

MINUTES OF THE BI-STATE REGIONAL TRAIL COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 28, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue, Third Floor, Room 302
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Welcome and Introductions – Mr. Ludwig opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance and asked for introductions. (See attached attendance sheet.)
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from March 26, 2026 – Ms. McDonough motioned to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2026 Bi-State Regional Trail Committee meeting. Mr. Burt seconded the motion, which passed.
3. Presentation on the Illinois E-Bike Bill SB3336 – Mr. Simmons introduced the topic of legislation regulating e-bikes in Illinois working its way through the Illinois General Assembly. The legislation seeks to update state laws established in 2018 regarding low-speed e-bikes, e-scooters, and other micromobility devices. The bill differentiates between high- and low-speed devices, lowers the minimum age for e-scooters to 16, and sets the minimum age for Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes to 15. House amendments have established rules for usage areas and age limits, receiving support from the Illinois League of Cities regarding municipal preemption, while the DNR continues to request input on trail regulations. The bill is currently heading to a full House vote with strong vocal support from the Secretary of State. Mr. Simmons noted that enforcement will not heavily rely on police pulling users over based on device specifications alone, and a clean-up bill is anticipated next year. Additional discussions covered battery disposal based on European retail drop-off standards, driver's education curriculum changes for 16-year-olds, and the Secretary of State's "Ride Safe. Ride Smart. Ride Ready." educational campaign.
4. Presentation on the Great River Trail Master Plan – Ms. Ebelherr provided an update on the GRT Master Plan, which has been in progress for approximately 18 months. Key objectives include providing continuity between Galena and Savanna, establishing a post-plan steering committee, and addressing accessibility issues for support facilities. Feedback is currently being gathered on the GRT map, which depicts trail amenities (signs, bathrooms, etc.), connecting trails, protected lanes, etc. The next steps for the study include continued data collection, a public survey, and a trail intercept survey.
5. Update on QC Metro Bike Map – The committee evaluated options for individual communities to designate their "most comfortable" routes, utilizing open data (GATIS), and leveraging transit apps to offer bike connection suggestions. The map will be distributed to each community for comments, additions, and deletions.
6. Committee Member Reports

Bettendorf–

The trail at Leach Park was resurfaced. Construction on the Middle Road trail between Hopewell and Forest Grove Drive will begin soon. Progress is being made on the pedestrian bridge at the Plex. Over 500 responses were received for the Forest Grove Park survey. An

SCRA grant was secured for a new pump track/bike playground near The Landing, and recent “Bike Bus” efforts to Paul Norton saw 50–70 participating children

LeClaire–

Underground work on Phase II of the Cody Road project is progressing. Phase I of the Wisconsin Street project is underway. The splashpad at Huckleberry Park will open in June. The new YMCA is on track to open in November. The Eagle Ridge MRT is in the engineering phase with an anticipated bid letting in November. Likewise, 35th Street trail bridge will be entering the engineering phase soon.

Quad City Bicycle Club–

The Tour of the Mississippi River Valley (TOMRV) ride to Dubuque is scheduled for June. The Mathias sculpture dedication is scheduled for tomorrow, May 29.

Scott County–

Ms. McDonough noted that public comments on the U.S. 67-Centennial Bridge study will be accepted through June 3. Eldridge will consider a tobacco-free parks ordinance. The Health Department will recycle the PSAs about trail, bicycle, and pedestrian safety. In August, the public information will be school-specific.

Visit Quad Cities–

Bike rentals are available on weekdays and Saturdays when the Union Station Visitor Center is open.

Walcott–

The city’s trail committee is progressing on the ¾-mile trail expansion. There have been productive discussions with neighbors. The city intends on applying for a REAP grant this summer, and is continuing to work with the IA DNR about flooding issues. The Walcott Police Department will hold a bike “road-eo” to increase education about bicycling safely.

7. Other Business – There was no other business.
8. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD MEMBERS, GUESTS & STAFF

Meeting of: Bi-State Regional Trail Committee

Date: May 28, 2026 Time: 10:00 a.m. To 11:45 a.m. Minutes: Yes X No __

Place of Meeting: Bi-State Regional Commission, Rock Island, IL

Name:	Title/Representing:	Contact # or Email:
1. Taylor Beswick	City of Bettendorf	
2. Chad Burt	City of Walcott	
3. John Byrnes	City of Bettendorf	
4. Abby Ebelherr	Blackhawk Hills Regional Council	
5. Greg Ludwig	City of LeClaire	
6. Alyssa Magsombol	City of Bettendorf	
7. Dean Mathias	Quad Cities Bike Club	
8. Christina McDonough	Scott County Health Department	
9. Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission	
10. Zach Sutton	Bi-State Regional Commission	
11. Matt Weiss	Blackhawk Hills Regional Council	
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		