



Turkey Creek Greenway

Feasibility Study

2016



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EQUINOX
balance through proper planning

Executive Summary

Turkey Creek—The Critical Link for Regional Connection

The proposed 2.5-mile section of the Turkey Creek Greenway will conserve a natural corridor surrounded by wetlands and riparian and ridgeline forest. Envisioned as a landmark of the greenway, a boardwalk system through the Blue Springs wetland area will be a major draw. To the west, the proposed greenway will connect to the existing 2-mile Turkey Creek Greenway and the Town of Farragut. To the east, connections will be made by linking to the planned Knox to Oak Ridge Greenway, leading users to Oak Ridge and Knoxville. This Turkey Creek Greenway segment is critical to the interconnection of pedestrians and bicyclists in rapidly urbanizing West Knox County. This greenway will make a critical link across Interstate 40/75, through the installation of a proposed bridge attachment at the Lovell Road interchange. Currently, this area of the county has limited interstate crossing options for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Challenges

With opportunity comes some challenge. While only 2 miles, this greenway corridor faces the challenges of a major interstate crossing (I-40/75), a highway crossing (the Pellissippi Parkway), and a major road crossing (Lovell Road). Development constrains the ability to use the Turkey Creek Floodplain in some areas. There is little public land in this corridor, creating some up-front time investment in working with landowners to secure a permanently protected greenway corridor.

The Investment

The proposed greenway has an estimated construction and permitting cost of approximately \$3.4 million, with the lion's share of investment made in the southern phase. This investment includes a proposed Interstate 40/75 bridge attachment, a pedestrian bridge over Turkey Creek, two boardwalk segments, and a below-grade culvert underpass on Lovell Road. The study may be broken into two phases, split by the existing greenway loop at the US Cellular Soccer Field Complex.

The Return on Investment

This greenway can vastly improve the community's quality of life, increase real estate values of the surrounding area, attract business, and preserve a natural corridor for all to enjoy. It will connect thousands of residents in neighborhoods, which have limited sidewalks, as well as connecting to workplaces and shopping. This greenway provides a strong incentive for the location of corporate headquarters and business along its corridor.



