

Jonesboro Greenway



Contact Information

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All photographs courtesy of Carter-Burgess.



What is a greenway?

A greenway is a linear park which may accommodate pathways principally for foot traffic and/or bicycles. Typically, greenways are planned along creeks, streams or rivers and managed as natural environments, or as sidewalks or bikeways along landscaped streets.

Greenway Benefits

Greenways provide natural areas for trees to thrive in an urban environment. In return, greenway trees benefit the community by improving water quality, providing wildlife corridors, keeping trails cooler, acting as noise buffers, increasing property values, reducing storm water run off and erosion, and helping to beautify neighborhoods. In addition, the trees planted alongside the Jonesboro Greenway will aide local education by offering trees listed in the Jr. High leaf collections.

Why do we need a greenway?

In a 2002 survey of Jonesboro, walking was the #1 activity for adults, and the #3 activity for youth. Biking was the #1 activity for youth under 12. Exercise was the #2 activity for adults and #4 activity for youth. Rollerblading was the #5 activity for youth.

Jonesboro Greenway Features

The proposed trail is designed to be identical, in construction, to the Arkansas River Trail; a 12' wide asphalt trail with centerline striping. According to the Arkansas Corps of Engineers this type of trail is most conducive for multi-use; jogging, walking, biking, and rollerblading. The proposal is to construct the trail in three phases, totaling 29 miles.

Mississippi River Trail

The Jonesboro Greenway could become a part of a much larger Mississippi River Trail. This trail offers approximately 3,000 miles for recreational enjoyment, exercise, conservation, and tourism. The Mississippi River Trail connects points of interest in 10 different states. (www.mississippirivertrail.org)

Greenway Studies

The Greenway will actually enhance property value. 70% of real estate agents use trails as a selling feature when selling homes. Studies have shown that 70% of landowners felt that an adjacent trail was a good "neighbor" with impacts including 1) getting in touch with nature (64%), 2) recreational opportunity (53%), and 3) health benefits (24%) (www.AmericanTrails.org).

Greenway Phases

Phase 1

Connects downtown with ASU, Turtle Creek Mall, Nettleton Intermediate Center, Nettleton Central Elementary and Allen Park Community Center.

Phase 2

Follows the Entergy utility easement to Joe Mack Campbell Park, runs parallel to HWY 63 to Ridge Park Center, and continues on to Craighead Forest Park, and the Southside Softball Complex.

Phase 3

Extends the ASU Greenway connection north from Stadium, connecting with the Entergy utility lines that run toward Joe Mack Campbell Park. An additional loop would connect Parker Park Community Center, North Main Park, and Northside Baseball Complex with Joe Mack Campbell Park.

