



STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item: 4D

Report To: Open Space Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: August 19, 2019

Staff Contact: Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator

Agenda Title: For Discussion Only: Activities related to trail projects managed by the Open Space Division.

Staff Summary: See below

Agenda Action: Other/Presentation

Time Requested: 10 minutes

Adaptive Options

In an effort to make our trail system available to an even broader segment of our community, we are beginning research into evaluation of trails that could be branded as options for adaptive athletes. This could include paved pathways, but may also include more challenging trails that are not necessarily “ADA compliant”, but which could, for example, provide options for an adaptive mountain bike rider. There are many trails in Carson City that may qualify and we need to identify them and then incorporate these options into our website and on signage and maps. Research will include a review of design standards and rating systems.



Examples of adaptive mountain bikes

Capital to Tahoe Trail and Lincoln Bypass Trail

The required botanical and cultural surveys have been completed on the Lincoln Bypass, and we are just waiting on the final cultural report to be completed and submitted to the USFS. Year two of the field work for wildlife surveys for the Capital to Tahoe Trail has been completed, and fieldwork for the cultural surveys

has also been completed. Staff is working with Muscle Powered on a grant application to the Recreational Trails Program for initial construction for both trails.

Centennial Park Trails

The proposed trails include connections to Washoe Lake State Park, McClellan Peak and Virginia City. Muscle Powered is working to finalize proposed trail alignments. Together, we have met with the BLM several times and they have also expressed interest in the project. The next step is to finalize the proposal and get a Scope of Work from BLM for clearances. The Great Basin Institute has expressed initial interest in submitting a grant application to perform clearance work. We are also talking with a private landowner about an easement that will be necessary for the Washoe Lake State Park connection.

Eagle Scout Project at the C-Hill Trailhead

Eagle Scout candidate Halen Harrison completed his project which included re-surfacing of the parking area and refurbishing of the kiosk trailhead sign. Staff plans to add information about the annual sheep / fuels reduction project to the kiosk.



Before and after photos at the C-Hill Trailhead.

Prison Hill Recreation Area

Motorized Area

With grant funding from the Nevada OHV Commission and Recreational Trails Program, our consultant RecConnect began work this summer for layout and design for this area. This included several weeks of field work, meetings and site-visits with various user groups. RecConnect will be back in the fall for several more weeks to finish the plan. Updates are posted periodically at Carson.org/ohv.

The Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association (PNMTA) is planning a major clean-up of the OHV area on October 6. This is just ahead of the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council's (NOHVCC) National Conference in Reno which will include a mobile workshop at Prison Hill for conference attendees.

Mexican Dam – Mexican Ditch Inlet Safe Passage

Our department received a \$25,000 grant from the Carson Water Subconservancy District to help offset the cost for construction. This project will be an important component in future connectivity for a loop trail around Prison Hill and for extension of the Aquatic Trail into Carson Valley.

5th Street Trailhead (Recreational Trails Program grant)

- 1) Work on the trail construction portion began on June 24th, and it is expected to be completed by the end of August. The work includes road-to-trail conversion of one mile of road, construction of ½ mile of new trail, and decommissioning of about one mile of eroding old roads. The finished trail will be an average of 48" wide and could be included as an "adaptive option" in our trail network.
- 2) The trailhead construction portion of this project is nearing completion. The parking lot has been resurfaced, drainage improvements are complete, the vault toilet has been placed and contractors are awaiting arrival of the picnic table and shelter.

Prison Hill Survey

As part of an effort to plan appropriate land uses and trail system connectivity on the Prison Hill Recreation Area, we have asked for the community's input via an on-line survey. The survey, available July 19 through August 9 includes questions about the trailheads (including parking), access points, and thoughts about the area on the west side of Prison Hill near Koontz Lane. The results will help guide future improvements, prioritize expenditures, and will be used as a means to seek grants and donations for implementation of various site improvements. The public outreach includes a media release, direct mailing to approximately 170 adjacent neighbors, and signs posted at trailheads.

SNPLMA Carson River Trail System

The wetland analysis and bird surveys are completed, and the 30% plans are being reviewed.

Tahoe East Shore Trail

Gregg Berggren, Ann Bollinger, and City Manager Nancy Paulson had the opportunity to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Tahoe East Shore Trail on June 28th. This is a spectacular multi-use pathway that extends from Incline Village to Sand Harbor. It includes an 800' bridge, which is the longest bridge of any kind in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The next path segment – traveling from Sand Harbor State Park to Spooner Summit (within the Carson City political jurisdiction) – is currently under design and environmental review. In March/April 2019, staff reviewed the 30% design plans and returned comments to the consulting firm. The Environmental Assessment was released July 12 for a 30-day comment period, ending August 11. Along the new eight mile segment, two existing parking lots will be expanded and two new parking lots will be added. Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2021-2022.



Gregg Berggren, City Manager Nancy Paulson, and Ann Bollinger enjoyed walking and bike riding on the new path following the ribbon-cutting ceremony.