



PARKS & RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – 4 PM | Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Call meeting to order:
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 9, 2021
3. Public Comment - *Limit to three minutes per person*
4. New Business: None
5. Continued Business:
 - a. Parks & Trails Master Plan – Amanda Bohrer
6. Recreation Program Directors Update: - Sean Herrick
City rec has no sports on our schedule currently but look forward to getting softball fields and Jaycee park tuned up for little league and adult softball this spring and summer. We hope to work closely with the new hire of groundskeeper for the parks system.
7. Committee Comments or Concerns:
8. Announcement of the next meeting:
April 13th at 4 PM
9. Adjournment:

Parks and Recreation Committee

Members

Amanda Bohrer | John Molendyke | John Skibsrud

CITY OF DEER LODGE

PARKS & RECREATION

COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 4:00 PM | Council Chambers, City Hall

Members Present: Amanda Bohrer, John Skibsrud
Members Absent: John Molendyke
Mayor: Diana Solle
CAO: Interim CAO Trent Freeman
Council Member: None
Staff: Cyndi Thompson
Consultants: Robie Culver, & Kathy Thompson (Stahly Engineering)
Guests: See sign in sheet

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Chairperson Bohrer called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

a. January 12th & January 21st.

i. Correction to Minutes January 12th. Page 1, section 4-1 change word from "relation" to relationship.

Member Skibsrud motioned to approve all minutes with correction. Chairperson Bohrer seconded the motion.

3. Public Comment - Limit to three minutes per person:

a. Scott Hazelton from County stated the county had several picnic tables and benches if the City needed any. CAO Interim Freeman stated he could use 8 of them.

b. Bob Rase stated the log poles at the sledding hill need to be replaced, they are falling over.

4. New Business:

- a. Review Committee Bylaws & Sign Conflict of Interest Form – Member Skibrud motioned to accept Bylaws and sign Conflict of Interest form. Chairperson Bohrer seconded the motion.

5. Continued Business:

- a. **Parks & Trails Plan-Amanda Bohrer-Video Conference Stahly Engineering.**
Email from Kathy Thompson @ Stahly EGINEERING: PROJECT DETAILS

Phase 1 priority list the committee put together is a great start to projects to include in the master plan, and the committee discussion helped us to better scope the potential projects in an effort to produce coordinating project cost estimates. Although we understand that these are the Committees priority projects, since this is a 10-year plan, it may be advantageous to identify additional projects. As most projects will likely be funded with some type of outside funding mechanism, having a broad variety and cost range of projects will allow Deer Lodge to more easily match projects to grant opportunities. One other item to keep in mind is to consider aligning the priorities in the Master Plan with the survey results received by the community (I have attached the results here for your use). The Master Plan document will include one consolidated list of potential projects, as determined by the Committee.

I also wanted to provide a few example Master Plan documents from other Montana communities so you can get an idea of the information that may be included in a Master Plan, and see how other communities identify and present potential projects.

City of Whitefish Parks and Rec Master Plan:

<https://www.cityofwhitefish.org/DocumentCenter/View/139/Parks-and-Recreation-Master-Plan-PDF?bidId=>

City of Livingston Parks & Trails Master Plan:

http://www.livingstonmontana.org/Parks%20and%20Trails%20Master%20Plan%20Livingston_Parks_MP_Report_PRINT.pdf

City of Red Lodge Comprehensive Trails Plan: <http://cityofredlodge.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Trails-Plan-2006.pdf>

Stahly staff will plan on being in Deer Lodge for the March committee meeting. If the Committee can have their full list of projects, with project specifics for cost estimating purposes, substantially completed by that meeting, Stahly can have the draft document completed by the April committee meeting. At that time, the document can be presented to the public for comments and feedback, which will prepare us for completion and adoption of the Master Plan.

- b. **Jaycee Park RTP Grant – Update**

Interim CAO stated he sent the required document to the County Planner. Its goes out for Prebid on Feb 25th and out for Bid on March 9th.

7. Recreation Program Directors Update – Sean Herrick

- a. Youth basketball games will be in full swing next week. They have been practicing for 4 weeks now. Two weeks of games then it's over. Cornhole league is going good it'll be over in a couple weeks as well. Sponsorships are down this year so far but we will be ok.

8. Committee Comments or Concerns:

- a. Chairperson Bohrer mentioned she was revamping the Committee 2021 goals.
- b. Member Skibsrud mentioned using a "Footprint" painted on the trails instead of signs.
- c. Bob Rase stated the Golf Course Country Club looking at 3 Pickle Ball Courts out by the Golf Course.
- d. Chairperson Bohrer mentioned the Elk Lodge was interested in obtaining a grant to refurbish the upper ball field.

9. Announcement of the Next Meeting:

Chairperson Bohrer announced March 9th at 4:00pm as the date and time for the next meeting.

10. Adjournment:

Ms. Bohrer adjourned the meeting at 4:55PM.

Prepared by: Cyndi Thompson, City Clerk

Amanda Bohrer, Chairperson

Date

Parks & Recreation Committee

Members

Amanda Bohrer | John Skibsrud | John Molendyke

Cyndi Thompson

From: Kathy Thompson <KStremcha@seaeng.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:18 AM
To: Cyndi Thompson; Amanda Bohrer; Trent Freeman; John Molendyke; John Skibsrud; Robie Culver; Bob Rase ; Scott Hazelton
Subject: RE: Phase 1 Parks & Trails
Attachments: Survey Result Graphs.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning everyone,

Thank you for allowing Robie and I to join the Committee meeting virtually last week, it is nice to have that flexibility when the roads and weather are less than ideal. However, due to the audio issues we had during the meeting, I wanted to follow up the meeting with an email to capture our discussion and to make sure we are staying on track to complete the Master Plan this spring.

As we mentioned, the Phase 1 priority list the committee put together is a great start to projects to include in the master plan, and the committee discussion helped us to better scope the potential projects in an effort to produce coordinating project cost estimates. Although we understand that these are the Committees priority projects, since this is a 10-year plan, it may be advantageous to identify additional projects. As most projects will likely be funded with some type of outside funding mechanism, having a broad variety and cost range of projects will allow Deer Lodge to more easily match projects to grant opportunities. One other item to keep in mind is to consider aligning the priorities in the Master Plan with the survey results received by the community (I have attached the results here for your use). The Master Plan document will include one consolidated list of potential projects, as determined by the Committee.

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document can be presented to the public for comments and feedback, which will prepare us for completion and adoption of the Master Plan.

Thank you, have a great day!
Kathy

Kathy Thompson, P.E.

Bridge Department Manager

Stahly Engineering & Associates

Direct: (406) 602-4397 | Office: (406) 522-8594

Cell: (406) 439-1662

From: Cyndi Thompson <cthompson@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov>

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:11 PM

To: Amanda Bohrer <abohrer@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov>; Trent Freeman <tfreeman@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov>; John Molendyke <jmolendyke@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov>; John Skibsrud <jskibsrud@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov>; Robie Culver <RCulver@seaeng.com>; Kathy Thompson <KStremcha@seaeng.com>; Bob Rase <rjrased@yahoo.com>; Scott Hazelton <shazelton@powellcountymt.gov>

Subject: Phase 1 Parks & Trails

Hello everyone,

It was a good meeting today. I have outlined below the priority list you all agreed on for Phase 1 of the Parks & Trails plan.

Kathy & Robie – Trent will be sending you a map of the surface tie-ins.

Phase 1 (numbered in order of plan)

1. Signage to tie hard surfacing into existing & proposed trails.
2. Repairing/replacing existing damaged hard surfacing.
3. Pickleball Courts, utilizing old Tennis Courts & Basketball courts & resurfacing.
4. Pocket Parks.
5. Maintenance of existing trails.
6. Restrooms at specific locations along trails near pocket parks.
7. Softball Fields (Amanda's Request)

Please make sure to everyone, to reply to all so we all stay in the loop of things.

Thanks,

Cyndi Thompson, City Clerk
City of Deer Lodge
300 Main St.

Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Ph: (406) 846-2238, ext. 302

Fax: (406) 846-3925

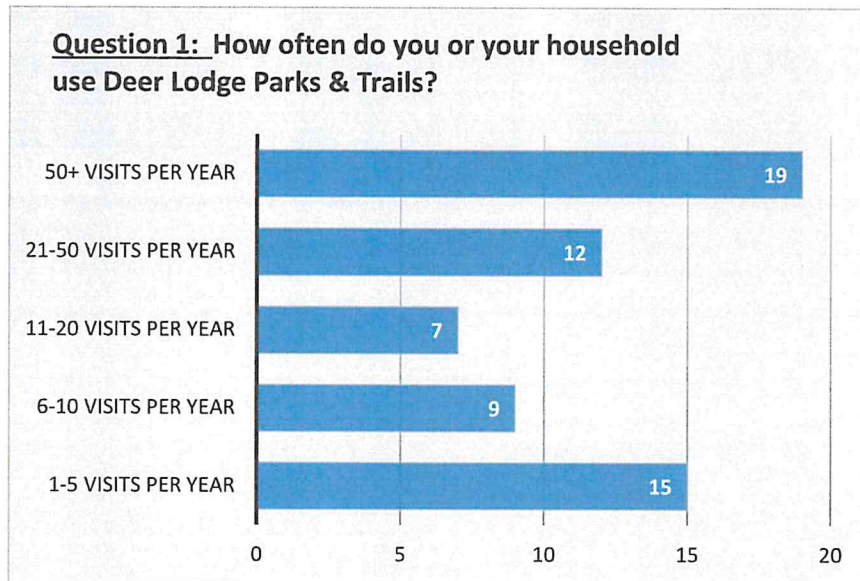
Email: cthompson@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov

Web: www.cityofdeerlodge.com

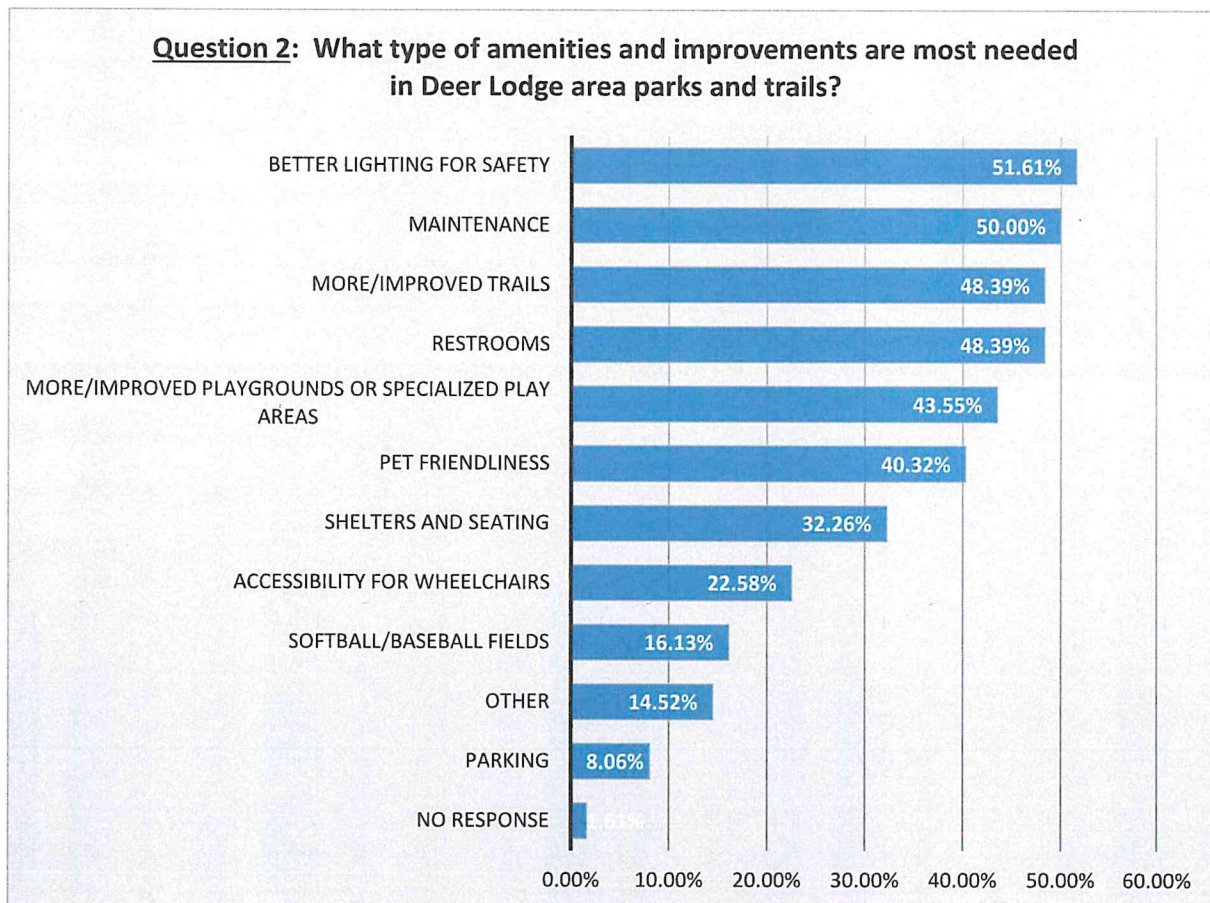
Follow us on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Deer-Lodge>

Public Opinion Survey Results

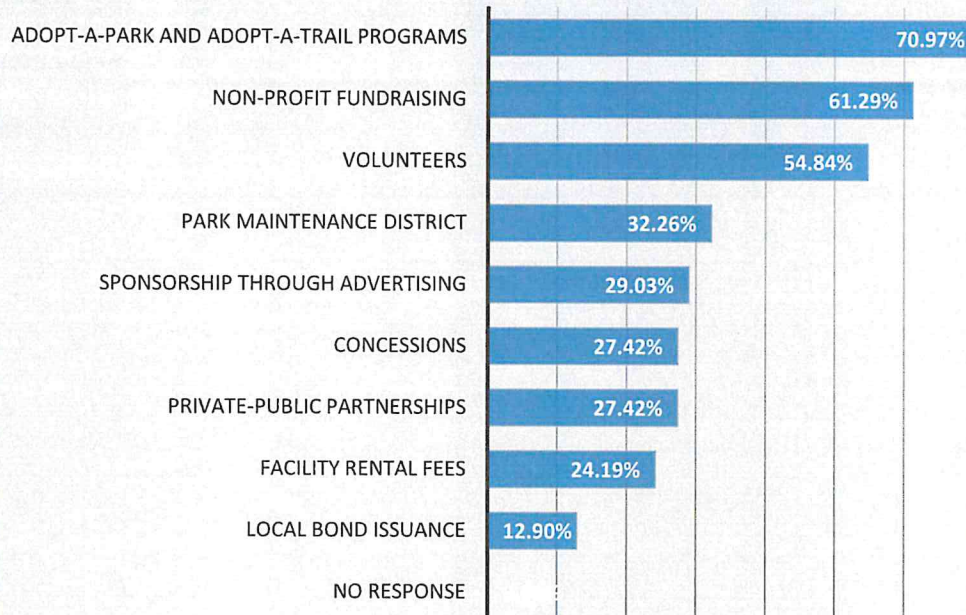
Question 1: How often do you or your household use Deer Lodge Parks & Trails?



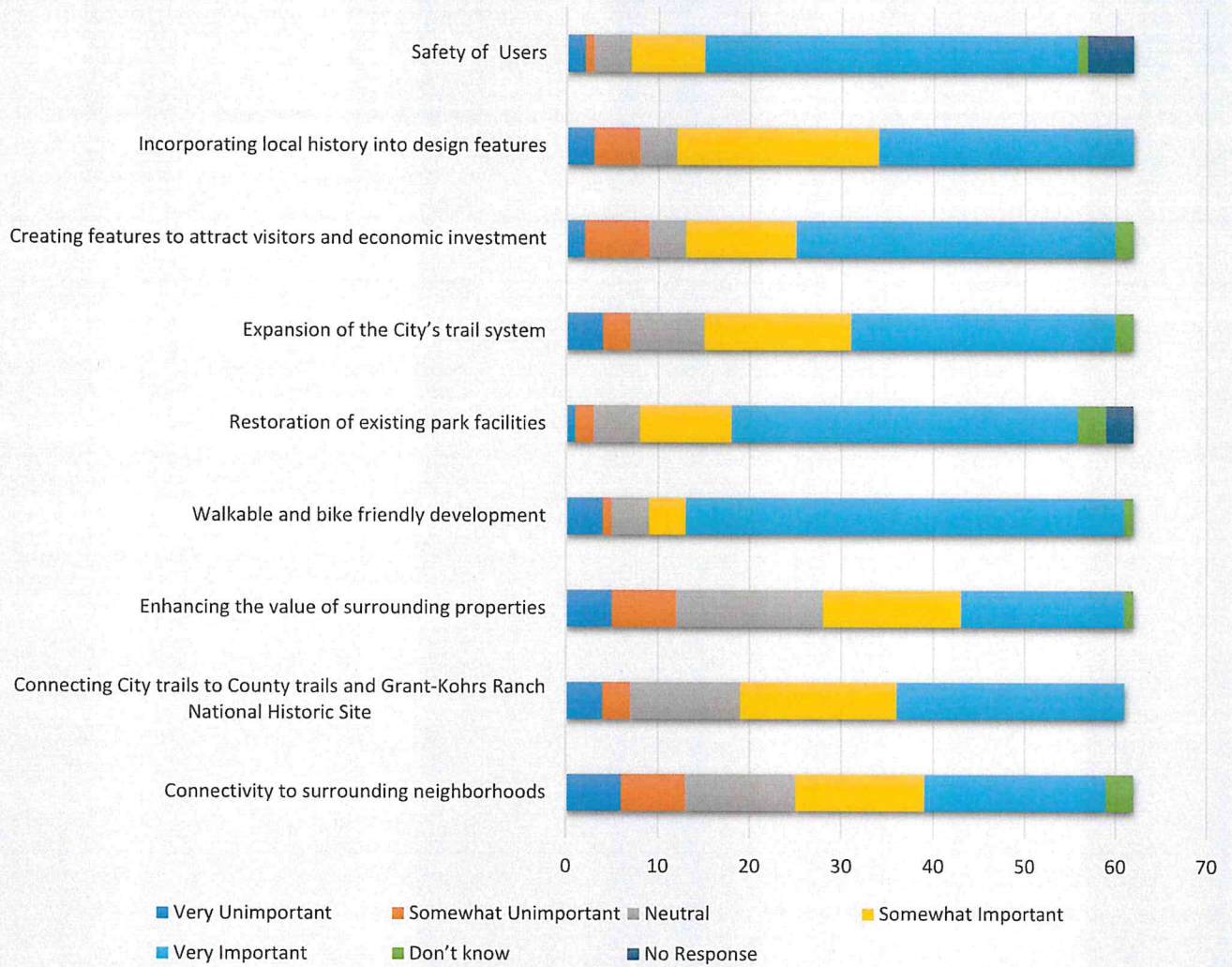
Question 2: What type of amenities and improvements are most needed in Deer Lodge area parks and trails?



Question 3: In addition to federal, state, local and grant funding, what strategy would you support the most to fund park and trail improvements?



Question 4: Please rank the importance of the following park and trail functions to be considered in the design of Deer Lodge's parks and trail s ystem.



Question 5: Other Comments

- A restroom halfway through would be nice as well as a few more poo bag boxes. Perhaps another garbage can or two to drop the bags into :). A dog park area would be awesome too :).
- "We need a dog park so people do not let their dogs just run on the trails
- Don't wait 20 years to get things done
- Need an archery range, one that the city would mow and keep in good shape, but ran by volunteers, we could do fund raising to replace targets as needed, then sell memberships to access a separate area to shoot 3d targets.
- A fenced dog park would be great for the East Arrowstone park so they can run and enjoy the big field and not worry about cars. Also it would be nice if the Yellowstone trail North of town could connect with Deer Lodge or Grant Kohrs. I think more people would use the trails if they can get on them in Deer lodge instead of driving to Rock Creek.
- It would be wonderful if the existing parks could be improved to provide more opportunities for kids. Missoula, Helena, and Butte all have amazing parks with updated equipment like zip lines and splash pads. Maintenance is also an issue. JC park gets so overgrown around the playground equipment that I've considered bringing my own mower to fix it, but I didn't know if that is allowed. Westside park is looking much better, but it doesn't offer much. All ballfields and courts need help, too.
- I greatly appreciate all the efforts to improve our home!!
- I honestly worry about allowing the public free reign to Grant Kohrs Historic site especially after dark.
- Thank you for doing this!
- When we moved back to Deer Lodge last winter the only trail I knew anything about was Arrow and I thought it was really small. Imagine my surprise to find out how long it is! It would be wonderful if it also went north along the river, as well. I recently heard about a trail that is planned for the old Milwaukee rail bed from Deer Lodge to Garrison. YAY! That could be a great bike trail.
- Equine use should be allowed on trails wherever feasible. It's part of the history of the valley. People currently ride at Grant Kohrs & it's a good location to use in early spring before the snow leaves the mountains
- We are in rural Montana. Trails should be open to responsible animal access. We should even have equine use as an option on some trails, especially those that are in remote areas or outside the city limits. We have a local Back Country Horseman group that volunteers tons of time to trail improvements. If horses are allowed on trails they could volunteer for things like hauling out litter or hauling in supplies for trail improvements. Thank you for your efforts to improve our community !
- Make some trails equine friendly!
- So happy to see continued commitments to trails and a healthy community!
- First of all, the City needs to prioritize basic maintenance to their existing parks and trails and ensure they are safe for children and receive adequate mowing and watering. The play facility at Jaycee Park is a popular location for families with small children and is in need of improvement and maintenance. It would be great to see the City trails link

up with existing County trails and Grant Kohrs through Arrowstone, Johnson Connector and Old Yellowstone Trail. We need more safe, walkable and bike friendly routes around our City. I am fully in support of finding ways expand our park and trail system in Deer Lodge. Cottonwood Creek for example has a lot of opportunity as well as the Jaycee Park and softball field area.

- Fines for people leaving dog waste
- Connecting the bike/walk trail through Deer Lodge should be top priority.
- The city and county need to work together (if possible) to join all trails together. This should be a priority for both entities. Do not duplicate the work or expense
- The current park system is not maintained well at all
- I continue to see these projects and areas built, but then never maintained. If you aren't going to control the weeds and keep the areas mowed, don't build them at all. Just look at the "education area" next to the Vo-Ag building. Not only is it not maintained properly, it is hardly used for education.
- A dog park would be amazing!
- Longer bike friendly trails
- So many mosquitoes in the summer
- Security cameras
- Bike/skateboard park area
- Dog park
- A splash pad or water feature for kids
- We really enjoy Arrowstone. We use the east side park so the dogs can run. It would be nice if a fence could be put up near the road so we don't have to worry about the dogs getting hit by a car. And if the field could be mowed a couple times a year that would be great!

January Meeting

CITY OF DEER LODGE PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Master Plan

Parks

Trails & Sidewalks

- Dixon Street, between California and Higgins – Connection of Jaycee Park to Outdoor Center
- Pennsylvania Avenue, from Arrowstone Park Trail to Main Street – adjacent to Prison
- Connection of new River Park to Grant Kohrs
- Kohrs Visitor Center to north end of 2nd street
- Pedestrian crossing from Clinic south to Maverick Lane
- Trestle Park bridge??
- River Park to 100/102 Main Street
- Eastside Frontage Road ? *Stark*
- Along Cottonwood Creek, from end of Cottonwood Avenue to Start Street
- Main Street, along Buckskin Drive, Vigilante Lane to Jaycee Park
- 2nd Street / Main Street from Pennsylvania to Milwaukee – access to River Park on Milwaukee
- Crosswalk at Kentucky and Milwaukee *connects to existing roads/sidewalks*
- Trail system within River Park

- *connectivity utilizing existing sidewalks, roads, or trails*
- 100/102 Main to Pennsylvania Utilizing Main St. Sidewalk*
- Outdoor education center to a long cottonwood creek to stark*
- Stark to Milwaukee Stark St. (Milwaukee to Cottonwood Creek)*
- Milwaukee under pass to Boulder Rd.*
- Boulder Rd. To NE Main St. Business loop*
- 2nd St. from behind Big Sky Hotel to connector from 102 Main to River Park*
- Kohrs Visitor center*

- St. Yellowstone Trail Trailhead*
- Washington St. to Milwaukee Ave. to 2nd St.*
- Pennsylvania to Kentucky to Milwaukee*
- Milwaukee to Clark Fork River Park*
- Pennsylvania Main to 5th St. (Football Field)*
- Dixon St. from Football field to Outdoor Ed. Center*
- Montenastri Dixon to Sledding Hill*
- Kohrs St. Sledding Hill to Milwaukee Missouri Ave*
- Missouri St. from Stark to Dixon*

Aspen Lane Indian Creek Trail to JC Arts Trail
Maverick Lane from Sagebrush to Indian Creek Trail head

- shows connectivity

CITY OF DEER LODGE TRAILS & SIDEWALKS

