

Poulsbo Trails Plan



Background

- ✓ Poulsbo residents, in a 2007 city-wide Comprehensive Plan survey, named trails as their top priority.
- ✓ Poulsbo has 3.75 miles of existing trails in unconnected segments. Upon completion and acceptance of a city-wide trail plan, the city hopes to develop additional trails throughout the community over the next 2-20 years.
- ✓ The National Park Service Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program awarded the city a year's worth of guidance and expertise from a trails planner to make a blueprint for a trail system.
- ✓ A volunteer citizens committee formed in December 2008 is working this year to map prospective trail routes, gather ideas from the public and rally support for construction and maintenance.

What is the Poulsbo Trails Committee?

A subcommittee of the Poulsbo Parks and Recreation Commission, this volunteer committee is comprised of residents, business owners, representatives of organizations, and government, brought together with a common vision to create a trail plan for the City of Poulsbo. With the assistance from the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, the final document will expand and guide future trail development.

What is the Vision?

The Poulsbo trail system embodies the community spirit that distinguishes our city, linking the places we live, learn, work and play and find inspiration. Trails reconnect us to ourselves, and lead people of all ages and abilities to greater health and self sufficiency. Our trails, like branches, support Poulsbo and reach out to connect neighbor to neighbor; land to water; people to nature; homes to businesses; city to countryside; and Poulsbo's history to our future.

Project Purpose?

- Encourage fitness and reduce pollution and traffic congestion by creating attractive, safe paths for non-fossil-fueled travel, whether by foot, bicycle, wheelchair, stroller, kayak or canoe.
- Connect public destinations such as parks, schools, neighborhoods, shops and government centers, and link to trails outside the city.
- Protect natural resources and the environment by highlighting the city's natural beauty, including its four miles of Liberty Bay shoreline and 14 well-loved parks.

Trail Plan Implementation

- We expect to locate trails on public properties and rights-of-way, and will consider land or easements offered by willing owners of private property. The city has no intention of taking land for trails through eminent domain. While no funds for trail development have been secured yet, we anticipate attracting support from a variety of sources, including state, local and federal grants; city park reserve dollars; partnerships with other organizations; and donations.

How Can I Get Involved?

Take the Poulsbo Trails survey at www.cityofpoulsbo.com or contact:

Mary McCluskey, Poulsbo Parks and Recreation, 360.697.8301 or mmclcluskey@cityofpoulsbo.com

