



celebrating Creativity

RILEY ARTS TRAIL Project Information

Construction Dates June 2024 – July 2025

The Riley Arts Trail is the #1 most wanted project identified in the Greenfield Downtown Revitalization Plan and the Capital Improvement plan that led to the Health and Heritage Stellar Designation. The Trail is the last Stellar project in a series of projects begun in 2018, and this funding is matching a grant from the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The Riley Arts Trail depicts the poetry and history of James Whitcomb Riley and celebrates all the artists, poets, songwriters, authors, and creative souls in our community, past, present, and most importantly, future. With your participation, the Trail can provide inspiration, recreation, and entertainment for years to come.

The Riley Trail route is being constructed along Riley Avenue, North Street, and East Street/American Legion Place in Hancock County, Indiana. The project will construct a 0.7-mile concrete multiuse trail loop through the heart of downtown. The trail is meant to connect the Pennsy Trail travelers to our heritage sites, shops, and restaurants, and bring these travelers and other tourists into our city.

The multiuse trail will be 10-foot-wide, replacing the existing 5-foot-wide sidewalks. Poetry of James Whitcomb Riley will be etched into the trail to be read as walking along in both directions. 7 interpretive panels are proposed along the trail depicting our cultural story. 10 hand sculpted limestone benches by renowned Sculptress Cheryl Anne Lorange will be installed depicting Riley poetry excerpts, and Cheryl Anne's carved illustrations of the particular poem.

Our existing bronze sculptures, murals, the Rotary Arts Park, and historic markers will grace the path. New historical markers are planned to help tell our significant architectural history. Forty-two (42) trees will also be planted along the proposed trail route. The City is planning to

install pedestrian-scale lighting posts along the length of the trail separately from this project sometime in the future.

Pedestrian safety will be improved along the trail route as seventeen (17) bump-outs will be constructed at the following intersections:

US 40/Main Street and Riley Avenue, bump-outs, and pedestrian crossing flashing beacons. Painted boulevards will merge traffic down to one lane on each side.

US 40/Main Street and Alley, bump-outs,

North Street and Pennsylvania Street, bump-outs,

North Street and SR 9/State Street, bump-outs, and a hawk signal as well as a refuge island in the center of SR9

North Street and East Street, bump-outs,

US 40/Main Street and East Street/American Legion Place, bump-outs, and a hawk signal

American Legion Place and South Street bump-outs.

The addition of bump-outs along the project area, and the narrowing of the existing roadway width will improve pedestrian safety but will also create some parking loss. Though there is parking space loss throughout the project area, there are also public parking lots adjacent to the project and some new parking options are being introduced and investigated in other projects within the downtown.

Please contact the City Planning & Engineering Department for additional or specific information at 317-477-4320. Thank you!