

Jessica L. Araiza

From: Don Rose <donofthedirt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2024 6:37 AM
To: AD-Parks Rec Commission; Zachary J. Perras; Jennifer Franich
Cc: Ginny McCormick; Melissa Padilla
Subject: Trail Width Standards in Parks Planning Standards (Item 4 on the 9-19-14 Agenda)

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To: El Dorado County Parks and Recreation Commission

Referring to Item 4 on the 9-19-24 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting Agenda, the Park Planning Standards Draft, on page 18, the first bullet point of the section titled Trail Design Details provides standards for Class 1 bike paths, which are by definition paved bike paths.

The second bullet point contains width standards for all other trails, which I assume refers to unpaved natural surface trails, given that the first bullet point refers to paved trails. It goes on to state that minimum width requirements for all other trails are 4 feet for single use trails and 10 feet for multi-use trails.

However, Section 9.3.2 of the California State Parks Trails Handbook states the following:

“Multi-use trails have a minimum tread width that is consistent with the Class 1 equestrian standard of 36 inches. Where the hillslopes are steep and hikers and cyclists may have difficulty stepping off the trail, passing areas a minimum of 60 inches wide and 60 inches long should be provided.”

I suggest that the Park Planning Standards Draft be amended to conform with the state parks standard. I have hiked and biked on many multi use-natural trails, and I have never seen one that was 10 feet wide. Most are approximately 3 feet wide.

Also, farther down in that section is a reference to trails for equestrians, stating they should be at least 4 feet in width. Again, this conflicts with the state parks trails handbook, which in no case requires more than a three foot width for an equestrian trail or a multi use trail. Again, I recommend conforming to the State Park standards.

Thank you.

Don Rose
Volunteer Coordinator
Friends of the El Dorado Trail
916-204-2836
<https://eldoradotrail.org/about/>
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