



NEWS RELEASE PRESS CONTACT:

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MoPac Trail Improvements Announced by Coalition

Omaha, NE. (September 8, 2020) _ The MoPac Alliance, a coalition of Nebraska bicycle and trail advocacy organizations, is pleased to announce the completion of their first joint project: the installation of kiosks with trail information and wayfinding signage. Coalition organizations include Bike Walk Nebraska, Great Plains Trails Network and the Nebraska Trails Foundation.

Kiosks have been installed at two points on MoPac Trail: at the existing eastbound trailhead near South Bend, NE and where the westbound trail resumes near Wabash, NE. Wayfinding signage between these points has been installed along a route of mostly gravel county roads for those looking to navigate through the 9.5 mile gap in the trail.

The Cass County Commissioners approved the route and wayfinding signage placement in February and staff from the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District assisted in determining the placement of kiosks within their parking lots.

“This gap in the MoPac Trail has been a challenge for bicyclists who know the trail picks up again after the dead end but aren’t sure how to get there,” said Julie Harris of Bike Walk Nebraska on behalf of the MoPac Alliance. This connection between Nebraska’s largest cities is a draw for local bicyclists, but there are also regional implications. “The county road section to which we’ve added wayfinding signage connects the biggest gap in 225 miles of trail that runs from Marysville, KS through Beatrice, Lincoln, Omaha, across the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge and down to Coin IA. The bicycle tourism potential is enormous, especially for the businesses in the small towns along the route, and we want to encourage that.” said Harris.

“The NRD appreciates the work of the MoPac Alliance and Cass County for approving the improved signage for the route. The signs will be an improvement for both trail users and the local citizens,” according to Paul Zillig, Lower Platte South NRD General Manager.

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Learn more about the organizations involved with the MoPac Alliance:

Bike Walk Nebraska: bikewalknebraska.org

Great Plains Trails Network: gptn.org

Nebraska Trails Foundation: nebraskatrailsfoundation.org