





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3.10.25 Contact: Emma Klues | 217-649-4695 | eklues@grgstl.org

Brickline Greenway Construction Begins To Transform North Grand Boulevard

Groundbreaking celebration Monday, March 24 with City of St. Louis, partners, community members

St. Louis, Missouri – <u>Great Rivers Greenway</u> (GRG), the public agency that has been connecting the region with greenways for 25 years, invites community members to celebrate the groundbreaking of the north connector of <u>Brickline Greenway</u> on Monday, March 24, 2025. The event, hosted by partner <u>Veterans Community Project</u> at 1515 N. Grand Boulevard, is open to the public from 8-9:30 a.m. Refreshments will be provided, with staff on hand to discuss the project. Formal remarks begin at 8:30 a.m. from St. Louis Mayor Tishaura O. Jones, GRG CEO Susan Trautman, and several leaders and partners. Parking on site is limited; attendees are encouraged to take public transit or walk or bike to the event.

The 1.3-mile project will create a new, paved, accessible greenway (path) on the west side of Grand Boulevard from Fairground Park at Natural Bridge Avenue south to Cass Avenue, west to Spring Avenue, south to Page Avenue that will address the dire need for safety improvements. In just four years of study, there were 733 reported crashes resulting in seven deaths, 301 injuries and at least 17 disabling injuries to people walking and driving in this area. The project includes new paths, crosswalks, bus stops (the #70 Grand is the highest used bus in the Metro Transit system), with hundreds of new trees, public art and amenities.



"Hundreds of community members' voices and partner collaborations helped to bring this project to life," said Trautman. "The remarkable mix of federal, state and local public funding alongside significant philanthropic giving have come together for a huge impact."

The construction also includes improvements to the east side of Grand Avenue, thanks to contributions from the city's American Rescue Plan Act funds and two additional federal transportation grants.

"St. Louisans deserve safe and enjoyable options for getting around. Building this section of the Brickline Greenway in North City shows how serious GRG, the City, and everyone involved are about equitably improving our infrastructure," said Jones. "Along with City projects also happening in 2025 and 2026 - like calming 30 miles of main roads and building several protected bike lanes - the Brickline Greenway is reshaping our transportation landscape and making our streets people-friendly."



Current photo shows the former Carter Carburetor manufacturing site at bottom left, Boys & Girls Clubs at top left, adjacent to Sportsman's Park, the first Major League Baseball stadium in St. Louis through 1965.



Rendering shows Brickline Greenway as well as the nearby partner project, a new PGA REACH golf facility for neighborhood youth, in partnership with Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis, which will also speak at the groundbreaking.







This project is one segment of the overall Brickline Greenway project, which is a \$245 million public-private partnership. Great Rivers Greenway will bid it out for construction this month, is expected to break ground in May and take approximately 18 months to complete. North Grand will keep parking on both sides of the street in between curb bump-outs and safer crosswalks, and driving lanes will be reduced to one narrower lane of car travel in each direction with a center lane for turning and emergency vehicle access. Similar traffic calming measures employed for a project in South City have resulted in only 9 percent of people exceeding the 35-mph speed limit while driving in the narrowed southbound lanes alongside the River des Peres Greenway vs. 56 percent of the people exceeding the speed limit when driving in the wide north bound lanes.

"We're committed to investing in the Brickline Greenway because it will attract more businesses, talent and energy to St. Louis," said Penny Pennington, Managing Partner at Edward Jones and Campaign Co-Chair for the Brickline Greenway project. "Our region deserves transformative projects like the Brickline Greenway that promote accessibility and shared prosperity."

Both Edward Jones and the Penny Pennington and Michael Fidler Family are contributing to the project, alongside the Berges Family Foundation, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Ameren, and many others.



The Brickline Greenway project overall map shows the 10 miles of greenway with 2.6 miles of partner connectors, aiming to be fully complete in 2030.

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About Brickline Greenway/Great Rivers Greenway | MEDIA KIT

Brickline Greenway is a bold vision to connect people and our city's most treasured places, creating inspiring experiences and equitable opportunities for growth. This will be a network of 12+ miles of greenways, linking up to 14 neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis, connecting Forest Park to the Gateway Arch National Park, Fairground Park to Tower Grove Park and hundreds of destinations in between. The project aims to finish in 2030 and is now 54% funded through local tax dollars, State of Missouri funds, several federal grants and private philanthropy. BricklineGreenway.org

Great Rivers Greenway is a public agency created by a vote of the people in St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Charles County in the year 2000 to connect the region with greenways. There are 135 miles of greenways and counting for you to explore and enjoy! GreatRiversGreenway.org

About our host: <u>Veterans Community Project</u> is dedicated to serving every man and woman who took the oath for our country, regardless of discharge status or type of service. Our solution to fix Veteran homelessness is simple: provide Veterans a home with dignity and wrap-around support services that not only get them back on their feet, and ensure they continue standing. 2025 also marks the 250th anniversary of the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps.