

TRAIL TIMELINE

1993 – Cannon Township Master Plan stated “Pedestrian and bicycle linkages within and between residential neighborhoods, activity centers and recreation facilities are important in fostering a unified community fabric and an atmosphere of cohesiveness and vitality.”

1994 – Recreation Plan – approved in November

- George Scott was chair of Recreation Committee
- Mary Hefferan was member – also on current Rec.com.
- Chapter 6 – Goal #2, Objective B talked about connecting open land through corridors – Actions #1 explore and promote the linkage of the Township Center with Townsend Park

1999 – December

- Recreation Committee began meeting regularly to discuss the Township Trail system
- Phase 1 was identified as the connection between Townsend Park and Township Center.
- An action plan to proceed was developed

2000 –

- Committee met monthly
- Began process of updating Recreation Plan
- Approved Recreation Plan Amendment adding an objective under goal #1 (maximize the use and enjoyment of existing park and recreation facilities located within Cannon Township.) Action #1 was to develop a trail system which connects the Township Center property with Townsend Park.
- Hired Jim Hegarty from Prein & Newhof and RJM Design to lay out the trail
- Started working on easements
- Grant was submitted in September
- Due to easement issues, grant was denied

2001 –

- MainStreet Planning was hired to update Recreation Plan
- Decision was made to apply for MDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant

2002 –

- Recreation Plan adopted in March 2002 – placed the construction of a non-motorized trail as a priority item.
- Millage proposal for .4 mill was considered for November ballot
- Voters approved millage
- RJM Design was hired to prepare grant application for MDOT grant

2003 – Grant submitted in December

2004 – 2005 No word was heard on the grant. There were issues concerning the boardwalks needing to be 14 feet wide instead of 10 feet wide to meet ASHTO standards. Finally, through phone calls and email, we discovered we would not be funded by MDOT.

2005 –

- March 30 – DNR Trust Fund Grant submitted, put together by myself and Jim Hegarty
- Dec 7 – notification of award
- Dec 8 – letter received regarding availability of funds

2006 –

- July 26 - Project agreement received
- October 31 – We signed agreement and attachments sent to DNR

2007 –

- Feb 27 - Agreement signed by DNR
- March 29 - Received moratorium notice on state grant expenditures
- April 23 - Bid awarded to Rivertown Contractors
- April 24 - Notice of exemption from moratorium received
- May 14 - Start date on trail construction
- Nov 30 - Trail Completed
- Dec 1 - Ribbon cutting ceremony