City: Harlan

Title of Project: Pioneer Park Trail

City's Population: 5,106

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed:
The City of Harlan was designated a Blue Zone Community, which coincided with the fact that Harlan's 30-year old walking trail was in need of being replaced. The 4' wide trail was replaced with a 10' wide concrete trail to benefit not only walkers, but runners, as well as bikers.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:
The City of Harlan budgeted $330,000 to complete the new widened trail project and other improvements, which included ornamental fencing near the pond, bridge, and creek culverts within the park, and increased lighting, using historical-looking acorn light fixtures around the walking trail.

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?
Since the project has been completed, there has been an increased number of walkers, runners, and bikers on the trail. Shortly following a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new trail, the City of Harlan, in conjunction with Wellmark's 'Blue Zones', hosted a 'movie in the park' night, which was deemed by the public a huge success. The City of Harlan is planning future 'movie in the park' nights and other 'Blue Zone'-related activities.

Total cost of project: $330,000.00

List where funding came from. (grants, donations, city funds, etc):
City funds, Community Foundations of SW Iowa, and other local foundations

Total time project took/projected to take for completion. Please include start date and end date. (To qualify the project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015):
Fall, 2014 - Summer, 2015
Resources. (Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information.):

Jane Smith & Ruth Anne Grimsley