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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City Officially Opens Grant-Funded Bike Path

The City of Carlyle officially opened its newly constructed bike path connecting Bond Street to the Carlyle Lake Visitor's Center. On hand to represent the City at the grand opening were Mayor Jan Fauke and Aldermen Jeff Taylor, Don Perez, Steve Kauling, Ed Kleber, and Street Foremen Danny Brammeier. On hand to represent the Corps of Engineers was Project Manager Bob Wilkins, Assistant Manager Jackie Taylor, and Ranger Stacie Selle.

"I'm very excited to have the bike path open to the public," said Mayor Jan Fauke. "I think the public is also very excited, as well. I've seen several people using it already."

The bike path will actually be a multi-user path as it will be open to other users other than bicyclists, such as pedestrians and roller-bladers. The path is constructed of concrete and is eight feet wide. It was partially funded with a \$270,000 grant funded by the federal government and administered by the Illinois Dept. of Transportation. Matching funds to complete construction of the path were paid by the City of Carlyle.

Although within the City of Carlyle, the path is largely located on property of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The City and the Army Corps at Carlyle Lake have a great record of cooperation on many functions, including the development of bike-able paths. The City and the Corps have partnered to construct the bike path found on the west side of the Kaskaskia River Spillway, north of the General Dean Bridge. The City and Corps are also cooperating to implement a \$20,000 grant received by the City from the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources to promote a bike-able route that circumnavigates Carlyle Lake.

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