Corridor I First Creek Greenway - Downtown East

Greenway Route Description

The Corridor I greenway corridor is approximately 1.43 miles in length and links the First Creek Greenway at Caswell Park to the Morningside Greenway at Hazen Street. The trail extends from the greenway connection in Caswell Park at Jessamine Street as an off-street 10-foot wide greenway trail adjacent to First Creek for approximately 0.10 mi. to a new pedestrian bridge crossing of First Creek. The trail continues approximately 0.09 mi. as on off-street 10-foot wide greenway trail to the vicinity of the Magnolia Avenue right-of-way where the trail turns and crosses First Creek on an existing bridge. From that location the trail continues approximately 0.17 mi. as on off-street 10-foot wide greenway trail through KUB property, crosses under the Magnolia Avenue overpass and continues through KUB property. When the trail departs KUB property it continues along First Creek as on off-street 10-foot wide greenway trail to Jackson Avenue, a distance of approximately 0.13 mi. The corridor proceeds along the south side of Jackson/McCalla as a 10-foot wide sidepath to Harriett Tubman Street, a distance of approximately 0.19 mi and then continues along Harriett Tubman to MLK Boulevard for approximately 0.32 mi. as a 10-foot wide sidepath. The trail then proceeds along MLK Boulevard and Dandridge Avenue as a 10-foot sidepath for approximately 0.18 mi. The trail corridor continues through Haley Heritage Square on existing trail surfaces for approximately 0.08 mi. to the parking lot where it crosses Hazen Street at a mid-block crossing. The trail continues along Hazen Street as a 10-foot sidepath for approximately 0.17 mi. until it connects to the existing Morningside Greenway.

Demolition in this corridor includes removal of curb and gutter as well as asphalt paving in parking lots and from roadways. The typical trail cross section shall be 2" asphalt over 6" base stone. Curb ramps and greenway trail crosswalk pavement markings are provided at all street crossings. Mid-block pedestrian signals are planned on Fifth Avenue, East Jackson Avenue and Hazen Street. New construction includes trail improvements, curb and gutter, storm drainage improvements and limited screen wall construction. Retaining walls are planned at the northeast corner of KUB property located at 835 East Jackson. A new bridge is planned to span over First Creek just north of Fifth Avenue.

Connectivity

When Corridor I is completed the Lower First Creek Greenway will be connected with the Morningside, James White, Second Creek, Neyland, Knox Blount, Third Creek, Sequoyah and Bearden Village Greenways resulting in over 20 miles of interconnected greenway trails. Facilities connected along this system of greenway trails include several parks, schools, churches, a senior citizens center, a YMCA, a marina, the downtown Knoxville area, the University of Tennessee, a Marine Corps Reserve Center and multiple neighborhoods.

Right-of-Way

Easements

Easements will be required for the trail on KUB property at 922 East Fifth Avenue and at 835 East Jackson Avenue as well as Knoxville Housing Authority property at 1205 Old Vine Avenue. The need for 3 construction easements is anticipated in this corridor.

Estimated duration: 12 months

Acquisition

None proposed.

TDOT

A TDOT license agreement is anticipated for the section of the trail located on TDOT ROW at the Magnolia Avenue underpass. Estimated duration: 6 months (concurrent with securing easements)

Permits

TDEC/USACE/TVA (ARAP Permit)

First Creek new pedestrian bridge crossing: Estimated duration- 6 months

City of Knoxville (FEMA) No-Rise Certification for 500-year Flood

Trail improvements within the 500-year flood zone: Estimated duration- 6 months

City of Knoxville (FEMA) No-Rise Certification within the No-Fill Line

Trail improvements within the 500-year flood zone: Estimated duration- 6 months

Environmental Factors

No areas of potential environmental concern were noted.

Related Projects

There are no other projects known to be under consideration in this corridor.

Estimated Timeline for Locally Funded Project

Design (30 months)

- Designer Consultant selection: Estimated duration- 3 months
- Survey: Estimated duration- 2 months
- Preliminary Design: Estimated duration- 2 months
- Preliminary Design Public Meeting: Estimated duration- 2 months
- Geotechnical Investigations (2 locations, 1 mob.): Estimated duration- 2 months (ongoing with ROW and design)
- Utility coordination: Estimated duration- 8 months (ongoing with ROW and design)
- TDEC/FEMA permits: Estimated duration- 12 months (ongoing with ROW and design)
- 90 Percent Construction Plans: Estimated duration- 6 months
- Right-of-way: Estimated duration- 12 months
- 100% Construction Plans: Estimated duration- 3 months

Bid/Contract Award/Notice to Proceed (4 months)

Construction (12 months)

Estimated Timeline for Federal or State Funded Project

Design (60 months)

- Follow the TDOT Local Government Guidelines for the Management of Federal and State Funded Transportation Projects.
- Design Consultant selection: Estimated duration- 3 months
- **Environmental and Preliminary Engineering**
 - Approval of Environmental and Preliminary Engineering phase is required prior to start of project design. Preparation of a NEPA Categorical Exclusion is anticipated for this corridor. Estimated duration- 9 months
- Preliminary Design (Survey, Preliminary Plans, Geotechnical, Public Meetings, Structures, ROW Plans, Revisions): Estimated duration- 18 months
- Right-of-Way and Utility (Select Consultant(s), Public Meeting, Acquisition, Easements: Estimated duration- 18 months
- Final Construction Plans: Estimated duration- 12 months

Construction (20 months)

- CEI Consultant selection: Estimated duration- 3 months
- Bid/Contract Award/Notice to Proceed: Estimated duration: 5 months
- Construction: Estimated duration: 12 months

