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Ohio River Trail meeting planned in Beaver County

By **Bobby Cherry**

Published: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 9:00 p.m.
Updated 11 hours ago

The first section of a multiphased 41-mile bike and pedestrian trail project is set to undergo construction this spring, an organizer of the Ohio River Trail Council said.

Phase one is set to begin in the Coraopolis-Moon area near the Neville Island Bridge and continue into Coraopolis to the Sewickley Bridge, Ohio River Trail Council President Vincent Troia said.

A meeting is planned for May 1 in the Community College of Beaver County to show those interested updated designs of the proposed trail that is expected to extend from a connection with the Montour Trail in Coraopolis, along the Ohio River into Beaver County and eventually connecting to trails at the Ohio state line, Troia said.

The meeting will offer insight into a 69-mile water trail.

Troia said his goal for the meeting is to “expose the project to the public and give them a chance to ask questions and understand how it will benefit their communities.”

Phase two of the land trail would cross the Sewickley Bridge and connect to bikeways from Glen Osborne to near Old Economy Village in Ambridge, Troia said.

It then would cross back over the Ohio River along the Ambridge-Aliquippa Bridge.

He said he hopes a feasibility study on that portion of the project could be completed next year.

Troia said he's excited to see progress on a venture he helped to start in 2009.

“We're finally getting something on the ground,” he said.

“The trails can offer a great impact to local businesses and to quality of life.”

Bobby Cherry is an associate editor for Trib Total Media. He can be reached at 412-324-1408 or rcherry@tribweb.com.

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About Bobby Cherry



Bobby Cherry 412-324-1408
Staff Reporter

Sewickley Herald

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Details

Open House

A public open house is planned from 3-7 p.m. May 1, for those interested in learning more about the Ohio River Trail project. Light refreshments will be served.

The event will be held in Room 9103 of Building 9 of the Learning Resource Center of the Community College of Beaver County, One Campus Drive, Center Township.

For more information, call 724-728-2625, send an email to

openhouse@ohiorivertrail.org or visit ohiorivertrail.org.