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Floyds Fork Greenway Project and Designers Honored By American Society of Landscape Architects

Louisville, Ky.— The Floyds Fork Greenway Project (“The Fork”) was recently honored by the American Society of Landscape Architects. The project, led by the private, nonprofit group 21st Century Parks, will result in an expansive 4,000-acre public parks system located within Louisville’s Floyds Fork watershed.

The project received the Honor Award in Analysis and Planning for the master plan that the landscape-design firm Wallace Roberts & Todd (WRT) created in conjunction with 21st Century Parks. WRT is a 200-person planning, urban design, architecture and landscape architecture firm based in Philadelphia.

The new parks system is one of the largest and most ambitious metropolitan parks projects in the nation and the only project scheduled to break ground as early as fall 2010. Plans for The Floyds Fork Greenway include more than 50 miles of multi-use recreational trails, 18 miles of the Louisville Loop, children’s playgrounds, ball fields and a canoe trail, just to name a few of its potential amenities.

Recently released designs for the “North Park” portion of the project include a 30-acre Egg Lawn designed to be a landmark “great lawn” for the park. The Egg Lawn will be adjacent to a tree-lined promenade, named the Grand Allee, which will feature a community-activity complex with open lawns, meadows, wetlands and multi-use green sports fields.

“We are honored that the master plan has received such prestigious recognition,” said Dan Jones, president and CEO of 21st Century Parks. “We partnered with Wallace, Roberts & Todd because we are committed to bringing world-class, sustainable design to these parks. The master plan will continue to be our guide as we create a lasting legacy for future generations.”

“The Floyds Fork Greenway is a major addition to Louisville’s stellar system of parks,

dating back to Frederick Law Olmsted's signature park designs for Iroquois, Shawnee and Cherokee Parks," said Ignacio Bunster-Ossa, WRT Principal. "With an emphasis on ecological health and sustainability, The Floyds Fork Greenway will advance the Olmsted legacy well into the 21st century, anchoring the eastern part of Metro Louisville for generations."

The Floyds Fork Greenway Master Plan was selected from nearly 600 entries submitted from around the world. The ASLA selected 49 award winners in the categories of general design, residential design, analysis and planning, communication and research. The awards were presented at the 2009 ASLA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

About 21st Century Parks

Founded in Louisville in 2004, 21st Century Parks is a private, nonprofit corporation leading the creation and management of The Fork – a new, 4,000-acre public parks system along the Floyds Fork watershed in eastern and southeastern Louisville. The new parks system is one of the largest and most ambitious metropolitan park projects in the nation.

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