



For Immediate Release
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Indianapolis Cultural Trail Opens South Street Expansion

New segment provides connection to neighborhoods, downtown cultural destinations and future White River expansion of the Cultural Trail

INDIANAPOLIS— Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. officially opened the South Street expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick. The 0.6 mile segment is the second phase of the first expansion of the internationally recognized linear park.

The South Street Cultural Trail expansion connects the Wholesale and Fountain Square cultural districts and increases and enhances access to near Southside neighborhoods, and the Stadium Village community to downtown Indianapolis. The new expansion creates a beautiful connection to key downtown landmarks, including Lucas Oil Stadium, the Indiana Convention Center, the Slippery Noodle Inn and the future White River expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail.

The Cultural Trail's South Street expansion opening arrives just in time for Taylor Swift's highly anticipated Eras Tour at Lucas Oil Stadium November 1 - 3. The Cultural Trail's South Street expansion provides a scenic and safe pathway for Swift fans, transforming the Trail into a vibrant "runway" for concertgoers showcasing their Eras-inspired fashion as they head to the stadium.

The ribbon cutting was celebrated with remarks from several City officials, including Indianapolis Cultural Trail Executive Director Kären Haley, Councillor Kristin Jones, Mayor Joe Hogsett and Steve Campbell with the Indianapolis Colts. IU Indianapolis history professor Dr. Edward Curtis also spoke about the cultural significance of the South St. corridor in Indianapolis history.

In his remarks, Mayor Hogsett made a special announcement explaining how the City's work will allow the Trail to continue to further its impact. "The City is also expanding its network with the Henry Street bridge, **which we are breaking ground on tomorrow**. Once the bridge is completed, the Cultural Trail will cross the White River for the first time and will directly connect the Valley neighborhood and the



Near-Westside to the rest of downtown,” he shared. “That is why this part is so thrilling. To officially take the first step with all of the Trail-building and connectivity that today’s ribbon-cutting sets free.”

“The South Street expansion greatly improves people’s experience on South Street and invites people to walk and bike and explore the southern portion of downtown. The Cultural Trail improves quality of life and creates a beautiful connection for residents and visitors while increasing access to key cultural destinations along the corridor,” shared ICT Executive Director Kären Haley. “This expansion is more than just a pathway; it represents our ongoing commitment to creating a vibrant, accessible and inclusive place that inspires and connects our community.”

In addition to improving connectivity, the South Street expansion adds beauty and greenspace to downtown and includes more than 12,000 square feet of public gardens with new trees, shrubs, grasses, perennial plants and stormwater planters. The South Street expansion also adds lighting, benches, bike racks and cultural interpretive panels to the corridor.

The South Street segment is the second phase of the first expansion of the internationally recognized Indianapolis Cultural Trail, which opened in June on Indiana Avenue and 10th Street. In total, the expansion project adds approximately two miles to the linear park. The expansion includes funding for the Trail’s maintenance endowment, which will allow for its long-term maintenance.

Lead investors in the Cultural Trail’s expansion include Lilly Endowment Inc., Elevance Health Foundation, Lilly Foundation, the Indianapolis Colts and the City of Indianapolis. Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, has led the fundraising for the estimated \$30 million expansion project.

In 2024, the Indianapolis Cultural Trail added two miles to the internationally recognized linear park and started design on a new segment that will span the White River and connect to the expansion of White River State Park and Elanco’s new innovation district. Additionally, in May, the organization added 330 electric assist bikes to the Pacers Bikeshare program and launched IndyRides Free, a free annual pass program for Marion County residents.



The Cultural Trail recently announced a \$2 million fundraising campaign to support its vision for the future of the Cultural Trail's headquarters including increased operational and programming capacity and a welcoming location for Trail users.

For more information and to learn about opportunities to support the vision, visit www.IndyCulturalTrail.org/future.

Additional photos and videos from the event will be shared soon.

Media Contact:

Kierra Santillan
Account Executive, Herd Strategies
kierra@herdstrategies.com

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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

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.

Indiana Avenue/10th Street



The Indiana Avenue expansion directly connects to the Madam Walker Legacy Center on Indiana Avenue, continues north to 10th Street and then moves west on 10th Street to the planned bridge leading to the 16 Tech Innovation District.

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