

Progress on city trail projects continues

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By Sarah Melton

The City of Lincolnton is making strides with the Carolina Thread and Marcia H. Cloninger Rail trails.

TGS Engineers, a Shelby-based engineering firm, will create the design of the third and final phase of the Rail Trail ending at City Park.

The last phase is being funded with \$468,000 from a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement grant and a 20 percent match of \$117,000 from the city.

Lincolnton Planning Director Laura Simmons said TGS Engineers will have the design finished by the end of January.

Recently, the city received a \$9,200 grant from the Carolina Thread Trail to connect City Park and the Marcia H. Cloninger Rail Trail with the South Fork River via the Clark Creek and Walker Branch riparian corridors. In addition, the city gave a 20 percent match of \$2,300 toward the project.

"It will be a multi-use path in both that pedestrians and bikers can use it," Simmons said.

Land Design International, which has a division in Charlotte, has been chosen to design the Thread Trail segment. It should be completed by next November, Simmons said.

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