



Memo

To: Open Space Advisory Committee
From: Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator
cc: Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator
Date: October 4, 2017
Re: Trails Coordinator Report

Capital to Tahoe Rim Trail (TRT)/Lincoln Bypass: On 8/10/17, we received confirmation from USFS for the following:

- Fiscal Year 2018 (starts October 1, 2017): Lincoln Bypass and Capital to TRT – work on providing a scope of work to Carson City
- Fiscal Year 2019 (starts October 1, 2018): Lincoln Bypass and Capital to TRT – will do the review and process according to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Since then we have been in contact with the USFS to encourage them to provide us with their scope in the first half of their fiscal year so that we have an opportunity to conduct the environmental surveys in the spring of 2018. Note – the botanical survey of the Lincoln Bypass alignment was completed in June, 2017.

We toured the State Park portion of the alignment with Josh Rhein (Park Ranger for this area). Josh liked the alignment and is arranging a meeting with State Park officials to discuss.

Carson-Tahoe Hospital to Lakeview Trail: Our request for an extension of the NDOT permit was approved in September. The permit requires that construction be completed by December 31, 2018. We will work with Hospital staff on location of a Trailhead, and then begin construction ASAP.

Centennial Park Trails: Ann and I met with Victoria Wilkins and Terah Malsam at BLM; and I, along with representatives from EVTC, met a second time. BLM recognizes the need for bringing user-constructed trails into the system and maintaining them. We provided BLM with the SHAPE files showing existing trails and offered to tour the area with them. In follow-up conversations, Victoria has indicated that she is reviewing/discussing our proposals with senior BLM staff.

Carson City submitted a request and received approval from BLM to amend the existing lease on these lands and allow trail construction, which means we can now move forward with Phase 1 of the Conner McRae/Muscle Powered proposal for a single-track trail at Centennial Park. This trail will provide a location for the Carson High Senators Mountain Bike Team to host race events. Muscle Powered and the High School will begin work on this project when construction of the Secret Trail is completed.

Clear Creek Connector to Kings Canyon: On October 4, I attended a meeting with NDOT Region II staff, State Lands (Charles Donahue), and CVTA (Carlo Luri) to discuss trailhead possibilities near the Golf Club Drive underpass on Highway 50. All parties are in favor of creating a trailhead and providing trailhead parking. The first step will be to complete an engineering design for the project, and the CVTA agreed to seek a firm to do this work. Following approval, NDOT would issue a Permit, with Carson City being the Permittee.

Jeff Potter (Muscle Powered) and I have developed a rough alignment possibility for this trail, from the Golf Club Drive underpass to the Kings Canyon TH for the Ash to Kings Trail.

Eagle Valley Trails Committee/UPMP Updates: Based on recommendations made in the EVTC Report, we are working on UPMP updates (including updated maps). My goal to have a draft of recommended amendments to Ann and Vern by October 19 so they can review. We plan to present the UPMP updates to a joint meeting of OSAC and PRC in December, and then to the Planning Commission in February, 2018.

Prison Hill Recreation Area:

- A Comprehensive Trail Master Plan for Prison Hill is in the works. Some new trails are being planned and existing sustainable trails are being identified.
- The North Loop re-alignment and improvements project was approved by the State Historic Preservation Office and the Washoe Tribe. Muscle Powered volunteer Paul Sinnott and his crew have begun working on this project.
- Mexican Dam – Safe Passage. We are developing a plan to provide safe passage around the dam for hikers, mountain bikers, runners, horse riders, and kayakers/canoers/rafters. This would enable a longer Aquatic Trail and provide connectivity for the Mexican Ditch Trail to the south end of Prison Hill. We are currently soliciting engineering bids for design of this project.
- Motorized area. The south end of the Prison Hill Recreation Area comprises about 900 acres which are open to motorized vehicles. Carson City is one of relatively few municipalities in the western U.S. that manages an OHV area, and we need a comprehensive strategy to effectively guide our management of this area into the future. In September we began working with the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) to help locate an experienced consultant to work with us to develop a management plan. NOHVCC will also work with us to submit a grant request to the Nevada Off-Highway Vehicles Program to help fund this planning effort.

Secret Trail: This is a 1.3 mile re-alignment of a non-sustainable use trail in Vicee Canyon, and one that will likely be used by the Carson City Off Road mountain bike race. Muscle Powered began construction in July and expects to be completed with the new trail by the end of October.

Signage Master Plan: In September our design firm conducted a Design Charrette which was attended by 16 stakeholders. Our consultant stated that the Charrette went well and that they received the feedback and input they needed to move forward. On October 3, our design firm met with Parks staff to present and discuss some preliminary designs. They are now working on more formalized designs and will conduct another meeting with Parks staff at the end of October. Our goal is to present 95% designs to the joint meeting of OSAC and PRC in December.

Aquatic Trail Map: This is a joint project with the Carson City Visitors Bureau, PROS, our AmeriCorps graphic designer (Chaja Hogeweg), and others, to develop a new Aquatic Trail Map. The new map will show a dramatic increase in Carson City managed river-corridor lands since the first edition. Also, the new edition will include natural and cultural history, which was not included in the first edition.

Trail Summit: We are working with the Eastern Sierra Trails Coalition to host a “Trails Summit” in Carson City. The summit will be held on November 3, 2017 at Western Nevada College in the Carson Nugget Community Hall. Registration is through the TRTA website.

East Silver Saddle Ranch: Open Space staff has developed a draft scope of work for the development of a management plan for this area, and we are discussing this scope with a consultant. The plan will fulfill recommendations and goals in the Carson River Management Plan.