



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
15610 Vaughn Road
Brecksville, Ohio 44141-3097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 17, 2004

Whitewater Canal Trail Committee
P. O. Box 126
Brookville, IN 47012

To the Whitewater Canal Trail Committee:

I am writing in support of the Whitewater Canal Trail, an proposed 8-mile trail along the historic Whitewater Canal between Brookville and Metamora in Franklin County, Indiana. In my role as the Indiana Projects Manager for the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program, I have provided assistance in communities across the state in their efforts to develop trails for alternative transportation, recreation and education. My work has allowed me to see first hand how trail efforts enhance the resources, health, economics, quality of life and sense of place within a community through improved access and connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists to residential areas, schools, parks, public buildings and businesses.

The above is especially true with the proposed Whitewater Canal which will provide a safe, alternative connection between communities while connecting residents and visitors to an important historic transportation mode of the past. Access to the Whitewater Canal alone will lead to advocacy and support for the preservation of this resource and its important stories. Combine access with education and what started as a trail for transportation and recreation becomes a special place to visit and enjoy.

I have had the opportunity to visit Brookville and Metamora and view the canal between these two communities. Development of this wonderful resource as a trail will provide nothing but benefits to the residents of this area. If there is any way I can be of assistance in making the Whitewater Canal Trail a reality, you need only ask.

Sincerely,

Rory Robinson
Indiana Projects Manager