

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

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“Grand Opening of Elkhorn River Trail”

Nearly 100 hikers and bikers took to the new Elkhorn River Trail on Tuesday for Take a Walk in the Park Day and the grand opening of the trail.



Trail users showed up at 11:00 am to get City of Norfolk water bottles, fill them with provided iced water and walk on the new ten foot wide concrete trail that starts at a new 20 stall parking lot along First Street at the east of the TaHaZouka ballfields and winds along the Elkhorn River to 13th Street where it connects with the Cowboy Trail.

“People in Norfolk love trails. It’s a great way to get exercise and enjoy the beautiful scenery in and around Norfolk. We look

forward to future trail events like this,” said Mayor Sue Fuchtmann.

City of Norfolk staff organized the event with bananas and granola bars, drawstring bags, and mosquito wipes for the trail users donated by area businesses and organizations. The Norfolk Area Visitors’ Bureau also served hotdogs for the first 50 people. The Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District provided prizes for those who attended the event.

City of Norfolk Administrator Shane Weidner arrived at the event on a bike and welcomed the crowd for the ribbon cutting ceremony. He introduced Dennis Smith, Public Works Director for the City of Norfolk and Stan Staab, General Manager of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District who each spoke on the construction of the trail. The Mayor then cut the ribbon held by members of the Norfolk Trails Council to open the Elkhorn River Trail.

The cost of the mile long trail was \$870,000 with 75% of those funds from federal funds through the Nebraska Department of Roads Enhancement Program and the Federal Highway Administration. The rest was funded through the City of Norfolk and the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. TR Harris of Homer was the contractor for the project. Schemmer Associates provided construction oversight.