

**DES MOINES RECREATIONAL RIVER & GREENBELT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
STATE OF IOWA HISTORICAL BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA
JULY 8, 2003**

1. ATTACHMENTS: Meeting Attendance List.

2. ACTIONS REQUIRED FROM MEETING:

a. Letters of Assurance were required from Fort Dodge and Des Moines for inclusion in the 2003 Annual Program Management Report (APMR). The Corps of Engineers (Corps) will provide sample letters to be completed by the respective community.

b. \$7.4 million is needed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 to fully implement the proposed Greenbelt plan.

c. The Corps will compile a trail status report/update for inclusion in the 2004 APMR.

d. Advisory Committee members and guests, if interested, are requested to send the Corps letters addressing their desires/needs for ecosystem restoration projects.

3. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting of the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt Advisory Committee was held at 9 a.m. on July 8, 2003, in Classroom B of the State of Iowa Historical Building, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Jeffery Vonk, Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, called the meeting to order, welcomed committee members and guests, and spoke briefly about the meeting's purpose.

4. PROGRAM REVIEW.

a. Mr. Dennis Hamilton, Corps Greenbelt Project Manager, reviewed the Federal FY 2003 appropriation and work plan; the FY 2004 capability and work plan; and the crediting language in FY 2003 appropriation:

(1) Congress appropriated \$1million in March 2003 which will be used to begin work on Ft. Dodge, Des Moines, and Cordova Center on the Rock projects. Work has resumed on Red Rock Trails 4B which is part of the Cordova Center on the Rock project

(2) The Corps has developed an implementation plan showing the expected minimum timeline for implementation of projects at Ft. Dodge, Des Moines, and Cordova Center on the Rock (including Red Rock Trail Segment 4b). The amount needed in FY 2004 to implement this plan is estimated at \$7.4 million. The Corps proposes to use allocated FY 2004 funds to permit equal progress on the projects at Ft. Dodge, Des Moines, and Cordova Center on the Rock. Any funding shortage in FY 2004 would likely reduce the amount of construction performed on Red Rock Trail Segment 4B.

(3) Mr. Hamilton also reviewed the crediting language in the FY 2003 appropriation, which allowed up to \$10 million in credit for planning, design, and construction performed by a sponsor after October 1, 2002 that is completed in accordance with Corps standards and is integral to the Greenbelt. Development and approval of a model Design Agreement that provides for crediting will likely delay initiation of planning and design work on the Ft. Dodge and Des Moines projects to this fall.

(4) Information on the Greenbelt, including reports, presentations, photographs, and meeting minutes, are included on the Rock Island District's Greenbelt website at: <http://www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/Greenbelt/>. The Corps will use this website to assist communications with the Advisory Committee and the public.

b. Mr. Michael Tarpey, Corps Greenbelt Study Manager, reviewed the Greenbelt project requirements and processes. The meeting PowerPoint slides will be available on the Greenbelt website at <http://www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/Greenbelt/>. All new projects require the sponsor to submit a Letter of Assurance to the Corps for participation in the Greenbelt program for inclusion in the APMR. The Corps will provide a sample letter.

5. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Mr. Tarpey reviewed the recommendations that the Advisory Committee made at the September 2002 meeting to add the Fort Dodge, Des Moines, and Cordova Park projects to the Master List of Projects and to give priority to these projects.

b. Mr. Tarpey stated that the Corps would review and update the Master List of Projects as part of the 2004 APMR. He solicited input from the Committee on the status of projects on the list.

6. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Mr. Tarpey reviewed the draft 2003 APMR, which was mailed to all Advisory Committee members for review and comment, and presented the comments the Corps had received to date. No additional comments were made by the Advisory Committee or guests.

b. A motion was made by Ms. Mary O'Keefe and seconded by Ms. Angela Connolly to approve the draft 2003 APMR as presented. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. The Committee discussed at length the need for funding for the repair and renovation of trails in the Greenbelt area. A motion was offered by Mr. Mark Ackelson and seconded by Ms. Mary O'Keefe requesting the Corps to compile and provide a trail assessment for the 2004 APMR. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. It was discussed that not all Greenbelt projects were intended be funded through the Corps. Funding from local, State, and other Federal agencies may be more appropriate for some Greenbelt projects. Development of a menu of possible fund sources was discussed.

d. Mr. Tarpey presented the Corps plans and schedule for the 2004 APMR. The Corps intends to have a draft report ready for review in late October 2003, dependent on the Federal budget being approved. The draft report will update the Master List of Projects and present a Greenbelt trail assessment. The Corps requested that Advisory Committee members provide letters to the Corps regarding Greenbelt environmental restoration concerns or goals that they believe should be addressed in future meetings. Redevelopment of Brownfields was discussed as an agenda item for future meetings.

7. NEXT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING. The next Committee meeting will be November 19, 2003, at a place and time to be determined. This date is tentative and is dependent on having an approved Federal budget in time for a draft 2004 APMR to be prepared and sent to the Committee in sufficient time for this meeting date.

8. MEETING ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by:

MICHAEL TARPEY, P.E.
Greenbelt Study Manager
Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District

ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING ATTENDANCE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Michael Tarpey	Corps of Engineers	309-794-5179
Bill Burch	Polk City	515-984-6184
Steve Fairbanks	Corps of Engineers	515-276-4654
Kenn Shoemaker	Corps of Engineers	309-794-5501
Kevin Holden	Corps of Engineers	306-794-5236
Tom Foster	Boone County Conservation Board	515-353-4237
John Moreland	Senator Harkin	515-284-4574
Red Brannan	Polk County	515-286-4990
Jim Richards	Warren County	515-989-0080
Kent Harfst	City of Webster City	515-832-9194
Ben Champ	City of Fort Dodge	515-723-8321
Steve Edwards	Marion County Conservation Board	641-828-2213
Mary O'Keefe	The Principal	515-246-7570
Dennis Hamilton	Corps of Engineers	309-794-5634
Jeff Vonk	IDNR	615-281-5385
Arnie Sohn	IDNR	515-281-5814
Doug Adamson	City of Carlisle	515-989-3336
Mike Wallace	Dallas County Conservation Board	515-465-3577
Missy King	Boone County Conservation Board	515-795-2809
Angela Connolly	Polk City Supervisor	515-286-3120
John Franey	Gov. Appoint.	515-848-3561
Ted Tran	Congressman Boswell	515-282-1909
Todd Redenius	City of Fort Dodge	515-576-7237
Mark Ackelson	City of Pleasant Hill	515-262-0015
Sherri Richardson-Duey	Corps of Engineers	641-828-7522
Don McLaughlin	City of Des Moines	515-263-8709