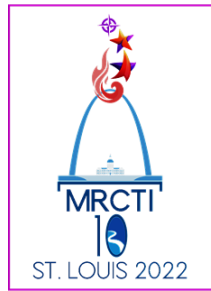


The 11th Annual Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative Organizational Meeting



MISSISSIPPI RIVER CITIES & TOWNS INITIATIVE ANNUAL MEETING

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, SEPT 13-15

Agenda

An Official City Event

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions and events are open to all mayors and officially invited attendees. All attire is business unless noted. Meeting services are located within the St. Louis Ball Park Hilton, 1 S Broadway Street. There is a Union Station shuttle. Check www.mrcti.org frequently for Annual Meeting Agenda updates.

September 13

Registration

10:00am – 6:00pm, St. Louis Ball Park Hilton, Main Lobby, S Broadway Street

Press Conference [Pre-Conference Event, open to all meeting guests]

MRCTI & Partners Secure Mississippi River Restoration Project in Senate WRDA

2:00pm – 2:30pm, Lindbergh Room, Ball Park Hilton, 1 S Broadway Street

MRCTI leadership will join lawmakers in announcing a tremendous breakthrough in securing the ecological and economic security of the Mississippi River in the Senate Water Resources Development Act.

Moderating: Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
Errick Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Welcome: HON. TISHAURA JONES
Mayor of St. Louis, MO
MRCTI Host City

Recognition: HON. KEVIN SMITH
Mayor of Helena-West Helena, AR
MRCTI Arkansas State Chair

JAMES SANDERS
Mayor of Blytheville, AR

Statement: HON. JOHN BOOZMAN
United States Senate (AR)

Remarks: HON. ANDREW YOUNG
Former U.S. Ambassador to United Nations

Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception

Opening Ceremonies, *Sponsored by: Viking River Cruises* [Attire: Business Casual]

6:30pm – 7:00pm, St. Louis Arch, Luther Ely Smith Park Entrance, Market Street & Memorial Drive

The remodeled Gateway Arch Approach, Ocular Entrance, and Museum are all part of one of the largest city-state-federal partnerships in the nation costing hundreds of millions of dollars over several years. Join MRCTI, City of St. Louis, and the U.S. Department of Interior at this amazing venue profiling DOI's priorities on conservation, job creation, and government-to-government partnerships.

Union Station shuttle pick-up is 6:00pm; Ball Park Hilton lobby Meet-up is 6:15pm to walk one block to venue

<i>Welcome:</i>	HON. TISHAURA JONES Mayor of St. Louis, MO MRCTI Host City	
<i>Opening:</i>	HON. JIM STRICKLAND Mayor of Memphis, TN MRCTI Co-Chair	HON. ERRICK SIMMONS Mayor of Greenville, MS MRCTI Co-Chair
<i>Procession of States & Nations:</i>	ST. LOUIS POLICE AND FIRE HONOR GUARD Presentation of Colors	GREAT RIVER FIFE & DRUM CORPS Entering Ceremony

Welcome Reception, *Sponsored by: Viking River Cruises*

7:00pm – 9:00pm, St. Louis Arch Museum, Mezzanine Level (Mississippi River Map floor)

Join Mayor Jones as she and the MRCTI Co-Chairs open the 11th Annual Meeting of the Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative by recognizing MRCTI Tenth Anniversary Year followed by a special address and presentation from the U.S. Department of Interior and preview of a new product release for the River.

<i>Welcome:</i>	HON. TISHAURA JONES Mayor of St. Louis, MO MRCTI Host City	
<i>Greetings:</i>	HON. PHIL STANG Mayor of Kimmswick, MO MRCTI Missouri State Chair	HON. ROBERT EASTERN Mayor of East St. Louis, IL MRCTI Illinois State Chair
<i>Regional Welcome:</i>	COL. KEVIN GOLINGHORST Commander, St. Louis District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	DR. PAMELA L. BEGAY Dir. Buder Center for American Indian Studies Washington University in St. Louis
<i>Remarks:</i>	JEREMY SWEAT Superintendent Gateway Arch National Park	MATTHEW STRICKLER Deputy Asst. Sec. of Parks U.S. Dept. of Interior
<i>Signing:</i>	<u>MRCTI and CDP North America Sign Next 5-Year Agreement</u>	
	HON. BELINDA CONSTANT Mayor of Gretna, LA MRCTI Louisiana State Chair	LORI LLEWELLYN Managing Director CDP North America

Celebration: HON. SHARON WESTON BROOME
Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA
MRCTI Immediate Past Co-Chair

HON. ANDREW YOUNG
Founder & Chairman
Andrew Young Foundation

September 14

Registration

7:30am – 5:00pm, St. Louis Ball Park Hilton, Main Lobby, S Broadway Street

Opening Breakfast Plenary: The NEXT Ten Years of Near-Water Development

Sponsored by: Aquasight

8:00am – 10:10am, Grand Hall of St. Louis Union Station, 1820 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63101

Mayors and guests may gather in the Ball Park Hilton lobby at 7:30am to load buses for the venue.

Presiding: Michael Morrow, Mayor of Grafton, IL
David Goins, Mayor of Alton, IL

<i>Introduction:</i>	MAHESH LUNANI Chief Executive Officer Aquasight	DAVID SIMMONS Senior Consultant, Local & Community Relations Viking River Cruises
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Announcement: Mississippi River French Heritage Corridor
HON. PAUL HASSLER
Mayor of Ste. Genevieve, MO

HIS EXCELLENCY PHILLIPPE ETIENNE
French Ambassador to the United States

Keynote: When a City's Most Valuable Asset(s) is Natural
HON. ADAM PUTNAM
Chief Executive Officer
Ducks Unlimited

<i>Discussion:</i>	DR. KAREN WALDROP Chief Conservationist Ducks Unlimited	DR. ELLEN HERBERT Ecosystem Services Ducks Unlimited	MICHAEL SERTLE Chief Regional Biologist Ducks Unlimited
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Mayors' Media Event at Disaster Resilience Project Site

11:00am – 11:30am, Horseshoe Lake State Park, Rt. 111 & Lake Drive Pavilion, Pontoon Beach, IL 62040

Mayor Eastern, Mayor Strickland, and Mayor Simmons will convene a media event at a middle-river region project location just across the Mississippi from Downtown St. Louis, MO to demonstrate a new era of advanced conservation to make cities multi-hazard resilient.

Mayors and guests may board buses to project site from Union Station. Buses will then proceed to lunch venue

Presiding: Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
Erick Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Introduction: HON. JOHN HAMM, III
Mayor of Madison, IL

DR. KAREN WALDROP
Chief Conservationist
DUCKS UNLIMITED

Lunch Plenary: Manufacturing, Water, & the Jobs Act/IRA, *Sponsored by: Fintech Future, Missouri Athletic Club*

12:00pm – 1:45pm, Missouri Ballroom, Missouri Athletic Club, 405 Washington Avenue

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

Introduction: JOSEPH N. GARBA
Head of External Affairs
Cross River, Fintech Future

Update & Progress on the Jobs Act and Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act

<i>Overview:</i>	HON. MIKE MORROW Mayor of Grafton, IL	JAMES KIM Senior Partner Arnold & Porter	MATTHEW MARTINEC Senior Advisor CSRS
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Presentation: EPA Presents Clean Mississippi River Grants

JENNIFER WENDT
Plastics Campaign Manager
MRCTI

PROF. JENNA JAMBECK, PH.D.
Professor, College of Engineering
University of Georgia

<i>Presenting</i>	HON. MEG MCCOLLISTER	HON. DANIEL BLACKMAN
<i>of EPA Grants:</i>	Region 7 Administrator	Region 4 Administrator
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Proposal: SHELLY HARTFIELD
Director of Port Services
American Queen Voyages

2023 Mtg HON. JORGE PRINCE
Preview: Mayor, City of Bemidji, MN

Break, 1:45pm – 2:00pm

SESSION I: Making Local Economies Resilient, Innovative, and Aligned for Growth

2:00pm – 4:00pm, Missouri Ballroom, Missouri Athletic Club, 405 Washington Avenue

Moderating: Paul Hassler, Mayor of Ste Genevieve, MO

Introduction: HON. BOB GALLAGHER
Mayor of Bettendorf, IA

Remarks: HON. VICTORIA SALINAS
Deputy Administrator for Resilience
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Presentation: Ecological Status & Trends of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers

Overview: JOHN (JC) NELSON KATHI JO JANKOWSKI
Deputy Regional Dir. Research Ecologist
U.S. Geological Survey U.S. Geological Survey

Presentation: Mississippi River French Heritage Corridor

LISA KAHN	GREGORY CASH	DENNIS PRUITT
Co-Chair, French Heritage Society	Pres. French-American	Vice President
Chicago chapter	Heritage Foundation (MN)	MO Partnerships
YANNICK TAGAND	COURTNEY WILSON	GREG TAYLOR
Consul General	Project Manager	President
Consulate of France	Kaskaskia Navigation	Joliet & Marquette 3
	Carlisle Lake, USACE	

Break, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

HOST CITY SHOWCASE & DINNER

MRCTI Awards Ceremony at the New St Louis Soccer Stadium



St. Louis Hosts MRCTI 10-Year Celebration – Be part of the new legacy cities are building for Middle-America. Join Mississippi River Mayors for an evening recognizing their work over the last decade and seeing beyond to the next ten years: the St. Louis Development Corporation will make a special presentation on what that future work may look like – **EQUITY. ACCESS. INCLUSION**

Host City Dinner: **An Evening at the Centene Stadium, Partnered with: MO American Water** [Attire: Business]

6:00pm – 7:00pm, Centene Stadium, 2100 Market Street, Ultra Bar

The St. Louis Development Corporation invites Mayors of the Mississippi River to gather for the first event being held in the new state-of-the-art St. Louis soccer stadium with live music by the **Red & Black** Brass Band. Buses will begin loading at the Ball Park Hilton at 5:30pm to transport mayors and guests to the dinner venue.

Presiding: Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
Errick Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair
Neal Richardson, Executive Director, St. Louis Development Corporation

Unveiling of HAROLD HAMBY
WINES: CEO, LaChance Vineyards

<i>Welcome:</i>	JASON P. THEIN	MEGAN MCCORMICK
	Chief Operating Officer	MLS Next Couch
	Centene Stadium Ownership Group	St. Louis Soccer Club

Showcase: Economic Justice in Action: Building a Vibrant, Just, and Growing Economy for All of St. Louis
NEAL RICHARDSON
Executive Director, St. Louis Development Corporation

MRCTI at Ten Years

7:00pm – 8:00pm, Centene Stadium, 2100 Market Street, Ultra Bar

VISION, LEADERSHIP, RESULTS define MRCTI's tenure so far. MRCTI will recognize the leaders that founded the association and those that are seeing beyond and charting the future.

<i>Recognition</i>	HON. SHARON WESTON BROOME	HON. BOB GALLAGHER	COLIN WELLENKAMP
<i>of 2019-21</i>	Immediate Past Co-Chair	Immediate Past Co-Chair	Executive Director
<i>Exec Comm:</i>			

Honoring: MRCTI Founding Leaders
Mayors: MRCTI FOUNDING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stakeholders: CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD CITY STAFF FEDERAL PARTNERS

September 15

Registration

7:30am – 10:30am, St. Louis Ball Park Hilton, Main Lobby, S Broadway Street

Corporate Advisory Board Breakfast: Disasters at Home, War Abroad – Food, Hunger, & the Mississippi Basin, *Sponsored by: St. Louis Economic Development Partnership & Greater St. Louis Inc.*

8:00am – 10:00am, Saint Louis University Law School, Top Floor Auditorium, 100 North Tucker Blvd.

Union Station shuttle pick-up is 7:15am; Buses will begin loading at the Ball Park Hilton at 7:30am.

Presiding: Belinda Constant, Mayor of Gretna, LA
Brad Cavanagh, Mayor of Dubuque, IA

<i>Welcome:</i>	RODNEY CRIM CEO & President St. Louis Economic Dev. Partnership	JASON HALL CEO Greater St. Louis Inc.
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<i>Greetings:</i>	KENNETH A. OLLIFF Vice Pres. Research & Partnerships Saint Louis University	JASON KNOUFT, PH.D. Prof. of Biology, College of Arts & Sciences SLU Water Institute
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Keynote: The State of Global Food Production
SARA MENKER
Founder & CEO
Gro Intelligence

Presentation: Meeting the Global Supply Chain Challenge
ROBERT SINKLER
Founder & CEO
Riverside Global

Announcement: Chair, Vice Chair, and New Members of MRCTI Corporate Advisory Board

<i>Transition:</i>	ALEXANDER LOUCOPOULOS Partner Sciens Capital MRCTI CAB Chair	MARK BINSFELD Vice President J.F. Brennan Company Inc. Incoming MRCTI CAB Chair
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Break, 10:00am – 10:15am

MRCTI Business Meeting

10:15am – 12:00pm, Saint Louis University Law School, Top Floor Auditorium, 100 North Tucker Blvd.

Mayors will meet in an open-door session to discuss new business brought before the Association. Mayors interested in hosting an annual meeting may also officially list their city as a candidate for the 2024 meeting.

Presiding: Jim Strickland, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
Errick Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Announcement: Rotary International Adopt a River Program
SALVADOR RICO
Global River Network Coordinator
Rotary Club International

Nominations: MRCTI 2025 ANNUAL MEETING HOST CITY CANDIDATES
Note: Nominations will be accepted for upper stem cities to host the 2025 Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee will vote the winning candidate city in Feb 2023.

Meeting Adjournment
12:00pm

Excursion: St. Louis Cardinals Evening Game in Private Suite [Attire: Casual; RSVP at tlumas@mrcti.org]
6:00pm – 9:00pm, Bush Stadium, 700 Clark Avenue



MRCTI has teamed-up with the St. Louis Cardinals and SPIRE to escort a limited number of mayors (including spouses) on an excursion to Busch Stadium for an evening game on September 15 in the Spire Corporate Suite. This is a first-come, first-serve opportunity. Please RSVP to Tiara Lumas, MRCTI Operations Manager at tlumas@mrcti.org . Dinner is provided in the suite.

Mayors and guests will meet in the Ball Park Hilton Lobby at 5:45pm to walk as a group over to the game. There is no Union Station Shuttle pick-up.