Cincinnati's Western Riverwalk: A Vision for Sustainable Growth

A Hike/Bike Trail Along Hamilton County's Western Riverfront



Prepared for the Hamilton County Park District Board





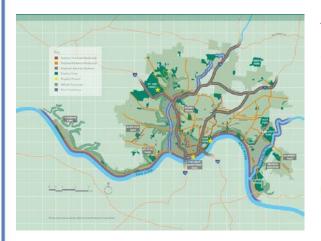
Introduction



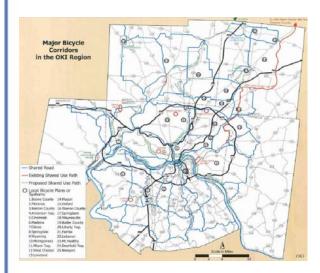
Cincinnati's Western Riverwalk

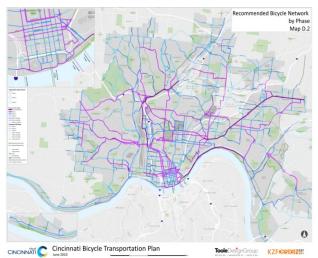
- The western riverfront is an historic area with mutually compatible and reinforcing land uses
- The river is an amenity that attracts and retains residents and businesses
- The Western Riverwalk directly supports Hamilton County Park District's mission of conservation, recreation, and education

Regional Hike/Bike Plans









Greenspace along the Ohio River

- OKI Bicycle Corridors
- Cincinnati Parks
 Centennial Plan
- Hamilton County
 Compass Master Plan
- Cincinnati Bike Path
 Master Plan
- All propose a trail along the Western Riverfront

Vision for the Western Riverfront

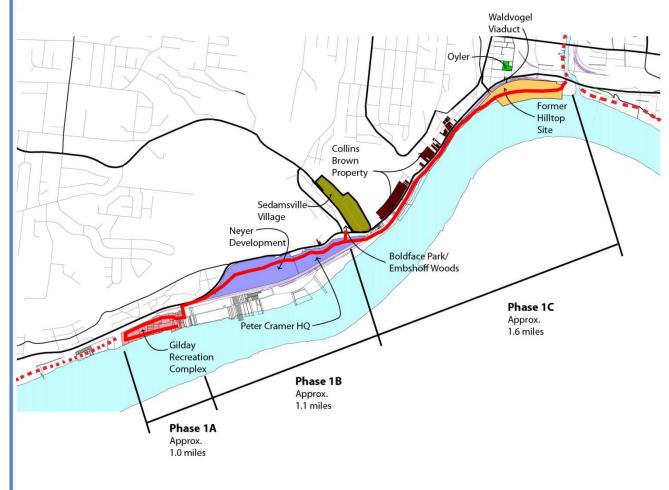


Connecting Multiple Recreation Opportunities

- The Western
 Riverfront spans 22
 miles from downtown
 to Shawnee Lookout
- Existing active and passive greenspace can be leveraged with phased trail construction
- The goal is to connect all of these areas with a trail running along the river



Western Riverwalk Phase 1



Phase 1 in three parts:

1A: A loop trail at Gilday Recreation Complex, planned by CRC

1B: A segment connecting Gilday, Boldface Park and Embshoff Woods

1C: A segment from Bold Face to the Mill Creek and Ohio River confluence

Phase 1 spans three communities and approximately 3.7 miles

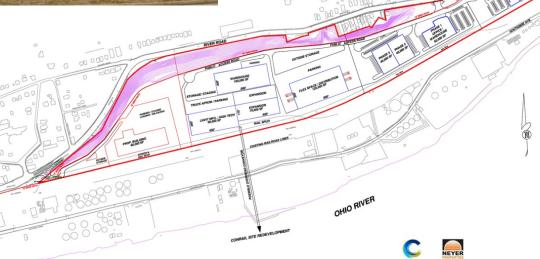


Accomplishments Along Phase1





- Gilday Recreation
 Complex has been master planned, including a trail
- A 15' trail easement parallel to River Road between Gilday and Boldface/ Embshoff has been secured
- Sedamsville has just been designated Cincinnati's 52nd historic district





Accomplishments Along Phase1





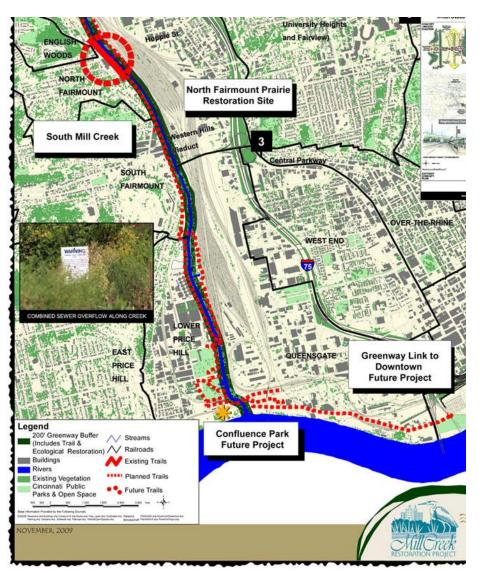


A Public Entry to the West Side

- The new Waldvogel Viaduct has been designed as an exciting gateway to the West Side
- Lower Price Hill is the most urban neighborhood with river access
- Oyler School has been transformed to a community center, and expansion of the LPH Community School is underway
- The Former Hilltop
 Site has been zoned
 RF-R



Connecting People Countywide





Completing the Trail Network

- The eastern end of Phase 1 is the southern terminus of the Mill Creek Greenway at Confluence Park.
- The Western Riverwalk and Mill Creek Greenway will connect to the Ohio River Trail to the east via Downtown
- The Western Riverwalk is an essential link in a regional trail network

We Walked the Walk



Natural Beauty Along the River

- The Phase 1 route takes advantage of vacant land
- It offers access to stunning views in a natural setting
- It preserves an irreplaceable ecological asset







Hidden in Plain Sight







Embracing the Riverfront

- The western Ohio valley is one of the largest green spaces in the region
- The Western
 Riverwalk will be the
 first trail of its kind in
 western Hamilton
 County
- It will be accessible to 40,000 nearby residents and serves at least one third of the county



Enriching Lives, Connecting People





Thank You!

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- We urge the Hamilton County Park Board to adopt a plan to create the Western Riverwalk
- This proposal is consistent with multiple existing plans
- Initial focus is on the 3.7 miles of Phase 1
- Many western Hamilton County residents are currently underserved with recreational opportunities
- This trail will encourage access to the Ohio River and surrounding hillsides, our greatest natural assets

RW

West Side Summit - River West Working Group