

RESOLUTION 4 - 2011

SUPPORTING THE

Mississippi River Trail Bicycle Route

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River and surrounding bluffs are the prominent natural features of the La Crosse and La Crescent area; and

WHEREAS, boating, fishing, bicycling, sightseeing and other recreational activities centered on the Mississippi River contribute significantly to the economic vitality of the area, and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River is well known throughout America and the world, and has served through time as a corridor of exploration, travel, and settlement; and

WHEREAS, the *Mississippi River Trail* is a bicycle route that offers an opportunity for extraordinary adventure along the entire river from the Headwaters in Lake Itasca State Park in Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the *Mississippi River Trail* relies exclusively on existing highway shoulders, low-volume paved roads and paved recreational trails; and

WHEREAS, the route will likely evolve and improve as road improvements are made and suitable paved recreational trails become available; and

WHEREAS, the *Mississippi River Trail* will generate additional economic activity within Mississippi River host communities; and

WHEREAS, a continuous string of local resolutions of support for the *Mississippi River Trail* will strengthen individual and collective funding requests for projects that protect, enhance or promote resources that enrich the traveler's experience; and

WHEREAS, even though the Minnesota Department of Transportation will continue to maintain statewide mapping and information regarding the *Mississippi River Trail*, convene meetings and facilitate the resolution of issues and alignment selection within the State, the *Mississippi River Trail* will be managed collaboratively by all road and trail authorities that comprise the trail:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the La Crosse Area Planning Committee supports the collective efforts of the Minnesota Department of Transportation and other road and trail authorities that comprise the *Mississippi River Trail* and will participate in ongoing collaborative discussions, and in matters of a general nature regarding the operation and location of the *Mississippi River Trail* within its administrative boundaries.

LA CROSSE AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

, Chairperson

Tom Faella, Executive Director

Dated: May 18, 2011