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**Governor Bredesen Announces Enhancement Grant for City of South Pittsburg
*Grant to Fund South Pittsburg Riverwalk Project***

NASHVILLE - Governor Phil Bredesen joined TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely and state and local leaders today to announce the award of a \$72,000 transportation enhancement grant to the City of South Pittsburg for the South Pittsburg Riverwalk Project.

The project will construct a 1,500 foot trail along the Tennessee River, beginning just off Third Street and running parallel to the Tennessee River. The project will end at the trailhead of the South Pittsburg to Kimball Proposed Greenway site, near the railroad. This South Pittsburg Riverwalk Project also is a part of the Marion County Greenways System and will allow the city to connect to the neighboring community of Kimball.

"This project will add to the existing greenway system in Marion County, which when completed will allow connectivity between the communities in the area," said Bredesen. "Projects such as this allow citizens to have healthy transportation options, like biking or walking, that improve the quality of life in a community."

"This project will improve the aesthetic appearance for South Pittsburg's National Cornbread Festival, which brings in thousands of visitors each April," said Representative Bill Harmon. "I am very pleased to have helped secure the funds for this important project."

Senator Andy Berke added, "This project will provide a walkway for the citizens of South Pittsburg to use for both recreational and transportation purposes, which will reduce the amount of traffic and automobile emissions in the city."

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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