City:  Carlisle

Title of Project:  Carlisle Nature Trail

City's Population:  3,876

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed:
The Carlisle Nature Trail is an important amenity as the city grows. Many new residents are seeking places to live that have such amenities where they can walk, run, or bike safely. The trail was necessary also as a safe route to schools and other locations that kids frequently visit, such as Lindhart Park for baseball and softball or the Carlisle Aquatic Center. The trail will soon serve as a nexus for bicyclists traveling from downtown Des Moines to Indianola.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:
For the past ten years, the City of Carlisle has coordinated the effort to construct a bike and pedestrian trail in the city. The City had to work on the layout of the trail and coordinate with those private property owners willing to work with the City to either sell or donate land for the trail. The City was also the key player to reach out to the many, various grant resources to finance the planning and construction.

The City also played a significant role in organizing the many contributors to the project:

- City of Carlisle: $512,634 (16 Percent)
- REAP Grant: $38,000
- State Rec Trails: $100,000
- Vision Iowa Grant: $460,000
- Great Places: $225,000
- IDOT/Federal Funds: $1,605,683
- Warren County: $40,000
- Polk County: $10,000
- Carlisle School District: $40,000
- Principal Financial Foundation: $20,000
- Private Donations: $165,104
  - Major Private Donors:
    - Casey's General Stores: $30,000
    - Avondale Animal Hospital: $25,000
    - General Mills: $10,000
In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?

The trail connects with the Summerset Trail, which extends to the City of Indianola, on the east side of the city extending and winding through the south half of the city to a point near the western city limits. Soon, a connection will be made between this point and the City of Des Moines Easter Lake bike trail which is only 2.5 miles away. The Carlisle Nature Trail will be the connection for anyone traveling from downtown Des Moines to Indianola. The trail will serve as a conduit for economic development and commerce as it will serve as a natural resting area for these travelers. For those living in Carlisle, the trail will provide a means for a healthier lifestyle and a safe means of travel for children walking and biking to the Carlisle Middle School which serves as the school district transportation hub, Lindhart Park which serves as a little league and girls softball center, and the Carlisle Aquatic Center which serves as a refreshing recreational retreat on those hot, sunny summer days. The western trailhead of the trail, the Scotch Ridge Nature Center will serve as a 47-acre nature education park for future generations reiterating the City's slogan "Carlisle: The Natural Choice!"

**Total cost of project:** 3,216,421

**List where funding came from.** (grants, donations, city funds, etc):

City of Carlisle: $512,634 (16 Percent), REAP Grant: $38,000, State Rec Trails: $100,000, Vision Iowa Grant: $460,000, Great Places: $225,000, IDOT/Federal Funds: $1,605,683, Warren County: $40,000, Polk County: $10,000, Carlisle School District: $40,000,

**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, 2016 and December 31, 2016):

The whole project took place from its conception on the back of a napkin between Mayor Ruth Randleman and former Carlisle City Administrator Neil Ruddy in May 2005 to the final construction of the Scotch Ridge Road underpass for the trail on Labor Day we

**Resources.** (Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information.):

http://carlisleiowa.org/departments/parks-recreation/carlisle-nature-trail/