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Federal Grant Helps in Expansion of Airdrie Trail System

AIRDRIE, ALBERTA – The City of Airdrie was awarded \$63,561 from the National Trails Infrastructure Program (NTC), in partnership with the Government of Canada’s Economic Action Plan to assist with the construction of a pathway alongside Veteran’s Boulevard.

“This grant will help us extend and connect our extensive trail network, while enhancing the value of our existing trail system,” says Jeff Greene, Parks and Planning Manager, City of Airdrie. “Residents rated trail networks very high in value and usage in a recent Community Needs Assessment the City completed. This confirms our work to continue to expand and connect our pathways throughout the city, providing trails for users to enjoy.”

The new multi-use pathway will be a 1.0 kilometres long and 2.5 metres wide. It will connect pathways that extend along the eastern boundary of the city and other pathways continuing to the west side of the city. This helps the City of Airdrie in its goal of building on an extensive pathway network that provides alternative mobility choices and recreation opportunities for residents. Airdrie has over 90 kilometres of existing trails and each year new pathways are added to the network. The total project cost is approximately \$120,000.

“Improvements to recreation trails are important to the health and well-being of our residents,” says Blake Richards, the Member of Parliament for Wild Rose constituency. “These improvements will not only create jobs and boost the local economy, but they will also enhance recreational opportunities available for the city’s many outdoors enthusiasts.”

The NTC is made up of the following non-profit organizations and their provincial/territorial affiliates: Canadian Trails Federation, Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations and the Canadian Off-Highway Vehicle Distributors Council. For additional information, visit www.ntc-canada.ca. Applications for this funding were received between May 26, 2009 and June 26, 2009. With projects now approved, this first payment to the NTC has allowed work to begin immediately on over 450 projects. To learn more about Canada’s Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca. For more information on the Government of Canada’s investments in infrastructure, visit www.creatingjobs.gc.ca

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For more information:

Jeff Greene
Parks and Planning Manager
City of Airdrie
(403) 948-8400
www.airdrie.ca