



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Flint Hills Trail State Park Officially Inducted into Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Hall of Fame

A Landmark Honor Celebrates Kansas's 93-Mile Crown Jewel — Built by Communities, Powered by Prairie

TOPEKA, KS — Kansas Trails Inc. is thrilled to announce that the Flint Hills Trail State Park has been officially inducted into the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Hall of Fame, following a groundswell of public support and recognition for its scenic, historical, and economic value see link below.

<https://www.railstotrails.org/trailblog/kansas-flint-hills-trail-state-park-recognized-as-hall-of-fame-trail/>

"Every Hall of Fame speech begins with gratitude: 'I wouldn't be here without so many helping hands,'" said Mike Scanlon, Executive Director, Kansas Trails, Inc. "This trail is no different — sparked by railbanking visionaries, nurtured by volunteers, elevated by towns and state leaders."

From Railbed to State Treasure

- Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy ignited the vision through critical railbanking and early advocacy.
- The State of Kansas propelled the trail forward with its designation as a State Park in 2018 and formal protection.
- In the east, Ottawa expanded trailheads and amenities; Osawatomie marked the iconic Mile 0 with Walker Station.
- The trail earned a transformative \$24.8 million RAISE grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program.

Connecting Kansas by Trail

Stretching 93 miles through the breathtaking Flint Hills — with full extension to 118 miles between Osawatomie and Herington planned — the trail weaves through and will one day connect all of these stops: Osawatomie, Rantoul, Ottawa, Pomona, Vassar, Osage City, Miller, Admire, Allen, Bushong, Americus, Council Grove, Wilsey, Delavan and Herington.

Trail users experience tallgrass prairie, cultural landmarks like Allegawaho Heritage Memorial Park and the John Brown Museum, the historic Santa Fe Trail, and a direct connection to the Hall of Fame Prairie Spirit Trail.

"This trail isn't just a ribbon of gravel — it's a journey through Kansas history, nature, and community," said Mike Goodwin, Chairman, Founders Board, Kansas Trails Inc.. "This Hall of Fame induction is truly about the people and towns that brought it to life."

About Kansas Trails Inc.

Kansas Trails Inc. is a nonprofit dedicated to building, promoting, and sustaining trail networks across Kansas. Through advocacy, collaboration, and community engagement, KTI ensures trails like the Flint Hills Trail offer lasting economic, health, and cultural benefits.

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