

# City of Cincinnati



Mayor John Cranley

Office of Mayor John Cranley

801 Plum Street, Suite 150  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
Phone (513) 352-3250  
Fax (513) 352-5201  
Email: [John.Cranley@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:John.Cranley@cincinnati-oh.gov)

December 1, 2014

Ms. Lisa Kiefel, Program Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW.,  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

**Attn:** CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

Pursuant to the Notice published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the *Federal Register* on August 5, 2014, I hereby transmit a proposal on behalf of the City of Cincinnati to modify its authorization for the Central Riverfront Park project authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million [Section 5116 (a)]. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the Cincinnati Park Board, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

In addition, the modification language should delete the words “**before the date of the partnership agreement for the project**” [Section 5116 (b)], which would allow the project’s non-federal sponsors to receive credit for the planning, engineering, design and construction work they have carried out above and beyond the authorized non-federal limits.

**1. Provide the name of all non-Federal interests planning to act as the sponsor, including any non Federal interest that has contributed or is expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.**

The non-Federal sponsors of this project are the City of Cincinnati, Ohio; the Cincinnati Park Board; Hamilton County, Ohio; State of Ohio; private citizens, individual private donors; and philanthropic organizations (see detailed list of non-federal sponsors under item #6).

**2. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project or feasibility study and, if a modification, specify the authorized project or study.**

The proposal will modify the following authorized project:

**Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (P.L. 100-114)**

SEC. 5116. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

(a) IN GENERAL

—The Secretary may undertake the ecosystem restoration and recreation components of the Central Riverfront Park Master Plan, dated December 1999, at a total cost of \$30,000,000.

(b) CREDIT

—The Secretary shall credit, in accordance with section 221 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 1962d– 5b), toward the non-Federal share of the cost of the project the cost of planning, design, and construction work carried out by the non-Federal interest for the project before the date of the partnership agreement for the project.

**3. State the project purpose of the proposed study or modification.**

This project has met the original \$30 million dollar authorization and appropriation for both Federal and non Federal share. The modification will increase the Federal project from a 5 acre project initially authorized in 2007 to a \$140 million twenty five acre portion of the Central Riverfront Park project, which was initiated in December 1999.

There is still significant work to be done in completing the overall project for erosion control and flood mitigation, as well as ecosystem restoration. We are asking that the Federal Authorization be expanded from \$30 million to \$80 million to complete the remaining parts of the project [Section 5116 (a)]. We would also seek to delete the words “**before the date of the partnership agreement for the project**” [Section 5116 (b)], which would allow the project’s non-federal sponsors to receive credit for the planning, engineering, design and construction work they have carried out above and beyond the authorized non-Federal limits.

**The modified language would be as follows:**

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The project stabilizes the riverbank from future erosion and will control the flooding of the area through the installation of hard and green infrastructure. In addition, the project will provide for acres of green ecosystem where blacktop pavement used to exist and assist with the mitigation of storm water runoff. The project will

provide a safer environment for children, residents, and visitors to our city/region. Moreover, the project will protect human life and the environment for generations to come.

**4. Provide an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the total cost of the proposed study or modification.**

The total cost of the modification is \$50 million dollars (\$25 million Federal and \$25 million non-Federal). This amount is required to finish the remaining phases of the project.

The total cost of the project exceeds \$140 million dollars. To date, including the Federal authorization share of \$15 million dollars the project is in process or completed in excess of \$90 million dollars in construction, which equates to a \$6 dollar return on every Federal dollar invested.






## Economic Impact

Smale Riverfront Park (SRP) Economic Impact	Leveraged Impact SRP	Return on Federal Investment of \$1
<b>Federal:</b>		
Federal Government	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 6.00
<b>Total Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$ 15,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 6.00</b>
<b>All Other Funding:</b>		
Hamilton County (ODOT)	\$ 550,000.00	
State of Ohio	\$ 3,500,000.00	
City of Cincinnati	\$ 34,900,000.00	
Private Donors	\$ 43,056,241.00	
Moerlein Lager House	\$ 8,000,000.00	
<b>Total Other Funding</b>	<b>\$ 90,006,241.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Economic Impact SRP</b>	<b>\$ 105,006,241.00</b>	<b>\$ 6.00</b>

Cincinnati Park Board

**5. Describe, to the extent practicable, the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.**

This project has generated economic development (housing, restaurants, bars, commercial, and retail spaces) in the surrounding area in excess of \$200 million dollars. The USACE's initial Feasibility Study stated that the project will bring over 1.1 million new visitors a year to this area. Per the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, the average visitor to the region spends \$300 per day and over \$635 dollars per stay. According to those figures, that will generate billions for the city, region, and the country.

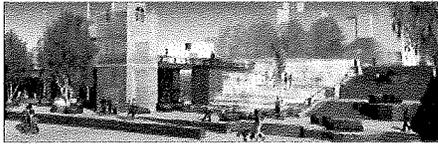
Moreover, the project protects human life and property through the bank stabilization, flood mitigation, and erosion control, while providing for a significant return on the taxpayers investment of \$6 per every \$1 Federally invested.

**6. Describe if local support exists for the proposal.**

This project has been supported by the City of Cincinnati at \$34.9 million, by the State of Ohio at \$3.5 million, by Hamilton County Ohio at \$550,000, and by the private citizens and the philanthropic organizations at over \$43 million dollars. Please see the chart listed below:

JOHN G. & PHYLLIS W. SMALE  
RIVERFRONT  
PARK

# Private Funding




**Cincinnati Riverfront Park - Project Milestones**

- December 2007: Federal Government Authorizes Construction of Smale Riverfront Park
- September 29, 2008: Groundbreaking for Smale Riverfront Park
- February 17, 2011: MacLaren Lagoon House Grand Opening
- May 18, 2012: Grand Opening Smale Riverfront Park
- May 31, 2015: Host Old Fashioned on the Jacob G. Schenck Legacy Event Lanes

**Funding Data:**  
Smale Riverfront Park is a \$120 Million project. The park funding will be split into \$92 Million City, State, Federal dollars to \$44.9 Million Private Dollars. Here is an update on our funding so far:

CITY OF CINCINNATI - ALL FINANCING (Grand Opening)		PRIVATE FUNDING (Grand Opening)	
<b>Federal</b>		Smale Family Foundation	\$25,750,000
• 2006-2007	\$2,699 Million	Maize Foundation	\$5,500,000
• 2008	\$198 Thousand	Assessments	\$3,000,000
• 2009	\$2,451 Million	Gifts	\$1,500,000
• 2010	\$2,374 Million	Private & Grants	\$1,500,000
• 2011	\$2,120 Million	The Anderson Foundation	\$1,200,000
• 2014	\$4.63 Million	Women's Commission of CERP (Old Fashioned)	\$1,000,000
<b>State</b>		Jacob G. Schenck Legacy Trusts (3)	\$1,000,000
• 2009-2010	\$1.93 Million	Oliver Family Foundation	\$1,000,000
<b>City</b>		Cincinnati Register	\$650,000
• 2007-2008	\$104 Million	Harry & Linda Lee	\$500,000
• 2009	\$1 Million	CHH Foundation	\$500,000
• 2010	\$4 Million	Vista Foundation	\$500,000
• 2011	\$4 Million	Crossroads Foundation	\$500,000
• 2012	\$1.93 Million	MacLaren Foundation	\$488,116
• 2013	\$4.09 Million	PNC Bank	\$450,000
• 2014	\$1.05 Million	Data	\$450,000
• 2015	\$4.03 Million	Conroy Family	\$350,000
<b>Hamilton County (OOO)</b>		Blanchard Family	\$350,000
• 2014	\$550 Thousand	Wynne Southern Foundation	\$350,000
		Truman Foundation	\$300,000
		Golf Outing	\$170,000
		Greater Cincinnati Foundation	\$50,000
		Pave Great	\$50,000
		The Egan Family Foundation	\$20,000
		David Johnson	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL TO DATE: \$83,950,000</b>		<b>TOTAL TO DATE: \$43,056,241</b>	
<b>OVERALL TOTAL: \$127,006,241</b>			

The Cincinnati Parks Foundation continues to file grants to support this project. We have just well over 50 community request letters and corporations to present the Cincinnati Riverfront Park Project.







Cincinnati Park Board

**7. State if the non-Federal interest has the financial ability to provide for the required cost share.**

The non-Federal interest has the financial ability to provide for the required costs to match the Federal share. Within the modification language we are asking that the USACE give this project credit for work already completed outside the original authorization area. The credit for prior work, land value, and other non-Federal support will more than match the modification request of the additional \$50 million in authorization.

**8. Submit a letter or statement of support from each associated non-Federal interest.**

Letters of support are attached to this proposal.

For the above reasons, I ask that you certify the proposed modification to the City of Cincinnati's authorization for the Central Riverfront Park Project as meeting the criteria for USACE projects and include the project in your recommended list in the 2015 Annual Report that will be sent to Congress.

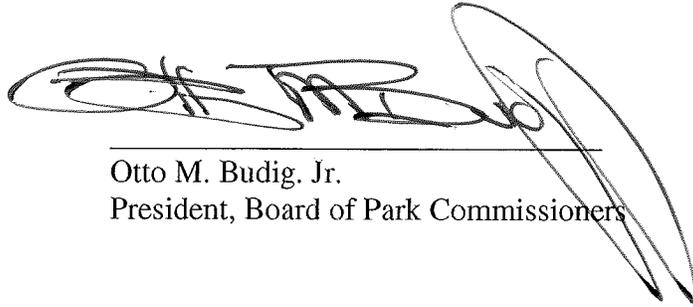
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Sincerely,



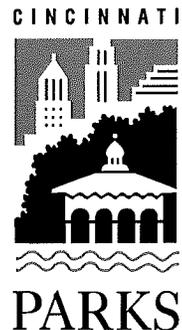
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John Cranley  
Mayor, City of Cincinnati



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Otto M. Budig, Jr.  
President, Board of Park Commissioners



December 1, 2014

Ms. Lisa Kiefel, Program Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000  
**Attn:** CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

BOARD OF PARK

COMMISSIONERS

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

Otto M. Budig, Jr.  
President

Merri Gaither Smith  
Vice President

Robert D.H. Anning

Susan F. Castellini

Cathy T. Crain

As the President, of the Board of Park Commissioner, I am writing in support of the City of Cincinnati's Central Riverfront Park project to modify its authorization as authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the City of Cincinnati, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

The proposal will modify the following authorized project:

**Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (P.L 100-114)**

Marian J. Lindberg  
*President Emerita*

Roscoe A. Fultz  
*Commissioner Emeritus  
Posthumously*

Willie F. Carden, Jr.  
*Director*

James H. Burkhardt  
*Superintendent  
Operations*

Steven L. Schuckman  
*Superintendent  
Design & Planning*

Dawn M. Geoppinger  
*Manager  
Business Services*

Marijane E. Klug  
*Manager  
Financial Services*

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This project is a flood mitigation and erosion control project of the Ohio River Bank along the City of Cincinnati's downtown waterfront. This area is subject to annual flooding and erosion, as well as 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 year flooding incidents. The current riverbank infrastructure doesn't have a protective hard edge and is eroding away with every flood incident.

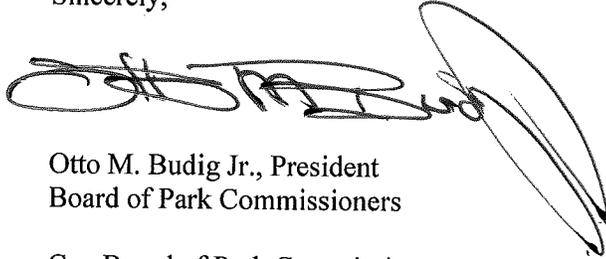
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The project will provide a safer environment for the children, residents, and visitors to our city/region. Moreover, the project will protect human life and the environment for generations to come.

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above noted issue please contact me at (513) 352-4079.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Otto M. Budig Jr.", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Otto M. Budig Jr., President  
Board of Park Commissioners

Cc: Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks

December 1, 2014

Ms. Lisa Kiefel, Program Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

**Attn:** CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

As the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, I am writing in support of the City of Cincinnati's Central Riverfront Park project to modify its authorization as authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the City of Cincinnati, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

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Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above noted issue please contact me at (513) 579-3175.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian T. Carley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Carley

Cc: Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks



# Hamilton County

## Board of County Commissioners

Chris Monzel  
*President*  
Phone (513) 946-4409  
Fax (513) 946-4407

Greg Hartmann  
*Vice President*  
Phone (513) 946-4405  
Fax (513) 946-4404

Todd Portune  
Phone (513) 946-4401  
Fax (513) 946-4446

Room 603  
County Administration Building  
138 East Court Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

TDD/TTY (513) 946-4719  
[www.hamilton-co.org](http://www.hamilton-co.org)

Christian Sigman  
*Administrator*  
Phone (513) 946-4420  
Fax (513) 946-4444

Jacqueline Panioto  
*Clerk of the Board*  
Phone (513) 946-4414  
Fax (513) 946-4444

December 1, 2014

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000  
Attn: CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

As the President, of the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing in support of the City of Cincinnati's Central Riverfront Park project to modify its authorization as authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the City of Cincinnati, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Monzel', written in a cursive style.

Chris Monzel, President  
Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners

Cc: Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks



at the **BOATHOUSE**

December 1, 2014

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000  
**Attn:** CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

As the Owner, of the Montgomery Inn Restaurant, I am writing in support of the City of Cincinnati's Central Riverfront Park project to modify its authorization as authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the City of Cincinnati, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Dean Gregory'.

C. Dean Gregory, Owner  
Montgomery Inn Restaurants

Cc: Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks



December 1, 2014

*Executive Committee:*

Mark J. Bisher, *President*  
John E. Neyer, *Vice President*  
Valerie L. Nowell, *Treasurer*  
Daria M. Snider, *Secretary*  
Amelia S. Crutcher  
Judy S. Dalambakis\*  
Trudi Pullen  
Helen K. Hecklin  
Matty Humes  
Toni LaBoitoux  
Ship Merten  
Dianne M. Rosenberg  
Ryan Rybolt  
William F. Thiemann

John H. Annig  
Kristine H. Barr  
Neil K. Bortz  
Catherine S. Calkemeyer  
Phillip J. Castellini  
Phillip K. Cone  
Kenneth Davis, Jr., M.D.  
Andrew E. DeWitt  
Fay D. Dupois  
Susan Abernethy Frank  
Jose Garcia  
Dean Gregory  
Thomas E. Hankinson  
Renee Mahaffey Harris  
Susan J. Hickenlooper  
Steve Jemison  
Ron Joseph, Jr.  
Palk Laffoon IV  
Larry Mulsh  
Kevin N. McMurray  
Carter M. Nabb  
Donald L. Mellott, Jr.  
John Mochter  
Eleanor K. Morfar  
Debra C. Oliver  
Bruce I. Petrie, Jr.\*  
Laura S. Raines  
Timothy F. Seibert  
Paul G. Sittenfeld  
Lynda A. Thomas  
Daniel D. Vogelzold  
Lou Wellinghoff  
Paula C. Wienkoop  
Lindsay Wilhelm  
Dick Williams  
Alex C. Young

\* Past President

*Emeritus*

Marjorie Motch  
Elizabeth A. Stone

*Cincinnati Parks Foundation*

Susan L. Dorward  
*Executive Director*  
Loni McDermott  
*Assistant Director of Development*  
Frances Wojcik  
*Associate Director of Development*  
Kelly Lipp  
*Accountant*

950 Eden Park Drive  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
Phone (513) 357-2619  
Fax (513) 352-4096  
Email: [info@cincinnati-parks-foundation.org](mailto:info@cincinnati-parks-foundation.org)  
[www.cincinnati-parks-foundation.org](http://www.cincinnati-parks-foundation.org)

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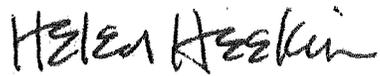
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The increase in authorization will support the stabilization of the riverbank from future erosion and will control the flooding of the area through the installation of hard and green infrastructure. In addition, the project will provide for acres of green ecosystem where blacktop pavement use to exist and assist with the mitigation of storm water runoff.

The project will provide a safer environment for the children, residents, and visitors to our city/region. Moreover, the project will protect human life and the environment for generations to come.

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above noted issue please contact me at (513) 352-4079.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Heekin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".

Helen Heekin, President  
Cincinnati Parks Foundation Women's Committee

Cc: Cincinnati Parks Foundation Trustees  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks



December 1, 2014

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[www.cincinnati-parks-foundation.org](http://www.cincinnati-parks-foundation.org)

Ms. Lisa Kiefel, Program Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000  
**Attn:** CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

As the President of the Cincinnati Parks Foundation, I am writing in support of the City of Cincinnati's Central Riverfront Park project to modify its authorization as authorized in Section 5116 of Public Law 110-114 to increase the authorization total from \$30 million to \$80 million. The increase in authorization will enable the USACE, the City of Cincinnati, and their public and private partners to complete work on what is now known as the Smale Riverfront Park.

The proposal will modify the following authorized project:

**Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (P.L 100-114)**

SEC. 5116. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

(a) IN GENERAL

—The Secretary may undertake the ecosystem restoration and recreation components of the Central Riverfront Park Master Plan, dated December 1999, at a total cost of \$30,000,000.

(b) CREDIT

—The Secretary shall credit, in accordance with section 221 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 1962d–5b), toward the non-Federal share of the cost of the project the cost of planning, design, and construction work carried out by the non-Federal interest for the project before the date of the partnership agreement for the project.

This project has met the original \$30 million dollar authorization and appropriation for both Federal and non-Federal share. The modification will increase the Federal project from a 5 acre project initially authorized in 2007 to a \$140 million twenty five acre portion of the Central Riverfront Park project, which was initiated in December 1999.

There is still significant work to be done in completing the overall project for erosion control, enhanced safety of public infrastructure, flood mitigation, as well as ecosystem restoration. We are asking that the Federal Authorization be expanded from \$30 million to \$80 million to complete the remaining parts of the project.

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Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above noted issue please contact me at (513) 352-4079.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Busher', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mark Busher, President  
Cincinnati Parks Foundation

Cc: Cincinnati Parks Foundation Trustees  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Willie F. Carden Jr., Director of Parks