

Highway 71 Project To Start In 2009; Completion 2010

The Region 13 RPA (Regional Planning Affiliate) policy board approved providing funding for the completion of the Hwy. 71 project from Hwy. 2 to 34. The Policy Board consists of representatives from Page, Montgomery, Cass and Fremont Counties). This board administers Fed STP (Surface Transportation Program) funds for the region.

Application

An Iowa DOT Transportation planner has put together an STP application to the RPA 13 requesting that \$250000 of STP regional funds be set aside in 2009 and the same amount in 2010 as the match for the project. IDOT estimates the project to cost \$8,400,000 and will be done as two separate projects in those respective years.

Importance to Clarinda

With no interstate highway or rail access; highway 71 is a key facilitator of commerce for Clarinda and the region. The intersection of hwy 71 and 2 in Clarinda can see traffic flows up to 3300 vehicles a day on a heavy day. This traffic count will most likely be greatly increased with the completion of the project.