

Park, Trails & Open Space Committee
Wednesday, October 23, 2019
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Cottonwood Heights City Offices

Attendees: Sarah Ricketts, Carl D (Dave) McFerren, Ronna Cohen, Jennifer Follstad Shah, Melissa Fields, Roger Kehr, Greg Reid, Bruce Jorgensen, Kristy Morrison, Ben Hill,

Not Present: Michael Johnson, Greg Hilbig, Erin Davis, Matthew Dominesey, Christine Mikell, Mike Menssen

Discussion:

Seven Canyons Trust

- Hoping to get more political buy for larger projects
- Seven Canyons trust is a nonprofit, started as grad thesis program
- Look at the benefits of uncovering streams that have been covered (City Creek, Jordan/SLC canal)
- Opening the sections create vibrant open spaces - if you can open them up, create green space and connectivity across the whole valley
- Create network of open spaces - could put trails along opened up creeks and canals
- Currently working on Parleys - Immigration - Red Butte (the 3 creek confluence)
- Similar work in Ogden and St. George
- Cottonwood Heights has two creeks running through the city boundaries - parts are buried, parts are impaired
- Seven Canyons Trust can help Cottonwood Heights with ordinances to help get these uncovered - Seven Canyons trust is a good resource for bold moves
- They are here to get our support, they are applying to a grant to get cities to start talking to each other, they approach county, county said cities need to get on board
- They want our support to move forward with the grant - \$150k grant, needs 8% match - SLC, South SLC, Holladay are on board (we are the fourth city they visited) - it's a planning grant to look at what plans cities already have, get input from all over the county, find out what the public wants
- *Asking cities for \$2000 leveraged for \$150k of planning* and a commitment to say we'll have our parks/pub utilities/right people to participate
- When is the planning process / timeline? Need letter before December, they have drafted one for us, money commitment comes June/July
- Some of the letters will come from administrators, some from political bodies, flexible where the letter of support comes from
- Dave McFerren - where does the opposition come from? Private property owners,
- We/PTOS will decide, we'll let Mike Johnson know, he'll reach out

Rob Donigan, Blu Line Designs re: BST access

- Contracted to help in identifying potential access locations for BST access points
- Two types of access:
 1. Local access, limited amenities, no off street parking, within neighborhood, primarily for neighborhood residents, frequency every 1 every 2 miles, trail signage, trash cans, bench
 2. Regional trailhead - a primary access point, significant amenities, plenty of parking, frequency every 1 every 4 miles, an off street, meaningful parking

They identified 4 possible regional trailheads, 5 possible local access points,

Have potential 5.5 miles of BST, should probably have 2 regional access and 4 local access so we are roughly in the ballpark

Regional Access Points:

1. one is the gravel pit itself,
2. is the BCC pull off (right now forest service service area / pull off) good location, accessible, currently along proposed BST alignment, might be challenging to have a large parking lot there (large parking lot = 140 - 150 stalls across the 5.5 mile section)
3. Ferguson Canyon Overflow - ¼ mile hike thru neighborhood, could be true regional trail access point
4. Water Tanks / Wasatch pull off

Local: a few social trails already there

5. Mountain Cove Cir (LDS chapel location) stub street, could be small parking lot, also it's private property
 6. 8335 S
 7. Golden Oaks Drive
 8. King Hills Drive
 9. King Hills Place
- Was the city in agreement with these as potential access? They showed larger options to city council, this list is the sifted down version that already went before the council
 - Going forward, Rob will come to our meeting periodically, we will want to engage the public as a whole and present these options - probably not until early 2020. Our next major hurdle is public feedback
 - Bruce - some of those locations, if they could show how many stalls they could fit in and what it looks like, it would be helpful when we present to the public; Mike wants to keep high level at first public meeting

Mike Johnson and Melissa and Jen starting to discuss how to approach property owners

Staff / Council Updates

From Mike Johnson:

- Chapter 17.31 never existed, could be mislabeled reference or requirements were rolled into different ordinance; would like to receive Jen's recommendations that he can pass on
- Legality of applying for grant on county land (Crestwood park) - depends on the grant, has been done in the past

General support from PTOS committee for Sevens Canyons - everyone at the meeting was in agreement

Ben Hill discussed the Cottonwood Heights Parks & Rec foundation - people can donate to the foundation and request funds go to specific improvements as long as it is in line with the foundation's mission

Subcommittee reports

Erin Davis / Crestwood Park - sections of trail being improved (large gravel to crushed gravel) trail going down from park ridge drive is a much larger project, engineering study recommended - very expensive for the study and the updates

Off-leash area at Mountview Park discussion and recommendation vote

9 members present; enough for quorum

The city is below standard (according to county) for multi-use field space; but no standard exists for dog parks

Roger noted that a dog park could affect 10,000 people in the city (who are dog owners)

Kristy: Question about whether to put a dog park off Wasatch near Ferguson Trail overflow lot?

Kristy also noted that this vote comes very soon after giving our ideas for city survey that will likely include questions about dog park

Melissa noted that this vote is a recommendation that the city begin the formal process of exploring the area at Mountview Park as a dog park, which would include a design aspect (e.g., where exactly the park would be located in the park and how big it would be), public hearings, etc.

Ben thinks if a dog park is added to Mountview, more parking would be required.

Ronna noted there is an opportunity here with the budget planning timing, the information we have gained from Andy and Roger's research on the topic, the fact that the fields are not being used due to issues with grass not growing well at the park, and the lack of other viable sites in available in the near term.

We are voting on whether to recommend that the city invest in creating a dog park in part of Mountview Park"

Mike Mensen - Yes

Greg Hilbig - Absent

Erin Davis - No

Sarah Ricketts - Absent

Matt Dominisey - Absent

Dave McFerrin - No

Kristy Morrison - No

Greg Reid - Yes
Ronna Cohen - Yes
Jennifer Follstad Shah - Yes
Bruce Jorgensen - Yes
Melissa Fields - Yes
Roger Kehr - Yes
Ben Hill - Abstained

Vote carries with 7:13 members voting yes.

Ordinance amendment feedback

Everyone present is willing to accept the ordinance amendment as written

Action items:

Weed pull event - Birches Picnic Area, Nov. 2, 9 am - noon

Come with PTOS grant opportunities to the Nov. meeting

Walking routes - come up with name for project, funding for interns to create brochures / printing for brochures, maps with trail plus historic information,

Andy said that Holladay has a booklet with walking tours that provides a nice model.

Mike is still working on the nature talks - he is looking for ideas

Jenn's idea: contact Austin Green (University of Utah, Department of Biology) about the Wildlife of the Wasatch project (which uses wildlife cams to record wildlife diversity in Wasatch canyons and heavily relies on citizen science)

Next Meeting: Nov. 20, 2019