



NEWS ADVISORY

May 27, 2011

For immediate release

Silver Park Boat Ramp Coming – But Not Yet

The new boat ramp in Silver Park on the Clark Fork River looks great, but it's not open yet.

The boat ramp will be part of a new 15-acre public riverfront park, a development effort led by the Missoula Redevelopment Agency and Missoula Parks and Recreation. Before the ramp can open, it must undergo a high-water cycle to evaluate it for any needed design changes and then be certified by the design engineer. After certification, it must undergo tests to assure that it will perform as anticipated.

The other work going on in the area is the construction of the final link in the trail between McCormick Park and the California Street Pedestrian Bridge. The trail, shelters, ramp and parking lot will be completed this summer, and the rest of the park will follow when financing is found. City of Missoula staff members are excited to open these long-awaited recreation amenities and hope for the end of June for the trail opening and mid-August for the boat ramp. Silver Park will be part of Missoula's family of City parks managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Silver Park is part of the redevelopment master plan of the former Champion-Intermountain Sawmill site, now called the Old Sawmill District. The park was intended to be built simultaneously with the adjacent privately developed residential and commercial projects, which the economy has slowed.

Questions? Call Chris Behan, Missoula Redevelopment Agency Assistant Director, at 552-6155 or e-mail him at cbehan@ci.missoula.mt.us.

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