

## Hiawatha Receives Federal Grant for Walking & Biking Trail

( KNZA )--A proposed walking and biking trail in Hiawatha receives a big financial boost from the federal government.

City Administrator Lynne Ladner informed Hiawatha City Commissioners Monday evening that the city has been notified that it has been awarded a \$782,967 grant through the Federal Highway Administration's Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program for 2012.

In addition, Ladner said the city will provide \$195,742 in matching funds and in-kind services.

The city was awarded a nearly \$22,000 grant from the Topeka-based Sunflower Foundation earlier this year for the project.

Ladner says the city will now move forward with design engineering and fund raising for phase one of the project, with construction to hopefully begin in early 2013.

Phase one of the project will connect key elements in the eastern part of the city---including the Little Hands Day Care Center, Hiawatha Aquatic Park, Fisher Community Center, Hiawatha Middle School, Maple Heights Nursing Home and the Hiawatha High School.

Several community members have been working on the project the past two years.

Many Signals Communications