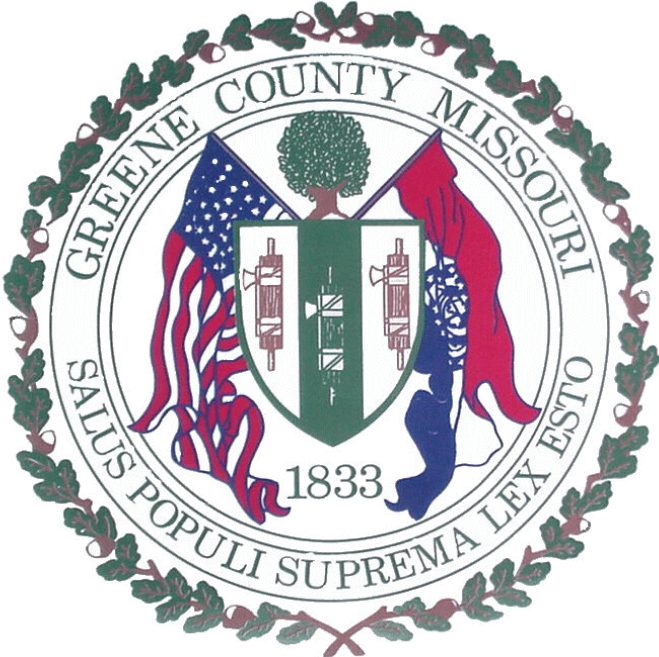


# Parks



940 BOONVILLE AVENUE ♦ SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI ♦ 65802

## GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

**Greene County Commission:**

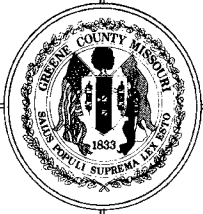
Presiding Commissioner ..... **Dave Coonrod**  
Commissioner 1<sup>st</sup> District ..... **Harold Bengsch**  
Commissioner 2<sup>nd</sup> District ..... **Roseann Bentley**

**Budget Office:**

Budget Officer ..... **Jeffrey Reinold**

Phone Number.....**417.868.4112**





County of **GREENE** State of Missouri

**GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION**

940 Boonville Avenue  
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802  
(417) 868 - 4112

DAVID L. COONROD  
Presiding Commissioner

HAROLD BENGSCHE  
Commissioner 1<sup>st</sup> District

ROSEANN BENTLEY  
Commissioner 2<sup>nd</sup> District

February 18, 2005

Fierce, Isakowitz, & Blalock  
Samantha Poole  
600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Samantha,

This is in reference to the federal funding priorities for Greene County in the 2006 appropriations budget concerning parks and environmental projects. We are seeking federal assistance for the formation of a natural history museum, a new park development, and preserve green space around a National Battlefield.

Natural History Museum

A few years ago Greene County discovered an ice age cave on property that the County owns. The Riverbluff Cave has continued to be secured by Greene County and the idea of a natural history Museum has taken root. We were able to secure funding in 2005 budget for planning the natural history museum project. A board of directors has been formed to move the project along. The board of directors for the museum have been working diligently on developing a business plan and also designing the building.

Currently, the nearest natural history museum is in Chicago. That museum displays many items that are found in the State of Missouri. We would rather see those items on display in our state and have a commitment from the State of Illinois to return many items from Missouri they have on display. In order for the items to return to the State of Missouri we will need to have a building to warehouse and show the items. The total cost of the project is nearly \$7.8 million at this time; the project can be phased to assist in the funding of the project.

Rogersville Park Project-\$6.0 Million

This is the same project in the community of Rogersville that we requested funds for last year. The project involves an effort by the City of Rogersville, the Rogersville Chamber of Commerce, the Rogersville Community Betterment Group and Greene County. The Community Betterment Group has purchased a 33 acre tract to protect for the use by the community as the community grows. The park is located in southeastern Greene County and is approximately 7-8 miles from the City of Springfield. Rogersville currently has about 1,500 total citizens, but the area is set to explode in growth over the next few years. There are already major planned mixed use developments that will double the size of the community in the next 3-4 years, as well as other commercial developments that

are going on. Rogersville is simply trying to continue to attract both types of developments and yet maintain its small town family environment.

The park itself will be quite a resource to attract families and businesses to the area. The park will include a community building that will house a gymnasium, swimming pool, and a library, among other activity centers. Outdoors, the park will have two ball fields, four tennis courts, three or more soccer fields, a picnic and playground area, and a swimming pool. The design of the project is complete, but continues to be updated as the project moves forward.

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield - \$1.5 million

The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in southwest Greene County is a jewel of history and preservation in an increasingly urbanizing area. Greene County supports any effort to protect a National Park Battlefield that has been listed as one of the ten most endangered battlefields in the nation. We understand that the director of our battlefield is requesting funds to purchase buffer areas around the battlefield and support that effort. The total cost of the acquisitions in the next year is estimated to be \$1.5 million.

As you can see Greene County is doing what we can to preserve the much needed green space for the future in one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, we are committed to enhancing the quality of life for our citizenry. If you would need to contact the County Commission please call 417.868.4112.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Reinold  
Greene County Budget Officer

## FY04 Appropriations Project Datasheet

<b>Project Name:</b>	Natural History Museum			
<b>Exact Funding Recipient:</b>	Greene County	<b>Location:</b>	Springfield	
<b>Principal Contact:</b>	Jeff Reinold, County Budget Officer, 868-4892, jreinold@greencountymo.org	Greene	<b>County:</b>	Greene
		417-	<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$7,800,000
			<b>Federal Share:</b>	
			<b>Local Match:</b>	
			<b>Prev. Funding: (Source of funding)</b>	
<b>Approps Bill:</b>		<b>Out-year cost:</b>		
<b>Specific Program/ Initiative Category:</b>		<b>D.O. Contact:</b>		
<b>Projected Comp. Date:</b>		<b>D.C. Contact:</b>		
<b>Purpose:</b> To establish a natural history museum.				
<b>Job Creation Impact:</b>				
<b>Rationale Benefits:</b> The discovery of the Riverbluff Cave in southern Greene County has garnered attention from many arenas in the natural history world. From television specials to print media the Riverbluff cave is very special.				
<b>Project Details:</b> The details of the project include building exhibit space, offices, research space, warehouse space and classrooms. The project also includes the acquisition of paleontological exhibits and the most up-to-date technology available to display various exhibits.				
<b>Current Project Status (Indicate if local match is required and will money be available):</b>				
<b>Support:</b>				
<b>Opposition:</b>				
<b>Ltr of Support:</b>		<b>Announcement:</b>		
<b>Thank You Ltr:</b>		<b>Follow-up Op:</b>		
<b>Press Release:</b>		<b>Event Participants:</b>		
<b>Additional Notes:</b>				

## FY04 Appropriations Project Datasheet

<b>Project Name:</b>	Rogersville Park		
<b>Exact Funding Recipient:</b>	City of Rogersville	<b>Location:</b>	Rogersville
<b>Principal Contact:</b>	Jeff Reinold, County Budget Officer, 868-4892, jreinold@greencountymo.org	<b>County:</b>	Greene
		<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$6,000,000
		<b>Federal Share:</b>	\$4,800,000
		<b>Local Match:</b>	\$1,200,000
<b>Approps Bill:</b>		<b>Prev. Funding: (Source of funding)</b>	
<b>Specific Program/ Initiative Category:</b>		<b>Out-year cost:</b>	
<b>Projected Comp. Date:</b>		<b>D.O. Contact:</b>	
		<b>D.C. Contact:</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b>			
To create a park in Rogersville that will continue to attract the right combination of families and businesses to a blossoming community.			
<b>Job Creation Impact:</b>			
<b>Rationale Benefits:</b>			
<b>Project Details:</b>			
Plans are complete to include a community center, library, soccer and ball fields, tennis courts, and other items.			
<b>Current Project Status (Indicate if local match is required and will money be available):</b>			
<b>Support:</b>			
Rogersville Chamber, Rogersville Community Betterment Group, and Greene County.			
<b>Opposition:</b>			
<b>Ltr of Support:</b>		<b>Announcement:</b>	
<b>Thank You Ltr:</b>		<b>Follow-up Op:</b>	
<b>Press Release:</b>		<b>Event Participants:</b>	
<b>Additional Notes:</b>			