

Project Factsheet for: Des Moines Recreational River & Greenbelt, Iowa (Recreation)

Date Last Updated: 03/01/2009 14:52

Project Location Information

Location: From Fort Dodge, Iowa to 50 miles southeast of Des Moines, Iowa
River Basin(s): Des Moines
State(s): IA
Congressional District(s): IA-3 , IA-4

Status

Work on all Greenbelt Projects had been halted due to WRDA 2007 language which has been interpreted as placing a \$10,000,000 ceiling on Greenbelt expenditures. Section 3068, WRDA 07 was repealed by Section 14221 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 and work on the Greenbel Program resumed in August 2008

Historically, (FY03 through FY08), Congress has appropriated funds for the continued development of priority Greenbelt projects, as discussed below:

- Fort Dodge Riverfront and Trails -- The Rock Island District is preparing an Engineering Documentation Report (EDR) to develop a project design, and cost estimate.
- Des Moines Riverwalk -- An EDR has been completed and approved. The City is proceeding with development of a recreational trail that will connect the downtown to Gray's Lake, and has renovated the Union Railroad Bridge which provides a pedestrian link across the river. Construction will begin after execution of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), and completion of real estate acquisition.
- Cordova Center on the Rock -- Preparation of an EDR is underway. A consultant has prepared a master plan and conceptual designs for the interpretive exhibits and facilities.
- Red Rock Trail Segment 4B -- . This 4-mile long trail is part of the Cordova Center development and will link Cordova Center to other facilities at Lake Red Rock. A trail bridge has been constructed and the remainder of the trail is designed and is awaiting funding to resume construction.

Description

The Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt is a partnership of local and Federal government and private interests in developing recreational opportunities in the Des Moines River corridor. The the four ongoing projects are described as follows:

Fort Dodge Riverfront Development and Trails - Fort Dodge has completed a Riverfront Master Plan to transform a former industrial area into a low-intensity recreational development. The Master Plan includes recreation trails, fishing and boating facilities, pedestrian bridges, a campground, passive recreation areas, and a trail connecting the Fort Dodge riverfront to Brushy Creek State Recreation Area. The preliminary cost estimate for the initial phase of the project is \$13.7 million, excluding the trail to Brushy Creek State Recreation Area which would be part of a subsequent phase. Planning, design, and construction necessary to develop appropriate recreational facilities would be conducted at a 50% Federal cost share.

Des Moines Riverwalk . The City of Des Moines and The Principal Financial Group have developed a Master Plan for the Des Moines Riverwalk in downtown Des Moines that includes a 1.2 mile multipurpose trail loop with more than 2 miles of connecting trails, bridges, parks, promenades, and related facilities. These facilities are intended to increase interaction with the river and create opportunities to connect adjacent development and neighborhoods. Preliminary cost estimates for the first phase of development is approximately \$36.0 million. The Principal Financial Group has committed resources to help fund a significant portion of this development. Planning, design, and construction necessary to develop authorized recreational facilities would be conducted at a 50% Federal cost share. The Project Partnership Agreement has been signed. Plans and specifications are complete and construction is expected to begin in May 2009 and continued appropriations of funds will allow the work to continue.

Cordova Center on the Rock - The Marion County Conservation Board, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Central College and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are collectively exploring the possibility of developing a cooperative environmental learning center and associated facilities at Lake Red Rock. Potential components of the project include: an environmental learning center, performing arts amphitheater, trails, outdoor interpretive facilities, picnic facilities, and entrance road relocation. All of these facilities are to be located on Federal lands. The four-mile

long Volksweg Trail Expansion (Red Rock Trail 4B), will connect the Cordova Center area with other Lake Red Rock facilities. The cost estimates for the Cordova Center development and Red Rock Trail 4B are \$35.6 million and \$7.7 million, respectively. That portion of the Cordova Center which is designated for use as the environmental learning center, is not eligible for cost sharing under current Corps regulations. Planning for appropriate recreational facilities is being conducted at 100% Federal expense. Design and construction of these facilities will require that a Project Partnership Agreement be signed and that a non-Federal cost share be provided.

Simon Estes Amphitheater Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements - A platform lift, designated wheelchair seating, ramp to the stage, and assistive listening devices were added to meet Department of Justice requirements. Construction is complete.

Summarized Financial Data

SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA:	CONSTRUCTION
Estimated Federal Cost	\$ 83,750,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$43,066,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$126,816,000
Allocation through FY 2008	\$29,130,000
Allocation for FY 2009 (Tentative)	\$,3,828,,000
Budget Request for FY 2010	TBD
Balance to Complete after FY 2010	TBD

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2008: Program has been restarting with the repeal the deauthorizing language in WRDA. The PPA for Des Moines River Front has been approved and is scheduled to be signed in September 2008.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2009: Not in the President's Budget. Carry over funds from 2008 will be used to complete preconstruction engineering and design activities for Fort Dodge Riverfront and Trails, initiate construction of the Des Moines Riverwalk, continue preconstruction engineering and design activities for Cordova Center, and continue construction of Red Rock Trail Segment 4B as described in the 2008 Annual Program Management Report .

Authority

CG - Construction General -- Public Law 99-88, Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1985, Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference accompanying the Conference Report for H.R. 2577; Section 203 of the Flood Control Act of 1958 as modified by Section 111 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1976; Section 102 of Public Law 99-500; Section 604 of WRDA 1986; Section 122 of Public Law 108-7, and Section 14221, FCE&E Act 2008.

Additional Information

The Environmental Learning Center and other components of Cordova Center at Lake Red Rock are not eligible to be constructed with federal funds under current Corps of Engineers regulations.

Continued Funding will allow the priority projects to move forward.

Project Manager Information

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