State of Idaho
Department of Parks and Recreation

BRAD LITTLE
Governor

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Director

Idaho Park and Recreation Board
Chuck Roady, Chair - District 1 | Hugh Cooke - District 2 | Erika Malmen – District 3 | Jim Keating - District 4 | Amy Manning - District 5 | Cortney Liddiard - District 6

September 22, 2026

ATTN:
Mayor Muncaster
Victor City Council

VIA: Email michelles@victoridaho.gov

RE: AJ Trail Access Easement and MOU

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) is the duly established executive department under State of Idaho Code, with the stated mission of improving the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship. Acting under the supervision of the Idaho Park and Recreation Board, IDPR carries out recreational policies and programs of the State. Consistent with its statutory authorities, the Department participates in federal, state, and local land management planning and project planning to further the public interest in recreational, scenic, and historical/archeological values.

Responsible IDPR staff manage wheeled and over-snow off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation throughout Idaho through the Motorized Trail Program. IDPR's Trail Ranger and Trail Cat Programs provide maintenance and construction, and its OHV Education Program provides OHV training and environmental education. Through IDPR's Off Road Motor Vehicle and Motorbike Recreation Funds, grants are awarded to fund trail building and maintenance, and law enforcement activities. IDPR Motorized Trail Program partnerships with US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Lands, and stakeholder volunteer organizations, result in the maintenance and improvement of hundreds of miles of Idaho's extensive and remarkable trails each year.

IDPR's Non-Motorized Trails Program advocates for non-motorized trail users across Idaho.

Regarding the matter of AJ Trail Access Easement and MOU, IDPR states the following:

It is the recommendation of IDPR and its Trail Program staff for the Victor City Council to:

- Accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM-managed lands hosting an approved public trail system in development.
- Approve the MOU between the City of Victor and partners MBT and TVTAP in the furtherance of fostering responsible recreational access to public lands for the benefit of City residents and visitors.

Securing necessary easements and MOUs will serve the share goals of IDPR and its partner agency Bureau of Land Management. Without these measures to secure connectivity, the trail objectives approved in the Upper Snake East Travel Management Plan[1] will not be implemented and would be rendered moot.

Respectfully,

Alex Ernst

Digitally signed by Alex Ernst
Date: 2026.09.22 11:36:40 -06'00'

Alex Ernst, Land Access Coordinator
[phone redacted]
5, [email redacted]

Ref: 1) USETMP https://eplanning.blm.gov/Project-Home/?id=24b17dd2-a7f2-f011-8406-001dd8008d46

Outlook

IDPR Comment RE: AJ Trail Easement and MOU

From Alex Ernst <[redacted]>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 11:44 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (207 KB)
IDPR Comment City of Victor RE Easement to Access BLM Trails 2026.09.22 signed.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted] Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Please see attached comment letter addressed to the Mayor and City Council regarding the AJ Trail Easement and MOU with stakeholders.

Kind regards,
Alex

Alex Ernst
Land Access Coordinator – Recreation Bureau
[address redacted]
[address redacted]
[phone redacted] | desk [redacted] | fax [phone redacted]

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Fund *Idaho Trails* >>> https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/grants-and-funding/

Outlook

Support for Easements / MOU - AJ Linell Trail

From Anna Jones [redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 12:22 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Anna Jones and I am a seasonal resident and homeowner in the Mountainside Village neighborhood of Victor. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me. My family uses the AJ trail and the public lands it provides access to on an almost daily basis during the summer months.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

Anna

Outlook

Message to council about AJ trail easements

From Molly Absolon <[redacted]>
Date Fri 9/18/2026 2:31 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and the Victor City Council,

I would like to comment in support of the public easement on the AJ trail.

As a resident of the city and public landowner I believe we need to do all we can to protect access to public lands for all types of users. I recognize that does not mean all uses are appropriate for all places, and am supportive of restricting access when it makes sense (ie wilderness areas) but the trails along the west side of the valley do not fit into that category.

A study released this past May using trail cameras in Cache Creek near Jackson has shown that contrary to previously held opinions, it appears that many animals have learned to coexist with recreationalists, especially when the disturbance is along predictable paths. This is encouraging news and counters the argument of those opposed to the AJ trails who claim that opening them up to more users will have a detrimental effect on wildlife.

The bigger threat to our wildlife are the hillside developments that are going on in the area with very little public input, coupled with the explosion of bottomland developments that were approved despite community opposition while the county commissioners delayed passing a comprehensive plan for the valley. This is a travesty. This is the development that jeopardizes our community, not a network of well planned trails on the edge of the mountains.

I believe very strongly in our public lands and our access to them. I believe they improve our quality of life, our health and our community. I am encouraged by the Cache Creek research, and believe it shows that we can manage these trails without having a negative effect on the wildlife.

We have an excellent example of multi use trails in Mile Harris. These popular trails see bikers, runners, hikers, skiers and horseback riders using the same trails without very little conflict. I believe a well planned trail network on the hillside would provide similar recreational benefits for all members of our community. That may mean having different designated trails, seasonal closures or some restrictions. But it doesn't mean closing access to whole segments of our population.

So I ask you to accept the easements connecting the AJ trail to the BLM. Please vote to approve the MOU between the city of Victor and MBT and TVTAP and support the development of trails to access public lands.

Thank you for your time
Molly Absolon
[redacted]
Victor, ID

Sent from my iPhone
Sent from my iPhone

Outlook

AJ trail

From Chris Agnew [redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 6:37 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted] Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Members of the City Council and Mayor,

My name is Chris Agnew, and I am a resident of Victor. I am writing in full and enthusiastic support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

I'm frustrated that this topic is even coming up as an issue. There was a public process that ran years ago. It was transparent, fair, and consistent. A vocal minority is now trying to block access to public lands because they didn't like the outcome of a fair and rigorous process. The City of Victor preventing willing landowners from providing public access to public lands is undemocratic.

Public access to public lands is important to me to get time in nature, for exercise, and to give my kids and family time in wild places. The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan supporting recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

The City of Victor has gone through a challenging last two years related to wastewater. Denying these easements would turn a settled and clear issue into a controversy. Please don't let a vocal minority hijack a process that has already run. Denying access would create a second controversy exactly at the time the City of Victor doesn't need it.

Please ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide access to public lands for the good of the community.

Thank you,

Chris Agnew

[redacted]

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is Alexander Suckling, and I am a Victor business owner/operator as well as a Teton Valley Resident and public land user. I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

When I moved to the valley in 2016, one of the big reasons that pulled me here were the public lands. I have used the AJ Linnell trail many times for biking as well as hiking and hunting and realize its importance as there is huge swathe of Idaho public land that is otherwise inaccessible, except for the Mud Lake access which is a long ways away from the AJ trail and a far more challenging of an access point. If that access goes away or is mismanaged, we are limiting ourselves and future public land users from a right and resource, the likes of which make places like Victor special. It is our duty to continue the expectation that public lands are for all and that access to them needs to be maintained.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor’s mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Alexander D Suckling
Owner
Alpine Air Coffee Roasting
[redacted]

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is Justin Krusenbaum, and I am Victor resident. I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I am an avid mountain biker and love to see and explore new trails around our beautiful valley. I enjoy all our trails all summer and some even in the winter! I have a two-year-old niece who LOVES mountain biking with her dad and I.

After a long busy day at work, nothing beats the easy access and fresh air our trails provide us. I love having the easy access to our incredible trail system and will always advocate for additional trails.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

[Optional: Add a specific reason you believe this benefits Victor, for example, recreation opportunities, connectivity from town, local families, tourism, quality of life, responsible public-land access, or alignment with the City's recreational goals.]

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor’s mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Justin Krusenbaum
[redacted]

Outlook

Support for AJ Linnell Trail

From [redacted] >
Date Sun 9/20/2026 5:32 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Carly Baker, and I am a resident of Victor and a homeowner in Mountainside Village. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easements and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Access to public lands is one of the things that makes Teton Valley such a special place to live and raise my son. As a mountain biker and hiker, I greatly value the abundance of recreational opportunities available here. Providing designated access and areas for specific uses helps reduce conflicts, discourages trespassing and informal trail creation, and supports responsible recreation while protecting the landscape and wildlife we all value.

I believe formalizing access through the AJ Linnell Trail is consistent with the City's commitment to providing recreational opportunities and promoting responsible stewardship of our public lands. Ensuring that these lands remain accessible for future generations benefits the entire community.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easements, approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access for the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the future of Teton Valley.

Sincerely,
Carly Baker

Outlook

Re: "AJ Trail Access Easement

From Tracy Bartow [redacted]
Date Tue 9/22/2026 3:48 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

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Sorry Michelle. Please see below and thanks for responding.

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is **Tracy Bartow**, and I am **[Victor resident / Teton Valley resident / public-land user / mountain biker / hiker.** I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I moved to Victor specifically to enjoy the community and the progressive outdoor recreation activities that Teton Valley has to offer My family visits frequently and loves the trail systems. It is of the utmost importance to for the valley to continue to grow its trail systems and support the community for forward progression of all of its trails and recreation Stalling progress of trails stalls growth and revenue for the County

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate e pectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor

Sincerely,

Tracy Bartow
[Victor/Teton Valley community member.
Tomahawk Trail, Victor, ID.

Tracy Bartow
[redacted]
Victor, ID. 83455
[redacted]

On Sep 22, 2026, at 1:04 PM, Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov> wrote:

Thank you for sending this over, I am unable to open the shared file.

Michelle Smith IdCMC

City of Victor | Clerk
[address redacted] Suite 201, [address redacted] [address redacted]
Office [phone redacted]
www.victoridaho.gov

City Hall Office Hours: Monday Thursday 8:00 6:00
Public Disclosure: This email may be made available to the public through a records request. For water bills please use the drop box or Xpress Bill Pay. For permit submittal please use the online Application Portal

<Outlook gsqqddsz.jpg>

From: Tracy Bartow [redacted]>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 7:01 PM
To: Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Subject: "AJ Trail Access Easement

Caution: The sender name (Tracy Bartow) is different from their email address ([redacted] which may indicate an impersonation attempt. Verify the email's authenticity with the sender using your organization's trusted contact list before replying or taking further action.

Open my shared document:

AJ Trail Access Easement Template
Pages

Tracy Bartow
[redacted]
Victor, ID. 83455
[redacted]

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail Easements

From Holly Bender <[redacted]>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 4:00 PM
To Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>; Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <amyr@victoridaho.gov>

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September 22, 2026

Mayor Sue Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council
City of Victor
[address redacted] Suite 201
[address redacted]

RE: Written Comment Regarding the AJ Linnell Trail Easements and MOU

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Councilors,

My name is Holly Bender. My husband, Dave, and I own property at the end of Cemetery Road through which the AJ Trail crosses, and we granted one of the two easements before you tonight.

We want to be clear at the outset: we are not opposed to public access. We granted this easement because we believe in it, and we remain willing partners in making it work. That is exactly why we are troubled by how the process has unfolded, and why we are writing tonight.

The organizations working on this project knew about the missing easements needed for this project prior to the BLM approval of this project. Yet the project was approved and moved forward without legal access. Therefore to begin with, the BLM failed to do their due diligence to make sure the legal easements were in place.

While we were in the process of creating the easements, we asked BLM directly, in writing, to hold off on any further action on the trail until the easements were actually in place — an understanding the BLM told us they shared and would convey to TVTAP and MTB.

In June 2026, a cultural resource survey crew completed their portion of the project anyway, before our easement was signed. When we heard the survey crew was on its way, we raised this violation of the no further activity understanding directly with BLM's Upper Snake Field Office; its own recreation planner Monica Zimmerman responded to us in writing: "It is important to have the easements in place." The survey went forward regardless. By the time we signed our easement in August, we felt we had lost real leverage to negotiate for the protections that mattered most to us-protections like the parking issue that had been part of the project's foundation from the beginning.

This is the one part of this process we were able to observe closely, and it was not handled properly or with the care we were told to expect. That experience is directly relevant to what this Council is being asked to decide, because it raises a fair question: if this step was treated with so little regard for the commitments made to us, what confidence should this Council have in the rest of the record supporting this project?

We understand there are unresolved questions on the record before the Council regarding the mileage of trail actually approved under BLM's 2024 Travel Management Plan, the discrepancy between BLM's own route designations and the e-bike accessibility this project has been publicly marketed as offering, and whether Idaho Fish and Game has been given the opportunity to fully weigh in given this area's documented importance as winter range and calving habitat for elk and mule deer.

Given what we witnessed firsthand with the BLM approving a project they did not have legal access for and then pushing forward on the project with the cultural survey even though they said everything would be paused until the easements were signed, we do believe it is reasonable to ask that these questions be answered, on the record, before the Council finalizes anything.

We respectfully renew the request we made to the council: that any approval be conditioned on seeing a full environmental review completed in consultation with Idaho Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and that the Council not finalize the pending easements and MOU until BLM and Idaho Fish and Game have directly addressed the concerns already before you.

I understand from comments that the Council is being told that you do not have the authority to dictate to the BLM how they complete this project and that this is simply about solving a legal access issue. However asking to see a full environmental review of the entire project is responsible governance. No different than asking for more information on a building project. Since negative long term ramifications of this project on the environment are much more difficult-maybe impossible-to rectify, I hope you will wait for a full review. Drawing from our experience in this process in which assurances that everything is being handled correctly are not upheld, I would urge you to ask for the actual reviews and hear also from Idaho Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding any concerns that arise before approving the easements.

We are not asking the Council to reject this project. We are asking that it be done the way we were told it would be done from the beginning. As I mentioned in the previous city council meeting, you have these easements. No one is taking them away. We are simply asking that you use the leverage you have as a city council to investigate and verify that the trail project you are accepting these easements for will meet the City of Victor’s goals to protect the environment and wildlife that all Victor residents value and enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Holly Bender

Outlook

Support for AJ trail MOU

From Dave Bergart <[redacted]>
Date Thu 9/17/2026 3:27 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

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Dear Mayor Muncaster and City Council,

I'm writing in strong support of accepting the public access easements for the AJ Linnell Trail and approving the associated MOU.

I had the privilege of serving on the Victor City Council while AJ served on Planning & Zoning. More importantly, AJ was a good friend and adventure partner. We shared a love for this place and for getting out into the mountains around Victor.

I've watched this project take shape over many years, and I think creating legal, thoughtful, and well managed access to our public lands is exactly the kind of thing Victor should support. It benefits the broader community, respects neighboring private property, and creates a clear framework for taking care of these trails for years to come.

I know firsthand that serving on City Council sometimes means making decisions where a handful of voices can feel much louder than the broader community. I hope you'll recognize how much support there is for this project and vote to accept the easements and approve the MOU.

I think it would be a wonderful legacy for AJ and an even better asset for Victor.

Thank you,

Dave Bergart
Victor, Idaho

Outlook

Support for AJ Linnell Trail Easements & MOU.

From Katie Bergart [redacted]>
Date Sat 9/19/2026 9:50 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the City Council,

I'm a resident of Victor and writing to support the City of Victor in accepting the public access easements for the AJ Linnell Trail and approving the associated MOU.

One of the things I love most about Victor is the incredible access that we have to trails, open space, and public lands from right outside our door. It is the primary reason that I moved to the area years ago and integral in why my husband and I have chosen to raise our kids here. Our most memorable family adventures have been on bikes or hiking the trails, pathways and mountains surrounding Victor. This is part of what makes this community exceptional, and I believe that we have a responsibility to make sure access to these areas is thoughtful, legal, and sustainable.

The AJ Linnell Trail is a great example of how to do that well. Clear public access points respects private property, rather than relying on informal access and user-created trails, and puts long-term stewardship and maintenance in place.

Creating a well-planned connection from Victor to these trails is something that current residents—and hopefully our kids and future generations—will benefit from for many years.

I hope the Council will accept the easements and approve the MOU. I'm grateful to everyone who has put so much time and care into making this project possible.

Thank you,

Katie Bergart
Victor, Idaho

Outlook

Letter of Support for Required AJ Linnel Trail Easement and MOU

From Jason Berning <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 11:22 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Jason Berning, and I am a Victor and Mountainside Village Resident. As a local resident and civil engineer, I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me and wife as it is inevitable that our little valley is growing and so will recreation. So many trail have to be driven to in the valley and these trails will serve as amazing access for Victor and surrounding community to access trails without driving to the trailhead.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

The opposition is utilizing wildlife and parking/traffic as main issues for not granting access. The wildlife component was addressed many years ago with a NEPA study. The parking can remain at the ice arena as it has for the AJ trail for many years. Similar to Sherman Springs access to the Southern Valley Trails, although technicall users can drive down the adjacent road to the trails, there has been good community communication and training to train users to park at lot at the start of the road. This will be similar to the ice arena's use for parking and trail access.

All planning work has been in place for years and now the neighbor is allowing an updated easement needed. With the neighbors approval, I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Best,

Jason Berning PE, LEED AP
[redacted]

BPM
BERNING PROJECT MANAGEMENT

www.berningpm.com

Outlook

Easement to BLM Land from Cemetery Road

From Peter Boogaard <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 11:52 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi Michelle,

I am writing you as a concerned citizen of the valley and am currently have a home under construction just outside of city limits in Victor. I want make it clear that I support the easement across private property to access the trail systems and public land from Cemetery road.

These trails have been in the works for decades, and the BLM access is important for all citizens of our valley to have access to recreational opportunities especially close to town such as this. It would be a huge oversight on the city's part to not take advantage of the private landowners generosity in this situation.

Please do not allow the vocal opponents of something such as this to be considered the majority. I can vouch for the fact that anyone who lives in the area will benefit from this and has been in support. Of course there will always be traffic concerns for those who live closest to the access point, but I would argue that the access near Teton Springs/Sherman Springs to the South valley trails is very similar, and this project benefits from the proximity to Kotler Ice Arena and the parking there as well as the city park. It can be seen as a very clear connection to the local pathways and benefit to the health and recreational opportunities of the local residents.

I for one am a trail user who almost always prefers to access nature directly from my door and not use a vehicle at all to get to those points when possible. This is the best opportunity for such access the City will likely ever see. Do not let that go by or it will be regretted in the future.

Peter Boogaard
[redacted]
Driggs, ID 83422

[redacted]

Home under construction east of Victor in the Spoon Creek Subdivision.

Outlook

AJ Trail Public Comment

From Justin Bowersock [redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 7:49 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to urge the City Council to vote to accept the two perpetual access easements for the AJ Linnell Trail.

While I appreciate the passionate public commentary surrounding wildlife, travel management, and access to federal lands, it is important to clarify the procedural scope of the decision. The sole issue for the City Council is whether to accept two corner crossing easements to provide legal, non motorized public access from a city road.

Broad travel planning, environmental impact, and trail network management on federal land fall squarely under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, which has already vetted these routes through its Upper Snake East Travel Management Plan. Matters of federal land policy are outside the City Council's legal purview, and delaying a straightforward municipal easement acceptance will not alter federal jurisdiction.

The one area within the city's direct oversigt is protecting Cemetery Road from local traffic and parking congestion. This issue has already been directly addressed in the easement terms, which explicitly prohibit a trailhead parking lot at the end of the road and ban motorized vehicles and e bikes.

If the Council wishes to help facilitate ongoing dialogue between concerned residents and federal agencies like the BLM, that is a commendable effort. However, holding up a clear local access solution over issues outside the city's jurisdiction is procedurally improper.

Please accept these easements and resolve the long standing corner crossing legal issue.

Respectfully,

Justin Bowersock
[redacted]

Outlook

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

From Kait Boyle [redacted]
Date Sun 9/20/2026 9:14 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Kait Boyle. I'm a constituent, a professional mountain biker, a co founder of the national non profit Bikepacking Roots, and a former Mountain Bike the Tetons board member (my 3rd term ended in August).

I'm writing in support of the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

It is well documented that trails close to towns are an asset to any rural community; they support the health of our residents of all ages, draw recreational users into supporting businesses in town, provide recreation access for people with limited mobility (namely, youth), and disperse recreation use, traffic and parking. As a resident within city limits and a professional cyclist, I chose where to live based on my ability to ride from home to trails. The AJ trail leading into legal, accessible BLM trails would improve the opportunities I have to train on different terrain that I can access from home, by bike.

We are so fortunate to be surrounded by public lands in Teton Valley and this opportunity is a perfect opportunity to ensure access to the public lands that are so closely adjacent to our small town. That a trailhead parking lot isn't even needed for bikers and hikers to venture under human power from town up onto the BLM is truly remarkable and an opportunity I urge you to not let pass.

Thank you,

Kait Boyle

[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455
[redacted]

--

-Kait Boyle (she/her)
[redacted]

Outlook

Re: Public Comment in Support of Access Easements & MOU

From Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 4:49 PM
To Christopher Brule <[redacted]>; Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (187 KB)
2026 09 22 SOL Response McCarthy Correspondence.pdf;

Thanks Chris. We'll add this to public comment.

Sharing this letter from the BLM we got this afternoon. Hopefully this can help us stay focused on what we are approving. We also have asked for legal review from land use specialists in Boise re: what we can and cannot require of federal agencies.

Thanks again for all your work on this!

CITY OF VICTOR
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Sue Muncaster ~ Mayor
[address redacted]
[address redacted], Suite 201, Victor 83455
Office: (208) 787-2940 Mobile: [phone redacted]
suem@victoridaho.gov
www.victoridaho.gov | Facebook

City Hall Office Hours: Monday -- Thursday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.
Public Disclosure: This email may be made available to the public through a records request.

From: Christopher Brule <[redacted]>
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 4:18 PM
To: Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc: Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Access Easements & MOU

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Council,

I am writing today as a trail steward, public lands advocate, mountain biker, hiker, and resident of Driggs. I've lived in Teton Valley for nearly 10 years with my wife and now two children. We chose to raise our family here because of the community and the incredible recreational opportunities. When I first came here, I saw the potential for better trails and wanted to be part of it. Now, I see the potential to share and steward valued public lands in *our* backyard together, with the neighbors who live closest to them, visitors who many of us once were, the young stewards of this community, the diverse wildlife, and more.

In my roles with Mountain Bike the Tetons (MBT), I've dedicated thousands of hours preserving and improving trails, building new ones, and working to ensure the character of our network remains intact while creating greater sustainability and resilience for the future. My commitment to MBT's mission and to the health of our trails and the community continues in this process today.

The City of Victor and the grantors are in a unique position to proactively establish legal public access to public lands at a time when protecting access is increasingly important. The easement agreements provide thoughtful, collaborative conditions that address the potential impacts and uses associated with the public trail, while the MOU establishes shared responsibility for the stewardship of these pathways between two accountable partner organizations.

Each time I think about what this decision entails, I refocus the lens on two relatively small pieces of private land, approximately 2,000 square feet and 2,500 square feet, respectively, that the owners are generously willing to make available for public recreation access as a solution to a longstanding trespassing issue. This opportunity is directly tied to the City's mission and values to support recreational opportunities.

By accepting these easements and MOU, the City would demonstrate support for lawful, designated access to public lands, responsible land stewardship, and proactive management of growth within the community. When access, boundaries, and a clear legal framework are not established, areas like this can experience user-created routes, informal access points, and unmanaged uses that may further degrade natural resources. In this case, supporting responsible stewardship, clearly defined boundaries, and formal access can help protect public lands, private property, and favor federally managed, recreational infrastructure by design, rather than by default.

To briefly address wildlife concerns at hand, I'd like to reference the *Neighbors to Nature: A Case Study of Recreation-Wildlife Co-Existence in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*, completed in 2026. The regional study found that "a diverse wildlife community coexists alongside heavy recreational use in our study area in the GYE." It also found that "many wildlife species do not appear to shift their activity patterns or spatially avoid areas with high levels of recreation."

The study also provides important context around when and where potential recreation may impact elk habitat. It notes that "elk are primarily present in the winter and spring and are rarely present in the summer when they migrate to higher elevation summer range. Therefore, the negative impacts of recreation we observed are primarily stemming from winter and spring recreation." This study reinforces the idea that with proper management, education, and monitoring, recreation and wildlife can co-exist, which is in large part, the purpose of the Environmental Assessment that the BLM

completed for this travel management area in 2024 in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

I respectfully ask the Council to approve the AJ Trail Access Easements and MOU and take this important step toward creating a lasting public asset for the community.

Thank you council and mayor for your care and consideration in this matter.

Chris Brule
Driggs, Idaho

--
Chris Brule
[redacted]

Outlook

Public Comment in Support of Access Easements & MOU

From Christopher Brule <[redacted]>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 4:18 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Council,

I am writing today as a trail steward, public lands advocate, mountain biker, hiker, and resident of Driggs. I've lived in Teton Valley for nearly 10 years with my wife and now two children. We chose to raise our family here because of the community and the incredible recreational opportunities. When I first came here, I saw the potential for better trails and wanted to be part of it. Now, I see the potential to share and steward valued public lands in *our* backyard together, with the neighbors who live closest to them, visitors who many of us once were, the young stewards of this community, the diverse wildlife, and more.

In my roles with Mountain Bike the Tetons (MBT), I've dedicated thousands of hours preserving and improving trails, building new ones, and working to ensure the character of our network remains intact while creating greater sustainability and resilience for the future. My commitment to MBT's mission and to the health of our trails and the community continues in this process today.

The City of Victor and the grantors are in a unique position to proactively establish legal public access to public lands at a time when protecting access is increasingly important. The easement agreements provide thoughtful, collaborative conditions that address the potential impacts and uses associated with the public trail, while the MOU establishes shared responsibility for the stewardship of these pathways between two accountable partner organizations.

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By accepting these easements and MOU, the City would demonstrate support for lawful, designated access to public lands, responsible land stewardship, and proactive management of growth within the community. When access, boundaries, and a clear legal framework are not established, areas like this can experience user-created routes, informal access points, and unmanaged uses that may further

degrade natural resources. In this case, supporting responsible stewardship, clearly defined boundaries, and formal access can help protect public lands, private property, and favor federally managed, recreational infrastructure by design, rather than by default.

To briefly address wildlife concerns at hand, I'd like to reference the *Neighbors to Nature: A Case Study of Recreation-Wildlife Co-Existence in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*, completed in 2026. The regional study found that "a diverse wildlife community coexists alongside heavy recreational use in our study area in the GYE." It also found that "many wildlife species do not appear to shift their activity patterns or spatially avoid areas with high levels of recreation."

The study also provides important context around when and where potential recreation may impact elk habitat. It notes that "elk are primarily present in the winter and spring and are rarely present in the summer when they migrate to higher elevation summer range. Therefore, the negative impacts of recreation we observed are primarily stemming from winter and spring recreation." This study reinforces the idea that with proper management, education, and monitoring, recreation and wildlife can co-exist, which is in large part, the purpose of the Environmental Assessment that the BLM completed for this travel management area in 2024 in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

I respectfully ask the Council to approve the AJ Trail Access Easements and MOU and take this important step toward creating a lasting public asset for the community.

Thank you council and mayor for your care and consideration in this matter.

Chris Brule
Driggs, Idaho

--
Chris Brule
[redacted]

Outlook

Support for AJ Trail Easements and MOU

From Greg Buchko [redacted] >
Date Mon 9/21/2026 8:09 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <amyr@victoridaho.gov>; Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Erica Linnell <Erical@victoridaho.gov>

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Dear Mayor Muncaster and Victor City Council,

As a resident of the City of Victor, I would like to express my support for the adoption of the two easements that connect the AJ Linnell trail to the adjacent BLM lands. Access to public lands for recreation is highly valued in our growing community and this is a rare opportunity to create a public lands access close to town.

I also support the MOU between the City of Victor, TVTAP, and MBT. The trails accessible through the easements will replace a network of user created trails and provide maintenance and trail stewardship with very little cost to The City.

Thank you for your service and for considering my comments.

Greg

Gregory J. Buchko, P.E.
Buchko Structural Engineering LLC
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455
[redacted]

Outlook

In Support of AJ to Fox Creek Trail

From Marc Budsberg [redacted] >
Date Mon 9/21/2026 12:37 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster,

I am writing to voice my support for the AJ Linnell South Trail Project. I know there are some issues to work through regarding parking and easements. My hope is that these issues can be resolved and do not interfere with moving this project forward. Connecting this trail all the way to Fox Creek would be a huge benefit to the community and trail users, especially for those of us living in the Fox Creek area. Being able to access Victor and the south end via a trail network from Fox Creek would create new route opportunities, helping to avoid crossing the busy highway twice, and spread trail users out with more mileage. Granted, taking such a route vs. crossing the highway and using the bike path would be a significantly more physically challenging endeavor. However, I believe that is exactly the type of challenge that Teton Valley users crave. Please support the AJ Linnell Trails Project.

Thank you,
Marc Budsberg

Outlook

Victor Front trails comment for 9/23/26

From Donald Carpenter <[redacted]>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 6:29 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (38 KB)
Victor Front letter.pdf;

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Please see the attached comment letter re. Victor Front trails for the 9/23/26 City Council meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Don Carpenter

Mayor Muncaster and City Councilors,

I am writing with concerns over the Victor Front trail system above the Victor, Idaho. I am an advocate for trails and multiple use on our public lands. I access our public lands via hiking, biking, skiing, hunting, and paddling.

We currently have excellent access to public lands via multiple use trails around Teton Valley. Given the importance of the habitat on the Victor Front, a new trail system has the potential for significant negative impacts to wildlife. I appreciate the Mayor and City Council taking the time to consider and weigh in on the easements associated with this BLM trails project.

The Victor Front trails would be built on critical year-round habitat. The terrain serves as winter range, calving grounds for big game, and habitat for grizzly bears and wolverine.
Big game like elk, deer, and moose need habitat that contains food, water, security, and space. High density trails can displace wildlife from this terrain and, even though the food and water may still exist, lead to a 'functional loss of this habitat.'

Specific Concerns:
-The trails that have been approved above Victor are only one phase of the project that has been marketed to the public. I believe that all phases of proposed trails, from Victor to Fox Creek, should to be assessed as one 'trail system' to understand the full cumulative impacts of the proposed project on local habitat and wildlife. The council should require this full assessment before construction begins on the first phase of the project above Victor.

-The easements should be contingent upon appropriate seasonal closures based on input from IDFG to protect for winter use and calving in the area.

-My understanding is that e-bikes will be allowed across the broader BLM trail system, but are not allowed via the private easement in question. The allowed uses on BLM land and on the private easement need to be aligned before this project moves forward. A failure to do so will lead to inevitable conflict.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Don Carpenter
[redacted]
Victor, ID
83455

Outlook

AJ Trail Access Easement Letter

From Shelby Dyer <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 4:10 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Shelby Dyer, and I am Victor resident, specifically fellow Mountainside Village resident as well as a mountain biker, hiker and general lover of our public lands!
I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU
between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already planned approach to public land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide
predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the
easements.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:
Accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP for stewardship and management of the easements.
Support a sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.
Sincerely,
Shelby

Shelby Dyer
[redacted]
Victor ID 83455
[redacted]

Outlook

Phase 1 Status — Determination of NEPA Adequacy, Cultural Survey, and MOU

From Forrest McCarthy <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 2:54 PM
To Monica B Zimmerman <[redacted]>
Cc John Raffit <[redacted]>; Victor Mayor <mayor@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <[email redacted]>; Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>; Proett,Matt <[redacted]>; Pieron,Matt <[redacted]>; Rob Cavallaro <[redacted]>; Amy McCarthy <[redacted]>

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Monica,

We understand the Phase 1 cultural resource survey has been completed. Since Phase 1 does not depend on the pending RTP grant application, we want to understand where things currently stand and whether construction could begin this fall.

A few specific questions:

Has a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) been completed, drafted, or is one currently under preparation for Phase 1? If one has been completed, could you provide it, including its NEPA Register or tracking number?

Does BLM's DNA process require a signed implementation agreement (MOU, right-of-way grant, or similar) with TVTAP and MBT before a DNA can be approved? If so, has that been satisfied for Phase 1?

Has the MOU between BLM, TVTAP, and MBT referenced in the January 26, 2026 Letter of Intent been signed? If not, what is its current status?

Does BLM anticipate authorizing Phase 1 construction activity this fall, and if so, on approximately what date?

Given the season, we'd appreciate a response as soon as you're able.

Thank you,

Forrest and Amy McCarthy

Victor, ID 83455

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail support

From Mark Fisher <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 3:40 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Mark Fisher and I am a longtime resident since 2001 of Teton County and business owner/building owner in the City of Victor. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me because maintaining a viable trail network for residents and visitors alike is incredibly important to a thriving community. Recreation is also important to the long-term financial health of our city and community. I was personally dear friends with AJ and a significant financial contributor to this trail network.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

Mark Fisher

Mark Fisher
FOUNDER & CEO
[redacted]

www.fishercreative.com



Outlook

My Support Stands: AJ Linnell Trail on Tomorrow's Agenda

From jannine fitzgerald [redacted] >
Date Tue 9/22/2026 7:13 AM
To Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <amyr@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Jeremy Besbris <jeremyb@victoridaho.gov>; Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>; Erica Linnell <Erical@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

I'm writing again to reaffirm my support for the AJ Linnell Trail easements and MOU, now that the item is back on tomorrow evening's agenda.

When this was tabled, nothing about the underlying facts changed. The AJ Linnell Trail easements and the MOU with MBT and TVTAP are still the same sound, well-vetted framework they were before: a plan for who maintains the trail, who's accountable for it, and how it connects responsibly to BLM land. A delay doesn't make those questions go away, it just postpones the moment when Victor has to decide whether it wants organized, lawful access or the informal, unmanaged version that fills the gap when nothing official exists.

I'd ask the council to remember that this isn't a proposal being rushed through. The BLM's environmental review and Travel Management Plan process already happened, with public and agency input built in well before this ever reached your desk. What's left is a local decision, not a first look at a new idea. Tomorrow is a chance to finish what's already been carefully started.

I recognize some residents remain uneasy, and I take that seriously. But I'd ask you to weigh that discomfort against what's actually on the table: years of planning, protections for neighboring private property, and a legal path forward that beats the alternative of no plan at all. Putting this off again doesn't resolve the concerns, it just leaves the door open longer for exactly the kind of unmanaged use everyone says they want to avoid.

I hope tomorrow is the night the council moves this forward. This valley's trails are part of why so many of us choose to live here, and I'd like to see that legacy protected the right way.

Thank you for staying with this process and for giving it the attention it deserves.

Sincerely,

Jannine Fitzgerald
[redacted] Victor, ID

Outlook

AJ Trail

From Michael Galvin <[redacted]>
Date Sun 9/20/2026 12:58 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Mike Galvin and I live in the Mountainside Village neighborhood of Victor, on Red Mountain Way. I am writing to voice my support for the City of Victor accepting and holding the public access easements and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

My wife and I have a three year old son and we love to get out on the area trails to hike, bike, and walk our dog. The prospect of having well built and maintained trails within walking/riding distance of our house is really exciting. Having a trail system in town would not only provide our son something invaluable to grow up with, but it would give all area residents the same opportunity. For most kids, there is not currently a trail that they can walk or ride to from their house. The AJ trail would provide access to trails without having to cross busy highways or ride down long sections of gravel roads, instead users can use bike paths and easy neighborhood streets. This seems like a no brainer!

With that being said, I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easements, approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thanks so much,
Mike Galvin

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trails

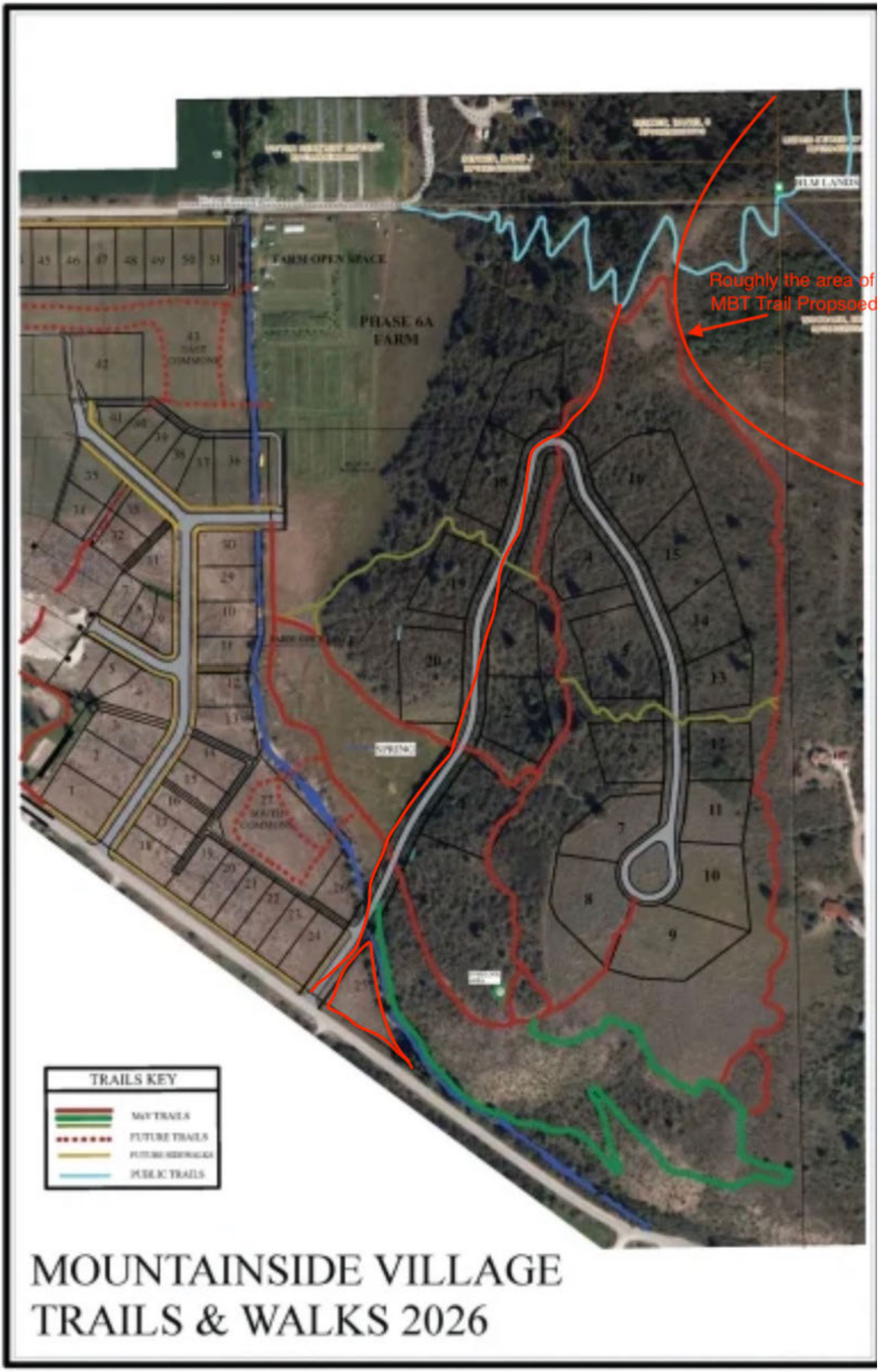
From Lauren Gearhart <[redacted]
Date Tue 9/22/2026 9:08 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Mayor Muncaster,

Please support town council accepting the MBT expansion plans on the AJ Linnell trail system. As an avid trail runner of AJ's trail and those currently existing on BLM extending to the Wyoming border, I am very eager for the expansion and realignment to make it more mountain bike accessible as well. In order to maintain our outdoor recreational culture, It is important for our community to support a legal, planned, and responsible approach to public lands. Supporting this expansion will create more accessible recreation for locals and visitors within city limits conveniently and safely. Thank you for your consideration and happy trails!

Lauren Gearhart, Big Bear Lane, Victor
[redacted]



MOUNTAINSIDE VILLAGE
TRAILS & WALKS 2026

Outlook

Trail Access - Food for thought

From Jessica Travis Ginter [redacted]
Date Fri 9/18/2026 1:02 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (2 MB)
Image of MSV LOT 25.pdf;

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi Michelle,
This email is less public comment than it is food for thought while considering Trail access now and in the future.
Please forward to Planning Commissioners and Mayor.
It is a letter I wrote to MSV POA as a resident of Mountainside Village.

Thank you for your time,
Jessica Travis Ginter

To the MSV Board,

Recently, I sat down with Dan Verbeten to learn more about MBT's plan for a mountain bike trail above Mountainside Village as part of a larger system using BLM territory above our neighborhood..

With easements currently proposed through both the Bender property and an MSV property, the anticipated access to this new trail would be via the AJ Trail at the end of Cemetery Road. This brings us right back to concerns about increased traffic and parking on Cemetery Road, impacts to the cemetery, and many of the same issues we discussed during the farm development conversations just a few weeks ago.

Rather than waiting for those problems to arise, I think we have an opportunity to be proactive about where we want to direct people and how we want them to access this area.

I understand the current intent is for trail users to continue parking at the hockey rink. In practice, however, I think that will be difficult to enforce—particularly as development around the hockey rink increases and parking there becomes more constrained.

Since MBT and TVTAP have been targeting this area for trail connectivity for some time, the Centennial Trail already begins at the end of Old Jackson Highway, and bike trails already exists up to that point, I

think Lot 25 deserves serious consideration as a potential access and parking point for both MSV-related activities and public trail access.

I realize Lot 25 is currently for sale and that removing it from the market would have financial implications for Larry Thal. However, I think there are several advantages worth considering.

First, Lot 25 could provide direct access to the MTB trail from an existing road and a designated parking area. This is similar to how many trail systems are accessed in Park City and other highly developed mountain communities. It could eliminate the need to create additional trail access from the valley floor, helping minimize unnecessary foot and bike traffic through the lower foothills and reducing disturbance to wildlife habitat.

Second, it would allow us to direct cyclists efficiently to the public bike trail while preserving several of MSV's private trails as private and/or hiking only trails.

Finally, a designated parking area at Lot 25 could also serve occasional educational or community events associated with the farm, providing a planned location for parking rather than pushing additional vehicles onto Cemetery Road.

To me, this seems like an opportunity to solve several foreseeable problems at once: protect Cemetery Road and the cemetery from becoming an unofficial trailhead, better manage public access through Mountainside Village, protect the character of our private trail system, and provide appropriate parking for occasional MSV and farm related activities.

I would appreciate the Board considering whether Lot 25 might be worth exploring for this purpose before the property is sold and that opportunity is lost.

Thank you for considering the idea.

Jessica Travis Ginter





Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

From Anna Gunderson <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 8:58 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted] Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is **Anna Gunderson** and I am **Teton Valley resident and Victor business owner, public-land user, mountain biker and hiker. I** am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

The main reason we live here besides the amazing community is for access to public land and maintained trails. My entire family loves to bike, my dog enjoys long hikes and my mental health appreciates the medicine of nature bathing.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor’s mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Anna Gunderson
Victor ID
[redacted]

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail

From Caroline Haines <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 11:37 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (67 KB)
Re AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted] Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hello - Please see attached pdf and include it in the Staff Report for the September 23 City Council meeting. Thank you very much!

Kindest regards, Caroline Haines

--
Caroline Haines

September 21, 2026

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands, and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

Informal or unmanaged trail access can create a host of issues. In contrast, a designated access point to this multi-use trail network protects private property, communicates expectations, and provides predictable stewardship and maintenance.

The proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP provides the City with organizations committed to ongoing stewardship and a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

When private landowners generously provide access and non-profit organizations (MBT & TVTAP) use resources to manage and steward, the City of Victor provides the final piece of an important framework for the success of the AJ Linnell Trail on public BLM land.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Caroline Haines

MBT Board Member, Passionate Mountain Biker and Public Lands User

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

mountain biking trails

From Chester Heeger [redacted] >
Date Mon 9/21/2026 12:03 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Victor City Council,

I'm writing to show my support for mountain biking trails that would connect the AJ Trail to Fox Creek through the BLM land.

One of the things that makes this area such a great place to live is how easy it is to get outside and enjoy the mountains and public lands around us. Having more trails that we can access right from town would be a huge benefit for our community. It would give people another place to bike, hike, and spend time outside without having to load everything into a car and drive to a trailhead.

I also think having planned and maintained trails is a much better way to handle the growing amount of recreation in the valley. People are going to continue getting outside, and having designated trails gives us a way to manage that use responsibly while being respectful of wildlife, private property, and the people who live nearby.

As someone who enjoys mountain biking, I would love to see more opportunities to ride directly from Victor and eventually connect the AJ Trail all the way toward Fox Creek. It would be an amazing addition to the trail system we already have and something that both locals and visitors could enjoy for years to come.

I know there are different concerns that need to be considered with a project like this, and I appreciate the time that has already gone into figuring out how to make it work. I hope the City will continue working with the BLM, landowners, and other local groups to find a responsible way forward.

I strongly support creating this trail connection and hope the City Council will continue working to make it happen.

Thank you for your time and for considering the input of the community.

Sincerely,

Chester Heeger
Driggs, Idaho

Outlook

Letter of Support: AJ Trailhead

From Kate Hull Heidenreich [redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 1:44 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

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Dear Mayor Muncaster and Councilmembers,

My name is Kate Hull and I live on Oliver Road in Victor. While I am outside the city limits, each choice the council makes impacts residents beyond the city rlimits. I am writing to express my strong support for accepting the easements that would provide legal public access from the AJ Linnell Trail to the public lands above Victor and bringing this project to fruition.

The AJ Trail project is a celebration of this community: The people, place, and recreation access that so many deeply love. When completed, it will provide residents and visitors with an opportunity to walk or ride directly from town into the surrounding landscape, encouraging recreation, connection to nature, and a healthier relationship with the public lands that make Teton Valley such a special place.

This project has long-standing roots in our community's plan, dating back to multi-use Victor recreation discussions in 2013. This project will further connect trails to the BLM, and protect this area for thoughtful, intentional recreation use. As a Victor resident, I cannot wait to see this complete and know that the final result will keep both the wildlife and land in mind, ensuring a long-lasting project that serves all, from bikers to wildlife.

I recognize that the Council has a responsibility to carefully consider environmental, neighborhood, and land-use concerns. I believe the proposed easements provide an opportunity to establish clear, managed, and legal access while respecting the surrounding community and the decisions already made regarding public-land trail management.

The AJ Trail represents years of community effort and investment. Creating a connection to the public lands above Victor would allow that investment to serve the community as intended, while providing a defined and manageable route for recreation.

I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to accept the proposed AJ Trail easements and approve the associated maintenance agreement.

Thank you for your service to Victor and for taking the time to consider the community's perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kate Hull

[redacted]

--

Kate Hull Heidenreich

[redacted]

Co-publisher + Editor, *Teton Valley Magazine*

Freelance lifestyle + travel writer

tetonvalleymagazine.com

[redacted]

Outlook

ICL letter re Victor Front easements

From Josh Johnson [redacted] >
Date Thu 9/17/2026 3:09 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (94 KB)
ICL letter re Victor Front easements trails.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi there,

Please find the attached public comments from the Idaho Conservation League regarding the Victor Front access easements that are slated to be discussed at the September 23rd city council meeting.

Regards,
--
Josh Johnson (he/him)
Central Idaho Director
Idaho Conservation League
[address redacted], [address redacted]
Shoshone-Bannock Traditional Lands
[phone redacted] x 301

www.idahoconservation.org

IDAHO CONSERVATION LEAGUE

208.345.6933 • PO Box 844, Boise, ID 83702 • www.idahoconservation.org

September 17, 2026

Victor City Council

[address redacted]

[address redacted]

[address redacted]

RE: Victor Front access easements for AJ Linnell Trail

Dear Mayor Muncaster and City Councilors:

My name is Josh Johnson and I am the Central Idaho Director for the Idaho Conservation League (ICL). Founded in 1973, ICL is a consistent, statewide voice for conservation in Idaho and represents more than 30,000 members and supporters. ICL's mission is to create a conservation community and pragmatic, enduring solutions that protect and restore the air you breathe, the water you drink, and the land and wildlife you love. We engage in public lands related projects across the state and consistently work to protect those landscapes and the wildlife they support.

Several ICL members living in the Victor area contacted us about the forthcoming city council deliberations and potential decision regarding multiple land access easements along the Victor Front. If granted, these easements would likely allow for the development of additional trails on adjacent BLM lands beyond what was initially approved by the agency under the 2024 Upper Snake East BLM Travel Management Plan. ICL would like to weigh in on this issue ahead of the September 23rd city council meeting where the issue of these easements will be discussed.

As you are aware, the Victor Front contains some of the last remaining wildlife habitat in Teton Valley that does not have substantial trail development or recreational use (thus far). This area provides critical winter range for deer and elk that summer in the upper reaches of the southern Tetons. Residential development and the proliferation of user-created trails in the Victor Front has already put significant pressure on wildlife, which will be exacerbated if significant additional trail development occurs.

The easements under your consideration currently would allow access to the AJ Linnell Trail, which then connects to approximately seven miles of trails that were approved by the BLM under the 2024 TMP. These easements would also facilitate the development of other proposed trails (12 additional miles) that would link the BLM trails to Fox Creek. Those trails have not yet been analyzed or approved and were not included in the 2024 TMP.

Any future consideration of these trails would require the appropriate level of planning and review by the BLM to determine whether they should be approved or not. And given the current National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations and how other projects on public lands have recently played out in terms of the permitting process, it is a very open question as to what level of environmental analysis would occur for such proposals. Our specific concern is that these trail proposals would be analyzed under a Categorical Exclusion (the minimal level of environmental analysis under NEPA) without a formal public comment period, as opposed to a more robust Environmental Assessment that includes clear opportunities for public involvement and input. Furthermore, these trail proposals would presumably be analysed on their own rather than on a cumulative basis in conjunction with the rest of what was analyzed in the 2024 TMP, which raise issues of potential illegal NEPA segmentation. We recommend that you discuss that issue further with BLM staff.

Overall, we recommend that the City carefully consider the bigger picture associated with these easements as they relate to future trail development in the Victor Front. While we recognize that the future trail developments in question are not under the City's direct jurisdiction or decision space, the City may have an opportunity to influence the BLM regarding how the agency will analyze future trail proposals in the Victor Front related to these access easements and come to an understanding of how to move forward (perhaps in the form of an MOU or some other type of agreement). From our perspective, the goal should be to ensure that any future trail proposals for this area are analyzed under an Environmental Assessment rather than a Categorical Exclusion. The City also should continue to take into consideration the technical advice provided by the specialists at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to assess the potential wildlife impacts from future trail development and use that information to inform their decision

We understand that this is a complex issue that is much broader than just how the City of Victor decides to proceed with these easements. ICL is planning to engage the BLM directly on this issue and we encourage the City to do the same in order to address the bigger picture balance between wildlife and trail development in the Victor Front.

We appreciate the time and attention the city has given to this matter, and thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,



Josh Johnson
Central Idaho Director
Idaho Conservation League
[phone redacted] x 301

Outlook

Support for Easements / MOU - AJ Linell Trail

From Jones, Hunter H <[redacted]>
Date Sun 9/20/2026 12:43 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Hunter Jones and I am a seasonal resident and homeowner in the Mountainside Village neighborhood of Victor. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me. My wife and two teenage kids use the AJ trail and the public lands it provides access to on a weekly basis, especially during the summer months.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,
Hunter

Hunter Jones | Managing Director | Marsh | [phone redacted]

****

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Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail Letter to Victor Mayor & City Council

From Jeremiah Keavney <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 11:11 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (38 KB)
Victor City Council Trails Easement Letter Keavney.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hello,

Please forward my attached letter regarding the pending easement(s) and MOU for the AJ Linnell Trail along to the Victor Mayor and City Council Members for their consideration.

Thank you,
Jeremiah Keavney
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

September 21, 2026

Dear Mayor and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Jeremiah Keavney, and I am a resident and community member of the greater Victor area. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me. I am an Idaho native and have lived in Teton Valley for twelve years. I enjoy hiking and biking on public lands and find solace in connecting to nature on our public lands. I love living in Teton Valley and have made it my home because of all the incredible access we have to public lands. The AJ Linnell Trail system that has been envisioned and stewarded by TVTAP and Mountain Bike the Tetons, in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, is another great example of a trail network that will further enrich our community as it provides access to public lands for all of us to enjoy!

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape. Additionally, I strongly believe in the importance of elected officials listening to all perspectives, not just the loudest few voices, when making decisions that impact the whole community.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Keavney
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

Outlook

FW: Victor Front Decisions and Wildlife Conservation

From Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 9:00 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

Please add to public comment …

From: Jeff Klausmann <[redacted]>
Date: Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 5:29 PM
To: Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>; Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <amyr@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; erical@vistoridaho.gov <erical@vistoridaho.gov>
Subject: Victor Front Decisions and Wildlife Conservation

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Victor City Council and Mayor-

I respectfully encourage you all to read this piece https://yellowstonian.org/why-the-lorax-never-identified-as-funhog/ related to recreation and wildlife in the GYE, which couldn't be timelier considering the sensitivity of the habitat and proposed trail networks on the Victor Front.
Best

JK

Jeffrey Klausmann
[redacted]
Driggs, ID 83422

Outlook

Fwd: AJ Linnell Public Access

From Chip Lerwick [redacted] >
Date Fri 9/18/2026 3:32 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Chip Lerwick <c[redacted]; Katie Lerwick [redacted] >

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Chip Lerwick. My wife Katie Lerwick and I bought a home in Mountainside Village 4 years ago. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me because these lands and mountains are sacred to us. My wife grew up here, we married in the Tetons 34 years ago and have raised our kids in these mountains with a deep appreciation for our public spaces. Our reason for buying a home in Mountainside was it's proximity to public lands and promise of access.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and

support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely

Chip and Katie Lerwick
[redacted].
Victor, ID 83455
[redacted]

Outlook

Support the AJ Trail Easement

From Max Lewis [redacted] >
Date Sat 9/19/2026 10:21 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (2 MB)
M.Lewis AJ Trail Access Easement.docx;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Good Morning City of Victor,
I am writing to support the Access Easement for the AJ Linnell Trail. Please see the attached letter and circulate it to the Mayor and City Council.
Thanks,
Max Lewis

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is Max Lewis, and I am Victor resident, who appreciates our access to public lands. Great access to trails makes our community a fantastic place to live, and brings tourists and revenue to our city. I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor’s mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Max Lewis

[redacted]

Victor, ID

83455

[redacted]

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

From Madison | MBT <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 2:08 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Victor City Council,

I am writing in support of acceptance of the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approval of the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I am a Victor resident, trail runner & mountain biker who values our public lands and believes that public access enhances community, connection, commitment to stewardship**,** and quality of life in our valley. I see evidence of this in interactions with others during my daily enjoyment of our public lands, and in my engagement with our community through trail work and events as a Mountain Bike the Tetons volunteer and board member.

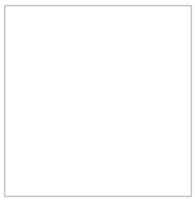
I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge. I believe the City should support this already planned approach to public land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, respect private property, communicate expectations, and provide & responsible predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having these organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

In summary, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:
- Accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your commitment to our community and your consideration of my request,

Madison Gilmore
[redacted] Victor, ID 83455
[redacted]
--
Madison Gilmore | Board Chair
Mountain Bike the Tetons
[redacted] Driggs, ID 83422
[redacted]
Email
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Outlook

Support for AJ Linnell easements

From Gene Marcowka <[redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 4:36 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>
Cc [redacted]>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the City Council,

My name is Gene Marcowka and live in Victor (just outside the city limits) and I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Access to our public lands is one piece of a vibrant community. And having easy access directly from the town of Victor (a high-density part of our valley) is good for the city and more importantly its residents, not just those that happen to live on the hill. The city of Victor, members of our Community and the supporting organizations have been working together for over 10 years to provide access to the land these trails will cover. Collectively, they did the due diligence, went through the appropriate processes, and received all of the necessary approvals. To not approve the easements and the MOU would be a vote against community collaboration and a stain on the City of Victor. And a large step backwards. Please don't cave to a vocal minority and ignore all the hard work, due diligence, and thousands of hours (and dollars) of Community member collaboration.

In the spirit of Community engagement and recognition of all the hard work that was done to do this project right, **I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easements, approve the MOU** and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future. And thank you for stepping up to serve our community – I know it can be very challenging to serve a community you love for very little recognition.

Respectfully,

Gene Marcowka and Jenny Charles
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

Outlook

Request for Clarification — TVTAP's Announcement of a September 23rd Vote on the Bender/Thomas Easements

From Amy McCarthy <[redacted]>
Date Sun 9/13/2026 5:55 PM
To Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>; Amy R <amyr@victoridaho.gov>; Emily S <[email redacted]>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Forrest G McCarthy <[redacted]>

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Dear Mayor Muncaster,

We write to follow up on the City Council's August 12, 2026 meeting. Per the recording of that meeting, you stated:

"I'd entertain a motion to continue this meeting to a date uncertain, and direct staff to work with the BLM and Fish and Game to see what the most appropriate way to get more information."

Councilwoman Ross moved accordingly, Councilwoman Hulsing seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

We want to say plainly: we were encouraged by that decision. Continuing the item to allow real due diligence struck us as exactly the kind of careful process Victor residents should expect from their Council. We were also glad to hear you raise the idea of a town hall earlier in that same discussion:

"I think it makes some sense that this becomes a town hall question and answer where the community can ask the BLM and Fish and Game these questions... This sounds like a great, perfect first one, where there's an open forum to ask these questions. And then we put it back on the council agenda for approval of the easements."

We hope that idea is still under consideration.

That is why we were surprised to see the following in TVTAP's September 11th newsletter:

"On September 23rd, City of Victor elected officials will vote to accept (or deny) easements dedicated to the city from two incredibly generous landowners. If approved, it will secure access to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands east of Victor."

We have checked the City's website and found no agenda posted for the September 23rd meeting, nor any public indication that a vote on these easements is scheduled for that date. Nor are we aware of any

public update on the information-gathering process the Council directed staff to undertake with BLM and IDFG on August 12th — including whether the proposed town hall has been scheduled, held, or set aside.

We ask the City to clarify the following:

1. Does the City Council agenda for September 23rd include a vote on the Bender/Thomas easements?
2. If a vote is planned, when will the agenda be posted?
3. What steps have staff taken since August 12th to work with BLM and IDFG, and what did that process produce?
4. Has a town hall been scheduled, and if not, is the September 23rd date intended to substitute for it?

We hope TVTAP's newsletter is simply inaccurate or premature. If it is not, it is worth the City's attention that a private trail advocacy organization is communicating a specific vote date and outcome expectation to its members and donors before the City has informed the public of any agenda at all. That gap — between what a project proponent is telling its supporters and what the public record shows — is exactly the kind of erosion of trust the August 12th vote was meant to prevent.

We appreciate your attention to this and would welcome the chance to discuss it further.

Sincerely,

Amy & Forrest McCarthy

--

photo **Amy Brennan McCarthy**

A [redacted], Victor, Idaho 83455
M [redacted]

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[address redacted]

September 22, 2026

Via e-mail: [email redacted]

Forrest McCarthy
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

Re: Bureau of Land Management Implementation of Upper Snake East Travel Management Plan

Dear Forrest McCarthy,

Thank you for your emails to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Upper Snake Field Office and for taking the time to share concerns on behalf of residents of Victor, ID, regarding proposed trail work on BLM-managed lands. We appreciate your interest in BLM projects and your engagement in the management of public lands.

With this letter, I want to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated June 19, 2026. Your message is styled as a "formal administrative & regulatory objection" and a "notice of non-compliance under 43 C.F.R. part 46." However, there is no such administrative filing mechanism under Department of the Interior regulations, and BLM does not have a legal obligation to treat the submission as a formal or procedurally recognized objection.

I also want to acknowledge your messages to BLM dated August 15 and September 13, 2026, where you alleged numerous violations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). With respect to NEPA compliance, BLM has already completed the appropriate level of environmental review for the travel management decisions that authorize trail development on BLM public lands east of Victor along the Teton Front. The Upper Snake East Travel Management Plan (TMP) Environmental Assessment (EA), accompanying Finding of No Significant Impact, and the Implementation Guide collectively provide the NEPA analysis and decision framework for development and maintenance of designated trail routes within the planning area. The current trail work under consideration is consistent with that analysis and implements decisions already made through the TMP process.

Because these trail projects are implementation actions that fall within the scope of the TMP EA and do not represent new decisions outside the analysis already completed, there is no legal basis

requiring additional NEPA review beyond what has already been performed. While we welcome public input and will continue to consider site-specific information relevant to project design, the TMP EA remains the governing NEPA document.

If you have additional questions about the implementation of travel management decisions, please feel free to contact the BLM Upper Snake Field Office.

Sincerely,



Mel M. Meier
Attorney-Advisor

cc: John Reffit, Upper Snake Field Manager
Sue Muncaster, City of Victor Mayor

Outlook

Council Questions for BLM and IDFG — September 23 Presentation

From Amy McCarthy <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 8:18 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>; Sue Muncaster <suem@victoridaho.gov>
Cc Amy R <[email redacted]>; Emily S <emilys@victoridaho.gov>; Stacy Hulsing <stacyh@victoridaho.gov>; Forrest G McCarthy <[redacted]>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster,

Thank you for inviting questions that the Council may pose to BLM and IDFG at the September 23 presentation.

Two procedural questions, ahead of the meeting:

1. Will public comment be taken on this agenda item on September 23?
2. Recent reporting indicated no vote will occur that night, due to a member's absence and a Council member's recusal. The posted agenda, however, lists this item as one on which "Action May Be Taken." Could you clarify the Council's ability to take action at the September 23 meeting, and whether the agenda language will be revised to reflect the lack of a quorum on this item?

Below is a list of questions for BLM and IDFG, organized by agency. Given the number of questions, if the Council feels there will not be adequate time for the agencies to answer all of them orally at the meeting, the Council may wish to require written responses from BLM and IDFG following the presentation.

Questions for BLM

1. Has BLM's legal basis for this project changed since discussions in May 2026 — from reliance on a Categorical Exclusion to the Upper Snake East Travel Management Plan Implementation Guide's provision allowing route widening, realignment, or travel surface upgrades without further NEPA review? If so, when did that change occur, and what prompted it?
2. The Route Reports for UE1222, UE1442, UE1444, UE1448, UE1445, UE1429, and UE1440 — the full inventory of new and existing routes in the Sweet Hollow–Allen Creek project area — total approximately 7.08 miles, with 3.56 miles approved for new construction. The proponents' concept plan describes Phases 1 and 2 combined as approximately 8.5 miles in the same area, about 20% more than reflected in the Route Reports. Will final constructed mileage remain at or below the 7.08 miles already reflected in the Decision Record? If it will exceed that total, what is the additional mileage, and under what authority is it being constructed?

3. The Environmental Assessment discloses new non-motorized single-track construction in erosive soils under three action alternatives — approximately 2.1 miles under Alternative B, 8.1 miles under Alternative C, and 8.6 miles under Alternative D — with only Alternative B tied to a specific location,"Just east of Victor, Idaho." A September 2025 email from BLM staff stated that Phase 2 trails had not been designated and that NEPA review would be required, while a Field Work Authorization issued in May 2026 for a cultural resource survey describes the proposed trail as differing from the 2024 BLM-approved routes. What NEPA review, if any, was conducted for the Phase 2 alignment between September 2025 and BLM's January 29, 2026 federal NEPA Compliance certification? If none was conducted, is the Field Work Authorization's description accurate?
4. Every individual Route Report in the 2024 TMP reviewed for this project, including the four approved for new construction, designates the routes "Limited to non-motorized use," closed to OHV use under 43 CFR § 8342.1. BLM's own interactive public scoping map for this area, however, currently displays the same routes as "Limited to Non-Motorized with E-Bikes Allowed" — the same map that a related grant application cites as reflecting the plan finalized in May 2024. Which record is correct? If the public scoping map is outdated or in error, will it be corrected, and will the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation be notified that the grant application relies on a source BLM does not consider current?
5. The 2016 Mountainside, Inc. easement — the sole legal access to this network prior to 2026, and still the access point for the lower AJ Trail segment — grants access only to "pedestrians and bicyclists" and prohibits motorized vehicles. BLM's own recreation materials classify e-bikes as motor vehicles under 43 CFR 8340.0-5 absent a specific exception. If that classification applies, the 2016 easement has never permitted e-bike access. Why have the 2024 Travel Management Plan and the current proposal represented portions of this network as open to e-bike use, when the only legal access point has never permitted it? Was the 2016 easement's terms considered when this designation was made?
6. Public materials describing this project have referenced landowner-provided access dating to 2015, though the relevant easements were not submitted until August 3, 2026, and BLM was informed in February 2026 that no lawful access existed at the point where private and federal parcels meet. Did BLM's January 29, 2026 federal certification rely on an understanding that this access already existed? Has that certification been reviewed or corrected since February 2026?
7. A cultural resource survey for this project appears to have been conducted in or around June 2026, before the easements were submitted on August 3, 2026. Did BLM request that the trail proponents delay that survey, or any other field activity, pending execution of the easements? If such a request was made, was it followed? If not, what further action, if any, was taken?
8. The BLM Field Manager's January 26, 2026 letter of support for this project endorses "new single-track trails" without specifying mileage or use type. Was that letter intended to endorse the approximately 7.08-mile network reflected in the Decision Record, or the larger project scope since described in more recent materials?
9. Given the concurrently planned 12-mile Fox Creek connection, how does evaluating this project independently of that connection satisfy NEPA's requirement that connected actions be reviewed together?

Questions for IDFG

1. BLM has indicated that a Categorical Exclusion process would include consultation with IDFG. Did that consultation occur? If so, on what date, what materials were provided, and what was IDFG's

response? If BLM has since moved away from a Categorical Exclusion, has that consultation been formally closed out, or does it remain open and unresolved?

2. The Decision Record's Table 3 lists four locations with full seasonal human-entry closures; this project area is not among them. Table 4 restricts motorized over-snow travel here from December 1 to May 1, but not non-motorized recreational use, despite IDFG data identifying this area as year-round crucial habitat and winter range for elk and mule deer. Was IDFG's site-specific data considered in limiting that restriction to motorized over-snow use only? Has IDFG been asked whether the restriction should extend further?

Thank you, in advance, for soliciting responses to these important questions aimed at giving the City of Victor a fuller picture of the public access request currently before the Council.

Sincerely,

Amy & Forrest McCarthy
[redacted]
Victor, Idaho 83455

--

photo **Amy Brennan McCarthy**

A [redacted], Victor, Idaho 83455
M [redacted]

Create your own email signature

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026 at 1:25 PM

To: Amy McCarthy <[redacted]>

Cc: Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>; Forrest G McCarthy [redacted]>; Jeremy Besbris <jeremyb@victoridaho.gov>

Subject: Re: Request for Clarification — TVTAP's Announcement of a September 23rd Vote on the Bender/Thomas Easements

Dear Amy and Forrest,

Thank you for writing. The Bender/Thomas easements are expected to return to the Council on September 23, consistent with Council's August 12 decision to continue consideration while directing staff to work with BLM and Idaho Fish and Game to obtain additional information. The decision before the City Council remains whether to accept the proposed easements and approve the associated MOU.

The purpose of continuing the item was to make sure Council had the information it said it needed to address the questions raised by the extensive public comments before making that decision. Since that meeting, staff has done just that and have also requested a more complete timeline and description of the project from TVTAP and MBT, so Council has accurate information with which to Representatives from both BLM and IDFG are scheduled to be present on September 23 to answer Council questions directly. I have also asked staff to provide Council with a summary of the public comment received both in support of and in opposition to the easements.

You are correct that on August 12, I suggested this issue might be appropriate for a town hall. I've also relied on past knowledge from local government trainings that advise us it's essential to careful to distinguish between opportunities for public participation that can meaningfully shape a decision and processes that may make people feel heard while creating the impression that the City or the public can determine an outcome that is outside the City's jurisdiction - in this case BLM's federal land-management process.

Looking closely at the respective roles of the City, BLM and IDFG, and the City's other priorities, I decided a regular council meeting—with BLM and IDFG present—is the more appropriate forum for resolving the questions Council identified and a town hall is most appropriate for a future decision where the public can meaningfully shape the outcome. For example, if additional trails between the currently approved network and Fox Creek are proposed during the new planning and public-review process.

The City does have a decision to make regarding the easements, and public input can continue to inform that decision. At this stage, the most useful input is very specific questions Council should ask BLM or IDFG, potential conditions on the easements or MOU, and concerns you believe should be addressed before Council acts. If you have additional questions or proposed conditions, please send them in advance.

The September 23 agenda will be posted in accordance with the City's normal public-notice process and Idaho law. The clerk generally tries to post on Thursday the week before a meeting but is only required to post the agenda 48 hours in advance.

TVTAP is an independent organization. It does not determine the City's agenda, the timing of Council action, or the outcome of Council deliberations. Its newsletter was its own communication with its members; it was not a City notice.

I will pass this correspondence on to Council in a separate email.

Thank. You for your understanding and for staying engaged in the process.

Sue

Sue Muncaster ~ Mayor

[address redacted]

[address redacted] Suite 201, Victor 83455

Office: (208) 787-2940 Mobile: [phone redacted]

suem@victoridaho.gov

www.victoridaho.gov | Facebook

City Hall Office Hours: Monday -- Thursday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.

Public Disclosure: This email may be made available to the public through a records request.

9/20/2026

Dear Mayor Muncaster and the Victor City Council,

My name is Katie McNamara, and I am a Victor resident and owner of Westside Ski & Cycle. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public lands belong to all of us, and meaningful public access ensures our community can experience and enjoy them. My family has chosen to make our home and build our business in Teton Valley in large part because of the connection we have to the outdoors.As we raise our son in Teton Valley, it is important to us that he grows up with access to public lands and a connection to the places that surround our community. We want him to learn to explore, appreciate, and care for these places—and to understand the value of protecting access to them for others and for future generations.

Through our work at Westside, we also see firsthand how trails and accessible outdoor spaces bring people together. They give kids and families places to recreate, help people develop a connection to the landscape around them, and create opportunities for people of different ages and abilities to be active outside.

Protecting thoughtful, lasting access to public lands is an investment in the kind of community I want Victor to continue to be.

This easement and MOU position the City well to provide a meaningful public benefit without placing the fiscal responsibility and trail stewardship needs on City staff or resources. The City's acceptance of these easements is also consistent with its mission to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands while encouraging responsible stewardship is important to the long-term health of both our community and the surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Katie McNamara

Outlook

AJ Trail public comment

From Phil Mollenkof [redacted] >
Date Mon 9/21/2026 11:17 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

Caution: The sender (Phil Mollenkof) details look similar to [redacted] yet they are not. Verify the sender identity using your organization's trusted contact list before replying or taking further action.

Hi Michelle,

I just wanted to throw in a public comment here, that as a city of Victor resident I'm in full favor of public access to the AJ trail system, and its expansion. This will be a huge asset for our community and so many people I know in this town.

Thank you,

Phil Mollenkof

Outlook

BLM Trail Project Easement

From Will Mook <[redacted]
Date Tue 9/22/2026 11:13 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (72 KB)
AJ Trail Access Easement AMPL.docx.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi Mayor Muncaster,
I unfortunately will not be able to attend tomorrow's meeting, but please accept the attached public comment in support of the proposed easement onto the BLM land. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Re: BLM Trail Access Easement & MOU Approval

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Will Mook, Executive Director of Advocates for Multi-Use of Public Lands (AMPL). On behalf of AMPL, I am writing to respectfully request that the City of Victor accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands and approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons (MBT), and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways (TVTAP).

Access to high-quality outdoor recreation is vital to the health, character, and economic vitality of Teton Valley. As our community grows, expanding and formalizing recreational infrastructure is essential to managing user volume, mitigating trail conflict, and preserving natural resources. The proposed trail enhancements on neighboring BLM land directly address these needs, benefiting a broad spectrum of non-motorized trail users.

Following a thorough National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, the BLM approved the redesign and formalization of an existing network of user-built trails into a safe, sustainable trail system. Generous local landowners have offered public access easements to connect our municipal infrastructure to these federal lands. AMPL strongly urges the City of Victor to accept these easements and secure permanent, legal access for our community.

Formalizing this access point will concentrate usage at an appropriate location, clarify public access boundaries, protect adjacent private property, and ensure consistent stewardship. Our community's dedicated volunteers and local trail organizations have consistently demonstrated their commitment to maintaining area trails. The tri-party MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP codifies a collaborative stewardship framework to maintain this system efficiently and sustainably at minimal burden to the City.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Will Mook
Executive Director
Advocates for Multi-use of Public Lands

Outlook

Letter to Mayor & City Council

From Jaime Musnicki <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 10:52 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (46 KB)
Victor City Council Trails Easement Letter Musnicki.pdf;

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Good morning,

Please see my attached letter to the Victor Mayor and City Council related to the pending public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail. Thank you for forwarding my letter along to the Mayor and Council Members for their consideration.

Sincerely,
Jaime Musnicki
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

September 21, 2026

Dear Mayor and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Jaime Musnicki, and I am a resident and community member of the greater Victor area. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is important to me. I have lived in Teton Valley for over twenty years at this point. I have made this valley my home because of the incredible access to public lands, the amazing community of people who also live here, and the splendor of the natural beauty all around us. While I do not live over in Mountainside Village, I have many friends who live there and have enjoyed walking and exploring the trails above Mountainside in all seasons for close to two decades.

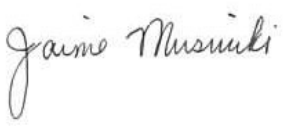
As a long-time supporter and former board member at Teton Valley Trails & Pathways (TVTAP), I have supported and engaged first-hand in the development and maintenance of trails for our community around our valley. I truly see the broad value of a “trails and pathways connected community” and deeply appreciate the collaborative work of TVTAP (and numerous other organizations) to envision, plan, and create such an extensive network of trails on public lands for everyone to enjoy on the west side of the Tetons. The AJ Linnell Trail system that has been envisioned and stewarded by TVTAP and Mountain Bike the Tetons, in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, is another great example of a trail network that will further enrich our community as it provides access to public lands for all of us to enjoy!

The City’s acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,



Jaime Musnicki
[redacted]
Victor, ID 83455

Outlook

AJ Trail Easements - Letter of Support

From Lindsay Nohl <[redacted]>
Date Sun 9/20/2026 11:34 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

Caution: The sender name (Lindsay Nohl) is different from their email address ([redacted]) which may indicate an impersonation attempt. Verify the email's authenticity with the sender using your organization's trusted contact list before replying or taking further action.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Lindsay Nohl, and I am a resident and local business owner in Victor. I am writing in strong support of the City accepting and holding the public access easements and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is at the center of my life's work. I have spent 24 years in outdoor education, including more than twenty with NOLS, and I also served as the previous Executive Director of Mountain Bike the Tetons (2021 - 2023). I now coach and guide mountain biking in this valley (permitted through the USFS), and I see firsthand, every week, how much a well-planned, legally accessible trail system means to this community. Trails like the AJ trail and the future BLM system are exactly the kind of thoughtful, sustainable infrastructure that lets more people connect to public land responsibly, rather than pushing them toward informal or illegal routes that damage the resource and create exactly the kind of uncertainty this project has been designed to prevent.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal, lawful access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship are essential to the long term health of both the community and the landscape surrounding it. Years of work by our exceptional local non profits TVTAP and MBT should not stall now over a final access question that these easements were specifically designed to resolve.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easements, approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting, legal public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community!

Sincerely,
Lindsay Nohl
Victor, Idaho

Lindsay Nohl | owner & head coach
Dirt Town Adventures, LLC
www.dirttownadventures.com
Mountain bike coaching & guiding in the Tetons

September 17, 2026

RE: BLM Public Access Easements - Public Comment - SEPT. 23rd Council meeting

Dear Mayor Muncaster and City Council Members;

I am a resident of the City of Victor. In the interest of full disclosure, I am a member of the finance committee for Mountain Bike the Tetons.

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the Council to vote to accept the easements and affiliated memorandum of understanding allowing access to the Victor BLM area (AJ trail). These easements have been generously donated by private landowners and will allow safe, legal access to the already approved AJ trail system (approved in May of 2024 as part of the travel management plan).

Approval of the easements would grant public access to public lands. Furthermore, the approved Travel Management Plan permits the building of safer, more resilient trails that are less damaging to the environment. Without formal access to this area, and if the easements are not approved, there is an increased risk of continued resource damage, more informal trails and continued illegal access. The generous donation of these easements will allow for sustainable recreation close to town and responsible stewardship and development of the trail system.

Furthermore, these easements allow access to a trail system that will be in alignment with the City's priority of providing recreation close to town. It should be noted that phase one of the trail network is "shovel ready" and will be built at no cost to the city. The developed trail system will provide easy access for neighborhood residents to hike and mountain bike close to home.

I suspect that many residents of Mountainside Village will find that with approval of the easements easy access to a well-developed trail system close to home will be an amenity. Proper signage discouraging parking along cemetery road will minimize traffic in the area, especially with a large amount of parking available at Sherman Park and Kotler arena.

In conclusion, I am hopeful that the City Council will approve the easements for the AJ trail system that have been developed in conjunction with the City of Victor staff. I think easement approval, with the associated conditions, will facilitate the expansion of outdoor recreation close to the city, in addition to allowing the public to safely access public lands while protecting private property. Easy access to outdoor recreational opportunities is what makes the City of Victor and the region so attractive to residents and visitors. I respectfully ask the Council to approve these easements that have been so generously donated by private landowners for the public good.

I am thankful for the opportunity to express my opinion to the Council in writing. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,



Charles Nussbaum

[redacted]

Victor, ID 83455

[redacted]

Outlook

Public comment letter regarding BLM trails access on September 23 council meeting agenda

From Charles Nussbaum <[redacted]>
Date Thu 9/17/2026 3:37 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

1 attachment (3 MB)
Nussbaum BLM trails letter for Sept 23.pdf;

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi Michelle,
Attached please find a letter to the council regarding the BLM trails access on the meeting agenda next week. I am unable to attend this meeting because I will be away at a conference. Thanks for your help.

Charles Nussbaum, MD

Outlook

AJ trail comments

From Allen O'Bannon <[redacted]>
Date Thu 9/17/2026 2:13 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hi to the Victor mayor and council members

I would like to comment in support of the public easement on the AJ trail

As a resident of the city and public land owner I believe we need to do all we can to protect access to public lands

I have lost my ability to hunt my favorite area because the access across private lands was blocked by an outfitter

I have seen the loss of access to public lands in our valley and seen the effort required to find work around if they even exist.

I have just returned from Norway where the right to roam is so enshrined that you are allowed to cross or camp on public or private lands as long as they aren't cultivated or close to someone's house

I believe very strongly in our public lands and our access to them

So I ask you to accept the easements connecting the AJ trail to the BLM

Approve the MOU between the city of victor and MBT and TVTAP

And support the development of trails to access public lands

Thank you for your time
Allen O'Bannon
[redacted]
Victor, ID

Sent from my iPhone

Outlook

Comments re: Access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail

From George Redden <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 1:54 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is George Redden. We have owned a home in Mountainside Village since 2008 and have developed a fair sense for the values and culture of Teton Valley as a diverse blend of interests and perspectives which is what makes it a great place to live and worth protecting and managing its evolution. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail, although with some caveats based on my understanding of the plan.

Access to public lands is important to me because as a principle, and I personally would like the opportunity to hike and bike in the area defined by the access and proposed trails. I also recognize that there need to be some constraints that help find a balance between access and the wildlife/nature of our area that is the basis for the values shared by residents.

I would like to see the City accept the proposed easements as long as they are consistent with the comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community balanced against protection regional natural environments.

The vision for the AJ Linnell public access easement(s) is appropriate and has my support. However, as a condition for acceptance I am hoping that the City will also ensure that foreseeable consequences that exceed certain thresholds will be measurable, monitored, and that responses to exceeding the thresholds will be recorded as commitments by the City and parties involved.

As you know, members of the community have raised reasonable concerns about the trail system, which include traffic, parking, impact on the cemetery, exploitation by special commercial interests, impacts on wildlife, impacts on hunting, etc. At times the discussion seems to degenerate into polar extremes – hunting access, preservation of nature and wildlife, and special interests of the mountain biking community. The easements are viewed as opening or closing gates for different futures. If trail access and expansion is to be a treasured resource for the community, ***please make sure there are plans in place, with enforceability, to respond to conditions that go beyond the ideal vision (for each of the preceding topics) and could end up having long term negative effects on our sense of community and responsible management of shared resources.***

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the well-being of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

George Redden, [redacted] *Victor,* [redacted]

Outlook

Letter to Victor City Council

From Adam Riley <k[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 2:30 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Adam Riley. I've lived in Víctor Idaho for over 20 years and I've owned a general contracting business in Driggs for the same amount of time. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is one of the most important reasons that my family chose to move to Víctor. We love the wild lands and open spaces and wildlife around our town. We enjoy access to public lands year round while hiking, camping, biking and skiing in the Idaho and Wyoming backcountry.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

K Adam Riley

[redacted]

Víctor Idaho

Sent from my AyePhone

Outlook

AJ trail support!!

From Leah Ronnow [redacted] >
Date Tue 9/22/2026 10:36 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Leah Ronnow, and I am a community member in this valley.

I am writing to respectfully ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and to approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

So many community members have worked for years to get this designed and approved. These easements provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection to public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted them, offering a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

Supporting this designated access point will help reduce informal, user created trails, limit erosion, protect private property, and establish clear stewardship. Furthermore, these easements are between private county landowners and the BLM, costing the city nothing. The proposed MOU ensures that MBT and TVTAP will partner with the City to handle ongoing maintenance and trail management.

For these reasons, I ask the Victor City Council to:
• Accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
• Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP for stewardship and management.
• Support a sustainable approach to public access that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Leah Ronnow

Outlook

The AJ Trail

From Will Roth [redacted] >
Date Mon 9/21/2026 1:52 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Victor Council Members and Mayor,

My name is Will Roth, and my wife Angela Saggiomo and I own property at [address redacted] in Victor. The proposed trail would exist on the public land that borders our property, and we are in favor of it.

Erica Linnell is a valuable member of our community and her work in making this commemorative trail happen is for the public good. We look forward to enjoying it one day with the Victor community.

Sincerely,
Will Roth

Outlook

AJ Linnel trail and easement acceptance - Item IV.a

From Christopher Ruedy <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 3:23 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am a resident of unincorporated Teton County, near the City of Victor, and I'm writing to support the City's acceptance of the corner access Easements and the associated MOU for the AJ Linnell Trail. Given the widespread public support and long term work for this plan, this decision on the part of the City is now just a choice between the community's safe, legal, organized and managed access to public lands, or the alternative of informal, unmanaged access.

The work on this plan, with widespread community input and support, is now complete; the time to debate this trail plan has passed. The generous offer by two landowners of easements across their property should be graciously accepted and MOUs with MBT and TVTAP, two Valley orgs proven over time to be capable partners, should be approved.

As a resident of Teton Valley, access to our surrounding public land is important to me for outdoor recreation such as mountain biking hiking, and dog walking, and connection to our shared beautiful environment. The BLM land above Victor represents a golden opportunity for the community to access public land for responsible, non motorized recreation close to town and without needing to drive to a trailhead. With the planned potential for connection to 5000 South(Fox Creek), this project will enable north south connectivity without the need to cross busy streets.

The acceptance of these easements is consistent with the long term comprehensive plan to support recreation opportunities close to town and encourage the health and welfare of the community. I respectfully ask the City to accept and hold the easements and approve the MOU to provide lasting and certain access to the BLM lands in perpetuity.

Thank you,

Christopher Ruedy

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

From Sam Salman [redacted]
Date Fri 9/18/2026 9:41 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council

My name is Sam Salman, and I am a Teton Valley resident, mountain biker, hiker, and hunter. I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

I use our public lands daily to recreate and find peace. My family regularly starts adventures and regular dog walks from Victor and surrounding areas into our forests. Trail and Forest Access and connectivity is such an important part of this community.

This easement will only provide and encourage more Victor and Teton County residents access to close-to-town recreation and escape. What an amazing opportunity!

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

More access and connectivity of town to trail is the future of the area and will contribute to local businesses and quality of life if residents.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Sam Salman
Teton Valley community member

Sam Salman
[redacted]

Outlook

Re: AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements

From Sarah Lewis <[redacted]>
Date Fri 9/18/2026 9:09 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

My name is Sarah Lewis, and I am a Victor resident and public-land user. I use our local trails to run, hike and mountain bike. I am writing to ask the City of Victor to accept the public access easements connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands and approve the MOU between the City, Mountain Bike the Tetons, and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways.

The trails and public lands around Victor are an important part of my life and my connection to this community. I regularly use our local trail systems to run, hike and mountain bike, and they are an important part of how I stay active, healthy and spend time outside. I value the opportunity to soak up the beautiful landscape we live amidst, find peace in nature, and share these places with friends. Our trails not only provide opportunities for recreation, but also create the space for relationships and experiences that make this community feel like home.

I was recently unable to ride my bike for a while because of an injury. When I went on my first ride back this week with a friend, I was reminded of how meaningful it is to have trails like this so close to home. We got to move our bodies outside, catch up on life and enjoy the landscape together. It was a small experience, but one that captured so much of what I value about living here.

I support the AJ Linnell access easements because they provide a legal, perpetual, and managed connection from the City of Victor to BLM public lands. Two private landowners have voluntarily granted these easements, creating a thoughtful solution to a longstanding access challenge.

I believe the City should support this already-planned approach to public-land access rather than allow access to remain informal or unmanaged. A designated access point to this multi-use trail network will concentrate use, establish clear access, protect private property, communicate expectations, and provide predictable stewardship and maintenance.

I also support the proposed MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP. Having organizations committed to ongoing stewardship provides the City with a clear partner for maintaining the easements, managing trail use, and helping ensure that the access remains consistent with the terms of the easements.

I believe this will benefit Victor by supporting responsible recreation, trail connectivity and quality of life for local residents. Having access to trails close to home is one of the things that makes living in Victor so special.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Victor City Council to:

- **Accept the public access easements** connecting the AJ Linnell Trail to BLM public lands.
- **Approve the MOU between the City of Victor, MBT, and TVTAP** for stewardship and management of the easements.
- Support a **sustainable and responsible approach to public access and recreation** that aligns with the BLM's approved Travel Management Plan and the City of Victor's mission.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lewis
Victor community member

Outlook

AJ Trail Access

From Donald Sharaf <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 5:20 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

To Mayor Muncaster and the Victor City Council,

I am writing in support of the AJ Trail. I ask that you accept the public access easements that connect the AJ Trail to the BLM Lands above. I ask that you approve the MOU between the City of Victor, Mountain Bike the Tetons and Teton Valley Trails and Pathways. I am an occasional user of the AJ trail and have explored the road and trail network that connects to the USFS lands above. I value the access to these lands and ask that Victor support a legal, planned, and responsible approach to public access and recreation outlined by the BLM's Travel Management Plan.

I am acutely aware of the potential impacts on wildlife that these trails can create, but I believe that seasonal closures can address the need for wildlife to have their space during the critical late fall, winter and spring months. I prefer to see a well-managed trail program than un-managed bootleg use.

Sincerely,

Donald Sharaf

[redacted], Victor, ID 83455

--
Don Sharaf
[redacted] Victor, ID 83455

Avalanche Risk Solutions - Avalanche Risk Consultant
Whiteout Welding LLC - Fabricator and Owner

[redacted]

Outlook

Yes, in our backyard — support for the AJ Linnell Trail

From evan simms <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 9:55 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and City Council,

I want to add my voice in support of the AJ Linnell Trail, the public access easements, and the MOU needed to help move the project forward.

My husband and I have a pretty simple perspective: **we live in Mountainside with close proximity to the proposed trail, and we would love to see it happen.**

For us, this is quite literally a YIMBY — **yes, in our backyard.**

We understand some of our neighbors' concerns about wildlife, parking, traffic and increased use. We care about those things too. But we also feel incredibly lucky to live next to public land, and we don't believe those of us fortunate enough to live closest to it should have more claim to enjoying it than the rest of our community.

Public land should have responsible, respectful access for everyone. We don't believe in "trails for me, but not for thee."

Victor is growing quickly, and as it grows, access to trails and public lands is only going to become more important. This particular trail has something especially valuable going for it: **people in Victor can get to it directly from town.** They can walk or ride from home or downtown rather than necessarily getting into a car, driving to a trailhead and adding another vehicle to our increasingly busy roads. **Other western communities have recognized the value of connecting neighborhoods directly to trails and public lands, and we believe Victor has an opportunity to do the same.**

We live less than a mile from downtown Victor. We recognize that our neighborhood is changing as Victor changes. Of course we should work to manage traffic, parking and impacts on nearby residents — ourselves included. But we don't believe the answer to growth is to close ourselves off. We believe it's to plan well for it.

We would much rather see thoughtful, legal and managed access than informal trails and unmanaged use. And we believe we can protect wildlife, respect the neighborhood and still provide responsible access to these beautiful public lands.

We were friends of AJ's and have supported this trail from the beginning. The idea that someone could leave Victor on foot or bike and connect directly to the mountains feels very much like the community we love — and very much like AJ.

Will people be hiking and riding above our house? Yep.

We welcome them.

There will be things to figure out along the way. That's what good planning and stewardship are for. We hope the City will accept the easements, approve the MOU, and help this long-planned project finally move forward.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

We'd be proud to have the AJ Linnell Memorial Trail in our backyard.

Thank you,

Evan Berning

Evangelin Simms Berning
Victor, ID
[redacted]

Outlook

Support for AJ Linnel Trail

From Zach Smith <[redacted]>
Date Thu 9/17/2026 11:18 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hello Council,

I am writing to show my support for the AJ Linnel trail project. This trail has been in the works for multiple years and countless hours have been put into bringing this project to fruition. I understand the council wanting more information but I think ultimately at this point in time you need to say yes to the easements and rely on the work that has been done previously on this project. I know you have a tough job and appreciate all of you for your hard work! Thank you!!!

Zachary Smith
Partner/Associate Broker

[redacted]
Victor ID, 83455
m: [redacted]

Outlook

Please approve MOU for the AJ Linnell Trail

From Sarah Starbird <[redacted]>
Date Mon 9/21/2026 3:10 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I'm a Teton Valley resident writing to support the City's acceptance of the corner access easements and MOU for the AJ Linnell Trail.

This project reflects the best of our community—thoughtful planning, genuine collaboration, and shared vision. After extensive community input and partnership, this decision is now straightforward: accept these easements and authorize managed access to public lands, or allow informal and unmanaged use.

I want to express deep gratitude to the two landowners for their generous offer of easements across their property. Their willingness to share access demonstrates real commitment to the community's well being. Equally, MBT and TVTAP have proven themselves as trusted, capable stewards—the kind of partners every city hopes to work with.

For residents like me, this trail fills a critical gap. The BLM land above Victor offers accessible, non motorized recreation close to town—mountain biking, hiking, dog walking—without requiring a drive to a trailhead. The planned connection to 5000 South (Fox Creek) adds tremendous value: north south connectivity that keeps recreation traffic off busy streets and strengthens community access to our shared landscape.

This project strongly aligns with your long-term comprehensive plan to support recreation, encourage public health, and build a stronger community. The easements provide lasting certainty for this access.

I respectfully ask the City to accept and hold these easements and approve the MOU.

Thank you,

Sarah Starbird

Outlook

In support of AJ Linnell Trail

From Dan Streubel <[redacted]>
Date Sun 9/20/2026 10:38 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor of Victor and Victor City Council,

I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easements and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Non-motorized public access to the BLM land where the AJ Linnell Trail would be constructed is very important to me. This is an area of public land that currently has limited access, and the trail would provide a great opportunity for Victor and Teton Valley residents to enjoy the beautiful landscape in this area. It is also a meaningful way to honor AJ Linnell and his service as a Victor City Council member.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship of these lands are important to the growth and wellbeing of the community and the surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement, approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the benefit of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the well-being of this community and its future.

Sincerely,
Dan Streubel
Driggs, Idaho

Outlook

AJ trail letter

From Sven Taow [redacted]
Date Fri 9/18/2026 9:42 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Sven Taow, and I am a resident of Victor. I am writing in support of the City accepting and holding the public access easements and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

Public access to public lands is incredibly important to me. This specific area represents the closest public land to my home, and having a dedicated trail to venture out and enjoy it would be an absolute thrill. Beyond my personal use, this access is vital for the community because it promotes active, healthy lifestyles and provides a safe, accessible way for residents to connect with the outdoors right in our own backyard.

The City's acceptance of these easements aligns perfectly with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship are essential steps in supporting the growth, health, and vitality of both our community and the surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU, and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to our public lands for the greater good of the community.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and ongoing commitment to the well being of Victor and its future.

Sincerely,

Sven Taow

Outlook

AJ Trail Access

From William Vore <[redacted]>
Date Tue 9/22/2026 5:07 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email to show my support for the adoption of the proposed easement for the AJ Trail. The adoption of these easement's will benefit the people that live in Victor and Teton Valley to have better access and managed public lands. I am a full time, year round resident of Victor and think that this is a great opportunity for the city of Victor to work with our local nonprofits to provide additional recreational opportunities on public lands. Please do your part to see this great endeavor move forward.

William Vore

Sent from my iPhone

Outlook

BLM bike trail system.

From Seth Woolstenhulme [redacted]
Date Sat 9/19/2026 10:42 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Hello, this is Seth Woolstenhulme. I am submitting a comment opposing the new bike trail on cemetery Road. Being fourth generation on property directly below this hillside, it affects me in my family a greatly. We have used this public land for hunting and collecting of natural resources for Decades. These bike trails will have a negative impact, especially on the hunting. Historically, we have used a road directly above my property that existed before the Edgewood subdivision was even put in. The original owner of Edgewood subdivision placed a public easement so that my family and others could continue to access the BLM. However, has landed sold in the Edgewood subdivision many residents Have opposed a trail through there Although it is on the original subdivision plot map describing the public easement. This old road exists and is currently passable on four wheelers, Dirt bikes, mountain bikes, hiking and horseback. Also, I know that it is used currently by most of those groups. It is to my knowledge that roughly 15 years ago there was money granted to open this access and make it a legitimate trail. The funds raised I was told are no longer available. I understand the issues with making this a permanent trail due to lack of parking and a community of private homes in which the trail access is through. I live on old Jackson Highway which is now a shared bike path road, I am patient and kind with all the bikers that are always on the road sometimes not within their lane. Many locals like myself feel, we have had our rights stripped away from us while catering to a certain group of bikers. My opinion is there seems to be plenty of on road and off road biking trails on the southern end of the valley many of which have eliminated horse trails and old motorized trails that have been used for decades. Yeah, it seems like these groups continue to push trails all while closing down original existing trails. It is a fact that many of the generational families in Victor are upset with these changes and have felt our voices fall on deaf ears. In my opinion, I'm not against mountain bikers using the area, especially on existing trails that would need no updating or rerouting and could be multi use for all public After all, it is our public lands. It is my understanding that the AJ Trail does not allow horses or hunters on the trail. So for someone like me, it really leaves me no options to continue to access the hunting zone. My family has hunted for generations. I understand a motorized trail for ATVs is unrealistic due to easement and parking issues. However I see the same issues with the access point at the end of the cemetery Road for a bike trail. I would ask the city of Victor Council to weigh the options to have multi use trails in the area and not cater to one single group. I hope this will be considered. I appreciate what the city of Victor council has done and continues to do for us as General public. Thank you.

Seth Woolstenhulme

Outlook

Aj trail

From Crystal Wright <[redacted]
Date Mon 9/21/2026 9:03 PM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender [redacted]. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the Victor City Council:

I am a homeowner in Victor and very much support the City accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

As a resident of Victor near the AJ trail , I see first-hand the importance of access to public lands by using the AJ trail along with other trails in the area.

The AJ Linnell trail would open more areas on public land to community use - one of the most loved characteristics of the Teton Valley. I personally hike, bike and ride horses here!

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the wellbeing of this community and its future.

Sincerely,

Crystal wright
[address redacted]
Sent from my iPhone

Outlook

AJ Linnell Trail

From Greg Young [redacted]
Date Fri 9/18/2026 6:06 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

My name is Greg Young, and I have lived in the Bates area for over 35 years. I have been mountain biking in the Big Holes and beyond since well before there was a Mountain Bike Club or trail support. I am writing in support of the City of Victor accepting and holding the public access easement(s) and MOU associated with the AJ Linnell Trail.

The City's acceptance of these easements is consistent with its comprehensive plan to support recreational opportunities for the community. Facilitating formal access to public lands and encouraging responsible stewardship for these lands are important to the growth and health of the community and surrounding landscape. We have and ever increasing number of people who are here to recreate. These new trails have gone through the proper process and review. Every step has been done correctly. If you bail out now because of NIMBY pressure you will just be forcing more illegal trails and encouraging trespassing and unsanctioned trail construction.

I respectfully ask the City Council to accept and hold the AJ Linnell public access easement(s), approve the MOU and support this opportunity to provide lasting public access to public lands for the good of the broader community.

Being a public servant is a hard job. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Greg Young

Gregory Young
Darby Creek Ranch
[redacted]
Driggs, ID 83422
[redacted]

Gregory Young
Darby Creek Ranch
[redacted]

Driggs, ID 83422
[redacted]

Outlook

Public Comment in Strong Support of AJ Linnell Trail Public Access Easements and MOU

From Celeste Young <[redacted]>
Date Thu 9/17/2026 10:03 AM
To Michelle Smith <michelles@victoridaho.gov>

This is the first time you received an email from this sender ([redacted]). Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Dear Mayor Muncaster and Members of the Victor City Council,

We are writing to urge you to vote in favor of accepting the public access easements, approving the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between project partners, and supporting the formalized plan to secure permanent, legal access across private land to the connecting BLM land.

As avid mountain bikers, hikers, and outdoor enthusiasts, we appreciate the value of public lands. This project represents a perfect opportunity to protect a vital connection to public lands rather than losing it.

Formalizing this agreement provides the following benefits to the Victor community:

- It ensures that current and future generations of residents can safely and legally enjoy outdoor access directly from the City of Victor.
- Sustainable trail systems and protected public land access are proven drivers of economic vitality.
- A formalized plan establishes clear guidelines and partnership frameworks, reducing user conflict and promoting responsible stewardship of both private and public lands.

This is an opportunity that cannot be missed! Again, we urge the City Council to vote in support of the public access easements, approving the MOU, and supporting this public access to recreation from the City of Victor for the health, well-being, and future of our community.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued service to the City of Victor.

Sincerely,

Celeste Young and Dave Willmott
[redacted]
Victor, Idaho 83455
[redacted]