

Transportation Alternatives Factors for Infrastructure Projects

Project Name	Great Miami River Trail - Monroe Section
Applicant Name	Kevin Chesar
Applicant Title	Director of Development
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Contact Name	Kevin Chesar
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Project Information	<p>The project is to complete a 2.25 mile section of the Great Miami River Trail through the City of Monroe. The trail will be a paved, 10' wide multi-use path that borders the Great Miami River. The southern terminus of the proposed trail begins at Monroe Bicentennial Commons Park which is located near SR 4 and Jerry Couch Blvd. (Roden Park Dr.) while the northern terminus is at the City limits. It should be noted that the proposed southern terminus of this project is also the proposed terminus of the Gregory Creek Greenway Miami to Miami Connection. The project is a critical link in the region's trail network.</p> <p>In terms of project status, \$83,400 has been funded by the City to complete the trail design. To date, the construction drawings are approximately 50% complete, with the remainder of the design to be completed in the coming months, including any potential environmental needs pending the final design.</p>
Upload Project Location Map	http://funding.oki.org/wp-content/uploads/ninja-forms/9/Great-Miami-Trail-Monroe-Section-Maps.pdf
DESIGN FISCAL YEAR	
DESIGN REQUESTED FUNDS	
DESIGN LOCAL MATCH	
DESIGN TOTAL COST	\$0.00
DESIGN LOCAL MATCH %	0%
PE ROW FISCAL YEAR	
PE ROW REQUESTED FUNDS	0
PE ROW MATCH	0

PE ROW TOTAL COST	\$0.00
PE ROW LOCAL MATCH %	0%
ROW FISCAL YEAR	
ROW REQUESTED FUNDS	0
ROW LOCAL MATCH	0
ROW TOTAL COST	\$0.00
ROW LOCAL MATCH %	0%
UTILITIES FISCAL YEAR	
UTILITIES REQUESTED FUNDS	0
UTILITIES LOCAL MATCH	0
UTILITIES TOTAL COST	\$0.00
UTILITIES LOCAL MATCH %	0%
CONSTRUCTON FISCAL YEAR	
CONSTRUCTION REQUESTED FUNDS	650000
CONSTRUCTION LOCAL MATCH	650000

CONSTRUCTION TOTAL COST	\$1,300,000.00
CONSTRUCTION LOCAL MATCH %	50.00%
TOTAL PROJECTS REQUESTED	\$650,000.00
TOTAL PROJECTS MATCH	\$650,000.00
TOTAL PROJECTS TOTAL	\$1,300,000.00
TOTAL PROJECTS LOCAL MATCH %	50.00%
BIKE FISCAL YEAR	
Bike Requested Funds	650000
Bike Total Match	650000
BIKE TOTALS	\$1,300,000.00
Add KYTC "State Forces" oversight charge of 10% of design cost or minimum \$5000 to total design amount. Attach a certified cost estimate.	http://funding.oki.org/wp-content/uploads/ninja-forms/9/certified-cost-estimate.pdf
An adopted ADA Transition Plan is in place for our jurisdiction.	no
Date of Adoption, if applicable	

An adopted Title VI Plan is in place.	no
Date of Adoption, if applicable Copy	
I understand that non-federal match is required as a condition of receiving federal funds and hereby pledge those funds for this project.	yes
I understand that as the applicant, I am responsible for providing funds for cost overruns. If additional federal funds are received our jurisdiction will provide non-federal funds as match.	yes
I understand that if we accept federal funds and cancel or delay the project that future applications to OKI may be subject to penalty as described in the application.	yes
I understand that as a condition of receiving federal funds, I hereby pledge to maintain the federal investment in a reasonable and prudent manner through its useful life.	yes
Name	Kevin Chesar
Title	Director of Development
Organization	City of Monroe, Ohio
Date	5/30/2018

Project Type (select only one type)	Shared-use path facilities
Safety Describe how the project will impact safety:	The project will allow for bicyclists and other non-motorized users to have access to an off-road facility for travel and recreation. Currently, users within the City of Monroe only have to access the Great Miami River Trail along SR 4, a high-speed state route, at the locations within either Hamilton or Middletown. Furthermore, users travelling along the Great Miami Trail from Middletown to Hamilton will also have an off-road facility to traverse, resulting in a strong positive impact to safety.
OKI Plans Recommendations	Part of the OKI regional trails system
Connections	Complete (fill in gaps)
Project Status	P/E and Environmental complete (NEPA, ADA)
Will your project have any impact(s) on any of the following OKI identified Environmental Justice groups? Check all that apply.	elderly, Low-income
Describe any direct or indirect permanent benefits of your project on the identified EJ groups?	For elderly populations, which is identified in the zone directly adjacent to the proposed trail, providing a shared-use path allows for accessible recreational resources, providing both mental and physical benefits. For the low-income population within the area of the project, a direct benefit is realized by providing a public recreation facility in close proximity to their homes.

<p>During the implementation phase, will the project have a temporary or permanent negative impact on any of the OKI identified EJ groups listed above? If yes, please describe the impact and how it will be mitigated:</p>	<p>Because this is a trail project through undeveloped property, no negative impacts have been identified during the implementation phase.</p>
<p>Will the completed project have a negative impact on any of the OKI identified EJ groups? If yes, please describe the permanent negative impact(s) and how it will be mitigated:</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the project will have any negative impact on the identified EJ groups. The proposed trail is not anticipated to increase gentrification of the area or markedly increase vehicular traffic.</p>
<p>Please outline your communication plan with any of the OKI identified EJ groups related to the project. (i.e. public meetings, bilingual information, develop community liaisons):</p>	<p>The City will post public announcements upon implementation of the project. These announcements would build upon the previously held public meetings which recommended this project for further pursuit by the City.</p>

<p>Employment, Employment Bonus and Investment Bonus: How does the project provide economic vitality in the project area?</p>	<p>The City has been planning and is actively investing in the project area to create a destination node near their southern terminus. This includes reconstructing a roadway with a 10 foot multi-use path incorporated (Jerry Couch Blvd.) and developing a new park (Bicentennial Commons) in the immediate vicinity. To date, the City has committed over \$2 million dollars in capital projects associated with this project. The investments are being driven by the approximately 70% of residents expressing a high level of support for recreational trails and opening up the Great Miami River as a recreational destination. The linkage to the trail network is considered the top draw for this area. Furthermore, beyond the City investment, Butler Tech is currently developing an adult education campus facility within the proposed trailhead vicinity with the City investments a major impetus for the site selection.</p> <p>The City is also exploring opportunities with the Butler Tech Landscaping Program, that is to be located in the new adjacent campus as previously described, to possibly maintain the trail and park area. Our conversations have been based on the future possibility of utilizing students working in a field that they could transfer those skills to summer and long-term city employment.</p> <p>Monroe Development staff is currently working through permitting for a new restaurant, located at 5873 Hamilton-Middletown Road (SR 4), which is to capitalize on the potential trail, park, and new school. Additionally, as enthusiasm continues to grow for the recreational development potential of the area, staff has held site plan application meetings for a currently under design 9,600 sq. ft. restaurant/tavern/retail strip center that is anticipated for a July 2018 approval south of the project site.</p>
<p>Air Quality/Energy: Will the project reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), Vehicle Hours Traveled (VHT) or both?</p>	<p>vmt-reduced, vht-reduced</p>

Please explain:	Locally, the project will provide a shared-use path in close proximity to City residents, thus minimizing VMT and VHT that residents would travel to access other portions of the Great Miami Trail. Regionally, once fully connected, the project will provide an alternative travel mode to Hamilton, Middletown, and points beyond.
Does this project create new or enhance existing intermodal connections?	yes
If yes, please describe:	This project will create new interactions between vehicles and non-motorized users due to the draw of expanding a recreational trail network. Recognizing this interaction, the City of Monroe has already invested over \$800,000 along Jerry Couch Blvd. including creating a multi-use trail along the road and a parking lot for trail users. It should be noted that the Jerry Couch upgrades and parking are not included in this grant request but mentioned to highlight the intermodal nature of the southern terminus of the project. Additionally, the City of Middletown and The Butler County RTA provide fixed route (Route R1) with a stop at the southern terminus. This allows for an enhanced intermodal connection between bicyclists and transit users.
% replacement	
% expansion	100
Please Explain	The entire project will be expanding the shared-use path network within the City as well as contributing to the overall expansion of the Great Miami River Trail. The Monroe section of the trail is one of the few remaining missing segments that limit a full trail connection from Fairfield, Ohio area to Piqua, Ohio.
Please indicate all that apply	Is the project located in an area that is experiencing strong growth pressures and expected and/or planned to develop into a mixed use/multi modal center?

<p>Explain:</p>	<p>The project is located along the SR 4 corridor which has been identified by the City as a strong potential growth area. This identification has been confirmed by the amount of development that has occurred recently or is being explored. Such examples in the the redevelopment of an abandoned RV dealership into a campus facility for Butler Tech, the continuing expansion of the Monroe Crossings residential development, which has been recognized as one of the fast growing residential subdivisions in the Cincinnati area (across SR 4 from the proposed project), the City's investment in redeveloping the abandoned Americana Amusement park, and several other investments along the corridor, both residential and commercial in nature.</p>
<p>Will this project serve brownfield or greyfield properties, or areas where infrastructure is underutilized?</p>	<p>yes</p>
<p>Explain:</p>	<p>This project will serve several greyfield properties that are within close proximity to the proposed trail, including the abandoned Fantasy Farms amusement park, the Harding-Jones Paper Co. plant, and an old RV dealership. It should be noted that the old RV dealership is currently undergoing re-development, partially spurred by the City's commitment to creating a destination with this trail project.</p>
<p>Are efforts to avoid, minimize or offset/compensate for environmental impacts planned as part of this project (e.g. wetlands, forests, streams, noise)?</p>	<p>yes</p>
<p>Explain:</p>	<p>An existing two-track dirt trail exists for the majority of the proposed alignment. It is believed that this path was predominantly the old tow path for the Miami and Erie Canal. The path allows for the project to develop with minimal impact to the existing trees and foliage along the project. Furthermore, because of the elevated nature of the path wetland impacts are expected to be minimal. An example image of the existing dirt path is included in the supplemental information.</p>

Are green infrastructure strategies planned as part of this project (e.g. contiguous corridors to reduce habitat fragmentation, innovative stormwater runoff techniques)?	yes
Explain:	The stormwater will be treated with a vegetative filter strip along the path where possible.
Does this project abut or directly impact any potentially sensitive environmental resources (as identified in state conservation plans, maps or inventories)?	no
Explain:	At this point no sensitive environmental resources have been identified to abut or be impacted by the project.
Comprehensive Plan (or other): Is the project consistent with the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan?	yes
Title of Plan:	Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Date Adopted:	April 26, 2016
Contact Person:	Kevin Chesar
Page Number(s) where project is identified and/or referenced:	vi, 87, 100, 102, 104, 116, 136

<p>Planning Area: Please identify the planning area (location) in relation to the proposed transportation project.</p>	<p>The planning area for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan encompassed the entire City of Monroe, within which the proposed trail projects resides. It should be noted that the neighboring communities participated with the public involvement piece of the plan. Furthermore, the proposed trail project has gone through three local planning processes. It was identified in the Comprehensive Plan 2010 Update, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as previously mentioned, and then a focused study of the Great Miami River Trail within Monroe, which was incorporated into the Bicentennial Commons Master Plan that was presented in May 2018 to City Council and is slated to be adopted June 12th,2018.</p>
<p>Public Participation: Generally describe the public participation process for the plan (Include page references to specific examples, where applicable).</p>	<p>The Parks and Recreation Master Plan had a thorough public participation process and could be defined as a citizen driven plan with several components to the public participation process. The plan development included two public workshops, a statistically valid interest and opinion mailed survey that was completed by 482 residents, a web-based and handout survey completed by 224 residents, and more than 10 individual stakeholder group meetings. (While referenced throughout the plan, pages 51 and 52 describe the overview of the public participation process, with the results located in the appendix). The mailed survey indicated that walking and hiking trails were the most needed park and recreation facilities, a need which the proposed project would fulfill. It should be noted that this plan was a follow up from the needs identified in the City of Monroe's Comprehensive Plan 2010 Update. The comprehensive plan also had a robust public participation plan when being developed.</p>

Core Contents: Generally describe the contents of the applicable plan related to the following elements: transportation, land use, economic development, public facilities, housing, natural resources, recreation, intergovernmental coordination and capital improvements. For example, are each of these elements included in the plan? Was appropriate inventory and analysis completed for these elements? Were goals objectives and policies set for these elements? If not, why not (e.g., resource limitations, characteristics of the jurisdictions)?

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan builds upon the core contents as laid out in the Comprehensive Plan 2010 Update which were placed into the following categories: Housing, Downtown, Lane Use, Transportation, Economic Development, City Services/Public Facilities, Parks, Recreation and Open Space, and Sustainability. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan built upon those goals during its development. For transportation, the plan recognized the need to provide trail connections throughout the City with a connection to the Great Miami Trail, which this project provides. For land use, the plan recognized the need and desire to support a recreational land use along the Great Miami River. For economic development and housing, the plan worked with local realtors and home builders association to reinforce the desire for potential home buyers and builders to locate in an area with a strong trails network. The plan recognized the need and the role that public services provide by recommending the establishment of the Parks and Recreation Department. Providing access and preserving natural resources was identified within the plan with "providing environmental stewardship" as part of the proposed mission statement. Recreation was also addressed and contained within the proposed mission statement by "ensuring the availability of unique and family friendly recreational opportunities". Intergovernmental coordination was addressed through one of the established guiding principles of collaboration, with Monroe Local Schools, MetroParks of Butler County, and the Miami Conservancy District identified as potential partners. Capital improvements, with cost estimates, were developed through the plan not only for the proposed trail project but all of the potential capital improvements as identified within the plan.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan included the core contents of a well developed plan. Each existing park and recreation facility was inventoried and a needs analysis completed. Goals and objectives were identified within the plan, with an action plan and capital improvement ranking developed as the outcome of the process. It should be noted that improving walkways and connectivity category was the highest ranked capital project.

<p>Land Use/Transportation Relationship: Generally describe the relationship between land use and the proposed transportation project as set forth in the plan? For example, is new development in the area creating need for the project? Is new development planned for/expected that the project will serve? (Include page references to specific examples).</p>	<p>Through both the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the Comprehensive Plan 2010 Update, the area along the Great Miami River and SR 4 has been identified as both a strong corridor for growth, creating a regional park attraction, and providing enhanced recreational opportunities. Specifically, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan recommends investigating opportunities to acquire and develop the LeSourdsville Lake property as a regional park attraction which could offer a variety of amenities and could assist in the development of the Great Miami River Trail segment through Monroe (Page 89). The City has begun to act upon that objective by acquiring LeSourdsville Lake property (November 2017) which created the opportunity to develop the proposed Great Miami Trail project. Furthermore, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan identifies the need to link schools, neighborhoods, recreation areas and other destinations via a trail network, providing connectivity among those land uses (Page 100). The proposed project would complete a significant link between those land uses.</p>
<p>Local Match: How much additional local match is being provided OVER the required match?</p>	<p>30% over the 20%; resulting in a 50% match</p>
<p>Project Delivery History: Has the applicant had any programmed projects miss their originally programmed date?</p>	<p>no</p>
<p>Specify projects: (see application instructions for negative points associated with this factor)</p>	
<p>Supplemental Information Provided by the Applicant Insert Links or supplemental information as appropriate (maximum 5 pages please)</p>	<p>http://funding.oki.org/wp-content/uploads/ninja-forms/9/Supplemental-Info.pdf</p>