

ALONG THE GREENWAYS

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Your membership is really important. How important? Without our members, The Greenways wouldn't exist. We don't take that for granted, and in fact, we usually try to flaunt that we're a successful citizens' organization. We can act quickly and take opportunities that governmental agencies don't usually the luxury of. But even the most successful organization needs outside support, and we appreciate funding provided by the City of Hope and other agencies in this region.

Funding to Span Budget Shortfall

The current unfortunate situation with the City of Hope is that the city had been paying a third of our operating expenses in order for us to apply for and administer large grants through various sources to fulfill long-range plans. As much as we've penny-pinch and used all sources of funding wisely, no one could have predicted the current financial predicament.

The reduction in sales tax revenues has forced the city to cut back on their support of our organization. We need YOU to help sustain this great organization.

First Quarter Income

Donations	60,000
Memberships	25,000
Partnerships	225,000
Total	\$310,000

You can help by

- Participating in fundraising events
- Volunteering your time on improvement projects
- Recruiting friends and families to become members



Upcoming Events

Volunteer Workdays
Third Saturdays
(9am-noon)

Annual Fundraising
Donor
September 20
at Hope Country
Club

Outdoor Fitness
Festival
October 22-23
at City Park

Trail Update

The Greenways' largest land holding is the 45-mile long, 500-acre Southern Rail Trail corridor. Our partnership with the City of Hope and Baxter County Park Board and the Greenways maintenance crew made the Baxter County portion of the trail a joy to visit, whether on foot or on bike. However, the portion that resides in Jasper County, which represents 10 miles of trail, is a challenge to maintain. We are appreciative of the help we have, but it takes a lot of time and volunteers.

Fortunately, more help is on the way! Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a few improvements are now planned, including an asphalt surface from mile markers 30 to 40. We will asphalt the surface and develop a new trailhead at Washam School. The work will close the trail for a few days and should begin around May 1.

Strong spring storms hit several sections of the trail, making the surface rough. Surface repairs are scheduled for those areas as well. The storm tree debris has been removed and volunteers are working to fight back encroaching vegetation on the edges. We have an aggressive plan to remove problem trees this fall. Ongoing improvements continue on mile markers, bollard replacements, bridge identification signs, and road crossing safety. To learn how you can help with these efforts call (555) 123-4444.

Bike Advocates In Action

Our new committee on alternative transportation and bicycle advocacy is off and running with several initiatives. The latest is the completion of a bike commuter how-to booklet which picks up on the "Drive Less, Live More" campaign. This was funded by a grant from the Community Foundation of Baxter County, with writing and design by Greenways member Samuel Guccione. It's available at local bike shops and our office. Other projects include "Bike for Hope" and a bike initiative petition at local bike shops.

Committee members presented a petition last year to city council requesting greater consideration for bikes on our streets. The council seemed supportive of the petition and it might have a positive impact on future street projects. Thanks to all who signed the petition—please sign the new petition in bike shops now. Let us know if you'd like to join the advocacy committee.



Bike—Bus—Walk Week: September 11-15