

Minutes of Joint Parks Commission and Trails Advisory Committee Workshop on November 5, 2009

Attendees:

Steve Yonker – Parks and Recreation Commissioner
 Bob Smart – Parks and Recreation Commissioner
 Charlie Callahan – Parks and Recreation Commissioner
 Jenifer Russo – Parks and Recreation Commissioner
 Wayne Lowery – El Dorado Hills CSD (EDHCSD)
 Carl Clark – Georgetown Divide Recreation District (GDRD)
 Martin Harris – River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC)
 Noah Rucker-Triplett – River Recreation Supervisor, Environmental Management
 Melba Leal – Trails Advisory Committee
 Randy Hackbarth – Trails Advisory Committee
 Sarah – Ramsey – Trails Advisory Committee
 Eileen Crim – Trails Advisory Committee
 Lindell Price – Trails Now
 Russ Nygaard – DOT Deputy Director Facilities Engineering
 Tom Fossum – DOT Engineering
 Pam Niebauer – DOT Engineering Administrative Secretary
 Ed Armstrong – Foothill Associates
 Kate Kirsh – Foothill Associates

Agenda Items and Discussion

1. Review Project Plan

Kate Kirsh described the various project phases anticipated for completion of the El Dorado County Parks and Trails Master Plan (the Plan). The ten major tasks from project initiation through final adoption by the Board of Supervisors were reviewed to familiarized attendees with the approach and scope of the effort.

Anticipated duration for the project is approximately 10 months, depending on review cycles and possible expansion of public process.

Russ Nygaard also explained that the Plan will describe in general the availability of recreation resources in the Tahoe Basin, but that TRPA, the US Forest Service, and the City of South Lake Tahoe are providing and managing the parks and trails in that area. It was noted that the El Dorado National Forest has recently updated its management plan for the forest and that it may include relevant recreation information.

Action Item: Coordinate with South Lake Tahoe and TRPA to let them know about the Plan, and proposed approach to including Basin resources. May slightly expand scope depending on final approach.

Assigned to: Nygaard

2. Review Public Participation Strategy

Kate Kirsh outlined the proposed public participation process and explained the timing of the various public input and review opportunities with respect to the overall project plan.

Web Site

Attendees were asked to provide suggestions for possible links for the Plan web site to other recreation web sites.

Kate explained that the web site would be used to communicate project events, updates, and interim deliverables for public review and comment. It was suggested that Advisory Committee members receive an email notice whenever the web site is updated so they in turn can let their contacts know to check the site.

Joint Parks and Recreation Commission and Trails Advisory Committee Meetings

Kate explained that this was the first of two joint meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) and Trails Advisory Committee (TAC) that will be held during the project. The second meeting will focus on establishing Plan Goals and Policies.

Master Plan Advisory Committee

Attendees were asked to provide suggestions for participants in the Master Plan Advisory Committee. Kate explained that this group would be responsible for providing consensus based guidance throughout the project and for assisting with outreach to the various interest groups. It was also suggested that key County staff, such as maintenance and planning staff, participate in Advisory Committee meetings to provide technical assistance with respect to County policies, procedures, and General Plan conformance. Suggested Advisory Committee members were:

Steve Youel – City of Placerville
Dan Bolster – El Dorado County Transportation Commission
Jeannie Harper - Pollock Pines resident
Bob Smart – Parks Commissioner
Mike Bean – American River Conservancy
Eldorado National Forest (TBD)
Dianna Hillyer or Guy Gertsch – El Dorado Hills CSD
Charlie Callahan - Parks Commissioner and South County Resident
Georgetown Divide Recreation District – TBD
Cameron Park CSD – TBD
Eldorado Irrigation District – Jim Abercrombie
Martin Harris – River Management Advisory Committee
Melba Leal or Eileen Crim – Trails Advisory Committee
Jim Eichner or Jeff Horn – BLM
Vicki Barber – El Dorado County Office of Education

Community Workshops

Attendees requested the number of community park workshops be expanded from 2 to 4 to facilitate more comprehensive input from County residents. Several locations for the public meetings were suggested. These were Placerville, Diamond Springs/El Dorado, Pollock Pines, South County, and Coloma/Lotus. Sutter’s Mill School was proposed as a facility for the Coloma/Lotus area meeting. It was determined that residents from Rescue would most likely attend the meeting for the Coloma/Lotus area, and Shingle Springs residents would attend the Diamond Springs/El Dorado area meeting. The attendees also agreed that having a separate workshop focused on trails, as planned, was worthwhile and that this meeting should perhaps be held in Placerville because it is centrally located.

Surveys

It was also strongly suggested that phone and written surveys, as well as a project web site, be included in the outreach strategy.

Key Stakeholder Interviews

Kate explained that key stakeholders are people who are likely to be influential in the planning process, but may not be available to participate throughout the project. Up to 10 key stakeholders will be interviewed individually. Suggested key stakeholder groups are:

- Developers (Mike McDougall, Larry Ito, Art Marinaccio)
- Sports League Representatives
- Chamber(s) of Commerce
- Apple Hill Merchants
- Winery Owners
- Farm Bureau
- Schools

County Staff
County Supervisors

Public Input Meetings

Kate explained that the public would have the opportunity to provide input on the Plan at 3 public meetings separate from the Community Workshops. These meetings are envisioned to be either separate or joint meetings of the PRC, TAC, and or Board of Supervisors, and will be held to review initial analyses, the Draft Recommendations, and the Draft Master Plan.

Action Item: Amend project scope to include two additional workshops, phone survey, written survey, and project web site.

Assigned to: Nygaard, Kirsh

Action Item: Finalize Advisory Committee list and obtain commitments to participate from members

Assigned to: Nygaard, Kirsh

Action Item: Finalize Key Stakeholder interview list

Assigned to: Nygaard, Kirsh

Action Item: Identify format and venue for three public input meetings.

Assigned to: Nygaard, Kirsh

3. Review Proposed Master Plan Document Outline

Kate Kirsh reviewed the proposed outline from the Plan to familiarize attendees with the organization and scope of the plan.

4. Review Placerville Area Parks Master Plan Findings

The findings from the Placerville Area Parks Master plan regarding the deficit of park acreage in the unincorporated areas of the County were reviewed. A map was displayed illustrating the distribution of existing parks and parcel density to highlight which areas are most underserved.

5. Advisory Committee Suggestions

This agenda item was addressed earlier during the discussion of Item 2 – Public Participation Strategy.

6. Inventory Summary

Attendees received copies of the draft parks and trails inventory sheets and were asked to review these. Comments, additions, and corrections are to be sent to Kate Kirsh (kate.kirsh@foothill.com).