

MINUTES OF THE BI-STATE REGIONAL TRAIL COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.
Teleconference

1. Welcome/Introductions – Ms. McDonough opened the meeting by welcoming those on the call and asked for introductions. (See attached attendance sheet.)
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2021 – The minutes from the September 23, 2021 Bi-State Regional Trail Committee were approved as presented.
3. State of Bicycling in Iowa – Mr. Wyatt provided a report on the state of bicycling in Iowa and the work of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition. The Coalition's three goals are to advocate for better policy, increased safety, and education on bicycling and roadway safety in the state. In the last legislative session, the legislature approved a classification system for E-bikes by a 149-1 vote. Hit and run penalties were clarified; distracted driving is now required to be taught in driver's education; an additional felony charge will be included in a fatal crash where the driver was texting, similar to drunk driving; and speeding penalties are increased for vehicles travelling 25 mph over the speed limit. Appropriations for the State Recreational Trails program were \$1.5 million. Looking to the next legislative session, the Coalition is again supporting legislation for hands-free phone use while driving; adding certain bicycle and pedestrian injury/fatal crashes to the Enhanced Penalties List; and consistency in the code regarding changing lanes to pass. The Coalition also supports to National Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund and implementing the sales tax increase to help fund trail construction around the state. It also assists municipalities by offering a model bike ordinance. Currently, there are approximately 270 different ordinances across the state. The 2022 Iowa Bicycle Summit will take place January 28 online and in person at the Iowa Event Center in Des Moines.
4. IDPH Physical Activity Access Project Update – Ms. McDonough provided an update on the status of the Iowa Department of Public Health Physical Activity Access project that the Scott County Health Department and Bi-State have been coordinating on for three years. In September, pedestrian treatments were installed based on the project team's conversations with other project partners around the Bettendorf Hy-Vee. The treatments included three painted pedestrian crosswalks, yellow paint on a sidewalk ramp ledge, footstep pain on a nearby sidewalk encouraging pedestrians to stay on the sidewalk, yard signs, and large reflective mirrors at blind spots in the parking lot and loading dock area. The latter received very positive feedback. A follow-up meeting was held with all project partners, and the partners will continue to maintain certain improvements.
5. Committee Member Reports

Buffalo –

Mr. Mathias attended the Buffalo City Council meeting on November 1 to show support for the proposed MRT extension to Camp Abe Lincoln. There seems to be some support from the council on extending the trail westward.

Eldridge –

The city has two trail projects underway: one on E. LeClaire Road and another west of 1st Street in the Townsend Farms subdivision. The latter is approximately 0.5 miles long and will likely be on the June letting.

Moline –

The 19th Street connection project will follow completion of the I-74 bridge. The multi-use path on the bridge will not be open for a couple of months. The oculus at the overlook will not be

installed until January. The MRT reroute in coordination with the new bridge will be north of the YMCA Boat House. Discussions are ongoing regarding parking at trail heads.

Nahant Marsh –

Nahant Marsh is finishing out its \$3.7 million capital campaign this fall. The marsh hopes to construct a half-mile trail spur connecting to the ADT and MRT next year.

Princeton –

Mr. Schmid attended a recent city council meeting to review TASA funding for the MRT project. The project will require significant matching funds and long-term dedication by the city. The council reaffirmed their support for the project.

Quad City Bicycle Club –

The Club is sponsoring Bikes for Tikes to distribute helmets and bicycles to children.

6. Other Business – Mr. Schmid discussed a summary of the recently passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as it relates to bicycle and pedestrian networks. He also noted that the I-74 bridge ribbon cutting ceremony will take place December 1. The public is invited to walk across the bridge as part of the event. The bridge will open to vehicular traffic in the days following the event.
7. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

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

Meeting of: Bi-State Regional Trail Committee

Date: November 18, 2021 Time: 10:00 a.m. To 11:05 a.m. Minutes: Yes X No __

Place of Meeting: Teleconference

Name:	Title/Representing:	Contact # or Email:
1. Taylor Beswick	City of Bettendorf	
2. Eric Griffith	City of Moline	
3. Dean Mathias	Quad City Bicycle Club	
4. Jim Matthys	City of Buffalo	
5. Christina McDonough	Scott County Health Department	
6. Bruce Perry	Ride Illinois	
7. Brian Ritter	Nahant Marsh	
8. Santos Saucedo	Muscatine County	
9. Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission	
10. JD Schulte	Hutchison Engineering	
11. Jim Thompson	Henry County	
12. Brian Wessel	City of Eldridge	
13. Mark Wyatt	Iowa Bicycle Coalition	
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