



# SAVE THE TRAILS

**URGENT. MAKE CALLS NOW.**

**STOP the sale of public land for private profit.**

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A local developer is proposing to the Jackson County legislature that they be allowed to buy public parkland for private profit. The owner of the Oakwood Golf Course wants to destroy part of the Blue River Parkway trails to build a driving range for his golf course. Without our voices, this sale can and will happen. The land can be listed at surplus so that it can be purchased at auction.

**This is urgent! We need quick action by tomorrow, Friday June 12.** Contact ALL the legislators listed below so they clearly hear what the trails mean to you. No sales of public land for private profit!

THE LAND IS NOT SURPLUS PROPERTY. IT HAS TRAILS AND IS USED BY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EVERY YEAR.

**Where is the land:** The conducted survey is of 5 acres, between 435 and Bannister, east of Blue River Rod and on the NW boundary of the existing Oakwood Property (see map).

**What trails are affected:** This land sale would rip out the heart of the Hifi and Analog trails and would obliterate the Jigsaw and Back Alley trails, which are beloved as some of the most beautiful wooded and rocky terrain in the city. The mile of affected trail is in the center of the trail system, and it cannot be replaced. Right now, this land is used by the public for access to nature. If the sale proceeds, only a few wealthy people will ever have access.

**Impact on trails:** Individuals, local businesses, and national funders have all supported the creation of these trails, giving more than \$50,000 over the past ten years to create a 50+ mile connected Blue River-Swope urban trail system, totally built by volunteers, one of the few of its kind in the nation. More than 600 volunteer hours of heavy work went into creating this mile alone within a trail system that represents over 10,000 hours of volunteer labor. This private land deal robs the public. We oppose the loss of public land for private profit.

**Impact on people:** During the Covid-19 shutdown, public parkland, particularly trails, became one of the few outlets for people to recreate safely and promote their health. The trails in question are in an area of Kansas City where the median income is under \$30,000 annually. We oppose the sale of public land for the use of a few wealthy people.

**WHAT TO DO:** The next page shows a list of legislators. Contact as many as you can.



Contact all the legislators listed below. Voice your concerns with the sale of public land for private profit. It is vitally important that we call and use our voices. Emails help too.

3rd District At-Large Legislator & Land Use Committee Chairman– **TONY MILLER**  
[tmiller@jacksongov.org](mailto:tmiller@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-4423

Legislative Vice Chairman & 4<sup>th</sup> District Legislator – **DAN TARWATER III**  
[dtarwater@jacksongov.org](mailto:dtarwater@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-3362

Legislative Chair & 6th District Legislator - **THERESA CASS GALVIN**  
[tgalvin@jacksongov.org](mailto:tgalvin@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-3132

1st District Legislator - **SCOTT BURNETT**  
[sburnett@jacksongov.org](mailto:sburnett@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-3076

1st District At-Large Legislator - **JALEN ANDERSON**  
[JAnderson@jacksongov.org](mailto:JAnderson@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-4477

2nd District Legislator - **RONALD E. FINLEY**  
[rfinley@jacksongov.org](mailto:rfinley@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-3163

2nd District At-Large Legislator - **CRYSTAL WILLIAMS**  
[crystalwilliams@jacksongov.org](mailto:crystalwilliams@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-3464

3rd District Legislator - **CHARLIE FRANKLIN**  
[cfranklin@jacksongov.org](mailto:cfranklin@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-4441

5th District Legislator - **JEANIE LAUER**  
[jlauer@jacksongov.org](mailto:jlauer@jacksongov.org)  
(816) 881-4476

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**FOR UPDATES ON THIS ISSUE:** Please find the Blue River Parkway Trails page, [@brptrails](#), on Facebook.



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