

# CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

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**Agenda Item:** Consider Acceptance of a Non-Monetary Donation and Related Naming Proposal Application

**Requested & Presented by:** Darcy Perkins, Municipal Services Specialist

**Meeting Date:** Finance and Common Council on 02-03-2026

**Committee Review:** Public Works on 01-15-2026 – *Motion by Schultz to recommend forwarding the naming request for the “Dale Bender Community Wellness Trail” and acceptance of the proposed non-monetary donation facilitated by Sheila Troxel for trail blacktopping improvements to the Finance Committee and Common Council for consideration, in accordance with the City’s adopted Naming & Branding Policy and SOP. Seconded by Fruit. Motion carried 2-0 by voice vote.*

**Background:** In 2020, the City assumed ownership of a pedestrian trail along the Highway 14/80 corridor as part of the Safe Routes to School initiative. The trail extends from the Highway 14/80 intersection to the Richland Center Middle School and currently consists of a compacted gravel surface.

Local resident Sheila Troxel, on behalf of contributing donors, has proposed a non-monetary donation to complete blacktop paving and associated trail signage. The project is estimated at approximately \$30,000, with funding provided by the Joan Woodman Orton McCollum Foundation (approximately two-thirds) and Southwest Partners (approximately one-third). All improvements would be completed at no cost to the City and in accordance with City standards and oversight.

Ms. Troxel has also submitted a formal request to name the improved trail segment the “Dale Bender Community Wellness Trail,” in recognition of Mr. Bender’s longstanding service to the community. The naming request has been submitted and reviewed pursuant to the City’s Naming and Branding Policy and SOP (Resolution 2025-06).

**Policy Considerations:**

- Donation Policy: Non-monetary donations exceeding \$5,000 require approval by resolution of the Common Council.
- Naming & Branding Policy: The naming request has been reviewed in accordance with City policy, with a recommendation forwarded by the Public Works Committee.

**Department Recommendation:** Staff recommend acceptance of the proposed non-monetary donation, subject to execution of a Non-Monetary Donation Agreement and completion of the improvements in accordance with City standards. Approval of the donation is recommended in conjunction with approval of the associated naming request.

**Financial Impact:** Private non-monetary donation valued at approximately \$30,000; no initial City funds required. The City would assume routine maintenance responsibilities following acceptance.

**Requested Action:**

**FINANCE:** Motion to recommend to the Common Council adoption of Resolution 2026-01, authorizing acceptance of a non-monetary donation for trail improvements and the naming of the “Dale Bender Community Wellness Trail.”

**COUNCIL:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-01, authorizing acceptance of a non-monetary donation for trail improvements and the naming of the “Dale Bender Community Wellness Trail.”

**Attachment(s)**

- DBCWT Naming Proposal Application\_05.06.2025
- Naming and Branding PW Committee Report\_01.15.2026
- Naming and Branding CC Decision Form\_02.03.2026
- 2026-01 A Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Non-Monetary Donation for Trail Improvements