



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Parks and Recreation Division

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-730-4309 | www.duluthmn.gov | Kathleen Bergen, Parks and Recreation Division Mgr.

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309

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SUBJECT: City to Pilot New Shared Use Trail in Chester Park, A Component of Chester Park Mini-Master Plan

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

City to Pilot New Shared Use Trail in Chester Park, A Component of Chester Park Mini-Master Plan

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation is partnering with Community Action Duluth (Stream Corps) and Parks Maintenance staff to implement the Chester Park Mini-Master Plan and provide enhanced outdoor experiences for the Duluth community. Crews will brush and widen the ski trails at Chester Park to create and pilot a shared-use ski trail as indicated in the Chester Park Mini-Master Plan, which was approved last winter.

The Mini-Master Plan calls for conducting a trial period whereby skiers and pedestrians share the same trail but proceed in opposite directions. Widening and brushing the trails will provide at least 4 meters of space for pedestrians and skiers to share the "skate-only" ski trails during the upcoming winter season. New signage will be installed on the trail to guide safe passage. Maintenance crews began work this week and will take approximately two weeks to finish.

As part of the overall implementation of the Chester Park Mini-Master Plan, the City is committed to restoration of high quality native trees and natural vegetation to improve the Park's aesthetics. Crews have been restoring the natural plant habitat in Chester Bowl as each aspect of the Plan progresses and to rehabilitate areas impacted by the 2012 flood. To date the Stream Corps team has assisted the City in planting over 1100 trees in Chester Park (Upper and Lower Chester) in flood affected areas that includes the base of the ski jumps. New landscaping and shrubs were also planted following the Sprint Telecommunications Tower project on the hill inside the park this summer.

The Chester Park Mini-Master Plan is available for review at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/media/278784/Chester-Mini-Master-Plan-11-24-2014.pdf>

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