

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Thank you for your comments on behalf of the city of New Madrid before the Mississippi River Commission during the public meeting in Caruthersville, Missouri, on April 2, 2001. In your statement you expressed your desire to maintain some of the last remaining river towns and discussed the state of maintenance of the New Madrid boat ramp and levee and the need to ensure proper safety along the New Madrid Levee.

The Commission is aware of the decline of river towns along the lower Mississippi River and understands your concern and efforts to protect the history and cultural heritage of your city.

During the times we have docked the MV MISSISSIPPI at the New Madrid riverfront boat ramp, we have noticed the need for ramp repair work, some of which was completed last summer, as well as the need for maintenance along the ripped levee just downstream of the ramp. The Memphis District and Mississippi River Commission staffs will continue to work with New Madrid officials to determine the appropriate response to the city's proposed plan for the riverfront.

Thank you again for your presentation before the Commission. We appreciate receiving your views and look forward to hearing from you at our future public meetings.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Arnold, Jr.
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
President Designee, Mississippi
River Commission