

River View and Exercise Walk Development – “Quality of Life”

In 2008, the idea was developed for connecting Martin Park near the south end of Canton with Riverfront Park located on the Mississippi River just northeast of downtown. At that time, grant funds were available for transportation –related projects through the Missouri Department of Transportation on a matching basis. The problem of providing a good path for walking or biking between the two parks would be solved if funds could be secured and the proposed project completed as envisioned.

A walking survey of the proposed route was completed and the sections of existing sidewalk which needed to be replaced were marked on paper map sheets. Measurements were taken of defective sections of sidewalk as well as measuring the distance of new sidewalk that would be required where none previously existed. A grant applications form was completed and submitted to MoDOT for consideration. The project was selected by MoDOT as a winner and was funded by federal funds at approximately 67%. The City of Canton was required to provide the matching 33%.



The community needed to do the following:

1. Using the Randy Gray study for a “Downtown Vision and Development Strategy “ as a guide, create initial plans for the design
2. Write a MoDOT Grant to fund the project.
3. Build the sidewalk and re-design the existing sidewalks to meet our needs.

Scope community involvement:

An engineering firm was selected to perform the final designs, drawings and specifications, to assist with bidding, award of the construction contract and overseeing the project during construction. A construction contract was awarded in April, 2009 and construction began shortly thereafter. The contractor completed his portion of the project in late 2010 and the city's portion was completed in June, 2011. The length of the project is approximately one-half mile. The completed project provides a good safe concrete sidewalk which connects Martin Park with Riverfront Park.

