Contact:

**City of Ashland Public Works Department**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CITY OF ASHLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**Disruptions to Ashland Pond Walking Trail Possible between May 7 and May 11**

TBD, 2018

**City of Ashland, OR** – The City of Ashland is relocating the outfall of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from Ashland Creek to Bear Creek to comply with new state water quality regulations. The outfall is the location where treated water from the WWTP is discharged into the creek. The City completed field work along the Bear Creek Greenway Trail in February 2018 to investigate a previous pipeline alignment option and will soon begin field work along a new preferred pipeline alignment in April/May 2018 that avoids the Greenway Trail. These activities are part of the phase I work, which includes outfall construction design, permitting, and field data collection.

Residents may see some activity between the WWTP and Ashland Pond along the Ashland Pond Trail at the end of Glendower Road during April and May. Trail users may also see contractor staff and an excavator collecting geotechnical data in the area between May 7-11, 2018. Trail disruptions are only expected for two to three days within this window.

While the trail will remain open, the stretch of trail between the end of Glendower Road and Ashland Pond may be temporarily closed while the excavator is being used along the trail.

Construction of the outfall pipeline is planned for summer 2020. The outfall will be located approximately 135 feet downstream from where Ashland Creek flows into Bear Creek. The pipeline route will extend west from the WWTP and will follow the access road/trail to Ashland Pond at the end of Glendower Road, routing around the west side of Ashland Pond, terminating at Bear Creek. This new preferred route was selected, in part, for its avoidance of the heavily used Bear Creek Greenway Trail, eliminating crossings of Ashland Creek, and for the minimal impact to sensitive habitat.

The City of Ashland will provide information to the public and coordinate with stakeholders during the design and permitting process. The City plans to hold an open house in summer 2018 to share information about the project and to collect input on how to minimize disruptions to trail users and residents during construction. More information will be available at [www.ashland.or.us/healthycreeks](http://www.ashland.or.us/healthycreeks), including updates on trail disruption dates.

For more information on the project or to get added to an email list for project updates, please send an email to the City of Ashland Public Works Department at healthycreeks@ashland.or.us