



**Valparaiso Parks Foundation
Press Release
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For immediate release: New Creekside Trails Open to the Public

The Valpo Parks Foundation is pleased to announce the opening of the new Creekside Trails, a multi-use trail system located at Creekside Golf Course and Training Center, 2355 Clifford Road, Valparaiso. Creekside Trails is home to five miles of multi-use trails that bend, curve and flow through nature's canopy. The property, called Creekside Park, was purchased by the City of Valparaiso in October of 1992 from the Johnson family. The property remained unaltered until spring 2019 when a group of community members approached the Parks Department with a vision to bring mountain biking to Valparaiso.

Task Force members for the project include Bob Spaulding, Jr., Bill Higbie, Chuck Gleason, Dave Rodgers, The Valparaiso Pathways Committee, and Kevin Nuppna. Design and construction of the trails began in early March of 2019. Led by lead trail designer Bob Spaulding, Jr., volunteers broke ground and by mid-October of the same year Phase 1 of the trail was deemed safe to hike, bike and jog. This project would not have been possible without dedicated volunteers, generous donors, local supporters and leadership from the City of Valparaiso.

A ribbon cutting was held on Thursday, November 7 to officially open the trails to the public. "Rome wasn't built in a day; however, great things can be created in a short amount of time when we all come together. 5 miles of trails, features, jumps all built within eight months is remarkable. Thank you to all the volunteers for your time and talents and know that because of you, this trail is open today for all to enjoy.", said Parks Director of Business Operations Kevin Nuppna.

"We could not have accomplished this project without the vision of the Task Force and generosity of the private sector. It is our privilege to partner on this project as another example of volunteers and companies/organizations coming together to make this community an exceptional place to live", said Parks Director John Seibert.

If you or someone you know is interested in supporting the development, ongoing maintenance and future upgrades to the Creekside Trials, please consider an online donation of any denomination by visiting www.ValpoParksFoundation.org today. For more information on how you can support this great project visit www.ValpoParksFoundation.org or email Business Operations Director Kevin Nuppna at knuppna@valpo.us or call 219-462-5144.

PHOTO CAPTION: Creekside Trials ribbon cutting took place on Thursday, November 7. Pictured is Mayor Jon Costas and Bob Spaulding, Jr. cutting the ribbon along with Creekside Trails Task Force Members, Parks Staff, Valparaiso Pathways Committee Members and project volunteers.

