The Wisconsin Heritage State Parkway
Agenda:
The Mission
The Legacy
The Commitment
Heritage State Parkway
Mission
The Future
Heritage State Parkway
The Mission-
Three Phase Heritage State Parkway Project

- **Phase 1: The Lower Fox**
  - Rehabilitate and restore the Lower Fox Navigational System.
  - Install a boat lift over Rapid Croche barrier that currently prevents entry of invasive aquatic species.

- **Phase 2: The Upper Fox**
  - Lands currently owned by state and managed by DNR.
  - No intent to restore any of nine locks on the Upper Fox.
  - Plan is to link all existing and future historical sites, parks, and public areas on the banks of the Fox River.

- **Phase 3: Integrating Lower Wisconsin River**
  - Planned Heritage Interpretation Center along the Lower Wisconsin River.
Phase 1:
The Lower Fox River Navigational System
The Mission-
Phase One: The Operating Systems

- 17 locks along 39 miles of river
  - Begun in 1840, completed in 1856, 5 years before the start of the civil war.
  - Operated totally by hand and gravity
  - Unique in the world

- Provided access to 39 miles of river dropping 168 feet from Lake Winnebago to Green Bay
The Mission-
Phase One: The Lock System Today

- Only 3 of 17 locks in operation today
- System closed since 1982
- State of Wisconsin gained ownership in September 2004
- Total cost to open is $23 million and length of project originally estimated at 7-12 years

Current Lock in Disrepair
The Mission-
Phase One: Control of Invasive Aquatic Species

An active committee of Friends of the Fox, DNR and Marine Biologists have solutions.

The current protective barrier at Rapid Croche in Wrightstown will remain in place.
A Boat lift will be installed to move boats over/around the protective barrier.
The Mission -
Phase One: Opening of the Lower Fox Locks

- Unique Link in the WI State Park system
- Promote cultural, historical, recreational and natural resources along the Fox River Corridor
- Emphasis on preserving the Historical attributes along the river
- Consists of 26 Locks, 3 Harbors, 20 Sites over 350 Acres, connecting 140 miles from Green Bay to Portage, and ultimately to Prairie du Chien
- Showcasing approximately 20 Communities along the river
The Mission-
Phase One: 4 Yr. Accelerated Lock Restoration

Aug. 2005 – Stabilization work is ongoing.
2006-2009 – Restoration phases take place, with completion in 2009.


*The current restoration can be accelerated as the fundraising goal moves closer to completion.*
The Mission -
Phase Two: The Upper Fox River...
“Restoration & Recognition”

- The path of American’s explorers
- The source of our heritage
- The birth of our communities
- The source of world-famous industry
- Our connection to the world
- Recreation for all
- Providing unmatched quality of life
- A valuable natural resource
The Mission-
Phase Three: Integration of the
Lower Wisconsin River

- Gateway to the Mississippi River and the world.
- The Fox and Wisconsin Rivers once again linked.
- Passage from historic Portage, site of Fort Winnebago, to Prairie du Chien, one of our country’s oldest settlements.
- Planned Heritage Parkway Interpretation Center.
Heritage State Parkway
Legacy
The Legacy-Heritage State Parkway

- Economic development and Riverfront Revitalization
  - Increased prosperity for existing businesses while attracting new ones
  - Regional, national and global tourist destination

- Human fulfillment and enrichment
  - Leisure activities
  - Education
  - Recreation
  - Natural resource enrichment, preservation and utilization
The Legacy-Heritage State Parkway

- Private contributions unlock matching funds from the federal and state government
- It will be the catalyst to economic development and growth of the entire region
- It’s Phase one of the Fox River Heritage State Parkway
- Creates a funded, operational river system for generations to come
- Provides greater river access for everyone.

*DePere Lock, late 1800s*

*Fond du Lac*
The Legacy - Funding for an Accelerated Schedule

Federal Contribution (to date) 11.8 Million
Federal Match to State and local funding 5.6 Million
State Contribution 2.8 Million
Funds Raised to Date 1.8 Million
(The Federal Match of 5.6 million is released when we hit 2.8 million)
Local Funds to secure matching funds 1,000,000
Additional Funds 5,250,000
(Creates an Endowment for the operation and maintenance of the Locks and the cost of a Boat Lift at Rapid Croche)

Total Project Cost $28,250,000
Total project cost rebuilds the system in 3-4 years and maintains and sustains the operations for 30 years.
The Legacy-
It’s Worth The Time and Effort!

- 10 year old study predicts economic impact of $74 million annually. ($100 Million in today’s dollars)
- A one time $8M investment to achieve this payoff is incredible!
Heritage Parkway
Commitment
Your Commitment to Our Legacy

- Donation of $25,000 over 4 Years
  ~ $6,250 per year

- Donation of $15,000 over 4 Years
  ~ $3,750 per year

- Donation of $10,000 over 4 Years
  ~ $2,500 per year

- Donation of $5,000 over 4 Years
  ~ $1,250 per year
The Organization Structure

The Friends of the Fox
Is a nonprofit advocacy group established in 1982 to preserve and develop the environmental, cultural, historical, economic and quality-of-life assets offered by the Fox River.

Unlock the Fox Capital Campaign Committee
This group is made up of community leaders from Fond du Lac to Green Bay.
They are local businesses people and the citizens.
They are charge with getting out and soliciting funds from other area businesses and citizens.

Fox River Navigational System Authority
The FRNA is a state agency charged with the renovation, maintenance and operation of the Fox River Locks system.
There are two citizen representatives from Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties along with state representatives from the DOT, DNR and the State Historical Society.
For more information on how you can Help,
Contact

www.friendsofthefox.org

Greater Green Bay Community Foundation
920-432-0800

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
920-426-3993

Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
920-830-1290