How do we pay for this trail?

Andrea Chase, Trails Coordinator
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

What are we up against?

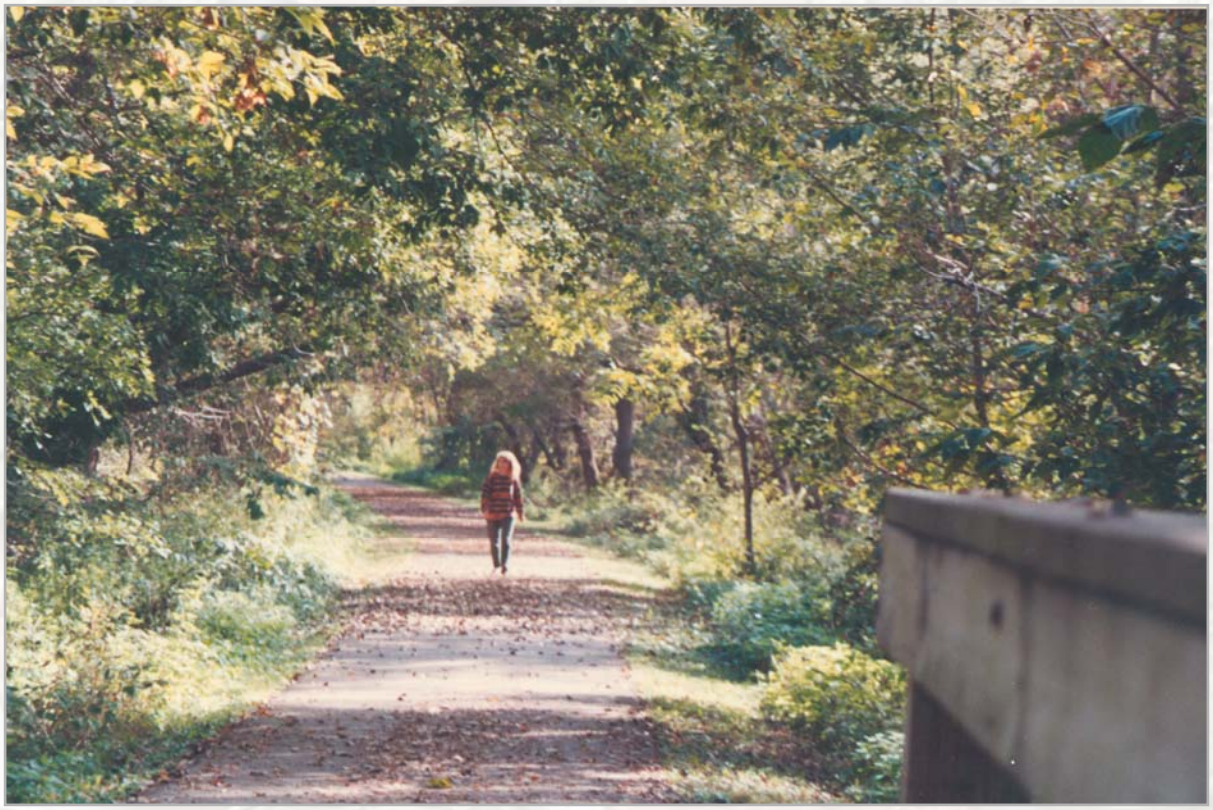
- **Surfacing- Limestone:** $60,000-$80,000 /mile
  Asphalt: $100,000-$120,000 /mile
  Concrete: $100,000-120,000/mile
- **Clearing and grubbing-** $2,500 /mile
- **Grading/shoulder construction-** $10,000 /mile
- **Consultant fees-** 15% of project costs
- **New Bridges-** $100 /square foot + 15% for abutments
- **Signage-** $45/sign
- **Seeding, fertilizing, and mulching-** $800 /mile
- **Fencing-** $1.25/linear foot

What was that again?

- Urban Trails: $350,000/mile
- Rail-Trails: $200,000/mile
  - Land acquisition
  - Hard surface construction
  - Bridge conversion
  - Signage
  - Landscaping

Raccoon River Valley Trail

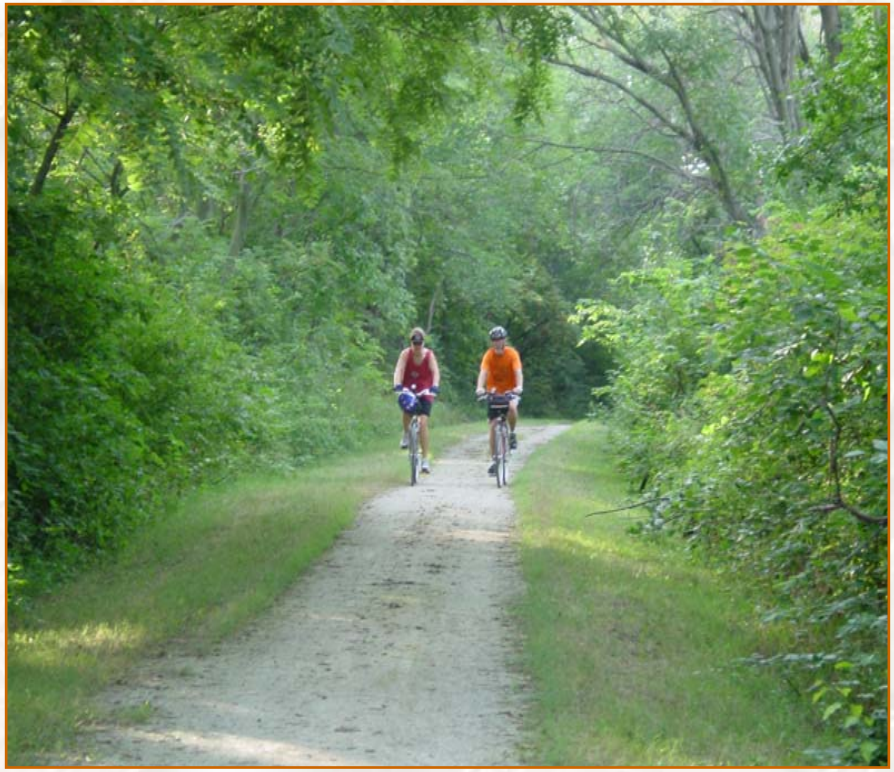
$11.3 million $200,500 /mile



- 56 miles- Waukee to Jefferson, Iowa
- Former rail road line
- Crushed limestone surface

Wabash Trace Nature Trail

$4 million $60,000 /mile



- 63 miles- Council Bluffs to Missouri Boarder
- 73 bridges
- Crushed limestone
- 8 cities, 4 counties; 65,911 combined population

How'd they do it?

- Southwest Iowa Nature Trails (SWINT)
- Federal Recreation Trails Program
- REAP
- Private Donations
- Bridge Adoptions
- Volunteers
- Continual celebration and fun

Iowa Great Lakes Trail

$3 million and growing $200,000 /mile

- 20 miles- Spirit Lake to Milford
- Asphalt surface
- Mix of railroad right-of-way and private property
- 6 cities, 1 counties; 9,762 combined population

How'd they do it?

- Dickinson County Trails Advisory
- Membership sales
- Organized rides/runs
- Events/festivals
- Legacy donations
- Public grants

Ankeny to Woodward Trail

Estimated $8.5 million $340,000 /mile

- 25 miles- Ankeny to Woodward, Iowa
- 10 story high, ½ mile long bridge
- Surface to be determined
- 5 cities, 4 counties; 41,421 combined population

How will they do it?

- Land donation
- State Trans. Enhancement Program
- Regional Trans. Enhancement Program
- REAP
  - Iowa Arts Council
  - Localized fundraising

But what about me?

Understand your project completely

- Destination Points
- Property ownership
- Design
- User groups
- Costs
- Timeline
- Unique characteristics
- Challenges

Organization, organization, organization…

- Establish a “Friends of the Trail” organization
- Create a comprehensive budget
- Phase your project, phase your budget
- Look for connections in every situation, event, and festival

Play, Play, Play…

Show me the money!

Funding Opportunities

- Government funding
- Private foundations
- Private donations
- In-kind donations

Government Funding

Iowa Department of Transportation

www.sysplan.dot.state.ia.us

- Federal
  - Recreational Trails Program
  - Statewide Trans. Enhancement Program
  - Scenic Byways Grant Program
- State
  - Recreational Trails Program (IA)
  - Regional Trans. Enhancement Program

Government Funding (con't)

Department of Natural Resources

www.iowadnr.com/grants/index.html

- Federal
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund
- State
  - REAP
  - Snowmobile Grant Program

Department of Economic Development

www. http://www.visioniowa.org/cat.html

- State
  - Community Attraction and Tourism Program

Show everyone you're serious

Private Foundations

- American Greenways Awards Program
- Bikes Belong
- Temporary volunteer tax
- Sporting good corporations
- Other local, regional, and national private grants
  - www.fdcenter.org
  - www.grants.gov

THE CONSERVATION FUND

Bikes Belong COALITION

Show everyone that other people think you're serious

Private Donations

- Legacy donations
- Segment, bridge adoptions
- Organized rides
- RAGBRAI support
- Auctions and other sales
- Local/regional corporation donations

Show everyone that *they* can get involved

In-kind Donations

- Youth group projects
- Community organization labor
- Donated materials
- Volunteer professional services
- Land contributions
- Partnerships with other local/regional projects

Really, *everyone* can get involved

And, how do I pay for the maintenance?

- User fees
- Ad arches
- Map ads
- Volunteers
- Rides
- Festivals

Show everyone that you're proud and still <u>serious</u>

Website Resources

- Iowa Department of Transportation, Systems Planning Bureau: www.sysplan.dot.state.ia.us
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Grant Program Index: www.iowadnr.com/grants/index.html
- Iowa Department of Economic Development http://www.visioniowa.org/cat.html
- Grant search engine www.grants.gov
- Federal Supply Service www.gsa.gov
- American Trails Funding Research
  - http://www.americantrails.org/resources/funding/
- Private Grant Programs
  - Bikes Belong: www.bikebelong.org
  - American Greenways Kodak Award Program: www.conservationfund.org/?article=2106

Thank you

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