

# WHITEFISH RIVER TRAIL

Working to close trail gaps to provide a continuous, accessible, car-free 5-mile trail and park network so that kids, families, seniors and people of all abilities can safely move along the Whitefish River, from City Beach to Highway 40.



**Safe Trails Whitefish** is leading a community-driven effort to complete the Whitefish River Trail network. For more than 40 years, the Whitefish community has envisioned a safe, continuous, non-motorized trail along the Whitefish River serving as the backbone of a trail system that connects City Beach to neighborhoods throughout our community. While almost 3 miles of the 5-mile trail have been completed, the remaining segments—perhaps the most challenging—still need to be planned, designed, and built. The portions that remain are spread out over four key critical gaps that force users onto busy streets, highways, and informal routes across private property.

As Whitefish grows, closing these gaps becomes more expensive, difficult, and more dangerous to leave unaddressed. The time to complete this trail is now. Safe Trails Whitefish is working closely with City staff, council, committees, the community and landowners to be the ‘boots-on-the-ground’ effort to close the gaps and complete the River Trail.

**JOIN US:** We invite you to be a part of completing one of Whitefish’s most important community assets. We can’t do this without your support. Every dollar helps move us from concept to construction. Together, we can move this project from vision to reality, segment by segment. *100% of the donations will go to Outdoor Community Partners to support the Safe Trails Whitefish initiative.*



**SCAN TO DONATE**

Reach out to learn more about opportunities for legacy contributions, recognition, and naming.

### DONATE ONLINE

[safetrailswhitefish.com/support](https://safetrailswhitefish.com/support)

Outdoor Community Partners  
c/o Safe Trails Initiative  
PO Box 4585, Whitefish, MT 59937  
Organization EIN: 92-2417749  
406-730-7379

## PROJECT TIMELINE

- + **Winter 2025/2026:** Perform due diligence and research on the properties the trail is planned to cross, and assess the status of development.
- + **Spring 2026:** Capture the LiDAR data and imagery needed to route the missing trail gap segments.
- + **Summer 2026:** Begin designing trail gap segments and working parcel-by-parcel to negotiate final easements and designs.
- + **Next Phases:** As each segment’s design is finalized, plans will move into engineering, permitting and construction phases.

## CORE PROJECT TEAM



### Diane Conradi

*Executive Director of Outdoor Community Partners*

Project-lead, administrative, strategy, policy, legal, fundraising



### Rachel Schmidt

Public outreach, City liaison, community meetings



### Bruce Boody

Landscape architect, trail and park design, River Trail historian



### Jen Saucier

Design, promotion, data sourcing, planning, project management



### Andy Evensen

Civil Engineer

## STAY INFORMED

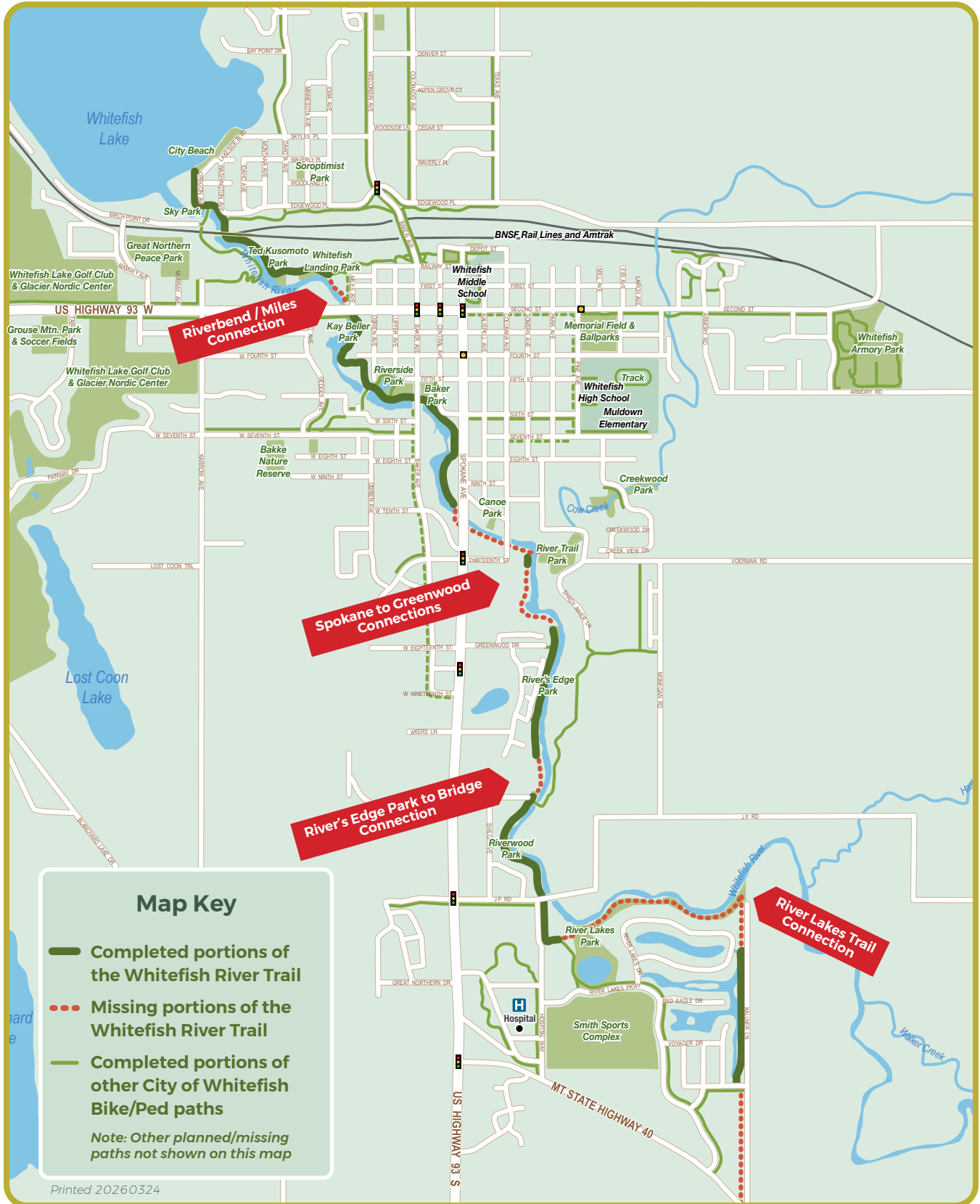
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Whitefish Photos © Drew Silvers

# CLOSING THE GAPS ON THE WHITEFISH RIVER TRAIL

Completing a 40+ year community vision for a safe, accessible, non-motorized trail





This trail is not just for recreation—for a resident at The Springs, it is daily independence; for a child biking to Smith Fields or City Beach, it is safety; for families, it is connection.



## SAFE TRAILS WHITEFISH

Safe Trails Whitefish is a community partnership dedicated to completing a safe, connected multi-use park, trail and path system for all ages and abilities. We will support our paths and trails through community engagement, education, advocacy, technical assistance, and leadership. Safe Trails Whitefish is an initiative of Outdoor Community Partners, a Montana non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in Whitefish.

### SAFE TRAILS WHITEFISH ADVISORS

Bruce Boody	Casey Malmquist	Rachel Schmidt
Diane Conradi	Kate McMahon	Julie Tickle
Michael Fitzgerald	John Repke	
Richard Hildner	Jen Saucier	

### SCAN TO DONATE



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