

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

Thursday, November 16, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Bi-State Regional Commission  
1504 Third Avenue, Third Floor, Room 302  
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Welcome/Introductions – Mr. Griffith 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, 2023 – The minutes from the September 28, 2023 Bi-State Regional Trail Committee were approved as presented.
3. Presentation on Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Project Applications. – Mr. Schmid provided an overview of the TASA program and application process as it pertained to the most recent application round, which closed October 20. These federal funds are apportioned to large metropolitan planning organizations, such as Bi-State Regional Commission, to program within federal guidelines and requirements. Projects require at least a 20% match. Funds available for programming through FY2027 amount to \$1,706,987 in the Iowa Quad Cities and \$335,007 in the Illinois Quad Cities. After the meeting, the Illinois programming amount increased to \$1,091,082.

In all, five applications were received from four Iowa communities, while two applications were received from Illinois communities. Bettendorf submitted an application for an extension of the Middle Road Trail from Hopewell to Forest Grove Drive. The City of Buffalo applied for a streetscaping project along Front Street between Elm and Franklin, which would consist of new sidewalks and pedestrian lighting. Davenport applied for Phase 4 of the Goose Creek Trail project between 39<sup>th</sup> Street and Kimberly Road. The City of LeClaire submitted two applications. The first is for the 35<sup>th</sup> Street Trail consisting of a multiuse path and pedestrian bridge over I-80 to Pleasant Valley Junior High. The second project is a portion of the Mississippi River Trail between Eagle Ridge Road and May Street.

On the Illinois side, Moline applied for Phase II of the Morgan Park Trail project on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street Place, while Rock Island applied to construct a multiuse path along 20<sup>th</sup> Street between 18<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Review and scoring by the Quad Cities Transportation Technical Committee will proceed following initial project eligibility reviews by their respective DOTs. Project approval and programming will tentatively take place in either January or February.

4. Discussion of E-Bikes on Regional Trails. Mr. Schmid introduced the topic that stemmed from the discussion at the previous Trails Committee meeting about the Unified Trail Ordinance and its non-reference to e-bikes. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Schmid invited representatives from Ride Illinois and the Iowa Bicycle Coalition to discuss the Unified Trail Ordinance, and how the Trails Committee might incorporate updated e-bike language into it. Dave Simmons of Ride Illinois provided comments on the ordinance prior to the meeting. Mr. Simmons recommended including specific text into the ordinance that allows e-bikes. Class 1 and 3 e-bikes require the user to pedal and have maximum speeds where the motor stops assisting at 20 or 28 mph, respectively. Class 2 e-bikes, likewise, have a maximum speed of 20 mph and have a pedal assist mode, but they also have a throttle-powered mode that does not require the user to pedal. Mr. Burkey of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition expressed similar feelings as Ride Illinois' comments. He noted that bans on e-bikes would ban the growth of cycling. For many people, e-bikes constitute their commuting vehicles, and

banning them would result in decreased active transportation mobility. Dusk-to-dawn closures of trails is not recommended, as that would negatively impact many commuters who work outside traditional hours, or those who commute during the winter when the sun sets early. The Iowa Bicycle Coalition has ordinances on its website. Mr. Schmid will review the materials online, and provide the Committee with an update at a following meeting.

5. Committee Member Reports

*Bi-State Regional Commission–*

Bi-State will be hosting a traffic safety workshop on December 1. Registration is free and open to all.

*Buffalo–*

The city submitted an application for TASA funds, discussed earlier in the meeting.

*Cornbelt Running Club–*

The club’s fundraiser race, the Turkey Trot, will take place on Thanksgiving. The club offers one-on-one Intro to Running sessions for women. The marathon training members ran their first marathons.

*LeClaire–*

The city was not successful in its Recreational Trails Program funding application for its 15<sup>th</sup> Street Trail to Huckleberry Park. Wisconsin Street, however, will receive federal funding that will provide a multiuse path.

*Princeton–*

The City Council approved the TASA funding agreement amendment and the contract with Hutchison Engineering. The mayoral veto deadline is on Thanksgiving.

*Quad City Bike Club–*

Following the virtual meeting for the I-80 bridge location study the previous day, the QCBC would like to galvanize the community to lobby for a bike-ped connection on the new bridge. The Bison Bridge will not be moving forward at this time, but the new Interstate bridge would still provide a unique spot to cross the Mississippi River on bike or foot.

*Riverdale–*

An Eagle Scout has completed their community project, which consists of a hiking trails off Manor Drive.

*Scott County–*

The Health Department will work with Eldridge to walk through its Change Tool. Discussions with administration staff will decide what components are needed to move forward.

*Visit Quad Cities–*

Visit Quad Cities added eight more bikes to its rental fleet. Next season, 20 bikes will be available to rent for free.

*Walcott–*

The City of Walcott is looking to start Phase II of its trail in Prairie View Park. Community input identified that trail expansion is a priority. Property acquisition has wrapped up, and preliminary design has begun.

6. Other Business – There was no other business.

7. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

## MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD MEMBERS, GUESTS & STAFF

Meeting of: Bi-State Regional Trail Committee

Date: November 16, 2023 Time: 10:00 a.m. To 11:25 a.m. Minutes: Yes X No \_\_

Place of Meeting: Bi-State Regional Commission, Rock Island, IL

Name:	Title/Representing:	Contact # or Email:
1. Brian Ballard	City of Riverdale	
2. Matt Burkey (virtual)	Iowa Bicycle Coalition	
3. Chad Burt	Walcott Trail Committee	
4. Danny Chick (virtual)	Muscatine County Board	
5. Cassidy Darin	Visit Quad Cities	
6. Eric Griffith	City of Moline	
7. Greg Ludwig	City of LeClaire	
8. Bob Madison	Cornbelt Running Club	
9. Dean Mathias	Quad City Bicycle Club	
10. Jim Matthys	City of Buffalo	
11. Christina McDonough	Scott County Health Department	
12. Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission	
13. Brittany Wells	Visit Quad Cities	
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