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Indianapolis Cultural Trail to open Indiana Ave and 10th Street Expansion Public is invited to the ribbon cutting and celebration

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Avenue and 10th Street expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick will open on Thursday, June 20.

The opening marks the first expansion of the internationally recognized linear park. Upon completion, the expansion will better connect the Indiana Avenue cultural district, connecting to the front door of the Madam Walker Legacy Center, while creating a new connection to the Fall Creek Greenway and White River Wapahani Trail. The expansion of the Cultural Trail includes 170,000 decorative pavers, 23 stormwater planters, 13 benches, 9 bike racks, cultural interpretive panels, 8,950 perennials and shrubs, 78 trees, and a new traffic signal at the Paca Street, St Clair Street and Indiana Avenue intersection.

The approximately one-mile expansion is half of the current Cultural Trail expansion project. The additional segment along South Street will open later this year. The expansion will add approximately two miles to the linear park, which connects cultural districts and neighborhoods and serves as the downtown hub for the city's greenway network. The full expansion includes funding for the Cultural Trail's maintenance endowment to sustainably maintain the Trail and funding to enhance the Trail's public art program.

The Indiana Avenue and 10th Street segments will open in time for the Madam Walker Legacy Center 2024 Legacy Fest celebration events. "Connecting people to cultural experiences and our city's culture is core to our mission," said Kären Haley, Indianapolis Cultural Trail executive director. "We've worked hard to prioritize completing the Indiana Ave and 10th Street expansion before Juneteenth and Legacy Fest so people can safely use and enjoy the Cultural Trail along Indiana Avenue. We appreciate the community's continued patience as we finalize the plans to make the June 20 opening possible."

Activities occurring during the June 20 opening will be announced in the coming weeks, including specifics about an official ribbon-cutting event and public celebration. Information

can be found on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>X</u>. Details can also be found in the Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. <u>newsletter</u>.

Lead investors include Lilly Endowment Inc, Elevance Health Foundation, Lilly Foundation and the City of Indianapolis. Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, has raised \$28.5 million for the estimated \$30 million project. To stay informed about the construction progress, sign up for bi-weekly construction updates, visit <u>https://indyculturaltrail.org/expansion</u>, follow along on social media @INCulturalTrail or call 317-653-1948.

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About Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.

Indianapolis Cultural Trail Inc creates, inspires and sustains connections and cultural experiences that are accessible for all. The Indianapolis Cultural Trail is both a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and a world class, internationally recognized linear park: The Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick. In partnership with the City of Indianapolis, the organization also manages Pacers Bikeshare and public destinations along and connected by the Cultural Trail.

About the Expansion

Indiana Avenue/10th Street

The Indiana Avenue expansion will connect directly to the Madam Walker Legacy Center on Indiana Avenue and continue north to 10th Street. It will then head west on 10th Street to the planned bridge leading to the 16 Tech Innovation District. While the public is invited to enjoy the Indiana Avenue and 10th Street expansion mile, construction teams will continue to close out small punch list items during the summer.

South Street

The South Street expansion will bring the Indianapolis Cultural Trail from New Jersey Street to Capitol Avenue, improving access in a thriving stretch of downtown that includes Lucas Oil Stadium, the Indiana Convention Center and a growing residential hub. The new section will also create a beautiful connection between downtown and near Southside neighborhoods and the Stadium Village area.