

## 2025 Corn Belt Ports and Mid America Port Commission Annual Meeting Agenda



### **2025 Corn Belt Ports & Mid-America Ports Commission Annual Meeting Tuesday, March 18 at Catfish Bend Convention & Event Center 3001 Winegard Dr., Burlington, IA**

#### **UNLOCKING PORT INVESTMENT**

##### **9:30-10:00 – Registration Opens (Lobby)**

10:00-10:05 Welcome – Jon D. Billups, Mayor, Burlington, Iowa (Host)

10:05-10:10 Welcome and Opening Remarks – Blake E. Roderick, Chair, Mid-America Port Commission (Host)

10:10-10:20 **Jeremy Hess, Executive Director, Economic Development, Greater Burlington Partnership**

10:20-10:30 Robert Sinkler, Executive Coordinating Director, Corn Belt Ports Update

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES**

##### **10:30-11:45 Panel**

Bob Brettell, Prosody Group, Public Private Partnerships

Leslie Sieck, Executive Director, Tri-State Update and Way Forward, Tri-State Development Summit

Mike Norris, Executive Director, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission

Christopher D. Merrett, Ph.D., Dean for Innovation and Economic Development, Director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

#### **FEDERAL UPDATES**

**11:45-11:55 xxxxx U.S. Coast Guard**

#### **NETWORKING LUNCH**

11:55-12:35 Networking Lunch

#### **FEDERAL UPDATES (Continued)**

##### **12:35-1:40 USACE Updates Includes Q&A**

**Introduction, Colonel Aaron M. Williams, Commander and District Engineer, Rock Island District, US Army Corps of Engineers**

**Mr. Brad Houzenga, Deputy District Engineer and Chief, Programs and Project Management, O&M Backlog Update, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

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Mr. Andrew Goodall, Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) Program Manager - Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Marshall Plumley, Regional Program Manager, Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program, Rock Island District, US Army Corps of Engineers

### **Upper Mississippi River Basin M-35/M-55 Work and Resilience Planning**

**1:40-1:50** Kirsten Wallace, Executive Director, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (Remote)

**1:50-2:05 Break**

### **STATE DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION AND PORTS UPDATES**

**2:05-3:00 Tri-State DOT Update includes Q&A**

Levi Woods, Administrator of Freight & Waterways, Missouri Department of Transportation

Stuart Anderson, Director, Transportation Development Division

Brian McCoy, Marine Transportation Program Planning Specialist, Illinois Department of Transportation, Office of Planning & Programming (Remote)

**3:00-3:15 Break**

3:15-4:25 Ports Panel Update

Joe Humes, Western District Commissioner, Clark County Missouri and President of the Governing Board, Northeast Missouri Regional Port Authority

Maria Kuhns, Executive Director, Hannibal Regional Port Authority

Ralph Martin, Director, Lewis County Port Authority

Carolyn Wisecarver, Executive Director, Pike Lincoln County Port Authority

Mike Norris, Executive Director, Southeast Iowa Regional Economic & Port Authority

Mike McLaughlin, Chairman of the Board, Mid-America Intermodal Authority Port District

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairman of the Board, Ports of Eastern Iowa Authority (Remote)

### **ROBUST NAVIGATION SYSTEM NEEDS**

4:25-4:40 Paul Rhode, Vice President, Midwest Area, Waterway Council Incorporated (Remote)

4:40 Closing

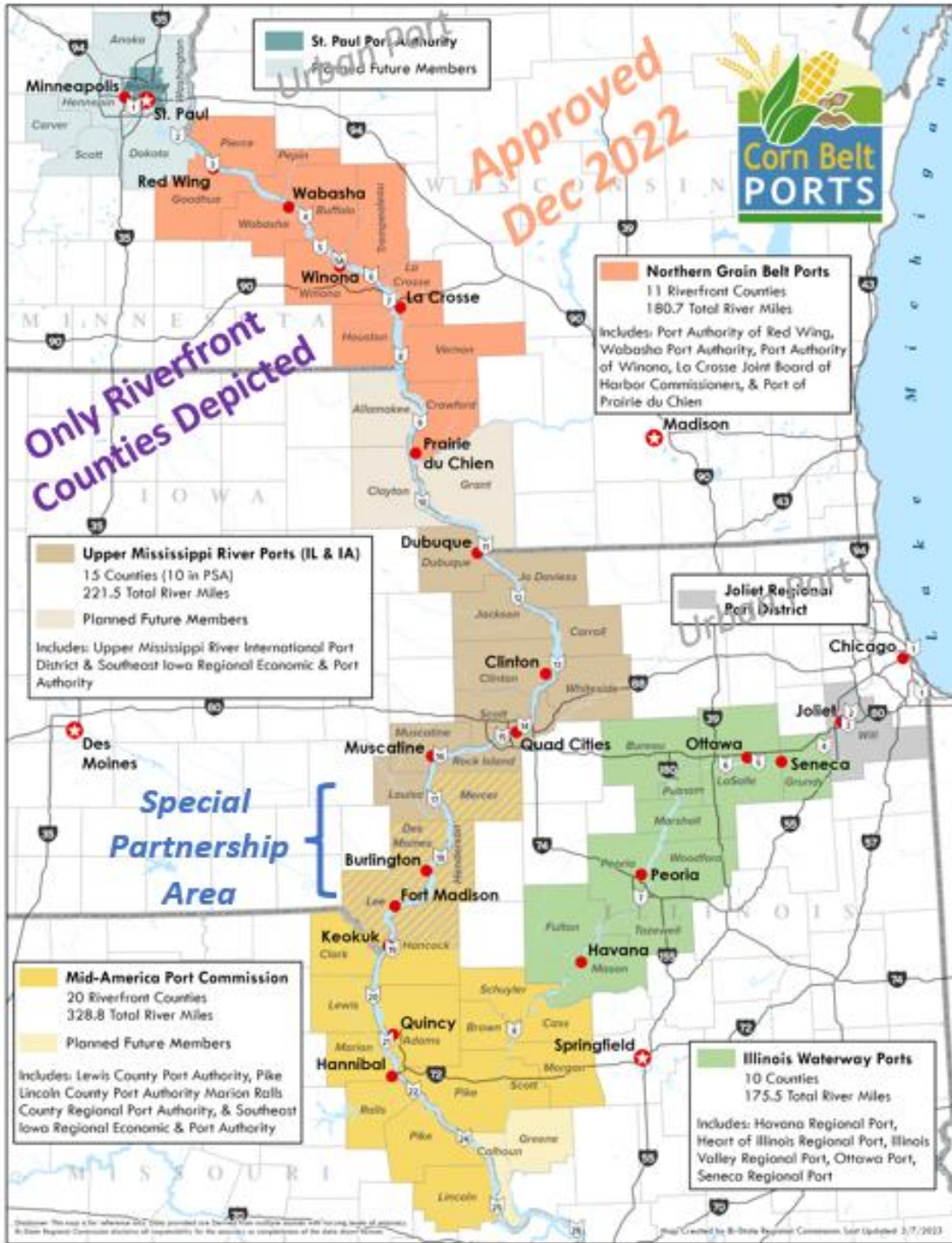
### **Reception**

Begins 5:30 - Joint Corn Belt Ports, MAPC and UMIMRA Reception

***The Annual UMIMRA Meeting will be held at the same location on Wednesday March 19, 2025***

***Registration fee is \$0 (free) per person  
Tuesday Night Reception fee is \$50.00  
Register on-line to attend at [LINK](#)***

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MID AMERICA PORT COMMISSION AREA



TRI-STATE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

