



Friends of the Preston Ridge Trail

A non-profit corporation based in Dallas, Texas

[NEWSLETTER EMAIL]

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Friends of Preston Ridge Newsletter (#9)

Dear Members, Neighbors, and HOA Leaders --

We're delighted to share several exciting developments regarding the Preston Ridge Trail (PRT). Please feel free to forward this email to others who use the Trail or are interested in our progress, or include it in your HOA newsletter:

TXU Resolves Issues Blocking Trail Improvements/Expansion

As you may know, the City of Dallas and Friend of the Preston Ridge Trail (FPRT) have been stymied for the last several months as a result of legal concerns TXU Electric had regarding liability on several area Trails. The Preston Ridge Trail runs along TXU easements, and TXU needed to work through its concerns as our Trail, and several others, become increasingly popular. Those discussions between the TXU and the City of Dallas have been going on for months -- and have delayed progress of the PRT's Master Plan.

We're pleased to report that earlier this week TXU informed us it had worked through its concerns, and would proceed with reviewing our Master Plan. Assuming they have no objections, progress on the PRT will begin again and the Master Plan will go to the Parks & Rec Board, and the City Council for concurrence, and bid specs can then be released to vendors. This would mean we'd have a ground-breaking on Phase II and enhancement to the existing Trail by late this year or early 2007.

Funds for Trail Included in Proposed Bond Package

You may have read that the citizens will be asked to vote for a \$1 billion + Bond package this coming November. The program will provide funds for many essential improvements across the City. Thanks to the work of the FPRT and the strong support of our City Councilperson, Ron Natinksy, the Preston Ridge Trail is slated to receive as much as \$300K to support further improvements during the 2007-2010 timeframe.

There are still many details to be worked out...including how much of this money might require matching contributions from the private sector.



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You can help insure these funds are included in the Bond program. *Please email Councilmember Natinsky at ron.natinsky@dallascityhall.com or call his office at 214-670-4067, and share your support and thanks for his endorsement of these Trail funds.* You can also share your sentiment at either of 2 Town Halls he is hosting where the Bond program will be reviewed and discussed:

Monday, June 5: 7-9pm at Timberglen Rec Center

Thursday, June 8: 7-9 pm at Campbell Green Rec Center

FPRT Receives Generous Donation

John and Karen Bealle, who live along the Trail, have made a second donation to the FRPT to support our work planting and watering trees and bushes along the Trail. This brings their total support to more than \$3000 -- and the largest cash donation to-date in the Trail's 3-year history. We are extremely appreciative of this generous contribution.

We recognize that not everyone can make a contribution so large, so we will be launching a Capital Campaign later this year that gives everyone a chance to make a donation of any size -- to help beautify and maintain the wonderful Trail.

Estates West HOA Buys Bench

Under the leadership of long-time president Ann Murphy, the Estates West HOA has become the first HOA to purchase a bench along the Trail. In keeping with City specs, the Bench will be the same design of our first bench, which was purchased with funds donated by friends of former Dallas City Councilperson Sandy Greyson.

Several HOAs have contacted the FRPT to discuss various ways they can become a key part of the Trail's success -- from donating benches, planting trees, watering shrubbery, assembling volunteers, etc. If your HOA is interested please contact FPRT President Cori Pratt; VP/Landscape & Design Rod Scales, or VP/Community Relations Rodney Schlosser. Their email addresses are in the "to" portion of this email.

Thank you for your interest in the Preston Ridge Trail and support in time and funds. Please continue to visit the Trail website (www.prestonridgetrail.org) and call the InfoLine at 972-770-0436 for updated information about the Trail.



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Special: complimentary copies of the FRPT's 2005 Annual Report are now available. Please reply to this email and provide your mailing address.

On behalf of the Board of the Friends,
Rodney Schlosser
VP/Community Relations

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