

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**DATE:** 11/19/2008 **DEPARTMENT:** Hailey Parks & Trails **DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE:**

**SUBJECT:**

Proposed Friedman Preserve Trail

**AUTHORITY:**  ID Code \_\_\_\_\_  IAR \_\_\_\_\_  City Ordinance/Code \_\_\_\_\_  
(IF APPLICABLE)

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

The Hailey Parks & Lands Board is seeking preliminary approval to proceed with the development of a trail in the Friedman Preserve. An Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation – Recreational Trails Program grant would provide up to %80 of the funding, with a 20% match requirement. Total project cost is estimated to be \$85,000, with a large portion of the cost going towards a pedestrian bridge over Croy Creek. A firm request for city fund allocation would be made at the time of IDPR grant submission. See attached project description for further details.

**FISCAL IMPACT / PROJECT FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Budget Line Item # \_\_\_\_\_ Caselle # \_\_\_\_\_  
YTD Line Item Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated Hours Spent to Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY OTHER AFFECTED CITY DEPARTMENTS:** (IF APPLICABLE)

_____ City Attorney	_____ Clerk / Finance Director	_____ Engineer	_____ Building
_____ Library	_____ Planning	_____ Fire Dept.	_____
_____ Safety Committee	_____ P & Z Commission	_____ Police	_____
_____ Streets	_____ Public Works, Parks	_____ Mayor	_____

**RECOMMENDATION FROM APPLICABLE DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS/APPROVAL:**

City Administrator \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Head Attend Meeting (circle one) Yes No

**ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOW-UP:**

\*Ord./Res./Agmt./Order Originals: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Additional/Exceptional Originals to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Copies (all info.): \_\_\_\_\_ Copies  
Instrument # \_\_\_\_\_



## FRIEDMAN PRESERVE TRAIL SYSTEM Hailey, Idaho

### PROJECT FEATURES

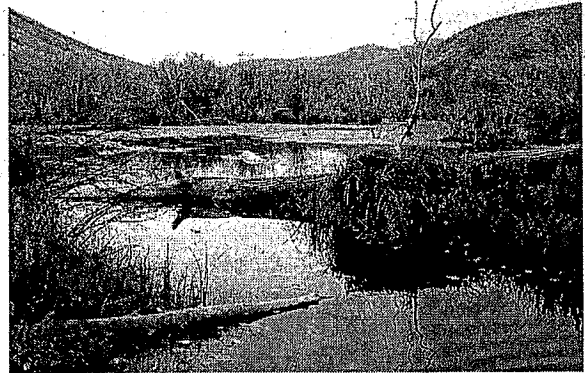
- 1.3 mile non-motorized single-track trail; would be constructed using hand tools and to standards for sustainable trails.
- Trail typically runs 10' to 50' above valley floor to the south of Croy Creek and its wetlands. Keeping the trail next to, but out of, sensitive riparian areas will allow users to connect with the resource without damaging it.
- Trail links existing community assets: Lions Park, the restored wetlands at the mouth of Croy Creek, and the Big Wood River.
- Interpretive value in native undisturbed hillsides and riparian areas; trails would allow birders better viewpoints from above the willows, and would allow angler access to the creek upstream.

### PROJECT NECESSITY

- The Wood River Valley remains under intense development pressure. As the number of residents continues to grow, more residents seek recreation opportunities in nearby lands. Creating a sustainable trail system will direct users to appropriate areas, rather than allowing users to make their own trails through areas best left undisturbed.

### PROJECT BENEFITS

- The community has identified the Big Wood River and its tributaries, including Croy Creek, as assets of great value. Croy Creek and its wetlands with mature willows provide valuable rearing and



spawning habitat for Big Wood fish, such as rainbow trout and sculpin. Connecting people to the land is critically important, and is as important as protection of the land.

- This trail will provide recreational trail access to natural areas in close proximity to the Big Wood River and two community parks and is within easy walking distance from downtown Hailey.
- Interpretive signs (wildlife, riparian area) will create educational opportunities

### PROJECT SCOPE

- Design and construct 1.3-mile single-track trail on the south side of Croy Creek along the toe of Della Mountain.
- Install small bridge across Croy Creek near the confluence of Croy Creek and the Big Wood River.
- Install trailhead signs, directional bollards, two interpretive signs and benches.







## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Hailey City Council  
**FROM:** Becky Stokes, Treasurer  
**RE:** **Group Health Insurance**

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In 2006, the Finance Department began researching options to help control health insurance costs with a desire to move towards "Consumer Driven Health Care," or CDHC. We determined the existing plan (\$100 deductible with \$1,000 Out-of-Pocket Max) was becoming too costly to sustain. Mark Newbold of Moloney + O'Neill was retained as our consultant, we moved to a \$500/\$2,000 program with an HRA/VEBA component of an annual funding of \$1,400 for employees. With our renewal cycle of April 1, 2008 we opted for a 9 month plan period, so our plan year would coincide with the calendar year.

This fall, all City employees completed a Health Questionnaire and other providers were given the opportunity to supply quotes. This served two purposes; to see what competitors were offering AND to determine if our existing carrier's rates (Regence Blue Shield) were competitive. Regence supplied an interesting concept (Innova) with a wellness component at a rate similar to our plan (6% increase). Only two other providers responded with quotes, only Blue Cross was of interest to the Benefits Committee. Not only were its premiums lower than our existing plans, but there is a \$500 wellness component and what some perceived to be a richer prescription aspect. A spreadsheet follows for more information.

In addition to evaluating our existing plan with others of the same basic benefit structure, we considered:

- a) partial self-funding of an increased deductible
- b) pursuing reduced dependant rates in an effort to make premiums more affordable for those interested
- c) finding premium savings to be used for increased benefits
- d) moving to a higher deductible and funding the HRA/VEBA with the difference to offset the increase.

Our recommendation to the Council is the Blue Cross \$500 Deductible. This choice involves "B" above and allows for premium savings to the City (based on 63 employees and only their premium) of \$39,000. This savings ("C") should be used for another benefit, such as vision, AD&D, Long-Term health care,.... Employees have commented on the high rates for dependant coverage; it is our hope that more dependants will be covered as a result of this change.

An option to be considered is a higher deductible with the difference funded in the employee's VEBA account ("D"). The increased VEBA can be retained for later events or used for costs incurred by dependants, whether or not they are on the City's policy. The increased deductible for dependants would be offset by savings on dependant rates, in the event of medical costs incurred by more than one in the family. For example, moving to a \$1,000 deductible and funding the VEBA accounts an additional \$500 each still allows for a savings of \$25,000. Please see the spreadsheet for further evaluation.

**CITY OF HAILEY GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE EVALUATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

		Regence Blue Shield			Blue Cross of Idaho			
		Existing	new rate	Innova 500	BC Preferred	BC Preferred	BC Preferred	BC Preferred
Co pay		0	0	20 co pay	30	30	30	30
<b>Employee</b>		<b>363</b>	<b>382.08</b>	<b>380.7</b>	<b>330.49</b>	<b>318.43</b>	<b>306.94</b>	<b>276.53</b>
Deductible		500	500	500/1500	500	750	1000	2000
		80/60	80/60	80/60/60	80/60	80/60	80/60	80/60
Coins		2000/3000	2000/3000	2500	1500	1500	1500	1500
RX		7/30/50	7/30/50	7/25/50	\$10/\$25/\$40	\$10/\$25/\$40	\$10/\$25/\$40	\$10/\$25/\$40
RX Max		none	none	4000 max	none	none	none	none
<b>RATES - ALL</b>								
Employee	63	363.00	382.08	380.70	330.49	318.43	306.94	276.53
Spouse	7	389.00	408.00	406.08	321.64	309.89	298.71	269.12
1 child	3	128.00	133.44	131.60	70.82	68.23	65.78	59.26
2 children	4	256.00	266.88	263.20				
3+ Children	2	384.00	400.32	394.80	292.13	281.46	271.31	244.42
total insured	87	Spouse+children		800.88	581.31	560.09	539.89	486.39
Estimated Monthly Total		27,768	29,196	29,064	24,061	23,183	22,346	20,132
Estimated Annual Total		333,216	350,346	348,766	288,730	278,196	268,152	241,584
<b>Estimated Annual Employer Savings (Compared with new rate)</b>					<b>39,002</b>	<b>48,119</b>	<b>56,806</b>	<b>79,796</b>
					11%	14%	16%	23%
<b>Estimated Annual Employer Savings (Compd with current rate)</b>					<b>24,578</b>	<b>33,695</b>	<b>42,381</b>	<b>65,371</b>
					7%	10%	13%	20%
<b>VEBA transfer with higher deductible (63 employees)</b>					-	15,750	31,500	94,500
<b>Savings less VEBA transfer</b>						<b>32,369</b>	<b>25,306</b>	<b>(14,704)</b>

**DEPENDANT SAVINGS WITH ABOVE PLANS**

Current dependant prem:	spouse	children	Prem RBS	BC500	BC750	BC1000	BC2000
125		1	2	62	65	67	73
256		2	4	(26)	(15)	(5)	22
384		3	6	105	119	129	155
389	1		2	87	98	109	139
517	1	1	3	149	135	173	213
773	1	3	7	194	217	238	295

**Premium savings offset by increased deductible:**

1 child	744	780	804	876
2+ children	(312)	(180)	(60)	264
Spouse	1,044	1,176	1,308	1,668