



August 8, 2017

Dear REAP Grant Committee Members:

I write this letter in support of the City of Davenport's application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Resource Enhancement and Protection grant application for Veterans Memorial Park with the expectation that it is a project that will succeed and one worthy of your support.

Funds from the REAP program will add to those raised by the Friends of Veterans Memorial Park and the City of Davenport to transform a former city dump into a beautiful park area along the Mississippi River, a critically important step toward the preservation, enjoyment, and promotion of this unique natural resource.

River Action fosters the environmental, economic, and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River and its riverfront in the Quad Cities. This project furthers our vision.

Specifically, it extends the bike path further west of the downtown area, linking this area of town to the other 60 miles of bike path that the Quad Cities offers. These not only provide an important place where residents and visitors can exercise to improve their health and wellbeing, but offer a place for cycling enthusiasts from around the country and the world to enjoy Iowa's natural beauty.

Finally, the ability to reclaim a former eye sore and turn it into a place of beauty will demonstrate to this and future generations how we can better care for the environment and correct the "mistakes" of previous generations. For these reasons and many more, I offer my full support of this project and the City of Davenport's application, and encourage you to support it as well.

Sincerely,

Kathy Wine
Executive Director