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**spokane river
water trail**

Spokane River
headlines

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The Spokane River Forum is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that creates materials, events and activities that promote sustaining a healthy river system while meeting the needs of a growing population.

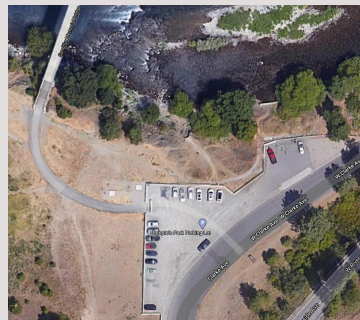
Spokane River Water Trail just keeps getting better!

This eNews highlights exciting new **Spokane River Water Trail** developments.

Since founding the Spokane River Water Trail in 2010, the Forum has worked with partners to develop and restore river access at 14 locations. The results are dramatic. Annually, thousands of people enjoy this iconic resource that flows through and binds our communities.

As impressive, public, private, and non-profit partners keep stepping up to make the water trail even better! The recreation and environmental benefits are a legacy to be enjoyed for generations to come.

Here are updates on four promising projects.



People's Park, City of Spokane

Look for several critical improvements to this popular trailhead this fall. Located on the south Side of Sandifur Bridge, restored access for paddlers and tubers will replace what is currently an unsafe and environmentally degraded slope to the river. The parking area will be paved, and the degraded trailhead restored with native grasses, benches, and a native American themed art installation. The next phase of the Peaceful Valley bike and walking trail will also be constructed. 2021 should see completion of the trail from People's Park to Redband Park.

TJ Meenach, City of Spokane

As part of stormwater management, the City hopes to move forward with restoration activities at TJ Meenach in 2021. This includes improved access, parking and landscaping that were identified in a 2018 master plan.





Upriver Park, City of Spokane and Avista

In June, the City of Spokane approved a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit for Avista to build Upriver Park. A three-acre area, the project includes vacating part of Upriver Drive north of Mission Avenue. Set for construction in 2021, the park will provide river access for paddlers and realignment of the

Centennial Trail adjacent to the river. Once the new Trent Street Bridge is completed, Upriver Park to the Convention Center will provide a unique and highly popular flat-water play area for paddlers.

Flora Road, City of Spokane Valley

The City of Spokane Valley has a grant application pending with Washington's Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) to support acquisition of an undeveloped 45-acre parcel currently owned by the Washington Department of



Transportation. From a river perspective, a park at this location could support access to a whitewater play area just downstream, and the possibility of a Centennial loop trail connecting this property with Sullivan Park.

As the Valley continues to grow, the importance of protecting public spaces for recreation and environmental protection is critical. RCO is expected to make a funding decision in July 2021.



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