



CITY OF FEDERAL WAY
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Jim Ferrell, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**City to celebrate new trail connecting Brooklake Center
to West Hylebos Wetlands Park**

The City's Public Works Surface Water Management (SWM) Division will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 11 at the Brooklake Community Center, 726 S. 356th St., for the new Brooklake Connector Trail.

The new 1/10-mile trail connects the Brooklake Community Center, located just north of the Blueberry Farm, with the existing West Hylebos Wetlands Park boardwalk.

West Hylebos Wetlands Park is a unique wildlife refuge in Federal Way. With old growth forest and some of the last remaining peat bogs in South King County, the park is home to 37 species of lichen and more than a hundred species of birds. Now with two entry points, the park will be more accessible to the community than ever before.

The new trail will also help the City provide a more seamless experience for students and volunteers during the annual Storming the Sound with Salmon Release Event. The space around the Brooklake Community Center provides more parking for volunteers and easier and safer bus access for students, while the trail will give students another way to explore the Park.

"Previously the boardwalk ended at the Brooklake Overlook," said Kent Smith, senior engineer in the City's Capital Projects Division. "The Connector Trail opens up a new part of the park that visitors couldn't access before. Now you can walk from one side of the park on South 348th all the way to the other side on South 356th."

The City's Public Works and Parks Departments designed the trail, and Talakai Construction completed construction.

The \$281,231.50 project was paid for with SWM Capital Improvements funding, money which can only be used on capital projects.

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