Special Thanks:

The Citizens of Columbia
Mayor Darwin Hindman
Columbia City Council
Former Councilman Bob Hutton
Former Councilman Jim Loveless
Former City Manager Ray Beck
City Manager Bill Watkins
City of Columbia Public Works
University of Missouri-Columbia
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Recreational Trails Program
Missouri Department of Transportation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
PedNet Coalition
Columbia Parks and Recreation Commission

In appreciation to the following who contributed to the success of this project:

Aplex Incorporated
Roy and Rick Richardson Excavating
Gaines Construction

A special thank you to the Parks Services staff for their efforts in the development of this facility.

The Dedication of the MKT Trail
Stewart/Providence/Elm Underpass Project

May 12, 2007
Columbia’s premiere trail is now better than ever! The completion of underpasses at Providence, Stewart, and Elm will now allow users of the MKT Trail to take the trail into Flat Branch Park without crossing Providence Road.

Work on the underpasses began with the lowering of the sewer line on the west side of Providence by Aplex Inc. to enable trail work to start. Grading work was completed and boulders were placed along Flat Branch Creek by Richardson Excavation to serve as a retaining wall. Parks and Recreation staff cleared the trail corridor, removed some bedrock, and cleaned out the underpass “boxes” in preparation for the concrete work. Concrete work was completed by Gaines Construction.

The work is continuing on the trail improvements...but the underpasses are now open to the public. Other changes trail users can expect in the coming weeks include stairs leading to Stewart Road and additional landscaping.

Funding for the underpass project comes from several sources: $45,660 of the costs came from the quarter-cent sales tax approved by voters in 1999, $100,153 of the funding came from the parks sales tax, and $75,254 came from a Recreational Trails Grant for a total project cost of $221,067.

The section of the MKT known as the “downtown section” from Providence Road to Flat Branch Park opened in 1991. This was the third phase of the trail; Phase I from Stadium to Scott Boulevard opened in 1982 and Phase II from Stadium to Providence opened in 1983.

Parks and Recreation appreciates the support shown for the MKT Trail. Thank you for being here today!