

DATE: April 21, 2023
TO: City Manager's Office and City Council
FROM: Phil Fleischmann, Director
SUBJECT: Invitation to NC Year of the Trail Campaign Opportunities

2023 is being recognized statewide as the Year of the Trail. On January 3, 2023, City Council proclaimed its support for this designation here in Greensboro. The NC Year of the Trail campaign aims to showcase and celebrate North Carolina's trails, encouraging ongoing participation, investment, and development. The campaign celebrates the vast and diverse collection of trails that are available and encourages everyone to recognize their role as champions of these special resources.

Select Year of the Trail goals include:

- Inspire people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to try trails.
- Demonstrate the importance of trails to elected officials.
- Boost outdoor recreation tourism across the state through Year of the Trail events in all 100 counties.
- Promote safe and responsible use of trails, with the Outdoor NC Principles.
- Advance diversity and inclusion on trails across North Carolina.
- Acknowledge the role of volunteers in building and maintaining trails.

For the month of May, Parks and Recreation invites City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, and the City Manager's Office to participate in Year of the Trail hikes / walks. The opportunities available are noted below. To sign up, please visit [this link](#). Eight participants will be the maximum per outing and no more than three elected officials will be able to sign up for a specific program, excluding the public event of Wheels on the Greenway. Further details for each outing will be sent to each individual who signs up.

- Wednesday, May 3rd at 5 pm: **Bald Eagle Trail hike** led by Elizabeth Jernigan, Trails Planner, with additional guests to teach about trail development, economic benefits of trails, and importance of partners, construction, maintenance, and safety. Participants are welcome to stay to learn about the Greensboro Beginner Mountain Bike Experience at 6 pm following the hike.
- Saturday, May 6th from 9 am-12 noon: **8th Annual Wheels on the Greenway**. Bring your wheels out for this annual Greensboro tradition along the Downtown Greenway! Families, children and all local residents are invited to join the fun on Saturday, May 6 from 9 am – 12 noon. The main event will take place at our Innovation Cornerstone, Woven Works Park, located at the corner of Murrow Boulevard and Lindsay Street – in addition to engagement opportunities happening further south along the Downtown Greenway's Eastern Trace section. Community partners will offer interactive activities, safe cycling education, bicycle repair stations, adaptive cycle demos, a kids bike rodeo,



equipment giveaways, guided rides along the 4-mile loop, prizes and more! This event is sure to be fun for the entire family and we welcome wheels of all kinds – bikes, trikes, scooters, strollers, skateboards, rollerblades and skates!

- Monday, May 15th at 9 am: **Nat Greene Trail hike** led by Elizabeth Jernigan, Trails Planner, with additional guest to teach about trail development, economic benefits of trails, and importance of partners, construction, maintenance, and safety.
- Saturday, May 20th at 10 am: **Gateway Gardens and Barber Park walk** led by Park Operations staff to learn about opportunities available at these venues, the Greensboro Community Bike Shop based at Barber Park, and future connectivity in East Greensboro.
- Wednesday, May 24th at 2 pm: Portion of **Downtown Greenway walking tour** led by Chelsea Phipps, Greenway & Gardens Program Coordinator to learn about the art, history, and connectivity of the Downtown Greenway.

Parks and Recreation looks forward to seeing you on the trail in May!