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“New Proposed Trails in Norfolk”



Bikers, walkers and joggers may soon have more routes to take when traveling around Norfolk. The Norfolk Trails Advisory Council recently agreed on two new trails to be built in the city- both of which may yet be completed this year.

Danelle McKeown, a member of the Trails Council, said the group decided on these two trail additions because of their location and connection to existing trails.

“We wanted trails that would connect routes and give more people access to the trails and Veteran’s Memorial Park. This makes the most of the funds available connecting existing sidewalks and trails to complete trail loops,” McKeown said.

One of the trails begins at the Levee Trail access point on the north side of Omaha Avenue on the Flood Control. It then winds north along the west side of the North Fork River before turning west and connecting with Bluff Avenue that leads to Veteran’s Memorial Park. The second proposed trail starts on Elm Avenue east of the tennis courts and follows the North Fork River to an area along Riverside Boulevard across from the Norfolk High School. To complete the loop a new section of trail will be built from the north end of Third Street to the west connecting to the existing bridge across the North Fork River. A bike lane will also be added to the east side of Third Street from Elm Avenue to Georgia.

Both trails would be funded by \$221,000 set aside in this year’s City of Norfolk budget for trails. The proposed routes need to be approved by the Norfolk City Council.

Members of the Trail Council were appointed by Mayor Sue

Fuctmann in November with one member representing each city ward and one member representing the two mile jurisdiction outside of the city limits. Members include McKeown, Erik Wilson, Jan Gannon, Jon Downey and Ben Sun. Also serving as non- voting members of the committee are Stan Staub with the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District and Pat Mrsny, City of Norfolk Parks Superintendent.

