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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY TO MARK COMPLETION OF SHADES CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL EXTENSION – PAVING THE WAY FOR A 36-MILE TRAIL LOOP ACROSS JEFFERSON COUNTY

WHEN: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM CST

WHERE: WESTERN TRAIL HEAD, 1291 OAK GROVE ROAD SOUTH, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209

EVENT TIME: RIBBON CUTTING AT 10:00 AM SHARP

Homewood, AL – Please join us on Friday, January 17, 2025, for the ribbon cutting of the Phase 2 Extension of the Shades Creek Greenway Trail. The ceremony will take place from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM CST, with the ribbon cutting at 10:00 AM sharp.

The 1.4-mile extension adds vital connectivity to the Shades Creek Greenway, part of the Red Rock Trail System. With 145,600 annual visitors, the Homewood trail serves as a popular route for walking, running, and cycling, benefiting Homewood residents, Samford University students, and visitors from across the region.

"The Shades Creek Greenway is the paramount east-west connector in the growing Red Rock Trail System, a network of planned and established recreation and alternative transportation trails located throughout Jefferson County," said Jennifer Andress, Homewood City Councilor (Ward 5, Place 1) and External Affairs Director at Freshwater Land Trust. "Adding another 1.4 miles westward takes the user closer to Red Mountain Park, to which we will eventually connect."

The [Red Rock Action Plan](#) includes a complete 36-mile loop around the metro area, connecting Red Mountain Park to Ruffner Mountain and back, and it would not be possible without this addition to the Shades Creek Greenway.

Remarks will be made by:

- Jennifer Andress, City Councilor, Ward 5, Place 1
- Mayor Alex Wyatt, City of Homewood
- Jane Reed Ross, Landscape Architect, GMC
- Carolyn Buck, Director of the Red Rock Trail System®

The event will be held at the Western Trail Head at 1291 Oak Grove Road South, Birmingham, AL 35209. The ceremony is open to the public, and everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information, visit the [Freshwater Land Trust](#) or [Homewood Chamber](#) websites.

FORMAL RELEASE DATE: JANUARY 10, 2025