

**MINUTES OF THE
BI-STATE REGIONAL TRAIL COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 22, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Scott County Administration Center
6th Floor Room
600 West 4th Street
Davenport, Iowa

1. Welcome/Introductions – Mr. Grimes opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance and asked for introductions. (See attached attendance sheet.)
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2016 – Mr. Miller moved to approve the meeting minutes from July 21, 2016. Mr. Martin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. Trail Related Activities/Issues/Events – Mr. Miller described the proceedings of the Illinois Bike Summit and training on the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Design Guides that were held September 19 and 20 in Normal, Illinois. The conference plenary session included remarks by the mayor of Normal and the Illinois Secretary of Transportation, Randy Blankenhorn. Mr. Miller was encouraged to see many planners and engineers at the NACTO training. The next Illinois Bike Summit will be held in early 2018.

The Bettendorf Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BBPAC) conducted two surveys to gauge users and nonusers of bicycle facilities in the City. The online questionnaire had 11 questions and received over 700 responses. The in-person survey yielded 500 responses for the 17-question survey. The survey data will be compiled by students into reports. Bi-State trail counter data was used to find days and times used for the in-person survey.

BBPAC identified end-of-ride facility needs as an area for improvement in Bettendorf to make the city more bicycle friendly. The city partnered with the Bettendorf Rotary Club and found a local manufacturer, Crawford Company in Rock Island, to make the inverted-U racks. The baseline cost of the racks is \$116 per rack. The racks can also be laser etched with branding for \$161. The City of Bettendorf has approved up to \$5,000 for its bike rack cost share program. The city will match up to \$500 per business.

Mr. Schmid presented on the status of the Bi-State trail-counting program. Trail counters are loaned to interested member governments free of charge. Counters are installed by Bi-State staff at the direction of the member government and are typically in place for a one-month period. The passive infrared counters are triggered by heat signatures, which impacts the suitability of certain locations. People, pets, vegetation, automobiles, and sunlight can all trigger the counters. Counter data is uploaded to the TRAFx DataNet website that can be accessed by member governments. Simple reports and statistics are easily downloaded from the website, in addition to the raw daily counts of individual sites. If a member government is interested in using the counting equipment, they are urged to contact Mr. Schmid to reserve the counters.

4. Committee Member Reports

Bettendorf–

The city is looking to increase the number of smaller trail related events specifically within Bettendorf. This is in addition to the Quad Cities-wide Get Out And Trail (GOAT) event that takes place every May. City officials are hoping a monthly Walk & Roll event raises awareness of the trails throughout the city. Repairs on the Crow Creek Trail have been completed.

Buffalo–

The MRT project has begun. Drainage and environmental work has started. The project was slowed somewhat due to heavy rain in August.

Eldridge–

The city has purchased right of way from the Canadian Pacific south of Iowa Street. It is moving forward with downtown streetscaping. The city is also exploring acquiring an easement on the south end of town between Buttermilk Road and 1st Street, where the rail trail will be located.

Princeton–

The city is working toward applying for grant funding through the Iowa DOT. It is estimated, however, that the local match for the MRT extension project will cost approximately \$300,000. The city is looking for ways of coming up with the sizeable match.

Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau–

Illinois Senator Mark Kirk is still hopeful that Senate Bill S2607, which would allow the government to sign the American Discovery Trail on federal land, will make it through Congress before the new Congress is sworn in. The National Geographic's Mississippi River GeoTourism website will have an official launch ceremony in the Quad Cities on October 12. Two of the five pictures on the site's header are from the Quad Cities. The CVB has observed that more conventions that come to the area are incorporating trail rides as part of the event.

Ride Illinois–

The Hennepin Canal State Trail is in need of significant maintenance improvements. Bi-State has had conversations with the Illinois DNR regarding the state of the trail, and the process and feasibility of using volunteers for maintenance or intergovernmental agreements for municipalities that wish to address many of the issues.

5. Other Business – Mr. Schmid informed the Committee that the Iowa DOT had pushed the deadline for applications for their recreational trails grant programs and Transportation Alternatives Program back to December 1 this year. Typically, applications are due October 1. The next webinar in the series from the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) will take place at Bi-State's offices on Wednesday, October 19. The webinar is entitled "Intersections that Work for Walkers and Bicyclists."
6. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD
MEMBERS, GUESTS & STAFF**

Meeting of: Bi-State Regional Trail Committee

Date: September 22, 2016 Time: 10:00 a.m. To 11:40 a.m. Minutes: Yes X No __

Place of Meeting: Scott County Administrative Center

Name:	Title/Representing:	Contact # or Email:
1. Rachel Bruce	Bi-State Regional Commission	
2. Steve Grimes	City of Bettendorf	
3. Brent Herman	City of Princeton	
4. James Martin	City of Eldridge	
5. Jim Matthys	City of Buffalo	
6. Donnie Miller	City of Bettendorf	
7. Bruce Perry	Ride Illinois/ Port Byron	
8. Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission	
9. Joe Taylor	Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau	
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		