

## Handshake Partnership Program Report - FY 2015 Recipients

1. **Name of Corps Project/Lake:** J. Strom Thurmond Lake
2. **District / Division of Corps Project/Lake:** Savannah District, South Atlantic Division
3. **Handshake Project Name:** Petersburg Trailhead Parking Lot Expansion
4. **Amount of Handshake Funds remaining:** \$0
5. **What has been accomplished?** Please provide photographs; before, during, and after!:  
Trailhead parking lot was expanded, creating a larger gravel lot to include 25 parking spaces  
with security lights. In addition, a large group shelter was erected with water, electric, a grill &  
fire ring. Additional amenities installed at the parking lot: bike wash station, bike repair station,  
changing room, partner donation box.

	Total
<b>Handshake Program Funding Amount</b>	\$30,000
<b>Local Corps Office Funds</b> (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	\$105,849
<b>Partner's Contributions</b> (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	Total Value of Contributions
1 SORBA-CSRA	\$6,868
2 Columbia County Leisure Services	\$2,605
3 Mulherin Lumber	\$1,825
4 Andy Jordan Bicycle Warehouse	\$1,196
5 Augusta Concrete	\$750
6 Ivey Residential LLC	\$500
7 Chain Reaction	\$300
8 Outspokin'	\$250
9 Eagle Scouts, Troop 620	\$500
10 Steve Shelton et al., Jimmy Culpeper	\$500

### 6. Handshake Program Recipient Feedback

Please take this opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of the Handshake Program and the Challenge Partnership Agreement authority. Your productive comments are important to the ongoing improvement of the program. Make sure to let us know how the Handshake funds have benefited your efforts to initiate and/or strengthen your partnerships.

Receiving these funds from the Handshake Program allowed an existing partnership between the Corps and SORBA-CSRA to become stronger. It showed our partner that we are committed to their involvement in our project resources, specifically the Bartram Trail. By signing a Challenge Partnership Agreement and receiving funds through the Handshake Program, we were able to

create a better space for trail users - which is drawing more visitors to the area - and solidify our great partnership with SORBA-CSRA and other community members involved in this project.

**7. Handshake Summary:**

Please also include a separate newspaper type article describing the project and the benefit to the Corps of Engineers and to the public as a result of this partnership project. Examples can be found on the gateway under Handshake Success Stories.

## Petersburg Trailhead, Bartram Trail



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

## US Army Corps of Engineers, J. Strom Thurmond Lake, Expands Trailhead Parking Lot with Help from Local Partners

In February 2015 the US Army Corps of Engineers celebrated the grand opening of the newly expanded Petersburg Trailhead parking lot at the Bartram Trail. The popular 27-mile Bartram Trail is heavily used by hikers and bikers and runners in the local Central Savannah River Area. Trail use had become steady, and even busy at times, but each trailhead had limited parking and amenities for users. The Petersburg Trailhead, in particular, had become a favorite location for area riders and runners.

In 2014, representatives from SORBA-CSRA and the US Army Corps of Engineers formulated a plan to improve access at the Petersburg Trailhead through the Corps' Handshake Partnership Program. Together they applied for, and received, funding to improve trailhead access, security and amenities. Additional partners included: Mulherin Lumber, Andy Jordan's Bicycle Warehouse, Chain Reaction Cycling, Ivey Homes, Outspokin' Bicycles, Columbia County Community & Leisure Services and Augusta Concrete Block Company.

Through the Handshake Partnership Program grant, the group was able to expand the trailhead parking lot - creating 25 spaces - and add security lighting. They also added a group picnic shelter with water, electric, a grill and fire ring. Other new amenities included a bike wash station, a bike repair station, changing room and partner donation box. Other enhancements were also made along the trail, including a kiosk and picnic table at Wildwood Park Trailhead, three benches in scenic locations along the Bartram Trail and road crossing warning signs for trail users.

This great partnership is proud to present the new-and-improved Petersburg Trailhead and welcome all users to enjoy the many outdoor opportunities at Thurmond Lake!



*SORBA-CSRA President Dave Kozlowski and USACE Thurmond Lake Operations Project Manager Scott Hyatt cut the ribbon at Petersburg Trailhead Grand Opening, February 2015*