

# Implementation

# 5 CHAPTER

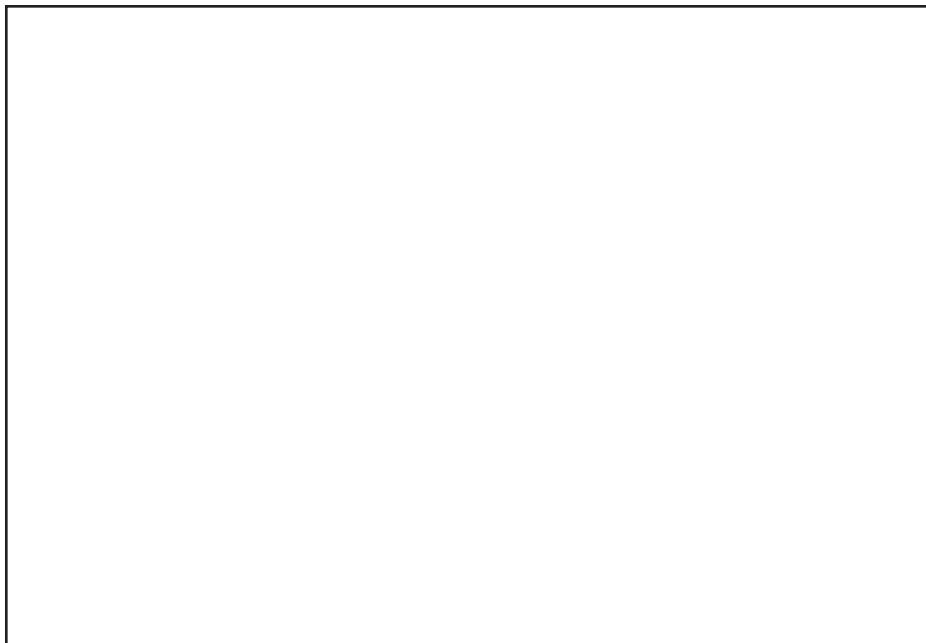
The Logan County Greenways Plan creates a vision, examines resources and identifies future priority greenways. The document is intended to serve as an advisory guide for public and private actions concerning greenway preservation and development within Logan County. The Logan County Comprehensive Plan and Greenways Committee developed goals and objectives and evaluated important background information. Considered in the Logan County Comprehensive Greenway Plan analysis were existing development patterns, future growth areas and existing greenway resources and future needs for greenways. Priority future greenways were also identified. In fulfilling the purpose of the plan as a guide for the region wide development and preservation of greenways, this chapter provides a summary of the available methods and responsibilities for implementation and concludes with a plan of action.

## METHODS AND STRATEGIES

There are several methods and strategies available to aid in the implementation of proposed greenways. These include the use of regulatory ordinances and a variety of acquisition, ownership and financial strategies. Each of these is summarized in the following paragraphs.

### Regulatory Ordinances

Regulatory ordinances provide a legal framework for actions to implement proposed greenways. Zoning and subdivision regulations and the official map are examples of regulatory measures that can be utilized to guide development, including greenway preservation and development.



Photo

## Zoning Ordinances

The zoning ordinance is one of the most effective means of implementing a land use

plan. It is an important tool for greenways planning and development as well by restricting development along streams and zoning for public use areas. Logan County and most of

**EXHIBIT 5.1**  
**Summary of Acquisition Strategies for Greenways**

METHOD	EXPLANATION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Management Agreements	Agreements between agency and land owner for a specific purpose	Avoid purchase and other options, gain desired rights with minimal debate.	Only applicable with current landowner. It could be revoked at anytime.
Land Leases	Short and long-term land rental.	Low cost use of land. Landowner receives income and retains control of property.	Leases do not provide equity and affords limited control. Does not assure protection.
Permits & Licenses	For fee agreements that specify specific uses. Time frames are usually involved.	An equitable arrangement that is specified to uses.	It is time and resource-base limited. Does not provide a long-term method of protection.
Right Of Public Access Easements	Provides the public with the right to access and use a parcel of land for a specific purpose. Land use is usually limited to a defined area.	Avoids need to purchase land from the owner. Provides right of public access and use. Excellent for greenways.	Can be time limited. Usually restricts other uses. Does not prevent owner from exercising other property rights.
Conservation Easements	A partial interest in property usually for purpose of protecting natural resources, Public access not always a component.	Inexpensive method for protection of natural resources. Landowner retains all other property rights and land remains on tax roll.	Public access is usually restricted. Easement must be enforced. Easement may lower resale value.
Preservation Easements	Same as conservation easement. Most useful for historic landscapes.	Defines protection of historic elements of landscape.	Can restrict public access. Must be enforced.
Joint Use Easements	Accommodates multiple uses within one easement type.	Provides opportunity to combine several public interests with one agreement. Easier for landowner to understand one request than multiple requests.	Can be difficult for all landowners to agree to multiple uses along an entire greenway corridor. A rejection by a single landowner can jeopardize the entire request.
Fee Simple Purchase	Outright purchase of full title to land and all rights associated with its use.	New landowner has full control of land. Allows for permanent protection and public access.	Cost of purchase may be outside local ability. Removes land from tax rolls.
Donations & Gifts	A donation by landowner of all or partial interest in the property. Land usually managed by private preservation organization.	Provides permanent protection without public expenditures. Tax benefits to seller.	Receiving agency must be able to accept donation and be capable of managing land.
Purchase & Lease Back	Full title is purchased then leased back to previous owner. Subject to restrictions.	Essentially land banking. Income is derived from lease payments. Owner is not displaced.	Lease may restrict public access. Land must be leased for appropriate uses.
Bargain Sale	Process is part donation and part sale. Property is sold at less than fair market value.	Tax benefits to seller. Difference in sales price is considered charitable gift.	Seller must be agreeable to terms of sale. Bargain price may be inflated.
Option Or First Right of Refusal	Owner agrees to provide first right of purchase to designated agency or individual.	Secures future right of purchase. It provides time frame to negotiate terms with seller.	Does not ensure that owner will sell or sell for a reasonable price.
Purchase Of Development Rights	Local or state government purchases the rights of more intensive land use from current owner.	Landowner derives financial benefit from selling rights. Lower property value reduces taxes.	Can be a costly endeavor.
Eminent Domain & Condemnation	The right of government to take private property for public purpose upon payment of just compensation. Can be exercised for recreational purposes in some states.	Provides tool for acquiring essential or dangerous properties. Usually done if other options are not possible or acceptable.	Costly and can create a negative perception of government and the concept of greenways. Only recommended as a last resort.
Installment Sale	Allows for buyer to pay for property over time.	Can lower taxes for seller if transaction seller-financed. Buyer can negotiate better sale terms.	Long-term financial commitment usually up to thirty years. Mortgage lien usually involved.
Land Exchange	Swapping of developable land for property with high conservation value.	Relatively cost free if trade parcel is donated. Reduces capital gains tax for original owner.	Owners must be willing to swap land that is of comparable value. Can be time consuming.
Exaction	As a condition of obtaining subdivision approval, local government requires developers to pay a fee or dedicate land to a municipal trust for open space.	New construction and development pays for its impact on open space. Good method during high-growth periods.	Acquisition funds depend on the specific development. Difficult to calculate fair costs. Not effective during recessionary periods.
Transfer Of Development Rights	Under legally established program, owner can transfer development rights from one property to another designated to support increased density.	Cost of preservation absorbed by property owner who purchases rights. Allows local government to direct density and growth away from sensitive landscapes.	Difficult to implement and can be considered controversial. Often difficult to identify areas where increased density is desirable. Must be established by legislation.
Cluster Development	Permits high density development in parts of subdivision to protect sensitive lands.	Flexible and negotiable with landowner and developer. Can reduce construction and infrastructure costs.	Open space may not be linked. Processing time for development may be increased.
Performance Zoning	A zone defined by permitted impacts as opposed to permitted uses.	Development occurs based on comprehensive environmental strategy.	Criteria can be hard to establish. Development plans more expensive to prepare.

its communities have zoning ordinances in place.

### *Subdivision Regulations*

Subdivision regulations can be another effective means for implementing greenway recommendations. Subdivision regulations set standards for street design, sidewalks, utilities and community facilities. Subdivision regulations can positively affect the overall patterns and quality of development. These regulations may also require land dedication or a "fee in lieu of land" for parks, open space or trails in newly developed areas. Storm water detention basins may also be required through these regulations that can also be designed to serve a recreational facility component as well. Subdivision regulations can also provide standards for greenway and trail development.

### *Official Map*

The official map gives a municipality or local government body the means to reserve land designated for public purposes for a one-year period from the time that such land is subdivided. The map identifies the approximate locations for future public facilities, which may include parks, greenways and trails. By doing so, it serves notice that the municipality or other applicable government body intends to acquire the designated land for the stated purpose.

### **Acquisition Strategies**

The acquisition process is sometimes the difficult aspect of implementing a greenways plan. A variety of acquisition options are available for consideration. Some of these are widely accepted and often used with success. A number of less common but innovative options are also available and may be effective in certain situations. Potential acquisition strategies have been identified by the

Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit land and water conservation organization that protects land through partnerships. Identified strategies are summarized in Exhibit 5.1. This table can serve as a reference guide when considering the acquisition of land for greenways.

### **Ownership Strategies**

With determining how to acquire a particular greenway, another important aspect must be addressed: who will own it? There are three avenues of ownership—private, public or mixed ownership. If the greenway will be used for a recreational purpose or is used as a mode of transportation, local government would be the likely owner. However, if the greenway serves an environmental purpose such as wetlands protection, wildlife habitat protection, or stream preservation, a private entity such as a land trust may be the most appropriate owner of the greenway. There may be instances where multiple or joint ownership of a greenway will occur, particularly for regional greenway systems or where implementation and management costs are a burden for one entity. A number of potential ownership strategies have been identified in Exhibit 5.2 as a guide for ownership considerations.

### **Financial Strategies**

Even the most well conceived plans for the acquisition, implementation and management of greenways will fail if financial resources are not available or a strategy has not been developed to pay for the greenway. A plan must be developed to ascertain the cost of a greenway, what program or organization will fund it, and the method of obtaining funds. There are two fundamental types of greenway funding sources—the public sector and the private sector. Public sector funding sources have been identified and summarized in Exhibits 5.4 and 5.5. Private sector funding sources have also been identified and summa-

ized by the Conservation Fund in Exhibit 5.3. These tables provide a reference source for review when considering funding possibilities for specific greenways.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

A coordinated effort will be required to achieve the goals and objectives of the Regional Greenways Plan. Government agencies, private organizations, individuals and public-private partnerships may all be part of the equation for successful implementation.

**EXHIBIT 5.2**  
**Suggested Comparative Ownership Strategies**

METHOD	EXPLANATION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
<b>PRIVATE OWNERSHIP</b>			
Individual Landowners	Adjacent landowners retain full title to land and provide for greenway through easements.	Property owners retain title to land. Large funds for land purchase not needed. Land remains on the tax rolls.	Easements can restrict certain types of greenways activities depending on the landowner.
Land Trusts & Non-Profit Organizations	A national or regional non-profit organization can acquire and hold land until a local land trust has been established or is able to finance acquisition.	A non-profit organization can finance an immediate acquisition and hold property until a land trust has been established or has acquired funds.	If a land trust does not exist, a community must establish one. A land trust needs solid support, funding and the ability to manage land.
Corporate Landowners	Corporation provides for greenway as part of the development process.	Greenway is provided at no expense to local tax payer. Managed by corporation.	Corporation may restrict use of greenway to the public or may choose to deny access.
<b>PUBLIC OWNERSHIP</b>			
Local Governments	Acquisition by county or municipality.	Local government can be more flexible about the type of open space it requires.	Limited local funds and expertise limit the number of acquisitions.
State Governments	Acquisition by state agencies such as Department of Environmental Protection; Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation; Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources.	Statewide bond acts can provide significant funding resources for important open space acquisitions throughout a state. Provides revolving loan funds to leverage non-profit activity.	Government may miss acquisition opportunities due to long time frame for acquisition approval.
Federal Governments	Acquisition by National Park Service, Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service or Bureau of Land Management.	Acquisition is at federal level thus eliminating financial obligation for locality.	Acquisitions are limited due to agencies' specific criteria for acquisition. Acquisitions need Congressional authorization.
<b>MIXED OWNERSHIP</b>			
Public/Private Ownership	A private nonprofit organization can help to implement government programs by acquiring and holding land until a public agency is able to purchase.	A nonprofit organization can enter the real estate market easier than government and can sell to government at less than fair market value if property was acquired through bargain sale.	Must have public agency willing and able to buy within reasonable time frame.
Public/Public Ownership	Multi-jurisdictional partnership between local, state, and federal agencies. Inter-agency projects.	Combining strengths of agencies enables greenway development to occur.	Development and management structure can be cumbersome. Partnership may not be equal.
Private/Private Ownership	Government works with private sector to implement greenway	Private sector can realize tax benefits from participation. Cost share good for public.	Cost equity and management could be cumbersome.

SOURCE: The Conservation Fund, Greenways: A Guide to Planning, Design, and Development, 1993.

Responsibility for implementing the plan lies with governments (local, state and federal), private developers, private landowners, interested citizens, interest groups, and the Logan County Regional Planning Commission.

state and federal governments.

*Federal Government*

The policies of the federal government have a major influence on the development of greenways nationally. The federal government provides funding programs to assist local governments in developing greenway systems and to individual landowners to encourage conser-

**Government**

Implementing the Regional Greenways Plan will require participation from local,

**EXHIBIT 5.3  
Private Sector Funding Sources**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>	<b>ADVANTAGES</b>	<b>DISADVANTAGES</b>
Foundation Grants	Foundations, usually private or corporate, provide grant money for greenway related projects.	Variety of foundations creates a wealth of possible funding opportunities	Foundation grants may have strict guidelines regarding use of funds and project scope
Company Grants	Corporations provide grants of funds and resources for greenway related projects. Corporations provide financial support and often volunteer employee time as well.	Corporations seek out community service projects such as greenways.	Corporate giving for these types of projects are often committed quickly and there may be competition for funds.
Individual Donors & Memberships	Funding derived from individual fundraising campaigns or through membership drives through nonprofit organizations which solicit members as a way to raise money and support for projects.	Excellent method for raising funds and building support for a greenways organization and its projects.	Membership or nonprofit organizations may require significant time and effort investments in order to succeed.
Planned Giving, Life-Income Gifts, and Bequests	This is a strategy to create a plan to address the donation of gifts while the donor is alive after he or she dies. These types of gifts involve a donor granting a greenway nonprofit organization or land trust ownership in a stock. The grantor receives earnings from the stock while he or she is alive. After death, the principle and earnings of the stock go to the nonprofit organization or land trust. A donor may bequest money in a will.	These techniques can be useful in protecting private land that has important greenway features. This strategy can offer tax and investment advantages to the donor and also the recipient.	Can be complex issues. These gifts usually require financial and legal expertise.
Service Clubs	Organizations that perform community service activities or sponsor projects such as greenways. Examples of service clubs include the Lions Club, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, etc.	Service clubs can sponsor fundraising activities and provide volunteers and publicity.	Getting commitment from a service club to assist in a greenways project can be difficult.
Special Events & Fundraisers	These events are designed to raise funds through activities such as benefit dinners, races, tours and related activities.	Special events and fundraising can be successful in raising money and creating publicity for greenways.	These activities can require significant time and resources and may not provide a significant return.

Source: The Conservation Fund

vation practices. These funding programs may come directly from federal agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture or may be distributed through state agencies such as the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (see Exhibit 5.3).

*State Government*

State government has the responsibility of interpreting federal policy and applying it to state agencies and local government. State government must address the need for greenways and offer resources to local governments to encourage the development of greenway plans and projects on a local or regional level. A significant portion of funding for greenway projects in Logan County will likely come from grant programs. These include programs sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The

state provides technical assistance to local governments for developing greenways.

*Local Government*

Local government has the major responsibility for implementing the Regional Greenways Plan. Logan County and its municipalities have taken an important step in developing the greenways plan. Upon completion of the plan and the public input process, the Logan County Regional Greenways Plan should be adopted as official policy for greenway development within the respective governmental jurisdictions of Logan County. The greenways plan should also be considered in the evaluation of future development projects so that provisions are made for greenways. Local government should also be prepared to provide funding support for continued planning, coordination and development of greenways. Local government will likely be

**EXHIBIT 5.4  
Public Sector Funding Sources**

Source	Explanation	Advantages	Disadvantages
Direct Loan Agency Fund	Public agencies provide funding and sponsor the greenway. Usually, agencies are parks & recreation departments or public works/engineering departments.	Substantial funding can usually be contributed for greenways and such agencies can commit future funding & support.	Selling the project to elected officials, general public, etc. Also stiff competition for funds among agencies.
State & Federal Grant Programs	Federal and state governments offer grant programs to government agencies and non-profit organizations for greenway acquisition and development.	Wide variety of grant programs available. Can tailor to a specific need or purpose.	Competition for funds, regulation and red tape.
Public Agency/Joint Venture	Public agencies enter into a partnership to fund a greenway project	Agencies can receive benefits from joint ventures. An example is a trail within a water reclamation district sewer line right of way.	Some highway, flood control sewer projects and utility corridors may not be compatible with a greenway.
Joint Development Techniques	The use of funds for private real estate development in conjunction with new public facilities	New sources of tax revenue and other benefits are created through public/private cooperative agreements.	Development and management may be cumbersome.
Public Finance	Financing through special taxes, taxing districts, bonds or tax increment financing	Can be excellent method of raising considerable revenue for greenway projects.	Additional taxes and special taxing districts can be unpopular methods of raising revenue.

SOURCE: The Conservation Fund

**EXHIBIT 5.5**  
**Local Government Public Financing Techniques**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Special Tax	A special tax can include: special sales tax, sales tax on specific goods, hotel/motel tax, or special tax on real estate transactions.
Improvement Districts	Method of raising revenue for a greenway by establishing a special taxing district. The assessment is usually a property tax that is levied within the district. The assessment is usually a property tax that is levied within the district. Revenues are used for funding improvements in a specific geographic area.
Special Assessment Districts	Used for projects such as street improvements, outdoor plazas, landscaping and park improvements.
Selling Bonds	Common finance approach; public sector borrows money. Most communities have limits on the amount of debt that can be incurred.
General Obligation Bonds	These bonds are repaid with general revenue income that a community receives through tax revenues. It can be a controversial process.
Revenue Bonds	Revenues that are generated by financed projects pay for these bonds. These are best used when financing greenway amenities such as fee-for-use facilities.
Tax Increment Financing (TIF)	A TIF pays off a bond from the increased revenue generated on property adjacent to a public improvement such as a greenway.

Source: The Conservation Fund

involved in the acquisition, implementation and management of certain greenways.

**Private Developers**

Private developers should consider the Regional Greenways Plan and make every effort to incorporate greenway concepts and designs into their developments. Dedication requirements may also be used to support greenway development.

**Private Landowners**

Voluntary efforts on the part of private landowners can assist in preserving natural areas and waterways. Private landowners should be encouraged to take advantage of various state and federal programs that pro-

vide financial incentives to landowners who implement conservation practices. Many potential greenways tend to be located on private property. Every effort should be made to include this constituency in the greenway planning and implementation process. This should include educating landowners about conservation, watershed practices and programs to encourage their participation.

**Interested Citizens**

Successful implementation of the Logan County Regional Greenways Plan should involve the participation of interested citizens. When the public has a clear vision, enthusiasm and support can often be a major factor to move a greenways plan forward. Interested citizens may include bicycle and trail enthusiasts, members of various preservation associa-

**EXHIBIT 5.6  
Natural Resource Management Incentives**

PROGRAM	CONTACT	LANDOWNERS ELIGIBILITY	TERM	MINIMUM ACREAGE	PURPOSE					
					Natural Area, Habitat Preservation	Open Space & Recreation	Wetland & Water Restoration	Soil Conservation	Farmland Preservation	Forestry
<b>Cost Share Programs</b>										
Ag Conservation	ASCS	independent/corp.	10 years	one acre			X			X
Ag Loans	State Treasurer	independent/corp.					X			
Conservation Reserve	ASCS	ind., corp., & public	10-30 years	one acre			X			X
Forest Stewardship	IDNR	ind.	10 years	5 acres			X			X
Forestry Incentive	ASCS	ind.	10 years	10 acres			X			X
Ill. Forestry Dev. Act	IDNR	ind., ltd., pub.	10 years	5 acres			X			X
Partners for Wildlife	USFWS/IDNR	ind.	10 years	one acre			X			X
Stewardship Initiatives	IDNR	ind.,corp.	10 years	5 acres	X	X	X			X
Trees, Shrubs & Seedlings	IDNR						X			X
Wetland Reserve	ASCS		permanent	2 acres			X			X
<b>Technical Assistance Programs</b>										
Emergency Conservation	ASCS						X		X	
Forest Management Assist. Program	IDNR	ind., pub., corp.			X		X			X
National Heritage Landmark	IDNR	ind.			X		X			
Private Land Habitat	IDNR	ind.		one acre	X		X			
Private Waters	IDNR				X		X			
Register of Land & Water Reserves	IDNR				X		X			
<b>Tax Incentives</b>										
Assessment with Easements	SA, CA				X					
Conservation Easements	IDNR				X					
Exemption of Prairie Path Leases	Co. Board of Review				X					
Exception of Lease to Park District	Co. Board of Review				X					
Forestry Mgt. Plan	IDNR		10 years	5 acres			X			X
Illinois Nature Preserves	IDNR	ind., pub.	permanent				X			
Open Space Assessment	SA, CA				X		X			
Preferential Assessment of Farmland	SA, CA			10 acres	X		X			X
Subdivision of Common Areas	T.A, SA, CA				X					
Tax Bills Optional for Less than \$150	County Clerk	ind.								
Tax Certified for Livestock Waste Mgt.	IEPA						X			
Abbreviations Defined:										
	ASCS	Agricultural Stabilizations & Conservation Service			ind.					individual
	IDNR	Illinois Department of Natural Resources			corp.					corporation
	USFWS	United States Fish & Wildlife Service			pub.					public entity
	SA, CA	Supervisor of Assessments, County Assessor			ltd.					limited
	TA	Township Assessor								
	IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency								

SOURCE: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**EXHIBIT 5.7**  
Federal And State Funding Sources For Transportation Enhancement Activities

CATEGORIES	FUNDING PROGRAMS									
	Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)	Surface Transportation Program (STP)	Scenic Byways	Operation Green Light (OGL)	Federal Transit Act (FTA)	National Recreation Trails Fund (SYMS)	Land & Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)	Illinois Bicycle Path Grant	Certified Local Governments Program
Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles	80% federal money; 20% local money	80% federal money; 20% local money	80% federal money; 20% local money	80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies	80% federal money; 20% local money	100% federal money	50% federal money; 50% local money	50% state money; 50% local money	match varies
Acquisition of scenic easements and historical sites	80% federal money; 20% local money			80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies					
Scenic or historic highway programs	80% federal money; 20% local money			80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies					
Landscaping and other scenic beautification	80% federal money; 20% local money			80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies					
Historic preservation	80% federal money; 20% local money			80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies					
Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals)	80% federal money; 20% local money									20% local money
Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bike trails)	80% federal money; 20% local money	80% federal money; 20% local money	80% federal money; 20% local money					50% federal money; 50% local money	50% state money; 50% local money	60% federal money; 40% local money
Control & removal of outdoor advertising	80% federal money; 20% local money			80% federal money; 20% local money	match varies					
Archaeological planning and research	80% federal money; 20% local money									80% federal money; 20% local money
Mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff	80% federal money; 20% local money									

NOTE: ITEP excludes land acquisition  
FTA-bicycle and pedestrian facilities related to transit projects only  
LAWCON- Includes land acquisition. State OSLAD program follows LAWCON guidelines.  
CLGP-restricted to Historic Register Properties only  
Archaeological planning and research and mitigation of water pollution eligible within ISTEA but not priority under ITEP

SOURCE: Illinois Department of Transportation

tions, educators, ecologists, naturalists and others who understand the importance of greenways to the community.

### **Special Interest Groups**

Special interest groups are usually well organized and can offer valuable assistance with greenway projects. They can become “cheerleaders” within the community and may even be able to provide funds and labor for greenway projects. Some of these groups that have a not-for-profit designation may also be willing to acquire and manage greenways. These groups include conservation and independent outdoor recreation organizations and clubs.

### **Logan County Regional Planning Commission**

The Logan County Regional Planning Commission has the major responsibility for carrying out the Regional Greenways Plan. The Regional Planning Commission is also responsible for long range comprehensive and transportation planning throughout the County. This authority also brings with it the ability to coordinate greenways plans and projects. The Commission may also be responsible for reviewing major development projects to ensure consistency with adopted land use plans. The Commission should also support the continuing coordination of implementation efforts.

### **CONTINUING COORDINATION**

To make the successful transition from plan formulation to implementation will require continuing coordination of plans, programs and activities. While the plan provides a general framework for greenway development, the implementation phase requires that priority future greenways be targeted and necessary actions be taken toward development. This will require thorough analysis and con-

sensus building in the selection of targeted greenways and dedication and perseverance to see the projects through to successful completion. One or more organizations with the capabilities, willingness and legal authority to accept public and private funds, acquire property and maintain greenways, as will likely be necessary.

There is no organization within Logan County identified that meets all of these requirements. Although many organizations, including local governments, have some of the capabilities to meet many of the requirements, none have within their respective missions the countywide coordination, development and management of greenways. Nor have any private organizations with the required capabilities expressed interest in expanding their roles in this manner.

Continuing coordination of greenway development is vital for the success of the Logan County Regional Greenways Plan. Some regional planning commissions in the State of Illinois have created greenway coalitions or advisory committees for this purpose. These committees can be comprised of a diverse group of members. All members normally have a stake in the local greenways movement. The committee meets as needed throughout the year (at least quarterly) and coordinates activities or projects that assist in implementing the regional greenways plan. Members of these committees have included municipal engineers, county highway staff, mayors, bicycle and physical fitness enthusiasts, planners, zoning directors, ecologists, parks and recreation officials, bird watching associations, visitor bureau staff, land foundation volunteers, and soil and water district staff. It is also important to invite staff members from IDNR and IDOT to serve as liaisons on the committee.

This or a similar option must be pursued in order to achieve the continuing coordination that will be necessary to successfully carry out the Logan County Regional Greenways Plan.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Following is a summary of suggested future actions that should be considered in implementing the Logan County Greenways Plan.

- The implementation process should begin with the official adoption of the plan by affected local governments.
- The Logan County Regional Planning Commission should determine the entity or entities that have the legal capabilities to acquire property, manage and maintain greenways on a countywide basis and receive and disperse funds derived from private donations, government grants and other sources.
- Once this has been established, the appointed greenways organization or management agency assigned with overseeing the implementation of the greenways plan should move forward on future priority greenways for the County. These targeted priority greenways should be ones that exhibit the most beneficial features for the County as a whole. Care should be taken not to overlook possible opportunities outside of prioritized or targeted greenways for possible greenways development.
- The designated greenways management organization should evaluate and select appropriate strategies for acquisition, ownership and financing of targeted greenways. Every effort should be made to maximize the use of private funding sources and possible grant monies.
- The designated greenways management organization in cooperation with the Logan County Regional Planning Commission should perform an annual review of the Regional Greenways Plan to measure progress and target implementation activities for the following year. This may entail a short newsletter report forwarded to County government and community leaders. A comprehensive update

of the greenways plan should be considered every five to seven years.

- An active public education campaign should be carried out by the designated greenways management organization to broaden public understanding and support for development of greenways. An effective campaign might include a periodic newsletter and/or press releases that reports on progress made toward carrying out the greenways plan or related activities. Members of the greenways management organization should be encouraged to appear before interested groups and organizations within the County to promote the Regional Greenways Plan.
- The Logan County Planning Commission should provide or assist in providing the necessary staff and technical support to the designated greenways management organization to aid in coordinating implementation activities, monitor progress and update the plan.
- Local Logan County governments should support implementation efforts of the plan and encourage technical support from staff. Local governments should also be prepared to provide some financial support to meet local match requirements for grants or other special implementation needs as they arise.
- In consideration of any development project, local governments should consider the priority future greenways identified in the Logan County Regional Greenways Plan and the need to provide greenways for future development.
- Regulatory ordinances should be strictly enforced and be up-to-date with respect to provisions affecting greenways and dedication requirements, if applicable.

