

Memorandum

TO: TOM RICHARDSON
FROM: MATT GILLIS, P.E.
PRJ. #: 51032.00.0
SUBJECT: MILLWOOD TRAIL OPEN HOUSE
DATE: FEBRUARY 4, 2016
CC:

The purpose of this memo is to you provide you and your City Council with a summary regarding the City of Millwood Trail project open house.

Meeting Summary

The first open house for the proposed Millwood Trail was held on January 27th from 4pm to 6pm at the Millwood City Hall. Approximately 40 members of the community attended, with 26 individuals signing in. The purpose of the meeting was to provide the community with information regarding the scope of the project, level of funding, and opportunities. But more importantly, the purpose was to gather feedback from the community regarding what is important in the trail design and what issues they may have.

Several project exhibits were on display to provide an overview of the project and gather information. Each exhibit is briefly described below with a summary of the information gathered during the open house. Three members of the consultant team and two City staff members were present to describe the project and answer questions. Results of the public input are attached.

The first exhibit was presented to provide a general overview of the trail including the limits of the project. Community members were informed of the trail history, funding, neighboring agency's trail status, and the intent of the meeting. A second exhibit was presented at this location to gather information from the community regarding how and why they will use the trail. Exercise and recreation earned the most votes for the intended purpose of using the trail, while bicycling, walking, and dog walking earned the most votes for how the community intends to use the trail.

Two exhibits were presented that showed various examples of trail amenities. Attendees were given five adhesive dots to place on the exhibits, voting for the five amenities that were most important to each of them. In total, 108 votes were received with lighting, trash receptacles, educational signs, landscaping, and gateway treatments earning the most votes.

The final exhibit was presented to gather information on potential connections to the trail and individual access issues. Regarding potential connections, attendees inquired about connections to: Trent Ave, Sargent St, and the Centennial Trail. Regarding individual access, two individuals commented on the need for access to the north side of properties along the corridor, potential trespassing issues, and safety concerns.

Written comment forms were provided, but were only completed by one couple and one individual. A website address was also provided on take-home flyers for electronic comment submission. All received comments are attached for review.

MILLWOOD TRAIL PROJECT

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City of Millwood recognizes that the old railroad corridor, now owned by Spokane County, is an incredible resource for an approximately one-mile long non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor within the City limit, as well as a critical component of the future Spokane Valley—Millwood Trail.

How will you use the trail?

CONNECTIVITY

Connections to existing City streets and destinations are essential for the functionality of the trail. Connections to specific destinations like schools, parks, transit, and business are will enable residents to walk or bike, rather than drive, improving wellness, reducing vehicle time alone, and saving money.

What connections are important to you?

What features are important to you?

PROJECT FEATURES

- Safe crossing of Argonne Road
- Lighting, fencing, and other safety features
- Landscape and user amenities along the bike/pedestrian path



- LEGEND**
- Trail Alignment
 - City Limit's Boundary
 - Active Rail line

MILLWOOD TRAIL USERS AND USES

Why will you use the trail?

Recreation

Exercise

Transportation
(School/Work/Businesses/Church/Other)

Other

Place a dot
on your top
choice

How will you mostly use the trail?

Place a dot
on your top
2 choices



Walking



Running



Bicycling



Dog Walking



Wheelchair



Skateboard



Rollerblade



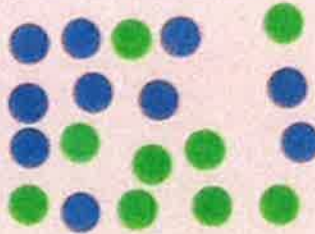
Strolling

Other

MILLWOOD TRAIL AMENITIES

What amenities are important to you?

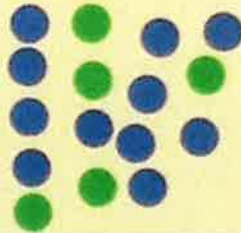
Lighting



Benches



Trash Receptacles



Artistic Opportunities



Bike Racks



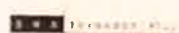
Other

Fencing on Private Property (south)



Barriers/Bollards

Dog Pickup Stations



MILLWOOD TRAIL AMENITIES

What amenities are important to you?

Educational Signage

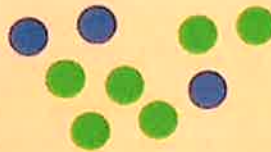


Wayfinding Signage



"Rules of the trail"

Gateway Treatment



Waysides



Landscaping/Vegetation

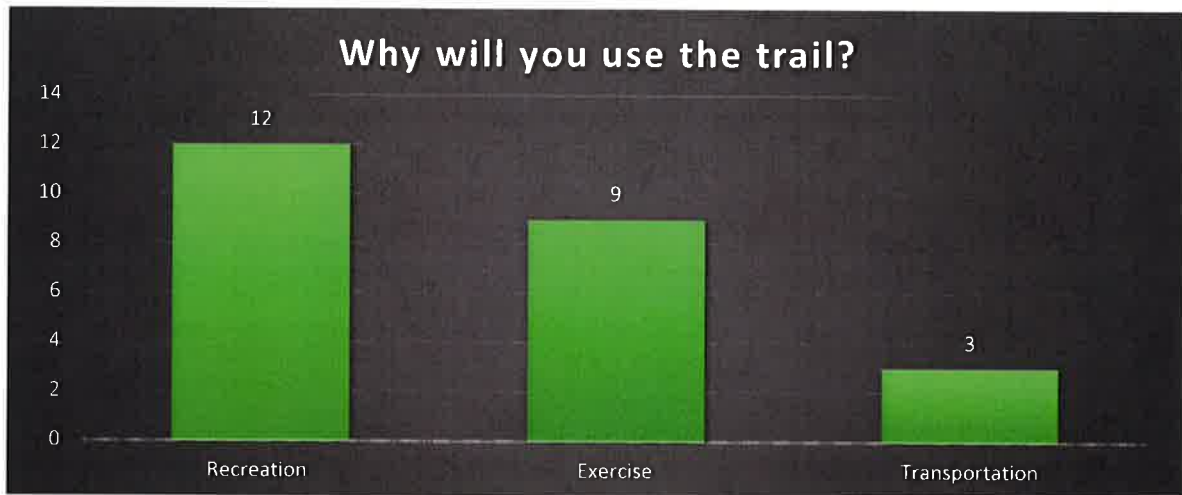


Fitness Equipment



1. ● Can an overpass @ Argonne
● be considered for Pedestrians?
2. ● Can Restrooms be Considered?
● ● ● ● ● ● ●
3. Perm. Pavement?
(peniable) for drainage.

Public Meeting Community Input



Millwood Trail Project
Public Meeting

January 27, 2016

Comments/Observations

Excellent plan!
This would be an
opportunity to link key
Millwood locations in
a safe, fun way.
Let's do it!

Name: David & Tamara Milliker

Millwood Trail Project
Public Meeting

January 27, 2016
Comments/Observations

Mr. Tom Richardson

Millwood City Planner

9103 E. Frederick Ave

Millwood, WA 99206

Please read my comments on the

Millwood Trail on the attached 2

sheets and pass on to the Powers

That May Be.

Thank you,

Jackie Johnson

Name: JACKIE JOHNSON
8941 E. FREDERICK AVE.
SPOKANE, WA 99212

WELCH-COMER
ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS

ms should be
t a park and certain
e less maintenance

To: Mr. Tom Richardson
Millwood City Planner
9103 E. Frederick Ave.
Millwood, WA 99206

1/28/16
From: Jackie Johnson
Resident (Calvin Akins Mother-in-law)
8941 E. Frederick Ave.
Spokane, WA 99212

Please read this, and then forward this on to the powers that may be.

I thank you for inviting me to the Millwood Trail Project Public Meeting which I attended Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 4pm - 5pm, and was able to get questions answered. I still am not sure who exactly put through the request to begin the process of installing this Millwood Trail - did the property owners have any say in this project going forward? I know the money is available for setting up this Millwood Trail, but what about the cost of actual completion of this project? Just a question.

Going forward with the actual Millwood Trail project - I have what I feel is extremely important for the owners of the personally owned properties that are going to be affected by this Millwood Trail:

I feel the first issue is safety for the users of the Millwood Trail, and the property owners. If this Millwood Trail is going to be a reality, I urge you to put up a five or six foot high chain link fence right behind the property owners properties, with entrance and exit to the Millwood Trail at intersections (such as Argonne, Marguerite, and if there is any other leeway between Marguerite and the West Valley High School). I have on many occasions seen questionable, unstable people cutting through the private owned yard next to me to get to the tracks from Frederick Ave. I REALLY DO NOT WANT MILLWOOD TRAIL USERS TO CUT THROUGH PRIVATE PROPERTY TO GET TO THE MILLWOOD TRAIL. And, thereby also eliminating Millwood Trail Users access to private properties along the way of the Millwood Trail, and eliminating damage to personal garages, vehicles, and homes that would be accessible. Sorry, times have changed since I was young, and there is a lot of crime going on every day. Even the Centennial Trail has had numerous criminal activity going on. There should also be a fence on the rail road track side of the Millwood Trail for safety, because vehicles still drive carelessly on the access road speeding, and dodging pot holes. I suggest chain link fence so users can be seen.

I know the Union Pacific Rail Road owns the access road running from Marguerite to Argonne, but people have been allowed to use this as an entrance to the back side of their Frederick Avenue property from Marguerite to Argonne for many years. And, there is also a lot of traffic on that access road to beat the trains, and the access road definitely should be better taken care of. I understand when the Millwood Trail goes in, people will not be able to access the back of their property from the Millwood Trail. From what we heard yesterday, there will be curbs set up at the North end of personal properties, and traffic for the new Mill Towne brewery has to enter their establishment from the Frederick Ave side, not the Trail side. I can see a lot of confusion for drivers happening at the time the Millwood Trail goes in. The U.P. Rail Road may have to put up "Closed to through traffic" at the Argonne side, and the Marguerite intersection.

Then we saw a lot of embellishments that could be done to help the aesthetic value of the Millwood Trail, which is just a lot of added costs. I do believe safety fencing on both sides on the Millwood Trail for users and property owners. If necessary, maybe put a huge rock or cement slab every 100' or so in case someone has to sit for a minute. I do not believe restrooms should be on the Millwood Trail, Millwood Park has public restrooms, and Millwood Trail is not a park and certainly not large enough to put in restrooms. And, this is in reality a short trail, and the less maintenance - the better.

— 3

Signage is very important. A sign welcoming people to the Millwood Trail completed in 20yr, and signs along the way informing Millwood Trail users to pick up their trash and dog droppings, with a few stationary trash recepticals for the reception of bagged trash along the way would be good.

There were a lot of people attending this informative meeting, but, I myself am not interested in promoting this Millwood Trail, and I can not see the aesthetic value to this neighborhood, and I am a little nervous on the type of people that will be using this Trail. If people drive to walk or bike the trail, there is no vehicle parking available. I would much rather see money spent in having Code Enforcement to make sure property owners clean up their property. And, a lot of drug activity curtailed.

Jackie Johnson

1/07/2016

Mr. Tom Richardson.
City Planner
Millwood City Hall
9103 E. Frederick Ave.
Millwood, Wa 99206

RECEIVED
JAN 11 2016
CITY OF MILLWOOD

Dear Mr. Richardson,

I was in to your office this morning, and appreciated talking to you. I had to pick up a Public Meeting letter regarding the Millwood Trail Project that I received yesterday, because I lost mine. I am looking forward to making the meeting, if possible. Because I have I have some issues regarding this Millwood Trail.

I was privileged to talk to our Mayor, Mr. Kevin Freeman, a few weeks ago, and I asked why only the proposed trail was only that short. He resposed that that is all the land they have.

This trail is supposed to be on the south side of the Union Pacific Railroad Tracks, but the way I understand where it will be - it will be on the south side of the UPRR Access Road, on the north side of the private owned properties, which will be between the owner's properties, and the Access Road.

I asked why they were doing this project, and he replied that it will be beneficial to the aesthetic value of the area, and school children will have a place to walk. He said there is only enough money to set everthing up, but not enough to actually put the trail in, fencing, etc.

I feel this money should be saved - I have not seen children of any age walking to school on this access road, as long as I have lived here since July of 2013, and if children are coming from the north side of the tracks to walk to school, they would have to cut across the tracks at the Marguerirte intersection, or cross the tracks without an intersection. We have school bus routes that cover kids from all areas around here. What I have seen is dogs being walked on this Access Road, and they do not take the time to pick up the Dog poop either, which can, and has been done on the north side of the private owned properties here as well, on the south side of the UPRR Access Road.

I realize the UPRR Access Road is the responsibilty of the UPRR, as well as the upkeep of the area on both sides of the tracks, and the Access Road is the responsibility of the UPRR to keep up. There get to be divits in the road, and in the summer there have been high weeds on both sides of the tracks. Since I have lived here, my daughter (Cindy Akins) that owns this property (this property 8941 E. Frederick Ave) mows this yard, and the neighbors lot to the west of us (8939 E. Frederick - Mr. Weiler's property), that has no house on it (just a garage) , and she also weed-eats the weeds by the Access Road behind our lot, and behind the lots to the west and east of us. This property has been in the Akins family since it was built in 1928. After my son-in law's (Calvin Akins) Grandmother died, Calvin bought this house in 1981, and they have let me live in this house since 2013.

We are very fortunate to have an 8 unit apartment complex west of us that well kept up, clean, and good tenants, which use this UPRR Access Road to get necessary access to their parking on the north

side of their complexes.

This Access Road is for the use of the UPRR, and some properties that need access to their parking that has been done for years, but there is also a lot of traffic that comes off Argonne Road toward the Marguerite intersection, and a lot of traffic that goes east from the Marguerite intersection toward Argonne.

Then in September 2016 the Brewery and Italian Family Restaurant is scheduled to open, I have no idea where all the parking for this business is going to be. There will probably be a lot of traffic on this UPRR Access Road due to this new business going in. I have already seen a large beer truck traveling on the Access Road to the brewery location already, and we can expect a lot more traffic on this Access Road when this business actually opens.

Maybe it would be better to put a sidewalk in front of the properties on Frederick Ave, and that would give people a better place to walk than along side railroad tracks, and make the area more beautiful. And, make a check of, and send notices to people to clean up the trash in their yards, and stop the squatterville living that goes on in this area.

I was told by Mayor Freeman that we have some money allocated for this project, but not enough to complete the actual work on the trail, so the actual completion of this project could be away two years. Why do we have to use this money now, and have to expect more money to complete the job? Let's use this money some other way.

Thank you for listening to me.



Jackie Johnson
8941 E. Frederick Ave.
Spokane, WA 99212

(509) 487-7297