

2011 Annual Report

Metropolitan Park and Recreation District

DBA GREAT RIVERS GREENWAY

## The Board of Directors

## St. Louis City:

Alberta Dillard - Member

Michael Murray - Member

Neal Perryman – President

## St. Louis County:

Robert Epstein - Treasurer

Jim Hall – Member

Monica Huddleston – Vice President

Judith Metzger – Member

Glenn Powers - Member

## St. Charles County:

Bernard Dubray – Secretary

John McGuire - Member

## The County Executives

The Honorable Charlie Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County

The Honorable Francis Slay, Mayor, St. Louis City

The Honorable Steve Ehlmann, County Executive, St. Charles County

## The Staff

Susan Trautman – Executive Director

Todd Antoine

**Lonny Boring** 

Carey Bundy

Glenna Nesbit

**Patrick Owens** 

Nancy Thompson

Janet Wilding

## The Process

Great Rivers Greenway's board has 10 members - three from St. Louis City; five from St. Louis County; and two from St. Charles County.

All board members are appointed by the executive of the city or county they represent.

The board meets monthly at the District's offices. Visit the website at www.grgstl.org to see the schedule of upcoming meetings and to learn about the current greenway projects.

## The Great Rivers Greenway District

6174 A Delmar Blvd. St. Louis, Missouri 63112

314-436-7009 www.grgstl.org



## A Message from the Executive Director and Board President

he power of a greenway is in its connectivity. Every greenway reflects the people and communities it passes through. Using art, architecture, landscape and interpretive signs we learn the story of each community, develop relationships with our neighbors and other users and enjoy access to the outdoors. Great Rivers Greenway District prides itself in building high quality trails, greenways and park amenities that reflect the history and desires of the people in the region. We know that the more access people have to a greenway the greater the use. The eight mile long Grant's Trail is a good example; in 2011 more than 611,000 people used the trail, enough to fill Busch Stadium more than 13 times! This year, the first year after opening the Katy to Heritage Museum Trail, an estimated 214,000 people were counted at the trailhead, signifying the importance of connecting neighborhoods divided by highways. Trail use demonstrates how greenways have a powerful impact on our quality of life; currently 103 miles of greenway trails that connect 40 communities throughout the region provide free exercise, traffic free riding, walking and rolling opportunities. Great Rivers Greenway has also supported 220 community programs including clean water initiatives like the River Des Peres Trash Bash which collected 5.9 tons of trash and the Confluence Cleanup which hauled in 14 tons of trash; enough to eliminate the amount of garbage created by a family of six over the course of 2 and a half years.

This year's milestones included the celebration of five ribbon cuttings in the Dardenne, Centennial and Meramec Greenways in St. Charles and St. Louis Counties as well as the ground breaking for the southern section of the St. Vincent Greenway in the City of St. Louis. We launched

a new, user-friendly website that allows people to find a trail and activities happening around the region. A Business and Revenue Enhancement Plan was developed to help coordinate our planning efforts with the budgeting process and set goals that will address issues in such areas as maintenance, funding and communications.

A significant milestone was established by the District's enabling legislation that required a review and reallocation of the Board of Directors. As a result of demographic shifts, beginning in January 2012 an additional member from both St. Louis and St. Charles Counties will be added to the ten member Board of Directors.

Over the last 11 years over 100 million dollars has been provided to the region through the District's share of 1/10 of a cent sales tax. As stewards of the public trust the District has ensured that 91 cents out of every dollar was invested in greenways and land acquisition for parks that thousands of people are benefitting from each day. The District works with 137 partners not only engaging active involvement in greenways, it leverages public dollars to a maximum benefit. Investing in greenways, parks and trails is essential to creating a high quality of life that attracts young people, retains talent, promotes good health and preserves our region for future generations. An important effort in the coming year is collaboration with many partners on the redevelopment of the Arch grounds and the riverfront. This connection is an important link in the backbone of the River Ring. Connecting the Confluence and the Mississippi River Greenways, it will provide for a critical transformation of unsafe, neglected spaces along one of the greatest rivers in the world. Finally, we encourage you to find a greenway and explore it your way!

Susan Trautman Neal Perryman **Executive Director** 

## **Statement of Net Assets**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

## **Assets**

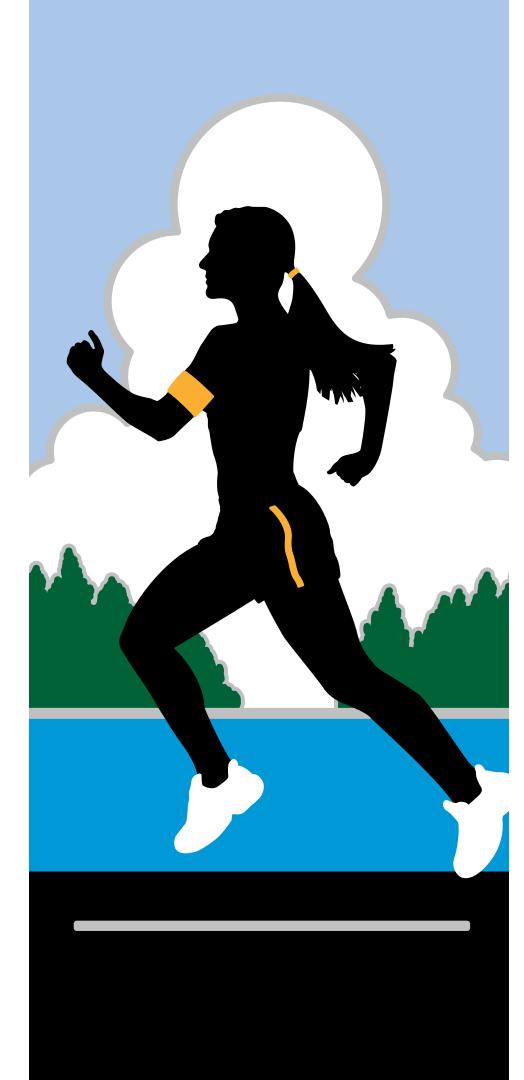
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,999,984
Restricted cash	3,034,948
Investments	12,008,215
Sales tax receivable	1,389,785
Interest receivable	49,133
Other receivables	62,670
Prepaid expenses	28,396
Land	24,581,972
Land improvements	45,474,299
Construction in progress	17,180,760
Furniture and fixtures	175,979
Leasehold improvements	9,519
Computer hardware	56,672
Computer software	36,534
Accumulated depreciation	(10,700,986)
Bond issuance costs, net of amortization	311,023
Total assets	\$97,698,903

## Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$2,901,172
Accrued liabilities	50,597
Accrued interest	93,350
Bonds payable	25,795,000
Unearned revenue - bond OIP, net	171,923
Total liabilities	\$29,012,042

## **Net Assets**

Unrestricted net assets	\$14,897,437
Restricted assets	2,941,598
Investment in Property & Equipment	50,847,825
Total Net Assets	\$68,686,859
Total liabilities and net assets	\$97,698,902



All financial statements are unaudited and as of December 31, 2011.



# Centennial Greenway – Washington University to Delmar

it marks a great partnership with Great Rivers Greenway, Washington University and University City. The Centennial Greenway brings a unique greenway into a heavily-used urban setting. Opened July 29, 2011,

## Statement of Revenues and Expenses For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

## Revenues

Sales tax revenue	\$9,885,411
Interest income	211,531
Unrealized/realized gains	(54,450)
Accretion income - bond OIP	11,092
Cost sharing revenues	1,750
Rental income	461,580
Federal government grants	1,519,807
Miscellaneous income	11,898
	\$12,048,619

## Expenses

Professional Fees	\$411,173
Salaries	267,152
Office & Support	149,021
Space & Occupancy	94,634
Benefits	75,558
Depreciation Expense	31,055
Capital Expenditures-Operating	13,175

\$1,041,768

## Metropolitan Park and Recreation District

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## Schedule of Project Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

## **River Ring**

Greenway Description	Project Description	
Confluence Greenway	Iron Horse Trestle	\$108,764
	Branch Street Trestle	11,883
	Trestle to Downtown	66,938
	Trestle Connections	3,244
	Trail & Trailhead Amenities	54,743
	Riverfront Trail	33,922
	Americorp Trail Ranger Program	57,985
	Archgrounds Design	222,077
		\$564,299
Missouri River Greenway	Chesterfield Levee Trail SEED Project	\$336,501
	Ameren UE Railroad Trail	1,228
	Earth City Levee Trail	15,881
	Levee Trails	264
	Riverwoods Park Trails Signage	3,381
	St. Charles Riverfront	1,378
	Aquaport to Creve Coeur	340,049
	Creve Coeur Park Connector Trail	1,830
		\$700,512



## Dardenne Greenway

include a total of six miles of trail along the levee near the Missouri River in St. Charles County. The City of St. Peters cut the first ribbon for the opening of Lakeside 370 Park in 2011. It will eventually

## Metropolitan Park and Recreation District

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## River Ring continued

Greenway Description	Project Description	
Meramec Greenway	Trailhead Development	\$151,340
	Al Foster Trail Phase III	1,208,293
	River Mile 6 to 9 St. Louis County Willow	10,631
	River Mile 14 to 15 Sunset Hills	2,345
	12 Mile Initiative - Castlewood	76,888
	Fenton Trailhead Connection	6,395
	Rock Alva Association	4,057
		\$1,459,949
Mississippi River Greenway	MSD Lagoons to JB County Park	\$3,157,969
	Canary Island Riverside	4,225
	Trail & Trailhead Amenities	13,066
	Pinnacle to Carondelet	15,775
	Downtown to River Des Peres	157,216
		\$3,348,251
Centennial Greenway	St. Charles - Katy to Heritage Crossing	\$55,204
	I-170 to Olive Interchange	293,254
	Shaw Park - Greensfelder Park	28,436
	I-270 to Creve Coeur Park	48,817
	Washington University to Delmar Trail	1,397,722
	Olive to I-170	14,845
		\$1,838,278
Dardenne Greenway	Dardenne Greenway - Rabbit Run	\$26,276
	Dardenne Greenway at Faron	13,847
	Dardenne SEED Projects	2,824
	Cottleville Trails to Faron	3,503
	Dardenne Greenway at BaratHaven	46,622
	Dardenne Planning & Design of BaratHav	ven 230,754
	Rabbit Run to Cottleville	90,854
	Lakeside 370 to Old Town St. Peters	627,220
	Trail Amenities	38,474
		\$1,080,374

Greenway Description	Project Description	
River Des Peres Greenway	River Des Peres Extension	\$13,496
	Carondelet Connector	155,066
	Alabama Bridge to Pinnacle	130,686
	Lansdowne to Gravois	123,312
	Wabash Ave to Willmore Park	505,492
	Trail & Trailhead Amenities	20,714
	I-55 to Jefferson Barracks Park	78,223
		\$1,026,989
St. Vincent Greenway	DeBaliviere Project	\$690,113
	Hanley Metrolink to UMSL Trail	113,894
	Trail Ranger Program	8,333
	Plymouth - Etzel Trail Remediation, Riparia	an 18,451
	Rock Road Park, Riparian	9,036
	Plymouth to Rock Road	20,450
	UMSL Trail to Jones Trail	138,675
		\$998,952
Western Greenway	Trail and Trailhead Amenities	\$11,057
	Rockwoods to Babler	153,850
		\$164,907
Maline Creek Greenway	Planning	\$90,253
	SEED Project	1,659
		\$91,912
Gravois Creek Greenway	Grant's Trail - Phase V	\$164,705
	I-44 Overpass Branding	2,593
		\$167,298
Sunset Greenway	Sunset Greenway/Sunset Park Trail Extens	sion \$9,987
	Sunset Riverfront Trail	40,791
		\$50,778



## City+Arch+River

the City+Arch+River Foundation and all the partnering agencies to create a connecting greenway along Leonor K. Sullivan Boulevard. With a vision to unify the various efforts along the Riverfront, Great Rivers Greenway agreed to work with

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## River Ring continued

Chouteau Greenway	Mill Creek	\$2,000
	Planning and Design	49,220
		\$51,220
Shady Creek Greenway	Deer Creek Park ಆ Center Trail	\$158,765
	Deer Creek Center to River Des Peres	32,498
	Lorraine Davis Park to Deer Creek Park	27,152
		\$218,415
Busch Greenway	BaratHaven to Missouri Research Park	\$132,733
	Busch to BaratHaven	5,833
		\$138,566
Boschert Greenway	Boschertown Road to New Town Blvd Trail	\$2,538
	Fox Hill Park to Katy Trail	989,714
		\$992,252

## Collaboratives, Initiatives and Other

## Collaborative Planning

Land Acquisition	\$1,172,684
Bike St. Louis - Phase III	4,560
Bicycle Programming	71,040
Programming	38,284
Regional Plan Update	59,706
Bicycle Master Plan	312,132
Bicycle & Pedestrian Banners	16,324
Environmental Graphics	2,470
	\$1,677,200

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## 2011 Great Rivers Greenway Project Highlights

## **HUD Sustainable Communities Grant**

Great Rivers Greenway is one of 11 Consortium Partners, pledging \$150,000 to create a region-wide sustainability plan. East West Gateway Council of Governments is managing the project and conducting region-wide public meetings to discuss sustainability measures throughout the St. Louis area. The final plan will pave the way for future funding for sustainability projects.

## City+Arch+River Project

With a vision to unify the various efforts along the Riverfront, Great Rivers Greenway agreed to work with the City+Arch+River Foundation and all the partnering agencies to create a connecting greenway along Leonor K. Sullivan Boulevard. Great Rivers Greenway also assisted in getting \$20 million from the federal government to build the "Park over the Highway" between the Old Courthouse and the Arch. The multiple projects that make up City+Arch+River are projected to be substantially complete by 2016.

## **Dardenne Greenway Ribbon Cutting**

The City of St. Peters cut the first ribbon on Lakeside 370 Park in 2011. This section of the Dardenne Greenway will eventually include a total of six miles of trail along the levee near the Missouri River in St. Charles County. The park includes RV camping sites, picnic areas and fishing access.

## Meramec Greenway Ribbon Cutting

The newest section of the Meramec Greenway was celebrated with a biking event from the new trailhead at Arnold's Grove to Greentree Park on June 10, 2011.

## **Boschert Greenway**

Great Rivers Greenway is currently constructing the trail between Fox Hill Park to the Katy Trail. This is a significant partnership with the City of St. Charles who helped fund the construction by contributing \$150,000.

## Centennial Greenway – Washington University to Delmar

This trail opened July 29, 2011 and marked a fantastic partnership with Washington University and University City. Great Rivers Greenway has completed the segment from Kingsbury to Delmar. A ribbon cutting was held July 29th and coupled with the dedication of the Chuck Berry Statue.

## Centennial Greenway — Katy Trail to Heritage Museum

This very popular trail segment between the Katy trail and the Heritage Museum has had improvements made to it under ADA. The trail is now is fully compliant. Trail counts are showing usage.

## Gravois Creek Greenway – Kirkwood Park Connection to Meramec Greenway

The on-street connection to Quarry Park and Greentree Park is complete. Also, new signs along the entire 8 miles of Grant's Trail have been installed identifying mileage and naming the 7 main trailheads.

## Maline Greenway Master Plan

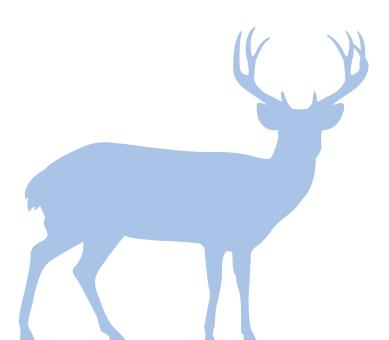
The Maline Greenway Master Plan is complete and the pilot projects are ready for implementation. The plan process was very collaborative and a great partnership consultant team is synthesizing the feedback and developing draft plans for the Maline Greenway Concept Plan. The Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees will meet again soon to review the final recommendations.

## St. Vincent Greenway – University of Missouri – St. Louis to North Hanley Road

This trail is complete and ready for use! The St. Vincent Greenway is coming together in different pieces, but all signs are that the full greenway will come together in the next few years. Look for the connection from UMSL to the North County Bikeway in 2012.

## St. Vincent Greenway – DeBaliviere to Etzel Avenue

Construction began on this project which begins in Forest Park and runs alongside the future Loop Trolley to the Wellston MetroLink station. This portion of the St. Vincent Greenway highlights the transportation benefits that a greenway can provide and allows many residents to enjoy a direct link to parks and transit. Completion of this project will take place in 2012.





## The Great Rivers Greenway District

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