



P.O. Box 16922  
Missoula, MT 59808

Re: Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail Connectivity: 2920 Expo Parkway

City of Missoula Planning Board,

The Grant Creek Trails Association wants to ensure that development at 2920 Expo Parkway incorporates connectivity to the three-mile-long paved Grant Creek Trail and to possible trail additions.

With regard to the development agreement, we respectfully request that:

#### **2.d.5**

Require a 10-foot paved trail on a 14-foot permanent public easement in accord with the city of Missoula's trail specifications rather than a 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk on a revocable public use license. This new trail section will provide a connection between the Grant Creek Trail and Expo Parkway. If agreements can be reached with key landowners, the Grant Creek Trail could potentially be extended to the west along Old Indian Trail. If so, the Wheeler Tunnel could allow access under Interstate 90, making it easy for residents in the Canyon Creek and Windsor Park subdivisions to reach the Grant Creek Trail and Bluebird Preserve. The paved Grant Creek Trail is built largely on permanent public easements donated by four homeowner associations and two private landowners. Its continuation through Grant Creek Village needs the same provisions.

#### **2.d.7: Timing**

Require installation of crosswalk signs on each side of Grant Creek Road at the intersections of Stonebridge Drive and Expo Parkway when 150 units (rather than 193) have been permitted at Grant Creek Village. In the interest of public safety, pedestrian crossings need to be provided as soon as possible given not only the increased traffic from units at Grant Creek Village but the anticipated opening of the city's Bluebird Preserve Trailhead this fall.

#### **2.d.8: Additional Limitation and Obligation**

Require that the Grant Creek Village sidewalk along Expo Parkway be on a permanent public easement. Require that the developer pay to connect the Grant Creek Village sidewalk along Expo Parkway with the existing sidewalk that begins at Grant Creek Road and ends short of Grant Creek Village. Require a permanent public easement for a sidewalk along Expo Parkway to the southwestern corner of Grant Creek Village. The developer's Master Site Plan now shows the sidewalk ending at the westernmost

access road rather than at the property boundary. This easement would ensure that sidewalks continue along Old Indian Trail when lands west of Grant Creek Village are developed.

Furthermore, given the additional need for full connectivity of the Grant Creek Trail to the city's existing trail system south of Interstate 90, ensure that the city of Missoula uses impact fees generated by Grant Creek Village to replace or provide an alternative for the unmaintained 5-foot-wide paved city path between the Cottonwood Condominiums and Grant Creek from Stonebridge Drive to Expo Parkway. This path is now virtually unusable because the pavement has been so badly buckled by tree roots. If it proves impractical to replace this section of trail, an alternative should be provided along Grant Creek Road.

Finally, the Grant Creek Trails Association would like to point out a slight error in Item 12: Timing of Improvements. The paragraph references are 2.c.1, 2.c.2, etc. I believe that the paragraph references should be 2.d.1, 2.d.2, etc.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Bert Lindler  
Board President