

TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
FROM: Don Robertson, Interim Community Services Director
DATE: November 26, 2019
RE: Proposed Trail at Gardiner Middle School

ACTION REQUESTED:

Staff is requesting a recommendation for the path alignment and configuration at Gardiner Middle School. Comments are due prior to December 16 but preferred as soon as possible to be incorporated into the Planning Department recommendations.

BACKGROUND:

Staff received an email from Kelly Reid seeking comments on a proposed path to be installed as a part of the new Gardiner Middle School facility.

On the 18-acre property, our Trails Plan and Transportation Plan both show a proposed shared use path, which the school is going to construct as part of the site redevelopment. The school district is planning to maintain the trail through their property, with an easement for public access at all times of day.

The proposed trail is generally consistent with the City's Trails Plan and the Transportation Plan. It includes the following:

- 8-foot-wide paved surface with 2 ft gravel shoulders on either side.
- The trail will be adjacent to the north property line, where a number of single-family homes back up to the school property with mostly 6 ft wood fences.
- For security purposes, the school proposes to place another 6-foot fence between the trail and the athletic fields that will be adjacent to it. This fence is proposed to be a metal wire fence (see attached image). It will have gates that are unlocked for students to use during school commute times and locked during the school day.

Items that may be of concern are the effect of the fencing on the usability of the trail, the timing of public access and school security concerns, and whether or not the path should include lighting.

OPTIONS:

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee may provide feedback to the Planning Department or may defer feedback to staff to provide.