



V&E GREENLINE

ANNUAL
REPORT

2020

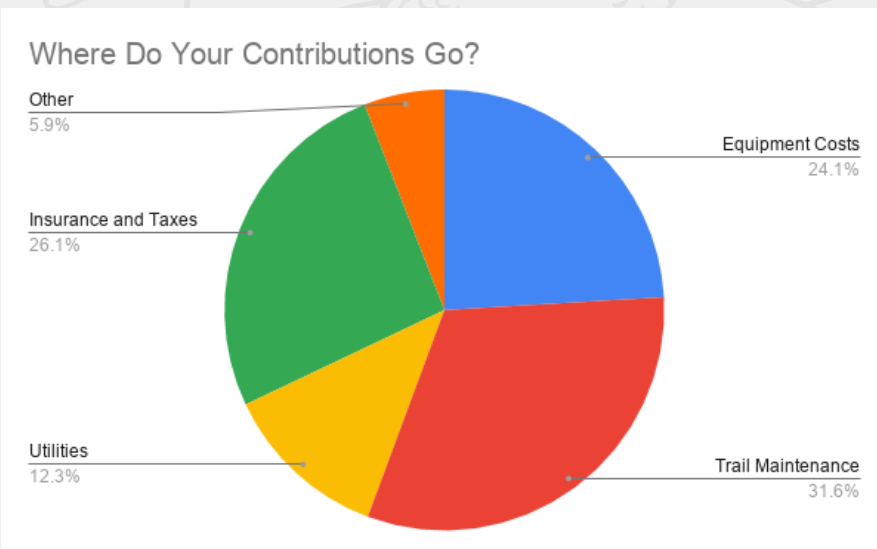
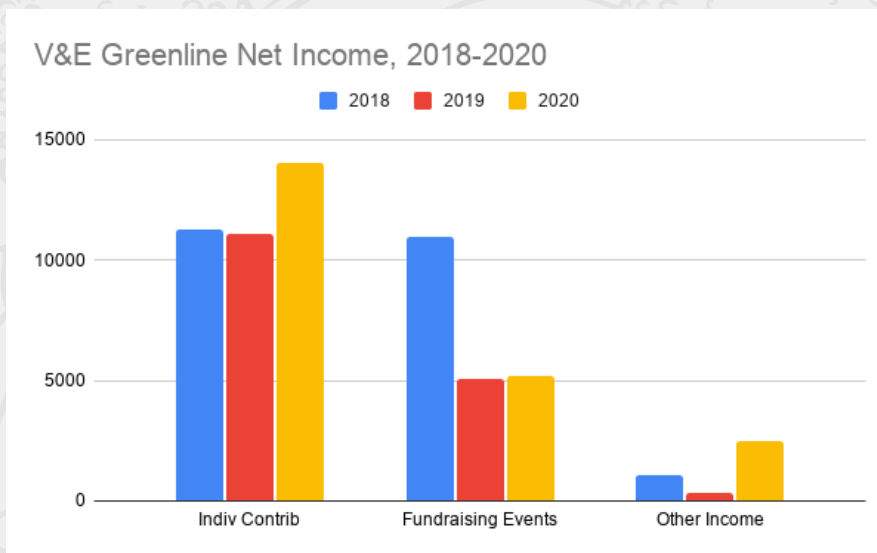
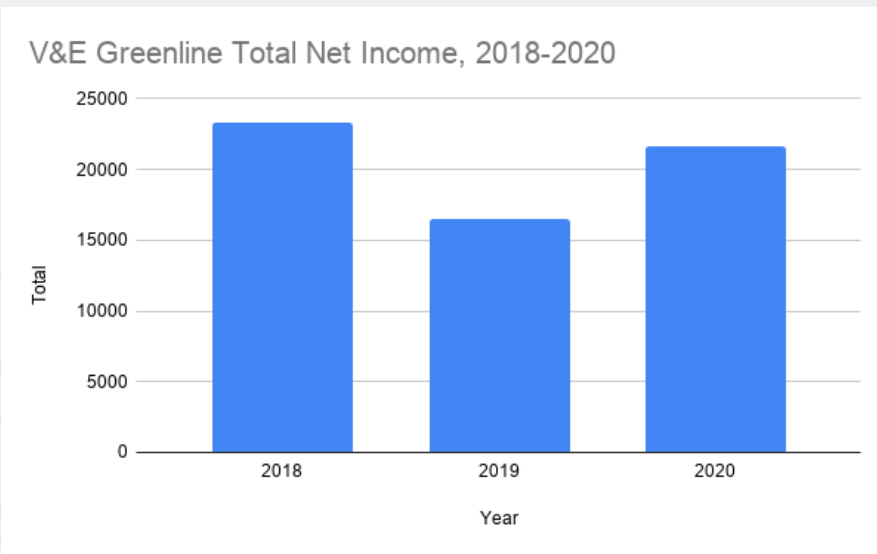


THE V&E GREENLINE DURING A PANDEMIC

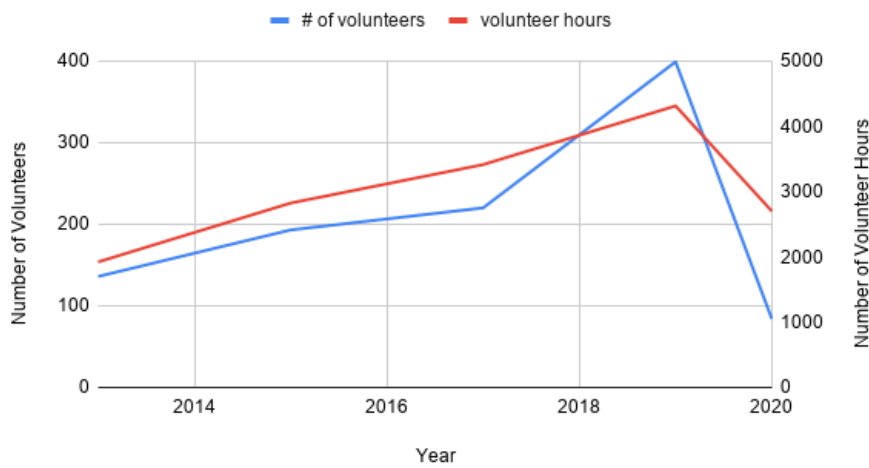
Since the V&E Greenline Community Corporation purchased the land from the L&N Railroad in 1996, the trail has become the centerpiece of the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood in Memphis. The V&E Greenline is entirely unique for its community spirit: Almost all funding comes from contributors and most of the work on the trail is performed by volunteers. Especially during the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, this rails-to-trails project provides a much-needed and safe outlet for running, dog walking and cycling.

Due to the pandemic, the trail has seen a record number of users. This year also saw the finalization of the V&E Greenline Arboretum, after countless hours by volunteers planting, identifying and labelling the many trees on the trail. At the same time, Covid forced the V&E Greenline Committee to cancel our most popular event, the V&E Artwalk, in April. This cancellation has forced the trail to pursue alternate sources of funding during the past year and, potentially, in 2021.

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Number of Volunteers and Volunteer Hours, 2013-2020



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021

Although the general maintenance needs of the trail continue to be addressed with regular contributions from the community, there are several large projects that will require targeted fundraising campaigns in 2021. Community volunteers put in an incredible effort to control flooding on the West End of the trail in 2020, but professionals will need to finish the job so that we can all enjoy this key section of the V&E Greenline without trudging through the mud during the rainy season. Efforts to seek recognition for the V&E Greenline as a Class 2 Arboretum have been successful, but the application to the State of Tennessee remains tentative until many of the trees are cleared of deadwood.

Most significant in terms of cost, however, are repairs to both the Keeler and Lick Creek Bridges, which are now almost 20 years old. Painting these bridges is an arduous and costly enterprise because they cross protected water. All of this demands that the V&E Greenline build a large capital improvement fund.