



**City of Missoula, Montana
City Council Committee Agenda Item**

Committee: Climate, Conservation and Parks

Item: Referral – Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Recreation Trails Program Grant Agreement – Duncan Trailhead and Trail

Date: August 1, 2024

Sponsor(s): Jeff Gicklhorn

Department or function: Parks & Recreation

Prepared by: Jeff Gicklhorn

Ward(s) Affected:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Action Required:

Approve the Recreation Trails Program grant agreement from Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks totaling \$100,000.00 for planned Duncan Drive trailhead and trail improvements/

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: Approve and direct the Mayor to sign the Recreation Trails Program grant agreement from Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks totaling \$100,000.00 for planned Duncan Drive trailhead and trail improvements.

Timeline:/

Committee discussion: 8/14/24
 Council action (or sets hearing): 8/19/24
 Public Hearing (if required): [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
 Deadline: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Background and Alternatives Explored:

The awarded Recreation Trails Program grant helps fund the development of a new off-street trailhead and one-mile recreation trail at the north end of Duncan Drive. The need for these features were finalized with the adoption of the 2019 Rattlesnake Reservoir Recreation Management Plan, and their construction will complete the implementation of that management plan, which included the removal of the historic Rattlesnake Creek intake dam. This site serves as a primary trailhead in accessing Rattlesnake Creek, Lincolnwood and Rattlesnake Recreation Area trails systems. The acquisition of Missoula Water and the subsequent removal of the historic dam has allowed for the additional recreational opportunities in the area. Unique to the system is the Universal Trail and opportunity to interpret history.

The new trailhead will include a dedicated approximately 15-car parking area, which will help to address current parking impacts to the Duncan Drive right of way. There will also be an informational and interpretive kiosk providing information on the trail connections and Indigenous history, including the significance of Rattlesnake Creek. The one-mile recreation trail will provide

access to the west side of the creek close to where the historic dam once stood. The lower section of this trail will be constructed using Universal Trail standards to increase physical accessibility to the site, and will provide connections to other nearby trails, including the North Hills and Mt. Jumbo Preserves.

Financial Implications:

The grant agreement conveys a total of \$100,000.00 to the City to be used toward the new trailhead and trail development. These funds will be matched with City staff labor and appropriated operational funding from Parks & Recreation. The grant will fund contracted services for trailhead construction (\$90,000.00) and materials (\$10,000.00).

Links to external websites:

[Recreational Trails Program Grants | Montana FWP \(mt.gov\)](#)