

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

Thursday, November 15, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.
Bi-State Regional Commission Conference Room 302
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, IL

1. Welcome/Introductions – Mr. Martin opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance and asked for introductions. (see attached sign in sheet).
2. Approval of the September 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Martin asked if any corrections were needed in the minutes from the previous meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.
3. Presentation on Walk Audit Toolkit – Ms. McDonough provided background information on her work with the Scott County Health Department, including her involvement with the Food Rescue Partnership and the Bystander CPR initiative. She then discussed the Walk Audit tool she has developed. To create it, she drew on the North Carolina Walking and Biking Suitability Assessment (WABSA) system, which is very technical in nature, and the AARP Walk Audit Toolkit, which is more qualitative in nature. She also added Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) considerations, which neither of the other two walk audit kits included. Pilot projects using the toolkit were done in the communities of Princeton and Walcott and at River Action in Davenport. Ms. McDonough also had the toolkit peer reviewed by other experienced walk auditors across Iowa. The completed walk audit tool incorporates sidewalk measurements, observations of infrastructure elements, and an assessment of the walking environment design. It scores segments of the sidewalk network numerically, with lower scores corresponding to better walking amenities. Color-coded maps depicting the scores of different sidewalk sections can be produced. The next step for the project is to create a user guide to go with the walk audit tool and to make both available online, where anyone can access and use them. Ms. McDonough is only able herself to perform walk audits within Scott County.
4. Committee Member Reports –

City of Princeton– The city is currently working on an application for a federal DOT grant in hopes of funding the planned extension for the Mississippi River Trail through Princeton. The trail extension cannot be built without outside funding. Princeton did not receive the Iowa REAP grant for which it applied.

Scott County Health Department– Kim Mills, who has been working with the Tobacco-Free QC Coalition on tobacco/nicotine-free initiatives for parks, workplaces, and buildings shared information on resources available through her work. She is able to help write policies and ordinances for interested communities and organizations.

Quad Cities Visitors Bureau– The bureau put in a bid to host the 2022 Trails Symposium but was not selected. It will continue to look for other opportunities to get the word out about trails in the QC. A new CEO, Dave Herrell, has started work with the bureau.

City of Riverdale– Sewer installation work near Arconic in the coming months is going to disrupt a section of the Mississippi River Trail. The work is projected to last a few months, after which the trail will be restored. The city council is also considering installing a length of fence along the MRT that will provide some privacy for abutting homeowners but will also cut off the short sidewalk connection to Kensington Avenue. Cyclists travelling between the Duck Creek Trail and the MRT will need to follow a sidewalk along Highway 67 instead.

City of Buffalo– The new trail is completed and the City of Buffalo has submitted its final payment on it.

River Action– River Action is in the process of updating its trail map. It will send a draft to members of the committee to review/verify updates in their communities.

QCBC— QCBC is also in the process of updating its maps. Dean Matthias recently spoke with a representative from the Arsenal about safety concerns for the decking on the bike/ped ramp leading up to the Arsenal bridge on the Iowa side as well as the decking on the bike/ped portion of the bridge on the Illinois side.

City of Eldridge– Eldridge plans to begin work on its trail extension in the spring.

5. Other Business – Mr. Martin asked if there were any nominations for the position of Vice-President. Ms. McDonough nominated Mr. Matthias, who declined. Mr. Matthias then nominated Mr. Truesdell, who accepted. Mr. Martin directed that the nomination be added to the agenda for the next meeting so that it could be voted upon.
6. Adjournment. – The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.