

'Forgotten 4' trail finally moves to forefront with construction

Submitted by Janet Midas

Stearns County Public Information

The "Forgotten 4" is four miles of trail that runs from Sauk Centre to the Todd County line. It's been labeled the "Forgotten 4" because it's the missing link that will connect the Lake Wobegon Trail in Stearns County to the Wobegon Trail in Todd County, which connects to the Central Lakes State Trail in Osakis.

In a recent Comprehensive Plan survey, 30 percent of Stearns County residents said they use the Lake Wobegon Trail.

Construction on the "Forgotten 4" began in late July and will be completed in August.

Garrison Keillor is scheduled to be here on Aug. 26 for a dedication celebrating the linking of the Lake Wobegon Trail and the Central Lakes State Trail. The "Pretty Good Trail Connection Celebration" will take place at 2 p.m. in Osakis.

Once this four-mile segment of trail is completed and the trails are connected from St. Joseph to Fergus Falls, including the connection of the Wobegon Trail in Holdingford to the Soo Line Trail in Morrison County that runs to Royalton, it will

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create a 126-mile blacktop separated path. It is expected to be the longest of its kind in the nation. It will link 18 cities with legs in Morrison, Todd, Otter Tail, Douglas and Stearns counties.