Minutes of the
QUAD CITIES RIVERFRONT COUNCIL (QCRFC)

Tuesday, September 22, 2026 – 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Rock Island County Building
Bi-State Conference Room
1504 3rd Avenue, Rock Island, IL
Room 302

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns	Rock Island County
Ms. Heather Bishop	US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Ralph Heninger	Bi-State Regional Commission
Mr. Greg Ludwig *	City of LeClaire
Dr. Rod Simmer	Rock Island County
Ms. Brittany Wells	Visit Quad Cities
Mr. Don Wrenn	Rock Island Arsenal
Ms. Jenelle Wolber	REDEEM/East Moline

** Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance

Mr. Ricky Newcomb	Bi-State Regional Commission
Mr. Zach Sutton	Bi-State Regional Commission

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ludwig at 12:04 p.m.

2. **Approval of the July 28, 2026 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Heninger made a motion to approve the July 28, 2026 minutes as written. Dr. Simmer seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. **Presentation.** Mr. Newcomb gave a presentation on hazard mitigation planning and previewed the upcoming Rock Island County Hazard Mitigation Plan. A hazard mitigation plan allows communities to be eligible for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant programs and must be updated every 5 years. A Hazard Mitigation Plan helps jurisdictions to direct mitigation resources, prepare communities to adapt to changing conditions, and increase capacity to support faster disaster recovery. These plans detail various hazards that may be occur in the planning area (ex. flooding, tornado, or drought) and then details which hazards each community feels are the highest risk and the strategies of each community to mitigate these hazards. Mr. Newcomb highlighted some of the steps that will be taken as part of the Rock Island County Hazard Mitigation Plan, including organizing public input sessions and establishing an advisory committee. Work will begin on the plan later this fall.

4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**

   - *Bi-State* – Applications for the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) and the Iowa Federal Recreation Trail program are due October 1. Awards for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Transportation Alternative Set-Aside (TASA) in the MPO will be

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announced soon, while applications for STBG and TASA in Iowa Region 9 (Muscatine County and rural Scott County) will be due November 16. A brief discussion was had regarding the Centennial Bridge replacement and how it relates to hazard mitigation.

- *East Moline* – Construction on the downtown RAISE grant project continues, with the trail in front of the Rust belt hopefully finished by the end of the year. The last section of The Quarter is also expected by the end of the year. East Moline is also wrapping up the update of their comprehensive plan.
- *LeClaire* – Construction on Cody Road is now complete. Construction on Wisconsin Street from Cody Road to 8th Street is scheduled for completion by the end of the year. The new YMCA is expected to open in mid-November. The Mississippi River Trail extension project (Eagle Ridge Rd to May St) is expected to go out to bid in January.
- *Rock Island Arsenal* –The Arsenal is making preparations for the Quad Cities Marathon, which will be held on September 26. The next public event on the Arsenal following the Marathon will be the tree lighting on December 4.
- *Rock Island County* – The EV charging stations at Illiniwek Forest Preserve will be completed soon. Resurfacing on the Great River Trail from Cordova to the Rock Island County line will start next month Illiniwek will also be hosting a Halloween Bash on October 17.
- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* –The mooring cells at Lock and Dam 15 are nearing completion. Public access at the auxiliary locks at Lock and Dam 14 and Lock and Dam 15 is still significantly limited.
- *Visit Quad Cities* – The American Discovery Trail's America 250 relay will be arriving in the Quad Cities in early October. The annual Destination QC! event will be held on October 29.

5. **Next Meeting**. The members were reminded that the next meeting will be on the third Tuesday of November, November 17, 2026, to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving. Location is TBD.

6. **Other Business**. None

7. **Adjournment.** Mr. Burns moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Heninger seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.