

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative  
Organizational Meeting  
Agenda  
June 26-28, St. Cloud, MN

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 River's Edge Convention Center unless otherwise stated.

## June 26

### Registration

4:00pm – 6:00pm, Mezzanine (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

### Welcome Reception

6:00pm – 7:00pm, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Presiding: Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud, MN and Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO*

Mark Ritchie, Minnesota Secretary of State

Join St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis and St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay for a welcoming of this second gathering of mayors along the Mississippi River. 30 Mayors comprised MRCTI for our first meeting, now we are more than 50 mayors strong. Following the reception, Mayors can join Host Mayor Dave Kleis for the *Summertime By George! Outdoor Concert & Festival*. Buses load in front of Convention Center at 7:00pm, returning 9:00pm.

## June 27

### Registration

7:30am – 2:00pm, Mezzanine (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

**Introductions and Welcome** (continental breakfast available in Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor river side)

8:00am – 8:30am, Herberger Suite

*Presiding: Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis and Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud*

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, United States Senate, (special video welcome)

### INLAND WATERWAYS TRUST FUND, CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

8:30am – 9:45am (via video conference from the White House), Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: AC Wharton, Mayor of Memphis, TN*

The Honorable David Agnew, Director, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality

Jay Jensen, Associate Director for Land and Water Ecosystems, Council on Environmental Quality

Sally Ericsson, Associate Director of Natural Resources, White House Office of Management & Budget

**Break** (15 min) – Refreshments provided

### OBTAINING CLEAN WATER – NUTRIENT TRADING SYSTEMS AND OTHER MARKET SOLUTIONS

10:00am – 11:15am, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Hiram Copeland, Mayor of Vidalia, LA*

David Frederickson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Sara Walker, Nutrient Trading Study Co-Author, World Resources Institute

Dave White, President, Ecosystem Services Exchange

## **Mayors' Press Conference**

11:30am – 12:00pm, River's Edge Mezzanine (2<sup>nd</sup> floor outside the Stockinger Suite)

*Presiding: Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud, MN and Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO*

Mayors will gather to make an important announcement regarding a new level of partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Edward E. Belk Jr. Senior Executive Service, Mississippi River Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

## **Luncheon:**

### **Special Presentation on Geotourism Project**

12:00pm – 12:30pm, Stockinger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Introductions: Colin Wellenkamp, MRCTI Director*

Paul Labovitz, Superintendent, National Park Service, Twin Cities Region

Stephen Gard, Southeast Regional Liaison, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Terry Eastin, Mississippi River Connections Collaborative

## **Mayors' Jobs Forum**

12:30pm – 1:45pm, Stockinger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud*

The centerpiece of the annual meeting, this forum will serve to illustrate for mayors where the jobs are along the River and how mayors can work to increase the number of jobs opportunities in and around their cities individually and collectively. Mayors will hear from leadership in the navigation, agriculture, and recreation/tourism industries.

Colleen Landkamer, Minnesota State Director for Rural Development, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

Lee Krueger, Real Estate & Development Director, St. Paul, MN Port Authority

Dan Mecklenborg, Senior Vice President, Ingram Barge Company

Frank Kartmann, President, American Water of Missouri

## **CREATING A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NETWORK FOR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER**

2:00pm – 3:10pm, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Roy Buol, Mayor of Dubuque, IA*

Neal Cuthbert, Vice President of Programs, The McKnight Foundation

Don Hickman, Initiative Foundation, Little Falls, MN

Susan Lorenz, Central Minnesota Community Foundation, St. Cloud, MN

## **CONTAINER SHIPPING ON THE MISSISSIPPI – CAN IT BE A REALITY?**

3:15am – 4:30am, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Larry Brown, Mayor of Natchez, MS*

Michael Marshal, Alternate Federal Co-Chair, Delta Regional Authority

Bill Paape, Gateway Dir. for Inland Waterways, Maritime Administration, US Dept. of Transportation

Robert Landry, Chief Commercial Officer, Port of New Orleans

## **Host City Showcase & Dinner**

5:30pm – 9:00pm, St. Cloud State University Campus

*Presiding: Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud, MN*

*Buses load in front of the River's Edge Convention Center at 5:15pm for Host City Showcase.*

Mayors and attendees will be given a showcase presentation by Mayor Kleis and the Provost of St. Cloud State University on River development achievements and economic growth. The presentation will be followed by a performance from the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra.

June 28

**PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE RIVER – MAYORS CREATE A CONVERGANCE POINT FOR EFFORTS**

8:30am – 9:45am (continental breakfast provided in Stockinger Suite), Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Tom Thompson, Mayor of Grafton, IL*

Claudia Emken, Policy Manager, Mississippi River Network

Jordy Jordahl, Director, America's Watershed Initiative

Josh Lohmer, Programs Manager, America's Wetland Foundation

**Break (15 min) – Refreshments provided**

**CRAFTING A MODEL UNIFORM ZONING CODE FOR MISSISSIPPI WATERFRONTS**

10:00am – 11:00am, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Moderator: Bill Gluba, Mayor of Davenport, IA*

James Schwab, Co-Editor of Zoning Practice, American Planning Association

Paul Anthony, Associate, Clarion Associates

**MRCTI Business Meeting**

11:00am – 12:00pm, Herberger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Presiding: Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis and Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud*

Mayors will meet in an open-door session to finalize and approve by-laws as well as hold elections for a new Executive Committee and Co-Chairs to serve a full 2-year term. Mayors that currently serve on the Executive Committee and as Co-Chairs are eligible to run. One co-chair seat is reserved for the mayor of a city with a population above 100,000 and the other for a city with a population below 100,000. Mayors interested in hosting an annual meeting may also officially list their cities as a candidate for the 2014, 2015, and 2016 meetings. However, the 2014 annual meeting must be held in the southern stem.

**Closing Luncheon**

12:00pm – 1:00pm, Stockinger Suite (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, river side)

*Presiding: Jo Anne Smiley, Mayor of Clarksville, MO*

Beth Freeman, FEMA Administrator for Region VII

1:00pm – Adjourn



**EXCURSION: MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS REGION (confirmed)**

2:00pm – 9:30pm

Mayors and a limited number of attendees will have the option of taking an excursion to the breathtaking headwaters region of the Mississippi River. See where the largest navigable river system in the world begins and actually jump across the Mississippi River where it makes it start next to beautiful Lake Itasca. Participants will board a tourism bus and ride to the headwaters region from St. Cloud. En route on the bus, Mayors will be part of a live broadcast carried by KNSI 1450 AM talk radio. The excursion bus will board at 2:00pm in front of the Convention Center after the Annual Meeting closing luncheon. The bus will return to St. Cloud at approximately 9:30pm.