**For Immediate Release**

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**Memphis Mayor Joins President Biden At Infrastructure Bill Signing**

*MRCTI Mayors Celebrate Advancing Resilience Measures*

**Washington, DC** – Mayors along the Mississippi River today applaud the passage of the bipartisan infrastructure bill they helped support. Mayor Jim Strickland of Memphis, Tennessee, and Co-Chair of MRCTI, will attend the signing ceremony by President Joe Biden with both Democrats and Republicans at the White House.

The $1.2-trillion infrastructure bill includes $500 million for a revolving loan fund created earlier this year allowing cities and other municipalities nationwide to pay for projects designed to improve resiliency against floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters.

“The mayors of our mighty Mississippi River corridor represent every size of community – from large metropolitan regions to small regional communities and every size in between, **Said Mayor Jim Strickland, of Memphis, TN and MRCTI Co-Chair.** “This bill represents a lifeline for our member communities and with it, we can now begin to put into action many of the [resilience projects](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5845a70859cc6819f2dfdb9e/t/6112b82db37b5c49170ffe3d/1628616749732/Infrastructure%2BInvestment%2Band%2BJobs%2BAct%2Bof%2B2021%2BSummary.pdf) our communities have planned for months.”

The mayors of Mississippi River towns along the entire waterway had worked for the past year to support the bill with members of congress and the administration. MRCTI member cities hope to build infrastructure projects to make the region more resilient to increased flooding caused by climate change and establish a program to comprehensively manage the ten state waterway.

“Today marks a significant step forward for our efforts to protect the economic and environmental future of the Mississippi River, **said Mayor Strickland**. “We are thankful for so many members of congress of both parties and the President for seeing this bill become law.”

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[The Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative](https://www.mrcti.org) (MRCTI) is a coalition of 100 mayors from across the Mississippi River corridor, which spans along ten states from Minnesota to Louisiana. The Mississippi River provides drinking water to more than 20 million people and 50 cities. More than 40 percent of the nation’s agricultural commodity output moves on the Mississippi River. The River’s resources support 1.5 million jobs and generate nearly $500 billion in annual revenue.