

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

Community Anticipating More Walks along the Tualatin River

I've already received a number of calls from citizens who can't wait for the new trail to open," said Paul Hennon, Community Services director for the City of Tualatin. "Even though they are supposed to stay off until it is finished, several have admitted to taking a night walk when construction isn't going on and there's no one around."

Since last summer, a new 6,000-foot Greenway and Sweek Pond Trail along the Tualatin River has been taking shape. Paid for as part of an \$8 million bond issue passed in 2004 by the citizens of Tualatin, the trail is a combination of wide concrete walkways, a distinctive boardwalk, gravel paths, historical markers, benches, a split-rail fence, and a 50-foot-long bridge that was flown in this past winter. It is expected that walkers, hikers, bikers, skaters, and strollers will take advantage of the new trail.

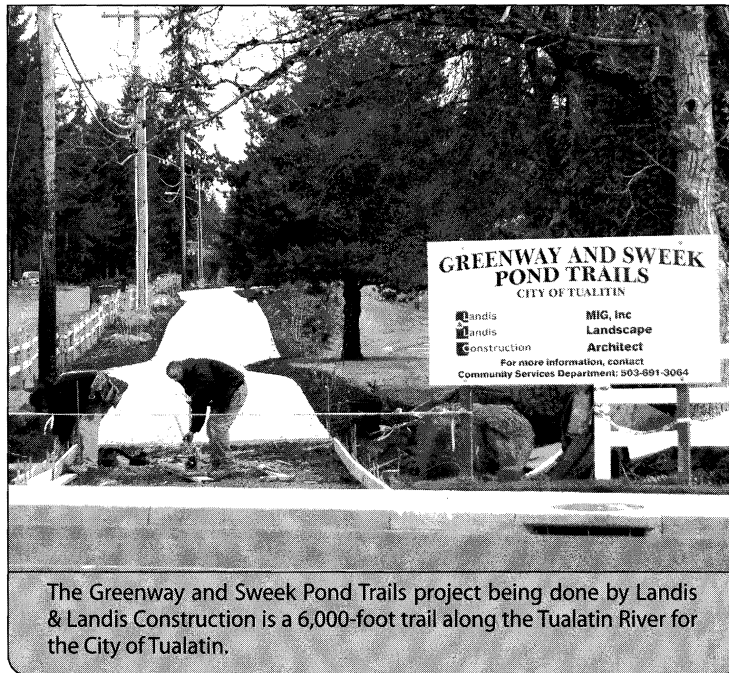
"The river trail hooks into existing ones and is a part of an overall master plan to have a continuous walkway from one end of our urban growth boundary to the other," Hennon added. "We are actively pursuing land acquisitions to make the plan a reality."

The complex project required a general contractor with expertise in several types of construction. **Landis & Landis Construction** from Portland landed the bid. In business for six years and founded by brothers **T. J.** and **Lance Landis**, both with years of construction experience, the company had the skills to take on the job.

"We have four experienced crews doing site work, sewers, reservoirs, subdivisions, parks, and even a small building now and then," said T. J. Landis. "While the majority of our jobs are public projects, about 30 percent are negotiated private projects with many repeat customers."

The most dominating aspect of the new trail is an 810-foot, elevated boardwalk that is 10 feet wide. The walking surface is made from pressure treated, textured fir, but it is the underpinnings that make it unique. Working with the city and landscape architecture firm MIG Inc., Landis & Landis installed 180 concrete pin foundations, each one held in place by four, four-foot steel pipes.

"We had to use a jack hammer to put the pipes in, and both our



The Greenway and Sweek Pond Trails project being done by Landis & Landis Construction is a 6,000-foot trail along the Tualatin River for the City of Tualatin.

crew and the neighbors were glad when that was finished, but the system worked very well," T.J. said. "It is strong and had a minimal impact on disturbing the south bank of the Tualatin River."

Hennon agrees that the solution was a good one. He cited a surprising call from a citizen who complemented the team on the design and construction of the system that "...created a light foot-

print that was not invasive and was ideal for use in a wetland."

The other notable part of the project is a wooden bridge that spans a wet weather creek. The size of the bridge is not that impressive—50 feet long and 10 feet wide, weighing 15,000 pounds. It is the way it got there that is interesting. Fabricated by RLD Company, Inc. in Vancouver, Wash., the structure was trucked to the site and then lifted by a Campbell



An old-time, cedar split-rail fence follows a 10-foot wide concrete section of the new trail.



A unique feature of the trail is an 810-foot wooden boardwalk that is resting on 180 wetland-friendly pin foundations.

Crane & Rigging crane 180 feet in the air and 210 horizontally to its home on the trail.

"It was quite a sight to see that bridge that high in the air, and we were very glad when it finally came to rest," recalls T. J. Landis. "But, as far as the ecological impact on the site, it was the right way to get it in place. We didn't have to do all of that construction next to the river and we didn't need an access road.

"We are proud of our work on the greenway project and are glad that we could do our work with a minimum of effect on the river and its banks. I know that from the comments and interest from the neighbors around here, this trail will get a lot of use and provide a lot of beautiful walks along the Tualatin." ❖



(left) A Campbell Crane lifts a 15,000-pound wooden bridge 180 feet in the air and 210 horizontally...

(above) ... and places it over a creek on the new trail. The 15-foot long bridge was built off site to keep the environmental impact of constructing it by the river to a minimum.



Three historical markers are some of the aspects of the trail project that required a general contractor with a wide variety of strengths.

**We are proud to be part of the
 Greenway and Sweek Pond Trail,
 led by Landis & Landis Construction.**



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