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Press Release

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NEW SECTION OF THREE RIVERS HERITAGE TRAIL READY FOR CONSTRUCTION

PITTSBURGH, Pa. – (November 19, 2009) Friends of the Riverfront is proud to announce the development of a new section of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail starting in 2009. The segment will offer users a dedicated trail corridor along the Allegheny Riverfront between the City of Pittsburgh and Borough of Millvale. Construction is scheduled to begin late Fall of 2009 as part of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (Penn DOT) Route 28 East Ohio Street Improvement Project.

The Three Rivers Heritage Trail is a paved and dedicated biking, hiking, and walking trail around Pittsburgh. Running for over 21 miles along both sides of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers, it is an almost complete public route for cyclists, walkers, runners, and in some places roller bladers. With funding from foundations, governments, corporations, individuals and through intense collaboration with community partners, government officials, and diverse volunteer base, our rivers and riverfronts have been transformed from industrial wastelands to international examples of environmental renewal. Annually, over 2 million people use the Three Rivers Heritage Trail, and it is promoted in Friends of the Riverfront's free Heritage Trail Map and Online Guide.

To complete this half mile segment Friends of the Riverfront is partnering with the City of Pittsburgh and Penn DOT. Funding to cover the estimated \$2.8 million cost has been provided by Penn DOT through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR), Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCNR), Federal Earmarks, Laurel Foundation, The Heinz Endowments and membership support from Friends of the Riverfront.

The Three Rivers Heritage Trail Route 28 Project is an integral part of the Community Trails Initiative, a multi-municipal project linking the existing Three Rivers Heritage Trail with the Armstrong Trail. The Route 28 Trail Project is an important connector in three different alternative transportation systems; Allegheny County Riverfronts Project, the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Network and the Pittsburgh to Harrisburg Mainline Canal Greenway. For complete project details and design plans of the Route 28 Trail Project, visit the "Trail Status" page at www.friendsoftheriverfront.org.

Interested trails users are encouraged to visit www.friendsoftheriverfront.org to view the trail design or call 412.488.0212 for more information about Friends of the Riverfront.