



STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item: 6B

Report To: Open Space Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: December 18, 2023

Staff Contact: Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator, gberggren@carson.org

Agenda Title: For Discussion Only: Trails Coordinator Report - Activities related to trail projects managed by the Open Space Division, including trail-related grants, programs, and events. (*Gregg Berggren, gberggren@carson.org*)

Staff Summary: This item is to provide updates from the Trails Coordinator regarding work trail-related activities in Carson City.

Agenda Action: Other/Presentation

Time Requested: 10 minutes

Proposed Motion

N/A

Board's Strategic Goal

Quality of Life

Previous Action

N/A

Background/Issues & Analysis

See Attachment 1 – Trails Coordinator Report

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

N/A

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? Yes No

Trails Coordinator Report

Gregg Berggren, December 18, 2023

Capital to Tahoe Trail

While the Capital to Tahoe Trail officially opened on July 8th, 2023, at the Grand Opening Celebration, there remained an uncompleted two-mile segment of singletrack where the trail was temporarily using a portion of Snow Valley Peak Road. That last segment was completed in September by Muscle Powered volunteers and a private contractor, and this amazing trail project is now 100% complete!



Photos of the last segment of the Capital to Tahoe Trail



Looking south toward Snow Valley Peak

Prison Hill Trail West Project

This SNPLMA funded project will create a multi-use pathway along the west side of Prison Hill, make improvements to the Koontz Lane Trailhead, and create a safe street crossing of Edmonds Drive at Koontz Lane. The 30% plans were presented and discussed at the October 16 OSAC meeting. Staff met with the engineering consultant in November to discuss and review public comments and City staff recommendations.

Project updates may be found on our website at carson.org/trails. Once there, just scroll down below the Carson City Trail System Map to ‘*Project Status and Updates*’.

Odyssey Trail

Muscle Powered Crew Leader Paul Sinnott and his team of volunteers completed another segment of the Odyssey Trail on Prison Hill, extending the current total length to 1.8 miles. The trail begins at the Koontz Lane Trailhead, climbs to the Prison Hill Saddle, then up to the west end of Stegosaurus Ridge where it looks down into Dead Truck Canyon.

With an average grade of just 7%, it makes for a very fun and sustainable alternative to the very steep old roads that have provided this same access for decades. Work will begin in the spring on the next segment which will extend the trail south to connect with the Dead Truck Canyon Trail.



Views from the latest segment of the Odyssey Trail

Desert Peach Trail

Construction on the Desert Peach Trail on Prison Hill will begin in the spring of 2024. Partially funded through a grant from the Recreational Trails Program, this new trail will connect the 5th Street Loop Trails with the North Loop and complete a continuous sustainable singletrack connection from the 5th Street Trailhead to the Koontz Lane Trailhead.

ATTACHMENT 1

Eagle Scout Projects in 2023

We were fortunate to have five Eagle Candidates seek trail projects from our Department in 2023. They performed a variety of important and valuable activities:

Eagle Candidate Chris Borges - completed a realignment on a steep portion of an old social trail that we call 'Express', because it is a quick way to access the Prison Hill Saddle from the Clearview Drive Trailhead.



Eagle Candidate Chris Collins - tackled a signage project in Carson River Canyon. He installed wayfinding signs throughout the canyon and added a new map panel to the kiosk sign.



ATTACHMENT 1

Eagle Candidate Samuel Gaskell - completed a realignment of a very steep portion of the West Loop Trail on Prison Hill, including decommissioning the old segment.



Eagle Candidate Dylan Cooley - completed a realignment of a steep and erosive social trail on Lone Mountain. His project included some drainage improvements and decommissioning of the old trail which was contributing to stormwater runoff above adjacent homes.



Trail Maintenance

Sagebrush Loop – The 5th Street Loop Trails were built to be wide enough to accommodate adaptive mountain bikes (aMTB), but a very sandy segment of the Sagebrush Loop made travel difficult for any bicycle. As an experiment, staff placed a layer of road base on this segment, and we will monitor success over time.



Riverview Park – The section of trail closest to the river was badly damaged in many places by flooding. Open Space staff worked in cooperatively with a contractor to regrade this trail segment and add a new layer of road base. Open Space staff also performed mastication and hand clearing of overgrown willow and weeds.

ATTACHMENT 1



Maintenance Coordinator Jared Whitaker



Maintenance Worker Joe Steele

Empire Ranch Trail – This trail was damaged by spring flooding, and it experienced significant growth of willows and weeds. Open Space staff masticated the overgrowth and patched damaged segments with road base.

Eagle Creek Segment – This connection between Empire Ranch and Riverview Park was severely damaged by flooding this year. With assistance from a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant and Q18 funds, we plan to re-align a portion of this trail. We are waiting for notice to proceed from RTP.

Buzzy’s Ranch Trail – Two very short segments of trail repaired by staff after flooding.

Moffat Open Space Trailhead – Staff added new base material to the parking area and installed split rail fencing along the perimeter. This is an adopted trailhead!

