

IMPACT STATEMENT

188545

Legislation title:

Authorize \$12,810 for the establishment of a grant to the Southwest Trails for the development of the Robert Gray Trail for the period of July 20th, 2017 – December 31st, 2017 (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The City of Portland has undeveloped rights-of-way (ROWs) in many parts of the city that residents are interested in turning into urban trails. Historically, many of these ROWs have been located in Southwest Portland and are identified in the Southwest Urban Trails Plan (2000). The Plan supports the City's pedestrian transportation policy which calls for the City to complete a pedestrian network that serves short trips and transit, improves the quality of the pedestrian environment, increases pedestrian safety and convenience, encourages walking, and explores a range of funding options for pedestrian improvements.

The Southwest Trails grant will provide financial and staff assistance resources from the City of Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) for the purpose of improving an existing trail within the public right of way and within its current alignment to provide a safer pedestrian access route to Robert Gray Middle School from the Steven Creek Crossing Housing complex.

SW Trails is a nonprofit 501c (3) that is uniquely situated to do this work. SW Trails regular builds trails and has expertise and experience in building trails on the South/Northwest. A competitive process would probably disfavor this type of community-based work and instead favor private-sector transportation consultants.

SW Trails is uniquely posed for this project because of its:

- 10+ years of experience building trails in SW Portland
- deep understanding and familiarity with the trails in SW Portland the trails that need to be built
- volunteer based organization that can leverage city funds to complete the task
- expertise in working with hand tools and other materials to build the trails
- record of following safety procedures for building trails, such as using gloves and having first-aid kits for volunteers

PBOT understands the importance of offering this new grant funding opportunity to solidify a well-used community trail that provides safe access from the Robert Gray Middle School to the nearby residential area.

1. The goals of the grant program are to:
 - a. Invest in small-scale community driven projects focused on transportation safety and accessibility.
 - b. Supplement existing PBOT priorities in providing walkable pathways to schools and transit hubs.
 - c. Strengthen collaboration between PBOT and community partners by providing hands-on technical support during project implementation.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

A total of \$12,810 total will be allocated through the Southwest Trails grant. The project funding is not to exceed \$12,810. The program will extend from July to December 2017. The grant activities and responsibility will be exercised by the SW Trails staff and volunteer force with the support of the PBOT professional and technical consultancy if needed.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Southwest Trails is a community group that promotes walking and biking in southwest Portland, Oregon. This grant will provide it with the resources to restore and repair a community-utilized trail that provides safe access to and from the Robert Gray Middle School.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- ☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.
- ☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount