

WHITE LICK CREEK GREENWAY

OVERVIEW

A 6.75-mile-long segment of White Lick Creek lies on the extreme western edge of Marion County, along the border of Hendricks County in Wayne Township. The portion of Wayne Township that White Lick Creek flows through is still largely undeveloped. The only community facility in the study area is Indianapolis International Airport, which is east of the corridor. Given the lack of existing community facilities, the corridor is accessible only at street crossings. The Airport Authority has restored and created a natural habitat on property they own along the greenway.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE RECOMMENDATIONS

2001 to 2006

1. Work with the Airport Authority to advocate for corridor preservation and provide access for environmental education and nature trails.
2. Work with surrounding counties on potential for connections.
3. Work with INDOT to construct a safe culvert crossing at I-70 and Bridgeport Road.

2007 to 2012

1. Work with the Airport Authority to advocate for corridor preservation and provide access for environmental education and nature trails.
4. Work with surrounding counties on potential for connections.

Public Vision Statements

The portion of the corridor from U.S. 36 to U.S. 40 provides more opportunities for development of trails. A pedestrian path could be developed beyond the U.S. 40 overpass and to the Indianapolis International Airport property. The city should coordinate the protection and development of the corridor with officials in Hendricks County.

The public's vision for this greenway corridor specified that only some of the corridor should be developed for trails. Although this corridor is in a rural part of the county, suggestions include coordination with appropriate agencies and local governments.

Currently, the only opportunity for access to White Lick Creek is at road crossings. The segment of corridor from Raceway Road north of 16th Street and south to U.S. 36 is most appropriate for conservation of natural habitat, although there are some possibilities for development of limited biking and hiking trails

and horse trails. Regulations requiring all development to be set back 100 feet from the creek could be adopted.

The Indianapolis Health Department has detected E-coli bacteria levels well in excess of acceptable limits throughout the corridor. The problem is the result of failed septic systems and runoff from agricultural activities. Efforts to protect water quality in the White Lick Creek watershed should also be coordinated with Hendricks County.