
VIGILANTE



Helena Vigilante Runners

Promoting health, fitness, and community through group training runs, races, and events in the greater Helena area.

**PO Box 663
Helena, MT 59624**

www.vigilanterunning.org

January 11, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Helena Vigilante Runners (HVR) would like to express its strong support for the City of Helena's application for a Community Forest Grant. The grant would enable the city to continue to acquire and maintain open space lands, for the enjoyment and benefit of Helena's residents and visitors.

HVR is a 501(c)(3) corporation that promotes health, fitness, and community through group training runs, races, and social events in the greater Helena area. HVR's membership includes ultra-marathoners, track athletes, triathletes, and recreational runners who collectively log countless hours on the local trail system. HVR is representative of the many, many people from Helena and elsewhere who regularly use the South Hills trail system for exercise, reflection, and a moment's pause from the frenetic pace of urban life.

The City of Helena and partner groups like Prickly Pear Land Trust have an enviable record of preserving the cherished open spaces that make Helena such a unique and livable community, with magnificent outdoor amenities right at our doorstep.

But the work to maintain and improve that system of open lands is ongoing, and relies upon critically important resources such as those offered by your agency. Grateful for the assistance you have provided in the past, we again request that you look favorably on this year's funding request. These lands not only have great intrinsic ecological value, they are essential to Helena's quality of life. Their preservation for public use and for future generations is a legacy of which we can all be proud.

Thank you for the important work you do, and for allowing HVR to share its perspective on this matter. Please contact us with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

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