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Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. Announces $450K Matching Grant to Support Fair Street Sidewalk Project in Cold Spring and the Start of Construction for Fjord Trail North

Beacon, NY – Following the release of the SEQR Findings Statement for the Fjord Trail on January 20, 2026, Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) announced today its pledge of $450K in grant matching funds for completion of the Fair Street sidewalk in the Village of Cold Spring and plans to start Fjord Trail construction north to Beacon.

HHFT pledges $450K matching grant to complete Fair Street sidewalks in Cold Spring

Recognizing the importance of local collaboration and the shared goal of improving the existing pedestrian conditions along Fair Street in Cold Spring, HHFT has announced its commitment of a $450,000 grant to the Village of Cold Spring and Town of Philipstown, designated as matching funds for the municipalities' application for a NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) grant.

"HHFT is pleased to support the Town of Philipstown and the Village of Cold Spring to complete the sidewalks on Fair Street," said HHFT Executive Director Amy Kacala. "A continuous sidewalk along Fair Street is a meaningful first step in our larger effort to create safe pedestrian connections from the Village of Cold Spring through the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve and all the way to Beacon."

The municipalities are seeking a grant from DOT, through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), to extend the existing sidewalk on Fair Street from Mayor's Park to Little Stony Point. The funds offered by HHFT would satisfy the 20% match required for the grant. TAP grants support DOT's commitment to community-centered transportation by providing safe, reliable, and resilient transportation systems, including sidewalks.

Construction of Fjord Trail North will begin this year

In response to feedback from project area communities, HHFT's implementation plan prioritizes Fjord Trail North – encompassing the area north of Breakneck Ridge in Fishkill to Long Dock Park in Beacon.

"We could not be more thrilled to move forward in bringing the vision of the Fjord Trail to reality," said HHFT President and CEO Peter Mullan. "Fjord Trail North includes a variety of ways to experience and appreciate

the Hudson Highlands that will make them accessible to all, renewing and deepening people's connection to this extraordinary place and landscape. We are grateful for the opportunity to work in collaboration with the City of Beacon and Town of Fishkill, where several hallmark elements of the trail will be located."

The City of Beacon has long expressed enthusiasm for Fjord Trail construction to begin there as soon as possible.

"I am pleased and appreciative that the Fjord Trail is coming sooner to Beacon," said City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou. "Beacon is already partnering with HHFT on details and timing, including a maintenance facility alongside the trail on city property. The city has also committed to rapidly building the Beacon Rail Trail, which will connect the Fjord Trail to Main Street, parks, the train station, and eventually the 700-mile Empire State Trail. Together, these intertwined trails are my top priority as Mayor, which will have transformative quality-of-life impacts on our community."

Work on Fjord Trail North will begin this year and include construction of a new accessible trail connecting Breakneck Ridge to the City of Beacon, new public restrooms at Long Dock Park, a new pedestrian bridge over Fishkill Creek, a new parking lot at Wade's Hill and a connector to the Wilkinson Trailhead, and investments in ecological restoration and repair of the adjacent forest and marsh habitats.

The Breakneck Ridge Connector project is currently under construction and is slated to open in 2027. Specific timelines for construction of Fjord Trail North elements will be announced later this year.

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Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) is a subsidiary nonprofit of Scenic Hudson, Inc., an organization devoted to sustaining and enhancing the Hudson Valley's inspirational beauty and health for generations to come. HHFT's mission is to create and steward a 7.5-mile linear park along the Hudson River that solves existing safety concerns around visitation, provides welcoming access to people of all ages and abilities, restores and protects natural resources, and enhances quality of life for local communities. The Fjord Trail will add organized parking, public restrooms, trash/recycling collection, and distribute users of the park along a 7.5-mile route with six main access points. For more information, visit hhft.org.