

Friends of the Katy Trail is the nonprofit organization responsible for maintaining and enhancing the Trail for the benefit of Dallas citizens and visitors. We partner with you through memberships, event sponsorships, and individual and corporate support to keep the Trail running in peak condition.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

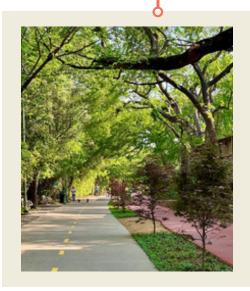


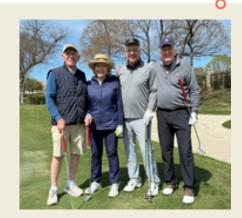
FKT Board approves major plantings restoration project: new flowers, bushes, and trees, decomposed granite, and mulch added by the end of February.



Katy Trail Art partners with the Dallas Museum of Art to place *Wild Flowers* by Iván Argote at Victory Overlook.

JAN FEB MAR APR





Annual Katy Trail Ice House Invitational golf tournament raises \$100,000 for Friends of the Katy Trail.



Dallasites flock to the Trail to view the solar eclipse.



Dallas voters approve the 2024 City Bond for Parks, with two Katy Trail projects (North end vision shown).



Spring Support Campaign raises \$151,000 for Trail operations.



MAY JUN JUL AUG



Annual Major Donor Party held at the new Terminal at Katy Trail





KATY

2024 HIGHLIGHTS





26th Annual Katy 5K presented by Michelob Ultra sells out one week before the event and brings in a record number of sponsors, picnic partners, and funds raised.

Katy Trail Art installs Eddie Martinez sculptures.



Repairs to portions of the red soft-surface path begin.





Blake Shipp receives the David Stocks Volunteer Service Award.

SEPT

OCT

NOV

DEC





The family of Roger Staubach and Trail leadership open the Staubach Pass Plaza at the Harvard crossing.



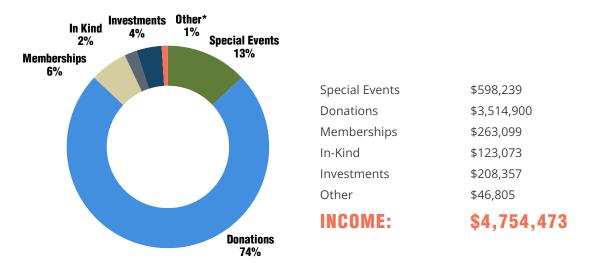
Millions of visits to the Trail by year's end



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Friends of the Katy Trail is to maintain, enhance, and advocate for the Katy Trail as the premier trail for recreation, wellness, and alternative transportation in the City of Dallas.







COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alamo Manhattan | Ben E. Keith Company | CityVet | Clay Cooley Auto Group | Crowe LLP | D Magazine | Eiseman Jewels Goldman Sachs | Haynes and Boone, LLP | ISN | K18 Biomimetic Hairscience | Katy Trail Ice House | Katy Trail Weekly | KERA Lombardi Family Concepts | Pegasus Bank | People Newspapers | Sewell Automotive Companies | Shell Energy Stream Realty Partners | Summit Trucking | UT Southwestern Medical Center

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

There are places that feel like magic - the Katy Trail is one of them.

If you've spent time on the Trail, you know the feeling: the vibrant energy that keeps you walking, running, and moving forward. Bees buzz, wildflowers bloom, and you find yourself immersed in a living tunnel of green. The red path glows in the perfect slant of evening light.

I recently read that you never walk the same path twice, and nowhere is that more true than on the Katy Trail. It's a place where the beauty of nature and the spirit of community come together to create something unique, every single day.

In 2024, the Katy Trail continued to thrive.

Keeping 3.5 miles of urban trail looking and feeling like a park takes commitment, coordination, and care, plus significant funds - and we believe the Trail has never looked better. This year, we saw the Katy Trail community grow even stronger. The Katy 5K broke records, Katy Trail Art introduced new moments of surprise and delight, and we were honored to have the two improvement projects most requested by Trail users included in the City of Dallas Bond program. By the end of 2024, we raised \$1 million, halfway toward our campaign goal to meet the City match for the Bond projects. We're excited about what's ahead.

Friends of the Katy Trail is proud to be the stewards of this incredible ribbon of green. But we're even more proud and grateful for you, our supporters, donors, volunteers, and Trail enthusiasts, who make everything possible.

Thank you for being part of the magic.

Amy Bean
Executive Director,
Friends of the Katy Trail



Would you like to become involved with supporting Friends of the Katy Trail? Here are some ideas.

Ann Whitley Wood
 Senior Director, Major Gifts and Membership

- Purchase an annual Membership available at many levels, from \$75 to \$5,000
- Give to the Spring Support Campaign to boost early-inthe-year operations funds
- Participate in North Texas
 Giving Day with a donation to
 Friends of the Katy Trail
- Walk, run, sponsor, or volunteer at the **Katy 5K**
- Become a Community Partner and enjoy recognition, Katy 5K, membership, and community involvement benefits
- Name a Trail aspect or amenity, such as a bench, along the Trail to honor a person, family, or organization and add to the Greenscape Fund
- Pay an event fee to "table" on the Trail to **promote a business or service**
- Maintain a stretch of the Trail and receive a light pole recognition sign



- Join the **Katy Trail Art Society** to bring world-class art installations to the Trail
- Fund a Major Trail feature like the Fitzhugh Staircase
- Support the 2024 City Bond projects: a Fairmount Trail entrance and landscape restoration on the Trail's North end





2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As I complete my term as Board President of the Friends of the Katy Trail, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve this remarkable organization and the city it supports. It has been a privilege to work alongside a dedicated board, committed staff, and a passionate community of users and supporters who make the Katy Trail such a special part of Dallas.

In 2024, we saw meaningful progress in both preserving and enhancing the Trail. In January, we launched a major restoration effort focused on replanting native species and reinforcing the natural beauty that defines the Katy Trail experience. We proudly opened Staubach Pass at Harvard, a new connection point that improves access and pays tribute to a Dallas icon, Roger Staubach. Later in the year, we completed critical repairs to the soft-surface path to ensure runners and walkers a safer and more comfortable journey.

The Katy Trail continues to thrive as a civic treasure and an essential greenway threading through the heart of our city. What began as a visionary rails-to-trails effort has grown into a nationally recognized model of urban trail design, stewardship, and community impact. Whether you are here for fitness, commuting, socializing, or simply finding peace outdoors, the Trail has become an indispensable part of daily life for residents and a compelling destination for tourists, businesses, and developers alike. The intense and ever growing interest in being near the Trail is a testament to its role in shaping a more connected, walkable, and vibrant Dallas.

This year also saw continued momentum for Katy Trail Art, a growing, multi-year initiative that integrates public art into the Trail experience. With pieces being sourced from artists around the globe, this effort is helping elevate the Trail beyond recreation and into a place of culture, inspiration, and storytelling. The art enriches our environment while reflecting the diversity, creativity, and energy of Trail users.

Serving as President during this chapter has been deeply rewarding. The Katy Trail is more than a park; it is a symbol of what is possible when vision, public-private partnership, and civic pride come together. I am proud of the work we have done and even more excited for what lies ahead. What makes the Katy Trail so special is not just its design or maintenance-- it is the community behind it. The energy, support, and generosity of our donors, members, staff, volunteers, and city partners make everything possible. Together, we have cultivated something truly extraordinary: a green artery that pulses through the heart of Dallas, connecting neighborhoods, encouraging health and movement, and bringing people together.

Thank you to everyone who walks, runs, rides, gives, and believes in the Trail. It is an honor to be part of this journey with you.

With gratitude,

Blake Shipp

President, Friends of the Katy Trail, 2023-2024

PRESIDENT

Blake Shipp*

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