

Ohio River Greenway Development Commission

Special Session for Federal Funding

Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2008

Old Bridge Building
315 Southern Indiana Ave.
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Voting Members Present: Clarksville – Jane Sarles Clarksville – Paul Kraft (Proxy) Jeffersonville – Philip Hendershot Jeffersonville – Mayor Tom Galligan New Albany – Mayor Doug England New Albany – Anne Banet (Proxy) New Albany – Pat Leist-Stumler (Proxy) Governor’s Appointee for Clark County- Elmer Hoehn Governor’s Appointee for Floyd County- Valla Ann Bolovschak		Proxies: Scott Wood to Anne Banet Carl Malysz to Pat Leist-Stumler Trish Fraser to Paul Kraft Voting Members Absent w/o Proxy: Jeffersonville – Wayne Estopinal Non-Voting Members Absent w/o Proxy: None
Project Staff: Shaunna Graf – Project Coordinator Matt Schuler – USACE Steve Knowles - DNR		Members of the Community: Jenny Eggenpiller – Baron Hill’s Office Al Goodman Other community members of the community and representatives from Indiana Channel 9 and the Evening News/Tribune were also present.

Call to Order and Attendance

Philip Hendershot called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Attendance was taken.

Review of Federal Funds

Phil introduced himself and addressed the members of the commission regarding the focus of this special session: federal funding for fiscal year 2008. The amount of federal money allocated to the Ohio River Greenway as of December 26, 2007 is \$983,000. Matt Schueler, USACE, spoke regarding the requirements of the Army Corp of Engineers for the allocated money. Matt stated that the USACE needed to have a commitment from the communities as to local match money and the plan for the use of the federal funds in 2008. Phil stated that this money could be used for any federally approved feature of the Ohio River Greenway. Matt stated that the federal funds must be obligated by September 20, 2008.

Review of Projects for Funding

The Commission discussed the need to continue the New Albany – Scribner Place demonstration project specifically

the area with bank stabilization issues. The Department of the Interior received \$1.5 million in federal funds for use in New Albany. The City of New Albany will be responsible for the 25% match. Matt stated that normally the USACE cannot use federal funds to match other federal funds. It would depend on how the money was awarded. There were questions raised regarding the \$1.5 million and whether it is to be used for the Ohio River Greenway. Matt stated that he did not see that line item on his budget, because it did not come directly to the USACE. Jenny Eggenpiller, Representative Baron Hill's district office, stated that the money was requested from the City of New Albany and that it was part of the Energy and Water Bill. Jenny stated that Baron Hill's offices would continue to be in touch with their contacts with the USACE to further clarify. Matt stated that he would also try to find out if the \$1.5 million is to be used for the bank stabilization where the Ohio River Greenway project is located or other projects such as Ohio River Shoreline project.

The Commission began discussion of matching the \$983,000. The discussion included the view the Commission has always had which is to use cash as a match rather than use credits due to need to build up the project credits now for use later. TE grant money can be used as cash matches for the federal money. There are certain features of the master plan which would not be able to be fully designed or constructed using federal money. These features would include boat ramps or other recreational uses not associated with the federal project. Matt stated he would do further research into extending the limits of the original project scope to include the Silver Creek crossing Clarksville is currently working to complete with TE funds.

After discussing several options for matching the \$983,000, New Albany committed to matching half and Jeffersonville committed to matching the other half. If the money needs to be matched in varying percentages then the cities will work together to meet the project goals of the Greenway. The commission discussed the various design and construction possibilities for the funds. The plan to utilize the total, \$1,966,000, will include two design efforts and two construction contracts. It was also discussed that the USACE has to go through the process of selecting a design firm. The bid process for the construction contract will also need to be set.

Administrative Issues

The next Commission Meeting is scheduled for January 17th at 12 Noon at the Old Bridge Building, 315 Southern Indiana Avenue, Jeffersonville, IN.

There will be a Strategic Planning Session in early February - Location to be determined.

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