



***YOUR PARK IN PROGRESS —
ORIGIN PARK 2022 ANNUAL REPORT***

**An Exceptional Public Landscape Providing an Unparalleled
Nature Experience in the Heart of the Falls Region**

FORWARD!

2022 was a year of great momentum for River Heritage Conservancy and Origin Park. We are overwhelmed with gratitude to our active Board of Directors, our generous funders, and our engaged and supportive community. You have all helped take Origin Park to a new phase of development, blazing the trail for groundbreaking in 2024!

Together, we are creating a place of enduring value from a landscape that has been long neglected and forgotten. This endeavor reminds us that human hands can harm the land, but those same hands can also restore and care for it as a cherished resource for our community. It has been exciting to see new spaces emerge as we demolish and remove buildings and junkyards from our properties, making way for restoring a healthy and beautiful landscape.

2022 was also a year of transitions in organizational leadership, a growing staff, and movement from Origin's Master Plan into the specific designs for our first phase of park development. Thanks to the Town of Clarksville, we converted a storage garage into the Conservancy's temporary home base for maintenance equipment and tours that introduce the park to visitors.

We at River Heritage Conservancy are grateful that our community is engaged and supportive as we create everyone's new favorite place. We are doing it for you, and we cannot do it without you.

See you in the park!



Kent Lanum
Board Chair



Susan Rademacher
Executive Director



PARK-BUILDING MILESTONES



- ❑ Demolished hazardous buildings and removed junked cars from brownfields — the first step toward reclaiming these sites
- ❑ Completed Schematic Design for Phase 1 projects, including the Event Center, Entry Drive, and Buttonbush Woods Trails
- ❑ Published “Silver Creek: A Creekography,” by Michael Gaige
- ❑ Renovated the Parkkeeper’s House at 1118 Francis Avenue
- ❑ Updated the park Master Plan
- ❑ Completed Blackiston Mill Launch
- ❑ Defined Phase 1 park development (141 acres)

“Somewhere in Buttonbush Woods, and not too far from the Warbler Walk, the Mill Creek Meander and vintage trolley car jacked up on blocks above the Ohio River on the Southern Indiana shore, it occurred to me that Origin Park would eventually and absolutely take its place in our local and regional lore. Once finished — and fundraising is underway — Origin Park will honor, protect, and preserve our history on both sides of the river.”

- Bob Hill

BRINGING THE PARK TO LIFE

Inviting people to come out and interact with Origin Park is vital to building support. We at the River Heritage Conservancy think the best way to do that is through public programming that engages, excites, and educates.

In 2022 we launched **twice-monthly Wander Origin tours** to introduce people to the park and its wonders. We hosted an **ice cream social** for park neighbors to chat about the master plan and discover personal histories with this uniquely historic Clarksville landscape.

“We have been excited about this project since it was first announced, but we wondered if it could be done. Well, you are all doing it, and we want to be a part of it in a big way.”

- Lori Lewis, Bales Foundation

In the fall, we followed up with **two community meetings** to present details on the first phase of construction projects. Our landscape architects discussed each project in Phase 1 and had productive dialogues with participants.



What we learned from these activities has informed a more plentiful array of public programs in 2023.



Park visitors have enjoyed **walks with naturalists, creative workshops with artists, and volunteer park clean-ups.**

Programming is all about forging connections between our community and our park. What's more, we have also increased online information - like our blogs and videos - to tell our Origin Story.

“It is nothing less than the transformation of a damaged and hazardous landscape into woods and water to be enjoyed by everyone.”

- C. J. Jackson, Executive Director,
Sam Shine Foundation



FUNDING MOMENTUM

Great parks don't just show up - they're the product of consistent, thoughtful building and stewardship. This starts with raising the money needed to reclaim brownfields and create healthy forests, creeks, and meadows for all to explore and enjoy. River Heritage Conservancy is building Origin Park for the community. And we depend on the generosity of our community to develop and care for the park since no tax dollars pay for our operations. We are grateful to the foundations, businesses, and individuals who support in our mission by donating.

River Heritage Conservancy reached a critical new milestone in September 2022 when it launched its **Annual Fund at the Give for Good Louisville crowdfunding event.** The Annual Fund supports day-to-day park operations, including maintaining paddling launches, reclaiming brownfields, managing design and construction, and providing free interpretive and arts programs. Since launching the campaign, we have increased the number of donors by over 100% and the amount of donations by over 200%!

The Capital Campaign for the park's first phase now stands at \$21.3 million, nearly two-thirds of our goal.

Equally supported by private and public funding, Origin Park received a tremendous boost from the State of Indiana's READI grant in 2022 which emphasized the park's potential to transform the local economy.



John Dattilo

We offer heartfelt thanks to the many public leaders and private donors who are demonstrating their belief in Origin Park. Just like you, they know the value of the new experiences and opportunities the park will bring to the region. Meeting our fundraising goals will permit us to build the park and manage it in perpetuity. **We invite you all to continue walking with us on the path to Origin Park.**

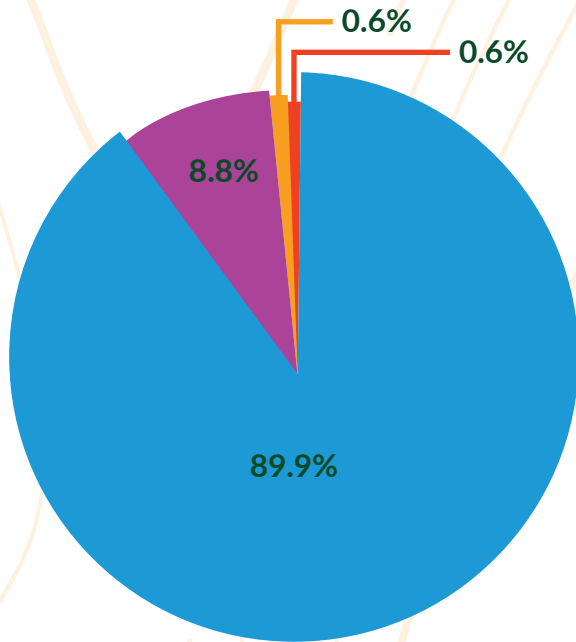
“We truly believe that this project will impact not just underserved communities in Clarksville but communities directly across the river in West Louisville as well. It will turn an abandoned and degraded landscape into a vital community resource that helps address the significant inequities in green space that we have in our metropolitan area.”

- Kathy Knotts, Grants Officer, Gheens Foundation

2022 FINANCIALS

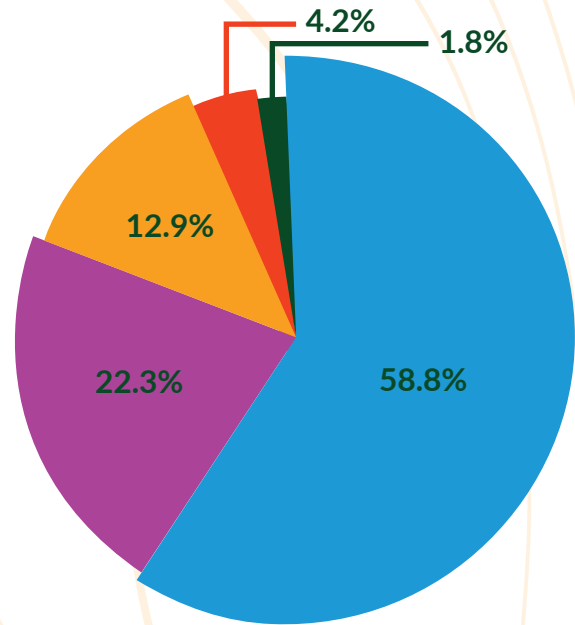
Revenues

- Grants — \$5,594,472
- Corporate Contributions — \$563,000
- Individual Contributions — \$58,864
- Interest Income — \$39,858



Disbursements

- Construction in Progress — \$1,395,904
- Program Expenses — \$528,965
- Management & General — \$305,108
- Fundraising — \$99,597
- Purchase of Land and Equipment — \$43,370



Net Revenues over Expenses
\$5,330,891

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Cash	\$5,705,055
Grants Receivable	\$5,000
Park Assets and Equipment, net	\$5,910,731
Construction in Progress	\$3,140,286
Total Assets	\$14,761,072

Liabilities & Net Assets

Accounts Payable	\$19,156
Construction Payable	\$232,652
Accrued Expenses	\$3,599
Net Assets	\$14,505,665
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$14,761,072

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kent W. Lanum - RHC Board Chairman; President, Ogle Foundation

Rudy Spencer - RHC Board Vice-Chairman; Managing Director, Blue Sky Foundation

James D. Kenney, III - RHC Board Secretary; AG Counsel & Senior VP (ret.), Farm Credit

William J. White - RHC Board Treasurer; Market President, Indiana Members Credit Union

Tyler Allen - Owner, USA Image Technologies

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Greg Zoeller - Chairman, Indianapolis World Trade Center

Kevin Baity - Ex Officio; Town Manager, Clarksville, Indiana

Terry Coleman - Ex Officio; Director, Indiana State Parks, Department of Natural Resources

STAFF

Susan Rademacher, Executive Director

Shannon Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer

Doug Scott, Director of Development

Melissa Holst, Operations Manager

Vern Eswine, Communications Director

Kristin Faurest, Development Associate

Lauren Johnson, Administrative Assistant

James Wright, Parkkeeper



John Dattilo

HOW YOU CAN HELP

River Heritage Conservancy relies on the support of many donors and volunteers to fulfill its mission. Your continued involvement will ensure that our work continues.

For more details,
contact us at 812-463-3553 or via email at info@RiverHeritageConservancy.org

