

Government of the District of Columbia
Executive Office of the Mayor



MEDIA ADVISORY:
May 3, 2010

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District Unveils New Segment of MET Branch Trail

Ribbon cutting celebration to mark the opening of the City's premier walking and biking trail

Washington, DC - Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Director Gabe Klein today celebrated the completion of a major section of the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT). The opening of this new segment means District residents can now bike, walk and jog on four miles of continuous trail that stretches from Union Station to Catholic University.



“This trail is a tremendous achievement that will be considered a jewel right in the heart of the adjoining neighborhoods and the District as a whole,” said Mayor Fenty. “It provides a safe, scenic and healthy way for residents to access their schools, jobs, shops and homes.”



The newly completed section of the trail runs 1.5 miles from New York Avenue to Franklin Street, NE. It allows users to bypass Florida, New York and Rhode Island Avenues, a combined eighteen lanes of busy roadway. It also connects to three Metro stations and accesses neighborhoods at six locations.

“Trails are an important part of our transportation infrastructure as they provide safe corridors for bikers and walkers to access community amenities,” said Director Klein. And as more people choose to bike or walk, traffic congestion and air pollution is reduced, and people are healthier and happier. We plan to continue to build trails until we have a complete, interconnected system in the District.”

The new section includes solar LED lighting, a new park at S Street, and showcases the Edgewood mural sponsored by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The mural was completed last year.

Trail Overview

The MBT is a planned eight-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail between Union Station and Silver Spring, Maryland. It traverses a diverse section of the District: from the historic community of Takoma Park; through the Civil War-era Ft. Totten; past Catholic University and Brookland; down through the old Eckington rail yards; to Union Station and onto the National Mall.

The MBT will connect to the Capital Crescent Trail, the Anacostia Tributaries Trail System and the National Mall, and will be part of the East Coast Greenway. The MBT will be an important recreation and transportation route and will provide direct access to seven of Metro's Red Line stations (and the Green line at Ft. Totten) and to the Marc trains in Silver Spring. With bicycle racks on Metro buses and non-rush hour bicycle access on Metro, commuters can safely use a variety of alternative transportation options.

For additional information on the Metropolitan Branch Trail visit www.metbranchtrail.com.

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