

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

Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.
Scott County Administration Center
6th Floor Conference Room
600 West 4th Street
Davenport, Iowa

1. Welcome/Introductions – Mr. Martin opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance and asked for introductions. (See attached attendance sheet.)
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from September 28, 2017 – Without objection, the minutes from the September 28, 2017 meeting were accepted as submitted.
3. Iowa Bike/Hike Guide – Mr. Taylor noted that he was contacted by Have Fun Biking, who has issued bike/hike guides in Minnesota and is expanding into Iowa. He passed out copies of the 2017 Spring/Summer Minnesota edition of the Bike/Hike Guide. The hardcopy guides are sent to AAA members throughout the state, numbering 250,000 members in Iowa. There will be an online component to the guide as well and will include advertising opportunities. The Quad Cities Area will include the Illinois side as part of the region.
4. Complete Streets – Sidewalk Policies & Efforts – Mr. Soliz presented on the Year 2 accomplishments of Bi-State’s complete streets effort supported by a grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health. Year 1 of the grant focused on education of complete streets, which consider all users of roadways, including cars, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit. One task was to take an inventory of the existing complete streets policies in the Bi-State Region. Many policies are not standalone documents, but rather built into the existing subdivision ordinance that require amenities such as sidewalks. Bi-State will be working with the volunteer cities of Eldridge and LeClaire to draft complete streets plans. Plans will include walking assessments to give first-hand experience to the recommendations in the final documents. The Eldridge and LeClaire plans will serve as examples for other communities in the region.
5. Trail Related Activities/Issues/Events – Mr. Schmid noted that there are a number of issues in Illinois concerning trails and bicyclists. Two grant cycles are coming up, with the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant application deadline on December 1, and the Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant deadline on March 1. The Illinois legislature passed an Adopt-a-Trail bill in the summer that was signed by Governor Rauner. A statewide program has yet to be launched, but state officials hope to have it in place by the spring or summer.
6. Committee Member Reports

Bettendorf–

A number of trail-related events have been taking place in Bettendorf, including Walk & Roll, a partnership with the Public Library to provide story readings along the trails, and a walk along Crow Creek Trail with the Dog Park Committee. The Forest Grove Road Trail is complete for the winter. Next year, the trail will go to Jersey Ridge Road. The City is working to update its Bicycle Friendly Community application to reach silver or gold designation by the League of American Bicyclists. The new athletic complex on Middle Road, the BettPlex, is almost enclosed so work can continue through the winter. The indoor component of the facility is set to open in June, with the outdoor fields to open thereafter. The facility will be connected to Bettendorf’s system of sidepaths and trails on Middle Road and Forest Grove Road.

Buffalo–

The trail is just about complete on the west end of Buffalo. Some paperwork still needs to be completed.

Davenport–

Fundraising for the Miracle Field is moving along and has nearly reached its goal. The Miracle Field is a playground that is fully accessible to children and all users with disabilities.

Port Byron–

MSA Associates presented to the City Council on downtown developments that removed on-street parking. Downtown business owners were skeptical about the plan, and had reservations about their customers' ability to park downtown.

Princeton–

The Sidewalk and Recreational Trail Committee is rewriting the city's sidewalk policy to fund sidewalks citywide. The city applied for, but did not get awarded, a State Recreational Trail grant. The city has also applied for a Federal Recreational Trail grant through the IA DOT. The city will continue to pursue other grant opportunities through REAP and the Riverboat Development Authority.

Quad City Bicycle Club–

The QCBC will lead a night ride on area bike paths to highlight dark spots on area trails. Mr. Mathias offered to lead a ride at night for anyone who might be interested. Registration for RAGBRAI is open, and QCBC will sponsor numerous events for the annual ride across Iowa.

Quad City Convention and Visitors Bureau–

Davenport has again applied to be the destination city for RAGBRAI in 2018. The Announcement Party will take place January 27. The Sylvan Island Bridge in Moline will open in December. Friends of Off-Road Cycling (FORC) has done a lot of trail restoration work on the island in anticipation of the opening of the bridge. Conversations in the community about possible bike share options are continuing. WQAD recently asked about the Bike Share Plan that was drafted by Alta Planning + Design. Quad Cities officials took a field trip to Peoria to learn about the Zagster bike share program. No tax money was used to start the program, which was funded through private donations.

Rock Island County Forest Preserve–

Phase II of the Dorrance Park mountain bike trails are nearly complete. There are many interesting features along the trails for riders to enjoy. Bike rentals in the parks will begin in spring.

Scott County Health Department–

Ms. McDonough introduced herself to the Trail Committee, and discussed her position as it relates to bicycling and healthy communities and its focus on community and workplace wellness. The Health Department has the ability to complete walk audits, and there are funds for small improvements. Technical assistance can also be offered to communities.

7. Other Business – Concerns arose over the condition of the ADT viaduct in Rock Island and the let-down ramp in Davenport. The grates become very slippery when wet, and experienced cyclists have fallen on the structures. Some sort of decking with better grip would alleviate some of the problems.
8. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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

Meeting of: Bi-State Regional Trail Committee

Date: September 28, 2017 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. Emilene Leone	Bettendorf	
5. Pat Lynch	Shive-Hattery	
6. James Martin	Eldridge	
7. Dean Mathias	Quad City Bicycle Club	
8. Christina McDonough	Scott County Health Department	
9. Olin Meador	City of Buffalo	
10. Bruce Perry	Ride Illinois/ Port Byron	
11. Mike Petersen	Rock Island County Forest Preserve	
12. Zach Peterson	City of Davenport	
13. Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission	
14. Dave Soliz	Bi-State Regional Commission	
15. Joe Taylor	Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau	
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