



NEWS

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Citizens to “Star” in the Historic Groundbreaking of Cincinnati Riverfront Park

Phase I to include stage, event lawn and bike center

CINCINNATI, OH:--- Groundbreaking ceremonies for Cincinnati Riverfront Park—the new 45-acre "front yard" for the City—will take place on Monday morning, September 29 at 10:00 a.m. at the Roebling Suspension Bridge (foot of Walnut Street). The event is FREE and open to the public. UDF ice-cream will be served following the ceremonies.

Cincinnati Parks—which is leading the effort to plan, design and construct the park—is hosting the ceremonies in partnership with The City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, The State of Ohio and The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. While many elected officials and other dignitaries have been invited to participate in the groundbreaking event—including Ohio Governor Ted Strickland, U.S. Senators Brown and Voinovich, U.S. Representatives Jean Schmidt and Steve Chabot, Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory, Cincinnati City Council members and Hamilton County Commissioners—every citizen attending will also be encouraged to take trowel in hand and turn the dirt to mark the start of construction of Cincinnati Riverfront Park.

“Like all Cincinnati Parks, the stunning new Cincinnati Riverfront Park will become a park for the people,” said Willie F. Carden, Jr. “So it’s the people who should be honored with the chance to participate in this historic moment in the life of our region. Because when this park is completed, it will offer an open, inclusive, dynamic civic space for citizens, visitors, convention-goers and business people to enjoy. And it will become a powerful economic engine for the region.”

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Cincinnati Riverfront Park, adjacent to The Banks development, will re-connect downtown to the river edge. It will feature unique playgrounds, boat docks, expansive lawns, a carousel, floral gardens, a bike trail, walkways, tree groves, a river edge promenade, dramatic water features like cascades, fountains and waterfalls, and restaurants and cafes. The park will also feature works of art and will be designed to be universally accessible and sustainable.

The Park will be built in phases over the coming years. Phase I will include a plaza of water jets with cascades of water that drop to pools along Mehring Way. There will be a grand stairway with landings at water-filled basins, a glass-floored walkway above a lower level loggia, a shade trellis, informational and interpretive displays, and public restrooms. Also part of the design is an event lawn and stage, a promenade, a restaurant, a tree grove and labyrinth, an adventure playground and part of the Ohio River bike trail. The park will also feature a bike center.

Funding is coming from a variety of public sources and also includes a major private fundraising campaign which is already underway. For those interested in more information on the park or who want to make a donation toward the park, call 352-4079 or visit www.crpark.org.

Video PSAs for the groundbreaking entitled, “Can You Dig It?”, are posted on YouTube at www.YouTube.com/CincinnatiParks. Citizens are also encouraged to share their thoughts about the start of park construction online at www.cincinnati-riverfrontpark.blogspot.com. Postings may be incorporated in subsequent PSAs that will be created to keep the community informed about the progress of park construction.

For more information about Cincinnati Riverfront Park, visit www.crpark.org; or contact Joyce Kamen, Cincinnati Riverfront Park Public Relations, at 513.543.8109; or Manda Hurdelbrink at 513.324.8610.

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