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MCT ANNOUNCES RECONSTRUCTION OF RON FOSTER HERITAGE TRAIL AND COMMEMORATES 20 YEARS OF BIKE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT
Work Will Begin on the Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail Later This Month

GRANITE CITY, ILL., MAY 2, 2013… To commemorate the month of May as National Bike Month and celebrate its twentieth year of bikeway development, Madison County Transit (MCT) is pleased to announce the reconstruction of the Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail in Glen Carbon. Construction will begin later this month, closing sections of the trail through the project’s completion at the end of 2014. Trailgoers are encouraged to check www.mcttrails.org or visit the MCT Trails Facebook page for trail closures.

The Village of Glen Carbon transferred ownership of the 8-mile Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail to MCT in June, 2012. MCT will utilize a $2.7 million Illinois Transportation Enhancement grant, a $300,000 grant from the Metro East Park & Recreation District (MEPRD), $55,000 from the Village of Glen Carbon and $1.17 million in MCT Local funds to asphalt the trail and make critical repairs to the 10 bridges and 2 tunnels along the path. In mid-April, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) awarded the $4.2 million project to Keller Co. of Glen Carbon. The Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail runs from the MCT Nickel Plate Trail at Miner Park in Glen Carbon northeast past the MCT Goshen Trail and ultimately to Silver Creek where it connects to the MCT Heritage Trail.

"On behalf of the MCT Board of Trustees I’d like to thank Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, IDOT, the Village of Glen Carbon and MEPRD,” said MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane. “This project was made possible thanks to the cooperation and efforts of these agencies.”

Since 1993, MCT has acquired, constructed and maintained more than 115 miles of scenic Class One bikeways, known as the MCT Trails. Twenty years after its inception, MCT is proud of its interconnected trail system, which represents a nearly $30 million investment in the quality of life for Madison County residents and visitors. For more information about the MCT Trails system, or to request a free pocket-sized MCT Trails map, visit www.mcttrails.org, call (618) 797-4600 or e-mail trails@mct.org.

In addition to owning, developing and maintaining the MCT Trails, Madison County Transit (MCT) also operates fixed-route bus service in Madison County, Illinois, weekday express service to downtown St. Louis, and seasonal express trips to the Rams games and the Muny. For qualified elderly and disabled residents, MCT provides door to door service known as “Runabout” and operates RideFinders, the St. Louis region’s carpooling and vanpooling program.

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