



The Great Rivers Greenway District

For a clean, green, connected St. Louis region

2003 Annual Report



For a clean, green, connected St. Louis region

2003 Annual Report

The Great Rivers Greenway District

1000 St. Louis Union Station

Suite 102

St. Louis, Missouri 63103

www.greatrivers.info

Table of Contents

Letter from the Executive Director and Board President <i>Reshaping the Region</i>	1
2003 – Building The River Ring: A Citizen-Driven Regional Plan	3
2003 – Partnership Projects	4
2003 – And Beyond	11
2003 – Financial Report	12

The Great Rivers Greenway District

- Board of Directors

Anne Zerr, *President - St. Charles County*
Michael Murray, *Vice President - St. Louis City*
David Rosenberg, *Secretary - St. Louis County*
Damon Porter, *Treasurer - St. Louis County*
Richard Ash - *St. Charles County*
Timothy Bolt - *St. Louis City*
Judith Metzger - *St. Louis County*
Pauline Smith - *St. Louis City*
Jeff Wagener - *St. Louis County*
The Honorable Phyllis Weber - *St. Louis County*

The Great Rivers Greenway District - Staff

David Fisher – *Executive Director*
Todd Antoine
Glenna Brown
Jennifer Olmstead
Janet Wilding

County Executives

Charlie Dooley
County Executive, *St. Louis County*
Joseph Ortwerth
County Executive, *St. Charles County*
Francis Slay
Mayor, *St. Louis City*
The Late George R. "Buzz" Westfall
County Executive, *St. Louis County*

Citizen Advisory Committee

*Citizens from St. Louis City,
St. Louis County and St. Charles County*

Alicia Smith - <i>Chair</i>	Daniel McGuire
Sabrina Baldwin	Jim O'Hanlon
Hyatt Bangert	Kathleen Puhr
Nancy Bowser	Dave Reed
John Colbert	Chris Reinagel
David Danforth	Lynda Roepke
Troy Darden	Leslie Robertson
Clarence Dula	Jamie Salvo
Claire Erker	Jane Schaefer
Sandra Fernstrom	Charles Schmidt
Kent Florence	Lamar Smith
Michael Green	Maurice St. Pierre
John Guenther	Eric Strand
Alfred Holtzer	Carol Stroker
Luke Kehoe	Robert Tate
Danny Kluesner	Jason Valvero
Michael Knipp	John Walendy
Janet Matthews	Dorris Walker-McGahee

Technical Advisory Committee

Michael Alessandrini – *St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association*
Diana Allen – *National Park Service*
Michael Arduser – *Missouri Department of Conservation*
Russ Batzel – *City of St. Peters*
Don Bell – *2004 Sustainable Neighborhoods*
Gary Bess – *City of St. Louis*
Sheri Bilderback – *Home Builders Association of Greater St. Louis*
Tracy Boaz – *Missouri Department of Conservation*
Mary Burrows – *Streamteach*
Laura Cohen – *Confluence Greenway*
Ron Coleman – *The Open Space Council*
Robert Cropf – *St. Louis University*
Mary Jo Dessieux – *City of Fenton*
Ted Dettmer – *Vantage Homes*
Mary Donze – *Missouri Department of Natural Resources*
Lori Fiegel – *St. Louis County*
Bob Foster – *St. Louis Regional Bicycle Federation*
Wayne Freeman – *Great Rivers Habitat Alliance*
Bart Hager – *Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District*
Howard Hayes – *St. Louis Public Schools*
Ted Heisel – *Missouri Coalition for the Environment*
Dan Kaline – *St. Charles County*
Mary Nani Kenyon – *The Green Center*
Jonathan Kleinbard – *Missouri Botanical Garden*
Ben Knox – *St. Louis County*
John Kohler – *City of Crestwood*
Larry Lanius II – *St. Louis Inline Skating Association*
Bruce Litzsinger – *Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District*
Len Meier – *Greenway Network Inc.*
Sam Mitchell – *Gateway Off Road Cyclists*
Gary Mook – *East-West Gateway Coordinating Council*
Stan Mulvihill – *McCormack Baron & Associates*
Patrick O'Donnell – *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
Michael Opperman – *City of Webster Groves*
Gene Peters – *Metro East Park and Recreation District*
Tony Piccinni – *Parkway West Middle School*
Jean Ponzi – *Gateway Center for Resource Efficiency*
Karl Schneider – *Tele Atlas North America*
Scott Shipman – *St. Charles County*
Todd Swanstrom – *St. Louis University*
Edward Tod – *Missouri Milers Walkers Club*
Connie Tomasula – *City of St. Louis*
Mark Tranel – *University of Missouri St. Louis*
Caroline Twenter – *East-West Gateway Coordinating Council*
Valerie Vartanian – *Gateway Wildlands*
Tina Votaw – *Metro*
Lawrence Welty – *Missouri Department of Transportation*
Bettie Yahn-Kramer – *St. Charles County*
Genie Zakrzewski – *St. Louis County*

Reshaping the Region

The goal of reshaping our region so that it evolves into the interconnected system of greenways, parks and trails envisioned by citizens when they passed Proposition C in 2002 to fund The Great Rivers Greenway District (formerly Metropolitan Parks and Recreation District) is an ambitious one. Some may say it is an unrealistic goal—perhaps even impossible.

Indeed, we are convinced that such a formidable, comprehensive project can succeed only through the dedicated citizen involvement and meaningful collaboration with neighborhoods, communities and government agencies with whom Great Rivers Greenway is privileged to work.

Building the River Ring: A Citizen-Driven Regional Plan

During 2003, truly significant progress has been made toward the goal of reshaping our region. From December 2002 through September 2003, a 36-member Citizen Advisory Committee representing St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County, met monthly to learn more about their region and to share their concerns and hopes about its future. In May 2003, a 50-member Technical Advisory Committee representing commercial, cultural, educational, environmental, governmental and recreational entities was formed to complement the work of the Citizen Advisory Committee. In spring and summer 2003, Great Rivers Greenway also held focus group meetings and community forums throughout the St. Louis region to gather additional comments from citizens.

The combined efforts of the two committees, the citizens of the St. Louis region, the planning team, along with expert advice offered by five senior planning and design professionals from across the country, culminated in the development of "Building The River Ring: A Citizen-Driven Regional Plan."

The regional plan is a working document that guides citizens and Great Rivers Greenway in the collaborative work of reshaping the region and bringing a new sense of place to the people who inhabit and visit it. The document introduces a bold and beautiful vision –The River Ring, which will encircle the region with a system of greenways, parks and trails following the natural flow of the region's great and small rivers.

This beautiful vision is already becoming a tangible reality. We are pleased to outline in this report 37 projects currently underway—some are even completed—that comprise large segments of The River Ring.

In summary

This remarkable progress must be credited to all of those citizens, organizations and agencies that have worked tirelessly to apply ideas and engage resources to ensure the success of these projects.

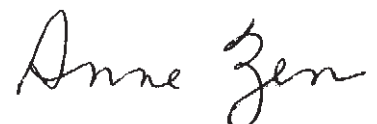
We wish to thank the members of our board of directors for their constant guidance and commitment to Great Rivers Greenway and its mission. Special gratitude goes to members of the Citizen Advisory and the Technical Advisory committees, whose generous participation and input has been so essential to our progress. And we again salute St. Louis 2004, without whose original clarity of vision and groundbreaking work the reshaping of the region would never have begun.

As we move forward in implementing the regional plan, we welcome the challenges and excitement of bringing The River Ring to the next stages of development. And we anticipate with pleasure the continued collaboration with all of our partners – citizens, communities and governmental agencies – throughout the St. Louis region.

Sincerely,



David Fisher
Executive Director



Anne Zerr
President of the Board

2003-Building The River Ring: A Citizen-Driven Regional Plan

The Planning Process

Throughout the 10-month planning process, Great Rivers Greenway staff collaborated with a team of planning consultants and the region's citizens:

December 2002

A 36-member Citizen Advisory Committee representing the residents of St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County assisted Great Rivers Greenway staff and the planning team in the development of the regional plan. Between December 2002 and September 2003, the committee met monthly. The meetings gave residents an opportunity to share their communities' desires and concerns and learn about the region's demographics, geography, and topography. They also reviewed national and international case studies on comparable projects.

March 2003

To ensure citizens' voices were heard throughout the planning process, Great Rivers Greenway held small focus group meetings in all three counties. Committee members each hosted one meeting in their community, inviting 12 to 15 friends, neighbors and co-workers.

May 2003

A 50-member Technical Advisory Committee was formed to complement the Citizen Advisory Committee's activities. The Technical Advisory Committee included representatives from many of the region's commercial, cultural, educational, environmental, governmental and recreational entities.

June 2003

At the invitation of Great Rivers Greenway, five senior planning and design professionals (laureates) visited St. Louis to share their observations and experience with greenway, park and trail planning. The laureates also met with the Citizen Advisory Committee. With the laureates' help, the planning team further refined the regional plan.

July 2003

Great Rivers Greenway held community forums to gather additional comments on the draft plan.

September 2003

The Citizen Advisory Committee reviewed and submitted the draft plan to Great Rivers Greenway's board of directors for their approval.

The River Ring

Because it is surrounded by waterways, the St. Louis region has been referred to as an island, nestled by its rivers and streams. This notion inspired the main concept for the development of what will become the regional, interconnected system: The River Ring.

Historically, the region has been defined by its great rivers - the Missouri and Mississippi. Together with the Meramec and Cuivre rivers, the Mississippi River forms a three-quarter ring around the Great Rivers Greenway planning area. By joining these three rivers with the Missouri River through a series of interconnected greenways, parks and trails, the circle is completed, providing access to The River Ring throughout the St. Louis region.

The River Ring itself consists of two key components:

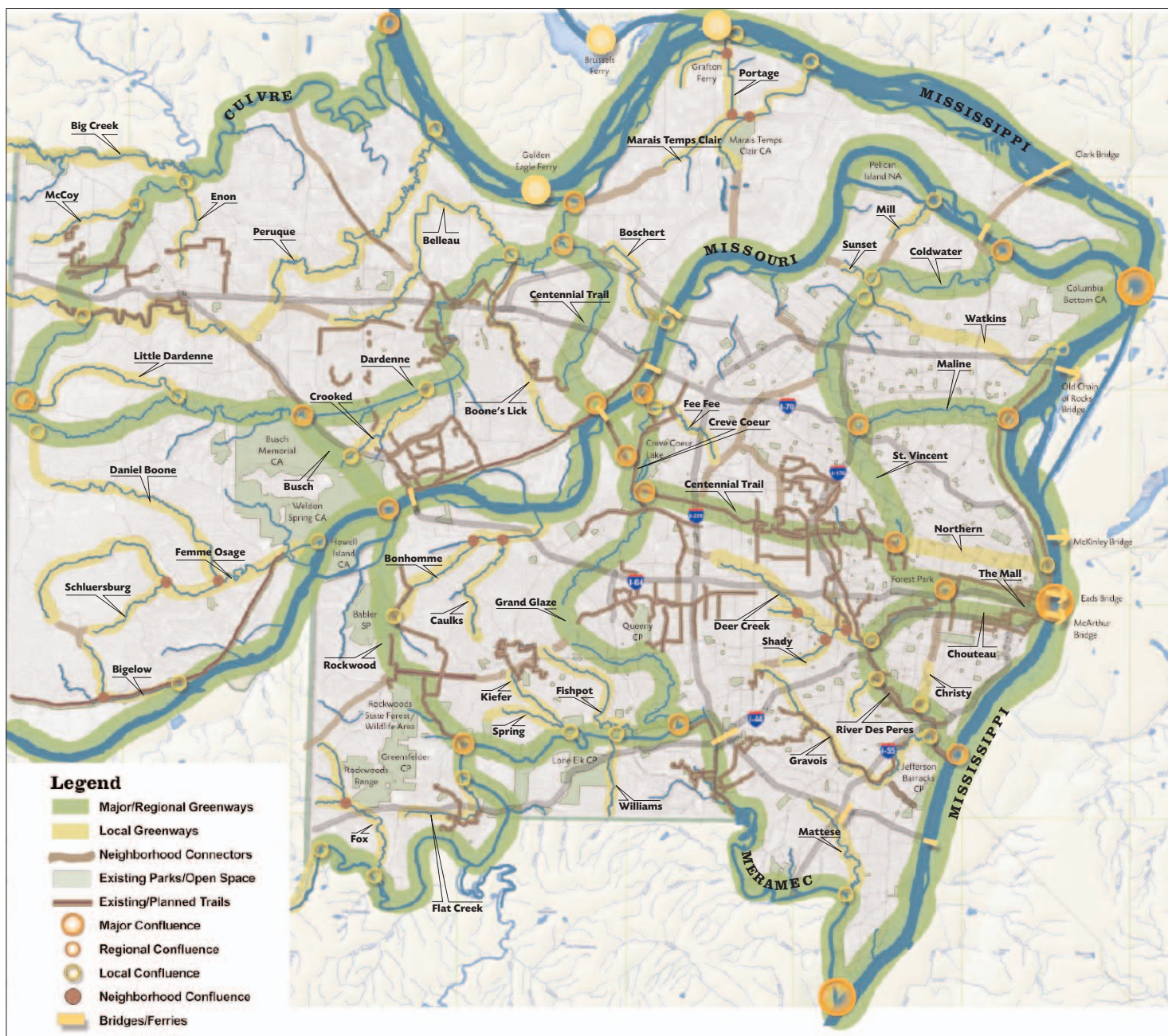
- 1) Greenways of various scales (major, regional, local and neighborhood)
- 2) Confluences of various sizes

Greenways are linear open spaces that serve a variety of purposes. They are a way to link natural, cultural and community assets to each other.

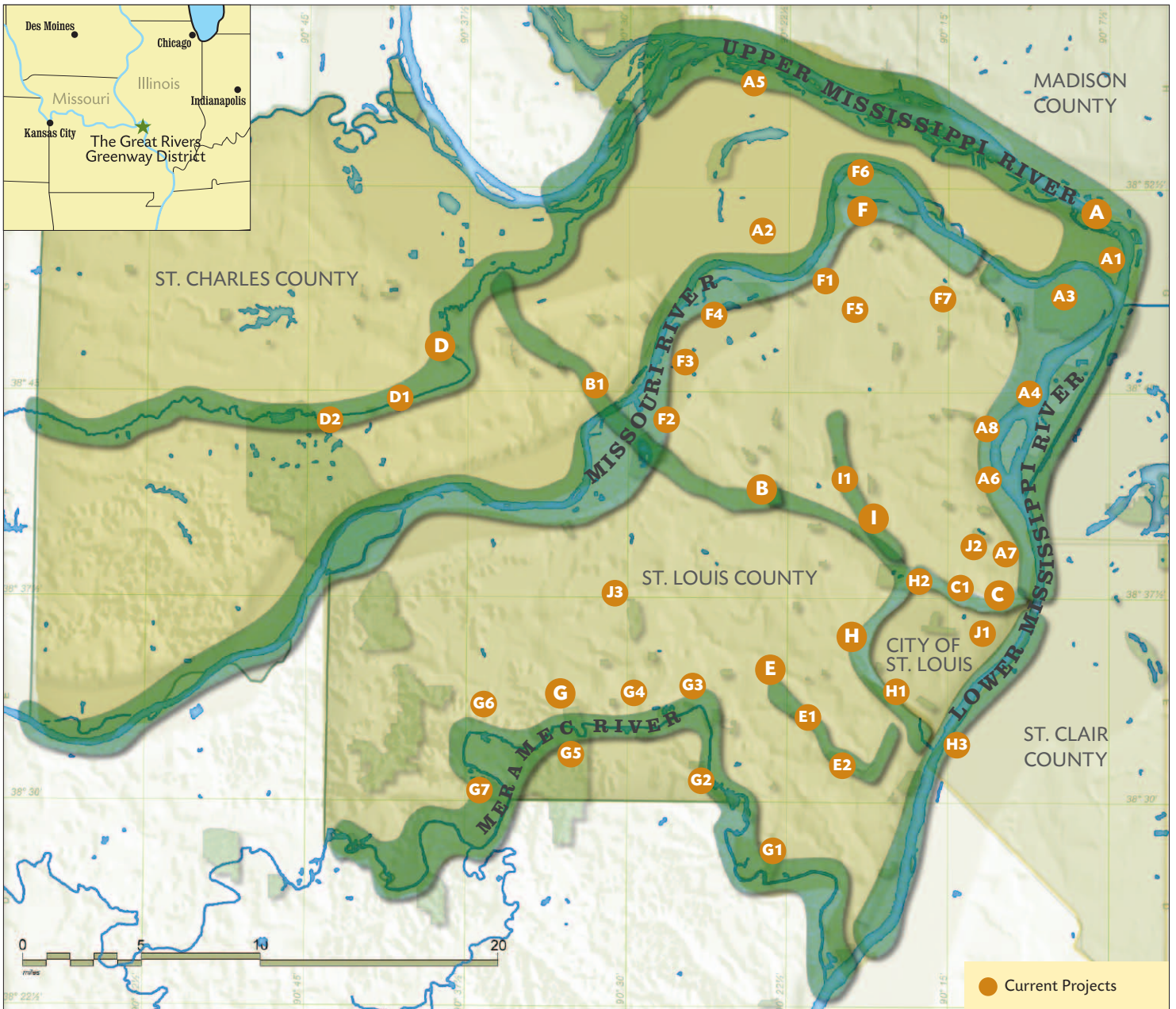
Confluences mark the location where two greenways meet. They provide opportunities for newly developed facilities, including:

- Bicycle and/or pedestrian bridges
- Boat rentals and docks
- Information kiosks
- Interpretative trails with explanatory signage
- Parking hubs
- Picnic facilities, shelters, restrooms, and
- Rental facilities for bicycles

Eventually, a web of more than 45 major, regional, local and neighborhood greenways will crisscross The River Ring. It will link three counties, join two states, and cover an area of 1,216 square miles. The River Ring also is linked to the Metro East Park and Recreation District, giving citizens access to a bi-state, regional system.



THE INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM OF GREENWAYS, PARKS AND TRAILS



2003 PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

A	Confluence Greenway	C	Chouteau Greenway	F3	SEED Project-Riverwoods Conservation Area and River Access	H	River Des Peres Greenway
A1	Ted and Pat Jones Confluence Point State Park	C1	Phase III Planning Study	F4	SEED Project-St. Stanislaus Conservation Area Picnic Area	H1	River Des Peres Pilot Project-Christy Greenway Connection
A2	Katy Trail Connector	D	Dardenne Greenway	F5	SEED Project-Old Town Florissant Trail	H2	Lindell Pavilion in Forest Park
A3	Columbia Bottom Conservation Area	D1	Dardenne Creek Storm Water Management Plan	F6	SEED Project-Pelican Island Trail	H3	Canary Island Riverside Greenway
A4	Old Chain of Rocks Bridge	D2	Dardenne Greenway at BaratHaven	F7	SEED Project-Missouri River Greenway Bulletin Boards	I	St. Vincent's Greenway
A5	Portage Des Sioux Nature Area	E	Gravois Creek Greenway	G	Meramec Greenway	I1	Planning and Design
A6	Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing	E1	Grant's Trail	G1	River Mile 7 - St. Louis County	J	Collaborative Planning
A7	McKinley Bridge and Branch Street Railroad Trestle	E2	Clydesdale Park	G2	River Mile 18 - City of Fenton	J1	Bike St. Louis
A8	Riverfront Trail	F	Missouri River Greenway	G3	River Mile 20 - City of Kirkwood	J2	St. Louis Citywide Parks Plan
B	Centennial Greenway	F1	Missouri River Greenway: Phase 1 Planning	G4	River Mile 25 - St. Louis County	J3	Regional Bicycle Facilities Plan
B1	Katy Trail to St. Peters Trail Connection	F2	SEED Project-Maryland Heights	G5	River Mile 28 - St. Louis County		
				G6	River Mile 30 - St. Louis County		
				G7	River Mile 31 - City of Wildwood		

2003 Partnership Projects

The Current Projects

A. Confluence Greenway

In 1997, a variety of public, private and nonprofit organizations started planning for the Confluence Greenway. The greenway will link the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the riverfront in downtown St. Louis. The planning area for the greenway includes St. Charles County, St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis, Missouri, as well as Madison and St. Clair counties, Illinois. In 2002, The Great Rivers Greenway District conceptually endorsed the Confluence Greenway plan and currently is working to implement numerous projects.



A1 Ted and Pat Jones Confluence Point State Park

Great Rivers Greenway acquired 515 acres, increasing the Missouri State Park's acreage to 1,118 acres in eastern St. Charles County.

Status: In 2003, the district provided funds for a public access road to the new state park. The park is targeted to open in summer 2004.

Partner(s): Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks

A2 Katy Trail Connector

Great Rivers Greenway is extending the Katy Trail from the City of St. Charles, where it currently ends, to the Machens area in eastern St. Charles County. The district provided funds to construct a trail along the Missouri River.

Status: Work began in fall 2003 and is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks

A3 Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for a five-mile hiking and biking trail in the Columbia Bottom Conservation Area in eastern St. Charles County. The district also acquired 280 acres adjacent to the area for future expansion.

Status: The hiking and biking trail opened in spring 2003.

Partner(s): Missouri Department of Conservation



A4 Old Chain of Rocks Bridge

Since 2002, Great Rivers Greenway has been providing funds to Trailnet, Inc. to make possible year-round public access to the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge, an important bicycle and pedestrian linkage between Missouri and Illinois.

Partner(s): Trailnet, Inc.; and City of Madison, Illinois



A5 Portage Des Sioux Nature Area

Great Rivers Greenway is working with the City of Portage Des Sioux to construct a 40-acre nature area in eastern St. Charles County. The nature area will allow for passive recreational activities and feature restored wildlife habitats.

Status: The nature area is targeted to open in summer 2004.

Partner(s): City of Portage Des Sioux



A6 Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing

Great Rivers Greenway supplemented federal and private funding for the planning, design and site development of the first nationally designated Underground Railroad site in Missouri. The site is located on the Mississippi River in the City of St. Louis.

Status: The site design is targeted to be complete in 2004. Construction is targeted to begin in 2005.

Partner(s): Grace Hill Neighborhood Services; National Park Service; Whitaker Foundation; and Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office

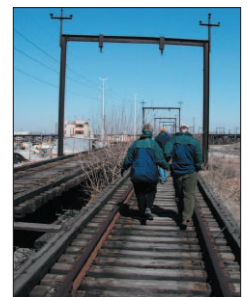


A7 McKinley Bridge and Branch Street Railroad Trestle

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for proposed bicycle and pedestrian access across the McKinley Bridge to link existing and future bicycle and greenway projects in Missouri and Illinois.

Status: In 2003, the district commissioned a feasibility study to determine appropriate bicycle and pedestrian connections.

Partner(s): Metro East Park and Recreation District; Illinois Department of Transportation; and Missouri Department of Transportation



A8 Riverfront Trail

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for planning and design to extend the trail from the Gateway Arch south to Chouteau Avenue. The district also provided funding to design signage for the entire trail. *Status:* The planning and design work is targeted to begin in spring 2004. *Partner(s):* City of St. Louis; and Confluence Greenway Partnership

B. Centennial Greenway

The Centennial Greenway will run from Forest Park to Creve Coeur County Park in St. Louis County and across the Veterans Memorial Bridge to St. Charles County. The greenway will then continue to its confluence with Dardenne Greenway.

B1 Katy Trail to St. Peters Trail Connection

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to plan and design a bicycle and pedestrian trail between the Katy Trail and existing bicycle facilities in the City of St. Peters. The new trail will link the bicycle facility on the Veterans Memorial Bridge and Creve Coeur County Park in St. Louis County. *Status:* Planning is targeted to begin in spring 2004. *Partner(s):* St. Charles County; Cities of St. Charles and St. Peters; and Missouri Department of Transportation

C. Chouteau Greenway

Chouteau Greenway will restore the link between the riverfront in downtown St. Louis and Forest Park. An extension of the greenway will branch off to the south to connect into Tower Grove Park.



C1 Phase III Planning Study

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for planning and predevelopment costs of Chouteau Greenway in St. Louis City. *Status:* Work began in 2003, and the final report is targeted to be complete in summer 2004. *Partner(s):* U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; McCormack Baron; and Downtown Now!

D. Dardenne Greenway

Dardenne Greenway begins at the Mississippi River and follows Dardenne Creek to the Busch Memorial Conservation Area. There, it continues west and joins the Cuivre Greenway in western St. Charles County.

D1 Dardenne Creek Storm Water Study

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for the Dardenne Creek storm water study in St. Charles County. *Status:* Work is targeted to begin in spring with completion in fall 2004. *Partner(s):* U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; St. Charles County; and cities of Cottleville, Dardenne Prairie, O'Fallon, St. Charles, and St. Peters



D2 Dardenne Greenway at BaratHaven

Great Rivers Greenway is developing a park and greenway along Dardenne Creek in St. Charles County. The project will provide public trail connections to residential, commercial and institutional areas within the proposed BaratHaven development and its surroundings. The project



includes the construction of trails, recreational fields, boat docks, and other public amenities. The district provided funds for planning and design of the park and greenway.

Status: Construction is targeted to start in late 2004 with completion in spring 2005.

Partner(s): McEagle Development L.C.; Vantage Homes; WingHaven Residential, LLC; and cities of O'Fallon and Dardenne Prairie

E. Gravois Greenway

Grant's Trail, a six-mile trail system forms the basis for Gravois Creek Greenway. The greenway follows Gravois Creek from River Des Peres through portions of south St. Louis County.

E1 Grant's Trail

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for planning and design of Grant's Trail from its eastern terminus to River Des Peres. An additional trail extension to the cities of Kirkwood, Crestwood and Oakland is currently pending.

Status: Planning for the eastern extension is targeted to be complete in fall 2004 with construction to begin in 2005.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department; and Trailnet, Inc.



E2 Clydesdale Park

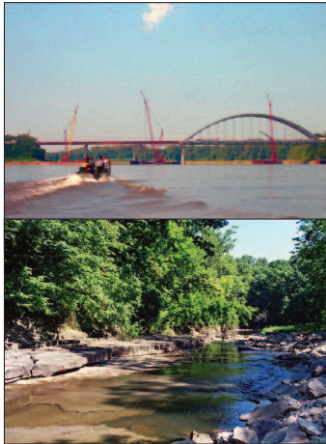
Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to build a comprehensive trail system within Clydesdale Park, St. Louis County, and a connection to Grant's Trail. The connection will make possible direct access to Grant's Trail from surrounding residential areas.

Status: The project is targeted to be complete in fall 2004.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department

F. Missouri River Greenway

The Missouri River Greenway is a major component of The River Ring. Ultimately, it will parallel the Missouri River in St. Louis and St. Charles counties. Existing features are the Katy Trail and the bicycle facilities on the Veterans Memorial Bridge.



F1 Missouri River Greenway: Phase I Planning

The Missouri River Greenway (Phase I) will parallel the Missouri River for 34 miles from the confluence with the Mississippi River at the Columbia Bottom Conservation Area to the Veterans Memorial Bridge in Maryland Heights. Six pilot projects, called SEED projects, have been selected for preliminary design in 2004, pending approval by the public sector land owners involved in each project. *Status:* Implementation of the SEED projects will begin after approvals are received and the design is completed.

Partner(s): Missouri Department of Conservation; various municipalities; St. Louis County; and other public and private entities

F2 SEED Project—Maryland Heights

The development of a one-and-a-half-mile trail along the Howard Bend levee will extend from Veterans Memorial Bridge to the north. The trail will include a new picnic area near Creve Coeur Airport.

Partner(s): City of Maryland Heights

F3 SEED Project—Riverwoods Conservation Area and River Access

This approximately two-mile-long trail will run through the Riverwoods Conservation Area between the western end of St. Charles Rock Road and Interstate 70. The trail also will include a picnic area and boat access.

Partner(s): City of Bridgeton; and Missouri Department of Conservation



F4 SEED Project—St. Stanislaus Conservation Area Picnic Area

The development of a picnic area in the St. Stanislaus Conservation Area will offer views of the Bryan and Vingt islands. If feasible, a small boat access will be developed nearby.

Partner(s): City of Hazelwood; and Missouri Department of Conservation

F5 SEED Project—Old Town Florissant Trail

The trail will link the City of Florissant's Sunset Park to Old Town Florissant.

Partner(s): City of Florissant



F6 SEED Project—Pelican Island Trail

The development of this low-impact loop trail on Pelican Island is contingent on the commitment of partners to building a causeway or bridge to give pedestrians and bicyclists access to the eastern end of the island.

Partner(s): St. Louis County; and Missouri Department of Conservation

F7 SEED Project—Missouri River Greenway Informational Signage

The installation of bulletin boards at 23 parks, conservation areas, and community centers along the Missouri River will provide information about the Missouri River Greenway development and continually track progress made on the project.

Partner(s): Various municipalities; St. Louis County; and Missouri Department of Conservation

G. Meramec Greenway

Great Rivers Greenway is working in partnership with St. Louis County; the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks; the Meramec River Recreation Association; and various municipalities in the Meramec Greenway. Work on the Meramec Greenway began more than 30 years ago to create and extend trails along the Meramec River in St. Louis County. In 2002, the Great Rivers Greenway board approved in concept the Meramec Greenway plan. To date, the district has acquired more than 150 acres along the greenway in addition to working with partners to develop and extend trails.



G1 River Mile 7 – St. Louis County

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to develop a one-and-a-half-mile trail link and trailhead in Lower Meramec Park.

Status: Construction began in 2003 and is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department

G2 River Mile 18 – City of Fenton

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for the development of a one-mile trail, linking existing trails in Fenton City Park to St. Louis County's Unger Park.

Status: Work is targeted to begin in 2004.

Partner(s): City of Fenton



G3 River Mile 20 – City of Kirkwood

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to develop a one-mile trail and trailhead at Greentree Park.

Status: Construction is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): City of Kirkwood

G4 River Mile 25 – St. Louis County

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for trail construction along the Chubb Trail in Lone Elk County Park.

Status: Construction is targeted to be complete in summer 2005.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department

G5 River Mile 28 – St. Louis County

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to extend the Meramec Greenway Trail by one mile and to construct a trailhead at Sherman Beach County Park.

Status: Construction is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department

G6 River Mile 30 – St. Louis County

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for the construction of a feeder trail from the Meramec Greenway trail to Packwood Park.

Status: Construction is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Parks Department

G7 River Mile 31 – City of Wildwood

Great River Greenway provided funds for the development of a trail-head and feeder trail to Meramec Greenway.

Status: Construction is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): City of Wildwood

H. River Des Peres Greenway

In 1998, representatives from the City of St. Louis; St. Louis County; Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and East-West Gateway Coordinating Council developed a plan for a linear park along the River Des Peres between the Mississippi River and Forest Park. The district conceptually endorsed this plan and selected the Christy Greenway connection as the pilot project.



H1 River Des Peres Pilot Project—Christy Greenway Connection

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to plan, design and construct approximately four miles of greenway and trails within the Christy Greenway. The project will connect the River Des Peres Greenway to Carondelet Park in south St. Louis City.

Status: The project is targeted to be complete in late 2004.

Partner(s): City of St. Louis, Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

H2 Lindell Pavilion in Forest Park

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to renovate the Lindell Pavilion Visitor and Education Center in Forest Park.

Status: The center, renamed the Dennis and Judith Jones Visitor Center, opened in fall 2003 and serves as a major trailhead for recreational users and park visitors.

Partner(s): Forest Park Forever



H3 Canary Island Riverside Greenway

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for planning, design and site development of a greenway along the River Des Peres and the Mississippi River in Lemay with a connection to Jefferson Barracks County Park.

Status: The site design was completed in 2003.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Economic Council



I. St. Vincent’s Greenway

The St. Vincent’s Greenway joins the Centennial and River Des Peres greenways in Forest Park. It then continues north to the confluence of the Maline and Coldwater greenways in north St. Louis County.

I1 Planning and Design

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds to plan a greenway from Forest Park to the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus.

Status: Planning to identify greenway corridors and neighborhood connections is targeted to begin in 2004.

Partner(s): St. Louis County Economic Council; and various municipalities

J. Collaborative Planning

J1 Bike St. Louis

Great Rivers Greenway provided funding for the development of on-street bicycle routes to link various business, cultural and recreational districts in the City of St. Louis and initiate local connections to The River Ring.

Status: The first 20 miles of on-street bicycle routes is targeted to be complete in summer 2004.

Partner(s): City of St. Louis; and Bike St. Louis Partnership



J2 St. Louis Citywide Parks Plan

Great Rivers Greenway provided funding for the development of a comprehensive plan for the St. Louis City parks and a concept to link together parks through greenways, trails and pedestrian routes.

Status: The project began in winter 2003 and is targeted to be complete in fall 2004.

Partner(s): City of St. Louis

J3 Regional Bicycle Facilities Plan

Great Rivers Greenway provided funds for the development of a regional bicycle plan that will identify routes for bicycle transportation, which will tie into The River Ring.

Status: Work is targeted to begin early 2004 and be complete in fall 2004.

Partner(s): East-West Gateway Coordinating Council



2003 And Beyond

The creation of The River Ring will take decades, but with 37 projects – some underway, some finished – Great Rivers Greenway is looking ahead confidently. In 2004, five concrete goals will guide the district’s work on The River Ring:

1) Continue work on current projects in collaboration with regional partners.

Great Rivers Greenway recognizes that many municipalities, public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the St. Louis region have been active in greenway, park and trail planning and implementation for more than 30 years. Since Great Rivers Greenway began collecting revenue in April 2001, it has become an active partner in many of these efforts, helping to implement them, acquiring property for open space preservation or initiating new plans. Participation in such efforts, along with ongoing citizen involvement and coordination with municipalities, public agencies, stakeholders and nonprofit organizations, enables Great Rivers Greenway to build strong alliances, pursue common goals and proceed with projects that will contribute to its overall vision.

2) Develop criteria to prioritize preparation of plans.

Great Rivers Greenway will select consultant planning teams, continue public outreach and begin work on plans in at least three greenway planning areas. The plans will identify local connections that feed into The River Ring and prepare concept plans for any segments of major, regional, or local greenway systems for which planning has not been completed already.

3) Establish a task force and host the first Great Rivers Greenway Educational Convention.

On an annual basis, Great Rivers Greenway will organize an educational convention that includes regional leaders, community, business, recreational, and open space interests. The convention serves as the regional forum for championing an interconnected system of greenways, parks and trails.

4) Intensify communications efforts.

Great Rivers Greenway will implement an extensive communications strategy, including outreach efforts to inform the region about Great Rivers Greenway’s activities and solicit volunteers and assistance in the implementation of The River Ring.

5) Start measuring effectiveness of work.

The development of the interconnected system of greenways, parks and trails is a long-term effort. To ensure citizens and partners view Great Rivers Greenway as an effective, pro-active organization, the organization needs to measure its success.

2003 Financial Report

**Metropolitan Park and Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2003**

	Governmental Fund - General	Account Group - General Fixed Assets	Total
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash and investments	\$ 15,548,140	\$ -	\$ 15,548,140
Sales tax receivable	856,425	-	856,425
Interest receivable	105,587	-	105,587
Prepaid deposits	5,675	-	5,675
Property and equipment, net	-	6,148,486	6,148,486
Total assets	<u>16,515,827</u>	<u>6,148,486</u>	<u>22,664,313</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 435,414	\$ -	\$ 435,414
Accrued wages and other liabilities	8,939	-	8,939
Total liabilities	<u>444,353</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>444,353</u>
Net Assets			
Investment in general fixed assets	-	6,148,486	6,148,486
Contributed capital	-	-	-
Retained earnings	-	-	-
Net assets			
Unreserved	16,071,474	-	16,071,474
Reserved	-	-	-
Designated	-	-	-
Undesignated	-	-	-
Total net assets	<u>16,071,474</u>	<u>6,148,486</u>	<u>22,219,960</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 16,515,827</u>	<u>\$ 6,148,486</u>	<u>\$ 22,664,313</u>

**Metropolitan Park and Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Operating Expenditure Report
For the Year ended December 31, 2003**

<u>Category Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$ 396,854
General and Administration	58,937
Space and Occupancy	38,913
Furniture and Equipment	31,325
Contract and Consulting Services	490,671
Travel	9,890
Conference and Training Costs	9,320
	<hr/>
Total Operating Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,035,910</u>

**Metropolitan Park and Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Capital Expenditure Report
For the Year ended December 31, 2003**

<u>Project Category</u>	<u>Capital Project Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Confluence Greenway	Americorp Trail Ranger Program	\$ 70,143
	Branch Street Railroad Trestle	89,109
	Columbia Bottom Connector	125,211
	Confluence Greenway	881,019
	Katy Trail Connectors	185,292
	Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing	16,643
	Portage Des Sioux Nature Center	197,256
	Public Access of Old Chain of Rocks Bridge	82,093
	Riverfront Trail Design	6,575
	State Park at the Confluence	1,659,547
Chouteau Greenway	Chouteau Greenway Phase III	50,000
Dardenne Greenway	Dardenne Creek Stormwater Plan	75
	Dardenne Creek Greenway	19,721
Gravois Creek Greenway	Grant's Trail Phase III	47,909
	Grant's Trail Phase IV	122
Missouri River Greenway	Missouri River Greenway	224,939
Meramec Greenway	Meramec Greenway	1,830,421
River Des Peres Greenway	Clydesdale Connector	59,305
	Redevelopment of NL Industries Site	337,062
	River Des Peres Pilot Project	79,932
	Trailhead Improvements in Forest Park	10,000
St. Vincent Greenway	St. Vincent Greenway	630
Collaborative Planning	Bike St. Louis	53,168
	Citizen Driven Regional Plan	887,489
	St. Louis City Wide Parks Plan	140
Crop Share Agreements	Crop Share Agreement	1,963
Programing	Programming and Events	37,995
Total Capital Expenditure Report		<u>\$ 6,953,759</u>

**Metropolitan Park and Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Revenue Report
For the Year ended December 31, 2003**

<u>Category Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sales Tax	\$ 10,030,420
Investment Income	429,840
Rental Income	45,988
Miscellaneous Income	<u>2,372</u>
 Total Revenues	 <u><u>\$ 10,508,620</u></u>

**Metropolitan Park & Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Detail of Sales Tax Receipts by Jurisdiction
For the Year ending December 31, 2003**

Month	St. Louis County	St. Louis City	St. Charles County	Total
January	\$ 579,128	\$ 122,286	\$ 137,499	\$ 838,913
February	415,049	81,342	96,750	593,141
March	751,141	169,255	181,134	1,101,530
April	510,903	130,749	122,751	764,403
May	324,636	81,706	76,101	482,443
June	787,877	189,803	200,511	1,178,191
July	551,784	128,866	140,524	821,174
August	432,333	87,076	107,604	627,013
September	707,395	179,501	187,104	1,074,000
October	617,963	131,989	165,288	915,240
November	393,890	92,266	101,864	588,020
December	695,339	150,596	176,279	1,022,214
Totals	\$ 6,767,438	\$ 1,545,435	\$ 1,693,409	\$ 10,006,282

**Metropolitan Park & Recreation District
d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District
Recap of Receipts/Interest/Disbursements
For the Year ending December 31, 2003**

Description/Month	Sales Tax Receipts	Interest Distributions	Transfer of Funds (Draws)	Balance
Beginning Balance				\$ 12,598,527
January	\$ 838,913	\$ -	\$ (200,000)	13,637,440
February	597,242	14,607	(1,925,000)	12,324,289
March	1,101,529	44,724	(170,000)	13,300,542
April	764,404	49,816	-	14,114,762
May	482,444	30,036	(1,885,300)	12,741,942
June	1,178,191	57,848	(350,000)	13,627,981
July	821,174	40,798	(230,000)	14,259,953
August	629,539	34,264	(300,000)	14,623,756
September	1,073,999	26,510	(800,000)	14,924,265
October	915,240	40,747	(1,000,000)	14,880,252
November	588,020	22,228	(500,000)	14,990,500
December	1,022,215	71,529	(300,000)	15,784,244
Totals	\$ 10,012,910	\$ 433,107	\$ (7,660,300)	\$ 15,784,244

Interest Receivable Balance @ 12/31/03

\$ 105,587

Investment Yield 2003

3.066%