



## Trail Project Status June, 2009

### **Bridging the Gap**

Thanks to persistent and effective work by national, state, and local elected officials, WSDOT, Thurston County, and the Thurston Regional planning council (TRPC) to secure federal funding, the Chehalis Western Trail (CWT) bridge over I-5 is complete! Ground was broken for the bridge across Martin Way June 6, 2009. Additional funding is still needed for the Pacific Avenue bridge.

### **Tumwater Valley Trail, Phase 1**

The City of Tumwater has converted Simmons Street to a trail connecting Tumwater Historical Park to Falls Park. There used to be two roads into the park, but no non-motorized connection. Now there is one of each. Thanks to great work and vision by Tumwater Council and Staff, this key connection is complete!

### **Tumwater Valley Trail, Phase 2**

This piece of the East-West trail system starts at the pro shop of the Tumwater Valley golf course, and it ends at T Street, just across the Deschutes River from Pioneer Park. The WTGA partnered with the City of Tumwater to get a \$300,000 Federal grant via the Surface Transportation Program (STP), administered by TRPC. The WTGA provided a match of 100 volunteer hours, \$3000, and numerous letters of support. This project was scheduled for design in 2009 and construction in 2010, but the timeline is being re-evaluated.

### **Olympia Woodland Trail (OWT) Phase 4a**

OWT Phase 4a connects Rowan Street in the Wildwood Neighborhood to Watershed Park at the new roundabout on Henderson St. This piece of the trail will be built by the developer of the Henderson St. parcel at no expense to the taxpayers.

### **Olympia Woodland Trail Phase 1**

Phase 1 of the OWT was completed August 7, 2007. It runs From Eastside St. at Watershed Park to Dayton St. The WTGA partnered with the City of Olympia to secure a \$300,000 grant from the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC). We provided a grant match of \$3000 and 200 hours of volunteer labor. We also helped to prepare the grant application, and jointly presented the

proposal to the Committee. Our project was ranked number one out of 23 statewide proposals for trail funding!

### **Olympia Woodland Trail Phase 2**

OWT Phase 2 runs from Dayton St. to the CWT. It was funded through a \$500,000 cooperative STP grant between the Cities of Lacey and Olympia. TRPC administered this grant program. The WTGA offered a grant match of \$3000 and 200 volunteer hours, but the match was not required, so we are rolling it over to the next grant opportunity. This trail segment was completed in Fall 2007.

### **Lacey Woodland Trail (LWT) Phase 1**

LWT Phase 1 was completed Summer 2006. It starts at Sleater-Kinney St. and it continues through both roundabouts on Pacific Ave. It was funded through the aforementioned cooperative STP grant with the City of Olympia. Kudos to the City of Lacey completing the first piece of the Woodland Trail!

### **Lacey Woodland Trail Phase 2**

Phase 2 of the Lacey Woodland Trail will close the gap between the CWT and Sleater-Kinney St. It will also close the gap between the East Roundabout and Woodland Creek Park. The WTGA partnered with the City of Lacey on an IAC grant application, creating graphics and matching \$3000 and 200 volunteer hours. We did not get that grant, but the City of Lacey recently secured a \$500,000 federal appropriation and \$1,000,000 in stimulus funding to complete the trail, which will be built this year.

### **Volunteer plantings (15,000 and counting!)**

As you use the trail, you may notice some small trees with stakes next to them. The WTGA, formerly the East-West Greenway, has been planting trees on this corridor since the early 1990's. Starting in 2002, we cleared this entire corridor of Scots Broom and Blackberry, and we started planting trees in earnest. This phase is nearly complete, with over 1000 separately matted trees and counting. Starting in Spring, 2006 we began planting diverse species at 4' spacing in beds of 3-4" of compost topped by 3-4" of aged cedar bark mulch. The 2007-2008 plantings were paid for by a \$148,692 grant from TRPC. The total value of this grant including matching labor, soil products, and plants was \$260,000! This project is successful because of generous assistance from Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation Department (OPARD), and our awesome volunteers who selflessly plant, weed, clear new areas, and join in the Annual Scots Broom Conga Line and TreeLC work parties! The Washington Native Plant Society is going to take on the last segment of this planting project this year.

### **Capitol Connector**

In Feb, 2008, we introduced a plan to extend the I-5 Bike Path to the State Capitol and build a trailhead at the intersection of 14th and Jefferson St. With the cooperative effort of elected officials, General Administration staff, and citizen letter writers, this facility has been included in the plans for the new Department of Information

Services building, to be built soon.

### **West Bay Trail**

Thanks to your vocal support, Olympia Parks staff, and the vision of the Olympia City Council, the West Bay Trail is now one of the top priorities for the City of Olympia! Stay tuned..

### **Evergreen Trail**

The Evergreen State College has been working on this trail in phases for many years. In the most recent phase, evergreen Parkway was reduced from four lanes to two, and trails were added on both sides of the road.

### **McLane School Trail**

This project was spearheaded by former Secretary of State Ralph Munro and forester Dave Pearsall. They brought McLane neighbors, the Department of Transportation, Thurston County Road Department and others together to plant trees along the Evergreen Parkway corridor. Their trail through the forest passes by thousands of trees planted by McLane school children. This trail is part of the Capitol to Capitol Trail Corridor. The next phase is planned to connect through Allison Springs to Mud Bay. During the springtime, there are more than 10,000 daffodils blooming along the McLane School trail. All of them were planted by local school children.

### **Capitol to Capitol Trail Route**

The Capitol to Capitol trail is planned to connect Capitol Forest with the Washington State Capitol, stopping at Capitol Mall and Yauger Park along the way. This corridor will use existing trails and on-street connections to complete the route. Multiple routes are proposed. One of these routes will come down the slope from the Capitol to Capitol Lake, circle around the lake, and continue north on West Bay Trail. From there it will follow streets to Grass Lake Park, where it will become a trail again. A trail connection to Yauger Park is planned through City of Olympia property that is planned for the future library. The trail will continue on streets to the Evergreen Trail, where it will connect to the McLane School Trail. The McLane School Trail will go down to Mud Bay, across 101, and continue to Capitol Forest.

Need more information?

Want to help?

<http://www.woodlandtrail.org>

