

November 03, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Ribbon Cutting for Fassnight Park Improvements

The City of Springfield and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board will host a ribbon cutting ceremony at 2 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7 at Fassnight Park. The ceremony will take place at the west end of Fassnight Park, on the east side of Grant Ave., to celebrate the completion of the Fassnight Improvement Project. This is just one in a series of six Lake, Stream and Waterway Improvement projects within Springfield-Greene County Park sites.

The \$4.95 million Fassnight Park waterway improvements provide a stable, safe and attractive channel for Fassnight Creek, and focus on the sustainability and environmental protection to the natural water environment throughout the park and surrounding neighborhoods. Funding for the project was provided by the 2006 County-wide Parks Sales Tax, a \$1.7 million Stormwater Infrastructure Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency and a \$200,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant for trails.

Originally designed as one project, the improvements bid as two separate projects. The first project consisted of replacing the bridges over Fassnight Creek at Campbell, Main and Grant Avenues to increase flow capacity and reduce flooding. Channel improvements included the replacement of the existing deteriorated channel retaining walls. The second project included the construction of a 10-foot wide concrete trail from west of Grant Avenue to east of Campbell Avenue. Improvements in the park will reduce flooding, provide water quality benefits and maintain the historical appearance of the park. Construction of the Fassnight Creek Greenway Trail through the park will provide new opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists.

Preservation and protection of the trees in this historic park has remained a priority throughout the project. Area groups, including Tree City USA Citizens Advisory Committee, Greater Ozarks Audubon Society, Ozark Greenways, Missouri Department of Conservation, Greene County Historical Society and others have been a part of the planning process.

The General Contractor for the project is Hartman & Company, Inc., with engineering and landscape architecture services provided by Mathews & Associates, Patti Banks Associates and natural stream specialists, Intuition and Logic.

Similar Lakes, Streams, and Waterways Improvement Projects are scheduled to begin soon at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, and the Ward Branch Greenway. The Doling Park Project is under construction and is expected to be completed by Spring 2012. Recently completed projects at Dickerson Park Zoo and Sequiota Park were celebrated during the month of October.

For more information, contact: Todd Wagner, City of Springfield Stormwater Engineer, 417-864-1901 or Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer, 417-864-2005.