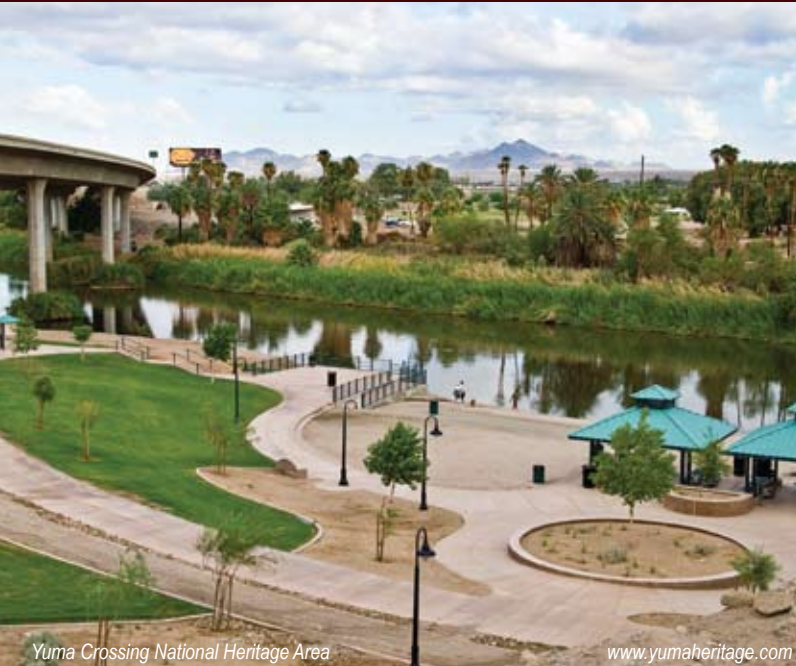


PROJECT LEADERSHIP

YUMA CROSSING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



A decade ago, the riverfront along the Colorado River in Yuma was a no-man's land-- overgrown with non-native vegetation, trash-strewn and populated with homeless camps and meth labs. **The Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area** in Arizona partnered with multiple public and private landowners, including the Quechan Indian Tribe, City of Yuma and state and federal agencies to clear and restore over 400 acres of wetlands. The project is now considered a model for restoration in the Southwest, with the Heritage Area now managing the project on behalf of the partners, many of whom have had a difficult history of partnership.

The project was a multi-year, \$20 million endeavor that involved over 28 stakeholder organizations.

Results are business growth, increased land value and new recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

The challenge now is to maintain this restoration for the long-term. If left entirely unattended, the restored wetlands could degrade and revert to its former condition. The Heritage Area has led an effort to engage the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCRMSCP) to assist in the maintenance. The LCRMSCP has agreed to provide 70% of the maintenance costs over the next 50 years. The Heritage Area is negotiating a local agreement whereby the City of Yuma, the Heritage Area and the Quechan Indian Tribe each will contribute 10% of the maintenance costs for the long-term. This initiative will make the Yuma East Wetlands restoration project a truly self-sustaining project.

The total investment in restoration from local, state and federal grants has been in excess of \$10 million over the last 8 years. Local contractors and farmers-- involving over 40 employees-- have been engaged in the restoration process of clearing, irrigation, planting, and maintenance of native trees and plants. Currently, 11 professional and field staff oversee the maintenance, monitoring, and Army Corps of Engineers compliance reporting for the Yuma East Wetlands.



PROJECT LEADERSHIP

DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

www.delawareandlehigh.org



Landmark Towns of Bucks County (LTBC) is a project of the **Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor** Pennsylvania that operates as a cooperative venture between the historic boroughs of Bristol, Morrisville, New Hope and Yardley. Through the initial work of this regional revitalization initiative, the downtown business districts of these four communities are receiving an economic “facelift” that is helping to boost tourism and capitalize on the assets of the Bucks County region.

The communities have leveraged funding for the development and execution of the project plans focused

on commercial opportunities and growth in tourism. This is breathing renewed economic life into the business districts in these small communities. Key elements include improving the ease of parking to commercial districts, improving river and canal access for active and passive recreation, marketing and branding towns with theater, dining and tour packages, pursuing initiatives to increase in-town lodging, maintaining gateways into the business districts and inaugurating comprehensive highway and pedestrian signage programs.

Currently in its third year as a designated PA Regional Main Street, LTBC follows the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Main Street™ approach and was recently designated as an accredited National Main Street Program by meeting ten performance standards set by the National Trust Main Street Center.

The Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor serves as the project coordinator and facilitator with representatives from each town’s business groups, civic organizations and municipal governments. Together, these groups identify and address needs in a coordinated and cooperative regional approach. Building on the success of early initiatives, the LTBC continues to evolve and keep pace with the growing needs of the region.

The Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor serves as the project coordinator and facilitator.

The communities are receiving an economic “facelift” that is helping to boost tourism and capitalize on assets.



Before



After