Downtown Des Moines Water Trails
Steering/Advisory Committee Discussion Guide -- September 20, 2017

Introduce yourselves. Select a recorder, reporter, and facilitator. Timing will be announced.

For each dam site/river stretch you’re assigned, please review the following – FACILITATORS prompt conversation with the following questions.

Part ONE

Step 1: Site Context / Asset Mapping

Based on the overview presentation and the maps you see before you, are there any missing challenges/obstacles that need to be noted? Mark your map with anything you think might be missing that could have an impact on how this location is used for the future.

What do you see as opportunities that are part of the context for this site? What is it near, what could it access that should be noted that might enhance its use for the future?

RECORDERS – Working with your table, mark your maps and make appropriate notes on the flip charts.

Step 2: Future Site Role

Based on what you currently know about the site and its potential uses, how does your table view this location’s role within the overall Water Trails Network?

Whom do you want to see this location serve? List all. If you could only serve five of those audiences at this site, which would they be?

How would you describe this site? Would you consider it a SIGNIFICANT DESTINATION, MODERATE DESTINATION, or LARGELY A PASS-THROUGH location? Why?

RECORDERS – Note your top 5 audiences to serve at this location. Note the “destination type” for this location and provide 1-3 bullets as to WHY that choice.

Step 3: Envision This Site in the Future

What do you see as its primary functions? What needs to be in place at this location for it to deliver the service you desire? Which existing assets could it access?

Think physical facilities first, then make note of any programming opportunities that could/should be provided.

RECORDERS – Working with your table, prepare the following lists:

- Assets this Site Needs in Place
- Assets (from elsewhere) to Access
- Programming Needs

REPORTERS – Prepare to present a SHORT SUMMARY of all of the above.

PART TWO: The Big Picture

Now that you’ve thought through at least a couple of locations in some depth, consider the overall network. When you think about how these locations would fit into the overall system, what impact does that have on your assessment and ideas? What changes would you make in audiences served or facilities/programs to have available? Would you change your opinion about the significance of the destination?

RECORDERS – Summarize any changes.
REPORTERS – Prepare to present a SHORT SUMMARY of changes, if any.