Imagine the Benefits

CREATING LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Ohio River Trail Planning Committee recognizes this trail as a vital element of a regional trail network. It is also an opportunity to link local partners in creating tourism and economic development by attracting local and regional trail users. Establishing strong local partnerships is essential to the success of the trail. With on-going support of the communities, local governments, businesses, and both public and private funding sources, the vision for the Ohio River Trail is becoming a reality.

Recent studies on multi-purpose trails have documented the economic benefits to communities that trails connect. We have an excellent example of a successful local trail in the Little Miami Scenic Trail. A 1999 survey conducted for the Little Miami Scenic Trail found that over 150,000 users of the trail each year spent over two million dollars on trail related expenditures. The study found that benefits extended to communities large and small along the trail. The study further indicated that landowners in the proximity of the multi-purpose trail benefited from heightened property values due to potential economic development, the ability to access the trail, and the attraction of protected open spaces associated with the trail.

TO HISTORIC LANDMARKS

Ohio River Trail

IMAGINE THE CONNECTIONS

The proposed Ohio River Trail is a 16-mile long shared use path that offers a wide variety of transportation and recreational connections to Ohio's growing trail system. It provides potential connections to the existing Little Miami Scenic Trail, Lunken Airport Bike Path, the Ohio-to-Erie Trail, and the planned Cincinnati Newtown East Trail. Cyclists, hikers, runners, rollerbladers and wheelchair users can experience a diverse landscape of historic landmarks, entertainment venues, extensive parks, and unique natural resources, all on a safe, family-oriented route along the Ohio River.

The Ohio River Trail is both a connection and a destination. It connects people to places, to each other, to nature, and to the rich cultural heritage of the Ohio River Valley. The trail provides local residents an alternative mode of transportation that reduces the number of cars on the road and enables children and people without cars to travel safely between neighborhoods, parks, and historic destinations.

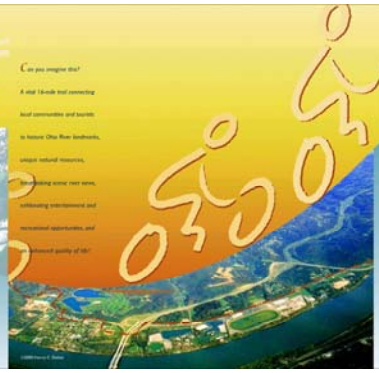
The Ohio River Trail connects people with places to shop, recreate, grab a bite to eat or watch a great blue heron as it slowly glides along the riverbank. Cyclists, hikers, and other trail users enjoy a safe and smooth path that winds its way through protected forests, wildlife preserves, and idyllic paths down country lanes, over streams and quiet settings removed from the hectic city life, and into historic New Richmond. The trail affords the opportunity to relive Greater Cincinnati's prehistoric, Indian and pioneer river development with a rich sampling of ancient Indian villages and mounds, pioneer cemeteries, and pre-civil war structures along the way.

TO OUR NATURAL HABITAT

The Ohio River Trail, whether passing through or lingering, you can find a special place down by the river.

Can you imagine this?

A vital 16-mile trail connecting local communities and tourists to historic Ohio River landmarks, unique natural resources, breathtaking scenic river views, exhilarating entertainment and recreational opportunities, and enhanced quality of life?



Ohio River Trail

CURRENT TRAIL PROJECT STATUS

Interest in developing what is now known as the Ohio River Trail began more than 20 years ago. In recent years the Ohio River Trail Planning Committee was formed. The Committee commissioned a feasibility study to assess environmental issues and right-of-way availability, solicit public input and identify a recommended alignment and associated costs.

Now that the study is complete, we know the Ohio River Trail is a feasible project. We also recognize that it will take a partnership, not only of the original thirteen agencies on the planning committee, but also including every individual who can imagine the benefits of such a trail. The trail, like most, will be built in phases. Funding will be the key to implementation. The State of Ohio has a rich history of financing such trails through various methods, but tremendous public support will be needed to focus efforts on building the Ohio River Trail.

OKI - The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments - will continue to serve as the contact agency for the trail. You are encouraged to contact OKI for more information.

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Design: Human Nature, Inc.

Planning Committee

- Anderson Township
- Anderson Park District
- Clermont County
- Clermont County Park District
- Hamilton County
- Hamilton County Park District
- City of Cincinnati
  - Dept. of Trees and Eng.
  - Park Board
  - Recreation Commission
- Village of New Richmond
- New Richmond Business Association
- Pierce Township
- Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments