

Public Asked to Participate in Trail Survey



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RIVER'S EDGE TRAIL MAINTENANCE SURVEY

Great Falls, Montana – TD&H Engineering has been contracted by the City Park and Recreation Department to prepare a Trail Maintenance Plan for the River's Edge Trail. As a part of the plan, TD&H is conducting a survey regarding the trail's maintenance. Survey responses will be used to help plan for funding, staffing and prioritizing maintenance efforts. Members of the public are encouraged to complete the [River's Edge Trail Survey](#). The survey will be available online until Friday, May 17.

The Trail Maintenance Plan is being funded by a grant from PPL Montana and the Missouri-Madison Recreation Trust. The project cost is \$37,500 including \$14,000 from the River Fund and a match of \$7,500 from PPL Montana. Additional funding is provided by other community partners including Recreational Trails, Inc.; Region 4 Fish, Wildlife and Parks; private donors; Downtown Great Falls Association; and City of Great Falls.

The River's Edge Trail is owned by the City of Great Falls and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Recreational Trails, Inc., is a non-profit corporation that has been working with city, county, and state agencies for more than twenty years to develop and extend the River's Edge Trail. They have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from grants, private donations, etc. to fund the development of the trail from its modest beginnings in 1990 to the grandeur of the current trail system.

Over the past two decades the River's Edge Trail has been transformed into a cherished recreational resource and tourist attraction. It consists of forty-eight miles of riverfront trail development and showcases the beauty of the region and the history of the riverfront. It is a well-used recreational amenity and provides paved scenic linkages to parks and attractions along the Missouri River. It offers users challenging single track biking and hiking trails.

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To date a formal maintenance plan has not been developed to coordinate efforts of all the partners nor has a funding source been identified to meet ongoing maintenance needs of the trail. Developing a solid Trail Maintenance Plan and securing the necessary resources to implement the plan will support and sustain the efforts of the past, while planning for the future. A Trail Maintenance Plan will also support other local resource plans such as the Missouri River Corridor Master Plan, Great Falls Transportation Plan, West Bank Park Master Plan, Downtown Great Falls Master Plan and the City of Great Falls Growth Policy.

For more information about the River's Edge Trail Survey please contact John Juras, of TD&H Engineering, at 761-3010.

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Supporting Documents

 [Press Release - Maintenance Plan Survey](#) (274 KB) (PDF)

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