As of December 2013, only $27,000 out of the $111,000 is needed to match state grants totaling $701,000. This funding will complete Niles Township’s Phase I project from the state line to Brandywine Creek Nature Park. When completed, the IN-MI River Valley Trail will be a 34-mile continuous off-road trail between Niles, MI and Mishawaka, IN.

Help Make the Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail A Reality!

Make your check payable to Michigan Gateway Community Foundation. Be sure to list Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail in the memo line. Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. (IRS Publication 526)

Donations can be sent to:

Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
Attention: Niles Township Trail Donation
111 Days Avenue, Buchanan, MI 49107

Donation Amount $___________________

Donor Information
Name:______________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________________
Email:______________________________
Phone Number: _______________________

If you have questions, please contact Niles Charter Township Park Commissioner, Harry Thibault at (574) 292-1175.

www.swmpc.org/INMItrail.asp
Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail

~ Partners ~

- Bike Michiana Coalition
- Bike the Bend, Inc.
- Berrien County Parks, Michigan
- City of Niles, Michigan
- City of Mishawaka, Indiana
- City of South Bend, Indiana
- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- 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

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

“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

Why Should You Support the Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail?

- You want to walk, run or bike in a safe place.
- You want a connected trail system for future generations.
- You believe in the importance of a trail to enhance the overall quality of life.
- You are passionate about free recreational opportunities available to everyone.
- You believe in sustainable transportation

If you answered “yes” to any of the above, we want you to contribute to the campaign today! Your tax-free donation will be combined with others to leverage local, state and federal government dollars. This bi-state trail project cannot become reality without community support. Thank you!

~Anticipated Benefits of the IN-MI River Valley Trail~

Support Local Economy and Businesses
Michigan studies show that out of town trail users spend anywhere from $949 to $1,269 on lodging, restaurant, groceries, gas and equipment per trip. The average annual use of six Michigan trails was 92,000 uses. This equates to a significant amount of spending from trail users!

In 2000, a bike event in Bloomington, Indiana drew in 5,000 riders contributing over $1 million to the local economy in just lodging and food expenditures. The 2005 Indiana Bike Fest in Jasper attracted 250 bringing $120,000 to the local economy.

Increase Property Values
Realtors indicated that homes along the Paint Creek Trail (Michigan) sell for about 10% more than comparable homes “off the trail.”

A 1999 study of home sales in Indianapolis, IN found that homes along greenways sold for as much as 10% more.

~Working to Fund and Develop the First Bi-State Trail for Indiana and Michigan~

The Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail partners are working to create a 34-mile trail connecting Niles, MI to Mishawaka, IN.

As shown on the map, a few segments are needed to complete this trail system. Funding for the Niles Township portion of the trail has been secured from the state; however, local funding is needed to match these state funds. Please consider donating!

www.swmpc.org/INMItrailsasp

Indiana-Michigan River Valley Trail

~Partners~

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- Bike the Bend, Inc.
- Berrien County Parks, Michigan
- City of Niles, Michigan
- City of Mishawaka, Indiana
- City of South Bend, Indiana
- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Michigan Watershed
- Michigan Department of Transportation
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
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- Niles Charter Township, Michigan
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