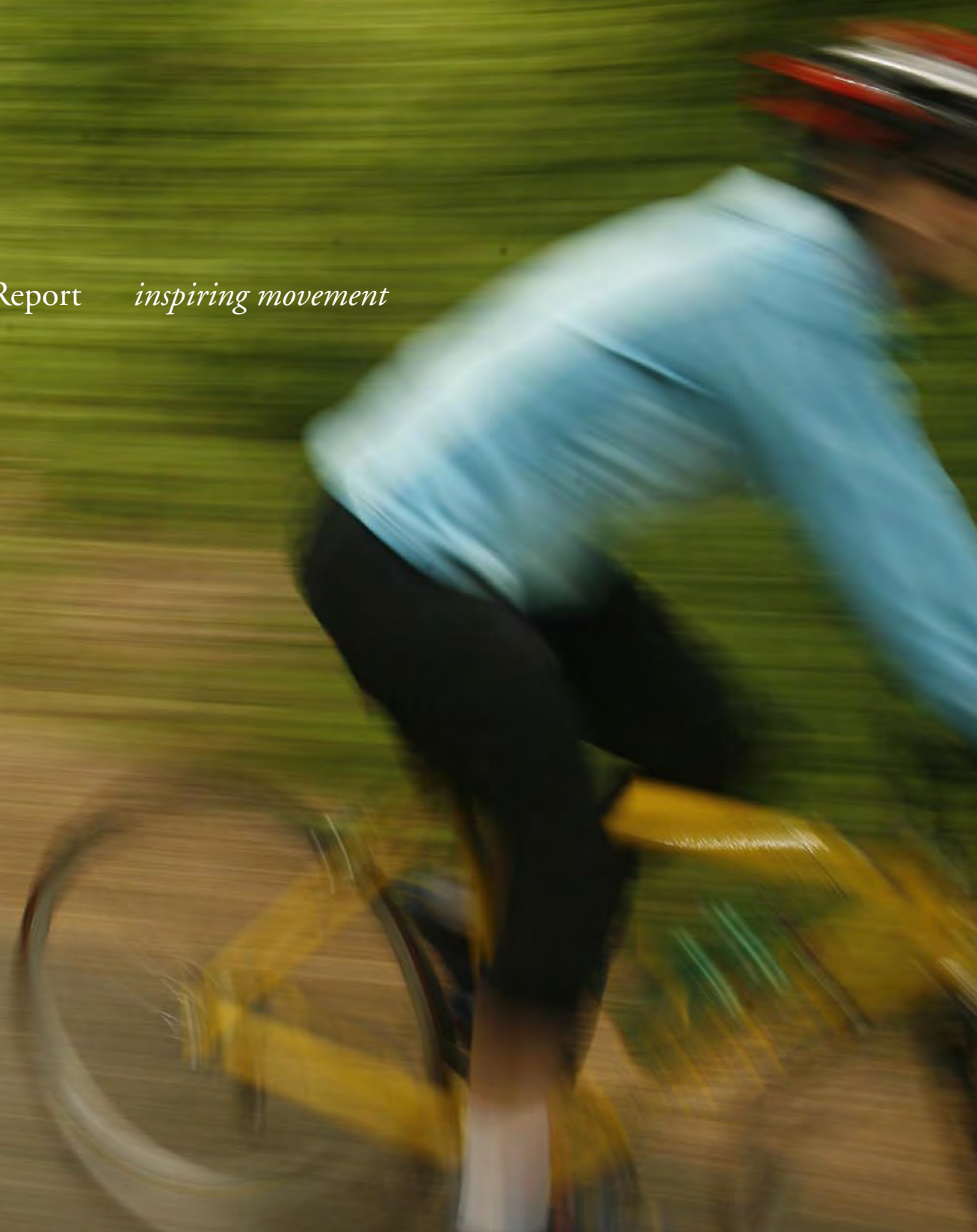




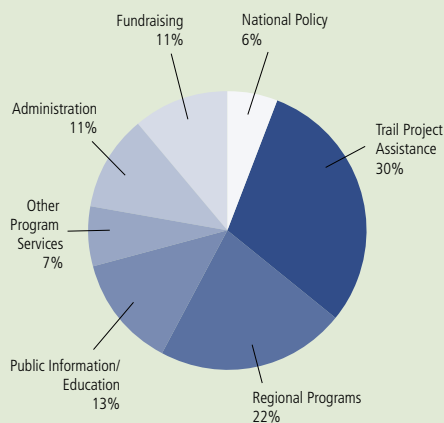
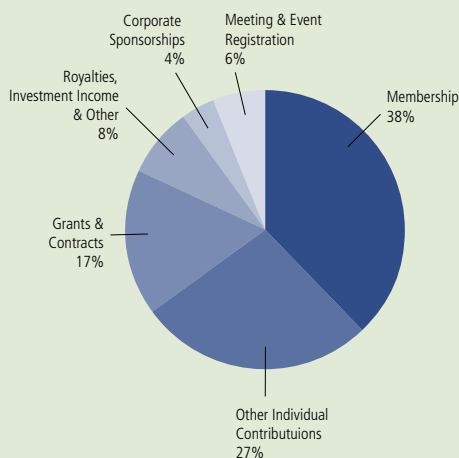
**rails-to-trails**  
conservancy

**2005 Annual Report**     *inspiring movement*



# Summary of Activities & Changes in Net Assets

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005.



## REVENUE

## PERCENTAGES

REVENUE		PERCENTAGES
Membership	\$ 2,282,476	38%
Other Individual Contributions	1,628,647	27%
Grants & Contracts	1,023,776	17%
Meeting & Event Registration	380,224	6%
Corporate Sponsorships	216,830	4%
Royalties, Investment Income & Other	467,835	8%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,999,788</b>	<b>100%</b>

## EXPENSES

Program		
National Policy	\$ 386,169	6%
Trail Project Assistance	1,803,851	30%
Regional Programs	1,329,876	22%
Public Information/Education	797,918	13%
Other Program Services	421,703	7%
Administration	688,629	11%
Fundraising	678,732	11%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,106,878</b>	<b>100%</b>

NOTE 1: It is the policy of the Board of Director's of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy that each year a small percentage of revenues be put into reserve to ensure the long-term health of the organization. However, in October 2004, the Board of Directors took the unusual step of authorizing a deficit in fiscal 2005 to finance critical investments from Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's reserve. That deficit is reflected in this annual report. These investments—primarily expanding Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's field staff and launching a mapping initiative—were deemed essential to realizing Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's 2020 vision: an America where 90 percent of residents live within three miles of a trail system.

NOTE 2: Investment Income represents realized and unrealized gains and losses on investment of restricted assets. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is a nonprofit charitable organization as qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Changes in Net Assets from Operations (See note 1)	\$ (107,090)
Investment Income (See note 2)	\$ 39,584
<b>Total Changes in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ (67,506)</b>
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 1,947,321
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 1,879,815</b>





*The mission of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is to create a nationwide network of trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors to build healthier places for healthier people.*

**For the past 20 years, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy** has led the national rail-trail movement. With more than 100,000 members and supporters, our organization has inspired movement on and off the trails. And, the past year was no exception. During 2005, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy made progress on several important long-term initiatives and programs: policy advocacy; transportation enhancements; technical assistance; international conferences; and partnerships. This work laid a solid foundation for our ambitious goal for the future: by 2020, 90 percent of Americans will live within three miles of a trail system. This vision requires clear focus on local, state and federal trail policy; trail building and expanding our reach in the field; and promoting trail access and use to the millions of current and potential trail users across the country. When we opened our doors on February 7, 1986, there were 250 miles of open rail-trail in the United States. Twenty years later, through the work of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and its many partners, more than 13,400 miles of open rail-trail in all 50 states are enjoyed by tens of millions of Americans every year. What started as a concept has evolved into a movement.



## 2005 in Review



As trail demand grew, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy continued to play a critical role in the delivery and use of America's trail system by establishing and protecting trail-friendly policy, providing technical and funding information to support trail building, and helping people find, enjoy and support trails in their area. For 2005, our efforts included:

### *policy advocacy*

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy policy staff worked independently and in partnership with like-minded groups to protect state and national policies and public funding sources that enable trail creation. Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School, Railbanking and Recreational Trails were just a few of the essential programs Rails-to-Trails Conservancy promoted and continues to protect. In 2005, the long-awaited reauthorization of the surface transportation legislation occurred, dubbed SAFETEA-LU. Passed by Congress on July 29 and signed by President Bush August 10, SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: Legacy for Users) provides \$3.5 billion for Transportation Enhancements, as well as \$100 million for the Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NTPP). A Rails-to-Trails Conservancy initiative, NTPP will assist those selected cities and regions to complete seamless transportation networks by connecting trails, bicycle lanes, sidewalks, mass transit and more. The program seeks to demonstrate that communities will increasingly use alternative modes of transportation when they are available.

## *transportation* enhancements

The Transportation Enhancements (TE) program is the largest federal investment in bicycle, pedestrian and rail-trail projects. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy led the fight to create the TE program in 1991 and has been vigilant in its protection ever since. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy was on hand again when, in May 2005, an amendment threatened a \$1.1 billion cut in Transportation Enhancements—the largest source of trail funding. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy was undaunted in its opposition to the legislation, rallying support from trail enthusiasts across the nation. On May 17, the U.S. Senate rejected the amendment (84 to 16) in a landslide victory for Transportation Enhancements. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy estimates that more than 3,000 bicycle, pedestrian and trail projects were saved as a result.

## *technical* assistance

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy partnered with many different organizations, nonprofits, corporations and government agencies to advance the trail-building movement in the past fiscal year. Our expert staff provided support and guidance to trail projects nationwide with staff additions to increase our reach. To better serve the growing demand across the country, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy expanded its reach with four regional and state offices in the Northeast, Midwest, West and Florida. Additional offices are planned for the coming years.

## *international* conferences

Every two years, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy convenes hundreds of members of the global trails movement for valuable training, networking and information exchange. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's July 2005 conference in Minneapolis/St. Paul, provided a unique opportunity to engage participants in the recently passed federal transportation law. The much-celebrated passing of SAFETEA-LU in Congress on July 29 proved to be the ideal capstone to the conference.

## *partnerships*

Our strength is reinforced by the company we keep. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy staff members served in leadership roles on the Transportation Enhancements Coalition, Surface Transportation Policy Project, American Trails, Coalition for Recreational Trails, the Green Group and America Bikes. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy also found a partner in Coca-Cola Company's Dasani Water, co-sponsoring the Dasani Blue Bikes program. With the support of Lance Armstrong and community partners, the Dasani Blue Bikes program placed free bikes in eight communities across the country.

# Board of Directors

Reflects board members and their affiliations at the end of FY05.

**Heath J. Meriwether, (Chair)**

Detroit Free Press  
Detroit, Mich.

**Richard Angle, Jr., (At-Large)**

Angle Associates  
Guilford, Conn.

**Joe Louis Barrow, Jr., (Vice-Chair)**

World Golf Foundation  
Jacksonville, Fla.

**James Bellas**

Bike To Go  
Falls Church, Va.

**Karl Friedman, (Secretary)**

Repertoire Capital Ventures  
Englewood, Colo.

**Jennie E. Gerard, (At-Large)**

Oakland, Calif.

**Peter Goldman**

Washington Forest Law Center  
Seattle, Wash.

**David Ingemie, (Treasurer)**

SnowSports Industries America  
McLean, Va.

**Charles N. Marshall**

Genesee & Wyoming Inc.  
Pottstown, Pa.

**Tom Murphy**

Mayor, City of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Rebecca Riley, (Vice-Chair)**

Bronxville, N.Y.

**Dr. Stephen Thomas**

University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Guy Williams**

G.O. Williams & Associates  
Ypsilanti, Mich.



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Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
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fax 614.837.6783

**Western Regional Office**  
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tel 415.397.2220  
fax 415.397.2228

**Florida Field Office**  
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