

[NEWSLETTER EMAIL]

Sunday, December 14, 2003

Friends of Preston Ridge Newsletter (#1)

Dear Friends...

Welcome to the first email update from the Friends of the Preston Ridge Trail. You are receiving this communication as a result of having attended our first community meeting in November, called the Friends Information Line, and/or sent in a check to become a "member" of the Friends.

On behalf of the officers of the Friends, thank you for your interest, and we are all delighted to have your support. Like you, we all live in Far North Dallas and enjoy the Trail and recognize its potential as both a useful amenity, and also a wonderful way to enhance our neighborhoods.

[Please note we have blocked our email distribution list as a courtesy for your privacy.]

Since our November 11 Community Meeting, several exciting things have occurred:

1) PROGRESS ON DESIGNERS/ARCHITECTS

The City Parks & Rec staff interviewed and recommended an architectural firm -- who will be charged with developing a master plan for the Trail, and designing the expansion (from McCallum...across Frankford...to the Bush Tollway). The firm (pending approval from Council) is Newman Jackson & Bieberstein. They are local and have experience in both private and public projects, including the Cottonwood Trail south of Spring Valley, and trail work between Hamilton Park and Cottonwood Park.

2) BONDS SOLD

The City bonds that will be used, in combination with Collin County grant money, to expand and improve the Preston Ridge Trail were sold last month. The bonds for the Trail are subset of the full Bond package that was sold as a part of the first wave of the May 03 Bond Program approved by voters.

With these bonds sold, contracts can be drafted for the hiring of the Trail designers (above) and eventually hiring of contractors and other vendors to begin work into 2004 and 2005.

3) NEXT MEETING

FPRT is currently in discussions with City staff to outline a timeline to begin soliciting more detail community input for the designers. The tentative schedule is for that to begin sometimes after the New Year. We'll of course send word via email, and continue to keep the FPRT Information Hot-Line at 972-770-0436.

4) FORMING COMMITTEES

Several individuals have contacted us to say they want to become chairs and/or members of committees. This is terrific as we need a group effort to tackle all the opportunities ahead...from beautification, school outreach, membership, publicity, events, etc.

If you have some time (even just a few hours/month), we welcome your involvement. Let us know what committee interests you, and either complete the attached form, or send an email (address above) to Cori Pratt, FPRT President.

5) MEMBERSHIPS WELCOME

Following the November meeting, membership checks have started to come in from both individuals and some Home Owners Associations in the area. These early dollars will help us defray organization expense (becoming incorporated, duplicating costs, etc.) The longer term strategy is to build the membership base to support capital improvements, beautifications, events, overall neighborhood awareness.

Please consider joining the FPRT -- membership starts at only \$35. It's easy. Please complete the form, write a check, and drop in the mail.

Thank you once again for your interest in making our Trail the best it can be. On behalf of the officers of the FPRT, we wish you very Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year.

For more information, please contact:
Rodney Schlosser, Vice President/Community Relations
work: (972) 770-0420 or email: rschlosser@asurion.com

[FPRTMembership Form Nov1003.doc](#)

FRIENDS OF THE PRESTON RIDGE TRAIL INC.

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