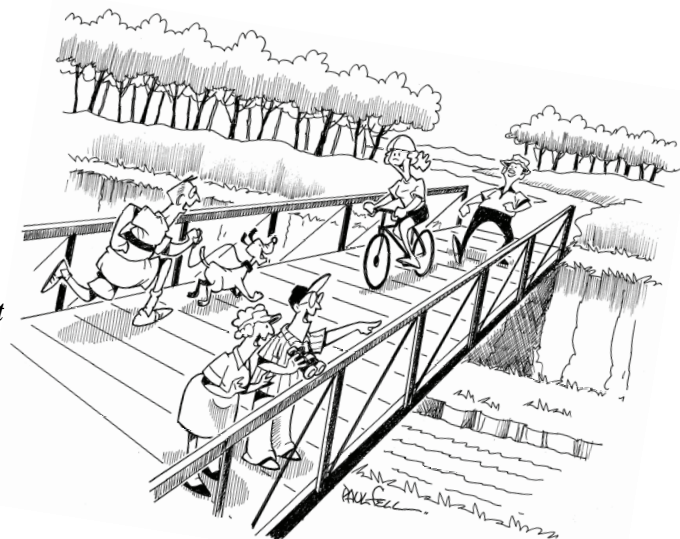


REPLACING WILDERNESS PARK BRIDGES

Wilderness Park is a crown jewel in Lincoln's park system and the trails in the park are used extensively by hikers, runners, mountain bikers, bird watchers, and horseback riders.

Unfortunately, over half the park is not accessible due to the loss of two bridges in the summer of 2010. GPTN is raising \$225,000 to help replace these vital bridges, reconnecting this treasure for the enjoyment of Lincoln's residents.



Make contributions payable to the Nebraska Trails Foundation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Designated Project: _____

Mail to: GPTN

5000 North 7th St.

Lincoln, NE 68521



Great Plains Trails Network

Winter 2013

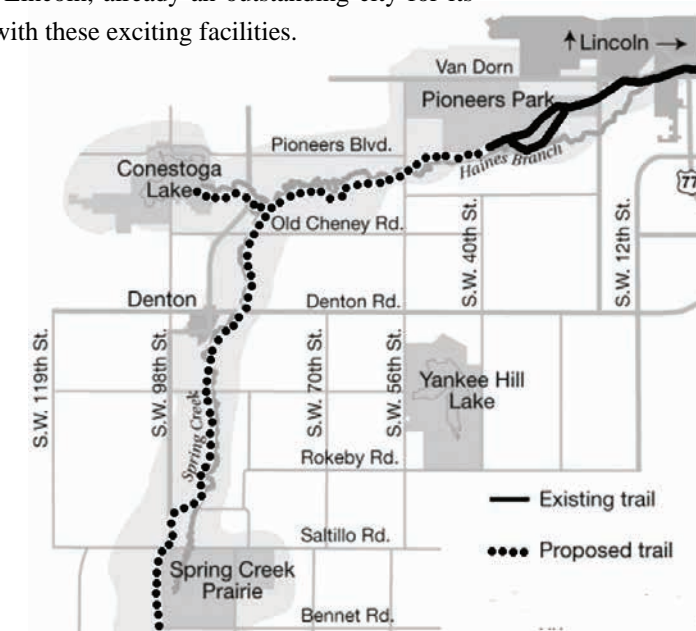
Issue 110

Trail Projects Make Lincoln A Rising Star!

Come to GPTN's Annual Meeting to learn about new and proposed trail projects planned for Lincoln and Lancaster County.

Terry Genrich and Nicole Fleck-Tooze from the Parks and Recreation Department will present the proposed plans for the Haines Branch Prairie Corridor Project. Hear about the innovative N Street Protected Bikeway Trails Connector and other projects from Urban Development. Lincoln, already an outstanding city for its trails and bicycle plans will move up even further on that ladder with these exciting facilities.

Please join us on February 18 to hear more about these projects.



Great Plains Trails Network Annual Meeting

Monday, February 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Jayne Snyder Trails Center
21 st and Q st
Lincoln, Nebraska

Trail Project Presentations

Awards Ceremony

Election of GPTN's 2013 Board of Directors

Refreshments Provided

2013 PROPOSED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Arp	Nancy Loftis
Brett Baker	Karen O'Connor
Jason Bakewell	Rose Quackenbush
Gary Bentrup	David Scoby
Ann Bleed	Kris Sonderup
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Parks Coble	Clayton Streich
Curt Donaldson	Beth Thacker
Marynelle Green	Mary Torell
Elaine Hammer	Bob Torell
Chris Heinrich	Wes Trout
Damon Hershey	Joyce Vannier
Roger Hirsch	Jamie Warren
Corey Godfrey	Bill Wehrbein
Todd Kellerman	Oak Williams



Great Plains Trails Network

since 1988

dedicated to the goal of developing a network of commuter and recreational trails within Lincoln and Lancaster County

2013

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VICE PRESIDENT Ann Bleed
SECRETARY Bill Wehrbein
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Todd Kellerman	Jamie Warren
Nancy Loftis	

MAILING ADDRESS
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LINCOLN NE 68521-4010

WWW.GPTN.ORG

Newsletter comments, questions, corrections
gbentrup@windstream.net

TRAIL UPDATES

Bison Bridge Replacement

The permits have been approved and the Bison Bridge replacement is now under construction. The old bridge has been completely removed and the City is projecting a mid-April completion date!

Pioneers Parks Trails

With the generosity of local citizens and businesses, GPTN raised \$90,000 for Phase I and II to replace the old asphalt trail

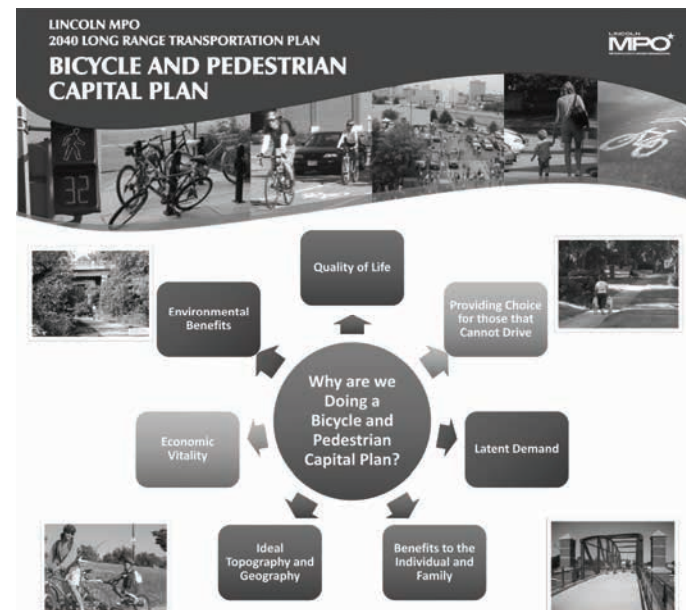
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN CAPITAL PLAN

An open house on the draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Plan was held on Saturday, December 15, 2012 at the Jayne Snyder Trails Center at Union Plaza, 21st and "Q" Streets. Over hundred people attended the open house. To see the information used at the meeting, go to:

<http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/mpo/mporpts/bikeped/boards.pdf>

The draft plan includes an assessment of current conditions for biking and walking in Lincoln and Lancaster County as well as short- and long-range proposals for capital improvements to the biking and walking networks. It also includes suggested priorities for the community to consider for implementing the most useful walking and biking capital projects.

The City is finalizing the plan based on comments from the open house. Upon completion, the plan will become a technical support document for the Lincoln Metropolitan



GPTN NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

September 2012 through December 2012

Welcome to new members: Tom Armstrong, Scott Baird and Larion Gaylor Baird, Byron Barner, Peg O'Connor & Al Bartek, Robin Bates, Lorrie Benson, Dale & Sandra Benham, Jim & Carol Bishop, Dan Brown, Ann Willet & Mark Butler, Chris & Ellen Calkins, Rich Cartier, Jeanne Combs, Carrie Derner, Gerald Dimon, Tim Dolan, Theodore Durant, Nancy Furman, Mike Gloor, Brad & Janet Gottula, Clarence Gunn, Amy Hand, Priscilla Handy, Mandy Hatcher, Justin Hayes, Kent & Lisa Henning, Ann Heydt, Gerald Hilde, Connie Hilker, Dan Hill, Bill Hoover, Michael Hopkins, Julie Huddle, Jett Jakota, DuWayne & Cindy Johnson, Kristin Kleve, Lynn & Marcia Knuth, Ladena Koch, Gail Kohntz, Robert Kuzelka, Phyllis & Gary Larson, Roger Lempke, Steve Loftis, Dan & Donna Marvin, Eric Matty, Meg Mering, Guy & JoAnn Miller, Joanie Miller, Laura Neemann, Roger & Ann Lott, James Nora, Jr. Dennis Neurnberger, Jr., Norma Orr, Michael Overton, David Peters, Bridgett Petzoldt, Marko Phemister, Alvin & Emily Raef, Robert Rau Family, Neva Reece, Ann Reicks, Arlan Ristow, Jim Schaffer, Curtis & Pat Schneider, Screen Ink, Scott Shaw, Kate Speck, Aaron & Edwina Schmitz, Dennis Schulte, Dan & Catherine Smith, David Spinar & Anne Perlman, Bill Swearingen, Eric Teegerstrom Dennis & Laura Tegmeier, Jeffrey Thompson, Kent Thompson, Ralph Thompson, Gary & Mary Ann Wells, Robert Wikel, Mark Wilson, Randle Winter, David Wood, Steve Zabel, and Elisa Znamenacek.

Thank you to renewing members: Carolyn Archer, Dennis Wertz & Kate Adams, Travis & Lisa Anderson, Catherine Angle, Beverly Ashley, David Atkinson, Charles Bacon, Dave Dinsmore & Cathie Bailey, Brett & Noelle Baker Family, John Bakula, Jim Barger, Linda Barger, Sean Barry, Matthew Baxa, Betty Beam, Monica Beck, Maxine Bishop, Ray Bloomquist, Barb & Phil Bohaty, Gene & Jane Boilesen, Patricia Bonge, Judy & Perley Boucher, Dick & Paula Boyd, A. John Boye, Pat Bracken, Gale & Becky Breed, Mark Brohman, Robert, Ann & Tim Brown, Roger Bruning, Mark Brunner, Eric & Rose Holz, David Burd, Don & Trudy Burge, Ruth & Larry Cada, Thomas & Nancy Calvert, Kathryn Campbell, Aaron Carnes, Jim & Liz Carney, Michael Carroll, Jim & Kim Carveth, Stephen Carveth, Ron & Karen Case, Betty Castan, Christi & Doc Chaves, Frank Chavira, Tom & Mary Jo Cherry, Sheryl Chisholm, Larry & Donna Chmelka, Alan & Roseann Christensen, Clarissa Christensen, Pat & Linda Clare, Gary Chunka, Parks Coble, Mary Commers, Ed & Jan Connolly, Kath & Mike Conroy, Larry Corbett, Pam Conover, Jean & Rick Cotton, James Crook, Barbara Day, Hanna Day-Woodruff & John Gates, Joan & Kirk Dietrich, Alice M. Dittman, Eric & Opal Doerr, Katie Dolan, Richard Draper, Mike Dosskey, Kathy & Garry Duncan, Robert & Karen Duncan, Barb Calder-Durbin & Paul Durbin, DuTeau Chevrolet, Earl Dyer, Al & Vicki Eastman, Todd & Kristin Eggerling, Judy Eicher, Mick & Jeri Eschenbranner, Joshua Eikmeier, John & Martha Eisched, Christine Grosh, Stu Essman, Katherine Evans, Lezlie Ferguson, Steve Ferguson, Deb & Dean Fisher, Charles Focht, Barry & Lisa Forbes, Paggy Forcier, Holly Foster, Fraser Family, Barb & Chuck Francis, Larry Fuerst, Sue & Scott Gardner, Gudy Garlock & Tex

Richters, Bill Genuchi, Ruth & Jay Gerber, Matt & Laura Gersib, Robert Geschwender, Lillian Gibson, Pat Gilles, Georgia Glass, Joyce Gleason, Vincent Goeres, Mark & Nanette Gokie, Robin & Janet Goracke, Jan & John Gradwohl, Dennis & Hayley Grabast, Merlin Green, Steve & Nancy Green, Marynelle Green & Ned Sharp, Bill & Marsha Grover, Tom & Sue Guild, Gary Gustafson, Pat Hackley, Robert Haller & Marcella Short, Al Halls, Bruce & Pat Hammond, Elly Hardekopf, Doyle Harley, Nancy Harr, Paul Harrison, Brad & Beth Hartman, Klauss Hartmann, Jim & Laurie Haszard, Butch & Dobey Haws, Jim Hawkins, Chad Hanthorn, Matt Harris, Mary Heidrick, Richard & JoAnn Kekl, Phyllis & Gary Hergenrader, Damon Hershey, Emily Herrick, Kay Kesse, Highlands Animal Hospital, Gary Hill, Ronald C. Hill, Brian & Gail Hinkley, Roger & Bette Hinrichs, Roger Hirsch, Lee Hitt, Michael Hoffman & Amy Spiegel, Ward F. Hoppe, Melissa Homestead, Betty Howe, Sarah Howell, Kent Imig & Lori Kreimer, Margaret Jacoby & Tom Lynch, Todd & Nancy Jarchow, Al Jensen, Wayne & Judy Jensen, Clyde Johnson, Wayne & Karole Kaldahl, Judith Keller, Todd Kellerman, Scott & Debby Kerr, Kirk Kinberg, Randy Kinney, Don Knop, Jodi & Mike Kocheer, Dan Kovnovsky, Sarah Kohlhof, John Krajewski, Gary Kreck & Bruce Robbins, Christian Kingery, Paul Konig, John Kopschke, Lois Kriger, Bobbie Kriz-Wickham, Dottie Ladman, Todd & Mary LaGrange, Jean Lake, Alice Lane, Scott Leigh, Therese Liegl, Ed Lincoln, Delfs Linder, Richard Littrell, Mary Jo Livingston, Cindy & David Loope, Pat Lorenze, Warren & Mary Luckner. Bill Macy, Galen Madsen, Linda Mahlock, Pam Manske, Lynn Marienau, Chris & Erin Masda, Kent Mattson, Ed May, David & Jan McChesney, Michael McCoy, Thomas McGinty, Brian & Jane McReynolds, Susan Melcher, Alan Meyer, Rick & Sharon Michaelson, Keith & Katie Miller, Terry & Jan Monk, Jon & Carol Morgenson, Glen Moss & Nancy Sutton-Moss, Mike & Vicki Mueller, Jim Muggy, Mike & Lynn Murman, Robert & Phyllis Narveson, James Nau, Ann & John Neal, Don & Andrea Nelson, Jared & Sara Nelson, Akhtar Niazi, Dale & Sherri Nielsen, Joe Nigro, Donald Niven, Jim Nora & Family, Gail & Jim O'Hanlon, Richard & Barb Ollenburg, Dave Palm, Rosina Paolini & Karl Schlitt, Ted & Ann Parady, Don & Joanne Pepperl, Cary & Lisa Peterson, Sheri Pfeil, Joan Phelan, Curt & Betty Piksusch, Glenda Pierce, Dick & Jody Pitsch, Terry & Carol Pitts, Teella Poppe, Dick Powell, Danny Pudenz, Monte & Penny Pueppke, Rose Quackenbush, Debra Quandt-Smedra, Stephen Ramsay, Robert & Lisa Rauner, Dartoush Razavian, John & Claudia Reinhardt, Erna Rethmeier, Jeff & Kathy Richner, Fred & Margaret Rickers, Voan & Deb Roberts, Sandra Roche, Tina Rohrs, Linda Roos, James & Janet Rose, Jane Rowan, Rich & Margaret Ruby, Steve Russell, and Marie Rustermier. Sue Samson, Roger Sand, Lisa & Bruce Sandahl, Cathy & Chris Sayre, Tim & Barb Schepers, Joyce Schiermann, Ann Seacrest, Barb & Steve Seglin, Becky & Sarad Seth, David & Rhonda Schoenmaker, Laurel Shanahan, Charles Shambarger, Tim & Julie Shaw, LeRoy Sievers, Ken Smith, Les Smith, Linda Smith, Paul Smith, Kris & Julie Sonderup, Robert & Nancy Sorensen, Brad & Jackie Southwick, Jody & Peter Spalding, Patrick Spangler, Bill & Sandy Spielman, Daria & Michael Springer, Bob & Nancy Stanley, Dennis & Nancy Stara, Ray Stevens, Clay Streich, Del Stuefer, Mark Taylor, Denise Terry, Margene Timm, Robert & Julie Timme, Larry Toalson, Josh & Jennifer Torell, Margaret Tyler, Rick & Penny Urwiler, Cheryl Vajgrt, Verjean Vannier, Dave & Sue Van Horn, Jerald Varner, Ken & Jane Vice, Denis & Betty Vodehnal, Ken & Peggy Volker, Bob & Marilyn Wagner, John Wagner, Dusty & Stacey Walsh, Dan Warren, Jane & Ron Wasserman, Bill & Naomi Wayne, Lesley Weir, Bruce Wendorff, Lois Wenzl, Alan Wickman, Roger & Sylvia Wiegand, Sue & Mike Wilkins, Oak Williams, Dayle Williamson, Rick & Sue Windle, Phil & Mary Wolfe, Larry Worth, Kevin Wright, Gary Zellweger, Paul & Janet Zillig, Rick Zubrod, Joeth Zucco.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT 101

by Jamie Warren

Tracing the evolution of a new trail segment in Lincoln from its genesis as an idea to its ultimate completion can be a complex undertaking. The process may involve interactions between a number of different government and private organizations. Sources of funding are varied, and frequently the story of how one section of Lincoln's trails came into existence might be quite different from another. Although this variability precludes a "one size fits all" description of trail development in Lincoln and Lancaster County, this article attempts to shed light on the typical process.

To the extent trails are to be developed on city-owned land, obtaining Federal funding to support contemplated projects is often critical. Even when the costs of trail development are supplemented by local government or by private donors, the price of many trail projects is simply prohibitive without Federal funding. To add to the challenge, Federal regulations stipulate that trail projects must be incorporated into the city's transportation plan before they may be considered for grants under the available Federal programs.



Recreation Department. Trail development on county-owned land is handled by the Natural Resource District having jurisdiction over the project.

These organizations are generally responsible for obtaining funding for the trail projects over which they have oversight. This process begins by the organization writing a grant application for Federal funds, either under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act or through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Grants received under MAP-21 are administered by the Nebraska Department of Roads. These grants are available for new projects and are capped at \$1 million. RTP grants are administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. RTP grants are available for new projects or projects designed to rehabilitate existing trails and are capped at \$250,000.

Often, monies associated with these Federal programs are only available to the extent the

applicant can show additional funds have been raised from other sources. The amount the applicant must raise is typically based on a percentage of the Federal grant sought. In these instances, the project developer might look to local government for a portion of the support needed, or groups like GPTN may be recruited to help generate funds in the form of private donations.

After funding sources are obtained, the Parks and Recreation Department coordinates the actual physical development of city-owned projects, including engaging engineering and construction services, and obtaining all requisite Federal approvals that are needed along the way. Natural Resource Districts perform the same functions for county-owned projects. After completion, trails owned by the city are maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department, or by the Public Works Department. Natural Resource Districts perform needed maintenance of county-owned trails.

Fortunately, several groups have worked diligently to make sure the needs of trail users are well-represented in the city's current transportation plan. These groups include the Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee, a group formed to provide advice and recommendations to city government on the development of a comprehensive trails plan, and the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department, among others. For anyone with questions or concerns about the existing trail system, or with ideas for improvements or new trail projects, these organizations and their members, along with GPTN, are on the front lines when it comes to trail development in and around Lincoln.

Once a project is incorporated into the transportation plan, more formal plans for development can be entertained. At present, the transportation plan includes a prioritized "to do" list of pending trail projects. When a project is slated for city-owned land, shepherding these projects from infancy to completion becomes the responsibility of the Parks and

UPCOMING EVENTS

GPTN Annual Meeting
February 18, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Jayne Snyder Trails Center
21st & Q Street

Trail Trek
June 23, 2013
More information to come

National Bike to Work Day
May 17, 2013
More information to come

Bike to Work Week
May 13 to 17, 2013
More information to come

NEW TRAIL SIGNS

Have you noticed something new along the trails? That's right! There are new colored coordinated trails signs for the major trails in Lincoln. GPTN raised over \$2,000 to help support this project. The color of the signs corresponds to the trail colors on the new GPTN trails map and should help navigation of the local trails network. In the future, additional wayfinding information such as distances to trail destinations will be added to the sign posts.



Holmes Dam Trail	2 mi
Holmes Park	
70 th Street Trail	2.5 mi
84 th Street Trail	3.5 mi

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GREAT PLAINS
Bicycling Club
We actively promote bicycling with weekly rides ranging from 20 to 100 miles. We have ice cream or coffee shop easy-paced rides, hammering training rides, moon-lit rides, trail rides, and show 'n' go rides. We sponsor the Spring Fling in April and the Heatstroke 100 in August. We also promote bicycling safety through community-sponsored events. For more information and an application, see our website <http://greatplainsbikeclub.org>.
\$10/person and \$15/family.

A Busy Fall!



MARKET TO MARKET RELAY

The Market to Market Relay was held once again on the MoPac Trail, drawing runners from around the region. GPTN provided volunteers and hosted an exchange station. In return, GPTN receives a generous donation from the relay's

UNION PLAZA GRAND OPENING

The grand opening of Union Plaza was held in September and drew several hundreds of people to celebrate Lincoln's newest destination attraction. This first of its kind six acre urban park is located north of "O" Street between 21st and 22nd Streets and is the central piece of the Antelope Valley flood and roadway project. The Jayne Snyder Trails Center is located in the heart of Union Plaza and is a great addition to the trails system.



STREETS ALIVE!

This year's Streets Alive Festival was a fantastic success! Over three miles of Lincoln's streets were closed to motorized vehicles and opened to walkers, runners, bikers, and roller-bladers. GPTN was there with Wes Trout's bike-powered blender and we cranked out over 1,500 free smoothies. Hope to see you at next year's Streets Alive event.

www.healthylincoln.org/initiatives/streetsalive.html



WILDERNESS BRIDGES FUNDRAISING

Wilderness Park is a crown jewel in Lincoln's park system and the trails in the park are used extensively by hikers, runners, mountain bikers, bird watchers, and horseback riders.

Unfortunately, over half the park is not accessible due to the loss of two bridges in the summer of 2010. GPTN is raising \$225,000 to help replace these vital



'N' STREET BIKEWAY TRAILS CONNECTOR FUNDRAISING

One of the key elements that makes Lincoln's trails system exceptional is the connected network of trails that allows easy traveling from one trail to another. An innovative project is before us that will join multiple trails systems that are currently unlinked.

The N Street Bikeway Trails Connector will provide a two-way protected bike lane on N Street, linking the Jamaica Trail with the extensive Antelope Valley Trail system. Running from Pinnacle Bank Arena Drive to 23rd Street, this connection will offer great access to downtown businesses



and the Haymarket district.

This 16-block protected bike lane will be the first of its kind in Lincoln and all of Nebraska. It will be located on the street but separated from traffic by parking and possibly a raised median. Cities that have installed the protected bike lanes, sometimes called cycle tracks, have documented significant increases in bike ridership

GPTN is raising \$100,000 to support this once in a life time opportunity which will be matched with an equal amount from



Please consider donating to one or both of these exciting projects! Your tax-deductible contribution will enhance the outstanding trails system, encourage an active, healthy lifestyle, and promote economic vitality in and around the community of Lincoln. Donations can be made out to the Nebraska Trails Foundation and mailed to GPTN, 5000 North 7th St., Lincoln, NE 68521.