OFFICE OF MAYOR
BRANT WALKER

CITY OF ALTON
ILLINOIS
www.cityofaltonil.com

101 E. THIRD ST.
ROOM 201
ALTON, IL 62002

November 21, 2018

Great Streets
East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Attn: James Wild, Executive Director
1 S. Memorial Drive, Suite 1600
St. Louis, MO 63102

RE: Illinois Great Streets - 2018

Mr. Wild:

The City of Alton is pleased to submit our application in response to the 2018 Illinois Great Streets call for projects.

The City of Alton strongly supports the goals and objectives of the Great Streets program which accounts for multi-modal traffic while supporting cohesive, interesting, healthy and economically successful communities.

Alton, like so many other communities in this region, has experienced disinvestment and population loss. Despite these negative trends, the Alton economy continues to evolve towards the tourism and service sector and further away from its industrial past. The City of Alton is actively working to implement a long-range revitalization strategy within the downtown central business district. Components of the strategy will include identifying key sites for redevelopment, repurposing vacant sites/building, property acquisition and public transportation improvements.

The requested Illinois Great Streets planning assistance will significantly enhance Alton's efforts to improve the quality of life for residents, increase tourism, reduce blight, and induce private investment.

Your thoughtful consideration of this application is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Brant Walker

Brant Walker
Mayor

Cc: Greg Caffey, Dir. of Planning & Development

(618) 463-3500 • Fax (618) 463-3525

Saint Louis Great Streets INITIATIVE

LEARN · SHARE · PLAN · BUILD

Application Form

Community City of Alton, Illinois

Sponsor City of Alton, Alton Main Street

Supporting Contacts (Provide Name, Address, Phone and Email for each, primary contact first):

1. Deanna Barnes 101 E. Third Street Alton, IL 62002 618.463.3532 dbarnes@cityofaltonil.com

2. Greg Caffey 101 E. Third Street Alton, IL 62002 618.463.3532 gcaffey@cityofaltonil.com

3. Sara McGibney 219 Piasa Street Suite 2B 62002 618.463.1016 sara@altonmainstreet.org

Owner of Road(s) City of Alton, Illinois Department of Transportation

Summary Vision for the Project (Maximum 100 words – please attach on separate paper)attached

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With this application cover sheet, please include the following:

1. Photos of the site (up to 12 photos if available)
2. Any maps, diagrams, plans, and/or aerial photos, if available
3. Copies of or links to earlier studies, previous plans and other information that will help us understand the site and what you hope to accomplish.
4. A one-page description of the project as currently conceived. Please address each of the Great Streets principles in relation to the goals for the effort and the planning process.
5. A letter from project sponsors committing logistical support and 20% matching funds for the planning effort.
6. Any letters of support from relevant agencies, officials, or community entities.

Project proposals will be reviewed and evaluated for consistency with the goals of the program and for prospects of success.

An application workshop will be held at 1 p.m., Nov. 8, in the Regions Room at the Illinois Department of Transportation's District 8 office (1102 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, Illinois). Attendance is not mandatory, though it will describe the program, suitable project types, lessons learned from previous Great Streets projects, and the application/selection process. Staff will be available after the presentations for individual assistance in project definition and completing applications.

Applications are due at East-West Gateway Council of Governments by 3:00 PM on November 21, 2018. Applications may be emailed to greatstreets@ewgateway.org or mailed to Great Streets, East-West Gateway Council of Governments, One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600, St. Louis, MO 63102.
For more information, please call Paul Hubbman at East-West Gateway (314) 421-4220; (618) 274-2750, or email paul.hubbman@ewgateway.org.

EXHIBIT A

Alton's Great Street Initiative

LEARN SHARE PLAN BUILD

Summary Vision for the Project

Alton is well on its way to establishing a reputation as a forward-looking community. Our objective through the Great Streets program is to rebuild a livable Downtown district - enhancing quality of life for residents, benefiting the regional economy, and creating the confidence that future investors are looking for. Small planning efforts have been made in the past, but we need to weave these plans together, test past assumptions, raise our collective expectation and move forward together. An actionable plan based on a unified vision will solidify that Alton is serious about building a sustainable future and making the most of our positioning on a globally important waterway.

EXHIBIT B

welcom
to
ALTON

welcome
to
ALTON

Welcome
to
ALTON

Jack Rainey

EXHIBIT E

Alton's Great Streets Initiative

The City of Alton is very interested in developing a Great Place and would like to begin at Alton's front door located on the Mississippi River with the beautiful Clark Bridge the Meeting of the Great River's National Scenic Byway and a community on the verge of a transformation through a Small Business Revolution. We want to develop a sense of place through land use and transportation planning with Great Streets.

The City of Alton has a lot of great things happening and we would like to go forward with a great streets effort to solidify and direct the development underway in our community. We want to bring the community together through public input and plan for our future.

We are needing connectivity of the pieces we have built in order to create a unified vision and make Alton more inviting and navigable from the entrance to the river road to the Clark bridge to access the Audubon and their visitors, to the 3rd Street Entertainment District as well as traffic calming at Piasa Street and Broadway corridors and connectivity of the pedestrian bridge and riverfront in a cohesive, inclusive, environmentally appropriate manner.

We have a preliminary wayfinding plan, parking maps and a bike/pedestrian plan and need to learn more from the professionals regarding current best practices to bring them together. We feel that a corridor planning effort would have the biggest impact from the entrance to the Great River Road, East to the Clark bridge and north to 4th Street to include market analyses with transportation planning on the connectivity of the larger elements of river front and the Clark Bridge.

Alton has been designated as the best place to retire in Illinois by Forbes Magazine and we want to create a great livable community to share Alton's natural beauty and history with pedestrians, bikers and vehicles alike. A place with walkable streets where residents and visitors feel safe and encouraged to linger, shop and visit. We want what Kimmswick has, a great plan that says, "Comfortable settings are attractive places to linger. People attract people and places designed to accommodate people support thriving activities. We hope to utilize the landscape and amenities to further define use, enhance community character and identify and increase pedestrian comfort, improve safety and support adjacent businesses."

East Broadway once served as a prominent thoroughfare in downtown; however the expansion of US 67 (aka Landmarks Blvd and Piasa Street) effectively cuts Downtown Alton into two separate districts. Pedestrians and bicyclists do not feel safe crossing the highway with the current rate of speed for vehicular traffic. There is room for improvement to ensure that US 67 continues to serve our bedroom community, moving traffic through the district efficiently while also returning the area to a place where walkers and bikers can enjoy traveling.

Streetscape improvements have been implemented in some blocks while other blocks remain stark and uninviting. Beyond the architectural richness the street lacks identity and connectivity. As such, the City's Comprehensive Plan identified East Broadway as a district needing improvement.

We wish to connect our destinations and landmarks through thoughtful wayfinding to include a road diet for our citizens and visitors to feel safe and make an inviting corridor for unique locally owned small businesses. This initiative would help us address real and perceived parking and safety issues in the district. We currently have 20 community wide events, 3 historic districts and need help with event logistics and festival access. We want to better connect with the River and the 1200 acre Audubon Center referred to as Alton's Forest Park. A market study would inform us the best wat to celebrate our charming historic buildings, authentic character, locally owned restaurants bars and shops and our beautiful vistas and parks.

With the uptick in development due to winning the small business revolution people, developers, residents often ask, "So what is the plan?". We need a comprehensive plan developed with professionals to bring all these pieces together to define and sharpen our vision for the future, and to encourage more buy in from the public as well as investors to make all of our dreams come true.

Our community is ready to go forward with economic growth and environmental sustainability to achieve strengthened identity and character and this planning process would be well received.

- Piasa Street Road Diet, connect pedestrian traffic east to west Traffic calming
- Better perception of parking/wayfinding
- Connect Alton to the river
- Improve soft scape, native, cold/salt hardy plantings
- Better parking Ridge to Henry and improve traffic flow
- Improve entrances at River road and Clark Bridge
- Stormwater improvements
- Welcoming pedestrian streets by increasing pedestrian comfort and improve safety and support adjacent businesses
- Enhance Community Character
- Aggressive Implementation of the plan

EXHIBIT G

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING & ZONING

CITY OF ALTON
ILLINOIS
www.cityofaltonil.com

101 E. THIRD ST.
ROOM 202
ALTON, IL 62002

November 21, 2018

St. Louis Great Streets Initiative
C/O East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 S. Memorial Drive, Suite 1600
St. Louis, Mo. 63102

To Whom It May Concern,

At its meeting on November 20, 2019, the Alton Historical Commission voted to strongly support the City of Alton's application for funding for the Great Streets Initiative. The area along and near the US 67 corridor in Alton has parts of two National Register Historic Districts, including numerous buildings in both the Christian Hill and Middletown Historic Districts.

We believe that this project could have enormous positive benefits for the community which would help protect and enhance the historic fabric of Alton. It would have the added benefit of aiding tourists visiting the numerous historic attractions in downtown Alton and encouraging the renovation and of redevelopment of underutilized historic structures in this area.

If you have any questions or need more information, you may contact me at baderdr@gmail.com or at 314-603-3516.

Sincerely,

Douglas Bader
Chair, Alton Historical Commission

(618) 463-3533 • Fax (618) 463-0972

Alton Main Street
219 Piasa Street – Suite 2B
Alton, IL 62002
Phone: (618)-463-1016
info@altonmainstreet.org
www.DowntownAlton.com

20 November 2018

RE: Letter of Support for Great Streets Application

Dear East-West Gateway Council of Governments,

Alton Main Street is thrilled to assist the City of Alton in preparing the application for the Great Streets grant. We would appreciate the professional guidance of your team to take the plethora of recent developments in Downtown Alton to the next level in a coordinated fashion.

A planning effort of this magnitude would allow us to maximize the National Main Street philosophy of creating an environment where locally-owned businesses can compete with chains and big box stores, coordinating meaningful community events, marketing unique assets of the district, and encouraging coordinated placemaking and beautification efforts. Our goal is to reinvigorate our downtown business district and be a successful model for every community in our region.

Great Streets provides the ideal platform for leadership fueled by community input, and measurable collaboration. Building consensus and finding common ground are strengths of our organization, and we would love the opportunity to reach out to every individual, community organization, neighborhood association, and business owner to best utilize the expertise of the Great Streets team, whose effort would enrich the community as a whole.

Alton is well positioned to begin working on a plan with a common vision for the short and long-term of our downtown retail corridor. This effort will create a strategic starting point while spurring additional growth to reposition the future of our city.

Our community is rediscovering and reclaiming our connection to the Mississippi River, and in a Needs Assessment survey that Alton Main Street completed in 2017 with over 600 responses the theme of our citizens' desire to capitalize on "The Outdoor Experience" was apparent.

Alton is coming back to life, storefront by storefront. With limited resources, our city is doing what it can to encourage creative reuse of vacant buildings, enhance the riverfront, pursue historic preservation and utilize our greatest resource, proximity to the Mississippi River. Community advancement can only be realized by coordinated scalable action that creates a strong unique brand. At the center of a vibrant community sought out by investors and leisure travelers, is a strong active core. Thank you for your consideration in helping to turn Alton into an iconic destination.

Sincerely,

Sara McGibany – Executive Director

***Alton Main Street** – engaging our community in the continued renewal of our historic downtown district and Mississippi River heritage by cultivating an attractive center of economic and social activity.*

November 20th, 2018

Great Streets St. Louis
1900 Hampton Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63139

Dear Great Streets St. Louis,

Greater Alton Community Development Corporation (GACDC) is pleased to support Alton Main Street in their application for the Great Streets Grant. This grant for Alton Main Street will enhance our own efforts to revitalize a neighborhood called Hunterstown, which is adjacent to the targeted area for this grant. We believe that as pedestrian activity strengthens, the quality of life for residents in our neighborhood will improve thanks to their proximity to a vibrant downtown.

As the President for the GACDC, we share in Main Street's efforts to enhance Alton. We are currently working on an innovative placemaking project right at the entrance to Hunterstown that we hope will attract visitors and residents. Of course, the project will benefit greatly through improved connectivity for pedestrians. The GACDC is also in the early stages of attracting new residents by rehabbing existing structures for student housing or homes for first time homebuyers. The neighborhood already boasts incredible views of the Mississippi River and the Clark Bridge and a more walkable downtown right nearby will be an added draw for current and new residents.

We believe that the Great Streets Grant has the potential to compliment projects we are currently working on and appreciate the work Alton Main Street does for our community. Alton Main Street is highly informed about what Alton needs to continue on our upward trajectory and we look forward to supporting the success of their proposal.

Sincerely,

Christopher Norman
President

The Hayner Public Library District
Serving Alton, Godfrey & Foster Township
www.haynerlibrary.org

November 19, 2018

East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 S. Memorial Dr., Suite 1600
St. Louis, MO 63102

To Whom It May Concern:

The Alton Library Association (now The Hayner Public Library District) originated in 1852, just fifteen years after Alton's 1837 incorporation. Two of the three branches of The Hayner Public Library District are located in the heart of downtown Alton, making our investment and interest in this area particularly relevant. There is so much architectural significance here, but placemaking strategies concerning streets, signage, and greenspace would vastly improve quality of life and encourage people to spend time among the beautiful old buildings. At the Genealogy & Local History Library, we also have quite a few out-of-town visitors, and wayfinding signage would especially help them find our location. The history here is bigger than just Alton. In fact, our Genealogy & Local History Library branch, originally the main library building, was designed by St. Louis Union Station architect Theodore Link. It has been in use as a library since its opening in 1891.

With a Great Streets planning grant, our service to library patrons and the greater community would be improved. Traffic-calming improvements would keep our patrons safer when they walk or ride their bikes to the library. Many patrons tell us stories of walking to the library as a child, spending Saturday afternoons discovering new worlds in the pages of our books. Some came here after catching a movie or shopping downtown. We can see it in our own history; the library thrives when downtown Alton is pedestrian friendly. People wander into the library while they shop downtown, or stop in after lunch at one of our delicious local restaurants.

We are excited to see what the City of Alton and Alton Main Street can do with this grant. Please feel free to get in touch if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Duvernoy
Executive Director

Administrative Office
401 State St.
618-462-0677
Fax: 618-462-4919

Downtown Library
326 Belle St.
618-462-0677
618-462-0665

Alton Square Library
132 Alton Square Mall
618-462-0677
Fax: 618-463-1277

Local History
& Genealogy
401 State St.
618-462-0677

HEARTLANDS
CONSERVANCY
Investing In The Nature Of Southwestern Illinois

Sara McGibany - Executive Director
Alton Main Street
219 Piasa Street - Suite 2B
Alton, IL 62002

November 19, 2018

RE: Letter of Support – Alton Great Streets Proposal

Dear Ms. McGibany,

HeartLands Conservancy is pleased to submit this letter of support for the City of Alton's application for the Great Streets program.

The Broadway Street Corridor is a key project identified in the Alton Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Master Plan. The plan was developed using input from the public and city, which was gathered through an advisory committee, public meetings, and an online survey. In a survey completed by over 500 residents, the intersection of Piasa and Broadway was identified as the intersection most in need of bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the City and the Broadway corridor ranked highly as a street most in need of improvement.

It is exciting to see this project move forward. Further study and planning of the corridor will advance several of the City of Alton's goals and planning efforts outlines in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, including:

- Improving the pedestrian experience along Broadway and adding bicycle facilities and parking.
- Further study of the Piasa & Broadway intersection to determine the safest solution for vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.
- Providing a safe connection from downtown Alton to the Vadalabene trailhead at Piasa Park along Broadway.

Broadway is located at an important nexus in the community. It is an economic hub with shops and restaurants running through the heart of downtown Alton. However, it is also in some ways a great barrier, discouraging crossing, cycling, and walking in certain sections. Broadway's generally wide right-of-way, with ample driving lane widths, makes it a possible candidate for innovative design solutions. Broadway is cherished in Alton and many people want to see improvements made to the street, especially to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists.

Again, we hope the City of Alton will be accepted as a Great Streets Project for the Broadway Corridor. Further planning in this area would increase safety and access to shop, dinning, parks, and recreation for residents and visitors of Alton.

Sincerely,

Mary Vandevord
President & CEO

3 N High Street • Belleville, IL 62220 • T: 618.566.4451
www.heartlandsconservancy.org

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways / Region 5 / District 8
1102 Eastport Plaza Drive / Collinsville, Illinois / 62234-6198

November 19, 2017

GREAT STREETS INITIATIVE PROGRAM

The Honorable Brant Walker
Mayor of Alton
101 East Third Street
Alton, IL 62002

Dear Mayor Walker:

This letter is in regard to the City of Alton's Great Streets Initiative funding application for a proposed study of enhancements within a study corridor connecting the Clark Bridge and the Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Byway.

The Department is in general concurrence with the scope of work of this study and would allow improvements on State ROW, subject to meeting State/Federal policies. If selected for funding, the Department requests involvement in the study, as the study corridor is centered around US 67, as well as other State Routes. Plans and specifications for future infrastructure improvements will require review and approval by the Department.

This letter does not constitute any commitment by the Department to financial participation towards the proposed improvements.

Thank you for your interest in promoting safe transportation for our region. If you have questions or require any further assistance, please contact Mr. Dan Sommer of this office at 618-346-3339.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Keirn, P.E.
Region Five Engineer

DJS: 2018-11-18 Letter of Support.docx

Lewis & Clark
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
"Empowering People"
5800 Godfrey Road • Godfrey IL 62035-2466

November 16, 2018

RE: Letter of Support for Alton's Great Streets Funding Application

Dear East-West Gateway Council of Governments,

Lewis and Clark Community College is proud to support Alton's proposed Great Streets application. The College is a recognized leader and champion of Sustainability, and working collaboratively throughout the region to promote and advance sustainability is a major commitment of the College's Climate Action Plan. Great Streets promises to deliver on all three of the core principles of sustainability: social justice and inclusion, protection of the environment and natural systems, and economic vitality.

This project will advance sustainability in the region, a core commitment of the College's Climate Action Plan, in several ways. Socially inclusive community building enriches the local culture and fosters a sense of place. Alton has a unique and rich history, and Great Streets helps to highlight this vibrant culture. From an environmental perspective, Great Streets promote sustainable modes of transportation like walking and biking, both of which help lower greenhouse gas emissions. Great Streets also promotes best practices in stormwater management, a high priority at the College demonstrated by the various bioswales and pervious paver parking lots and roads on the Godfrey campus. Finally, it will be an economic stimulator, facilitating the movement of peoples' to one of Alton's most important economic centers.

Lewis and Clark Community College is proud to support Alton's Great Streets application for its implications for a more sustainable region as well as for the benefit such a project will provide the many students, staff, and faculty who live in and visit Alton on a regular basis.

Please feel free to contact me at 618-468-2782 or nkeener@lc.edu with any questions.

Sincerely,

Nate Keener
Director of Sustainability
Lewis and Clark Community College

Madison County Community Development

130 Hillsboro Ave • Edwardsville, IL 62025-1636
Phone (618) 692-8940 • Fax (618) 692-7022

Kurt Prenzler, CPA
County Board Chairman

November 14, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to offer support for Alton's Great Streets Initiative grant application.

The City of Alton is a remarkable community surrounded by natural wonders such as bluffs and the Mississippi river. Its rich heritage and history alone make it a remarkable place to visit. Its strong sense of community makes it a great place to live, work, raise a family and build a business.

The City of Alton has shown great vision for growing, developing and recreating their city into a thriving, livable community. They have increased tourism and they have created an amazing amount of small business growth, in a relatively short amount of time. These accomplishments have been noticed and awarded by organizations such as AARP and Deluxe's Small Business Revolution.

Honestly, I wish all of the communities within Madison County had the same level of passion and vision.

Recognizing that this is a competitive funding process, I can assure you that Alton is poised, well prepared, and ready to take the step, which will further increase their economic development efforts. The Great Streets Initiative grant will be exactly the catalyst they need to move their city to the next level of growth.

Madison County Community & Economic Development is proud to be able to collaborate with and support the City of Alton in this endeavor. I would strongly encourage you to choose the City of Alton for this funding opportunity.

Thank you,

Trudy Bodenbach
Administrator, Madison County Community & Economic Development

Mississippi Landing Condominium Association
7 Alby Street
Alton, IL 62002

November 15, 2018

To: East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Re: Great Streets Grant for downtown Alton

As downtown Alton home owners we enthusiastically support the design and implementation of Great Streets initiatives to create a more walkable, attractively lit, safe, and green environment.

We enjoy the opportunity to walk to local cafes, restaurants, and shops and we recognize the need for a plan to calm traffic, beautify, and define our loft district with wayfinding signage, lighting, and plantings to attract more retail and residents.

We look forward to supporting the transformation of our downtown neighborhood into a vibrant district for visitors and merchants, and for our own quality of life.

Thank you for considering downtown Alton as a worthy recipient of a Great Streets Grant.

Sincerely,

Mississippi Landing Condominium Home Owners Association

November 14th, 2018

Great Streets St. Louis
1900 Hampton Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63139

Dear Great Streets St. Louis,

I am thrilled to support Alton Main Street on their application to the Great Streets Grant. Main Street has had incredible momentum over the past few years and the organization's effectiveness is particularly evident this past year with all the new businesses popping up and creating excitement and interest in our downtown corridor.

As the Executive Director of Pride, Incorporated, we share in Main Street's mission to beautify and enhance Alton. We see that improving the walkability of our downtown will allow more of our beautification efforts displayed on a more human scale. The current layout favors faster moving car traffic that can often bypass the points of interest that we have created. With Main Street receiving this grant, we will be able to invest in more projects that compliment a slower, more pedestrian friendly, downtown. As an organization committed to beautification, we see a direct link between beautiful spaces, civic pride and economic vitality. Aligning our efforts with the great work that Main Street is doing allows Alton to improve at a much faster rate.

Great strides have already been made in Alton and this grant has the potential to tie in so many improvements that are helping Alton thrive. Alton Main Street is best suited to receive this grant because of their pedestrian surveys, their close relationship with business owners and their expertise in creating events that span the distance of downtown and draw attendees from all over our region. I highly recommend Alton Main Street receive the Great Streets Grant and I look forward to hearing about its success.

Sincerely,

Monica Semnacher

Monica Semnacher
Executive Director

Pride, Inc.
Riverbend Beautification · est. 1966

5800 Godfrey Road - BGM · Godfrey, IL 62035 · Phone (618) 467-2375 · Fax (618) 467-2379 · www.prideincorporated.org

RiverBend
GROWTH ASSOCIATION
Serving Business, Encouraging Growth in Southwestern Illinois

November 19th, 2018

East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 Memorial Dr. #1600
St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear James Wild:

I am pleased to offer support of the RiverBend Growth Association for the Great Streets Initiative. As the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development organization of the Riverbend region we believe that the Great Streets Initiative will help not only our members, but will also help with economic development in our region.

The RiverBend Growth Association supports traffic calming measures on Piasa St. through Downtown Alton, as well as place-making & wayfinding strategies, suggested improvements for green spaces, and increasing bicycle & pedestrian friendliness along Broadway Ave. from the River Road (Route 100) to Ridge Street.

All of these possible initiatives have the key characteristics of Great Streets. These initiatives would also help contribute to the economic vitality of not only just the City of Alton, but the surrounding municipalities that are known as the Riverbend.

The RiverBend Growth Association believes in and supports your goal of triggering economic and social benefits by centering communities around interesting, lively and attractive streets that serve all modes of transportation.

Thank you for considering Alton, IL for your planning grant.

Sincerely,

John Keller, President

5800 Godfrey Road · BMG · Godfrey, IL 62035 · Ph: 618.467.2280 · Fax: 618.466.8289
www.growthassociation.com

SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

PIASA PALISADES GROUP

THREE RIVERS PROJECT

November 14, 2018

East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 S. Memorial Dr., Suite 1600St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear Great Streets Team,

Our friends Sara McGibany, Executive Director of Alton Main Street and Deanna Barnes, Deputy Director of Economic Programs for the City of Alton are pursuing a Great Streets Grant for Alton Illinois.
We at the Sierra Club support the Great Streets initiative for our town. Alton has many transportation and connectivity issues to address as our postindustrial city re-invents itself as a destination as a historical and eco-tourism destination. Alton is situated on the banks of the Mississippi River Bluffs, barriers in the downtown area include changing elevations and structural barriers such as large build structures, a riverfront lock wall and railway tracks. Any assistance to help overcome these barriers for pedestrians, cyclist and motorized vehicles to move safely together would greatly enhance our town.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Virginia Woulfe-Beile
Three Rivers Project Co-Coordinator
Piasa Palisades Group, Sierra Club

Christine Favilla
Three Rivers Project Co-Coordinator
Piasa Palisades Group, Sierra Club

200 West Third Street; Suite 101; Alton, IL 62002 Phone: 618.462.6802 www.sierraclubppg.org

GREAT RIVERS & ROUTES OF SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS

November 19, 2018

St. Louis Great Streets Initiative
C/O East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 S. Memorial Drive, Suite 1600
St. Louis, MO 63102

To Whom It May Concern:

We are excited to become a part of the St. Louis Great Streets Initiative! Alton offers some incredible places to visit and live. However, since the realignment of US 67 through our downtown, it has become challenging for pedestrian and bicycle traffic to navigate.

As the Tourism Bureau and Alton Visitor Center, we consistently see the struggles of people getting around town. From key attractions like our Third Street Entertainment District to Riverfront Park and our Broadway Corridor, people generally find it concerning to get around by foot or bike.

We're seeing a large amount of interest and investment in our downtown and now is the time to ensure we have all factors working for the residents and visitors of this region. The Alton community is ready to engage in a positive way to bring effective change to our downtown districts and continue the revolution underway in Alton.

From wayfinding to place making and so much more, Alton is the perfect candidate for any collaboration with this initiative. If you need to reach me for any other feedback, please feel free to email me at bstawar@visitalton.com or call the visitor center at 618-465-6676.

Sincerely,

Brett Stawar
President/CEO