



315 Southern Indiana Avenue
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130
(812) 989-9262
www.ohiorivergreenway.org

2008 Annual Report

Commission Members

Voting Members

Clarksville

Paul Kraft -Town Council President
Jane Sarles – Commission Vice Chair
Gilbert Campbell

Jeffersonville

Mayor Tom Galligan
Philip Hendershot - Commission Chair
Wayne Estopinal

New Albany

Mayor Doug England
Pat Leist-Stumler – Commission Treasurer
Anne Banet

Clark County

Regina Overton

Floyd County

Gary Libs

Non Voting Members

Michael Dalby – Chamber of Commerce
Jim Keith – Southern Indiana Tourism Bureau
Steve Knowles – Department of Natural Resources
Jim Ude - INDOT

Project Staff

Shauna Graf – Project Coordinator

Project Name: Ohio River Greenway

Reporting Period: October 31, 2007 – November 1, 2008

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This report serves to provide a summary of the actions completed and/or coordinated through the Ohio River Greenway Development Commission (the Commission) from October 31, 2007 to November 1, 2008. This report will be distributed to the executive office of each of the following: State of Indiana, City of New Albany, Town of Clarksville and City of Jeffersonville. It will also be distributed to ninth district Congressman Baron Hill, Senator Evan Bayh, Senator Richard Luger, State Senator Connie Sipes, and Indiana House Representatives Steve Stemler and William Cochran.

1 PROJECT STATUS REPORT

1.1 Construction Efforts Initiated or Completed

1.1.1 New Albany – Scribner Place Segment

Construction of the New Albany “Scribner Place Segment” has completed the first two phases, involving improvements to approximately 2,700 linear feet (0.5 miles) of New Albany’s riverfront. Phase I is located east of the amphitheater continuing east along Water Street ending at the concrete flood wall. The major features of this project segment include: a new 6-ft wide asphalt trail on top of the levee, a new 12-ft wide asphalt multi-use trail with overlooks along the river’s edge, a new parking area, an improved and rebuilt 18-ft wide roadway, a connective concrete trail from the levee to the roadway and lower trail, and decorative lighting with underground electric throughout the project area. Phase I began in December 2006 and was essentially completed in 2007. Phase II began construction in November of 2007 and was substantially complete by October 1, 2008. Phase II includes the same features as Phase I, but extends to the west of the amphitheatre to the Shermon Minton (I-64) Bridge.

Approximately 800 linear feet of roadway and multi-use trail remain to be constructed as Phase III within the Scribner Place Segment. Included within Phase III is approximately 350 linear feet of riverfront that requires bank stabilization prior to roadway and trail construction. The United States Army Corp of Engineers (the Corps) finalized bank stabilization plans in September of 2008 and the stabilization began in October of 2008. The bank stabilization work will be completed by the end of 2008. The new 12-ft wide asphalt multi-use trail and an improved and rebuilt 18-ft wide roadway over this area will be completed in the Spring of 2009. Funding for completion of the bank stabilization effort, the Phase III roadway/trail construction, and future design efforts in New Albany is being provided by \$983,000 in Federal fiscal year 2008 funds, and \$600,000 in local funds contributed by the City of New Albany in September 2008.

1.2 Design efforts initiated or completed

1.2.1 Bank Stabilization in New Albany

Bank stabilization is needed along approximately 350 linear feet of the riverfront abutting the rivers’ edge directly east of the amphitheater. Design work for the bank stabilization began in 2007 and included seven geotechnical soil borings within the affected area. The Corps completed the design work in September 2008 and awarded a contract for construction (see discussion above).

1.2.2 Multi-Use Trail: Clark Cabin to Silver Creek in Clarksville

The Town of Clarksville successfully changed the scope of a project previously funded by two \$500,000 Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grants for "The Lewis and Clark Plaza," to include development of "The Lewis and Clark Trail." The section of "The Lewis and Clark Trail" from the George Rogers Clark Cabin traversing west toward New Albany crossing over Silver Creek ending at its western bank is a section of the Ohio River Greenway. Clarksville selected the design consultant in mid- 2008 through the INDOT process, and began preliminary design in late 2008.

1.2.3 Multi-Use Trail: Falls of the Ohio Inter. Center to Clark Cabin in Clarksville

The Town of Clarksville was awarded a \$900,000 trails grant from the Governor of Indiana to complete the multi-use trail on top of the earthen levee from the Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center to the George Rogers Clark Cabin. The design of this segment of the Ohio River Greenway is fully underway. The design is due to be complete by January of 2008 with construction to start immediately following.

1.2.4 Big 4 Bridge Connector in Jeffersonville

The Big 4 Bridge is an abandoned railroad bridge spanning the Ohio River from downtown Jeffersonville to Louisville, Kentucky. The intended use of this bridge is as a multi-use path for pedestrians and bicyclists. The ramp leading up to the Big 4 Bridge located in Jeffersonville, Indiana falls under the scope of work of the Ohio River Greenway. The City of Jeffersonville issued conceptual designs for the ramp leading up to the Big 4 Bridge. A \$1 million TE Grant was awarded to the City of Jeffersonville to be used for design and construction of the ramp based on the conceptual designs. The required 20% matching funds were secured through a grant from the Aegon/TransAmerica Foundation, and a contribution from the Southern Indiana Tourism Bureau. Detailed design work is intended to begin in late 2008.

2 Commission Actions

2.1 Special Session on Matching Funds – January 2008

The Commission held a special session in January of 2008 to discuss local funding options to match the \$983,000 in Federal funds awarded by Congress. The funds are managed by the Corps and were made available on December 28, 2007.

2.2 Strategic Planning Session – February 2008

The Commission held a ½ day strategic planning session in February 2008. Future plans for the Greenway were discussed, prioritizing segments and setting goals for 2008. The Commission agreed to focus on connecting the three communities with the multi-use trail in areas where a roadway currently does not exist. (Plan called "Connect the Dots") The main focus is on getting a pedestrian and bike trail across Silver Creek. The Big 4 Bridge Indiana approach was also deemed a high priority, to provide the additional connection with Downtown Louisville, Kentucky. The Commission noted that the design efforts for the unimproved areas will include all Greenway features. However, when proceeding to construction, the focus will be to complete a multi-use path for users to be able to travel from New Albany, to Clarksville and Jeffersonville.

2.3 Formation of Advisory Committees

As a result of discussion during the strategic planning session, the Commission officially decided to form additional advisory Committees. The Commission already had established a Steering Committee. The main goals for setting up the additional advisory committees are to garner widespread support of the Greenway, provide forums for connecting key people in communities to better the Greenway project, coordinate timing of events least likely to conflict with other community activities, utilize the assets and organizations accessible to this project and to focus on the assets of each Commission member. The advisory committees include: Monuments and Memorial Committee, Community Outreach Committee, Finance and Funding Committee, Design and Construction Committee, Events Committee and Steering Committee. (See attached sheet detailing each committee's responsibilities and members)

2.4 Grants Sought and Awarded

2.4.1 Brownsfield Trails and Parks Initiative Award

Through the Commission, the City of New Albany applied for and received an Indiana Brownfields Program Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI) award which provided environmental assessments for the area needing bank stabilization in Scribner Place segment of the Greenway. The TPI program provided both Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments. There were minor levels of contaminated materials found in the soil. No soil is being moved from the site and the Corps' plans include capping the areas with either asphalt or riprap.

2.4.2 AEGON/TransAmerica Foundation Grant

The AEGON/TransAmerica Foundation granted the Ohio River Greenway Commission \$40,000 to be put toward the Big4 Bridge Connector. A presentation was given in March to the AEGON/TransAmerica Foundation regarding the Greenway Project. AEGON/TransAmerica Foundation is ready to see a safer route for bicycle commuting to Louisville.

2.5 Monuments and Memorials Policy

The Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee has put forth a policy for accepting monuments and memorials along the Ohio River Greenway. It is the intent of the Commission to encourage memorials, monuments, and public art in and along the Ohio River Greenway. It is also intended that such placements be of significant quality in order to reflect the design excellence of the Ohio River Greenway and to respect the citizens of our communities. The policy will be finalized in late 2008 or early 2009 and be submitted to each of the communities for ratification.

2.6 Commission Members - New County Appointees

The Ohio River Greenway Commission consists of 11 voting members: the chief executive of each municipality (Mayor or Town Council President); two citizens appointed by each chief executive; and representatives from Clark and Floyd counties appointed by the Governor. All appointments are for four year terms. The Clark and Floyd County representatives were newly appointed in 2008 by Governor Mitch Daniels. The voting members of the Commission as of November 1, 2008 are listed below:

Clarksville - Town Council President Paul Kraft, Jane Sarles and Gilbert Campbell
New Albany - Mayor Doug England, Anne Banet and Pat Leist-Stumler
Jeffersonville - Mayor Tom Galligan, Philip Hendershot and Wayne Estopinal
Floyd County- Gary Libs; and Clark County- Regina Overton.

The Commission is also supported by the participation of non-voting members. These non-voting members include local representatives (in parentheses) of the following state agencies: the Director of the Office of Tourism (Jim Keith); the Director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (Steve Knowles); the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation (Jim Ude); and the President of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (Michael Dalby).

2.7 Marketing the Ohio River Greenway

The current marketing campaign is to promote “Connect the Dots.” As decided at the strategic planning session the focus is to Connect the Dots which are the existing improved areas in each of the three communities along the Greenway. The slogan for the project is “I am Ready for the Greenway.” The website has become an effective marketing tool. The project coordinator has met with several community groups to present an educational program to promote the Ohio River Greenway Project. The Commission purchased a table top display to be used at local events and appropriate venues throughout the community to promote the Ohio River Greenway.

2.7.1 Entranceway to the Greenway Sign

The Commission had a 25' x 5' illuminated entranceway sign in New Albany designed, constructed and installed at the newly constructed Scribner Place Segment. The sign was installed in September 2008. Locations for entranceway signs in Jeffersonville and Clarksville will be determined at a later date.

2.7.2 Signage Marking the Route of the Greenway

The Community Outreach Committee recommended the Commission use temporary trail markers to indicate the future route of the Ohio River Greenway. The Community Outreach Committee put forth a plan to mark the future path based on line-of-site along the unimproved areas of the Greenway corridor. The plan includes roughly 70 inexpensive markers to be placed along the earthen levee, the existing roadway, the riverfront and existing sidewalks. The intent of this plan is to clearly indicate to the Community the route of the Ohio River Greenway as a continued effort in Community Outreach and marketing.

2.7.3 Revamped Website

The Commission updated the website (www.ohiorivergreenway.org) to provide current information with a focus on creating an interactive map of the project. The revamped website has allowed for many web savvy users to get updated information on the Commission's meetings. The website was also successfully used for on-line registration for the participants in the 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run.

2.7.4 Partnered with Greenways Foundation for 501c3 Status

The Commission entered into an agreement with the Indiana Greenways Foundation to establish a pass-through account. The purpose for setting up this account is to alleviate any administrative fees necessary for obtaining and maintaining 501c3 charitable contribution status. The grants obtained by the Commission through private foundations and corporate entities require 501c3 status as a qualification.

2.7.5 Proposed Fundraiser - Derby Eve

The Commission was approached by an event planning corporation, Event Concepts, to make plans for a fundraising event using the Kentucky Derby time frame. The event would have taken place on the Indiana side of the Ohio River. A non-binding contract was signed and a committee

was formed to oversee the process. Due to low ticket sales, Event Concepts recommended the event not be held in 2008. The Commission did not spend any funds for this event.

2.7.6 5K Run/Walk

The Commission again partnered with Congressman Baron Hill to promote awareness of the Ohio River Greenway Project via the 2nd Annual 5K Run/Walk on November 1st. The 5K Run/Walk was funded mostly through sponsorships from area business owners. The 5K is unique in that it is a linear run/walk which allows the Commission to showcase more of the Greenway Corridor. There were 210 participants. The event has garnered media attention and has been successful in continuing the enthusiasm the communities' harvest for the Ohio River Greenway Project. Photos of the event can be found online at www.ohiorivergreenway.org. The event used the marketing slogan "I Am Ready."

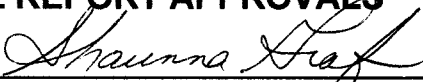
2.8 Long-term Staffing Needs for Commission

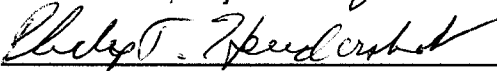
The Greenway Commission entered into an annual contract with the current project coordinator in September of 2007. In September of 2008, the Commission decided to set up a task force of members to review the contract with the part-time independent contractor for the position of, "Ohio River Greenway Project Coordinator." The task force will make a recommendation to the full Commission at the November Commission meeting regarding the suggested contract.


2.9 Fiscal Expenditures of Greenway Commission

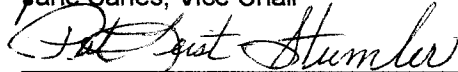
The Commission maintained a positive balance for 2008 in the account held for its operating funds. The 2008 Operating Budget with actual expenses incurred through October 16, 2008 is attached for reference. The Commission will approve a 2009 Operating Budget prior to December 31, 2008. [Note: Design and construction expenditures for the 2007/2008 work completed on the Greenway project were administered through the Corps.]

3 ANNUAL REPORT APPROVALS

Prepared by 
Shaunna Graf, Project Coordinator

Approved by 
Philip Hendershot, Chair


Jane Sarles, Vice Chair


Pat Leist-Stumler, Treasurer

Attachments:

2008 Operating Budget and Account Register

March 2008 Formation of Advisory Committees

2008 - Ohio River Greenway Commission Operating Budget

	Item	Budgeted Line Item	Income	Actual Expenses (Through 01/01/08)	Claim Balance
	Balance Carryover from 2007		\$28,501.70		
	Incoming from Municipalities		\$36,000.00		
	Fundraising Proceeds				
	Miscellaneous Income (Grants/Web sales)				
1	Contractor Service Fee	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00
2	Travel Expenses for Independent Contractor	\$600.00			\$600.00
3	Mileage for Independent Contractor	\$900.00			\$900.00
4	Travel expenses for Commission members	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
5	Commission Meeting Expenses	\$250.00			\$250.00
6	Professional Service Fees (CPA/Legal)	\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00
7	Office Supplies	\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00
8	Website	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
9	Advertising/Marketing	\$8,000.00			\$8,000.00
10	Postage	\$800.00			\$800.00
11	Fundraising	\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00
12	Business Development Expenses	\$1,800.00			\$1,800.00
13	Insurance for Commission	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
14	Temporary Staffing (Fundraising Events)	\$400.00			\$400.00
15	State Board of Accounts Fee	\$0.00			\$0.00
16	Bank Service Charges	\$100.00			\$100.00
17	One Southern Indiana Membership	\$185.00			\$185.00
	Totals	\$55,035.00	\$64,501.70	\$0.00	\$55,035.00
	See 2008 Register for Claims Details				
	Estimated Carry Over to 2009	\$9,466.70			



Formation of Advisory Committees

Approved March 2008

This document serves to outline the processes involved in setting up the advisory committees. It also serves to define the relationship of the advisory committees to the commission

The Commission may form advisory committees as stated in **IC 14-13-5-14** of the Ohio River Greenway Development Commission's charter:

Sec. 14. The commission may appoint advisory committees that may include representatives from the following:

- (1) Transportation departments.
- (2) Parks departments.
- (3) The United States Army Corps of Engineers.
- (4) Other departments of federal, state, and local government that may assist the commission.
- (5) The private sector if the representative, because of the representative's expertise, may provide assistance or advice to the commission.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.6.

The main goals for setting up the advisory committees are as follows:

- Garner widespread support of the Greenway;
- Provide forum for connecting key people in communities to better the Greenway project;
- Coordination of timing of events least likely to conflict with other community activities;
- Better utilize the assets and organizations accessible to this project ;
- Focus on the assets of each commission member

Chair or Co-Chairs

The Commission will elect a chair or co-chairs for each advisory committee to serve for 1 year terms. Co-chairs will share the responsibilities of conducting the meetings.

Planning/Coordinating

Each advisory committee will put forth a meeting schedule. The meeting schedule will be e-mailed to the project coordinator for distribution among all Commission members. Commission members of each advisory committee will provide leadership for the advisory committees. They can also identify key people outside of the commission for attendance at the advisory committee meetings.

Duties of Each Advisory committee

- Develop annual goals and long term objectives.
- Develop a timeline for expected outcomes.
- Select recurring date(s) and place for meetings.
- Develop reporting tool for use at meetings for communication of recommendations.
- Identify possible members, continually adding members as needed.
- Make recommendations to the Commission related to the advisory committee.

Advisory Committees

(As of 11.1.08)

Currently Active

Steering Committee (Meets on 2nd Thursday of Month at 4:00 p.m.)

Tasks - Designing the Agenda for Commission meetings, collecting information to be presented to full commission not falling under other advisory committees

Members: Phil Hendershot, Commission Chair
Pat Leist- Stumler, Commission Treasurer
Jane Sarles, Commission Vice-Chair

New Advisory Committees

Events Committee

Tasks – Manage events the Greenway Commission approves (i.e. 5K)

Members: To be Determined

Community Outreach Committee (Meets on 2nd Tuesday of Month at 12:00 noon)

Tasks – Connect with active members of the community interested in completion of the Greenway to get the entire community involved

Members: Steve Knowles, Committee chair
Sam Schad, bicyclist
Jane Sarles, Commission Vice-Chair
Ray Lewis, Community member

Monuments and Memorial Committee (Meets on 4th Monday of Month at 1:30 p.m.)

Tasks – Create standards and application process for all signs, monuments, memorials, etc along the Greenway Corridor.

Members: Mayor Doug England/Scott Wood by proxy (Committee chair)
Anne Banet, Commission member

Finance and Funding Committee (Meets on 2nd Monday of the Month at 11:30 a.m.)

Members: Mayor Tom Galligan/Jim Urban by proxy (Committee chair)
Town Council President Paul Kraft/Trish Fraser by proxy
Mayor Doug England/Carl Malysz by proxy
Cheryl Seeders, Executive First Savings Bank

Design and Construction Committee

Co-chairs:

Mayor Doug England/Scott Wood by proxy
Mayor Tom Galligan/Jim Urban by proxy
Town Council President Paul Kraft/Sharon Wilson by proxy