MIBOR ECDC 2022 GRANTEE INDIANAPOLIS CULTURAL TRAIL EXPANSION





Project Overview:

The Economic and Community Development Council invested \$10,000 to support the expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick. The Indianapolis Cultural Trail is a world-renowned, eight-mile protected bike and pedestrian path and linear park that seamlessly connects neighborhoods and cultural districts in Indianapolis. Created as a public-private partnership, the Cultural Trail is both a pathway and an organization. The Cultural Trail is built on City-owned Right-of-Way and is managed and operated by a 501(c)3 organization, Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc (ICTI). The Trail has transformed the way people experience Indianapolis and has put Indianapolis on the map as a city that values progressive thinking and inspirational design, civic investments to improve quality of life, equitable access to art and nature and beauty, and safe and inclusive connections for people of all abilities.

Originally completed in 2013, the Indianapolis Cultural Trail has been a catalyst for economic growth in Indianapolis, attracting businesses of all sizes, expanding job opportunities, and helping spur residential development in the downtown area.

Buoyed by this success, the ICT is now focused on expanding the Cultural Trail to better connect people to the cultural districts and neighborhoods of downtown. By expanding the Cultural Trail in two distinct segments, South Street and Indiana Ave/10th Street, the benefits of the Trail will be brought to more areas in and near downtown Indianapolis and specifically to neighborhoods that have been disconnected from the heart of downtown for too long.



South Street will connect the flourishing Virginia Avenue corridor and Fountain Square cultural district with the Indiana Convention Center and Wholesale cultural district. This expansion segment will reconnect businesses and neighborhoods south of downtown that have been physically cut off from the city's center by railroad bridges and the interstates. Indiana Avenue/10th Street will connect the new 16 Tech innovation district as well as major hospitals, IUPUI, and important cultural assets, including the Madam Walker Legacy Center, to downtown Indianapolis, allowing people to connect safely to the White River Waipahani Trail and to the extension of the Fall Creek Greenway. This new segment of the Cultural Trail will ultimately reconnect historic neighborhoods to downtown Indianapolis and the other cultural districts.

The expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail is more than just the physical expansion of adding mileage and further connecting diverse cultural districts and neighborhoods and increasing inclusion for all Indianapolis residents; it is also an opportunity to expand and reimagine the Cultural Trail's public art program and to do so in a way that uplifts and celebrates our diverse community while also uplifting and celebrating artists and specifically artists with ties to Indianapolis and Indiana.

Detailed information about the Cultural Trail's expansion project is available online at indyculturaltrail.org/Expansion

- + Improves Quality of Life
- + Improves Community Livability
- + Creates Active, Vial Downtown Destinations
- + Creates Enhancements to the Streetscape
- + Creates Greenspace Improvements
- + Advocates for Expanding Greenspaces and Beautification Efforts
- + Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- + Increases Access to Public Arts
- + Increases Accessibility of Public Amenities to the Public
- + Creates Walkable Communities
- + Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- + Creates Attractive, Walkable and Vital Downtown Areas
- + Increases Infrastructure Connectivity to Fuel Community and Economic Development
- + Encourages Land Use Planning that Encourages Fiscal, Environmental and Cultural Sustainability

- + Increases Connectivity
- + Encourages Collaboration Among Organizations, Agencies, Businesses and Local Government
- + Provides a Variety of Transportation Choices
- + Improves Standards of Health and Living
- + Promotes Active Living
- + Supports the Regional Tourism Industry
- + Increases Tourism Opportunities
- + Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences
- + Provides Additional Amenities and Events to Attract New Visitors
- + Improves Access to Environment Benefits
- + Promotes Natural Features and Destinations
- Promotes the Preservation and Celebration of Unique
- Natural Features and Environmentally Sensitive Areas