

Press Release
CITY OF HERMANTOWN, MINNESOTA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 7, 2014

Contact: Adam Fulton, Community Development Director, City of Hermantown, 218-729-3618

**PROCTOR/HERMANTOWN TRAIL SPUR CONNECTION TO MUNGER TRAIL:
ROUTE PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY UNDERWAY, PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
SCHEDULED**

OPEN HOUSE MEETING INFORMATION:

Thursday, November 20th, 2014
5:30 PM – Open House; 5:45 PM – Brief Presentation
Open to Citizens from all Communities!
Hermantown City Hall – Council Chambers
5105 Maple Grove Road
Hermantown, MN 55811

The Cities of Proctor and Hermantown are collaborating with the City of Duluth, Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council, and the Minnesota DNR to plan for a non-motorized, paved trail connection between the top of the hill and the Munger Trail and Duluth's Cross-City Trail. Consultants are working with the communities to select the most effective and viable route for the trail spur, prioritizing access for residents in Proctor, Hermantown, and Duluth and physical/cost feasibility. Though this particular study is for a paved, multi-use trail for walking, hiking, bicycling, inline skating, and cross-country skiing, both Proctor and Hermantown are committed to developing an integrated system of trails that accommodate other recreational trail users.

The November 20th open house is the first of several public meetings designed to give residents the opportunity to participate in the planning process. The project consultants have developed several trail route alternatives for consideration. Representatives from the consulting team and city staff will be present to discuss trail route options and the relative pros and cons of each potential trail route.

The Proctor-Hermantown Munger Trail Spur will be just one component of the desired trails network for Proctor and Hermantown. Proctor, Hermantown, and Duluth all have existing trail plans. The plans are currently not well integrated and do not achieve the overarching goal of creating a regional trails network for the communities. The intent of the current planning process is to develop a consensus plan for the preferred trail spur route and to begin the preliminary design and engineering for a trail system to reach important destinations in each community as well as in Duluth. The focus of the proposed trail system is predominately recreational in nature, although the consultant has been asked to consider its relation to the region's network for bicycle commuters as well.

The trail study is being completed by Hoisington Koegler Group, Inc., and MSA Professional Services, and is funded through the support of the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment and the Cities of Proctor and Hermantown. The anticipated completion date of the study is April 15, 2015. Two additional public meetings will occur this winter and spring prior to completion of the study.