

Greenway Report - March 2005

by Kathy Boling

As Greenway liaison, I plan to inform the 3RVS members with updates from the Greenway's and Pathway's meetings. My first meeting was the Greenway Consortium meeting. Wow! What a goal oriented group! There were so many plans in the works my head was spinning. "The time is now" says George Roche, president of the Greenway Consortium. "There has never been a better time for trail advocate groups to act. The mayor is aware of this and wants to see our Greenway improved"

Mayor Richard's first plan of action was to hire full time Greenway Manager, Dawn Ritchie. Then he asked her to get aquatinted with all the parks, neighborhoods, trail/path groups. Well, she has done just that which included a visit to our February meeting. We learned about the plans the city is taking to make our Greenway safer and cleaner. The interconnection between the Greenway, neighborhoods and parks, and \$2 million toward Greenway development and renovations which will include repaving the entire Greenway within the next three years. Dawn has absorbed so much information, made many plans and has set many of them in motion. It is impressive!

The mayor is using a report generated by former Greenway Coordinator, Jack Stark. Jack is a retired engineer as well as a multi-use user of the Greenway. He is qualified and understands the design as well as the use of the system. His report 'Improvement Recommendations for the Rivergreenway System' goes through the Greenway with a fine tooth comb. A few items that are key issues are pavement repair, signage, redesign and maintenance. There is a copy of his report available on the Fort Wayne Parks website.

This is big for Fort Wayne, Allen County and Northern Indiana. "The time is now!". Now it is up to the citizens to make a difference in the city in which we live. Volunteer! Call Dawn at 260-427-6002 or email Dawn.Ritchie@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

If you have any Greenway questions or problems please contact me: Publicity@3RVS.com or call 260-432-5526 and I will do my best to take you concerns to the next Greenway meeting.