

V&E GREENLINE ANNUAL REPORT

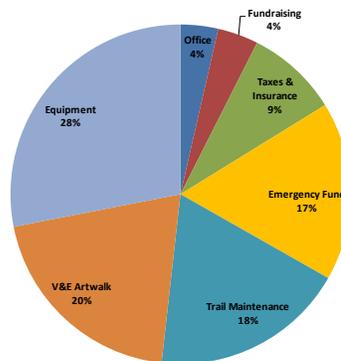
January 1, 2018

Contributions

The V&E Greenline receives the support of its loyal contributors. The V&E Greenline is supported by those that use and cherish the trail. Over 150 generous contributors gave more than \$13,000 in cash. The long-term survival of the V&E Greenline is dependent on even more trail users providing contributions. The annual contribution fundraiser will take place in March 2018 and brochures soliciting contributions will be distributed. Donations are an important major source of yearly funding. Maintenance on the V&E Greenline is funded by contributors who support the work of the volunteers.

Expenses

Funds raised by the V&E Greenline support the trail. The largest expense is for the equipment used by the volunteers, including purchase, repair and storage costs. Managing the fall leaves has been a hardship for the volunteers and a Cyclone brand leaf blower that fits on the tractor was purchased. It will be a major upgrade in volunteer productivity. Trail maintenance costs were significant for gas and diesel fuel, garbage bags and a multitude of other costs. The V&E Artwalk cost was reasonable given the funds raised. Taxes and insurance were costly. Fundraising costs were minimal and mostly involved printing materials and postage.



V&E Greenline Trees

Storms in May and June caused significant damage to the V&E Greenline trees with over ten downed trees. Most of the work to remove the downed trees was done by a group of 20 volunteers. A tree contractor with a bucket truck was hired to remove high dangling limbs. February saw the planting of 30 trees along the trail under the power lines. In the fall, significant volunteer time was used to clean the area between Jackson Ave and Springdale St. The work including removing dead limbs, clearing the ditches, and trimming unwanted growth. In October the V&E Greenline started tree identification between Avalon St and McLean Blvd with the commitment to obtaining arboretum status.

Entrances Construction

Construction started in December on public improvements for the trail entrances which included concrete wheelchair ramps at eight street crossings. The concrete curb and sidewalk are being rebuilt adjacent to the ramps. Zebra striping is being added to create a highly visible crosswalk. Pedestrian crossing signs will be placed at each crosswalk to alert motorists. The City of Memphis allocated \$262,310 in its Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for construction by general contractor Barnes and Brower. A special thanks is due to Council Member Kemp Conrad for sponsoring the funding and helping move the project to construction.



What is the Greenline?

The land for the trail was purchased in 1996 from the successors of the L&N Railroad. It is owned by the community, maintained by volunteers, and supported by contributions.

It is a rails-to-trails project for running, walking, dog exercising, and bicycling. It provides recreation, exercise, healthy living, neighboring, and enjoying nature. It has thousands of trees, two creeks with unique bridges, and interesting landscapes. It is located in Midtown Memphis with the Stationhouse at 1625 Tutwiler.



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V&E Artwalk Fundraiser

The V&E Greenline held its annual V&E Artwalk which was a success with 60 booths, live music, food, kids' area, a silent auction, and many attendees. The list of sponsors was impressive and they made it financially possible to stage the event. More than 100 volunteers helped with the event. Proceeds were used to support the V&E Greenline Emergency Fund. A special thanks to the VECA Youth Committee for sponsoring the children's' art competition.



The seventh annual Artwalk will be held Saturday April 28, 2018 from 11:00 to 6:00 at the V&E Stationhouse, 1625 Tutwiler Ave.

Volunteers

Volunteers help make the V&E Greenline sustainable. A total of 220 volunteers worked 3,413 hours, which is the equivalent of 85 work weeks. There are many highlights. Mercy Hill Church managed the V&E Artwalk Kids section, the Midtown Rotary Club staffed the busy kitchen area of the V&E Artwalk, KIPP Academy seniors prepared the V&E Artwalk grounds and two groups sponsored by City Leadership (St. George's students and a student group from Indianapolis) helped with maintenance.

Volunteers mowed the trail every two weeks, spent countless hours removing dead trees from the storm, and managed the organization.



The Dick Mochow Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Mary Gibson who was in charge of publicity for the V&E Artwalk, served on the V&E Greenline Committee, maintained the Woodland Garden at the Stationhouse and was a frequent volunteer at cleanups.

SkyCop Camera

The V&E Greenline is pleased with the SkyCop camera located on the trail at McLean Blvd. We also maintain a close and positive relationship with the Crump Station police and the officers patrolling the V&E Greenline area.

Trail Uses

In a year, the V&E Greenline has over 65,000 uses by walkers, runners, dog exercisers, and leisurely bikers. The trail users come from both adjacent neighborhoods and beyond. The natural trail is an opportunity for both exercise and an escape to nature that surrounds the trail.



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| Mercy Hill Church Buckman | Evergreen Historic District |
| Wisecre Brewing | Church Health West Memorials |
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