Riverfront extension postponed by flooding

(KAIR)--The planned extension of Atchison's Riverfront Trail is on hold due to flooding.

That word comes in a social media post by the City of Atchison.

Work had been planned to begin Monday.

In the post, the City said that "given the site conditions following elevated Missouri River Levels in recent weeks and the potential for more elevated waters later this summer," the decision was made to put the project on hold.

Atchison Assistant City Manager Justin Pregont, in February, told MSC News the project has been in the works for some time. "It's been two or three years ago that we won an award from the Federal Recreational Trails Program, a \$250,000 grant, to essentially double the length of the existing riverfront trail. Right now that trail, existing trail, ends about where the intersection of Atchison Street is. This will essentially extend it [north] past the City's raw water intake station. There's a \$250,000 [grant] and then there's an \$80,000 contribution from the Atchison Riverfront Foundation...we should be able to, from this point forward, spend very little, if any, City money on that project."

The contractor for the Riverfront Trail Extension is Leavenworth-based Julius Kaaz Construction. The Post from the City said the decision to postpone the start of the work until August was made through a mutual agreement with the firm.

The Atchison City Commission in February gave final approval to the project.

It remains on track for completion by the end of the year.

Many Signals Communications