



Mississippi River Parkway Commission Annual Meeting

La Crosse, Wisconsin | September 17-19, 2019



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Join us in La Crosse!

The 2019 MRPC Annual Meeting will take place September 17-19, 2019, in beautiful La Crosse, Wisconsin, a vibrant university town situated between towering bluffs and the Mississippi River. It's a community with brewers and bike trails, riverfront parks and charming boutiques. The river shaped the community's history and remains an important part of life in La Crosse today.

The agenda focuses on several important topics, including working with federal agencies (featuring representatives from the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and the Upper Mississippi River National Fish and Wildlife Refuge) and an update on the National Scenic Byway Program. We'll also discuss the 10-state Corridor Management Plan.

Make plans to attend the Annual Meeting—register today!



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Registration

Delegates (all sessions & meals included):

- Early bird (before Aug. 30): \$225
- After August 30: \$250

Spouse/Guest of Delegate:

- Early bird (before Aug. 30): \$150
- After August 30: \$175

One-day Registration (one day of sessions and meals included):

- \$130

Register at mrpcmembers.com

Hotel Reservations

Radisson Hotel
200 Second Street South
200 Harborview Plaza
La Crosse, WI 54601

Hotel reservations can be made by calling (608) 784-6680. Make sure to mention the **Great River Road** block to get a special rate of \$129 (standard room, two queen beds).

The room block is available now until Saturday, August 17.





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Agenda (Subject to change)

Tuesday, September 17

- 3:00-5:00pm **Board of Directors Meeting**
6:00-9:00pm **Welcome Reception and Registration**

Wednesday, September 18

- 7:00-8:00am **Registration**
8:00-8:30am **New Member Orientation**
8:00-8:30am **Committee Chairs Meeting**
8:45-11:45am **General Session**
- Infrastructure Overview with WI Department of Transportation Secretary Designee Craig Thompson (INVITED)
 - Corridor Management Plan Discussion
 - Economic Impact of Tourism along the Great River Road with WI Department of Tourism
 - Working with Federal Agencies – John Anfinson, Superintendent at Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and Sabrina Chandler, Manager and Area Supervisor for Upper Mississippi River National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
 - Raising Local Public Official Awareness of the Great River Road – Fred Lochner, Consultant, Innovation Disrupter, Big Picture Thinker, Enthusiast, "You can do this." Owner of Fall T&J, LLC

Noon-1:45pm **Lunch & State reports with Q&A**

- 2:15pm-5:30pm **Optional Mobile Sessions** (please choose one)
- Tour of the Genoa National Fish Hatchery Great River Road Interpretive Center
 - Paddling on Lake Onalaska in the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge

5:30-8:00pm **Farm to Table Dinner at the Shrine of Guadalupe**

Thursday, September 19

- 8:45-11:45am **General Session**
- National Scenic Byway Program Update with Penny Simonson, National Scenic Byway Foundation
 - Working with elected officials Panel – Tara Johnson La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Chair and Kari Jackalen, Aide for Wisconsin Congressman Ron Kind (INVITED)
 - Bike Routes along the Great River Road – WI DOT
 - Reports from the technical committees and nominations committee

11:45am - 1:30pm **Lunch & State reports with Q&A**

2:00-4:30pm **Technical Committee Sessions**

5:30 - 8:00pm **Pilot's Banquet & Awards**
(Including great door prizes – but must be present to win!)

Transportation

La Crosse Amtrak station
(1.8 miles from hotel)

Travel a short distance to the Amtrak station and take a relaxing train ride to your next destination.

La Crosse Regional Airport (LSE)
(5.8 miles from hotel)

Enjoy stress-free parking and check-in as well as daily flights to major hub cities like Minneapolis/ St. Paul and Chicago at this convenient airport.

La Crosse Mobile Sessions

During our mobile sessions, we'll learn about the diverse ecology of this important stretch of the river.

Tour the Genoa National Fish Hatchery

This Interpretive Center, which officially opened in 2018, tells the story of how the hatchery has played a major role in the conservation of aquatic species since its founding in 1932. The hatchery helps protect endangered aquatic species, and visitors can see some of the fish and mussels commonly found in the Upper Mississippi River.

Paddle the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge

We'll dip our paddles in the longest river refuge in the continental U.S. The refuge provides habitat for a large percentage of the migratory birds in the Mississippi Flyway.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made on or prior to **Friday, August 30**, will receive a full registration fee refund minus a \$20 processing fee.

Cancellations made after Friday, August 30, will **not** be eligible for a refund.

