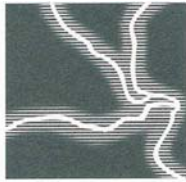


GREAT
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Environmental Law Center

The legal resource for natural resources.

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For Immediate Release

April 14, 2006

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GREAT RIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER PREVAILS IN MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS, SOUTHERN DISTRICT, ON BUEHLER PARK

On Wednesday, April 12, 2006, the Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District, reversed the dismissal of a petition filed by Great Rivers Environmental Law Center on behalf of Citizens for the Preservation of Buehler Park. The Citizens argued that the City of Rolla violated the law when the City made a contract with a developer to sell the park for development as a restaurant district. The Citizens quote the deed which conveyed the land to the City and carries the language that the land is “Conveyed to the City of Rolla, Missouri, for Park purposes only....”

The City argued that the citizens lacked standing to file suit. The Court of Appeals, Southern District, in a unanimous opinion, held that “taxpayers have an unquestionable right to bring an action to enjoin the illegal expenditure of public funds.” The Court reversed and remanded the case back to the trial court and ordered the trial court to decide whether the attempted sale of the Park is an illegal expenditure. This depends on whether the original deed made the land a Park forever.

Bruce Morrison, General Counsel of Great Rivers Environmental Law Center, stated, “This is a good ruling. Taxpayers’ dollars have been spent on the illegal sale of the Park. It would be unjust to deny taxpayers the right to sue to stop illegal expenditures.”

The case will now go back to the trial court for further proceedings.

Great Rivers is a non-profit, public interest environmental organization in St. Louis that provides free legal assistance to citizens’ groups seeking to preserve and protect the environment. Its website is: www.greatriverslaw.org.