

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Master Plan approved for new bike park in Rattlesnake**

Syringa Park, an undeveloped County park in the upper Rattlesnake, may soon be home to a “pump track”, a few “jump lines” and even some “slopestyle” features, according to the new master park plan recently adopted by the Missoula Parks and Recreation Board. The park has been designed as a bike park, which includes topographical and man-made elements specifically designed for off-road or mountain biking.

The master plan was developed with neighborhood residents and the cycling community through an extensive public process and was approved by the Park Board in October. Parks planning staff also consulted with the International Mountain Biking Association’s Trail Solutions Program to help design the park’s bike skills elements. The plan includes features for beginning to advanced cyclists of all ages, a shade shelter with picnic tables and walking paths.

Other park highlights include:

- A progressive bike skills layout which allows riders to progress through the park, with easy-to-access beginner features moving outward toward more challenging features.
- A beginner’s pump track, a continuous loop of hills and berms which allows cyclists to perfect their riding skills.
- A progressive jump zone for mountain bike and BMX riders of all skill levels.
- Intermediate and advanced jump lines to provide non-linear, varied options and routes for riders.
- A bicycle work station with basic bike repair tools available for public use.
- A perimeter walking path, landscaping and water fountain. Several restroom options are addressed in the plan.

The master park plan provides a basis for possible funding allocations from various sources, including City impact fees, federal Land and Water Conservation Funds, state Recreation Trails Program and the City’s Capital Improvement Program.

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Park construction is projected to cost between \$322,000 to \$372,000, depending on selected design options. Parks and Recreation will continue to pursue funding for the project.

In addition, the We Ride for Tanner Foundation continues to raise funds for the bike skills components of the park. To date, nearly \$100,000 has been privately raised for the project. The master park plan will be implemented as funding becomes available.

Missoula Parks and Recreation uses a master planning process throughout the park system. Park master plans define a long-term, sustainable vision for parks by helping to identify best uses for a specific site, make the most of limited resources and protect the environment.

For more information about the project and to view the site plan, please visit [missoulaparks.org](http://missoulaparks.org) or phone 721-PARK. To learn more about the We Ride For Tanner Foundation, please visit [weridefortanner.blogspot.com](http://weridefortanner.blogspot.com) or [The Tanner Olson Memorial BMX Park on Facebook](#). Syringa Park is located at 1465 Lower Lincoln Hills Rd.

For more information about bike parks, visit the International Mountain Biking Association [website](#).

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