



FY24-25

ANNUAL REPORT



10025 Bunkum Rd
Fairview Height, IL 62208

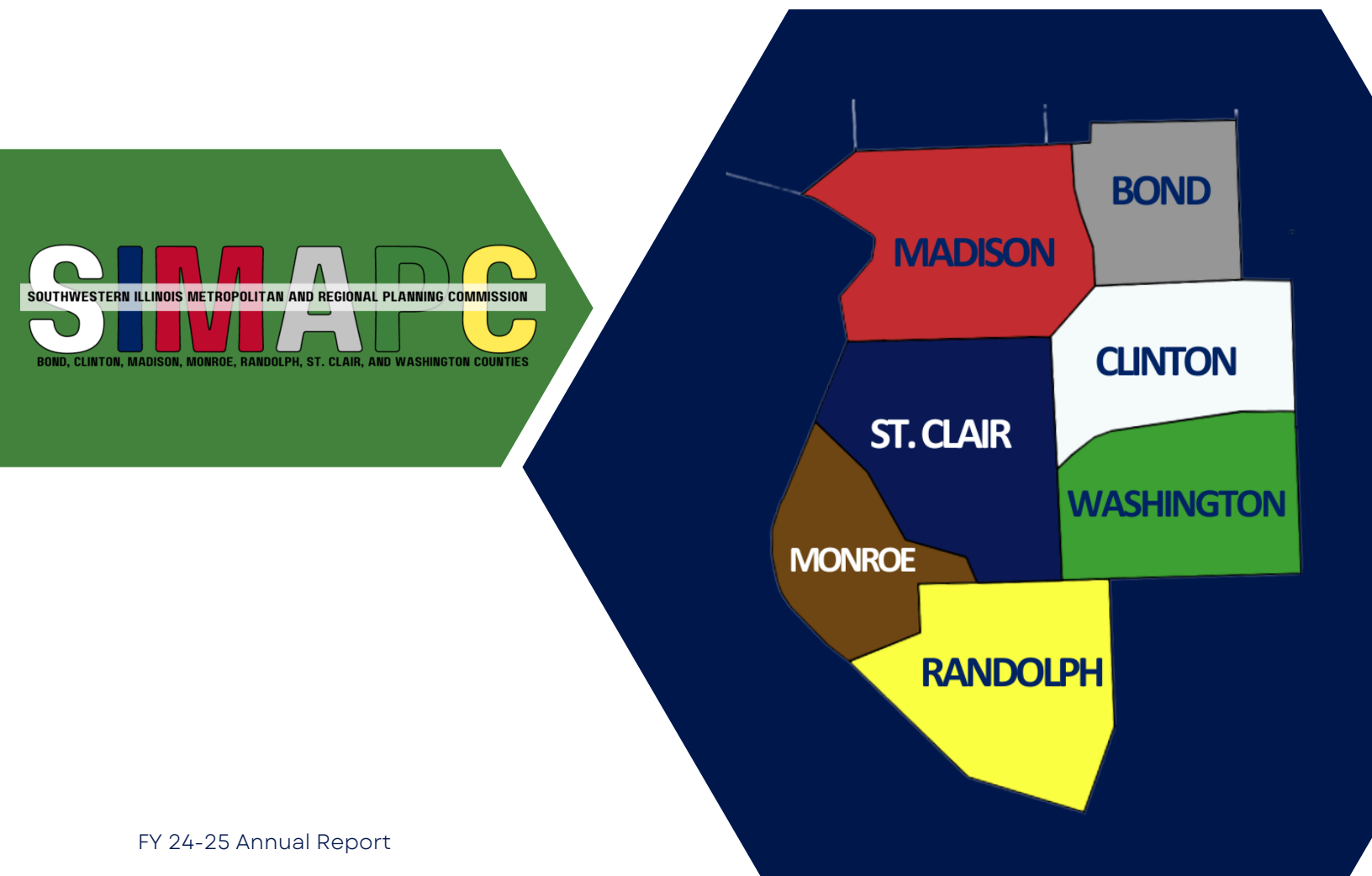
www.simapc.org



About SIMAPC

Established in 1963 as a derivative of Illinois statute the Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission (SIMAPC) was created. The Illinois General Assembly recognized that the welfare, health, prosperity, moral, and general well-being of all the people in the State of Illinois are largely dependent upon the orderly development (economic, social, environmental) of the southwestern Illinois metropolitan and regional counties. In order to provide for such development in the southwestern Illinois region, it is imperative that sound, comprehensive, general and functional plans for the area are devised to guide and coordinate the development of our region.

We are dedicated to fostering sustainable economic development and growth within our communities. Our team is committed to creating opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. Through strategic planning and collaboration, we aim to build a prosperous future for generations to come.



Vision And Mission

Vision

We envision a future where every community, urban or rural, flourishes through collaborative planning, innovative design, and inclusive engagement with all stakeholders while preserving the unique identities of our communities for generations to come.

Mission

Our mission is to support economic diversification and resilience in both urban and rural areas, fostering entrepreneurship, innovation, and job creation while leveraging the strengths of our urban centers and rural landscapes to promote sustainable and equitable growth for all residents.



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SIMAPC Executive Committee



HERB SIMMONS
PRESIDENT

COMMISSION MEMBER BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY AND VILLAGE PRESIDENT OF EAST
CARONDELET



RANDY BOLLE,
VICE PRESIDENT

SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE VILLAGE OF DUPO



DAVE MEYER
SECRETARY/TREASURER

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAIRMAN

Bernard Myers

Bond County Board Member

Anne Schroeder

Clinton County Board Member

Dave Tanzyus

Madison County Administrator

George Green

Monroe County Chairman

Dave Holder

Randolph County Chairman

Mark Kupsky

Mayor of Fairview Heights

Eric Brammeier

*Washington County Planning
Commission*

Brad Criner

Bond County Zoning Administrator

Chris Slusser

Madison County Chairman

Adam J Walden

Madison County Engineer

Aaron Metzger

Monroe County Engineer

Ronnie White

Randolph County Commissioner

Roy Mosley, Jr

St. Clair County Board Member

Gerald Brockmeier

*Washington County Planning
Commission*

Brad Knolhoff

Clinton County Chairman

Paul Nicolussi

Madison County Board Member

Dennis Wilmsmeyer

America's Central Port

Pam Poetker

Monroe County Econ Dev. Corp.

Susan Harbaugh

Mayor of Red Bud

Norm Etling

St. Clair County Engineer

LETTER FROM THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT

The past year has highlighted both the resilience and the necessity of the Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission (SIMAPC). Staffing changes once again inevitably brought challenges, yet the Commission's purpose has remained unmistakable which is to coordinate regional planning that strengthens the economy and improves quality of life across our seven-county area.

I want to express my deep appreciation to Tom and Linda, whose dedication was able to keep SIMAPC's mission moving forward through this period of change. Their commitment ensured that critical planning efforts and regional coordination never lost momentum. I am also pleased to welcome our new Executive Director, Wendy J. Pfeil, who will guide the organization as we enter this next phase of growth and rebuilding. Together, their efforts will ensure that critical planning initiatives and regional coordination continue across the seven counties.

SIMAPC's designation as an Economic Development District (EDD) opens the door to new resources and support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. This status allows us to secure funding for transformative projects that create jobs, diversify the economy, and lay the groundwork for sustainable growth throughout Southwestern Illinois. The next stage of our work will build on that



HERB SIMMONS

Commission Member Bi-State
Development Agency and Village
President of East Carondelet

foundation. SIMAPC will continue identifying fresh opportunities for investment and strengthening our role as a regional leader in planning and development.

Now, with new leadership and a renewed focus, the Commission is entering a rebuilding phase. We are looking forward to welcoming new talent, refining internal processes, and expanding partnerships that will help drive regional prosperity. These steps will position SIMAPC to respond to emerging needs, whether that means supporting major infrastructure corridors, coordinating land-use plans, or helping communities access federal resources that create jobs and expand opportunity.

SIMAPC matters because it is the forum where cooperation becomes action and where individual communities find strength in a regional voice. Together, we will continue to shape a vibrant future for Southwestern Illinois.

FROM CHALLENGE TO CHANGE *A PATH FORWARD FOR SIMAPC*

The last 18 months have brought significant challenges to the Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission. Like many organizations, we've faced staffing transitions that tested our capacity, strained resources, and temporarily slowed momentum. At the same time, we've been asked to take a hard look at our role in the region, including our relevance, our effectiveness, and our future.

Rather than shy away from these hard truths, we've met them head-on. This period of disruption has become a turning point. It has sparked honest conversations and laid the groundwork for bold steps forward. We've begun the critical work of revamping the Commission from the inside out by reassessing internal operations, streamlining procedures, strengthening governance, and aligning our mission with the evolving needs of the counties we serve.

But we know that transformation doesn't happen in isolation. Our path forward is built on partnership which include working alongside municipal leaders, counties, economic development agencies, and community stakeholders to develop a shared vision for regional growth. Together, we are redefining what it means for SIMAPC to be a trusted, proactive partner in planning and progress.

As we look to the future, our focus is threefold:

- **Renewing Resilience** – Building a staff structure that is strong, skilled, and supported, capable of delivering on today's needs while planning for tomorrow.
- **Reinforcing Relevance** – Deepening our impact by expanding services, embracing data-informed decision making, and enhancing communication with our stakeholders.
- **Revitalizing the Commission** – Growing our footprint and strengthening our foundation to become a more efficient, engaged, and responsive organization.

This is a time of renewal; not just for SIMAPC, but for the entire region. We are confident that with persistence, collaboration, and vision, we can rise from challenge to create something stronger, more strategic, and more inclusive than ever before.

Sincerely,



Executive Director

Meet the Team



Wendy J Pfeil

Executive
Director

wpfeil@simapc.com



Thomas Miller

Grant Writer/
Administrator

tmiller@simapc.com

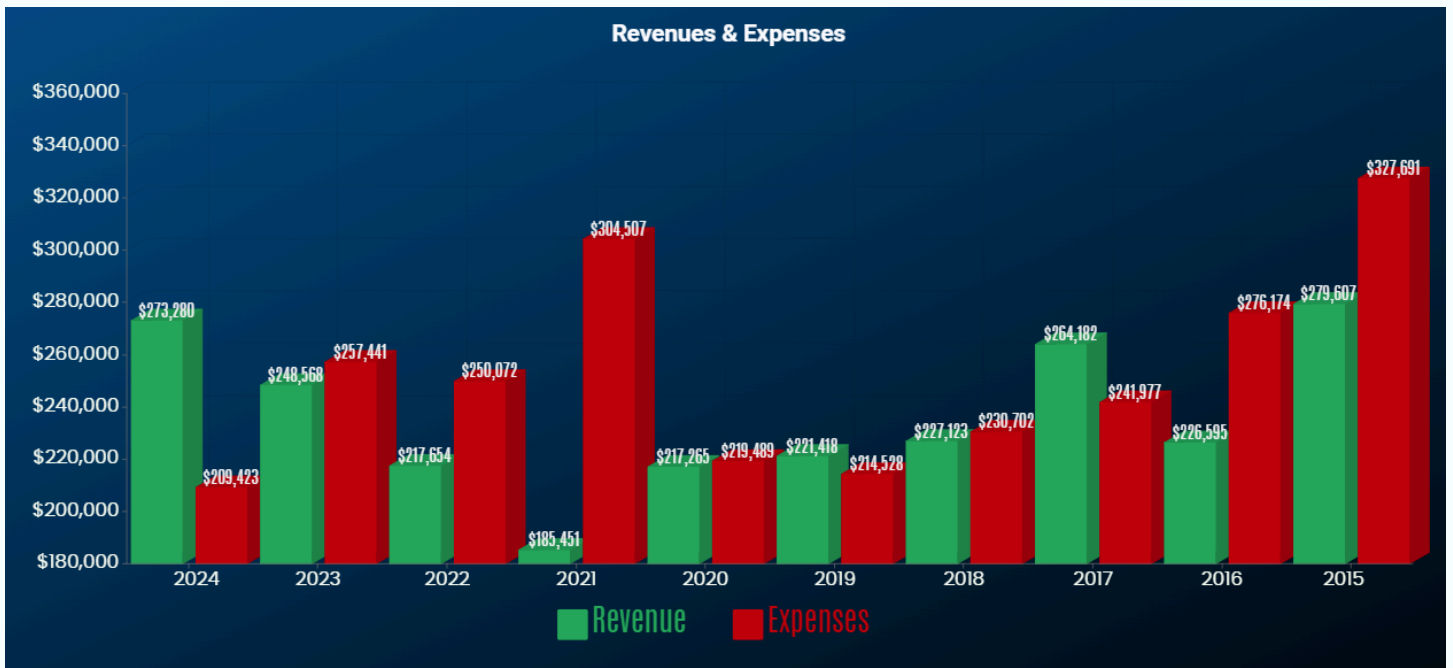
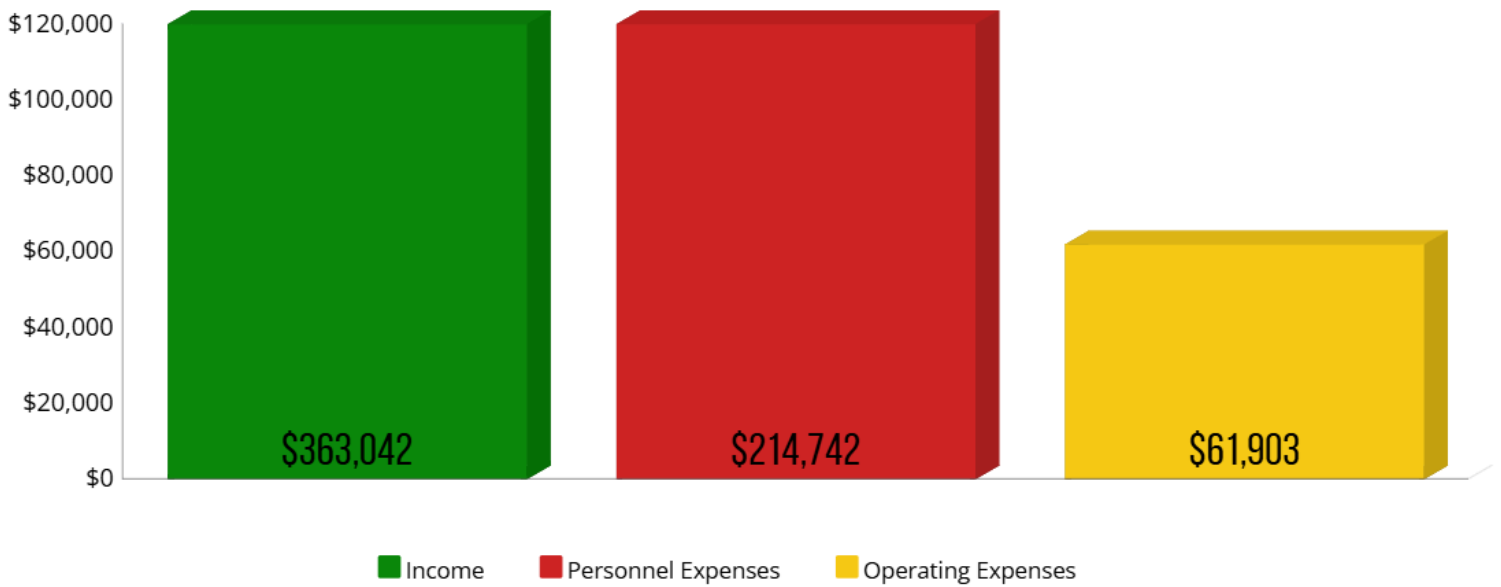


Linda Tragesser

Planning
Consultant

ltragesser@simapc.com

FY 24-25 BUDGET





PROJECTS AWARDED FY 24-25

Sauget Sewer Improvements

Grant Program: EDA Public Works and Economic
Adjustment Assistance Programs
Amount: \$1,029,309

Baldwin Sewer Force Main

Grant Programs: DRA Community Infrastructure Fund, DCEO Energy
Transition Community Program & DCEO Capital Grant
Amount: \$281,517

Substation at KPRD #2

Grant Program: DRA Community Infrastructure Fund
Amount: \$1,811,900

Evansville Feasibility Study for Water Treatment Plant

Grant Program: DRA Strategic Planning
Amount: \$50,000

\$ 3,172,726



ACTIVE PROJECTS

Kaskaskia River Port District

Grant Program: EDA Public Works and Economic
Adjustment Assistance Programs

Amount: \$1,688,625

Clinton County Hazard Mitigation Planning

Grant Program: IEMA/FEMA

Amount: \$82,367

Valmeyer Environmental Review

Grant Program: DCEO Community Development Block Grant



1,770,992



COMPLETED PROJECTS



Dupo Industrial Drive Resurfacing

Grant Program: DCEO Rebuild, Illinois

Amount: \$1,462,464

Randolph County Care Center Access & Parking

Grant Program: DRA States' Economic Development Assistance Program & Community Infrastructure Program

Amount: \$508,910

MHMP for Washington County

Grant Program: IEMA/FEMA

Amount: \$47,244



2,018,618

PROPOSED SIMAPC MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2025

Overview

The Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission (SIMAPC) is currently governed under (70 ILCS 1710/5).

The existing statutory structure requires a Commission of up to 127 members with numerous mandated seats for municipalities, agencies, civic groups, and officials.

This outdated structure has created inefficiencies, limited engagement, and diluted decision-making power.

The proposed legislation modernizes the Commission by reducing the size to 32 Commissioners while ensuring fair county and port district representation and maintaining key regional partnerships.

Why Modernization Is Needed

✓ Streamlined Governance

Reduces the Commission from 127 members to 32 focused representatives, improving attendance and decision-making.

✓ Improved Representation

Ensures proportional county and port district representation while maintaining essential partnerships.

✓ Enhanced Regional Collaboration

Keeps at-large advisory seats for major regional stakeholders to maintain coordination.

✓ Modernized Financial Operations

Authorizes electronic payments to prevent late fees, speed disbursements, and improve fiscal controls.

See comparison chart on following page.

Feature	Current Statute (70 ILCS 1710/5)	Proposed
Total Commissioners	~127 members	32 members
Voting Members	Not clearly defined	27 voting members
Non-Voting At-Large	None explicitly defined	5 non-voting members
County Representation	Multiple overlapping appointments	Bond, Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, Washington: 3 each Madison, St. Clair: 4 each
Port Districts and Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors	Included among many mandated seats	1 each: America's Central Port, Kaskaskia Regional Port, Southwest Regional Port and Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors
Advisory Partners	Numerous scattered designations	5 At-Large Non-Voting Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Appointee • IL DCEO • Leadership Council SWIL • Bi-State Development • East-West Gateway COG
Appointment Process	Complex, multiple authorities	County Board Chairs automatically serve; remaining county seats appointed by each Chair; port and advisory seats appointed by respective entities, SWICOM will be the current chair for the respected year.
Financial Controls	Check or draft only	Adds EFT, ACH, online, and wire payments for timely disbursements

Closing Remarks

As this annual report reflects, the Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission has embraced a period of renewal with resilience and determination. Together with our member counties, municipal leaders, and regional partners, we have laid a stronger foundation for sustainable growth through our designation as an Economic Development District, the pursuit of the SIMAPC Modernization Act, and the successful funding of projects that improve lives and create opportunities across Southwestern Illinois.

Looking forward, our focus remains on building momentum, expanding partnerships, and ensuring that every community we serve—large or small, urban or rural—has a voice in shaping our region's future. By working together, we will continue transforming challenges into opportunities, strengthening regional collaboration, and positioning Southwestern Illinois as a place where innovation, investment, and community thrive.





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