

Contact:
Nathan McLeod, Parks & Trails Design/Development
mcleodn@ci.missoula.mt.us
(406) 552-6261

600 Clegg Lane
Missoula, MT 59801
www.missoulaparks.org



MISSOULA PARKS AND RECREATION PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release through December 21

Residents invited to envision future of Marshall Mountain Park

Missoula Parks and Recreation invites residents to share their ideas for the future of Marshall Mountain Park via a brief, online [public comment questionnaire](#) through December 21.

The questionnaire, posted at www.engagemissoula.com, is part of an extensive public process to develop a shared community vision and master plan for the park. The community vision identifies residents' common values, principles, and opinions regarding Marshall Mountain Park's development and management.

Following the community visioning process, the City will engage a design consultant team to develop a master plan for the property, including phased implementation strategies. Pending a successful acquisition process, improvements could begin as soon as Spring 2023. Phasing will depend on public process outcomes and available funding.

The master park plan will also include a feasibility study and operational business plan to ensure that the proposed program is physically and financially feasible and to determine the best structure for operating and maintaining Marshall Mountain Park into the future.

Marshall Mountain Park, located at 5250 Marshall Canyon Dr., is open to the public thanks to a generous arrangement with current property owners Izzy Dog, LLC. The City of Missoula has leased the 160-acre property at the base of the former Marshall Mountain ski area for the next 18 to 24 months.

At the end of the lease period, the City of Missoula will have the option to purchase the Marshall Mountain Base Area Property for \$1,850,000. The acquisition will be subject to the standard City open space acquisition processes, including a public process with numerous citizen engagement opportunities, culminating with a City Council vote. Potential funding sources may include but are not limited to grants, donations, public/private partnerships, and 2018 City-County Open Space bond funds.

The City is working with several community partners, including the neighboring communities of East Missoula and Bonner/Milltown, Missoula County, Five Valleys Land Trust and MTB Missoula to secure this area for future generations.

The [Engage Missoula site](#) includes a "virtual tour" video of the project area, draft guiding principles, park rules and trail maps, plus detailed site inventory maps and images. Please complete the questionnaire by December 21.

For more information, email Nathan McLeod at Missoula Parks and Recreation, mcleodn@ci.missoula.mt.us or phone 721-PARK (7275.)

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