



## **East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail Project Redmond Segment**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

July 1, 2011

#### ***What is the East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail Project?***

The East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail project includes design and construction of an alternative, non-motorized transportation corridor and a multi-use recreational trail along 11 miles of the former Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad corridor on the east side of Lake Sammamish, from Redmond to Issaquah. King County purchased the corridor from BNSF in 1997, and in 2006, opened the existing interim use gravel trail to the public. King County Parks has spent more than ten years on master planning, design work and environmental review for this project, with ongoing involvement of a citizen's advisory group and in close coordination with the Cities of Redmond, Sammamish and Issaquah.

#### ***What is happening on the East Lake Sammamish Trail this spring?***

The East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail will be designed and constructed in phases, or segments, based on budget availability. On June 2, King County Parks began construction on the first segment of the master plan trail. This phase includes a two-mile segment in Redmond, from Northeast 70<sup>th</sup> Street to 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE as well as the installation of a 77-stall parking lot between NE 65<sup>th</sup> and NE 70<sup>th</sup> Streets.

#### ***How can I learn more about the East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail project?***

- A 24-hour project hotline, 1-888-668-4886, is available to provide updated information and to answer any questions about the construction project.
- A project website, [www.kingcounty.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail](http://www.kingcounty.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail), has been developed to provide detailed information about the project.
- Questions and comments can be directed to King County Parks' online feedback tool, [www.parksfeedback.com](http://www.parksfeedback.com). Construction updates will also appear on the King County Parks' blog, [www.kingcounty.gov/parksalerts](http://www.kingcounty.gov/parksalerts)
- Follow us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/iheartkcparks](http://www.facebook.com/iheartkcparks).

### ***Why is this development project needed?***

The East Lake Sammamish Trail is currently an 11-mile “missing link” in a 44-mile urban regional trail corridor that includes the Burke-Gilman Trail, the Sammamish River Trail, the Marymoor Connector Trail and the Issaquah-High Point Trail, linking Seattle to the Eastside and the Cascade foothills. When completed, the trail will provide greater access to recreation, employment, and retail in the cities of Redmond, Sammamish, and Issaquah and provide a multi-use path for bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, skaters and other visitors of all ages. The project will also complete the missing link in King County’s most heavily used non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor.



### ***How will the trail be improved?***

Safety and accessibility are primary goals. Development plans call for building a 12-foot-wide asphalt trail, installing 2-foot soft-surface shoulders on each side of the trail that walkers and runners can use, and enhancing intersection and crossing treatments. The project will improve the safety of the trail with a widened surface and soft-surface shoulders as well as enhanced traffic controls, sight distances and drainage. Additionally, the project includes construction of a 77-stall parking lot at NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street. The project utilizes the most up-to-date greenway design and engineering. Environmental improvements include wetland enhancements and fencing, slope stabilization, native landscaping and tree replanting.

### ***Will this section of trail be closed during construction?***

Yes. Safety is our primary consideration. Due to the extensive scope of construction work within the corridor and limited trail access, the two-mile-long trail segment will close to all trail users from NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street to 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. Closing the trail will allow these critical improvements to be done as quickly as possible and minimize the impacts to trail users.

### ***When will the trail be closed?***

The closure began June 2 and is scheduled to last for up to seven months. While this construction project presents a temporary inconvenience, please understand that the improvements we’re making to this section of the East Lake Sammamish Trail will benefit trail users for decades to come.

### ***Will there be a detour?***

A formal detour route has not been designated. Bicyclists may use the designated bicycle lane on East Lake Sammamish Parkway to navigate around the closed trail segment between NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street and 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. Please visit [www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/trails](http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/trails) to view a listing of the many other trail and park amenities available for your recreational enjoyment.

***How is this project being funded?***

Funding for the East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail Redmond Segment is provided by the 2008 – 2013, voter-approved Parks Expansion Levy (Proposition 2; August Primary Election 2007). These levy funds are dedicated exclusively to regional trail development and open space acquisition in King County. Parks Expansion Levy Funds are also being used to redevelop the two-mile section of the Burke-Gilman Trail through Lake Forest Park this summer.

*Thank you for your support!*

***What's next?***

The Issaquah Segment from SE 43<sup>rd</sup> Street to Gilman Boulevard is scheduled to be constructed beginning this fall. The Sammamish Segment is currently in the design phase with construction anticipated in 2012 and 2013.