



rails-to-trails
conservancy

National Headquarters
2121 Ward Court, NW, 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20037

tel 202.331.9696
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www.railstotrails.org

December 2014

Scott Walker, Transportation Planner
City of Billings
2825 3rd Avenue North
4th Floor
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Scott:

Congratulations! Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) is proud to recognize **The City of Billings** as a recipient of two **Eco-MULTI automatic trail use counters** valued at **\$5,250 each** for placement on Billings area trails as part of our Trail Modeling and Assessment Platform (T-MAP). Billings was selected due to your agency's notable efforts to monitor trail use, and the importance of Billings as a regional center for trails.

Through generous donations by our members and supporters, RTC created this national research program to build a platform of easy-to-use models and tools based on decades of research from transportation, economics, and public health that will empower trail managers and communities to systematically plan and make the case for complete trail systems. As part of T-MAP, RTC is establishing traffic monitoring stations on trails in 12 urban areas around the United States. Your counter will be one of these locations. In a time of limited resources, we believe measuring trail use is critical to managing and growing trail systems, and we recognize the importance of committed local organizations and public agencies in building successful trail monitoring programs.

You have indicated your organization's willingness and capacity to participate in this program. As discussed, the Eco-MULTI equipment will be used to continuously monitor bicycle and pedestrian traffic on two trails in Billings. The installation of the equipment involves two components – an infrared sensor located in a post adjacent to the trail, and a figure-eight style double-diamond cut into the trail surface to place a wire to form an induction loop.

To accept this grant, we ask that you agree to the conditions provided in Attachment A, which include partnering with RTC to promote T-MAP through your local/regional media outlets. Please see the attached fact sheet for a more comprehensive description of T-MAP.

Thank you for your efforts to help promote trail use and modern trail management. RTC hopes that this project will help us build truly useful tools to support trail development that provides more Billings residents with safe and pleasant places to walk, bike, run and skate.

Sincerely,

Tracy Hadden Loh
Director of Research





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Attachment A

The parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1. On or before February 1, 2014, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) will provide the City of Billings with two Eco-MULTI counters.
2. The counters will be installed on the Billings Heights Kiwanis Trail south of Wicks Lane and on the Descro Park Trail between Central Avenue and Broadwater Avenue by March 1, 2014 and shall remain in place until at least March 1, 2015.
3. The City of Billings assumes all risk and expense for the installation, presence, and maintenance of counter on the trail property.
4. The City of Billings shall bear sole responsibility for any damage sustained to the counter from theft, vandalism, act of God, or any cause whatsoever.
5. The City of Billings will promptly inform RTC of any removal of or damage to the counter.
6. The City of Billings and RTC will share all rights and access to data collected by the counter so long as the counter remains installed on the trail.
7. All parties may promote the data collection effort through local and national media outlets, websites and other means.

If the terms and conditions set forth above accurately reflect our understanding, please signify your approval by signing in the appropriate space below and returning one fully executed copy for our files.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

City of Billings Mayor Thomas Hanel

BY: _____

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

