

Authorization Priorities

“Because of MRCTI, we can deploy more infrastructure.”

-Mayor LaToya Cantrell of New Orleans, LA



Safeguarding the Mississippi River Together Act;

America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act

Disaster Equitability, Prevention,
Emergency Needs & Decisions
(DEPEND) Package

- *Flood Level Observation, Ops, & Decision Support Act*
- *Preventing Health Emergencies & Temperature-Related Illness and Deaths Act*
- *Catastrophic Loss Mitigation Incentive and Tax Parity Act*
- *National Flood Insurance Reauthorization*

Break Free from Plastic
Pollution Act

Safeguarding the Mississippi River Together Act

Water Resources Development Act Reauthorization

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

Senate Environment & Public Works Committee

Mayors of the MRCTI Propose the *Safeguarding the Mississippi River Together Act* (SMRT Act) for the purpose of sustaining one of the nation's most important natural resources relying on and expanding authority enacted via the 2014 Water Resources Development Act. All actions are presented at Corridor scale.

The SMRT Act creates the Following Organs

- 1) *Federal Leadership Committee* comprised of critical federal agencies, one governor, and one Mayor to coordinate and advise on federal mobilization to carry out the Act.
- 2) *National Mississippi River Program Office* to develop and implement a Comprehensive Mississippi River Restoration Plan as well as studies and investigations called for under the Act.
- 3) *Comprehensive Mississippi River Restoration Plan* assembled and managed by the Mississippi River Program Office, this plan will set-out a ten-state strategy to restore at scale the critical national assets of the entire Mississippi River Corridor.

The SMRT Act Establishes the Following Grants and Studies

- 1) Infrastructure Repair, Resilience, and Adaptation Grant to repair, replace, or restore critical natural and built infrastructure assets that have sustained considerable damage due to repetitive loss events through spending lines for planning, resilience, and build-back-better activities.
- 2) Sustainable Economic Development Grant to allow communities to shift their economies from costly industrial base to clean manufacturing, commodity movement, and/or tourism.
- 3) State Sedimentation and Errand Nutrient Assistance Grant for states to pursue nutrient reduction strategies more aggressively in the form of planning, innovative achievement of nutrient reduction goals such as nutrient trading, capitalization for best technology, support of on-field sustainable agriculture practices and the development of new markets for cover crops.
- 4) Mississippi River Corridor Economic Profile updated every five years to profile the regional economic activity dependent upon the Mississippi Corridor.
- 5) Watershed Monitoring Network calls for the development of a Water quality and flow monitoring network for the Mississippi River Valley.
- 6) Disaster Resilience and Environmental Services Valuation provides data, research, and investigation that offers economic impact of all MVD ecosystem restoration work in terms of disaster resilience and enhanced environmental services to be made part of the MVD's cost-benefit analysis for all ecosystem restoration projects.
- 7) Trust Fund Feasibility Study to determine the feasibility of establishing a multi-user-fee-supported trust fund for the Mississippi River's ecological sustainability and built infrastructure integrity and repair.

