

## MEMORANDUM

**To: Mayor and City Council**

**From: Craig Barker, Community Development Director**

**Re: Trails as a “required improvement” in subdivisions**

When a city establishes the required improvements section for the development of subdivisions, some of which are challenged in the court system, the final decision is most often determined by the court under public health, welfare and safety determinations. For this reason, The Policy Statement of the proposed ordinance is critical. In this statement, the city says that the development of trails as an alternative form of transportation serves important community interests. By doing so it reaches the community welfare status and allows the city to require these improvements. Trails then become one of the required improvements to be built by the developer at his expense just as sidewalks and streets are. The only property affected by this are the ones over which the Trails Plan of the city identifies as proposed for development, much the same as the future street plan does for future roads.