

October 2009

Poulsbo Trails Committee



How Can I Get Involved?

www.cityofpoulsbo.com/parks
or contact:
mmcluskey@cityofpoulsbo.com

Trail Plan 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.



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.



Background on the Project

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.

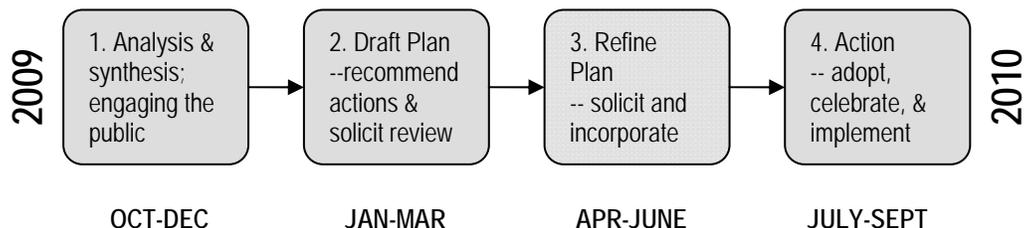
The National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program awarded the city a grant for up to two years worth of guidance and expertise from a trails planner to help make a blueprint for the trail system.

A volunteer citizens committee formed in December 2008 is working to map prospective trail routes, gather ideas from the public and rally support for construction and maintenance.

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, or kayak.
- Connect public destinations such as parks, schools, neighborhoods, shops and public centers, and link to more regional trails.
- 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.

Project Timeline:



Accomplishments



Community Trail Survey

Created an on-line survey of trail use and suggested improvements. Over 250 participated. 55% from Poulsbo.

Preliminary results include safety concerns, a desire for additional signage, identified connections, the need for more benches; and the most popular place to walk/ride is the Liberty Bay shoreline area trails

Created a base map

Identified public spaces: parks, trails, public street ends, water access points and trail easements. Worked with the Planning Department to create a base map with current use, desired connections and future needs.

Works In Progress & Early Action Projects

- **Cross-walks repainted**

Identified cross-walks on "walk to school routes" that needed repainting. Worked with Poulsbo Public Works to get one cross-walk repainted. Received a \$1000 grant to have a new crosswalk painted at a previously unmarked, busy intersection.

- **Trail connections identified**

Identified existing public trail easements, Contacted one landowner, and will pursue improving the connection. Also plan to connect to other regional trail systems such as the Clear Creek Trail and the North Kitsap Trails.

- **Identified Signage Shortages**

Plan to be part of a new entrance-way kiosk on Viking Way - part of the street project upgrades. Plan to work with Public Works to identify and sign public access to beaches and trail.

- **Additional Mapping**

Committee field inventory, desired trails, and bike paths will be mapped conceptually.

- **Public Participation and Outreach**

Created a fact sheet to hand out at public outreach events.

Staffed information booths at the Farmers Market and Central Market in April.

Set up information booths at the Farmers Market and Central Market in June for National Trails Day.

Created static displays at the Poulsbo Library.

Provided a presence on the city's website.

Will produce a final report in 2010.