

November 17, 2015

Senator Fred Thomas, Chair
Revenue and Transportation Committee

Subject: House Bill 604, Shared use Path Inventory and Maintenance Plan

Chairman Thomas, and members of the Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee:

It is my pleasure to present to you a draft inventory and maintenance plan for shared use paths. Enclosed you will find the draft "Shared Use Path Inventory and Detailed Maintenance Plan" as required by House Bill 604. This plan details the following:

- 1) It compiles an inventory of all multiuse trails or other paths within state-maintained federal-aid highway rights-of-way that are separated from motorized vehicular traffic by open spaces, pavement, markings, or barriers and that are usable for transportation purposes by pedestrians, runners, bicyclists, skaters, equestrians, and other nonmotorized users;
- 2) Includes a detailed maintenance plan for repairing the trails and other paths described in the inventory, including estimated costs for maintenance and repair;

This Shared Use Path Inventory and Detailed Maintenance Plan is a living document and does not include projects currently in development or future planning. Costs will change as new projects are constructed and agreements are implemented or modified. Most of the shared use paths have agreements in place between MDT and cities, counties, or other entities addressing path maintenance responsibilities.

This plan will be finalized for the 65th legislature and will include comments from the committee. I appreciate the opportunity to present this plan

Sincerely,



Mike Tooley
Director

Copies: Megan Moore, Montana Legislative Services