

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

IS THE LEWIS AND CLARK REGIONAL TRAIL A NEW IDEA?

The regional trail has been a topic of conversation for decades. The Lewis and Clark Trail was named within the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan published by Metro of Portland, Oregon in July of 1992. The Clark County 2006 Regional Trail and Bikeway Systems Plan encompassed 16 regional land-based trails supporting a network of nearly 250 miles of regional trails and bikeways. The plan also added the Lower Columbia River Water Trail that covers 32 river miles. The Lewis and Clark Trail was identified within the top regional trail priorities. The trail is also identified as a priority within the 2015 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAIL PLAN?

Clark County will serve as the Lewis and Clark Regional Trail's coordinator and will convene partners and stakeholders on an as needed basis. Each jurisdiction is responsible for funding and implementing the recommendations that are contained within this plan. Implementation timing and trail segment construction will be dependent on localized abilities, funding and staff availability.

Each government entity was part of this planning process and contributed to the recommendations within the final trail plan document. It is hoped that the document and the power of partnership will help individual agency's efforts in fundraising for trail completion in their jurisdiction. The plan document will add strength to any government agency's proposals for grants to fund the trail and related trail infrastructure.

HOW WILL THE EXISTING SECTIONS OF THE TRAIL THAT ARE NOW PART OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK REGIONAL TRAIL BE INTEGRATED INTO THIS NEW ROUTE?

Fortunately, there are several excellent sections of trail along the proposed Lewis and Clark Regional Trail that are already existing:

- Vancouver's Columbia River Renaissance Trail
- Port of Vancouver's Terminal 1 Renaissance Trail
- The Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail in Washougal (*also known as The Columbia River Dike Trail*)
- The Port of Camas-Washougal's Washougal Waterfront Trail.
- The City of Ridgefield Gee Creek Trail

These trails will effectively become sections of the Lewis and Clark Regional Trail but will retain their original character and names. Signage and wayfinding will be added to existing trails to ensure that the trail is a seamless experience for users.

WHO WILL MANAGE THE REGIONAL TRAIL?

Overall coordination and management of the regional trail, including maps and websites of the entire length of trail, will be the responsibility of Clark County but each individual land manager will have control and responsibility for the section of trail on their lands. For example, where the trail goes within City of Vancouver lands and rights-of-way, the City of Vancouver will be responsible for the maintenance and management of the trail.

WHEN WILL THE TRAIL BE COMPLETED?

Each jurisdiction has been working on completing segments of trail. Fund raising efforts, grant awards and budget priorities will help to make the trail a reality. There is not an actual timeline for completion due to many factors. Clark County will continue to track trail segment efforts and provide information updates.