

Pullman Civic Trust Newsletter

Spring 2004

City to Request Bids on June 1st

We are all eager to see the Downtown Pullman Riverwalk built and ready to use. The City of Pullman has been working on bridge designs and structural engineering since funding was completed last fall. Mark Workman, Director of Public Works, tells us, "We are finalizing the bridge designs and details for raising the bridges (during flooding). We will target going out to bid for one contractor for the bridges, the path and the Pine Street Plaza on June 1st. This translates to a mid-July notice to proceed," said Mr. Workman. A conservative timeline for completion of the basic trail will be spring 2005.

Budget Update - Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Donors!

Initial estimates for the project were at \$850,000. Funding includes: \$202,434 from the previous Greenway Bond Levy; \$340,000 from the Riverwalk IAC grant (Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation); \$107,222 reimbursement for an IAC '98 project; and over \$375,000 collected or pledged from private donors for a total of \$1,024,656. Workman said, "Until better estimates or bids for the bridges come in, we are uncertain what the exact cost will be. Due to the recent increase in the price of steel, the bridges may cost more than we anticipated."

Pine Street Plaza to include larger trees, benches



Concept drawing by Barbara Ryder



Concept drawings by Barbara Ryder

Over the next year, there will be a transformation of the space between the new Bridgeway Building and the building with Ken Vogel Clothing along Main Street. The abandonment of traffic in this small section of Pine Street signals the start of Pine Street Plaza, a peaceful spot in the center of downtown for you to sit and chat, have lunch or watch people coming and going to the Riverwalk. Imagine weathered cobblestones in a classic fan- shape pattern as the pavement, large sweet gum trees placed within the plaza, a drinking fountain for urban passer-bys, bike racks and seating for chess players or outdoor eating under the trees. A focal bench provided by the Breast Cancer Support

If you dream about more trees in our city, areas for pedestrians to enjoy, a welcoming look to Main and Grand Streets, cleaner rivers, or access to the trails already in place, we invite you to join us. Discover how your voice can make a difference in improving the quality of life in Pullman!

Group of the Palouse and a specially designed, decorative iron divider with water trickling over it, will separate and calm those seeking peace from Main Street bustle. Diners at the new eatery in the Bridgeway Building, Taco Del Mar, will share the plaza during fair weather for outdoor dining. Pine Street Bridge to Have Viewing Platform

A special "bump out" platform in the middle of the Pine Street Bridge is being designed to allow people to stand on this bridge in a safe spot and observe fish or other wildlife in the river below. Neat!

Waterfall and Donor Wall to Grace the Trail

How will generous donors of \$250 or more be recognized on the Riverwalk trail? Designers are creating a focal point for the donor wall that integrates bench seating with a basalt waterfall near the Pine Street Bridge. (See design to left). Trail users, children, and even dogs can enjoy the bubbling flow of water tumbling into a series of basins. A fine mist will cool walkers, bicyclists, rollerbladers and wheel-chair users on hot summer days. Those who need a rest can sit on the sculpted benches flanking each side of this fountain. People may stop and view the donors' names on metal plaques placed at eye level along the top edge of the benches. Many thanks for all your donations!

Opportunity to Donate and Name a Bench

Are you interested in donating a bench to be placed along the Riverwalk in honor of someone? There are a limited number of opportunities to name a bench. The cost is \$2,500 and includes the Victorian style bench, a commemorative plaque, installation and maintenance. Contact Nancy Mack at 509-332-6252 if you are interested in this.

Additional donations to the Riverwalk continue to be accepted. Send in your check, payable to the "WSU Foundation," and note "Downtown Riverwalk" on the lower left. Mail to: WSU Foundation, PO Box 644102, Pullman, WA 99164. Your gifts to the Riverwalk are tax deductible and, through the Foundation, qualify for WSU award recognition. Donors of \$250 or more will have their names added to the permanent donor wall.

PCT Co-Sponsors Exhibit of WSU Student Architecture Work

The Pullman Civic Trust, in co-sponsorship with the WSU School of Architecture, is displaying ten student concepts for masonry buildings that could be built in our downtown. The buildings would house students above and commercial businesses below. Developers will gain insights into how to attract more students to live in the downtown, thus generating more foot traffic for our businesses. Stop by and visit this exhibit through April 30th at Neill Public Library during regular library hours. Special feature! You are invited to vote for three designs you like the best. The winner will be awarded \$50 from the Pullman Chamber of Commerce and another \$50 from the Civic Trust. Thanks to Lori, Loretta and Nancy for helping install this display under the thoughtful direction of WSU Professor Mike Owen.