



To: PARK BOARD

Agenda Item #: VI. B.

From: John Keprios, Director
Parks & Recreation Department

Action

Discussion

Date: December 11, 2012

Information

Subject: Off-Road Cycling Proposal – Braemar Park

Action Requested:

Staff requests that the Park Board approves in concept the off-road cycling proposal for the East Ridge (Gleason and Dewey Hill Road) of Braemar Park next to the Braemar Executive Golf Course. If the Park Board approves the proposal in concept, staff recommends that residents within 1,000 feet of the proposed trail be notified of the proposal. The notice will request their input and inform them that the proposal will be placed on the January Park Board agenda (or February agenda, if preferred) for public input and formal Park Board action.

If Park Board approves the concept after resident input, staff suggests that the City hire a professional trail consultant specializing in mountain bike trails to study the area and complete a preliminary trail design in the Braemar area and to provide cost estimates for construction. Funding for a professional trail consultant would come from the 2013 Parks and Recreation Department operating budget. Funding for a trail would be explored in 2013 including construction by volunteers, grant funding, and possibly the Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvement Plan and/or operating budget.

Information / Background:

Staff was contacted by two Edina residents, Richard Jahnke and Bruce Freeman about exploring the possibility of constructing mountain biking trails in Braemar Park. Mountain biking is a fun and exciting sport for families and participants of all ages and abilities and is quickly gaining popularity throughout the Twin Cities, Minnesota and the United States. A high school league has formed with teams competing across the metro area. The Edina High School team is in the planning stage. This trail could significantly contribute to their success.

In the metro area, we currently have the following trails:

- Theodore Wirth Off Road Cycling Trail (Minneapolis); 4.3 miles operated by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
- Elm Creek Park Reserve (Champlin); 14 miles operated by the Three Rivers Park District
- Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve (Savage); 11 miles operated by the Three Rivers Park District
- Lebanon Hills Regional Park (Eagan); 11 miles operated by Dakota County Parks

- Carver Lake Park (Woodbury); 5.5 miles operated by the City of Woodbury
- Salem Hills (Inver Grove Heights); 4.3 miles operated by the City of Inver Grove Heights
- MN River Bottoms (Bloomington); 11 miles operated by the City of Bloomington and DNR
- Battle Creek Regional Park (St. Paul); 10 miles operated by Ramsey County Parks

Braemar Park's East Ridge has outstanding terrain featuring multiple ridge lines that rival the best terrain at Lebanon Hills Regional Park in Eagan and Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve in Savage. If a trail were to be built, the trail system would need to be designed to not interfere with the golfers, dog walkers or neighbors. If it is determined that the East Ridge is not an acceptable location for an off-road cycling trail, the proponents of this proposal suggest that there is a suitable but less desirable location on the West Ridge of Braemar Park next to the South Metro Public Safety Training Facility that could be studied.

MORC

Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists (MORC) is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to safeguarding the future of mountain biking in Minnesota through the promotion of responsible riding, establishment and maintenance of mountain biking trails, and preservation of Minnesota's natural resources. MORC is a chapter of the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA). MORC Chair, Reed Smidt has visited the Braemar site and believes that this location would be a good location for a single track trail system. MORC's goal is to work with communities and/or land managers to build sustainable mountain bike trails that fit in the community and park and will be great assets for local residents for many years to come. MORC would not consider a trail project that doesn't meet the needs of the community, land manager or has a negative environmental impact.

Project Costs

The Braemar area has the potential for a 5 – 7 mile trail system. If built by professional contractors, the cost would be approximately \$3.00 per running foot or approximately \$15,000 to \$16,000 per mile. Total project costs, per MORC estimates, would be \$75,000 to \$100,000, if a professional trail designer was to be hired to do all of the work. Staff proposes to enlist volunteers and apply for grants for a significant portion of the funding. Reed Smidt will discuss how this concept worked in Woodbury in constructing the Carver Lake trail.

Reed Smidt, Bruce Freeman and Richard Jahnke will be making a presentation to the Park Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

- The Ridges at Braemar - Summary from Bruce Freeman and Richard Jahnke
- East Section Aerial Map
- Emails in Support of the Off-Road Cycling Proposal

The Ridges at Braemar

Mountain Biking Information for Edina Parks and Rec. Dept.

Mountain Biking is.....

Riding bikes on narrow single track dirt trails that wind up and down and all around every type of terrain.

A fun and exciting lifelong sport for families to ride together, have fun, and get fit.

A fast growing sport that has communities and park system building trail systems all across the metro and the state.

Wildly growing in popularity because its an outdoor active sport that is exciting, fast moving, a fantastic all body workout, and free once you have a bike.

Becoming a high school sport with teams competing across the metro area. Edina High School is planning on forming a team this spring and would love a local trail for practicing and training.

Mountain Biking is not....

Done on expensive paved trails, instead riders use narrow, one way single track dirt trails that are constructed at a fraction of the cost and require minimal upkeep.

Dangerous, as each rider chooses the speed and the challenge of every trail by the way they ride the trail

A sport that attracts the wrong kind of crowd. Most participants are middle aged males with money looking to get fit and have an exciting workout.

Why is Braemar such a great place for mountain biking?

The Ridges at Braemar will be built on fantastic, hard to come by hilly terrain featuring multiple ridgelines that is similar to the best terrain at Lebanon Hills in Eagan, and Murphy Hanrehan Park in Savage, two of the best trail systems in the metro area..

The trail system would access under utilized and seldom seen park property.

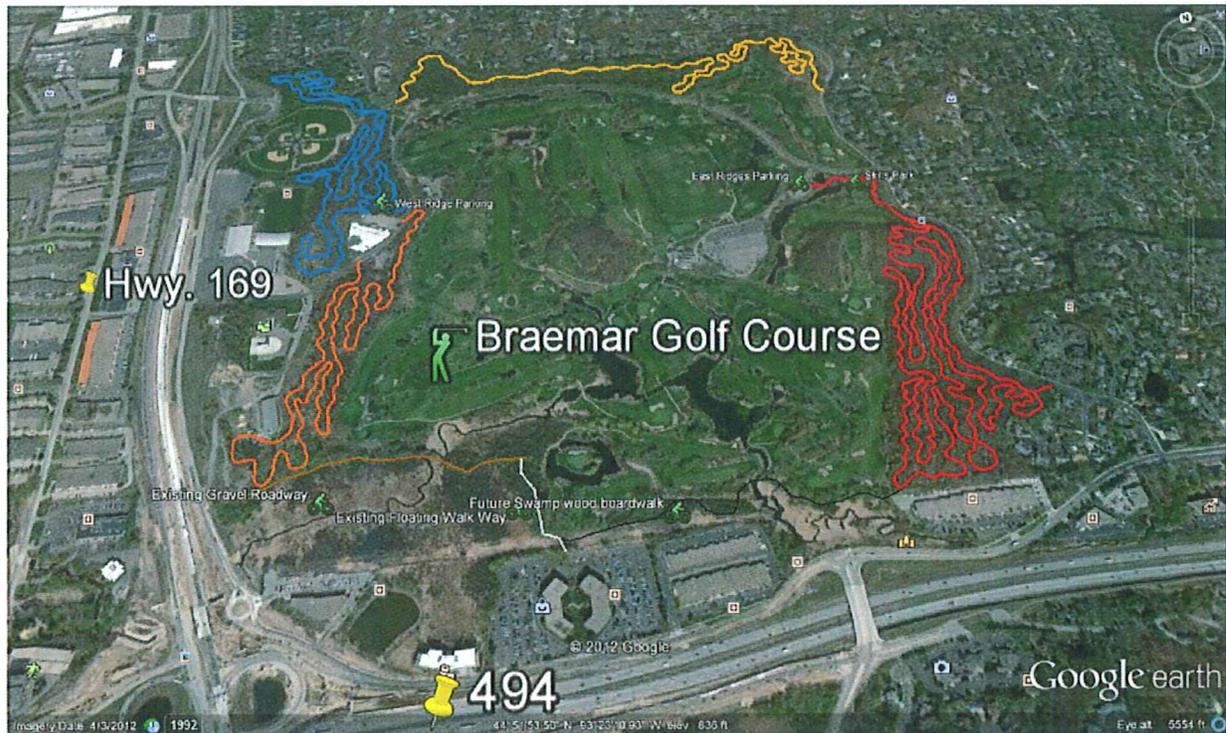
The Ridges at Braemar can offer trails designed for all skill levels, have great exciting long downhill runs and super scenic ridgeline runs that could make it one of the best riding spots in the metro.

A trail system easily fits into the park boundaries and works well with existing park users.

What is the big vision for the area?

The Ridges at Braemar if totally built in all possible areas could encircle Braemar Park with

3 trail sections, two connecting trails, and a skills park.



Note: This image represents the basic concept of the areas available for trails. It is not the final design. Nor do the narrow barely visible trails take up that much space.

The Park has wooded areas on all sides around the golf course that could be used for trails

The **East Side Ridge** runs along the golf course from Dewey Hill on the north, Gleason on the east and West 78th St on the south. Trail designers envision a stacked trail system with 4 skill levels with green beginner, blue intermediate, black advanced, and red expert. The trailhead could be the small parking lot on east side of golf course entrance. There would be a skills park on the flats just east of the parking lot that is very viewable from passing traffic.

The **West Side Ridges** run on both sides of Braemar Blvd from the baseball fields on the

north to the frontage road on the south, the golf course on the east and the ice arena and training center and utility city shed on the west. An advantage of the west ridge area is its lack of residential neighbors.

Ideally the east and west ridge sections would be connected with a two way route on the

south side that uses an existing gravel roadway and plastic floating boardwalk for most of the distance and a new winding wood boardwalk through wooded marsh area for the remainder of the distance.

The smallest potential area for trails is on **the North Side** of the park and would wind around the northernmost part of the executive par 3 golf course. It could also connect the east and west side ridges.

The project could be built in phases over a few years or it could just as easily be built in its

entirety in a few months time once it was approved.

Who is supporting this effort?

Edina Citizens. See their support with e-mails and meeting attendance. Supporters of the trail would also provide extensive volunteer labor to reduce the cost and form the core of the long term maintenance crew

MORC Minnesotans for Off Road Cycling. MORC has been in the leadership role of developing the majority of trail systems across the metro. The President of MORC,

Reed Smidt will be part of the presentation team and be handling the question and answer session.

Edina High School Bike Club. Riders and coaches are trying to get the club organized

and competing against other high schools. Young people involved in the sport will be part of the presentation team.

Trail designers and trail contractors of Cuyuna Trails in Crosby MN. The top rated trail in the Minnesota. A huge success story in revitalizing the local area. Tim Wegner, the co-lead designer of Cuyuna will be part of the presentation team.

How would the trail system get made?

Trails are either constructed by professional trail designers and contractors, or large groups of volunteers and/or a combination of the two.

The costs if built by professional contractors are approx. \$3.00+ - per running foot or approximately \$15,000 to \$16,000 per mile.

We envision the total trail system to be 5 to 7 miles long, so approx. \$75,000 to \$100,000

if fully funded by the city for a professional trail designer to come in and do %100 of the work.

We would like to use the City of Woodbury's experience in building a very similar size trail

system, Carver Lake, and their trail within a small park area that already had many different users and closeby residential neighbors. By being open and cooperative with residential neighbors, writing successful federal matching fund grants for recreational trail building, tapping into non-profits like the Tree Trust and the many biking community volunteers, and critically having a strong advocate and project manager in the park and rec dept., the final hard city cost was a small fraction of the original cost estimate that is similar to ours

We know that the city has already released its 2 year capital expenditures report which doesn't include mountain biking, although there is money for biking in general, but we still think the city could easily move ahead in 4 areas:

1. Authorize Initial Trail Design

Authorize a fee for initial trail design of the entire area after the Commission selects a designer from an open bid process. This will include a close inspection of the entire terrain that can be used for trails and making an inventory of the area.

2. Begin talking with other park users and neighbors about project.

Whatever is normally done when considering a new project.

3. Get bids on construction cost.

Once trail design is complete, get cost bids on project using normal methods of selecting contractors on any city project

4. Appoint someone in Parks and Rec. Dept to be in charge of project.

So that all the various people involved in the project can work together, develop action plan and start grant writing.

In the metro area here is what other communities are doing

Minneapolis	Theodore Wirth 6 miles blue trails with a black cutoff to skills area..
Eagan	Lebanon Hills 12 miles green, blue, black and red stacked trail system. Skills training park. Parking Lot with bathrooms and changing rooms.
Savage	Murphy Hammerhan Has some ridge sections similar to Braemar. Part of a huge park system.
Woodbury Edina	Carver Lake A great example of what we could accomplish in with very limited space and multiple park users and intimate neighborhood input.
Elk River	Hillside
Champlin	Elm Creek

Burnsville	Salem Hills
Bloomington	River Bottoms
St. Paul	Battle Creek
Chaska	Oaks

Metro Cities and Park Systems have constructed numerous mountain biking trail parks across the twin cities seven county area .

Mountain Biking trail systems have minimal impact on the natural environment. The trails are designed to become a natural part of the environment. A good one is kinda like a slightly larger deer trail that follows the natural topography of the area and is partially hidden from view from all the foliage. The fun and exciting trails bring new people into the park, especially rarely visited areas that many people don't even know exist. Initial costs are very low, and can easily be combined with federal grant money and volunteer efforts to be a shining example of prudent uses of community resources. Maintenance requirements are minimal and mostly done by the local biking community.

Mountain Biking is a fantastic way to stay healthy. Not only does it provide a robust cardio workout and turns your legs into steel, it tightens up your core, strengthens your back, and improves your balance and fine motor skills. Plus it is so much fun. People love riding the trails, being outdoors, losing themselves in the joy of the moment, and experiencing the pure exhilaration of movement and athleticism that is mountain biking.

We would also like to incorporate buckthorn removal efforts during the trail building. The existing environmental situation is quite bad in that almost the entire area is being completely overrun by buckthorn so as the existing oaks, poplar and other trees die out, there are no new young trees to replace them, so eventually there will be only buckthorn left. Our clearing crew volunteers can clear huge areas if the city can help provide removal of cut trees from the site. These buckthorn removal efforts could be concentrated along the ridge tops to create stunning views from the new trails of the golf course, and the surrounding parklands. A rare elevated panoramic view in Edina Parks.

Now is the perfect time to get started on a exciting natural addition to the city's Park System, a first class mountain biking trail system that uses seldom visited parkland, begins serious restoration of our magnificent oak forests, and offers proven health benefits to all ages.

Behind this project is a large group of enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and entrepreneurial minded supporters who know how to get things done and want to cut the cities hard cost to a minimum, yet provide residents with a first class but very inexpensive long

term asset that can dramatically improve participants overall health, vitality, and simple happiness..

Reference Material

We believe that Woodbury's experience in designing and building Carver Lake mountain biking trails is the perfect match for our effort to build a trail system around Braemar Park. Reed Smidt was that critical leader in the Woodbury Parks and Rec dept, that wrote the grant, worked with all the different players, and monitored the daily construction. He will be our featured speaker at the presentation.

You Tube Videos "Cuyuna Mtn Biking" "Lebanon Hills mtn biking" "Theo Wirth mtn biking", "Carver Lake mtn biking"

Every mtn biking place in minnesota has a Go Pro Helmet cam ride of the trail system plus endless more videos of every place in the metro and outstate mn

Trail Maps: Cuyuna, Theodore Wirth, Lebanon Hills, Carver Lake. etc.

Topographical Map of Area with a preliminary layout of a possible trail system.

Google Earth Overview Marked for Parking, possible trail outline and color coded for phase I, II, and III

Site Info and pictures Oak Savanna totally overrun with buckthorn, Soil glacial moraine. Existing walking trail system running down ridgelines that are rarely used.

Open Invitation to walk the terrain and ride other cities trail system.

Invitation to all members of the board to go riding and see what the excitement is all about. We provide bikes as needed and a tour of any of the great trail systems around the metro so you could really understand the idea better and realize the Braemar area's potential to become a premier training ground for our high school student athletes. Also just to walk the seldom seen terrain that is so special but needs saving from buckthorn.

East Section

DATE: 10/15/08
DRAWN BY: J. L. BROWN



**BRAEMAR PARK - Draft Trail
Edina, MN
Layout**

BRAEMAR MOUNTAIN BIKING (As of December 6, 2012)

From: Sagel, Jeremiah [mailto:jeremiah_s_sagel@uhg.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2012 9:21 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Ridges at Braemar

Hi there

I am an Edina resident and fully support the Ridges at Braemar mountain bike trails. It will only bring our community into the future. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the meeting next week.

Regards
Jeremiah

Jeremiah Sagel
Project and Development Services | Jones Lang LaSalle
Real Estate Services | UnitedHealth Group Account
9900 Bren Road | Minnetonka, MN 55343
+1.952.936.7161 Office | +1.952.288.5056 Mobile
jeremiah_s_sagel@uhg.com

From: Jm [<mailto:jmahoney1995@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 9:10 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Trails in Edina

This idea has my full support!

Sincerely,
Jim Mahoney
4201 w 42nd St

From: Scott Shore <scott@luredesign.net>
Date: December 5, 2012, 4:26:08 PM CST
To: <AKattreh@edinaMN.gov>
Subject: Mountain Bike Trail at Braemar

I would like to voice my strong support for the new proposed mountain bike trail at Braemar. Having grown up in Edina and being an avid mountain biker, I can tell you from lots of first

hand experience that the community of mountain bikes in the twin cities is a large and overwhelmingly responsible group of men, women and kids.

Thanks,

Scott Shore

Lure Design
Studio 355
1500 Jackson St NE, Box 176
Mpls, MN 55413
612.339.0010

www.luredesign.net

-----Original Message-----

From: David Simmer [<mailto:david@simmerdesigns.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 3:41 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Proposed Braemar MTB trail: yes!

As a nearby resident, I'm enthusiastically in support of the proposed mountain biking trail idea around the Braemar golf course area, and would love to know what I can do to encourage and further the project.

Thanks

David Simmer
david@simmerdesigns.com
952/200-6071

From: Ed Mathie [<mailto:emathie@designcue.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 2:54 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Mountain Bike Trail Plan

I'm unable to attend the Park Board meeting on Dec. 11th, so I wanted to lend my support via email.

I've lived in Edina for 20 years and welcome this smart use of tax dollars.

Edina has mountain bike riders, we just need trails.

I've lived in the Morningside neighborhood for 20 years. For the past ten we've organized the Morningside Athletic Club (MAC). For the past five years we've taken a group of adult and teen mountain bike riders (25 last year) to compete in the Chequamegon Fat Tire race in

Hayward/Cable Wisconsin. We all try to train during the year for the event but need to go to Wirth, Lebanon Hills, or Murphy Hanrahan to access trails. It would be great to have local trails to grow this great family activity in Edina. Here is a picture of the MAC team at the event.



Thanks for pushing this project ahead. Let me know if the MAC (now about 200 members) can help make this happen.

best,

Ed Mathie
4239 Grimes Ave. S
Edina, MN
952-212-0491

From: fjosephmayer@gmail.com [<mailto:fjosephmayer@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Fred Mayer
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 2:44 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: support for trail project

Greetings. I'm writing to communicate my support for the proposed trail system near Braemar golf course. I am a 15-year resident of Southwest Minneapolis and have lived on the border with Edina that entire time. I am a regular cyclist (commuter) and I appreciate the efforts Minneapolis and Edina have made to make the area more bike friendly. I believe a project like this will be a major asset for the city, both in terms of quality of life (by extending recreational opportunities) and in terms of the economy (since cyclists generally tend to be a moderate affluent group who will spend money at nearby restaurants and businesses).

Thank you for considering my comments.

Fred Mayer

5017 Russell Avenue South
Minneapolis MN 55410

612.386.7538

From: Thomsen, Kai [<mailto:Kai.Thomsen@cassidyturley.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 2:07 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Support for the proposed Braemar mountain biking trail

As a lifelong Edina resident I just heard of the proposed mountain biking trails at Braemar. What a fantastic idea! I'm going to try to make it to the meeting on the 11th, but if I can't please count this residents vote as a very enthusiastic yes.

Kai Thomsen
Vice President
Cassidy Turley
200 South 6th Street, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, MN 55402

T 612-347-9318 F 612-347-9389
Kai.Thomsen@cassidyturley.com www.cassidyturley.com

**Cassidy
Turley** Commercial
Real Estate Services

From: Steven Yore [<mailto:steven.yore@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2012 3:35 PM

To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Edina Mountain biking

Hello,
I deeply support the addition of mountain biking at the proposed "The ridges of Braemar."
It would open up terrain and opportunities in a metro area that is really lacking in good mountain biking.
Please begin the design process and look at funding options (even trail passes to be purchased by users would be great!)
Thanks for your consideration.
Steve Yore.

From: <giovi@q.com>
Date: December 3, 2012, 6:01:02 PM CST
To: <akattreh@edinaMN.gov>
Subject: Mtn bike trails at Braemar

I'm writing in support of the trails which I think is a great idea. We do not have any organized/maintained trails in the surrounding area. The new trails in Crosby MN opened a year or so ago and are proving highly popular. My son and I rode there last summer and were surprised by the numbers of families enjoying the trails.

Best,

Rick Giovannetti

From: Sean Epp [<mailto:sepp@midwest-dental.com>]
Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2012 11:14 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Jess Ford; Cate Ford
Subject: Proposed Mountain Bike Trails - The Ridges at Braemar
Importance: High

To whom it may concern,

The prospect of new trails surrounding Braemar is very exciting. As a long-time supporter of groups like MORC and IMBA I can attest to the quality, thoughtfulness, success, and sustainability of their designs and maintenance.

Having grown up in Bloomington and ridden the River Bottoms since the '80s, I've had a front row seat to the evolution of the sport locally. Awesome exercise for families and participants of all ages and skill levels.

This would be a wonderful asset for the City of Edina and certainly appreciated among cyclists metro-wide. It would be fantastic to have additional options inside the 94 beltway as we really only have Theo Wirth right now. I would happily pick up a shovel and move dirt for this project.

Thanks for your consideration.

Best,

Sean Epp
Long-Time MORC/IMBA Member
1667 Virginia Ave. S.
SLP, MN 55426

Sean Epp | Managing Director, Development
Midwest Dental Support Center
680 Hehli Way | Mondovi, WI 54755
Direct: (715) 579-4188 | Fax: (715) 318-0790



From: Paul Lorinser [<mailto:plorinser@me.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 9:43 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Mountain Bike Trails at Braemer

Hello...

I'm emailing you to express my support for the development of mountain bike trails at Braemer Park. I use all the trail systems around the metro and would love a new system close to home. One that requires only a couple minutes bike ride to reach. Instead of having to drive a car.

Thanks...
Paul Lorinser

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Sent from my iPhone

From: Joel Beach [<mailto:292beach@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 7:48 PM

To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Mountain bike trail

I would help support a mountain bike trail in Edina.

Joel Beach

From: David.M.DeAlwis@wellsfargo.com [<mailto:David.M.DeAlwis@wellsfargo.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 3:41 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: New mountain bike trail in Edina

To whom it may concern,

I am email you to let you know that I am in full support of a mountain bike trail in Edina. I think this would be a great addition to the city.

Thank you,

David de Alwis

AVP/Commercial Card Account Manager
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MAC N9311-100
Tel 612-667-9979 | Fax 866-359-1874
david.m.dealwis@wellsfargo.com

For CCER navigation and/or billing questions, please call **1-800-932-0036 # 2**

From: bboyd01@gmail.com [<mailto:bboyd01@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Brad Boyd
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 3:17 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Edina MTB trail support

To whom it may concern:

I just discovered, via the Minnesota Off Road Cyclists website (of which I'm a member and sponsor) that Edina is considering developing mountain bike trails at Braemar. I am writing this email in strong support of any and all initiatives of Edina to build or develop mountain bike trails within the City.

Not only am I an Edina resident, but I'm an avid cyclist. In addition to my career as an attorney, I own and operate a company that focuses on cycling events and advocacy, called Ride Enterprises, LLC. We run the Fatbike Frozen Forty (Frozen40.com) which is a winter fatbike race. The race is currently held at Elm Creek Park in Maple Grove, but if a trail is developed in Edina I would consider supporting it (and the community) by organizing a race or event at the Edina trail.

While Edina is becoming increasingly bike-friendly, not having a mountain bike trail means Edina residents (and residents from all the neighboring communities) bypass Edina for mountain bike trails in Bloomington, Savage, Woodbury, Minneapolis, Maple Grove, and Eagan. I am one such cyclist, and I am not alone.

I would strongly support a mountain bike trail in Edina. Please consider this my letter of support.

Cordially,

Brad Boyd

--

Brad Boyd, President

Ride Enterprises, LLC
www.RideEnterprises.com

From: Jim M [<mailto:gingerdawg@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 1:03 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: mountain bike trail at Braemar

Very Excited to see Edina is considering a Mountain Bike Trail around Braemar! I cannot attend the meeting, but I am in full support.

Thank You,
Jim Myers

--

I'm doing it again, I'll be Riding 100 miles with Eric in the JDRF Ride To Cure Diabetes in La Crosse WI in August. [click here to donate](#)

From: Charles Kim [<mailto:ckim10@umphysicians.umn.edu>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 12:45 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Bike trail proposal

Dear Sir or Madam,

I currently live at 7104 Valley View in Edina and would enthusiastically support the addition of the bike trails in the Braemar area. Supporting more healthy and active hobbies that could be shared with families and friends to help stave off the apathy and obesity of the younger generation. If we could create concession stands, picnic areas and possibly even a structure to lease out to a bike repair / sales shop, it might help defray some of the cost of the project in the long term.

I will be unable to attend the December 11th meeting due to a work commitment, but this project has my wholehearted support.

Thanks,
Charles Kim

From: Matt Marks [<mailto:mvm5mvm5@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 12:28 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Edina Trail Support

To whom it may concern,

I am just emailing to express my support of the proposed Edina MTB trails and to mention that I would be a weekly (or daily) user of the trails and would be happy to help the MORC crew in building the trails. I think it is a great, productive, constructive, and healthy hobby... and would be great if more people in the Twin Cities found interest in it.

Matt Marks
Saint Louis Park Resident

From: John Mette [mailto:jhm_home@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 12:23 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Edina MTB Trail

Hello,

I am excited to hear about the plans for a new MTB trail in your city. I am a resident of Minnetonka and drive through Edina every day. It would be great to have an opportunity to ride so close to home. The people involved with the planning are top notch and will guarantee a sustainable and exciting trail.

This would also support the new state High school MTB programs. Edina is sure to be a top contender with a trail like this in their own backyard.

Best regards,
John Mette

From: Chris O'Brien [<mailto:Chris.O'Brien@chrobinson.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 11:23 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Mountainbike trails in Edina

I can not be at the meeting on this subject, but I would very much support public funds and support for Mountain Bike Trails in Edina at Braemar.

I am an Edina resident and I have a group of 7 or 8 other Edina friends and we ride every week. There are many riders in this community. Today we drive all over to other suburbs to ride.

Thanks,

Chris O'Brien
4713 Townes Road
Edina

From: Joshua Kleve [<mailto:joshua@minnesotamt.org>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 10:04 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Braemar Bike Trails

Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the meeting for the Braemar trails but I strongly support the project. While there may be concerns surrounding some of the details, it has been proven they can be overcome with proper planning and having the right people involved. Organizations like the Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists (MORC) and the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) have shown the repeated ability to build sustainable trails in all environments. With their support and guidance, Edina could have a national caliber bike trail. Great examples of their work include the recent additions to Lebanon Hills and Elm Creek Park Reserve.

--
Joshua Kleve
Founding Member
Building strong minds and bodies through cycling
Cell 612-481-4081

www.minnesotamt.org



National Interscholastic
Cycling Association

From: Gregg Stenzel [<mailto:gregg.stenzel@imricor.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 9:13 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: MTB Trail Support

I am providing this email as support for the proposed trail near Braemar golf course. As an avid mountain biker with 3 sons (2 who love to ride), it would fantastic to have a family trail system near the western suburbs!!!!

Thank you!!!

Gregg Stenzel
VP of Operations

From: Jesse Fackert [<mailto:JFackert@gksservices.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 9:12 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: I Support Mountain Biking in Edina!!!

I will not be able to attend the Edina Park Board Meeting on the 11th but I want to express my support for this project. As a family man and avid biker, I think this location would be a wonderful addition to the incredible trails we are fortunate to ride in the Twin Cities.

Thank you,
Jesse Fackert
IMBA Member

From: Kaveh Rahimi [<mailto:kjrahimi@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2012 8:44 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Edina Mountain Bike Trails

Edina Park Board:

Good morning. My name is Kaveh Rahimi and I'm a resident of NE Minneapolis. A good friend brought to my attention the flyer about the proposed new mountain bike trails in Edina surrounding Braemar Golf Course, scheduled for Dec 11th. I won't be able to make it to the meeting but I'm writing to show my support for this project. The more mountain bike trails, with varying degrees of difficulty, can only help keep this community of the Twin Cities on a path to a healthier lifestyle. I have been in the cycling industry/community for 16 years; thus I also think these new trails are great idea from personal standpoint as well. I hope that this email will help push this project forward to becoming a reality.

Thanks for your time and have a good day.

Sincerely,
Kaveh Rahimi

From: William O'Reilly [<mailto:williamoreilly@me.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 10:53 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: off road cycling

I heard about this proposal and I heartily support the project. Off road cycling is a sustainable, family friendly activity. The trail building methods used today have made sure that the environment isn't harmed while still giving riders challenging courses. A check with the communities that have built them, along with 3RPD, will certainly get positive feedback. Thanks for considering this and good luck.

Bill O'Reilly

From: Kyia Anderson [<mailto:kyiabikes@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 9:37 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: Trail Proposal for Braemar

To Whom it May Concern:

Our family stays at a hotel in the area for business purposes multiple times per month and would find the addition of a mountain bike trail a significant amenity. We prefer to stay in areas with good family based recreational opportunities when on the road.

I encourage you to be proactive in developing trails for a great lifetime sport for all ages. This will benefit not only citizens but business in the area as well. Please approve this proposal.

Best regards,
The Anderson Family
St. Cloud MN

From: Jan Bjork [<mailto:jeb7930@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 7:10 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: The Ridges at Braemar!

This is a fantastic idea! I live very close and will use it lots.

Please support this project!

Thank You!
Jan Bjork
7930 Rhode Island Circle
Bloomington, MN 55438
612-916-5007

From: Luke Fiore [<mailto:ljf0106@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:57 PM

To: Ann Kattreh

Subject: Braemar mountain biking

I am in full support of the proposed mountain bike trails at Braemar. There are numerous trails around the metro (and thru out Mn) but few in the western metro suburbs. MORC does alot of trail building and sustainability. The Lebanon Hills and Cuyuna projects have been a huge success and bring alot of people and thier money to the area! It would be great if the trail comes to fruition and is open year round!