

The 1st Annual Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative
Organizational Meeting
Agenda

September 12-14, St. Louis, MO

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions and events are open to all mayors and other officially invited attendees.
Official functions and meeting services are located in the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch unless otherwise stated.

September 12

Registration

4:00pm – 6:00pm, Gateway Ballroom Foyer

Welcome Reception

6:30pm – 7:30pm. Gateway East Terrace (18th floor, outdoors)

The Honorable George Heartwell, Mayor of Grand Rapids, MI

Join St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay for a welcoming of this first gathering of mayors along the Mississippi River. The reception will be on the Gateway Terrace of the Hyatt Regency overlooking the Arch. Mayors will hear from Mayor Heartwell, Chair of the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative on how mayors can be a game-changing force around place-based assets like the Great Lakes and Mississippi River.

September 13

Registration

7:30am – 2:00pm, Gateway Ballroom Foyer

Introductions and Welcome (continental breakfast)

8:00am – 8:30am, Gateway East

Presiding: Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO

FLOODS & DROUGHTS: MITIGATING, INSURING, AND DEVELOPING IN THEIR PATH

8:30am – 10:00am, Gateway East

Moderator: Hiram Copeland, Mayor of Vidalia, LA

Sandra Knight, Deputy Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administrator for Mitigation, FEMA

Chad Berginnis, Executive Director, Association of State Floodplain Managers

Jasper Grant, Acting Missouri Executive Director, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Break (15 min) – Refreshments provided

RURAL/URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN – Conservation & economic development

10:15am – 11:15am, Gateway East

Moderator: Tom Hoechst, Mayor of Alton, IL

Dr. Dale Chapman, Chairman, National Great Rivers Research & Education Center

Michael Kimmel, Vice President, Waterfront Development Corporation, Louisville, KY

Mayors' Press Conference

11:30am – 12:00pm, Parkview (4th floor)

Luncheon

12:00pm – 1:00pm, Gateway West

Presiding: Dickie Kennemore, Mayor of Osceola, AR

David White, Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

CITIES, NAVIGATION, AND THE USACE, WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE MISSISSIPPI

1:30pm – 2:30pm, Gateway East

Moderator: Paul Winfield, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS

Colonel Christopher G. Hall, Commander, St. Louis District, UACE

Paul Rohde, Vice President, Midwest Area, Waterways Council, Inc.

Dennis Wilmsmeyer, President, Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals Association

Break (15 min) – Refreshments provided

CITY/STATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE RIVER

2:45pm – 3:45pm, Gateway East

Moderator: Bill Gluba, Mayor of Davenport, IA

Dru Buntin, Immediate Past Chair, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

Michael Marshall, Federal Co-Chairman, Delta Regional Authority

Break (15 min) – Refreshments provided

Seating of MRCTI Leadership

4:00pm – 5:00pm, Gateway East

Presiding: Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO

A 10-member Executive Committee and 2 Co-Chairs will be selected to temporarily lead MRCTI until formal by-laws can be adopted and leadership can be elected for a full term.

River Development Showcase & Dinner

6:00pm – 8:00pm, Kemolls, One Metropolitan Square (1.5 city blocks from Hyatt)

Mayors and attendees will be given a showcase presentation by Walter Metcalfe, Chairman of the Board for CityArchRiver 2015. The presentation will focus on riverfront development strategies, funding models, and implementation approaches using a variety of partnership strategies mayors can take back and apply to their own riverfront development projects. Dinner will be provided.

(Attendees may meet in the lobby of the Hyatt at 5:45pm and be escorted to the Showcase & Dinner.)

September 14

Breakfast

8:30am – 9:30am, Mills 6 (4th floor)

Presiding: AC Wharton, Mayor of Memphis, TN

Jeffery Krida, CEO, American Queen Steamboat Company

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI – Clean water = jobs and revenue

9:45am – 11:00am, Gateway East

Moderator: Jo Anne Smiley, Mayor of Clarksville, MO

Nancy Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator for Water, US EPA

Katherine Baer, Senior Director of Clean Water & Water Supply Programs, American Rivers

Next steps for MRCTI

11:00am – 11:30am, Gateway East

Presiding: Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO

Developing a Platform and planning a launch of that platform in Washington, DC, March 2013

11:30am - Adjourn