City: Muscatine

Title of Project: Community Connections: Kent Stein Park to Deep Lakes Park Trail

City's Population: 0

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed:
The Kent Stein Park to Deep Lakes Park Trail, epitomizes smart growth and placemaking in Muscatine, Iowa. Deep Lakes Park encompasses 435 acres of a former industrial quarry site that now contains 120 acres of water in numerous lakes and ponds. In addition to 8.25 miles of share the road trail, this new 4.55-mile segment of 10-foot wide handicap accessible trail connects key recreational amenities within the community while accomplishing several quality-of-life objectives: building pedestrian-friendly connectivity, creating safer bike-to-work routes, reducing motor vehicle traffic, proving outstanding recreational opportunities, promoting healthy living, and paving the way for even greater developments that are now planned for Deep Lakes Park.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:
The City's role was the primary and only sponsor. Muscatine County Conservation was involved and agreed to maintain the trail in the county. The City pursued financing, completed environmental reviews, contracted the design, let the construction contract, and self-performed the construction management for the trail.

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?
The Kent Stein Park to Deep Lakes Park Trail promotes quality of life and sustainable practices around natural resources without negatively impacting any historical assets or cultural resources. An anticipated impact of increased livability, social and cultural interaction, and inclusivity and accessibility by connecting to other trails, connecting neighborhoods to places of employment, and connecting the community to other parks as well the monumental and unique recreational venue known as Deep Lakes Park. This project unequivocally demonstrates responsible land use in community, state, and federal development decisions. Decisions made relative to the trail planning, design, and environmental impacts were made with community, state, and federal involvement. This project skirted farmland as opposed to dissecting or consuming it, opened natural areas to the public, and ensures Muscatine will be a livable community for generations through this demonstrable implementation of smart growth principles.

Total cost of project: $1.1 Million
List where funding came from. (grants, donations, city funds, etc):

Federal, State, and local funds as well as private donations.

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, 2017 and December 31, 2017):

Start Date: January 1, 2016,  End Date: October 31, 2017

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

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZrG-dZLvGB9gwJuqylFMqKeEyknWKGSP
https://muscatinecountyconservation.com/mccb-areas/deep-lakes-park/