We believe that when we are connected with nature, our lives are better.

We are healthier and happier, and our communities are stronger, more equitable, and more economically competitive. Enhancing people’s connections to nature drives our mission.
a year in review

We at the Greenway Trust believe our public lands are a national treasure that deserve – and urgently need – our care and investment. We are committed to bringing our community together to build bridges between people, the lands we share, and the collective health of both the people and the lands.

With your help, our community is charting a new path in caring for natural lands by putting our love for the outdoors to work on the landscape. Thank you for your volunteerism, for your philanthropy, and for your creativity in collaboration.

Thanks to you, the Greenway today is a living model for how a community can grow and flourish alongside healthy, accessible, and sustainable wilderness. We are proud to share this annual report about the impact we had this year.

Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director
Leading the Middle Fork Coalition. The Middle Fork is a dramatic example of the Greenway’s natural beauty. It is also a place where the Greenway Trust and a growing coalition of more than two dozen organizations are working together to make sure this jewel is accessible for all and cared for into the future, by addressing issues such as safety, transit, recreation access, and visitor experience. The Greenway Trust is also leading a major campaign to raise $20 million for recreational infrastructure and long-term maintenance.

Addressing overcrowding. One of the Greenway’s most popular hiking areas is the Mt. Si complex. Its proximity to Seattle means it struggles with overcrowded parking lots. To address this, a new trailhead was constructed at Mt. Teneriffe, with more than 100 parking spaces and improved road safety. Additionally, new connector trails were built between Little Si, Mt. Si, and Mt. Teneriffe and their respective trailheads. This linked trail system helps spread out usage, reduce congestion, and improve the hiker experience.

Improving recreation access. Our crews and volunteers dug into several important recreation projects, including construction of the Granite Creek Trailhead, Middle Fork Connector Trail, Pratt Bar bridge, and Grouse Basin trail system. We also helped re-gravel the popular Mt. Si parking lot and undertook major repairs to the Middle Fork and Mailbox Peak trails.

Taking care of the Teanaway. Dozens of community volunteers turned out for the first Teanaway Community Forest Work Party to install picnic tables, clean out fire rings, and remove trash in preparation for the summer season. Local involvement is a core goal of the new Community Forest, and this inaugural annual event was coordinated by the Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee, with the Greenway Trust providing volunteer leadership support.

Securing funds for tunnel repair. The John Wayne Pioneer Trail is one of the most popular recreation destinations in the Greenway, serving as the backbone of a cross-Greenway trail network. However, its 100-year-old tunnels and trestles needed repairs. We successfully advocated for funding so that State Parks could reline a crumbing tunnel near Thorp, improving public safety and access to the Upper Yakima Canyon.

Tackling invasive weeds in our forests. Building off a successful first season, we expanded our efforts to control invasive weeds on the eastern half of the Greenway. We teamed up with the Kittitas County Noxious Weed Control Board to control weeds on The Nature Conservancy’s newly acquired Central Cascades Forest, just east of Snoqualmie Pass. It was one of the first of many upcoming public-private partnerships that will improve ecological health in the Upper Yakima Basin.
Reducing travel to outdoor learning. Environmental education does more than bring science to life—it fosters teamwork, nurtures the imagination, and builds civic engagement. It’s the cornerstone of the Greenway’s education programming. Typically, our outdoor lessons are done at Tiger Mountain or along Lake Sammamish, but this year we worked with several urban schools to select nearby parks instead. These students were able to walk to their habitat restoration lesson rather than drive, reducing transportation costs and maximizing teaching time.

Restoring parks in the heart of our cities. When the City of Issaquah created their newest park along Issaquah Creek they turned to the Greenway Trust to help restore it. Salmon Run Park had been overrun by invasive weeds, hurting Chinook and Coho salmon recovery and clogging up visitor views to the creek. Now the invasives are gone, replaced by hundreds of native trees and shrubs planted by Greenway volunteers.

New bridge reopens trail. Greenway crews and volunteers repaired a popular equestrian trail at Squak Mountain State Park, building 1.2 miles of new trail and installing a 60-foot trail bridge. This section of the Equestrian Loop Trail had been closed for several years after a trail washout. The re-route has restored access for both equestrians and hikers and expands the park’s interconnected trail network.

Savor Snoqualmie Valley launches. Savor is a community-driven effort to celebrate and promote the Snoqualmie Valley. Coordinated by the Greenway Trust in partnership with government, business, and community leaders, it focuses on building a more united valley, a stronger local economy, and a deeper connection to the outdoors. Initial projects included the launch of the new Savor website and Facebook page—with resources for how to explore the Valley—as well as a guided bike tour and March of the Vegetables.

Bridging the gap between farms and restaurants. Working with local farmers and restaurants, we helped spearhead a new celebration called Bounty Week, highlighting special menus that incorporate Valley-grown ingredients. Demand was so strong its first year that it has become an annual community event.

Olallie Trail opens. We helped build a much-anticipated new trail across Mt. Washington, providing recreation access to mountainous terrain just east of North Bend. From the start, the project was a model for a new, partnership-based way of building trails: State Parks and State DNR teamed up for trail design and project management, and Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance and the Greenway Trust constructed the trail. This was one of the first examples of cross-agency staff sharing in Washington, and the results were so successful that it’s now being used as a model for other projects.
When we are connected with nature, our lives are better. The Mountains to Sound Greenway offers world-class recreation and spectacular open spaces on the doorstep of our urban areas. This high quality of life makes us healthier and happier, and helps attract tourism and top employers that keep our economy strong. Designation of the Greenway National Heritage Area would recognize these strengths and allow the Greenway to serve as a national model for collaborative conservation.

**Campaign progress.** Bipartisan legislation to establish the Greenway National Heritage Area was introduced in 2017 by Senators Cantwell and Murray and Congressmen Reichert and Smith, followed by a favorable hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. We are working with our congressional delegation to pass Greenway legislation by the end of this Congress in December 2018.

**Broad-based support.** In addition to support in Congress, designation has been endorsed by over 6,500 businesses, governments, non-profits, and individuals, including Governor Jay Inslee, King County Executive Dow Constantine, Microsoft, Expedia, REI Co-op, the Trust for Public Land, and the Mountaineers.

For latest updates about the campaign, visit [GreenwayHeritage.org](http://GreenwayHeritage.org)
The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance the landscape from Seattle across the Cascade Mountains to Central Washington, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature.

board of advisors

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Steve Brand | Program Manager, Washington State Parks  
Fred Butler | Mayor, City of Issaquah  
Michelle Capp | District Ranger, USFS Cle Elum District  
Susan Carlson | Partner, Social Venture Partners  
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Jason Walker | Councilmember, City of Duval  
Glenn Wallace | President, King County Search and Rescue  
Todd Welker | SE Region Manager, WADNR  
Dan Youmans | Former Regional VP, External Affairs, AT&T

financial report

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Thank you to our donors.

Donations received July 2016 - June 2017

Middle Fork Snoqualmie Campaign Lead Donors

We are seeking to raise $20 million to create recreational infrastructure and a new model for cooperative management of public lands, ensuring a sustainable future for the wild, 110,000-acre Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley.

$250,000
Greg and Monica Smith
Treeline Foundation

$250,000
Ron and Eva Sher
Biogran Thomsen

$10,000
Anonymous
Arlene Levy
The Ted and Gretchen Thomsen Family

Greenway Visionaries

$10,000+
Anonymous

$5,000-$9,999
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$2,500-$4,999
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Philip and Lenore Defliese
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$50-$100
Anonymous

Guardians of the Greenway

The Greenway Trust gratefully acknowledges the individuals, businesses, and foundations that generously support our work across the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

$2,500-$4,999
Alan and Sally Black
Michael and Debra Bresko
Jason and Elizabeth Broenene
Will Castillo and Beth Dwyer
Karen Collins
Andrew Cox
Emer Dooley and Rob Short
Kim and Scott Fancher
Tom Fehsenfeld and Janet Knox
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Mike and Peggy Kanaga
Andrew and Polly Kenefick
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Danny Levine and Catherine Zimmerman
Russ Levy
Josh Lipsky and Laura van Dernoot Lipsky
Nancy Lomnch and Mark Boyd
Gray Madden

$500-$999
Anonymous

$50-$100
Anonymous

$10,000+
The Ted and Gretchen Thomsen Family

Statement of Activities Year Ending June 30, 2017

Revenue

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

Revenue

Government Grants & Contracts $1,664,196
Contributions $1,621,972
In-kind Contributions $66,193
Investment & Endowment Revenue $60,758
Total Revenue $3,435,442

Expenses

Program Expenses $2,858,662
Management & General $235,548
Fundraising $175,740
Total Expenses $3,299,950

Change in Net Assets $142,492

Net Assets - Beginning of Year $1,611,302
Net Assets - End of Year $1,753,620
the greenway connects it all

mtsgreenway.org