

M I D - S O U T H R E G I O N A L
GREENPRINT

2016 Mid-Year Review

OVERVIEW:

The Greenprint Mid-Year Report provides an overview of the progress that has occurred over the past year related to implementation of Greenprint 2015/2040. The Greenprint plan has been adopted by 21 jurisdictions, endorsed by many organizations and businesses, and recognized for three prestigious planning awards. Many Greenprint-related projects have advanced and were showcased at the first two biannual Greenprint Summits.

In 2016, Greenprint coordination efforts have predominantly centered on drafting a long-term funding and administrative strategy to develop the recommended bicycle and pedestrian network within Shelby County. These efforts have laid the groundwork for (1) creating a regional coordination agency or organization; and (2) securing multi-year, private funding and 20-year dedicated public funding; two critically important short-term targets that will ultimately determine the long-term success of Greenprint implementation.

Part of this strategy involved developing a cost model to predict the estimated cost of the Greenprint network, based on the anticipated build quality of each of the recommended pathways and on environmental characteristics of the land area surrounding the recommended corridor routes. Analyzing the completion status of the network and subsequently generating cost estimates for various segments enabled new ways to prioritize the network, resulting in a development strategy that utilizes a phased approach to leverage existing investments and maximize benefits to the community. Ultimately, the funding and administrative strategy relies on participation from both the public and private sectors, and will require the support of many partners for it to succeed.

Another major effort was to increase community outreach efforts to spread awareness of the Greenprint plan. This involved creating a new volunteer group called Friends of the Greenprint, and working with these volunteers to attend community events and present at community meetings. Upwards of 20 presentations have already been given since March, and more are scheduled for the summer and into the fall. For more information about Friends of the Greenprint, or to schedule a presentation, visit www.MidSouthGreenprint.org/friends-of-the-greenprint/.

Lastly, Shelby County has had a major success in securing a \$60.4 million National Disaster Resilience Competition grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to fund three flood protection projects, which include the development of several important segments of the Greenprint network. The grant application was prepared using the Greenprint Plan as its guiding vision, demonstrating the potential value to Mid-South jurisdictions in using the Greenprint plan as a foundation for future related grant opportunities. More information about these projects can be found under Shelby County in the Recent Implementation Activity section and online at www.resilientshelby.com.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2011, Shelby County Government was awarded a \$2.6M grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to prepare the Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan (“Greenprint”). Over the course of the next three years, a consortium of more than 80 local jurisdictions, organizations, businesses, agencies and individuals worked together to develop the plan, under the guidance of the Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability. In February 2015, the final plan, *GREENPRINT 2015/2040*, was published and distributed to the public. Today, consortium partners are actively building out the proposed trail network and addressing many of the recommended targets for action. The Greenprint plan has received many commendations including:

- Winner of the 2015 Excellence in Sustainability Award for a Plan by the Sustainable Communities Division of American Planning Association
- Winner of the 2015 Outstanding Plan Award by the Tennessee Chapter of American Planning Association
- Winner of the 2015 Honor Award for Regional Planning by the Tennessee Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects

GREENPRINT ADOPTION PROCESS:

Greenprint adoption by the plan's represented jurisdictions demonstrates the community's commitment to implementation and authorizes responsible agencies to execute their actions. **As of July 1, 2016, Greenprint 2015/2040 has been formally adopted by 21 of 22 jurisdictions** including (in order of adoption):

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Shelby County, Tennessee | City of Lakeland, Tennessee |
| City of West Memphis, Arkansas | City of Piperton, Tennessee |
| City of Memphis, Tennessee | City of Sunset, Arkansas |
| Crittenden County, Arkansas | City of Southaven, Mississippi |
| DeSoto County, Mississippi | City of Braden, Tennessee |
| Town of Arlington, Tennessee | Town of Collierville, Tennessee |
| City of Hernando, Mississippi | City of Horn Lake, Mississippi |
| City of Millington, Tennessee | City of Gallaway, Tennessee |
| City of Germantown, Tennessee | City of Bartlett, Tennessee |
| Town of Walls, Mississippi | Fayette County, Tennessee |
| City of Olive Branch, Mississippi | |

Greenprint advocates will continue to encourage formal adoption of Greenprint by the remaining jurisdiction to demonstrate unified support for the plan across the Mid-South Region.

GREENPRINT SUMMIT:

On June 23, 2016, the second biannual Greenprint Summit was held at the Memphis Botanic Gardens in Memphis, Tennessee. **Nearly 200 Mid-South residents attended the event to learn more about the plan and the progress of the many related projects and initiatives.** The Summit featured three presentations from guest presenters former Mayor Karl Dean of Nashville, Tennessee, Sixpitch Founder Ryan Gravel of Atlanta, Georgia, and former Executive Director of Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, Laura Morris. A select group of local advocacy organizations also set up booths to interact with attendees and offer them new ways to get involved in their communities.

Fifteen organizations participated in the partner exhibition, including Shelby Farm Park Conservancy, Memphis Tilth, Memphis Parks Advocacy Group, Memphis City Beautiful, Knowledge Quest, Mid-South Greenprint, Bike-Walk Memphis, Wolf River Conservancy, Memphis Hightailers, WhereWeLiveMidSouth.org and WhereToGiveMidSouth.org, Our Grass Our Roots / Friends of Chelsea Greenline, Greater Memphis Greenline, and Friends of the Greenprint. The next Greenprint Summit is expected to take place November 2016. The exact date and time are still yet to be determined.

GREENPRINT PROJECT CERTIFICATION:

Local organizations and jurisdictions that are actively involved in Greenprint implementation can now be recognized for their contributions by certifying their projects, programs, and initiatives through the new Greenprint Project Certification Program. If a Greenprint Partner can demonstrate that their project addresses at least one of the Greenprint's recommended actions and relates to the larger vision of the plan, they are eligible to submit the project for certification through the online application at MidSouthGreenprint.org/certification. Certifying a project demonstrates commitment to the values and objectives promoted in the plan, and in some cases, may make a project more competitive for certain funding opportunities. **As of July 1, 2016, thirty-five projects have been 'Greenprint Certified'.** Most of these project descriptions can be found in the 'Recent Implementation Activity' section beginning on page 5.

SHORT-TERM TARGETS

The Mid-South Greenprint identifies 31 recommended actions to be completed in the first 5 years of Greenprint Implementation, 19 of which are targeted for completion by the end of 2016. **Of the targets set for 2015 and 2016, nine targets have been achieved, five are nearing completion, and five are still in progress.**

Targets for 2015/2016 include:

- Develop and implement a Complete Streets design manual for Memphis by 2015 (Complete)
- Create regional coordination agency or organization by 2015 (Nearing Completion)
- Establish or designate an organization to coordinate the promotion of green space across all healthcare programs by 2015 (In Progress)
- Increase the mode share of work commute trips made by bicycling, walking or transit within the region to 5% by 2015 (Complete)
- Create and implement educational programs for healthcare providers and school districts by 2016 (In Progress)
- Develop a regional food system assessment to address issues of access, economics, and food system sustainability by 2016 (Complete)
- Double the number of gardens on public school campuses by 2016 (Nearing Completion – Anticipated Fall 2017)
- Create a pilot program to address last mile connections by 2016 (Nearing Completion – Anticipated Fall 2016)
- Build a coalition of partners to initiate a housing energy efficiency program by 2016 (In Progress)
- Identify greatest sidewalk needs within 0.5 miles of Greenprint corridors and prioritize for repair or installation by 2016 (Nearing Completion)
- Establish a formal transportation management association (TMA) by 2016 (In Progress)
- Establish geotourism as a regional tourism subsector by 2016 (Complete)
- Create three native landscaping demonstration projects by 2016 (Complete)
- Expand regional geodatabase and establish data sharing platform by 2016 (Complete)
- Perform inventory of parks, greenways, and waterways access to assure equity by 2016 (In Progress)
- Convene a regional outreach council by 2016 (Complete)
- Grow regional consortium partnerships under identified or new coordinating agency or organization by 2016 (Nearing Completion)
- Publish advocacy toolkit in various formats by 2016 (Complete)
- Provide education on economic benefits and financing options for green infrastructure by 2016 (Complete)

GREENPRINT TRAIL NETWORK

During the drafting of the Greenprint Development proposal, a more accurate assessment of the Greenprint network development status was performed. Original estimates placing the recommended network at 499 miles of greenway trails and 198 miles of on-street connections has been adjusted slightly to 520 miles of greenway trails and 185 miles of on-street bicycle facilities. **As of July 1, 2016, more than 100 corridor miles have been completed, and nearly 80 additional miles have received some level of funding, meaning over 25% of the Greenprint network is either complete or in development:**

Completed Connections: These connections are complete and can be used today.

- Greenways: 59.5 miles / 519.6 miles = 11.5% of proposed greenways are complete.
- On-Street: 45.3 miles / 185.5 miles = 24.4% of proposed on-street connections are complete.
- TOTAL: 100.9 miles / 705.2 miles = 14.3% of all proposed corridors are complete.

Funded Connections: These connections have received some level of funding and are in the development process, but have not yet been completed.

- Greenways: 46.8 miles / 519.6 miles = 9.0% of proposed greenways have received funding.
- On-Street: 27.5 miles / 185.5 miles = 14.8% of proposed on-street connections have received funding.
- TOTAL: 78.3 miles / 705.2 miles = 11.1% of all proposed corridors have received funding.

Recommended Connections: These connections are recommended as part of the Greenprint plan, but have not yet received funding.

- Greenways: 413.3 miles / 519.6 miles = 79.5% of proposed greenways are still recommended.
- On-Street: 112.7 miles / 185.5 miles = 60.8% of proposed on-street connections are still recommended.
- TOTAL: 526.0 miles / 705.2 miles = 74.6% of all proposed corridors are still recommended.

RECENT IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY

The following projects, programs and initiatives are the efforts of Greenprint partner organizations and agencies. It is recommended that these entities submit these projects for Greenprint Certification at www.MidSouthGreenprint.org/certification.

Agricenter International

- **Agricenter Trail Enhancement Project:** The Agricenter Trail Enhancement Project will connect Shelby Farms to the Agricenter, which showcases the agricultural character of the region. The trail will ultimately lead to the Farmer's Market which is a cultural resource, and historic site as it is the original 1930s dairy barn from the penal farm. The paving of the trail will use regionally-accepted criteria for linking the network of greenspaces.



Arlington, Town of:

- **Loosahatchie Greenway:** Developed as a sub-planning project of the Mid-South Greenprint, the Town of Arlington identified two phases of trail along the Loosahatchie River. The first phase includes approximately one mile of trail, 3,000 feet of boardwalk, and a trailhead and is estimated to cost \$1.2 million. The second phase includes a path south to Highway 70 and north to the river along Collierville Arlington Road of less than one mile and a trailhead and is estimated to cost \$500,000. The Town has included in its CIP the purchase of land for phase 1, and searching for grants to further the project.
- **Depot Square Community Garden:** The Town is constructing a community garden in our Historic Depot Square on a 1.2-acre parcel. The gardens will include raised beds where residents can plant vegetables. The Arlington Parks Department has worked with area Master Gardeners on the plans, and will be working with area schools for educational opportunities for students on the benefits of gardening.
- **Memphis-Arlington Bike-Ped Trail:** The Memphis-Arlington Bike-Ped Trail is a 0.59 mile extension of an existing trail, which currently ends at the Arlington Sports Complex. The most recent construction has extended the trail from the Sports Complex eastward, providing a connection between the Arlington Elementary School, and Arlington Middle School. In May 2015, The Board of Mayor and Aldermen awarded a contract for the construction of a portion of the shared use path along Memphis-Arlington. A grant from TDOT was also received for construction of this project, along with matching funds from the Town of Arlington. This project has now been completed.



Bartlett, City of

- **Fletcher Creek Greenway:** The Fletcher Creek Greenway runs alongside Fletcher Creek, connecting Memphis and Bartlett. The total project will have a multi-use trail running from Highway 64 on the south to Brunswick Road on the north following Fletcher Creek, approximately 4.4 miles. City of Bartlett is seeking to fund 80% with Federal Dollars and 20% local dollars. The total project cost is estimated to be \$6 million, so the local match is \$1.2 million. Phase 1 consists of construction of 2 trailheads and construction of the trail from US 64 to Yale road. All right-of-way has been purchased and the project is under final design. Fletcher Creek Greenway phase 1 will start construction August 1st with completion around January 1.

Big River Strategic Initiative (BRSI):

- **Big River Crossing (Harahan Bridge Project):** Big River Crossing is the centerpiece of the \$39M Main Street to Main Street Multi-Modal Connector project (“Main to Main”) that will create bike paths and walkways from Uptown Memphis to West Memphis, Arkansas. Construction is nearing completion on the Harahan Bridge and on the greenway that will connect the bridge to West Memphis. A private donor is working independently to light the bridge. Big River Crossing’s grand opening will take place October 22nd.
- **Big River Trail:** Big River Strategic Initiative (BRSI) has a memorandum of understanding with the St. Francis Levee District to develop a soft surface trail system, 73 miles from Marion to Marianna Arkansas. BRSI received \$100K Economic Development Grant from the State of Arkansas to build 48 pass-through gates on the levee for bike-pedestrian traffic and a commitment from the USACE for materials to resurface the levee road with fine gravel. The St. Francis Levee District has committed resources to install the fine gravel on the existing levee roads. 50 custom bike gates have been installed to ease bicycle-pedestrian access. The ultimate goal is a levee top trail that runs from St. Louis to New Orleans. A soft opening will occur on October 22nd, with a grand opening occurring in the spring of 2017.
- **National Geographic Geotourism:** BRSI has raised \$500K thus far to establish a Geotourism zone along the entire Mississippi River Valley. This project establishes a geotourism map and website for the region. Any small or medium size business can submit their info to be posted on the National Geographic Website. Partners include National Geographic, National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi River Parkway Commission, MS River Cities and Towns Initiative. This Project will have a global launch in Natchez, Mississippi on September 15th in concurrence with the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative annual conference, and the Mississippi River Parkway Commission annual meeting.



Bike-Walk Tennessee

- **Bike-Walk Memphis Launch:** The statewide nonprofit organization Bike Walk Tennessee (BWTN) launched a local Bike Walk Memphis (BWM) program. As Memphis undertakes some of the most ambitious, progressive bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the country, BWM believes the success of these projects depends on the participation of a diverse and engaged constituency. Through advocacy and neighborhood engagement, BWM aims to strengthen and empower a community of people who support projects that enhance bicycling and walking in Memphis; to build a city that people of all ages can safely enjoy by bicycle or on foot; and to create a culture of biking and walking that is inclusive, active, and engaged.

Binghamton Development Corporation (BDC)

- **Hampline:** The Hampline provides safe access for people bicycling and walking in Binghamton and directly connects the Shelby Farms Greenline to Overton Park. TDOT review of the Hampline plans are complete and the City of Memphis will soon announce the bid process for construction contractors for the western stretch of Broad Ave and the Tillman Street section, which will connect the already finished segment on Broad and the trail into Overton Park across East Parkway. Construction on these segments, funded through the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant program, is scheduled to begin in early 2017.



Clean Memphis

- **High Profile Clean-Up Projects:** Clean Memphis utilizes community service workers to perform monthly cleanup 'sweeps' in high-profile areas of the city like the Civil Rights Museum, Sun studios, Stax, the Medical Center, the Aerotropolis, and several parks and green spaces. Clean Memphis organizes cleanups along the Shelby Farms Greenline, future Greenline areas, and the Wolf River and its tributaries. Clean Memphis has grown this program to four crews that also include cleanup of major streets, intersections, exit ramps and key economic corridors for the city. The goal is not only to improve the overall look of these areas but to also prevent litter from entering our storm water system and pollution our watersheds.
- **Sustainable Schools Challenge:** Clean Memphis launched a local sustainability certification for schools called the Sustainable Schools Challenge. This comprehensive certification process allows schools to be recognized for reducing their environmental impacts related to energy, water and solid waste. The certification also focuses on health and nutrition, gardens, the importance of parks and recreation and improved environmental literacy. Clean Memphis also focuses on watershed health and creates service opportunities around stream restoration projects.
- **Support existing community partnerships and zone collaboratives:** Clean Memphis utilizes a "Zones" concept to organize neighborhoods to focus on cleanup, blight, beautification, improved curbside recycling and energy efficiency. They are the lead community partner in the Memphis Clean by 2019 Moon Mission to make Memphis one of the cleanest cities by 2019. Their goal is to expand the community volunteer base to include area schools, churches, and businesses, and assists neighborhood leaders in identifying code enforcement issues and working with other agencies for resolutions. Clean Memphis also provides or secures additional resources to assist community groups in cleanup and reduction of blight.
- **Project Green Fork:** Now under the Clean Memphis umbrella, PGF is a local six step certification for restaurants to reduce their environmental impacts with a focus on locally owned restaurants.



Community Development Council of Greater Memphis & Livable Memphis

- **Complete Streets Manual:** The Memphis Complete Streets Project Delivery Manual, completed in 2015, was adopted into the Memphis and Shelby County Unified Development Code in the first half of this year. The final component of the Manual, a Roadway Regulatory Plan that considers street and land use characteristics in assigning "typologies" to all streets in Memphis, will be completed this fall. The Regulatory Plan will help public officials and the private sector easily link the location of infrastructure and development projects to their appropriate context in the Manual for design guidance on accommodating all users of the public right of way.
- **Addressing Blight:** Community Development Council of Greater Memphis, through their standing Policy Committee and partner organizations including Binghamton Development Corporation continues to work on public policies to address blight. This ongoing policy and advocacy work relates specifically to the Greenprint's short-term target of promoting state and local legislation, incentives, and policies to increase infill development by 2018.
- **A Citizen's Guide to Improving Your Park:** In the first half of 2016, Livable Memphis, in partnership with the City of Memphis Division of Parks and Neighborhoods, published "A Citizen's Guide to Improving Your Park." The guide builds on experiences of parks advocates and park planning efforts to promote opportunities for residents to get involved in maintaining and improving their neighborhood parks and green spaces. The guide shares ideas and practical information for park improvement projects; provides tools and resources to be a park advocate; and demystifies the process of navigating government agencies.



The Community Foundation of Greater Memphis

- **WHEREweLIVEmidSouth.org and WHEREtoGIVEmidSouth.org:**

WHEREweLIVEmidSouth.org and WHEREtoGIVEmidSouth.org are a pair of websites that help citizens understand Memphis better and invest in nonprofits that are improving their community. These websites were developed by the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, with the support and collaboration of many other philanthropic organizations, corporations, and nonprofit partners. Each website can be used on its own, and each contains a wealth of interesting and useful information. However, when they are used together, people can unlock the potential of their neighborhoods and local nonprofit organizations in a much more powerful way.



Community LIFT

- **Frayser Town Center Plan:** The Downtown Frayser plan addresses a priority for the community to create a central gathering space. Through the sub-planning grant from Mid-South Regional Greenprint, consultant Ray Brown Urban Design and Universal Commercial Real Estate LLC were hired to develop this concept in conjunction with Frayser stakeholders. Several engagement sessions were held, in addition to planning, urban design, and real estate development services that helped determine the optimal location, size and land uses for a business improvement district for the Frayser neighborhood, to be known as The New Downtown Frayser. This plan was presented to the City Council around the same time the Raleigh Springs mall redevelopment was presented. They were advised to wait until the next budget cycle to make requests for City investments to carry out the Downtown Frayser plan.



- **Slim's Backyard Buildout:** The Memphis Slim Collaboratory (Collaborative + Laboratory) is the first physical development of Community LIFT's Memphis Music Magnet @ Soulsville USA plan, an economic and community development strategy for Soulsville. As one of the physical amenities included in the Memphis Music Magnet plan, the former home of the late Memphis Slim, an internationally renowned bluesman and pianist, has been transformed into a gathering place for musicians and music industry professionals to collaborate and create music. As an extension of the Slim House, Community LIFT and partners transformed the blighted backyard into a pocket park that doubles as outdoor performance and community gathering space. The newly completed outdoor space will host music related programming and other events for the historic Soulsville USA neighborhood and the larger Memphis community.



Crosstown, LLC

- **Crosstown Greenline Connector:** This connector is an urban pedestrian and bike trail in Memphis designed to extend the existing Vollintine & Evergreen Greenline, once the L & N Railroad that served the historic Sears Distribution Center, southwest from its current termination point north of North Parkway, across the railway bridge and North Watkins, through the Crosstown Development Project site. The Crosstown Greenline Connector will provide a better, safer connection from surrounding neighborhoods to the resources available in the newly renovated Sears building, including an art gallery, a public high school, and a wellness center that provides healthcare for the working uninsured. The design includes rail bridge acquisition, abatement, lighting for aesthetics and safety, bike lanes, walking paths, exercise equipment, and seating. The cost to implement the design is estimated between \$150,000 and \$200,000.



DeSoto County

- **Native Landscaping:** Native plantings have been completed along wildlife openings at ARK trails.
- **Arkabutla Lake & Olive Branch Trails:** In partnership with the North MS Trails Association, 10 miles of trail have been installed at Arkabutla Lake and Olive Branch.
- **Horn Lake Creek Greenway:** Developed as a sub-planning project of the Mid-South Greenprint, DeSoto County Greenways has identified the Horn Lake Creek Greenway as a priority for greenways development in DeSoto County. The project is organized into two phases: Southaven to Highway 51 (1 mile) and Horn Lake Road to Highway 51 (2 miles). Preliminary estimates suggest each phase would cost approximately \$1.5 million to complete or \$3 million overall.
- **E-911 locator signs** - E-911 signs have been installed in all County parks, North Outlet Nature Trail and at the ARK trails.
- **Hernando DeSoto River Park:** Improvements, including an overlook, trails, interpretive signage and paving the road and parking area are scheduled for 2015-2016.
- **Geotourism:** DeSoto County Greenways is working with DeSoto County Tourism to establish geotourism as part of regional tourism by actively promoting our County's scenic byways, cultural, historical, greenways, parks and recreational venues.
- **ARK Trails-** Construction started in May for the new education center at the ARK trails. Interpretive signage has been installed along the 2 mile trail that tells the history of the land, identify the wildlife and environment setting that will add to the experience of hikers. Stretch Stations with QR Codes have been installed. Future plans include an ADA Handicapped Accessible Trail.
- **First Contact Historical Trail** - This project consists of the design, layout and installation of interpretive signage, kiosks, educational materials and outreach efforts for the First Contact Historical Trail that traces Europeans first encounter with Native Americans as Hernando DeSoto's party crossed DeSoto County across the Hills through the Delta and Mississippi River and how the land has changed over time. The project will accomplish this by encouraging preservation, providing interpretation, fostering education, and promoting economic development along DeSoto County roadways.



Explore Bike Share

- **Explore Bike Share:** Explore Bike Share is a community driven effort committed to providing a world class transportation option to Memphians and visitors alike. Bike share will advance the city on multiple fronts, from sharing culture to improving health. The system will have approximately 600 bikes and 60 stations "inside the loop" in Memphis. Stations will be located throughout Memphis, making trips to a park, greenline, school, or grocery store shorter than walking or taking public transit. Efforts to bring bike share to Memphis are continuing to move forward. Explore Bike Share has already raised half of the \$4 million required to launch and is on pace to meet its funding goals for a 2017 introduction. By providing a network of bicycles that can be rented on-demand from stations located around the city, it changes everything about urban transportation. It's not only a fun, healthy way to experience Memphis, but also a means to improve Memphis' overall physical, environmental, social, and financial health.



Friends of the Fairgrounds

- **Community Planning:** Friends of the Fairgrounds is an inclusive group of community members who are shaping the future of the Fairgrounds. They are developing a sustainable plan to lift up the city by reimagining this vital public land as a fair & equitable space for all Memphians to learn, connect, grow, explore, and play.

Germantown, City of

- **Germantown Greenway System Phase VI:** This project constructed a 10' wide section of greenway trail adjacent to the Wolf River and running parallel to Wolf River Parkway from a new trailhead and comfort station across from the Riverwoods State Natural Area to a new public access point and trailhead at Cameron Brown Park located adjacent to the traffic light at Wolf River Blvd and Farmington. Greenway users now enjoy over 4 miles of scenic paved trails along the Wolf River in Germantown with restroom amenities, rest stops and trailhead parking. A journey from Cameron Brown Park in Germantown to mid-town Memphis can be taken without using accessing public roads and automobile traffic. The project was started in February, 2015 and completed in April, 2016.



Innovate Memphis

- **Commute Options Initiative:** Innovate Memphis launched a Commute Options Travel Demand Management Initiative in 2016. Commute Options works with Memphis-area employers to help employees and students take transit, walk, rideshare and bicycle to work and school. As the project ramps up, Commute Options will provide outreach and incentives, and coordinate with employers and transportation service providers to expand options. The initiative will start with four to six large employers and expand throughout Memphis after the pilot period. The project is funded with a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) federal grant and a local match. Innovate Memphis and its I-Team was formerly the Mayor's Institute for Excellence in Government.

Kitchen Community

- **Learning Gardens:** The Kitchen Community (TKC) is a non-profit organization that builds learning gardens in schools across the country. TKC's regional Memphis team is carrying out the initiative to build 100 learning gardens in the next two years at Shelby County, Achievement School District and Jubilee Catholic Schools. Learning gardens are outdoor classrooms that create experiential learning opportunities for students, allow students to build a stronger relationship to fresh food, and add to the aesthetics of school yards with accessible garden designs. Once a school receives a learning garden, the Memphis education team provides ongoing educational support to schools through seasonal planting days at schools, follow-up trainings at schools, and a workshops series providing teachers with the skills and knowledge to maintain their learning gardens and utilize them as outdoor classrooms. Today, TKC will have materials that show their design process, and also demonstrate the content and methods used for conducting teacher workshops throughout the school year.
- **Nutrition and Health Curriculum Track:** TKC is providing Nutrition and Health Curriculum to schools starting in the fall of 2016. TKC has partnered with Common Threads, an industry leader in nutrition and health education, and adapted the Small Bites curriculum to provide elementary and middle school students with a unique opportunity to engage in nutrition-based education while also fostering garden-based education in the Learning Garden. This curriculum will support the following student outcomes: increasing the knowledge and likability of fruits and vegetables as well as increasing academic achievement.



Knowledge Quest

- **Green Leaf Learning Farm Expansion:** Knowledge Quest has expanded their growing capacity through the installation of 34 permanent raised beds. Their six-year-old operation has been an USDA Certified Organic micro-farm for four of those years. They recently expanded their organic certification to include 10 of the 34 raised beds, flower beds, and their propagation hoop house which were formerly not certified organic. 100% of the operation is now USDA Certified Organic. They received infrastructure support from the Memphis Grizzlies Foundation and they have completed Phase I of their three phase build out. The expansion includes an outdoor pavilion for classrooms and gathering space; expanded propagation area; a 15-station irrigation system; accessible pathways and an expanded flower garden.
- **Residences of Green Leaf:** Knowledge Quest has begun the renovation of the Residences of Green Leaf through the Memphis Green Communities Grant. The 10-one bedroom apartment complex is nearly sealed with a new roof, windows and doors and has been fully gutted. The renovation is a 'sustainable-build' project and will be Enterprise Green certified.
- **Green Leaf Packhouse:** Community Foundation's Give365, Valero Refinery, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee and Shelby County Commissioner Steve Basar contributed toward the renovation and re-purposing of the former 'shotgun-style' house into the Green Leaf Packhouse. Grand Opening in early August.
- **Green Leaf Playground:** Knowledge Quest partnered with national playground KaBOOM!, 100 employees of Blue Cross/Blue Shield and 150 community residents to build a magnificent playground and associated play spaces including a play stage, music wall, a Little Free Library, bike rack, storage bins, garden box seating trellis, and recycle/garbage bins. The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee sponsored playground contributes to Knowledge Quest's goal of expanding neighborhood greenspace for families to gather and play while promoting the fitness goals of Green Leaf Learning Farm.
- **Gardening Programs:** Knowledge Quest is partnering with the education division of Agricenter and University of Tennessee's 4-H program to support the education pipeline of Knowledge Quest's PreK-12 student participants toward careers in agriculture, sustainability, and other STEM fields.
- **Jay Uiberall Culinary Academy:** The culinary academy, a signature program of Green Leaf, recently had nine of its students to enter the Regional ProStart Competition for their first time. The Business Team placed 3rd and the Culinary Team placed 4th! There are 30 ProStart Kitchens in the State of Tennessee. The Culinary team featured a "Walking In Memphis" menu and the Business Team an Afro-fusion themed restaurant and associated business plan including restaurant renderings.
- **Green Leaf Collaboration:** On behalf of Green Leaf Learning Farm, Knowledge Quest has joined the Parks Advocacy Steering Committee, the Ag Education Roundtable and the Post-Secondary Ag & Food Roundtable. Knowledge Quest Executive Director, Marlon Foster, was recently voted in as a member of the Agricenter Board of Directors.



Memphis Bioworks Foundation

- **Alternative Fuels Analysis:** Memphis Bioworks has led an analysis on the feasibility of alternative fuels in order to inform fleet manager decisions on a future transition to alternative vehicles. The next step is to identify a specific municipal fleet for a pilot project in which a small sample of vehicles will be chosen within a particular vehicle category as an experiment group to demonstrate the effectiveness for an identified alternative fuel. For example, a one year pilot project to test operating costs and emissions reductions for ten light duty passenger trucks (general maintenance trucks) is estimated to cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000 including incremental costs of replacement vehicles, data acquisition systems to track comparative outcome data, and personnel to conduct analysis.

Memphis, City of

- **Memphis Heritage Trail Green Infrastructure Retrofit:** The Memphis Heritage Trail Green Streets Retrofit Initiative will supplement the trail's cultural components with environmental solutions to help improve the quality of life in the metropolitan downtown Memphis area. Environmental solutions recommended in the street retrofit are stormwater management, construction of a pedestrian-friendly streetscape, traffic calming solutions, and locations for public spaces and green infrastructure. There are three segments to the street retrofit, along Martin Luther King Boulevard (formerly Linden Avenue) from Main Street to Danny Thomas Boulevard. The estimated cost of the retrofit is \$6.2 million.
- **Universal Life Insurance Building Renovation:** The historic Universal Life Insurance Company Building at 480 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. is set for a \$6.2 million renovation, with completion projected for August 2017. The building renovation is expected to generate more than 200 construction jobs. The installation of a 50 kilowatt solar system will include a "green collar" job training program for local residents. The Universal Life Insurance Building will serve as office space for minority businesses, including Memphis Office of Resources & Enterprise (MORE), Black Business Association (BBA), Memphis Area Minority Contractors Association (MAMCA), Contractor Assistance Program (CAP), Small Business Administration (SBA), Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), and Renaissance Business Center (RBC).
- **Chelsea Greenline:** The Chelsea Greenline is a project that will convert an abandoned rail corridor approximately 2.6 miles long into a greenway through north mid-town, connecting residential, commercial, and employment areas. The trail would begin one block from Buckman Laboratories on the east and Washington Park in the Uptown area. Acquisition/easement consultant selection is underway by the City of Memphis. Approximately \$1.5 million is currently included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with approximately \$2 million needed in construction funds. Greater Memphis Greenline is working in partnership to create several public engagement opportunities as the implementation process moves forward over the next four years.



Memphis Light Gas and Water

- **Alternative Energy Projects:** MLGW is spearheading several projects involving compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG) and landfill gas to offset the use of more polluting gasoline and diesel. On average, CNG is 33 to 50 percent cheaper per gasoline gallon equivalent (gge) than regular gasoline. Pioneering the opening of a CNG station demonstrates MLGW's leadership in providing customers alternative fuels options. MLGW has an LNG storage facility which allows for the storage of gas during the summer periods of low usage and then as a reserve during winter peak periods. The facility stores 300,000 bbls. (Equivalent to one billion cubic feet) in above-ground storage tanks. Lastly, the new North Shelby landfill program provides methods to clean, enhance, and compress landfill gas in order to provide pipeline quality gas to the MLGW system.
- **Native Grass Planting at Kennedy Park:** Memphis Light Gas and Water (MLGW) has planted 13 acres of Electric Transmission ROW in Kennedy Park with species of native warm season grasses (NWSG) and native wildflower species. This effort began with herbicide application in October, 2015, and additional herbicide application and planting of seeds and plants in the spring 2016. This replanted area creates an area more beneficial to local wildlife and pollinators, and it will result in lower ROW maintenance expense for MLGW. It should also serve as a pilot for other similar efforts. On Thursday, June 30, a group of 20 students and volunteers from Memphis Business Academy, Clean Memphis and Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLGW) spent the morning replanting a utility right of way with wildflowers and native grasses. The high school students set out 200 seedlings of several wildflower species in the more visible area of MLGW's linear meadow in John F. Kennedy Park; 4577 Raleigh-LaGrange Rd. The week prior, workers using a seed drill planted the area with wildflower and native grass seeds.



Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization

- **Bicycle/Pedestrian Count Pilot Program:** The Memphis MPO was one of ten MPOs around the country to be selected for a grant from the Federal Highway Administration to establish a continuous bike/pedestrian count program. With these funds, the MPO will purchase automated devices that can count passing pedestrians and bicycles. The data collected through this program will assist the MPO and local governments in their efforts to improve and expand the regional pedestrian and bicycle network.
- **Livability 2040: Regional Transportation Plan:** A 20-year, comprehensive plan for all elements of the Memphis MPO regional transportation network, including roads, public transportation, bicycle facilities, pedestrian facilities, and freight infrastructure. The plan is in the final public review phase. The plan embraces the livability principles to ensure that the planning process cultivates and sustains livable communities.
- **2014 Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan:** A Plan intended to identify opportunities for enhancing bicycle and pedestrian travel. The recommendations should be used as a guide for local jurisdictions in taking advantage of such opportunities. The Plan relies on four main goals to identify methods for improving bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure including Safety, Connectivity, Accessibility and Mode Shift. These goals were used to perform a comprehensive analysis which resulted in a composite map displaying levels of corridor need to improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Memphis MPO region. The Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan will serve as the bicycle and pedestrian component of the Memphis MPO's Regional Transportation Plan.

Memphis Tilth

- **Memphis Tilth:** GrowMemphis has joined Urban Farms, Bring it! Food Hub, The Cannery, and Memphis Center for Food and Faith, to become a food system umbrella organization named Memphis Tilth.

Mid-South Greenways Alliance

- **911 Signage:** Through coordination between the regional 911 Offices, Police, and parks and local greenways organizations the Mid-South Greenways Alliance has created a unified, passive safety and security system. By viewing the signs, as they have “911” prominently displayed, users have an increased sense of safety and security, knowing that help is a phone call away. As a neutral convener of parks and open space organizations throughout the region, Mid-South Greenways is coordinating the efforts of multiple organizations for this project, including but not limited to Shelby County 911, Shelby Farms Park, City of Germantown, City of Memphis, Greater Memphis Greenline, and others.
- **Public Bike Repair Stands in Cooper Young:** MidSouth Greenways Alliance is filling a support role in this Neighbor-led initiative to install public bicycle repair stands in Cooper Young. We have the support of the Cooper Young Community Association (CYCA), Cooper Young Business Association (CYBA), and Revolutions Community Bike Shop. When completed, this project will have installed two public bicycle repair stands in the Cooper Young Neighborhood.
- **Disaster Relief Trials:** Disaster Relief Trials (DRT) is a Disaster Drill in the form of a cargo-bike competition simulating a Day 3 Supply Run. Any type of bicycle / trailer / backpack / bag combination can be used. Participants will be given a map and the locations of 6 checkpoints at the start of the event. Mid-South Greenways Alliance has teamed up with Bike Walk Memphis and the Shelby County Office of Preparedness to highlight the connectivity of our bicycle infrastructure, showcase the usability of bicycles, and generate a list of able volunteers ready to assist in a time of need.



Millington, City of

- **Millington Greenway Plan Phase I:** The City of Millington requested grant funding for phase 1 of the Millington Greenways Plan, a long-range plan for connecting 20 miles of greenway throughout the City of Millington. Phase I will connect multiple, single family residential neighborhoods, low income subsidized apartments and a senior living community to area grocery, retail, childcare centers, schools and public spaces including USA Stadium Complex, Lions Park, Baker Community Center and Millington Farmers' Market with connections to Veterans Parkway. Phase I implementation includes 3 uniformed trailheads with a bike rack, 2 benches, 1 trash receptacle, a map of the Millington Greenprint and its connection to the Mid-South Regional Greenprint, 1 bottle filler / water fountain / pet bowl combination, solar powered lighting and phone charging station. Trailheads will be located at USA Stadium, Lions Park and Millington Farmers' Market. Trail will be six (6) feet wide, concrete or asphalt and create a safe, ADA accessible access throughout and provide ease of access to multi-generational populations to area events, activity centers, shopping, schools, childcare and jobs. It is important to note that NSA Mid-South, one of the largest employers in Shelby County is already connected through trails to Veterans Parkway.
- **Discovery Nature Park:** The City of Millington submitted an application for the 2016 LPRF Grant Cycle to develop the area known as the Millington Farmers Market, a million dollar development project, into a multi-generational, fully accessible, interactive park. The City expects to know if the grant will be awarded by September 2016.
- **Greenprint for Resiliency:** Shelby County was awarded a federal grant for disaster resiliency in the amount of \$60,455,000. \$29 million of that grant will be spent on the Big Creek Project in Millington. The project is designed for flood mitigation, but also includes increased amenities, green spaces, trails and other recreation. The project was to be completed within 3 years.
- **Navy Road Streetscape Phase II:** The Nave Road Streetscape project includes side walk repairs, handicapped ramps, upgrade of pedestrian signal equipment at all intersections and shared bike lanes on both sides, with ADA compliance throughout the entire project. Project is approved and in NEPA phase of construction.
- **Raleigh Millington Bridge Replacement Project:** This project includes 8 foot raised Bike / Ped Path on both sides of bridge. Construction will begin in spring 2017, currently in NEPA stage of construction.



Mississippi River Corridor TN

- **CCC Mississippi River Camp, Restoration Plan at Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park:** The MRCT was awarded a Contract in 2015 by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to create a Restoration Plan for the historic camp. Built in 1933, the camp has been closed for the past fourteen years. In partnership with the University of Memphis, Assistant Professor Antonio Raciti, and graduate students from the Department of City & Regional Planning, the recently released Restoration Plan (May 2016) recommends and details a complete refurbishment of the site, including an Assembly Hall & kitchen, Swimming Pool, out buildings and approximately 23 cabins. Implementation of the Plan would allow the public to enjoy this wonderful group camp asset once again. MRCT is planning to launch a capital campaign in 2017 to raise the funds needed to restore this historic landmark in Shelby County, only 20 minutes north of downtown Memphis. <https://umdrive.memphis.edu/araciti/public/Final%20Draft.pdf>
- **Exhibit & Information Kiosk at TDOT Visitors Center (Riverside Drive at I-40, Memphis, TN):** Officials from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development have contracted with the MRCT to proceed with the design/construction of a new Exhibit and Kiosk. The exhibit will feature outdoor recreation opportunities and unique cultural amenities in the region. The exhibit will feature the Great River Road – National Scenic Byway and Trail and a multitude of outdoor recreational and cultural amenities in the region. Additionally, one side will contain an anti-litter campaign and graphics about environmental issues affecting the river and its water quality.

Our Grass, Our Roots

- **Friends of Chelsea Greenline:** Our Grass Our Roots is a grassroots, non-profit movement to assist in transforming the North Memphis neighborhood into an economically sustainable, community focused, cultural capital that will be the grounds for fighting gentrification and citizen displacement, involving the community, structures and businesses already present, and nurturing the individuals within the community to help make Memphis a better place. OGOR has begun forming a new group called Friends of Chelsea Greenline to give North Memphis residents a strong, projected voice in the use, sustenance, and community connections involved with the future 2.5 mile Chelsea Greenline. Stretching from Chelsea and Evergreen all the way to Washington Park, the Chelsea Greenline will prove influential on the residents of North Memphis. FCG will ensure that all coming influences will be as productive and inclusive as possible for North Memphis residents. FCG will also work to address the needs of future facilities, greenline usage, greenline security, trash removal, community events, education, fundraising, community connections, and publicity.

Overton Park Conservancy

- **Poplar/Cooper Entrance:** A new bike/pedestrian connector trail is scheduled to be designed in 2016 to connect the intersection of Poplar at Cooper with the park entrance at Veterans Plaza Drive, and will extend west to the park entrance at Veteran's Plaza Drive, providing better access from the MATA stop at Poplar Avenue and Cooper Street. A second crosswalk and pedestrian-activated light will be added on the west side of the Poplar/Cooper intersection. The Conservancy has secured the required 20% matching funds for this project, and the City of Memphis is moving forward with the plans for this project.
- **North Parkway Sidewalk:** The sidewalk adjacent to the Zoo on North Parkway has been repaired. The City has also installed on-street parking, adding about 100 on-street parking spaces that can be used by Zoo visitors, as well as a bike lane along that section connecting cyclists to and through Overton Park.
- **Parking and Traffic Planning:** Overton Park Conservancy (OPC) issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) on November 5, 2015 for professional assistance in developing a Parking & Traffic Plan for Overton Park and each of the institutions housed within the park. A team of consultants was selected and following a robust public input period, the plan was completed in early 2016. The plan identifies opportunities to improve multi-modal mobility and access into and within Overton Park. Several of the recommendations from this plan are being implemented or planned for the near future. OPC sees this effort as the first step in a park-wide master planning process.



Roots Memphis

- **Roots Memphis Urban Farm:** Roots is a growing cooperative of young and beginning farmers producing clean and ethical food. Roots produces an assorted variety of vegetables and flowers and currently supports a growing CSA, with pick-up and delivery locations throughout town.
- **Roots Memphis Farm Academy:** A farmer incubator program that trains and launches new, sustainable farmers in the Memphis region by combining sustainable farm skills training and small farm business management classes with an incubation process that connects graduates to land, financing, markets, and ongoing technical assistance and consultation.

Shelby County

- **Disaster Resilience:** A series of three storm systems in April 2011 caused significant damage in Shelby County. Due to the severity of the damages, Shelby County was identified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as Tennessee's most impacted area. These three events resulted in Presidentially Disaster Declarations and serve as the basis for the County's eligibility to participate in the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) – a national competition for \$1 billion for activities that advance resilience efforts in states, territories, and local jurisdictions. Building upon the significant efforts that have taken place since the disaster – most notably the Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan – Shelby County developed a plan for how to address remaining unmet needs and account for evolving risks while creating a more resilient county, better prepared to respond to and recover from future disasters. In 2016, Shelby County Government was notified that it will receive a \$60.4 million grant from the NDRC to address three areas hardest hit in 2011: (1) flood protection, recreational amenities, and urban agriculture along Big Creek in Millington, benefitting low to moderate income residents and the U.S. Naval Support Activity Command Center; (2) flood protection, recreational amenities, and connectivity through greenways and complete streets to increase access to economic opportunity in Wolf River communities of Memphis; and (3) flood protection, vacant lot remediation, food production, and community programs to increase economic and social capital in South Cypress Creek in Southwest Memphis. Each of these projects involves connecting greenway infrastructure identified on the Greenprint network in a manner that provides long-term resilience.



Shelby Farms Park Conservancy

- **Heart of the Park:** Heart of the Park is a visionary reimagining of Patriot Lake - a well-loved but ecologically dysfunctional lake in the center of the Park, which was created when dirt was needed to cap a nearby landfill- and the area surrounding the lake's edge. The Heart of the Park is opening in September 2016 and will soon become a vibrant and diverse community hub, an environmental teaching tool, an important part of the business plan to sustain the Park, and a gathering place for health and recreation, relaxation and big water adventure. Renovations include 1000 new trees, a new visitor center, a restaurant, the second geothermal system in the city, an event center, boat rental kiosk, water play, and much more. Shelby Farms Park Conservancy started fundraising in 2008, completed its \$70M capital campaign in 2015, and hosted a groundbreaking event at the end of April 2015. The opening in September will open the gates to the largest renovation project Shelby Farms Park will ever see at one time.
- **Shelby Farms Greenline:** In 2016, the Shelby Farms Greenline was extended 4 miles east of Shelby Farms Park. Shelby County funded the trail expansion through a Multimodal Access Grant grant, with a local match, and funded an innovative crossing at Germantown Parkway with a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant. The Greenline extension opened in June 2016 and is now a 10.65 mile urban trail connecting Midtown Memphis to Shelby Farms Park and beyond in to Cordova, TN. Managed and operated by the nonprofit Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, the trail is an incredible community asset that provides new opportunities for recreation, exercise, togetherness, healthy activity, commuting and more.
- **The ACCESS Project on Shelby Farms Greenline:** In 2016, Shelby Farms Park Conservancy (SFPC) worked with neighbors to bring the ACCESS project closer to being a physical reality. SFPC's ACCESS Project targets three gaps in connectivity along the Greenline- at Perkins Rd, Appling Rd. and Gameday Baseball- and was awarded Greenprint Certification in 2016 for furthering the green network in the region. Two of the three ACCESS Projects were completely funded in 2016: The Perkins + Appling Access Projects. Funds were raised with the help of the community through IOBY (In Our BackYard) campaigns, private donations and grants from both local foundations and Shelby County. SFPC expects to complete construction on both of these projects by the end of 2017.



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

- **Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park:** Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is a 13,476-acre hardwood bottomland area bordering the mighty Mississippi River 13 miles north of Memphis featuring mature Bald Cypress and Tupelo swamp. Most of the facilities are on top of the majestic Chickasaw Bluffs that rise from the bottomlands and are covered with large oaks, American beech, hickory and sweet gum. The park offers activities focused on the nature and beauty of the park. Meeman-Shelby Forest offers more than 20 miles of hiking trails that wind throughout the park.

Vollintine Evergreen Community Association

- **V&E Greenline Entrances, Street Crossings, and Stationhouse Walkway:** Consultant Ritchie Smith Associates completed the construction drawings and submitted them to the City of Memphis, which *de facto* approved the drawings. The proposed public improvements include concrete wheelchair ramps at eight street crossings. Adjacent to the ramps, the concrete curb and sidewalk will be rebuilt. Drainage improvements will be made as needed. For the actual street crossings, zebra striping will be added to create a highly visible crosswalk. Traffic signs will be placed in advance of and at each crosswalk to alert motorists that they are approaching a V&E Greenline crosswalk. The Memphis City Council has allocated funding in its Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for construction of these public improvements and the Division of Engineering has started preparing bid documents, with construction expected in the summer of 2016.



West Memphis, City of

- **West Memphis Eco-Park:** The City of West Memphis is working with Big River Strategic Initiative and Crittenden County, Arkansas, to develop an Eco-Park on the Arkansas bank of the Mississippi River, directly across from Downtown Memphis. The size of the park will total approximately 1,800 acres bordered by I-40 & I-55, the river and the Levee. In the planning phase of the Greenprint, the City of West Memphis received a \$50K sub-planning grant, which it used to contract the University of Memphis planning department for preliminary study of the area. Additionally, BRSI funded a survey of eco-park site. On May 12, 2015, the West Memphis MPO allocated \$1.25M in CMAQ funds for trails in the proposed park, connecting The Harahan Bridge and West Memphis to this unique destination. West Memphis intends to go to bid in August for the first phase of trails (6 miles), which will include a river loop.



Wolf River Conservancy and the City of Memphis

- **Wolf River Greenway:** The Wolf River Conservancy and the City of Memphis have partnered to complete the 21 miles of the Wolf River Greenway within the Memphis city limits. Approximately 3 miles along Humphrey's Blvd. are open to the public. Construction of the first privately segment will commence fall of 2016 and the remaining 18 miles are targeted for completion by 2019.

The Works

- **South Memphis Greenline:** The South Memphis Greenline proposes to convert an abandoned rail corridor approximately 2 miles long into a greenway through the heart of South Memphis, connecting residential, commercial, and employment areas. The project has received Federal Transportation Improvement Program funding for its design and engineering phase, which is currently out as an RFP. Preliminary estimates for

construction are between \$2 million and \$2.5 million, but could change depending on the scope of environmental mitigation needed.

- **South Parkway median restoration:** This project is focused on addressing pedestrian safety and connectivity issues seen on a segment of South Parkway between I-240 and Lauderdale Street. This section of South Parkway no longer has a landscaped median as can be found on the majority of the Parkway system (North, South, and East Parkways) in residential areas. The removal of this section's landscaped median has resulted in a 75-foot wide thoroughfare that encourages high-speed traffic and has only two marked pedestrian crossings in its one-mile length. This segment of South Parkway is home to five churches, two elementary schools, and the only public park in the neighborhood, and consequently sees heavy pedestrian use. This project was recently awarded construction funding.

