



Notes:

Mississippi River Parkway Commission Transportation Committee Meeting

April 23, 2015	3:45 pm – 5:00 pm
April 24, 2015	8:00 am – 10:15 am

Minutes

I. Call to order and introductions

Attendees: John Goodmann - IA, Bobby Kennedy – AR, Al Lorenz – WI, Mark McAdoo – TN, Craig Mitches – IL, Greg Pruitt – KY, Derick Biglane – MS, Carol Zoff – MN, Brian Smalkoski, Sherry Beard, and Richard Quinn – MN GRR CMP

II. Approve 9-19-2014 minutes Motion by Kentucky, 2nd by Illinois, passed.

III. Review the draft GRR/MRPC strategic planning notes and develop a Committee action plan

The Committee reviewed the Post-It board notes from the Board of Director’s Strategic Planning session held prior to the Semi-Annual meeting. Time did not permit a thorough review and members suggested if each had a copy of the notes it would allow more effective review and comment. Below are comments related to the strategic plan notes:

Most significant recent MRPC achievements:

- 1) All ten states have National Scenic Byway designation (Missouri has 30+ miles as Little Dixie of the Great River Road and Pike County, Illinois is not NSB designated, but all else in Illinois and the other eight states is.)
- 2) 75th Anniversary celebration in St. Louis and the Great Race partnership.
- 3) Involvement with the association of Mississippi River Mayors

Top challenges:

- 1) Loss of FHWA Scenic Byway grant program and need to identify a comprehensive list of funding sources to implement the wide variety of byway activities.
- 2) Financial stability for state and national organization to sustain the work needed to fulfill the mission and vision.
- 3) Assure political sustainability through reintroduction of GRR and MRPC to current elected officials nationally, in each state and at the local level.
- 4) Unequal commitment and contribution from the ten states. Assess status of each and work to assure all ten states are engaged and able to illustrate



Mississippi River Parkway Commission

222 State Street, Suite 400
Madison, WI 53703



Notes:

the benefit of participation and support. Accept the differences and celebrate the accomplishments even if not equal (ie TN does not have a MRPC but does have a long range plan, mapping, marketing and works well with supporting agencies to implement their plan, including significant capital and resource management projects).

Future needs:

- 1) 10-State DOT scenic easement data base
- 2) 10-State DOT GRR Uniform design standards
- 3) 10-State DOT infrastructure maintenance plan for GRR
- 4) 10-state DOT investment summary for projects along the GRR and river crossings
- 5) 10-State DOT transportation measures in addition to Level of Service based upon quality of life, enhanced pedestrian and bicycle access, quality of experience, and context sensitive solutions with community input.
- 6) Enhance intrinsic resources then promote as destinations
- 7) Restore MRPC’s DOT and FHWA relationships and leadership priority for GRR work.
- 8) Each state needs a transportation champion at the highest level to assure staff can participate on projects and at meetings locally and at the ten-state levels.
- 9) Archive and make available founding documents to serve as background and guidance for today and tomorrow’s work.
- 10) Develop a 10-State CMP to address the items above and others in the draft strategic plan notes. (include “official players”, bikeways, pedestrian issues, trails, landscaping and other road management subjects).

The Transportation Committee did not have time to review the majority of the notes and suggests to the Board of Directors that each of the standing committees review and refine the strategic plan notes between now and the 2015 MRPC Annual meeting so the plan can be refined to reflect committee input and then developed into key work items for the annual work plan.

III. Committee advice regarding the Mn GRR CMP

Brian Smalkoski, Kimley-Horn and Associates, lead the committee through a series of questions regarding the Minnesota draft CMP strategies presented during the general session project overview. No specific suggestions were provided, but a lively discussion ensued on related specific issues each of the states are working on.

IV. State DOT updates & other agenda suggestions

Due to a lack of time no updates were presented at this meeting.

Phone: 866-763-8310 • Fax: 608-242-8896

Web Site: www.ExperienceMississippiRiver.com • E-mail: info@experiencemississippiriver.com



Mississippi River Parkway Commission

222 State Street, Suite 400
Madison, WI 53703



Notes:

V. Transportation Research Board Presentations

Scott Bradley provided TRB presentations from this January titled *Context Sensitive Solutions at MnDOT: Choosing What to Measure and Why* and *Minnesota's Collaborative Efforts on the Great River Road and Mississippi River Trail*. Scott provided the National Office with a copy of each for posting to the MRPCmembers.com site.

VI. Set next teleconference meeting

Date to be determined via email to all committee members, but the focus will be to continue the review and comment on the draft strategic plan notes.