



Yelm-Tenino Trail

Trail, Shared Use, Existing (Solid Green Line)

Trail, Shared Use, Planned (Dashed Green Line)

Trail, Shared Use, Proposed (Dotted Green Line)

Featured Trail on Map (Thick Yellow Line)

Existing Bike Routes

- Bike Lane (Green Line with Dashed Center)
- Wide Shoulder (Blue Line)
- Commonly Used Local Roads (Purple Line)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection (Pink Line)
- Active Railroad (Black Line with Cross-Ticks)
- Local Streets (Thin Black Line)

Schools (Red Triangle)

Libraries (Blue Square)

Public Restrooms (Blue Square)

Trail Access Points (Black Square)

Trail Heads (Black Square)

Urban Growth Areas (Green Outline)

Parks, Preserves, and Open Space (Light Green Area)

Unincorporated Thurston County (Light Blue Area)

Scale: 0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 6 Miles

North Arrow

Disclaimer

This map is for general planning purposes only. Thurston Regional Planning Council makes no representations as to the accuracy or fitness of the information for a particular purpose.

Yelm-Tenino Trail

Length: 13.6 miles existing (paved), 0.9 miles proposed (unpaved)

Type of Facility: Shared-Use Trail

Lead Agency: Thurston County

Partners: Cities of Yelm, Rainier and Tenino, Washington State Department of Transportation

Description: The Yelm-Tenino Trail runs along the former Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad that was operated from about 1869 through the late 1980's. Thurston County acquired 14.5 miles of railroad ROW with grant assistance from WSDOT for interim trail use in 1993. This trail runs east-west through the southern portion of Thurston County and connects the communities of Yelm, Rainier, and Tenino. Trail users experience diverse landscapes including town centers, forest and agricultural lands, wetlands, and creeks. The trail begins near Yelm City Hall, passes near Wilkowski Park in Rainier and ends at Tenino City Park. The trail affords views of the Deschutes River west of Rainier and McIntosh Lake near Tenino. Horse back riding is permitted along the entire length of this trail.

Cost Estimates: County capital facility improvements for this corridor are estimated to cost \$150,000 (Thurston County CFP, 2007-2012).

Connections and Destinations: City centers of Yelm, Rainier, and Tenino, Yelm City Park, Wilkowski Park, Gehrke Park, Memorial Park, Holiday Park, McIntosh Lake, Tenino City Park, Chehalis Western Trail, future Yelm Prairie Line

Conditions and Recommendations:

(Recommendations are in bold)

- ① City of Rainier – Trailhead development is in progress for the Rainier Trailhead at the western edge of Wilkowski Park to include a city-owned restroom, a kiosk, signage, landscaping, benches and miscellaneous renovations. Estimated cost \$75,000 (Thurston County CFP, 2007-2012).
- ② McIntosh Lake – The Yelm-Tenino Trail runs through the site of the historic community of McIntosh on Lake McIntosh. This site was a former mill town that operated until the late 1920's and was once considered as a site for a post office. Thurston County is planning signs or a kiosk to provide historic interpretation to promote the heritage of this corridor.
- ③ City of Tenino, Tenino City Park Trailhead – Trailhead improvements are planned for the westernmost entrance to this trail at Tenino City Park. The County is exploring options to highlight the trail as a distinctive facility within the Tenino City Park. The site will include a kiosk, signage, benches, landscaping, and miscellaneous renovations. Development is anticipated by 2009 and estimated to cost \$75,000 (Thurston County CFP, 2007-2012).

- ④ Yelm-Tenino Trail Undeveloped Spur – The County owns almost a mile of additional undeveloped trail ROW that it is holding for future development. **This portion should be developed in the future when a suitable destination or additional land use development occurs along this corridor.** The City of Tenino and Thurston County are encouraged to discuss long term plans and options to develop this remaining segment. This southwest bound segment is oriented towards future non-motorized connectivity with the Town of Bucoda.
- ⑤ The City of Tenino’s Parks Master Plan proposes a shared-use trail or bicycle and pedestrian route providing connectivity between the Yelm-Tenino Trail and the western city limits along Old Highway 99. This segment would be developed with a combination of grants and developer-funded contributions. This westbound segment is oriented towards potential connectivity with Grand Mound.



Thurston County Commissioner Diane Oberquell, Mayor Ken Jones, City of Tenino, and Mayor Sherry O’Dell, City of Rainier cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the Yelm-Tenino Trail at the Tenino City Park. Photo by Paul Brewster.