

Results of Purpose Statements Prioritized at MN River Congress 3

The Minnesota River Congress will:		
Primary Purposes:		
1)	Provide a basin-wide diverse and formidable constituency voice on behalf of the Minnesota Valley regarding public policy relating to improvement and conservation of the Minnesota River System	<i><u>Voice for MN Valley on Public Policy</u></i>
2)	Serve as a unifying force to advocate for and assist coordination of river improvement and conservation strategies on a basin-wide scope.	<i><u>Coordination</u></i>
3)	Communicate basin-wide using all possible networks and opportunities.	<i><u>Communications</u></i>
4)	Convene concerned individuals from the entire basin together on a periodic and regular basis to ask for public input and share successful strategies and critical information as it pertains to River improvement and conservation.	<i><u>Civic Engagement</u></i>
Secondary Purposes:		
5)	Utilize a basin-wide structure to support local conservation efforts at the major watershed and smaller scale by recognizing that local relationships are critically important to implementation and resolving watershed challenges.	<i><u>Support local implementation</u></i>
6)	Provide a process for actions which are openly transparent, inclusive, and comprehensive, which offers flexibility, to evolve, and provide opportunities for rapid responses to legislative actions and/or funding opportunities which do not compete with other actions in the system.	<i><u>Provide platform and process</u></i>
7)	Facilitate general and targeted public outreach and education on all issues and conditions affecting the Minnesota River System.	<i><u>Education and Outreach</u></i>
8)	Promote, market and advocate for the recreational opportunities in the Minnesota River System	<i><u>Marketing Recreation</u></i>
9)	Create and partner in the creation of innovative programs and initiatives which are not being considered at other levels in current time.	<i><u>Innovation</u></i>
10)	Apply for and serve as fiscal host for grants, programs and initiatives that are too big for local entities in size of project or geographic spread.	<i><u>Act as grant writer and fiscal agent</u></i>