

Tom Hobson
Rockwell Collins
Cedar Rapids

Thomas Hurd
Alternative Energy Consultants
Mason City

Tim Kintner
Bankers Trust
Cedar Rapids

Michael Mallaro
VGM Group
Waterloo

Steve Morrissey
Steve Morrissey CPA
West Des Moines

Bret Nilles
Rockwell Collins, Inc.
Cedar Rapids

Mike Ralston
Iowa Association of Business and Industry
Des Moines

Claudia Ramirez
Waterloo Public Library
Waterloo

Diane Ramsey
Alliant Energy
Cedar Rapids

Joseph Raso
Iowa City Area Development Group
Iowa City

Mark Reinig
Iowa State University
College of Engineering
Ames

Jane Schildcoth
University of Iowa Pomerantz
Career Center
Iowa City

Doug Schumacher
A1 Rental
Cedar Rapids

Carl Sefl
ROI Marketing Services
Hiawatha

Elliott Smith
Iowa Business Council
Des Moines

Gary Streit
Shuttleworth and Ingersoll, PLC
Cedar Rapids

Bob Stringer
City of Waterloo
Waterloo

Thomas Summy
Iowa City

Michael Swartz
Church of Peace United Church
of Christ
Rock Island

Kelly Thompson
Hills Bank & Trust Company
Marion

Allan Thoms
Allan Thoms Consulting LLC
Cedar Rapids

Mike Tully
Aerial Services, Inc.
Cedar Falls

Education

Molly Altorfer
Mount Mercy College
Cedar Rapids

Gloria Avant-Moody
Bettendorf

Jeff Berger
Department of Education
Des Moines

Chris Bern
Iowa State Education Association
Urbandale

Max Christensen
Department of Education
Des Moines

Susan Craig
Iowa City Public Library
Iowa City

Tracy Doherty Miller
Chariton Valley Council of Governments
Centerville

Mary Lou Erlacher
Workplace Learning Connection
Cedar Rapids

Kent Farver
Department of Education
Des Moines

Mary Gannon
Iowa Association of School Boards
Des Moines

Carol Greta
Department of Education
Des Moines

Geoffrey Grimes
Stuxture Architects
Waterloo

Sheila Hansen
Child and Family Policy Center
Des Moines

Mitchell Hayek
Iowa State University
Student Government
Fairbank

Todd Hutcheson
Rockwell Collins
Marion

Melissa Jensen
Kirkwood Community College
Iowa City

Kathleen Jepson
Iowa City Community Schools
Coralville

Robert Jester
Jester Insurance Services
West Des Moines

Gregory Kenning
Wapello County Board of
Supervisors
Ottumwa

Lori Morrissey
Story County Emergency
Management
Slater

Daniel Nieland
Vatterott College
Des Moines

Richard Noeth
Iowa City

Marion Patterson
Cedar Rapids Community School
District
Cedar Rapids

Karen Regal
North Iowa Area Community College
Mason City

Janice Reinicke
Iowa State Education Association
Urbandale

Allen Ricks
County Extension
Hudson

Keith Ryan
City of Bondurant
Bondurant

Larry Sigel
Iowa Association of School Boards
Ankeny

Daniel Smith
School Administrators of Iowa
Clive

David Unick
Sinclair Hille Architects
Des Moines

Dick VandeKieft
Cedar Falls Community School
District
Cedar Falls

Vincent Ward
DLR Group
Des Moines

Clifford Weldon
MIDAS Council of Governments
Fort Dodge

Flood Plain Management and Hazard Mitigation

Donald Arendt
City of Decorah
Decorah

David Bear
David Bear, Inc.
Des Moines

Russell Behrens
City of Grinnell
Grinnell

Jake Hansen
Omaha/Council Bluffs Metro APA
Omaha

Kimm Harris
IPC of Iowa Inc
Cedar Rapids

James Heavens
United Suppliers, Inc.
Eldora

Dennis Hinkle
Greater Burlington Partnership
Burlington

Louis Licht
Ecolotree Inc
North Liberty

Tom Masey
Upper Explorerland Regional
Planning Commission
Postville

Todd McNall
OPN Architects
Cedar Rapids

Ronald Moore
Johnson County Planning and
Zoning Department
Iowa City

Joe Myhre
North Iowa Area Council of
Governments
Mason City

Brett Papendick
Wenzel and Harms, PC
Cedar Rapids

Andrea Pracht
Baxter and Woodman
Crystal Lake

Shannon Ramsey
Trees Forever
Marion

Dennis Reidel
Midwest Roofing Company
Mason City

Timothy Schemmel
State Public Defender
Muscatine

Brian Schoon
Iowa Northland Regional Council of
Governments
Waterloo

Jeff Sherman
Floyd County
Charles City

James Sines
Ackley, Kopecky and Kingery
Cedar Rapids

Dan Varner
AFSCME
Ottumwa

Housing

Nadia Anderson
Iowa State University
Ames

Jerry Anthony
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Dave Bert
Iowa Association of Realtors
Clive

Robert Burns
Burns and Burns Architects
Iowa City

Mickey Carlson
Iowa Finance Authority and Iowa
State University
Adel

Eve Casserly
Coralville Civil Service Commission
Coralville

Karen Cooney
City of Muscatine
Muscatine

Maryann Dennis
The Housing Fellowship
Iowa City

Brian Douglas
Community Housing
Development Corp.
Des Moines

Charles Eastham
Planning and Zoning Commission
Iowa City

Paul Faganel
Embria Health Sciences
Ankeny

Kathy Hankemeier
KH Appraisals
Lowden

Katie Harms
OPN Architects, Inc.
Cedar Rapids

Curt Heidt
Federal Home Loan Bank of Des
Moines
Des Moines

Thomas Huseman
City of Alta
Alta

John Irving
Baker Electric
Des Moines

Joe Kelly
Iowa Manufactured Housing
Association
Des Moines

Darryl Knight
Iowa State University
Ames

Jeff Kolb
Butler County Development
Allison

Corey Luedeman
Iowa Legal Aid
Cedar Rapids

Charlotte Martin
Mount Mercy College
Cedar Rapids

Bob Mulqueen
Iowa Office of Energy Independence
Des Moines

Chris Nosbisch
City of Norwalk
Norwalk

Kurt Ossman
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Davenport

Timothy Ostroski
Southern Iowa Council of Governments
Creston

Jack Porter
State Historical Society
Des Moines

Matthew Preston
Professional Maintenance and
Management Group
Pleasant Hill

Leonard Sandler
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Brent Schipper
Architects Shipper Kastner
Des Moines

Doug Sharp
BSB Design
West Des Moines

Drew Skogman
Skogman Homes
Cedar Rapids

Keith Smith
Landlords of Linn County
Marion

Susan Whitson
First National Bank
Waverly

Murray Williams
Iowa Credit Union League
Des Moines

David Wilwerding
City of Johnston
Johnston

Steven Winger
City of Wall Lake
Wall Lake

Infrastructure and Transportation

Lori Beary
Iowa Finance Authority
Des Moines

John Bender
Ament, Inc.
Cedar Rapids

Rick Berndt
Shive-Hattery, Inc.
Swisher

Chad Bird
City of Adel
Adel

Ryan Brems
Express Auto Delivery
Cedar Rapids

Steven Brody
Pioneer HiBred International, Inc.
Clive

Bob Cecil
US Department of Commerce,
Economic Development Administration
Des Moines

Chuck Corell
Iowa Department of Natural
Resources
Des Moines

Thomas Deardorff
TJ Deardorff, LLC
Waukee

Steve DeVries
Iowa County Engineers Association
Des Moines

Ronald Durbin
AET
Wapello

Shearon Elderkin
1000 Friends of Iowa
Cedar Rapids

Jeff Geerts
Iowa Department of Economic
Development
Des Moines

Tom Hagarty
City of Cedar Falls
Cedar Falls

Paul Hanley
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Thom Hart
Iowa Department of Economic
Development
Des Moines

Wayne Johnson
Qwest
Des Moines

Alen Kemp
Iowa League of Cities
Des Moines

Garry Klein
Klein Consulting
Iowa City

Michael LaViolette
HNTB Corp
Omaha

Drew Manatt
Manatt's Inc.
Johnston

Dennis Miller
Iowa Interstate Railroad
Cedar Rapids

Alex Moon
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Des Moines

Paul Mullen
Omaha/Council Bluffs Metropolitan
APA
Omaha

Sheila Navis
Rural Iowa Independent Telephone
Association
Des Moines

Tom Parham
Federal Highway Administration
Ames

Karla Peiffer
US Department of Agriculture
Des Moines

Aaron Staker
Aegon USA/Transamerica Life
Cedar Rapids

Mikki Stier
Broadlawn Medical Center
Des Moines

Dee Vanderhoef
Iowa League of Cities
Iowa City

Long Term Recovery Planning

Les Beck
Linn County
Cedar Rapids

Joseph Braverman
Southgate Development Services
Iowa City

Paul Brundell
Allan Custom Homes
Marion

Mark Buskohl
Farmer
Grundy Center

Dean Clermont
University of Iowa Health Care
Iowa City

Tad Cooper
Acterra Group, Inc
Marion

Phillip Delafield
City of Des Moines
Des Moines

Tracey Dormady
Iowa State University Extension
Creston

Clint Fichter
City of Avoca
Avoca

Karin Ford
Iowa Department of Public Health
Des Moines

Karen Gaddis
CEI Equipment Company
Cedar Rapids

Rebecca Hall
Our Financial Concierge
Polk City

Gina Hardin
Des Moines County Emergency
Management
Denmark

Todd Holverson
Liberty Bank
Cedar Rapids

Greg Jenkins
Great Muscatine Chamber
Muscatine

Thomas Jepson
Retired
Coralville

Kathleen Kleiman
Simmons Perrine PLC
Cedar Rapids

Barbara Knight
Community Volunteer
Cedar Rapids

Darryl Knight
Iowa State University
Ames

Jeff Kolb
Butler County Development
Allison

Stephen Lacina
Cedar County Economic
Development
Tipton

Carmen Langel
University of Iowa
North Liberty

Clayton Lloyd
Retired
Davenport

Kiley Miller
Mount Pleasant Area Chamber
Mount Pleasant

Pamela Miner
City of Davenport
Davenport

Michael Morman
Durrant
Des Moines

Keri Neblett
Crisis Center
Iowa City

Robert Olson
Durrant
Des Moines

Doug Papineau
Government Services Office
Des Moines

Elizabeth Pearson
Iowa Policy Project
Iowa City

William Phelan
Greater Muscatine Chamber
Muscatine

Janet Pilcher
Manatt Mediation and Consulting
Cedar Rapids

Ronald Randazzo
Iowa Speedway
Des Moines

Dean Robertson
Retired
Cedar Rapids


Randy Ross
Monona County Emergency
Management
Sergeant Bluff

Jeremy Rounds
Southern Iowa Council of Governments
Creston

Tracy Rucker
John Deere
Waterloo

Jon Ryk
Environmental Scientist
Ely

Leslie Schaffer
American Red Cross
Des Moines



Scott Schoenike
VenuWorks
Cedar Rapids

Michael Stadie
Lutheran Services in Iowa
Davenport

Stacey Stewart
PAETEC
Cedar Rapids

Herbert Stone
Howard R. Greene Co.
Cedar Rapids

Jon Thompson
Iowa Realty
Cedar Rapids

Christopher Thoms
Northland Fitness
Cedar Rapids

Dee Vanderhoef
Iowa League of Cities
Iowa City

Kimberly Warren
Slavin Management Consultants
Muscatine

Ruth Wilcox
CIRAS Iowa State University Extension
Grundy Center

Public Health and Health Care

Terri Bonar
Planned Parenthood Southeast Iowa
Burlington

Janet Gilbert
Siouxland Interstate Metro Council
Sioux City

Jay Santana
Horizon Staffing
Iowa City

Janet Buls
Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging
Waterloo

Heidi Goodman
Iowa Medical Society
West Des Moines

Trista Schaffner
Iowa County Health Department
Marengo

Peter Diamiano
The University of Iowa
Iowa City

Tricia Hoffman-Simanek
Shuttleworth & Ingersoll
Cedar Rapids

Michele Tilotta
Iowa Department of Public Health
Des Moines

Emma Edgington
Retired
Manchester

Jennifer Montgomery
University of Iowa
Iowa City

Virginia Wangerine
Iowa Nurses Association
Des Moines

Carrie Fitzgerald
Child and Family Policy Center
Des Moines

Peter Roberts
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Des Moines

Ingrid Wensel
Heritage Area Agency on Aging
Cedar Rapids

Representative Ro Foege
Iowa General Assembly
Mt. Vernon

Michael Rosmann
AgriWellness, Inc
Harlan

Dennis Zegarac
Southeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging
Burlington



rio.iowa.gov