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Governor Bredesen Announces Enhancement Grant for Shelby County
Grant to Fund Improvements to Shelby Farms

NASHVILLE - Governor Phil Bredesen and TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely joined state and local leaders today to announce the award of a \$1,640,675 transportation enhancement grant to Shelby County for the Shelby Farms Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Equine Trails.

The project will construct much of the initial trail system within Shelby Farms, providing connectivity to the park from surrounding residential areas and other nearby greenways. It will feature a shared-use path with eight feet for cyclists and five feet for pedestrians. The 13 foot total width will accommodate the anticipated volume of users and also provide easier access to open areas.

"This project will increase opportunities for recreational activities in Shelby Farms, while decreasing vehicle traffic inside the park," said Bredesen. "I'm pleased the state could fund these important improvements."

Senator Jim Kyle is a strong supporter of the project and added, "I'm pleased to see the state providing funds to support the Shelby Farms project, which will create a safer more pedestrian friendly atmosphere and will encourage a more active community."

Representative Steve McManus and Representative Mark White also supported the project.

The grant is made possible through a federally funded program administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

"Through Transportation Enhancement grants, TDOT has funded approximately \$223 million in non-traditional transportation projects," said Nicely. "Established by Congress in the early 1990's, the program supports activities designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of the nation's transportation system."

A variety of activities such as the restoration of historic facilities, bike and pedestrian trails, landscaping and other non-traditional transportation projects are eligible for grant funds under the federal program.

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