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For Immediate Release

March 1, 2013

### **Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Awarded IDOT Funding**

ROCK FALLS, IL – Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has received funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to provide rural transportation planning assessments for Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties with special emphasis on the Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD) area. The scope of work will help to coordinate the region’s efforts to conduct an initial inventory and produce a plan to assess the water, rail, highway, and airport transportation networks that impact the economic vitality of the area. The plan will include documentation from public meetings, existing plans, established goals and objectives, as well as alternative solutions as they relate to rural planning initiatives. Blackhawk Hills will update the rural transportation plan on an annual basis as a component of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan for the region as required by the Economic Development Administration.

#### **About Blackhawk Hills Regional Council**

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is a not-for-profit corporation based in Rock Falls, IL, that serves Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties in northwest Illinois. Services include community planning, development assistance, natural resources conservation and protection support, and grant writing and administration. Blackhawk Hills is sponsored by local county boards and Soil and Water Conservation Districts and is overseen by an 18-member council, consisting of three representatives from each of the six counties.

Questions about Blackhawk Hills Regional Council may be directed to (815) 625-3854 or [info@blackhawkhills.com](mailto:info@blackhawkhills.com).

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