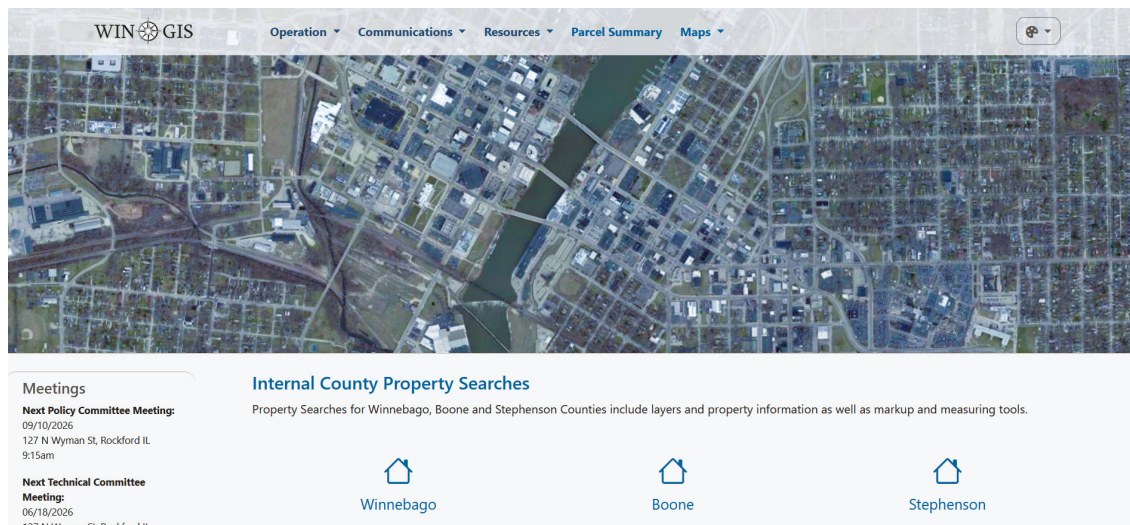




June 2026

Upgraded Mapping Features Now Live on WinGIS



Thousands of people visit WinGIS every day for access to its accurate and reliable geographic information. WinGIS's latest update added a number of user-requested features designed to make their work tasks faster more streamlined. New features include:

- Ability to simultaneously highlight multiple parcels
- Additional parcel details
- Improved measuring tools
- Ability to save map settings and layer visibility
- Data exported to .csv file
- Parcel Summary available on all searches
- Multiple color themes

“WinGIS has been around for over 25 years. At this point, we’re making tweaks so that the experience is more convenient for our users, so that they can focus on making good decisions faster,” said Steve Gregg, Director of WinGIS.

Why is this significant for the region? WinGIS provides three main services:

1. Provide publicly searchable geographic maps of Winnebago and Stephenson counties
2. Create custom maps and apps for municipal partners, making tasks like logging hydrant flushings or finding zoning information more accurate.
3. Maintain all location data for 911 systems in the City of Rockford and Winnebago County

R1 Requests Proposals for Housing Development Projects



R1 is seeking project proposals that will spur regional housing development. Eligible submissions must create or restore a minimum of five housing units. These proposals can include things like planned projects needing funding, concepts in development, available land suggestions, or housing for specific groups like senior citizens or the workforce.

Anyone with an interest in housing is invited to submit a proposal using the form below.

<http://s.alchemer.com/s3/Regional-Housing-Sites-and-Projects>

All submitted projects will be included in a regional inventory of housing projects, which will be used for strategic planning and consulted as funding programs become available.

Questions? Contact property@r1planning.org.



Open for Public Comment

Click on the survey title to participate



[Housing Coordination Plan](#)

This housing playbook provides recommendations and tools for municipalities as they create plans to preserve, enhance, and grow regional housing. The draft plan is complete and needs your feedback.



[School Zone Safety Program](#)

Parents and caregivers, share your experiences with the school commute so R1 can determine where to make safety improvements. This three-minute survey will identify common travel habits, safety concerns, and ways to make walking and biking safer.



[EPA Brownfield Coalition Grant](#)

R1 can assist with costs for conducting environmental assessments and developing cleanup plans for Boone and Winnebago County brownfield sites. Submit a property you think may be eligible for brownfield assessment at the link above.



[Green Streets Guide](#)

We want to know where you think green street additions would make a big difference! This survey will be part of the Green Streets Guide, which lays out ways to include sustainable redesigns into streetscapes.



The Rockford MPO and R1 welcomed U.S. Representative Darin LaHood on May 28 to discuss the region's infrastructure and transportation priorities. Area transportation and municipal leaders discussed upcoming federal legislation, transportation funding, and key local projects.

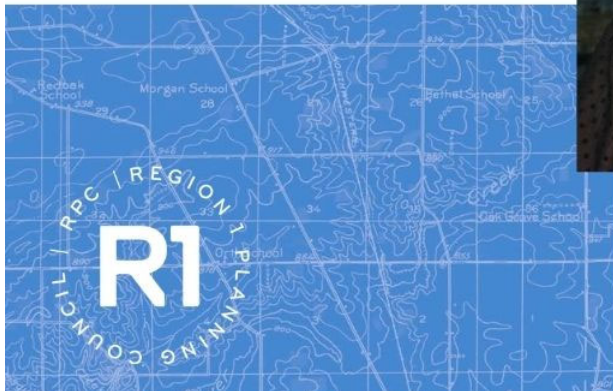


R1 joined the City of Marengo, McHenry County, and McHenry County Economic Development Corporation to celebrate the opening of its new water treatment plant. By increasing service capacity, this project puts Marengo in a favorable position to attract growth, particularly along the prime I-90/IL-23 transportation corridor.

Employee Spotlight

Sarai Serna

Receptionist

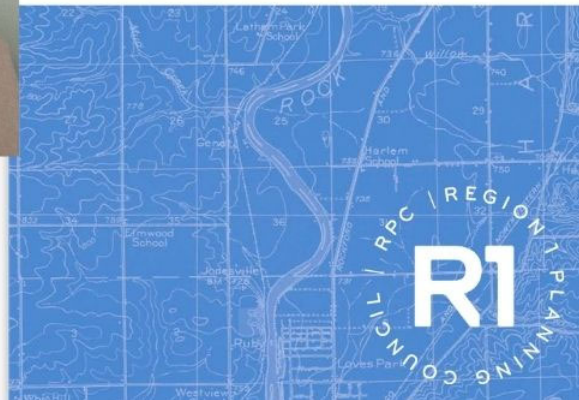


Sarai Serna joins R1 as the Receptionist. As the first point of contact, she is already creating a welcoming atmosphere for all R1 visitors - in Spanish and English.



Lisa Przytulski

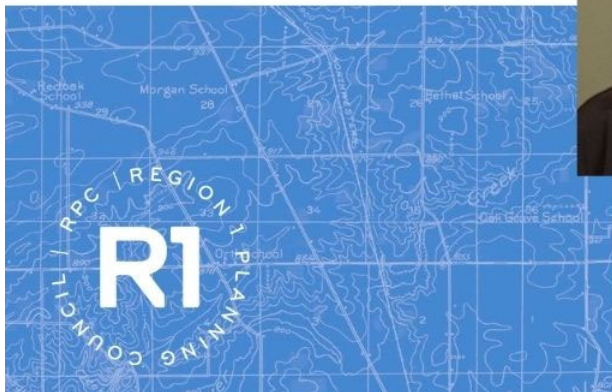
Housing Counselor



Lisa Przytulski joins R1 as a Housing Counselor. She has a bachelor's degree in Communications from Loras College and worked a wide variety of roles for a credit union. Her finance subject matter expertise includes real estate liens, title searches, and protecting collateral. At R1, she will complete her HUD Housing Counseling certification and then help community members reach their housing goals.

Sam Soria

Planner



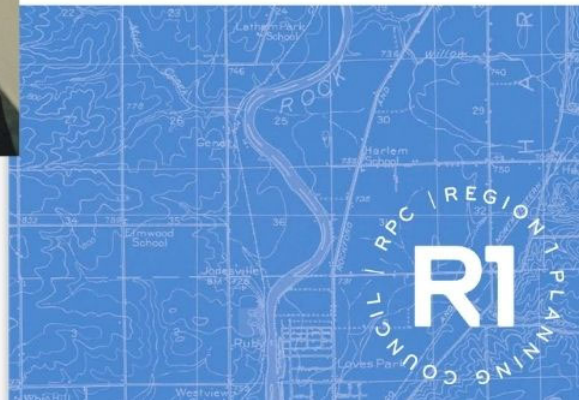
Sam Soria joins R1 as a Planner. She is an Environmental Studies student at Northern Illinois University. There, she conducted capstone projects conducting the NIU Greenhouse Gas Inventory and reimagining IL regional sustainability frameworks, which inspired her interest in planning, environmental change impacts, and building resilient communities. At R1, she will work on the School Zones Safety project.



Abbie Barnhardt

Data Intelligence Specialist

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Abbie Barnhardt returns to R1 as a Data intelligence Specialist. She recently graduated from Concordia University with a bachelor's degree in Computer Science, concentration in Artificial Intelligence, and will complete her master's in December in Computer Science, concentration in Business Data Applications. She is a familiar face around R1, having been a three-time summer intern working on WCCMHB projects with the Community Impact team. At R1, she will continue working with WCCMHB initiatives and is excited to integrate her machine learning experience into data analytics projects.

2026 Summer Interns



clockwise, from top left

Krithik Sai Karunamurthy Premanand (Sai) recently graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a bachelor's in mathematics and computer science. He is excited to apply these fundamentals to community improvement.

Maxwell Garwich is a student at Lindsey Wilson University in Columbia, KY, majoring in sustainability and environmental science. At Lindsey Wilson, he took classes in environmental justice and natural resource management, sparking his interest in urban planning and community involvement.

Selin Dik is attending Carleton College in the fall, double-majoring in psychology and public health. An Auburn High School graduate, she served on the Winnebago County Health Department's Mayor and Chairman's Youth Leadership Council, helping with public education on youth substance abuse and general public health.

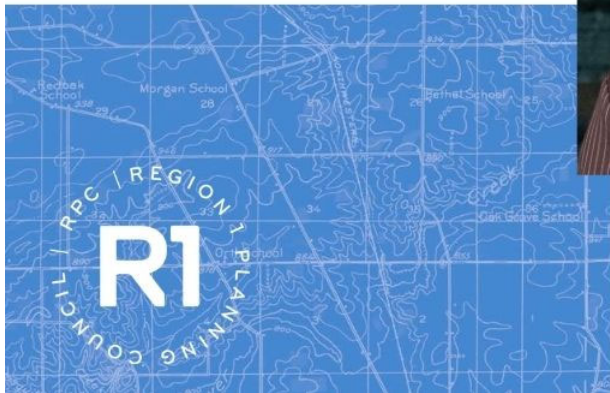
Lily Seigel is a Rockford Promise scholarship recipient, now attending Northern Illinois University, majoring in public health with an emphasis in health promotion and non-profit/NGO studies. Her previous internship experience was at a childcare resource and referral agency serving DeKalb and McHenry counties.

Hannah Schwenk is a second-year master's student at the University of Iowa, studying urban and regional planning, and also received her bachelor's degree in Environmental Policy and Planning there. At the University of Iowa, she developed mapping and data

Hnin Kyi

Accounting Intern

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Hnin Kyi is attending Rockford University, majoring in Accounting. She comes to R1 as part of the Rockford Youth Career-readiness Ecosystem (RYCE) program through Rockford University, which provides employment readiness training and internship experience to students. She will be working with the accounting team.

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Our mailing address is:

127 N. Wyman St., Suite 101, Rockford, IL 61101

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