

## Lewis and Clark Trail

Local Information Workshops: July 27 – 30, 2009

(Hamburg, Welcome Center, Glenwood, Council Bluffs, Missouri Valley, Onawa, Sloan, Sioux City, Iowa)

### Summary Notes

All participants were asked to identify, on general area maps:

1. Potential routes for a main on or off road nonmotorized trail
2. Local and regional amenities and points of interest
3. Visitor services
4. Lewis and Clark interpretive sites, and historic locations
5. Areas that could accommodate or serve as links to other recreation uses, such as hiking, off road vehicle use, equestrian routes, boating routes, etc.
6. Any issues/needs related to trail development or use

In each community the consultants explained the project and described the trail as potentially braided, or as a major spine with connecting loops, in order to give participants an image of its use.

**Hamburg:** (9 attendees)

#### Issues/Needs/Considerations

- Very little L&C information (only one sign) yet a rich area for the story
- Hamburg could promote small town history, steamboat history, home cooking, orchards, antiques, Loess Hills, Carnegie library and a hospital, quilting, farming (corn, beans, popcorn)
- Roads west of town need to be widened
- Shoulder needed on Bluff Road
- Ditches should be moved away from narrow roads for a recovery zone

**Welcome Center (Hwy 2):** (10 attendees)

#### Issues/Needs/Considerations

- Trail should be a separate path for safety – key to its success
- Need water sports in the county
- Enlarge RV site at Waubonsie St. Park so people can stay longer
- Use the river – little access or knowledge of
- Waubonsie Master Plan (Kevin Thorn)
- Biking along the levees may be great but it won't do much for economic development unless you can pull cyclists into towns

**Glenwood:** (11 attendees)

#### Issues/Needs/Considerations

- More equestrian trails with safe parking, camp sites, etc. Can't go from south to north. Lots of interest. Level B roads could work e.g. Bedford L34 west w/ new bridge connection
- Access to safe bike trails for family – don't want kids on highways
- Interconnected places for hiking-biking and canoeing
- Access to the Nish... River
- Bike loops – not just out and back; loops would be more fun
- Dedicated lane on 275

**Council Bluffs:** (14 attendees)

Issues/Needs/Considerations

- How to survive the bicentennial
- Get out of the CBD – levee vs. hills vs. streets (North Broadway. Levee is a trail to 25<sup>th</sup> St & Narrows park but what can happen north of the park?
- Connect Bayliss with CBD – use quiet streets concept via 16<sup>th</sup> st.
- City bike plan
- Tie together living history groups as the education arm of the Heritage Foundation, and use the L&C study groups for info/docents, etc

**Missouri Valley:** (15 attendees)

Issues/Needs/Considerations

- Need link to Omaha, Logan
- Relate L&C to the Loess Hills
- Connect Logan and Missouri Valley
- Lack of paved trails
- “Don’t mess too much” – get back to the landscape and trees
- There is a delicate balance between private property owners and the bike trail; several trails are unused and cost too much money
- Property rights are key
- Don’t split up property with a through trail
- Potential litter
- Who will maintain the trail?
- Make landscape part of economic development – restoration, scenery, etc.
- Link Wilson Island and Desoto Island; create and promote bike camping
- Hwy 30 is bad and dangerous
- There is some interest in the state legislature to ban bikes on farm-to-market roads

**Onawa:** (16 attendees)

Issues/Needs/Considerations

- Roads need shoulders
- 175 is bad and busy- no shoulders, fast traffic although new shoulders from Onawa to Turin
- Drainage boards private – not interested in bikers
- In order to match L&C story with biking, will need to go back and forth across the valley a lot – may not work for a spine
- Onawa motel – no food
- Link town into a tourism strategy – has good infrastructure (main street) but no there
- Want to canoe on the Big Sioux
- Safety issues on the Little Sioux south of Smithfield
- Need trail to serve the region economically (dollar benefits) and experientially (sights and facilities)
- Need alternative routes for multi uses
- Need L&C interpretive signs

**Sloan:** (5 attendees)

Issues/Needs/Considerations

- No river access
- Old 75 very busy - dangerous
- All the hill roads are nice to ride but have no shoulders

## Sioux City: (28 attendees)

### Issues/Needs/Considerations

- Boundary issues – how to tie-in to opportunities in SD and NB
- Links south of city are tough
- Need good wayfinding into city
- Need access to river and areas for active recreation
- Need atv/snowmobiling camps so can go long distances through the woods – want both linear trails and parks, with access to motel rooms, food, etc.
- Want ATV park on north side of city – family-oriented with emphasis on safety; advocates will help manage
- Need good cycling trail to increase Sioux Land Cyclists
- Want a water trail but can't have watercraft on the National Recreation segment of the river (safety)
- Want tri-state OHV opps. – Kayak-ski-mtn bike-ATV
- Connect state parks and DNR lands
- Need trails to roller blade or at least in-town connections

### Potential Areas of Interest Along Trail

- Militia Hollow and Girl Scout camp
- Green Hollow WMA – wetlands, hand-dug well, dug out caves
- Oxbow early old steamboat landing whose buildings were later moved to create Hamburg
- Bluff Road– crowned and scenic to Thurman
- Liberty School (between the nature center and the dam)
- Chief Waubonsie's gravesite (on private land)
- Waubonsie State Park (entrance on Hwy 2) – camping, equestrian & hiking trails, potential loops for mtn. bikes, ATV's
- Hole in the Hills (65 acre) camp for delayed children
- George Caitlin painted scenes just east of Hamburg and the Narrows (piece is in the Renwick)
- Fremont Historical Society (Sidney)
- Rodeo Museum being built in Sidney
- Nebraska City L&C facility
- Pioneer cemetery near Thurman
- Underground Railroad sites (Tabor)
- Sunset Ridge lookout
- Golf courses nearby
- Geocaching sites – state park, water tower
- Star School – only remaining one room school in the county
- Old town of Knox – historic church still extant
- Hamburg Landing at J64
- Wineries in area
- Loess Hills Scenic Byway
- Birding – north of Riverton (although flyways moving west)
- Circle the wetland – ducks & geese huge attraction and people need more access to watch them
- Waubonsie State Park
- Vantage points on the road from Riverton to Hwy 2
- The Wilds (RV park on the river with camping, golf course)
- Welcome Center will have a kiosk for info and picnicking
- Welcome Center as a gateway to Brownsville and caves
- Bluff Road, Waubonsie, Riverton and wildlife areas are the assets in this part of the county
- Golfing in Sidney/Hamburg are huge attractions
- There are boats in Brownville (Randall Smith)
- Mills City Museum (Indian artifacts, earth lodge, etc.)
- Foothills are full of artifacts – area rich in Native American and cultural areas (NPS identified areas of cultural significance)
- Indian Creek museum – new one in Macedonia
- Mills City Conservation Board – 917 acre archeological preserve – largest preserve in Iowa and the only one in the Loess Hills; designated in Oct. earth lodge site.
- Golden Hills Resource Conservation Development cultural landscape study; need money for the inventory; have a golden passport for use on the Byway
- Spirit Lake has good trail network
- Use levee from Kay Creek south
- Resource Center
- Glenwood Square & downtown
- Theme tours along the Byway (on the Byway website)
- Vineyards
- Pony Creek to Hwy 275 (Deacon Road west of town – nice gravel)
- Old Hwy 34 – McCormick's gift shop east of Glenwood
- Malvern – nice main street
- Silver City – good ice cream
- Bob Kerry pedestrian bridge
- Big Lake (8<sup>th</sup> St. a good route to BL, as is Mynster Springs Road/Monument Road from east)

- L&C monument overlook (city owned)
- Levee and Old 183 going north
- 'The chute' – restoration project (ACOE)
- Taco Thursdays (Mineola)
- Barley to Barley Ride (Tuesdays)
- Lake Manawa and trails
- Western Trail Visitor Center
- General Dodge House
- Chautauqua
- Black Angel
- Blockhouse site
- Mormon Tabernacle replica
- Viaduct art and public art sites
- Grant Wood hotel murals
- Onawa Visitor Centre – being developed
- Crescent winery
- Hitchcock Nature Center
- City of Crescent – nice shops
- Pidgeon Creek
- Sawmill Hollow north of Missouri Valley
- Vincent Bluff (south side of CB)
- Smalls' Orchard (south of Pisgah)
- Old cemeteries (south of Magnolia)
- Pisgah Loess Hills State Forest Interp. Center
- TNC lands in the Hills; the Brook complex
- Oak Park Road may be a good route – need to get to the L&C monument
- Prairie remnants north of Onawa along 175/RR
- Link the 3 L&C sites
- Fairmount MP (80-90 acres park) has great views; takes one into town and to other sites
- DNR has overlook sites (Folson Lake, Hitchcock, West Oak Forest, DeSoto – dirt paths /access to water, habitat, etc.)
- Riverfront Park – swing bridge area has future development potential; the chute was Phase 1.
- Welcome center – can't get there by bike
- RR museum – will have displays of local history, models of every UP engine, model of 1950s locomotive on 1500 ft. track in City Park
- Museum of Religious Art Museum (Hwy 30 on way to Logan)
- Wilson Island SRA
- DeSoto NWS
- CR L19 being regarded
- Logan south to Missouri Valley via Old Lincoln Hwy
- Loess Hills trail splits at Calhoun/Magnolia; 183 to Pisgah and the state forest preserve is a loop off the byway – good biking
- Preparation Canyon
- DNR resources – 114 campsites at Wilson; 63 hook-ups, easy river access, interpretive signs, links to DeSoto programs and good road access; access to Noble's lake (gravel)
- ACOE mitigation program for habitat is managed by DNR – DNR amenable to highlighting natural resource areas
- Connecting river and bluffs is key – link landscape and link towns
- Old Hwy 183 across County Road and Old Beebeetown Rd
- Sawmill Hollow
- Boy Scout camp
- There is potential to link the toe of the Loess hills (clay soils – CRPs) to the river and bottom lands via birding habitat
- Boyer River – potential canoe trail
- Nishna...River loop south of 180
- DeSoto north to Modale might work
- Old 75
- Turin and Pisgah – interesting towns in their day – great rides in hills
- Little Sioux River
- Canoeing on Maple River from Mapleton to Castana
- Link the river and the hills with economic development
- Identify L&C as an economic development concept
- Loop from Onawa to Turin B&B and back is good
- K42 good – paved and can take one to Sloan west of 29
- East of Interstate is better biking – few cars, unpaved roads, however until 141
- Blue Lake – L&C State Park with boat replicas
- Blackbird's grave, Blackbird/Ivy Island
- Canoeing doable from Mapleton south to Gray's Landing (6 m)
- Old river oxbows and traces could provide camping opps. (Ponca to Yankton remnants are still there)
- DNR interpretive center – Pisgah
- Hospitality Center- Moorhead
- Murray Hill to Pisgah a good loop (hilly going east, better coming west into valley)
- Overlook at Preparation Canyon
- Sylvan Runkel Nature Preserve – weekend seminars in June – popular)
- Blue Lake – has interp. Center/keel boats
- Burial Festival for Sgt. Floyd (August)
- Visitor Center/gift shop in Moorhead
- Guided tours of Turin, County schools, Ingeman Church, hiking the Loess Hills, Preparation Canyon, Pisgah, Sawmill Hollow, DeSoto NWR, Blue Lake, RR Museum (Onawa)
- Roads around Pisgah, Magnolia, Logan good routes
- Blencoe, Little Sioux, RR line a corridor
- Waterways opportunities – Westfork ditch, Soldier Dike, West side of Maple River
- Air & Space museum (Sergeant Bluff)
- Sloan museum
- Sgt. Floyd Monument
- Brown Lake – swim, boat, camp, showers, hook-ups
- Snyder's Bend
- Morningside golf course
- 141 into Sioux City nice – but no paved access from Sloan

- Canoe trails
- Use DNR lands along the river – could run trails along boundaries
- Entertainment center of city has many venues/offering
- Missouri River Recovery Program can offer opps.
- Link into Sioux City trail system
- Interpretive Center an accidental trailhead – could be an info center
- Morningside a good arterial
- Milwaukee RR shops historic district
- D, Pekoh(?) Garden
- Trail to Stone State Park – good mtn biking
- Adam Nature Preserve
- South Sioux City waterfront
- Mt. Talbot State Preserve
- Wineries to the south
- Could have themes – wine and food; healthy living; history of transportation; birding/natural history; motorcycling
- Level B/forest roads could provide ATV corridors?
- Trail proposed between Brown Lake and Snyder's Bend
- Figure out how to get to the airport then can go south
- Tri-state Trail Foundation – sponsors rides, would be good proactive advocate
- Riverfront trail is 6 miles
- County levee from Smithland south to county line – could be used for riding?
- Canoeing north on Little Sioux to Oto
- 141 to Bronson to Anthem to Climbing Hill, Holly Springs and back could be tour of hills/river valley
- Stone Park (hiking and trail on Big Sioux) but not linked in to any system
- Little Sioux Park (trail to Correctionville and Onawa)
- Iowa 31 to L12 good ride but busy in fall, gravel shoulders
- Washta-Quimby-Storm Lake-Lakes Trail (good cycling route)
- Look at tie-ins to scenic byway and existing state trails for strategic connections
- Canoeing on Big and Little Sioux, Maple River
- Rafting down the Floyd 'Pipedream' (Jasmine Rd – Hinton to Sioux City) – 2-3 hrs.; can rent canoes at Correctionville