



NEWS

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The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts Presents Gift of \$1 Million to Create the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn in Cincinnati Riverfront Park

CINCINNATI, OH:--- Heidi Jark, vice president and manager of the Foundation Office at Fifth Third Bank.—representing The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee— presented a gift of \$1 million today to Willie F. Carden, Jr., Director of Cincinnati Parks, to create The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn in Cincinnati Riverfront Park. *(The gift will be awarded as \$500 thousand per year for two years.)* The Event Lawn is a major feature currently under construction in Phase I of the new 45-acre park. The park will extend from the east at Great American Ballpark to Paul Brown Stadium—flanking the city’s beloved Roebling Suspension Bridge. The event lawn is envisioned to be a venue for programs, cultural and educational activities, performances and special events as well as a site for informal recreation.

“Throughout his life, Jacob G. Schmidlapp sought innovative ways to create a sense of community in our city,” said Ms. Jark. “We are proud to partner with the Cincinnati Parks Foundation to establish the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn in Cincinnati Riverfront Park. This gift is a fitting tribute to Jacob G. Schmidlapp’s legacy and his commitment to the city of Cincinnati.”



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Rendering of the new Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn in Cincinnati Riverfront Park

The lawn will be flanked by the Moerlein Lager House on the east, and the performance stage on the west. It will be bordered by The Banks mixed-use development on the north, and Mehring Way to the south. The lawn will be surrounded by pedestrian promenades.

“This much appreciated, munificent gift of the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts enhances an exciting public/private partnership vital to the realization of this destination park with its unique, awe-inspiring features,” said Willie F. Carden, Jr., Director of Cincinnati Parks. “The park—which is being funded with a blend of Federal, State, City and private dollars—will serve as a catalyst for strong new economic and business development, tourism, and as a compelling new venue for recreation and regional entertainment. We are extremely grateful to the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank Trustee, for their meaningful advancement of this crucial vision for our region’s future.”

The entire park—including the event lawn—is being constructed to exceed ADA standards, therefore creating spaces that will provide enjoyment for people of all abilities. The park will be open to all during its hours of operation, and will be inviting to workers in the Central Business District who will enjoy an expansive, tranquil location for lunch or breaks in their workdays.

Staffing for the park will include a family program manager who will be responsible for creating and organizing new events for the community to enjoy while visiting the park and the Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn. This staff position has been endowed by the funds raised by the Hat Luncheon— hosted annually by the Women's Committee for Cincinnati Riverfront Park.

For more information, please contact Joyce Kamen, Cincinnati Riverfront Park Public Relations, 513.543.8109; or Megan Wolfer, Foundation Office / Fifth Third Bank, 513.534.8786

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ATTACHMENT





FACT SHEET

The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn

- ❖ The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn will accommodate up to 3,000 people—if serving as a performance venue.
- ❖ The event lawn will also accommodate tenting for rentals or for special events.
- ❖ The lawn’s infrastructure includes an irrigation system, and lighting with built-in sound system and electric receptacles.
- ❖ The stage will be covered with a permanent roof structure.
- ❖ The Jacob G. Schmidlapp Stage and Event Lawn will be built as a green roof to the parking structure below.
- ❖ The lawn will feature trees incorporated into the design to provide shade.
- ❖ The public toilet rooms being built in the park will serve the performance lawn as well as the rest of the park. They will be heated and cooled with an efficient and environmentally-friendly geothermal system.