

2024 IMPACT REPORT

Indianapolis Cultural Trail Inc.
A Path to the Future



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Dear Friend of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail,

2024 has been a transformative year for Indianapolis Cultural Trail Inc. From the opening of our first expansion of the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick to the continued growth of our programming and sustainability efforts, including Pacers Bikeshare, this year has reinforced our role as a vital connector in Indianapolis.

As we reflect on the success we've achieved together, we're reminded that **the Cultural Trail is truly a symbol of community, progress, and a brighter, more connected future for all.** Thank you for helping us keep Indy vibrant and accessible for residents and visitors alike. We look forward to continuing this journey with you as we shape the future of the Cultural Trail together.

Warm regards,



Kären Haley

Executive Director
Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.



OUR MISSION

The Indianapolis Cultural Trail 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.

OUR VALUES

Guided by a commitment to community, culture, and connection, our values inspire every step we take to enhance and sustain the Indianapolis Cultural Trail.

1. INCLUSIVE

We create opportunities for people of all backgrounds and abilities to access and experience all the Indianapolis Cultural Trail has to offer.

2. PEOPLE FIRST

We are guided by the people who rely on and enjoy the Cultural Trail, and what will make their experience better.

3. EXCELLENCE

We take pride in our work and know we must be brilliant at the basics to keep the Cultural Trail vibrant and inviting.

4. INNOVATIVE

We constantly dream bigger and think bolder, and we serve as a national model for others aspiring to use linear parks as a catalyst for community building.

CULTURAL TRAIL EXPANSION

In June, we opened the **Indiana Avenue and 10th Street expansion**, adding one mile to the Cultural Trail and connecting key cultural districts, neighborhoods, and landmarks like the Madam Walker Legacy Center, two university campuses, and the historic Ransom Place neighborhood. This section also introduced the **Indiana Avenue Sound Experience**, the Trail's first sound-based public art piece, honoring the golden age of "The Avenue," once a hub for legendary jazz and R&B musicians.

The **South Street expansion corridor**, which opened in October, further connects the Wholesale and Fountain Square districts, increasing the total Cultural Trail length to 10 miles.



Photo by Jay Goldz

12,000+
sq. ft. of new
garden beds



46,196
sq. ft. of
new pavers
installed

Photo by JD Groh



INDIANA PACERS BIKESHARE

96,610
rides in
2024



5,862
IndyRides Free
passholders

Photo courtesy of Pacers Sports & Entertainment

The Pacers Bikeshare program continues to grow as a key part of our mission to provide sustainable, accessible transportation for all. In May 2024, we expanded our fleet by adding **330 new electric assist bikes**, increasing both the convenience and reach of the program. We also made history with the launch of **IndyRides Free**, a free annual pass program for Marion County residents which aims to further remove barriers to mobility and active transportation.

We're proud to be the first major U.S. city to offer free access to bikeshare for all residents of a county and have seen residents eagerly adopting this new way to get around. September also welcomed the addition of a **new station** at W. Michigan Avenue and Warman Street (near the B&O trailhead), with **two more stations planned to open before 2025**. September and October 2024 were the **top two months** for Pacers Bikeshare ridership in our system's history! With thousands of rides logged each month, Pacers Bikeshare is not just a way to get around, it's a way to connect, explore, and stay active in our city.

HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE

4,900
bulbs
planted

4,238
perennials
planted

3,248
volunteer
hours



This year, our commitment to sustainability has flourished with the maintenance of more than **5.7 acres of public gardens and green spaces**. Our 500 trees and more than 25,000 square feet of stormwater planters have continued to enhance the urban environment, providing a sanctuary for biodiversity in the heart of downtown. In the new expansion areas, we added **30,000 square feet of new plant beds**, which include an impressive array of trees, shrubs, and perennials that are transforming the landscape of downtown Indianapolis. These spaces are integral to a healthier, greener Indianapolis and we're proud to maintain them for all to enjoy and experience.

The addition of two new staff horticulturists in 2024 has greatly improved the capacity for our horticulture department. Thanks to their expertise, we're able to host more volunteer groups, handle more plantings in-house, and take on more proactive maintenance than in previous years. In 2024 alone, our team planted **4,429 native plants**, led **3,248 volunteer hours**, and made more than **109 repairs to our irrigation systems** to keep the gardens lush and growing.

PROGRAMS: CONNECTING PEOPLE AND **PUBLIC SPACES**

168
free
programs
offered



6,725
total
attendees

Photo by Michelle Craig



In 2024, our series of free public programs brought the Cultural Trail to life, fostering community and connection for all ages and abilities. From cultural celebrations like Viernes Cultural to bilingual yoga classes and group walks with AARP, we've consistently created inclusive spaces that reflect and welcome each of Indy's diverse communities. Activated public spaces are key to a vibrant city, and we're pleased to play a role in making downtown Indy a place for all to enjoy. With the help of **9 local program partners**, we welcomed over **6,725 people** to programs throughout downtown in 2024.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



Illustration by Jingo de la Rosa

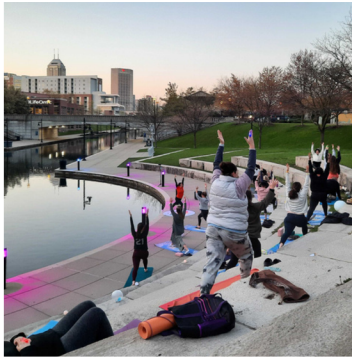
In 2024, we also announced plans to **expand our headquarters and establish a Cultural Trail welcome center** along the Glick Peace Walk at 132 W. Walnut Street. This project will double our operational space, allowing us to grow our programs, support the expanding Pacers Bikeshare program, and create a welcoming community hub for all who use the Cultural Trail. To support this bold vision, we launched a **\$2 million fundraising campaign** to ensure that the Cultural Trail remains a vibrant, sustainable resource for generations to come.

Throughout the year we worked with Forecast Public Art to complete a community-driven, **Comprehensive Public Art Plan** for the Indianapolis Cultural Trail. From engagement events, to focus groups, one-on-one meetings, and public surveys, we asked the community what they wanted to see when it comes to Public Art along the Trail. **We look forward to sharing the results from this work and begin implementing in 2025.**

PHOTOS OF THE YEAR

INDIANAPOLIS **CULTURAL TRAIL**
A Legacy of Gene & Marilyn Glick

2024



OUR TEAM



Kären Haley
Executive Director



Rebecca Rizzo
CFO



Joshua Tharp
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations Director



Riley Hill-Kartel
Director of
Advancement



Amy Marisavljevic
Director of Planning
& Public Programs



Ethan Olson
Director of Horticulture
and Landscape



Sadio Sow
Administrative
Coordinator



Jill Pierce
Volunteer
Coordinator



Sami Ayres-Kobren
Communications and
Marketing Manager



Addis Berry
Trail Maintenance
Specialist



Dan Baker
Horticulturist



Dana Reed
Horticulturist



Emily Plunkett
Pacers Bikeshare
Outreach & Education
Manager



Robby Klingerman
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations Shop
Manager



Ian Duvall
Pacers Bikeshare
Stations Operations
Director



Michael Kellems
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations
Technician



Joshua Lowery
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations



Marcus Ramey
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations Technician



Duke Barden
Pacers Bikeshare
Operations Technician

THANK YOU: CORPORATE & FOUNDATION PARTNERS



THANK YOU: FRIENDS OF THE CULTURAL TRAIL

Donors who have given \$5+/month or \$55+/year (between November 15, 2023 - November 15, 2024)

Anonymous
Josh Abel
Christina Alexander
Prakash Alluri
John Andrews
Susan Arford
Roberta & Ken Avidor
Linda Ayres
Portia Bailey-Bernard & Nolan Bernard
M. Pauline Baker*
David & Jackie Barrett
Emmanuel Beard
James Beatty
Dan Beaty
Debra & Jeff Belskus
Noli Kay Bentley
James & Jan Bisesi
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Jack Bow
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Jeff Crow
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Mike & Mindy Cunningham
Kelsey Dunning
Ashley Ellis
Nick Erdman
Rey Farias
Lyle Fettig
Taylor Firestine

Lindsay & David Flaherty
Sarah Frey
Barbara Gaal
Joshua Gaal & Riley Hill-Kartel
Anagha Satish Gaikwad
Christiane Gallo
Amanda Gandolf
Mark Gastineau
Kathleen & Gene Gentili
Ann & Brian Gioe
Marianne Glick
Amanda Goehlert
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Ben & Kathleen Grande
Ann-Marie Grannan
Katie Gray
Kenneth Hall
Cris Halter & William Fraser
Kevin Hanlon
Scott Harvey
Lindsey Hayden
Frank Hazzard
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Jane Henegar
Ellen Heppner
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Sidney Hill-Kartel
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Sheila Hyatt
Rosalynd Jester
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Kelsey Jones
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Kristy Karpinski
Robert Kennedy
Georgianne & Michael Kent
Jeffrey Keyler
Michael Khalil
Brian Killigrew
Klinmaier Family Fund
Kyle Krieger
Thomas Kube
Matthew Kuhar
Aditya Kumar
Jill & Peter Lacy
Lisa Lanham
Lindsey Lanwehr
Tarsis Lopez
Joseph & Deborah Loughrey

Von Lovan
Amanda Love
Thomas Marquis
Martin Family Charitable Fund
Adam Mason
Anna Maximoff
Kristopher May
Eric McAfee
David McNaughtan
Efrén Medina
J.R. Montoya
Paul Musson
Jay & Rahnae Napoleon
Jim Naus
Katie Nelson
Joanna Ness
John Newbold
Dawn Olsen
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Mayuri Patel
Danielle Patterson
Damon Perkins
Nicki Perrin
Dean Peterson
Alec Pierce
Christopher Pitsilides
Phillip Poor
Kevin Poortinga
Austin Potts
Myrta Pulliam
Mike Raabe
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Bee Redfield
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Cassie Roby
Trena Roudebush
Jason Sadler
Austin Sallee
Olivia Sappington
Jeanne Saunders
Shalina Schaefer
Thomas Schaefer
Trey Schramm
Leah Seigel & Jay Rumbach
Jeffrey Sexton
Jacob Shahbazi
Rohit Sharma
Cassady Skipton

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Olivia Stephens
Cheryl & Jim Strain
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James Vawter
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George Watson
Matt Waweru
Justyn Weiler
Andrew West
Kateri Whitley
Jack Wickes
Andrea Williams
Matthew Wolfe & April Ann Jordan
Daniel Wood
Adam & Kim Woodruff
Hadden Yarbrough
Mike Zemelko
Sylva Zhang
André Zhang Sonera
Mark & Debra Zwoyer

*Deceased



THANK YOU, ALL

The work we've accomplished this year is a testament to the power of community and connection. Together, we've expanded, enriched, and maintained one of Indianapolis' most beloved assets. We're proud of what we've achieved together in 2024, and we're excited about the possibilities ahead as we look towards 2025. **Thank you for being part of the Cultural Trail's story—and for helping us shape its future.**



Indianapolis Cultural Trail Inc. 2024 Board of Directors

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Tarsis Lopez
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Aidan Maurath
JoAnna Ness
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Jeffery Tompkins
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Myrta Pulliam