



# STAFF REPORT

**Report To:** Open Space Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** February 25, 2019

**Staff Contact:** Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator

**Agenda Title:** For Discussion Only: Trails Coordinator Report: Non-substantive update on trail related projects, activities and grants

**Staff Summary:** See below

**Agenda Action:** Other/Presentation

**Time Requested:** 5 minutes

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## **Adopt-A-Trail**

We are working with our AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator, Chelsea Kincheloe, to create a program which will encourage volunteer organizations to assist us with trail maintenance and hopefully increase a sense of ownership among the community. Adopters who have signed up include Sierra Strength & Endurance, Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada, Carson Senators Cycling, Kiwanis Club, Beards & Men, and of course Muscle Powered. Signage to recognize adopters will be placed at trailheads.

## **Capital to Tahoe Trail / Lincoln Bypass**

This project remains a high priority. Consultants have completed the fieldwork portion of the botanical studies, and they have conducted the first-year fieldwork wildlife studies (Goshawk and Spotted Owl require a two-year study). Cultural surveys will be completed as soon as weather and conditions allow.

## **Carson River Trail System, Phase 2 – Ranch Connections (SNPLMA)**

This is a \$1.8 million SNPLMA grant for the creation of three Multi-Use pathways that will make the following connections:

- o The trailhead at the 5th Street round-about to Silver Saddle Ranch,
- o The Silver Saddle Ranch entrance to the Mexican Ditch Trail,
- o Carson River Park to Riverview Park.

When finished, these new trails will enable a multitude of “loop” possibilities when combined with the existing Mexican Ditch Trail!

Anticipated schedule:

- o Selection of design firm – March, 2019.
- o Approval of selected design firm by Board of Supervisors – April 4, 2019.
- o Completion of design and permitting – by end of 2019.
- o Select contractor and begin construction – first half of 2020.

## **Centennial Park Trails**

We met with Jennifer Dawson, Park Supervisor at Washoe Lake State Park, to discuss a Carson City to Washoe Lake trail, and she is a very willing partner. Alignments on the Carson City end and the Washoe Lake end, on respective R&PP lands, have been completed. Work can begin as weather allows. An alignment through the middle is in progress and will require easements and permissions. We are working with Muscle Powered on a trail plan for the entire area, including a connection to Virginia City. After a plan is completed, staff will approach the BLM for a Scope of Work to begin required surveys.

## **Historic Virginia & Truckee Trail**

This is now the official name for the trail, proposed by Donna Inversin, which will generally follow the route of the V&T Railroad from Reno, through Carson City, to Minden, and from Carson City to Virginia City.

Carson City segments that are needed include:

- o Easements on the existing grade from Lakeview to Coombs Canyon Road,
- o Connections on Washington Street, and south to the Douglas County line,
- o Connection to Virginia City through Carson River Canyon.

## **Prison Hill Recreation Area**

### *Motorized Area*

Working with our partner, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC), we are moving forward with a phased, multi-year project to improve the recreational opportunities in this area while respecting local homeowners and protecting the natural resources for long-term sustainability.

We have received two grants for Phase II of this project which is for design and education, including boundary designation and a signage plan. We were awarded \$100,000 from RTP and another \$100,000 from NOHV. Work will begin in the spring. A tour of the Prison Hill OHV area for the Nevada Off-Highway Vehicle Commission and interested OSAC members will be conducted on March 11.

### *Non-Motorized Area*

Cultural review of planned new trails will begin this spring or summer. Muscle Powered plans to conduct maintenance on several Prison Hill trails throughout the spring and fall months this year.

### *Mexican Dam – Mexican Ditch Inlet Safe Passage.*

A funding request was submitted to CWSD in January for a proposed project that will make modifications to the inlet to allow safe passage around the dam for hikers, mountain bikers, runners and equestrians, and will enable portage of small watercraft. We expect to know in March if we will be awarded the funding. This project is supported by both Douglas County Community Services and the Carson Valley Trails Committee because it will potentially extend float trip opportunities into Carson Valley and improve options for trail connectivity between the two counties.

### *5<sup>th</sup> Street Trailhead.*

This is an RTP grant project. Public Works is currently selecting a contractor for the parking lot, vault toilet, and picnic shelter portion of the project. We have selected a professional trail builder for the trails portion of the project. Work will include some road-to-trail conversion of one mile of road, construction of ½ mile of new trail, and decommissioning of about one mile of erosive old roads.