



June 10, 2009

NEWS
RELEASE

MISSOURI RIVERFRONT TRAIL 9-1-1 SYSTEM NOW OPERATIONAL

Platte County citizens enjoy walking, jogging and bicycling! And now there is a new safety feature along the Missouri Riverfront Trail to help increase the safety of trail users. Platte County and the City of Riverside are the first agencies in Missouri to participate in the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) 9-1-1 Regional Public Safety Communications "Trail Mapping" project. The Missouri Riverfront Trail, located in the City of Riverside, is the location of the project.

The County and City have established "address coordinates" along the trail which are marked with signage. Trail users with an emergency can now use their cell phones to call 9-1-1 dispatchers and read an address sign along the trail to assist emergency personnel and first responders with identifying their location on the trail.

"Ensuring the safety of anyone using a County trail is a very important concern," Presiding Platte County Commissioner, Betty Knight said. "The opportunity for the County to work with the City of Riverside to implement this MARC project in our community is a significant step in providing the safety and security that our citizens expect."



Riverside Mayor Kathy Rose agrees. “The 9-1-1 sign locations along the trail are critical in creating a safe environment for trail users and making sure our Public Safety Department and other first responders can locate trail users as quickly as possible,” Rose said. “We’re excited to be on the leading edge of this initiative and recognize the hard work done by City, County and MARC staff to implement this project.”

Platte County and the City of Riverside anticipate using the 9-1-1 trail locator system on other trails. The stated goals of MARC’s 9-1-1 Regional Public Safety Communications Trail Mapping project is to:

- 1) Help 9-1-1 personnel and first responders accurately locate a caller’s location during an emergency.
- 2) Strategically place coded signs along trail routes to provide callers with information similar to street addresses.
- 3) Callers can locate the nearest sign and provide 9-1-1 personnel with the seven character address.
- 4) With an exact location determined, 9-1-1 personnel can accurately dispatch first responders to the caller.

To learn more about initiating trail mapping in your jurisdiction contact Saralyn Hayes at (816) 701-8314 or shays@MARC.org.