

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



The Latah-Hangman Creek Trail project was inspired by connections.

Connecting six Spokane neighborhoods and area parks, the trail will link residents from the entire spectrum of wealth and resources in the area and connect trail users to the geology, geography and wildlife of the corridor.

Visitors will experience an array of natural and cultural information along the trail as well as evidence of eras of local history – from the prehistoric mastodons that once roamed the area to the pre-dam salmon runs and traditional agricultural practices still used in some sections today.

The Latah-Hangman Trail project is among initiatives to connect the Spokane River Centennial Trail with linear and loop linkages to adjacent landscapes, enabling a wide range of users to experience all that Spokane’s robust trail system already offers.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:



NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE OF SPOKANE COUNTY

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LATAH-HANGMAN VALLEY TRAIL

**CONNECTING NATURE,
HISTORY, AND PEOPLE**

The Latah-Hangman Valley Trail is a wildlife conservation and pedestrian pathway project that will connect neighborhoods and parks. It can serve to protect natural and historic elements in an area that is experiencing development pressure. A nine-mile land and water trail is possible, with water trail entry points, stretching from the mouth of Latah-Hangman Creek where it flows into the Spokane River to the bridge at the intersection of Highway 195 and Hatch Road. The connection project is new, but the landscape and its flora and fauna are millennia old and have been peopled for centuries.

TRAIL SEGMENTS

The project has been divided into five segments, which will be addressed in geographic sequence from north to south (beginning at the Spokane River). The first phase of work will consist of completion of segments one and two with the third through fifth constructed at a later time.

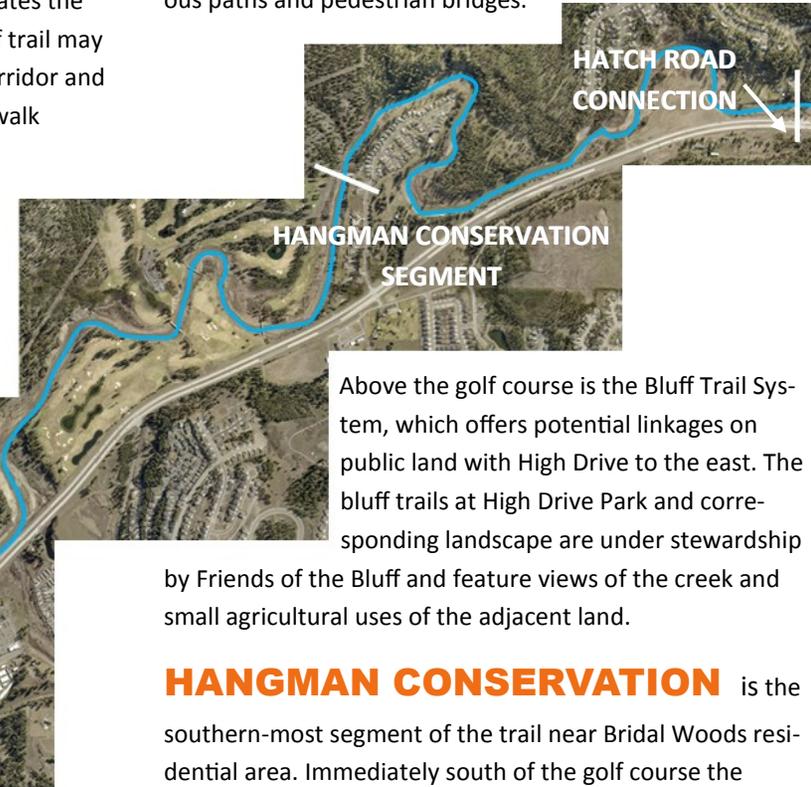
PARKS begins at People's Park and is a collaboration with the City of Spokane. Peaceful Valley neighborhood and community input has been, and will continue to be, invited. This northern-most area also includes High Bridge Park, which straddles open stretches of Latah-Hangman Creek. There are multiple trail linkage points in this segment as well as open space for users and wildlife. The property is city-owned with a double-track right-of-way and utility easement that can be incorporated into a trail. It has a protective embankment of gabion walls along the creek.

VINEGAR FLATS links High Bridge and Wentel Grant Parks, taking users through the historic Vinegar Flats. This area

is characterized by a mixture of residential and commercial areas with views of basalt bluffs across winding stretches of creek. An armored wall of salvaged concrete separates the riparian area from the community. This segment of trail may be pieced together with sidewalks, sewer utility corridor and private easements, creating a hybrid trail and sidewalk routing if land agreements cannot be secured.

FARM AND GARDEN continues southward. Parcel sizes in this area become large with limitations imposed by a lack of through roads. Across the creek, a steep and highly-erodible slope below the BNSF rail lines limits trail access. Public land ownership is not common in this area and the scope of the planning area has been broadened to allow for more alternatives.

Qualchan Golf Course, which straddles the creek and represents an opportunity for shared recreation with its numerous paths and pedestrian bridges.



Above the golf course is the Bluff Trail System, which offers potential linkages on public land with High Drive to the east. The bluff trails at High Drive Park and corresponding landscape are under stewardship by Friends of the Bluff and feature views of the creek and small agricultural uses of the adjacent land.

HANGMAN CONSERVATION is the southern-most segment of the trail near Bridal Woods residential area. Immediately south of the golf course the creek nearly circumscribes the subdivision, with another residential area and access to High Drive Park via a path. Additional bluff trails tie into the southern end of the golf course. On the west side of the creek is the Hangman Park Conservation parcel. The landscape for this trail segment is mainly natural as it stretches between two residential developments.

QUALCHAN consists of long natural stretches of meandering creek, some of it in active restoration by the Land Conservancy. If trail access takes the east side of the creek, it would need to stay above eroding bluffs. Further south is the City of Spokane-owned

