

Mississippi River Parkway Commission P.O. Box 7395 Madison, WI 53707



## MRPC Commissioner, Technical & Honorary Member Roles

## **MRPC Commissioner Members**

Commissioners are citizen representatives of their state's MRPC Commission and commonly represent adjacent River sections, counties or communities. Each state certifies the eligibility and status of commissioners, and, when attending national meetings or committee meetings, state commission chairs certify these commissioners eligible to conduct Commission business and vote on issues on their behalf.

- Commissioners are expected to bring their state's perspective about issues, interpretive centers, marketing matters, etc. to meetings of the Commission and its committees.
- Commissioners are also expected to bring MRPC matters, including committee activities, back to their state commissions. For this reason, it is helpful for commissioners to check MRPC Committee websites and general information periodically.
- When in General or committee meetings, commissioners are expected to consider plans and projects on a 10-state Great River Road basis, in conjunction with their state's interests and experience.
- Commissioner leadership, both on the Board of Directors and in Technical Committees, is welcomed and encouraged.

## **MRPC Technical Members**

Technical Advisor Members are generally employees of state and/or federal partner agencies and, in most states, participate in an advisory capacity. When attending a national meeting or MRPC committee meetings, their advice and expertise is critical. States may designate technical advisors as commissioners, and in some cases, they have served as state commission chairs. The MRPC Pilot may also designate technical advisors as state chairs with Board approval.

- Technical advisors are most commonly designated and supported by their respective agency employers and their expenses paid through their employers.
- As Technical Advisors, committees rely heavily on their involvement and shared practices to improve all ten states' approaches to common issues such as habitat, byway mapping and signage, planning, etc.
- Technical advisors, because of their work, are expected to share practices and professional connections with their fellow committee members and their fellow state professionals.
- Committee leadership is encouraged and welcomed.

## **MRPC Honorary Members**

Honorary Membership in MRPC is bestowed by election on members who've made outstanding contributions, regardless of whether they were Commissioners or Technical Advisors. Retiring Pilot Emeriti receive honorary membership automatically. Honorary members without certified commissioner status are eligible to participate fully but cannot vote.