

Originating Committee: Public and Private Lands

Author(s): Richard Orr

Intended Recipient(s): St. Charles City Council, St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer, St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann, St. Charles County Council, Senator Bill Eigel, and Representative Paula Brown

Oppose St. Charles City's Proposed Riverpointe Development near Bangert Memorial Wildlife Area

WHEREAS, this project advances destructive and unnecessary floodplain development by filling valuable ecologically productive river bottomland, and damages old growth riparian forest, the existence of which is unusual in an urban setting; and

WHEREAS, building this development close to the river requires that at least 15.5 acres of productive wetlands will be lost, and at least 975 linear feet of perennial stream and 376 linear feet of intermittent stream will be impacted which is unnecessary since the plan no longer calls for a water feature and could be set back sufficiently to avoid these losses to the natural floodplain and important wildlife habitat and corridors; and

WHEREAS, it negatively affects the existing Katy Trail State Park and Bangert Memorial Wildlife Area wetlands while offering questionable offsets to the negative impacts of moving the trail and loss of floodplain and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, over one mile of Katy Trail corridor along and through a mature riparian forest is to be replaced by rerouting the trail through an urban corridor of newly constructed businesses and multi-family residences; and

WHEREAS, the St. Charles area riverfront already experiences periods of high water due to the loss of floodplain acres and wetlands, and the addition of impervious concrete surfaces will increase runoff in the affected area; and

WHEREAS, the project will fill at least 120-acres of the 100-year floodplain, and some past projects have resulted in constricting the floodplain and contributed to the ongoing process of raising water levels and velocity of the river during frequent flood events, and damaging areas downstream; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Conservation Federation of Missouri, assembled this 6th day of March, 2021, asks Mayor Dan Borgmeyer, Senator Bill Eigel, Representative Paula Brown, and members of the St. Charles City and County Councils to cease construction and funding of this large-scale development until plans are in place to further reduce or eliminate the deleterious effects of the project on the parks, natural floodplain ecosystem, and wildlife in the project area.

Searchable Keywords: Katy Trail, Dan Borgmeyer, Bangert Island, Riverpointe, St. Charles

Expires: March 6, 2026