

**160.266 MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section:

- (1) "bicycle path" has the meaning given in section 169.011, subdivision 6; and
- (2) "bikeway" has the meaning given in section 169.011, subdivision 9.

Subd. 2. **Creation.** The commissioner, in cooperation with road and trail authorities including the commissioner of natural resources, shall identify a bikeway that originates at Itasca State Park in Clearwater, Beltrami, and Hubbard Counties, then generally parallels the Mississippi River through the cities of Bemidji in Beltrami County, Grand Rapids in Itasca County, Brainerd in Crow Wing County, Little Falls in Morrison County, Sauk Rapids in Benton County, St. Cloud in Stearns County, Minneapolis in Hennepin County, St. Paul in Ramsey County, Hastings in Dakota County, Red Wing in Goodhue County, Wabasha in Wabasha County, Winona in Winona County, and La Crescent in Houston County to Minnesota's boundary with Iowa and there terminates. Where opportunities exist, the bikeway may be designated on both sides of the Mississippi River.

Subd. 3. **Connections with other bikeways.** (a) The commissioner, in cooperation with road and trail authorities including the commissioner of natural resources, shall:

- (1) identify existing bikeways of regional significance that are in reasonable proximity but not connected to the bikeway established in this section, including but not limited to the Lake Wobegon Trail in the counties of Stearns and Todd; and
- (2) support development of linkages between bikeways identified under clause (1) and the bikeway established in this section.

(b) The requirements of this subdivision are a secondary priority for use of funds available under this section following establishment and enhancement of the bikeway under subdivision 1.

Subd. 4. **Cooperation with other entities.** The commissioner may contract and enter into agreements with federal agencies, other state agencies, local governments, and private entities to establish, develop, maintain, and operate the bikeway and to interpret associated natural and cultural resources.

Subd. 5. **Funding.** Bicycle paths included within the bikeway and not administered by the commissioner of natural resources are eligible for funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund under chapter 116P, from the parks and trails grant program under section 85.535, from the local recreation grants program under section 85.019, subdivision 4b, and from other sources.

**History:** 2012 c 287 art 4 s 5