

The 7th Annual Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative
Organizational Meeting
September 18-20, 2018, Quad Cities, IL, IA



Quad Cities 2018, *The River Runs Through Us*

Agenda

Title Sponsor: **Bechtel Trust**

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions and events are open to all mayors and other officially invited attendees.
Meeting services are located within the Hotel Blackhawk, 200 E 3rd Street, Davenport, IA 52801
Check www.mrcti.org frequently for Annual Meeting Agenda updates.

September 18

Registration

10:00am – 6:00pm, Hotel Blackhawk, Main Lobby, 1st floor

Welcome Reception & Opening Ceremony

Welcome Reception, *Sponsored by Modern Woodmen*

5:30pm – 6:00pm, Schwiebert Park, Main Stage Pavilion, 101 17th Street, Rock Island, IL

Considered one of the top urban parks in the country, Schwiebert Park is a gem along the Mississippi River.

Mayors and guests may gather in the main lobby of the Blackhawk at 5:00pm to load buses for the venue.

Presiding: Frank Klipsch, Mayor of Davenport, IA, MRCTI Co-Chair
Lionel Johnson, Mayor of St. Gabriel, LA, MRCTI Co-Chair

Welcome: HON. MIKE THOMS
Mayor, City of Rock Island, IL

Greetings: W. KENNY MASSEY
President & CEO
Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial

Opening Ceremony, *Sponsored by Modern Woodmen*

6:00pm – 7:30pm, Schwiebert Park, Main Stage Pavilion, 101 17th Street, Rock Island, IL

Join Mayors Frank Klipsch, Lionel Johnson, Bob Gallagher, Reggie Freeman, Stephanie Acre, and Mike Thoms as they open the 7th Annual Meeting of the Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative through recognition of Illinois' 200th Anniversary of statehood, MRCTI's largest member state.

<i>Opening:</i>	THE HON. LIONEL JOHNSON Mayor, St. Gabriel, LA MRCTI Co-Chair	THE HON. FRANK KLIPSCH Mayor, Davenport, IA MRCTI Co-Chair
<i>Ceremony:</i>	Procession of Colors	
<i>Welcome:</i>	THE HONORABLE JANE KRENTZ Former State Senator (MN) Nat. Caucus of State Legislators	THE HONORABLE CINDY WINKLER State Representative (IA) Nat. Caucus of State Legislators
<i>Recognition Of Women Mayors:</i>	TIARA LUMAS Operations Manager MRCTI	
<i>Remarks:</i>	THE HON. JO ANNE SMILEY Mayor of Clarksville, MO	THE HON. SHARON WESTON BROOME Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA
<i>Remarks:</i>	CORY JOBE Director, Illinois Office of Tourism State of Illinois 200th Anniversary	

September 19

Registration

7:30am – 5:00pm, Hotel Blackhawk, Main Lobby, 1st floor

Opening Breakfast Plenary: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the 2018 Omnibus Appropriations Act

8:00am – 9:30am, Hotel Blackhawk, 220 E 3rd Street, 2nd Floor, Gold Room

Presiding: George Flaggs, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS
Mike Thoms, Mayor of Rock Island, IL

<i>Welcome:</i>	THE HON. FRANK KLIPSCH Mayor, Davenport, IA	AMRIT GILL Owner Hotel Black Hawk
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Introduction: COL. STEVEN M. SATTINGER
Commander, Rock Island District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Remarks: GENERAL RICHARD KAISER
Commander, Mississippi Valley Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Update: THE HONORABLE CHERI BUSTOS
U.S. House of Representatives
17th District of Illinois

GRETCHEN BENJAMIN
Large River Specialist
The Nature Conservancy

Update: THE HONORABLE RICHARD BALZANO
Deputy Administrator
U.S. Maritime Administration
U.S. Dept. of Transportation

SESSION: MISSISSIPPI RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

9:45am – 11:15am, River Center, 136 E 3rd Street, Second Floor Concourse

Moderating: *Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis, TN*
Rick Eberlin, Mayor of Grafton, IL

Innovation: KRIS JOHNSON, PHD
Associate Director, North American Agriculture Program
The Nature Conservancy

Presentation: KEVIN O’HARA
Vice President, Urban & Government Affairs
National Recreation & Park Association

Presentation: ERIC LETSINGER
CEO
Quantified Ventures, LL.C.

Remarks: NICHOLAS CANDIS, CTP
Vice President, Public Finance
PNC Financial Services

Update: THE HON. ERRICK SIMMONS
Mayor, City of Greenville, MS

Presentation: LISA DANIEL
Managing Director, Public Finance Management Group

Mayors’ Press Conference (location subject to change due to weather)

11:30am – 12:00pm, Schwiebert Park, Main Stage Pavilion, 101 17th Street, Rock Island, IL

Mayor Klipsch and Mayor Johnson will convene a press conference to make a major announcement regarding a partnership to address one of the most significant threats facing the Mississippi River.

Presiding: *Frank Klipsch, Mayor of Davenport, IA, MRCTI Co-Chair*
Lionel Johnson, Mayor of St. Gabriel, LA, MRCTI Co-Chair

Introduction: THE HON. RITA ALBRECHT
Mayor of Bemidji, MN

Announcement: THE HONORABLE RICK HANSEN
State Representative (MN)
Nat. Caucus of State Legislators

THE HONORABLE ABE HUDSON
State Representative (MS)
Nat. Caucus of State Legislators

MIKE WHALEN
President & CEO
Heart of America Group

KRISTEL ERSAN
Director of Marketing
Dynamic Restaurant Holdings

THE HON. REGGIE FREEMAN
Mayor, East Moline, IL

CHAD PREGRACKE
Founder
Living Lands & Waters

Lunch Plenary: Clean Water, Commodities, and Water Quality Monitoring

12:30pm – 1:45pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W 2nd St, Davenport, IA

Presiding: Sharon Weston Broome, Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA

Welcome: THE HON. FRANK KLIPSCH
Mayor, City of Davenport, IA

TIM SCHIFFER
Executive Director, Figge Art Museum

Remarks: THE HONORABLE DAVE LOEBSACK
U.S. House of Representatives
2nd District of Iowa

Announcement: APRILL BLANCO
Senior Vice President of Public Policy
Wells Fargo & Company

EMILY KREPS
Vice President, North American Investment
CDP

Presentation: LEON M. CARL
Regional Director, Midwest Region
U.S. Geological Survey

SCOTT MORLOCK
Deputy Regional Director for Science
U.S. Geological Survey

Signing of Agreement: MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD KAISER
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

LEON M. CARL
U.S. Geological Survey

2019 Mtg Preview: THE HON. JIM STRICKLAND
Mayor, City of Memphis, TN

THE HON. JAY HOLLOWELL
Mayor, City of Helena-West Helena, AR

SESSION: BUILDING A FRAMEWORK WITH THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN TO SECURE SOURCE WATER

2:00pm –3:30pm, Hotel Blackhawk, 220 E 3rd Street, 2nd Floor, Gold Room

Moderating: Bob Fox, Mayor of Cape Girardeau, MO
Buz Craft, Mayor of Vidalia, LA

Greetings: RANDY MOORE
President, Iowa American Water

Collaboration: ROD SNYDER
Executive Director
Field to Market

Ag Trade: DANIEL WHITLEY
Associate Administrator, Foreign Ag Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Remarks: THE HON. CHRIS LAIN
Mayor of Savanna, IL

Presentation: SCOTT MOUW
Senior Dir. Strategy and Research
The Recycling Partnership

SARAH DEARMAN
Sustainable Packaging Program Dir.
Coca-Cola Company

Break, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Host City Showcase & Dinner

Host City Reception • IL 200th Anniversary Cannon Salute • Host City Dinner

Co-Hosted by the U.S. Army, join the Mayors of the Mississippi River for a truly spectacular evening right next to the Great Mississippi. Walk the same paths as royal visitors from the past upon storied grounds serenaded by the Quad City Symphony Orchestra.

Host City Reception

6:00pm – 7:00pm, Reception, Quarters One, Rock Island Arsenal

Join the Quad City Mayors for this celebration of the Mississippi River’s incredible contribution to our Nation’s defense. Tour and dine just feet from the River at Quarters One, the largest federal residence second only to the White House. Quarters One has hosted kings and queens as well as Charles Lindbergh.

Buses will begin loading at main entrance of the Hotel Blackhawk at 5:15pm to transport mayors and guests to the dinner venue. Buses will return guests to the Hotel Blackhawk beginning at 8:30pm.

Presiding: Frank Klipsch, Mayor of Davenport, IA, MRCTI Co-Chair
Lionel Johnson, Mayor of St. Gabriel, LA, MRCTI Co-Chair
Bob Gallagher, Mayor of Bettendorf, IA, MRCTI Secretary
Stephanie Acri, Mayor of Moline, IL
Reggie Freeman, Mayor of East Moline, IL
Mike Thoms, Mayor of Rock Island, IL

Welcome: MICHAEL HUTCHISON (SES: MAJOR GENERAL) COL. STEPHEN C. MARR
Deputy to the Commander Commander
U.S. Army Sustainment Command U.S. Army Garrison – Rock Island Arsenal

Greetings: THE HONORABLE TONY McCOMBIE THE HON. REGGIE FREEMAN
State Representative (IL) Mayor of East Moline, IL
Nat. Caucus of State Legislators

Illinois 200th Anniversary 13-Shot Cannon Salute

7:00pm, The Quad City Mayors, U.S. Army Sustainment Command, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State of Illinois, and MRCT invite Mayors of the Mississippi River to join them in recognizing the 200th anniversary of IL Statehood and the achievements of MRCTI in a cannon salute exclusively organized for this event.

Host City Dinner

7:30pm – 9:00pm, Reception, Quarters One, Rock Island Arsenal

The Quad City Mayors will lead a showcase of a Mississippi River-centric project and highlight the achievements made to form the City to the River and its systems over forming the River to the City.

Remarks: THE HON. STEPHANIE ACRI
Mayor of Moline, IL

Presentation: DAVID OWENS BOB BOHANNON
Moline Water Plant Manager Moline Water Lab Chemist

Proposal: Economic Impacts to the Mississippi River Corridor from Drought
ROGER PULWARTY
Director, National Integrated Drought Information System, NOAA
U.S. Department of Commerce

Presentation: VICTORIA BRADFORD
Executive & Artistic Director
A House Unbuilt

Collaboration: THE HONORABLE JOHN HOFFMAN
State Senator (MN)

Nominations: MRCTI 2021 ANNUAL MEETING HOST CITY CANDIDATES

12:00pm – Adjourn

Excursion: Private Yacht tour of the Quad Cities on the Mississippi River

1:00pm – 4:00pm, Lindsay Park Marina, Davenport, IA



Mayor Thoms of Rock Island, IL and Mayor Gallagher of Bettendorf, IA have graciously offered to take up to 22 mayors (including spouses) on an excursion along the Mississippi River to experience the Quad Cities from the best vantage point possible – from the Mississippi River. This is a first-come, first-serve opportunity. *Buses will depart the Hotel Blackhawk at 12:45pm.*