

Capital Development Tourism Funds approved for projects in Clark-Floyd Counties *New Albany and Clarksville to benefit from funding designed to attract visitors*

Clark-Floyd Counties, Ind. (July 7, 2017) – The City of New Albany, the Town of Clarksville, and the Falls of the Ohio State Park will move forward with community investments, thanks in part to bond funding from the Clark-Floyd Counties Convention & Tourism Bureau. The tourism bureau's funding comes through its Capital Development Tourism Fund program.

The projects include:

- \$825,000 for the New Albany Visitor & Historic Generator Project
 - Complete the last section of the Ohio River Greenway, providing activities for exercise and eco-tourism with a new boat ramp, picnic areas, boat docks, increased walking and running trails and access to the river for recreational & sport fishing.
 - Increase accessibility to the unique nature preserve, Loop Island Wetlands, which consists of 47 acres of land and 21 acres of water to add to the Ohio River Greenway's attractiveness and increase exploration of the region.
 - Improvements for the Culbertson Mansion State Historic Site including full restoration of the home's cast iron.
- \$275,000 for the Clarksville Connectivity Project
 - Completion of the first phase of a multi-phase initiative to provide safe and efficient transportation routes for bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicle passengers. The first phase includes converting the former CSX Railroad corridor into a central trail with an ADA accessible trailhead, dedicated parking, and bicycle repair stations. Phase one also includes implementing a localized directional wayfinding program and making public safety enhancement to the existing Levee and Heritage Trails.
- \$110,000 for the Falls of the Ohio Foundation, Inc. for the Falls of the Ohio State Park Interpretive Center's orientation film project
 - Replace the Interpretive Center's 23-year-old film with one that incorporates new exhibits into the orientation film. It will also use the latest technology to create an intimate connection between the visitor and the exhibits. The project's goal is to encourage visitors to spend more time in the exhibits and in the area.

The applicants presented the projects to the Bureau's board of managers earlier this year. The board approved issuing a bond in the amount of \$1.21 million to help fund the projects at the June 21, 2017 meeting.

About the Capital Development Tourism Fund

The Clark-Floyd Counties Convention and Tourism Bureau is empowered to invest in new tourism experiences through its Capital Development Tourism Fund, unique among Indiana's destination marketing organizations. Of hotel tax funds collected within Clark and Floyd Counties, a portion is dedicated to debt service on bonds, issued by one of its municipal partners, for projects the Bureau's board approves. It is designed to encourage the development of tourism amenities by "seeding" public and private investment in new visitor experiences.