

PROGRESS CONTINUES ON HIGH TRESTLE TRAIL & RIVER BRIDGE



Above: Crews pour concrete to start the bridge decking. Construction on the High Trestle Trail Bridge began this past summer.

Below: When completed, the bridge will span 13 stories above and 1/2 mile across the Des Moines River Valley.



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The High Trestle Trail, a 2.5-mile trail beginning in Ankeny and continuing north/northwest to Woodward is in its final phase of development. The highlight of this last phase is the construction of a 13-story tall, 1/2 mile long trail bridge that will span the Des Moines River Valley between the communities of Madrid and Woodward. The bridge construction began this past summer and is scheduled for completion in August of 2010.

Currently there are 22 miles of the High Trestle Trail open for the public's use and the trail ventures through Ankeny, Sheldahl, Slater and Madrid. All of the trail is either asphalt or concrete and is ten feet in width. The total project cost is approximately \$15,000,000 and more than 95 percent of the project was funded through state grants, federal grants, federal appropriations, in-kind donations of land and private fundraising.

The name High Trestle Trail was developed this summer through a work effort of the trail steering committee led by the City's Public Relations and Parks & Recreation Departments. The trail name and logo pay homage to the history of the railroad and coal mining in the area, along with the impressiveness of the bridge structure, which will be one of the five longest and tallest trail bridges in the world when finished.

Questions about the project can be directed to Parks & Recreation Director Todd Redenius at tredenius@ankenyiowa.gov or 515-963-3571. Watch for more bridge progress and a summer/fall 2010 dedication event.

