Indiana – Michigan River Valley Trail
Imagine a 34-Mile Trail
Connecting:

- 2 states and 4 downtowns (Niles, Roseland, South Bend and Mishawaka)
- 4 universities and public schools
- 16 parks and 2 YMCAs
- 5 hospitals & major medical facilities
- Historical and cultural attractions
- Businesses offering shopping, eating and lodging
Making the 34-mile trail a reality

Gaps:
5 miles in Indiana
6 miles in Michigan

Estimated Cost:
$5 million
“Trails through and connecting our communities will give people convenient opportunities to get regular physical activity and connect with nature. Over and over studies affirm the benefits of outdoor trails and the positive effects on the health of people and communities.”

Philip A. Newbold
President & CEO
Memorial Hospital/Health System
South Bend, Indiana

Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail – Health & Quality of Life

- Reduce air pollution
- Encourage physical activity
- Create safer neighborhoods
- Serve as an outdoor classroom
- Provide alternative transportation options
- Help prevent obesity related chronic diseases
- Help connect people, neighborhoods, and communities
Indiana – Michigan River Valley Trail – Benefits

**Property Values = Tax Revenue**
- Homes along greenways sold for as much as 10% more (1999, Indianapolis)

**Cost-Benefit**
- Maintenance/Mgt annual cost - $191,893
- Trail-related tax income - $303,750

**Trails retain and attract businesses and knowledge workers**
- Carmel, IN Mayor claims Monon Trail was the catalyst for a $100 million City Center mixed use development
The National Association of Homebuilders surveyed 2,800 people nationwide and asked them what they would like to see in a new community.

“Properties along the trail have taken off... I’ve gotten a list of 300 prospective buyers waiting for property along the river and trail, and they are willing to wait just for those properties.”

Suzan Beal, sales associate with Coldwell Banker Real Estate
Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail – Economic Benefits

Trails support economic development

- Increase tax revenue
- Increase real estate values
- Retain and attract businesses
- Retain and attract residents
- Promote Tourism Spending
Indiana – Michigan River Valley Trail - Partners

Bike Michiana Coalition
Berrien County Parks, Michigan
City of Niles, Michigan
City of Mishawaka, Indiana
City of South Bend, Indiana
Indiana Department of Transportation
Michigan Department of Transportation
Michiana Watershed
National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
Niles Charter Township, Michigan
Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
St. Joseph County Parks, Indiana
Town of Roseland, Indiana
What can you do to help?

• Sign a resolution of support

• Inform other community leaders about the effort

• Invite us to make a presentation to a community group

• Follow progress at www.swmpc.org/INMIItrail.asp