TRASH TO TREASURE:
Partnering with Utilities for Trails

2017 INTERNATIONAL TRAIL SYMPOSIUM
DAYTON, OHIO

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Economic Development/Housing & Tax Incentive Director
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Agenda

- History of Glenwillow
- Changing Dynamics & Laws
- Long Term Thinking
- Lessons Learned & Applied
TRASH TO TREASURE: Partnering with Utilities for Trails

- Southeast corner of Cuyahoga County
- Along the Emerald Necklace
- Rural character
Prior to Village incorporation in 1893, the area was Solon Township and known as Falls Junction on the Wheeling & Lake Erie RR. The Falls Junction Depot was originally built in 1883 and moved to its present location when Austin Powder Company relocated to Glenwillow in 1893. The Village has two major rail corridors connecting northeast Ohio.
A COMPANY TOWN

From the founding of Glenwillow in 1893 to the closure of the Austin Powder facility in 1972, the rural village was a company town. The Company had a functioning farm, community store and school.
A COMPANY TOWN

The town was known for its rural character, while other surrounding communities grew around it. Austin Powder continued to thrive, making new products lines.
CHANGING SURROUNDINGS

While the Village retained it’s company town charm neighboring communities developed and grew around Glenwillow. Most notably, Solon developed residentially around the village significantly in the 1970s.
AFTER AUSTIN POWDER

Land was purchased by BFI, part was used as landfill, farm and cattle.

BFI needed assistance with closing the landfill under OEPA regulations (HB592 in 1976), so the community negotiated various items to help support the Village recreational development.
AFTER AUSTIN POWDER

- Creative plans for buildings and soils
- New recreational fields
- Revitalized town center
In the 1990s Cochran Road was widened, bypassing the town center, through the old Austin Powder farm. The village capitalized upon this opportunity and created TIF districts.
CAPITALIZING ON THE PAST

Planning for the future by reusing the past

• 2001 Glenwillow Town Center Strategic Plan
• Use of BFI funds for match
CAPITALIZING ON THE PAST

Planning for the future by reusing the past

- 2005 Trail Development Plan
- 2006 ODNR Trail grant approved! (BFI Match)
- 2007 Pettibone Road streetscape with Depot Plaza
2000s

CAPITALIZING ON THE PAST

Planning for the future by reusing the past
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• 2007 Pettibone Road streetscape with Depot Plaza
Planning for the future by reusing the past

- 2016 ODNR Trail grant approved! (Republic Services Match)
- 2017 Pettibone Road Trailhead Park (Cuyahoga County Casino Dollars)
LESSONS LEARNED

• Understanding the regulations
• Barter and be positive
• Develop Partnerships – public, non-profit and business partnerships for not only funding but in-kind assistance
• Be patient….have the planning part of the project ready because you don’t know when an opportunity will arise to help with funding or other assistance
• Always have the end user in mind when developing a project. Trail users want to “travel” and “explore”.

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WHERE LANDFILLS CAN BECOME PARKS AND TRAILS

- Lakewood Ohio
- Solstice Steps
WHERE LANDFILLS CAN BECOME PARKS AND TRAILS

• Parma Ohio
• West Creek Reservation
WHERE LANDFILLS CAN BECOME PARKS AND TRAILS

- Cleveland Ohio
- Towpath Trail Stage III
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