



Kankakee Community College
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January 27, 2016

Ms. Corita Waters
National Park Service
National Recreation Trail Coordinator

Dear Ms. Waters,

On behalf of Kankakee Community College, I am writing to express our support for designation of the Kankakee River Water Trail as a National Water Trail. We support the designation of a National Water Trail for the entire 133 miles of the Kankakee River from the headwaters of the Kankakee River in rural St. Joseph County, Indiana, to the Des Plaines River in Illinois.

The Kankakee River and the Kankakee River Water Trail borders the north edge of our beautiful campus. Moreover, the stretch of property and the area is zoned for family fun and recreation. Within a very short walking distance, you'll find park settings, boat docks, art sculptures, a water park, and walking and biking trails.

Based on the benefits of the creation of the Kankakee River National Water Trail, including increasing community-based recreational opportunities, increased public access, tourism, economic growth, public health improvements, and environmental education, Kankakee Community College supports the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association and the Illinois representatives who are working together to apply for National Water Trail designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Avendano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Avendano, Ph.D.
President