

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Local Government Program Review Committee

Dear Review Committee,

This letter is to demonstrate the Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail's (FYWT) future commitment to the ongoing support to the Yamhelas Westsider Trail (YWT). The efforts to make the YWT a county park originated with the FYWT group. The FYWT is a 503(c)(3) non-profit organization with an active board consisting of local government officials, business leaders and other local residents.

The FYWT group is the county's main project partner, responsible for such activities as public outreach, marketing, and fundraising, all of which will continue after the trail is completed. Our commitment to partner with Yamhill County will also extend to the long-term maintenance of the YWT. This commitment includes an estimated Comprehensive Trail Maintenance Cost of a yearly \$1,500 per mile which for a 12 mile asphalt trail, 10 feet wide, is estimated at \$18,000 per year.

The partnership for maintenance will be further defined during a conceptual planning process being conducted by the FYWT with the aid of the National Parks Service through the Rivers Trails Conservation Assistance Program, a technical assistance grant. The conceptual plan for the entire trail (17 miles) will be completed in the spring of 2016, after which the master planning phase is projected to begin.

In partnership with the FYWT, Yamhill County is committed to assisting with regular, routine maintenance (i.e. garbage patrol, mowing and landscaping, clearing debris and vegetation, and minor trail surface repairs) through the use of the inmate Work Crew program and summer rangers.

The FYWT's further commitment is to fundraising for purpose of trail's maintenance as well as to utilize local resources in the form of volunteers, in-kind donations and ongoing improvements to the trail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lyell Gardner, President
Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail