

Indiana Brownfields Program Trails and Parks Initiative

Project Highlight: Ohio River Greenway in New Albany

Community/Applicant

Ohio River Greenway Commission and the City of New Albany

TPI Assistance Provided

Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments totaling \$31,584

Current Status

New Albany's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Scribner Place segment of the Ohio River Greenway Project was held in May, 2009. A two-mile portion of the trail in New Albany and segments in Jeffersonville and Clarksville are now complete. Costly bank stabilization and the upgrading of existing roadways and bridges were necessary in order to construct the multiuse trail.

When required match funding is secured for the federal stimulus funding that has been set aside for the project, construction will begin on a seven-mile riverfront multi-use path that will connect the three completed segments. Pedestrians and cyclists will then be able to travel the seven-mile river corridor from New Albany, through Clarksville, Jeffersonville, and across the Big Four Bridge to Louisville, Kentucky.

Background

This project was quite complex due to erosion of the river bank. In the early 1900s, the site was used as a public road and a railroad line. Since the 1930s, quick fixes for the eroded soil could have included any number of materials being used to build up the land. Environmental assessment activities were necessary to determine if the site was impacted by these historical activities.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partnered with the City of New Albany to stabilize the soil, and through the Trails and Parks Initiative, the Indiana Brownfields Program provided environmental assessment work to address potential environmental contamination at the site. Minimal contamination was found, and construction of the



River bank stabilization activities designed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made this portion of the trail possible.



Project consultants, supporters, and government officials join the Ohio River Greenway (ORG) Commission in the ribbon-cutting celebration in New Albany. Pictured left to right are Clint Ackerman, One Southern IN Ambassador; Richard Sowa, One Southern IN Ambassador; Jerry Finn, Horseshoe Foundation; Elmer Hoehn, Charter member ORG Commission; Philip Hendershot, Chair ORG Commission; Mayor Doug England, City of New Albany; Col. Keith Landry, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District; Ed Clere, State House Representative; and Shaunna Graf, Project Coordinator ORG.

asphalt trail over the area of contamination effectively capped the contamination and will prevent any contact with the soil. Now, the area has been stabilized, protected, and has a beautiful trail accessing the Ohio River.

For More Information

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