



Annual Report

Project Name: Ohio River Greenway

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This report serves to provide a summary of the actions completed by the Ohio River Greenway Commission in 2007. 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.

1 PROJECT STATUS REPORT

1.1 Sites Under Construction

1.1.1 New Albany

Construction began in New Albany for Phase I of the "Scribner Place Segment", located east of the amphitheater continuing east along River road 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. The construction at this site began in December 2006 and has continued throughout the year. Completion of Phase I was delayed due to bank stabilization issues and fill materials on site being deemed unusable. Phase I was essentially completed by December 1, but with an approximate 300-ft segment of the multi-use trail temporarily eliminated until an alternative design can be completed to address bank stability. This section of the trail will be completed during "Phase II" which was funded in the 3rd quarter of 2007 and began in November. Phase II will include the same features as Phase I, but extended to the west of the amphitheatre. Phase II is expected to be completed by Spring 2008.

1.1.2 Jeffersonville

The area in Jeffersonville under construction starting at the edge of the Terraced Lawn continuing West to the point of connection with the sidewalk behind Kingfish and in front of the Star of Louisville is nearing completion. This construction site was managed by the US Army Corp of Engineers in cooperation with the City of Jeffersonville. The commission served as a sounding board for issues which needed to be escalated. This section of the Greenway nearing completion includes both upper and lower portions of the multiuse trails. Before this section of the construction work is deemed complete the following items need to be fulfilled: Lighting installed along lower multiuse trail, bank stabilization using stone and fill at the rivers' edge and landscaping.

1.2 Design Efforts Initiated or Completed

1.2.1 Bank Stabilization in New Albany

Bank stabilization is needed along the section of the riverfront abutting the rivers' edge directly east of the amphitheater. Design work was completed by the Corps of Engineers for the bank stabilization during 2007, using Greenway project funding. Congressman Baron Hill asked congress to provide the estimated \$1,000,000 needed for funding the bank stabilization in Federal fiscal year 2008, under a separate authorization from the Greenway. However, the funds were not awarded. The Commission is currently considering other options for finding the funds to complete this section of the project.

1.2.2 Entranceway Signage

The Greenway Commission hired an independent consultant to present options for sign designs to be placed along the Greenway Corridor at various entrance points. The Federal funds can be used as appropriately matched for signage. The Commission reviewed the signs and chose one favorable design which will have horizontal and vertical versions. The Commission agreed that the first area to receive the sign would be the section in New Albany currently under construction. The Commission is in the process of finding a sign company to construct at least one sign in 2008.

1.2.3 Multi-Use Trail in Clarksville

The town of Clarksville successfully changed the scope of a project previously funded by two \$500,000 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 Falls of The Ohio interpretive Center traversing West toward New Albany is also a section of the Ohio River Greenway. Clarksville will enter the design phase to include the section of the Ohio River Greenway in 2008. Clarksville will select the design consultant in 2008 through the INDOT process.

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 multiuse 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,

1.3 Hiring of Project Coordinator

The Greenway Commission decided to replace the vacated coordinator position with a part-time independent contractor titled, "Ohio River Greenway Project Coordinator." Advertisements for the position were placed in The Courier-Journal's printed version of the classifieds in the newspaper as well as in the newspaper's online partner, Career Builder. The Steering Committee held interviews with the top candidates in July and narrowed the search to a short list of 3 who were then presented to the Greenway Commission in person. The Commission selected the final candidate in August. The Commission finalized a contract for services agreement in late August and hired the project coordinator on September 1, 2007.

1.4 5K Run/Walk

The Commission partnered with Congressman Baron Hill to promote awareness of the Ohio River Greenway Project via an Inaugural 5K Run/Walk in October. The 5K Run/Walk was funded mostly through sponsorships from area business owners. There were 81 participants in the race. The event garnered media attention and was successful in reviving the communities' interest in the Ohio River Greenway Project. Photos of the event can be found online at www.ohiorivergreenway.org.

1.5 Fiscal Expenditures of Greenway Commission

The Commission maintained a positive balance for 2007 in the account held for operating funds. The major allotment of funds went toward purchasing the lights for the Jeffersonville section under construction in 2007 and hiring of the part-time project coordinator. (See the attached 2007 Operating Budget and Register for reference.) The Commission's financial accounting records spanning the period of January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006 were audited by the State Board of Accounts. The State Board of Accounts issued a report dated 3/12/2007. The report is attached for reference. The Commission approved a budget for 2008. (See attached the 2008 Operating Budget) Note: Construction expenditures for the work completed in New Albany and Jeffersonville are maintained by the US Army Corp of Engineers.
