

Keokuk gets stimulus money for bridge

The Hawk Eye

Keokuk will receive \$235,800 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to update electrical components on the 1913 Mississippi River bridge that serves the city.

According to a press release, the updates will improve the reliability of rail traffic and increase efficiency by allowing more trains to use the bridge.

"Improving our crumbling or outdated infrastructure is critical to getting the economy moving again," Democratic U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack said in a release. "These funds will improve the reliability of rail traffic and increase efficiency while saving and creating jobs."

Across the state, an additional \$4.8 million from stimulus funds will go toward improving rails.

Clinton and Council Bluffs will each receive \$2 million for building rail access in an industrial part and improvements to the intermodal facility, respectively. The D & W Railroad will receive nearly \$800,000 to upgrade nine railroad bridges between Dewar and Oelwein.

In addition, Gov. Chet Culver, a Democrat, announced Tuesday the Iowa Transportation Commission approved \$402,887 through the Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy, or RISE, program for Waterloo and Sioux Center.

"Investing in our transportation infrastructure is key to not only rebuilding our state, but attracting new jobs and putting Iowans back to work," Culver said in a press release. "These projects, along with our I-JOBS initiative, will play a vital role in revitalizing our communities, and our economy."