

March 31, 2019

Since 1938, the ten-state national Mississippi River Parkway Commission has worked to preserve, promote and enhance the Great River Road National Scenic Byway benefitting communities and travelers along the Mississippi River. The Great River Road meets All-American Road designation criteria, possessing many and varied intrinsic resources that are of national significance.

As the official access to the Mississippi River through ten states since the time pleasure driving began, the Great River is an iconic destination and reason for travel unto itself for many, whether for a few hours or a few months. We applaud that all ten Great River Road states are seeking All-American Road designation from, the Federal Highway Administration.

The Great River Road has importance for all communities along the river-from small and rural, to large and metropolitan- as an artery of stewardship, storytelling, tourism and commerce along the Mississippi River benefitting visitors in Iowa.

In Iowa, the Great River Road is a trip like no other, In this northwestern corner of Iowa, the Mississippi journeys a picturesque landscape formed of high rocky bluffs and narrow limestone gorges. In Iowa, the Great River Road spans 326 miles, passes thru ten counties, numerous towns and urban centers.

My reason for contacting you is to ask for a letter of support. I am one of ten commissioners appointed by the governor of Iowa. I represent Des Moines County. The other nine counties are working hand in hand with the other 10 states. Our deadline for making application is May 15. With all the unrest in the world we have met by teleconference over the past weeks and have decided to keep working on this application. We feel that this is important to our states we all represent.

I would like to hear from you. You can reach me anytime at [lwalsh6172@gmail.com](mailto:lwalsh6172@gmail.com) or 319-850-1950.

Sincerely,

Lisa T. Walsh

