

Trails & Open Space Committee

May 20, 2022 • Special Meeting Minutes

FINAL REPORT

<i>TOS Committee Members</i>			
Karen Aaron VJ Bonnard Richard Bothwell	Gayle Dana (Vice Chair) Lorna Dobrovolny John Groom (Staff Lead)	Benjamin Levine (Chair) Livia Quan Ellen Raynor	Graham Reid Peter Sawyer (Vice Chair) Julie Thornton
<i>Affiliated Staff:</i> None			
<i>Subcommittee Members:</i> Nan Meek (EM, EQ), Susan Terrell (EM, EQ)			
<i>Liaisons:</i> Courtney Murrell (BOD), Laura Lindgren (LRPC), Jim Roth (BOD)			
<i>Other Staff:</i> None			
<i>Guests:</i> Scott Bauhs, Tara Christison, Katie Veni			

• • •

1. The meeting of the Trails & Open Space Committee (TOS) was called to order at 2:00 PM with a quorum present.
2. **Non-Agenda Comments:** There were no non-agenda comments.
3. The TOS unanimously approved the previous meeting minutes with corrections.
4. **Trails Master Plan Survey:** The TOS reviewed survey data related to the following topics:
 - **Winter Recreational Access:** The TOS discussed the unexpectedly high interest in snowshoeing outside the Cross-Country Ski Area. The general consensus was that the finding appeared to represent genuine interest in non-groomed snowshoeing by a broad spectrum of winter open space users, and that the new Trails Master Plan should ideally be responsive to this interest.
 - **Signage & Wayfinding:** As members identified improved signage and wayfinding as their number one priority, the TOS discussed the plans that staff and the consultants are developing for improved signage and wayfinding.
 - **Internal & External Connectivity:** The TOS discussed best practices for improving neighborhood trail system access. Staff stressed the need to establish a baseline level of signage that is consistent across all neighborhood trail access points and also consistent with the planned upgraded signage. Because these access points are in close proximity to homes, the TOS discussed the need to balance access point visibility with concerns about

disrupting the quiet character of the neighborhood. Neighborhood access points will be a continuing topic for the TOS, especially when we move from the conceptual master plan into implementation planning.

5. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum: The TOS discussed the Recreational Opportunity Spectrum materials that were originally assigned to the TOS in March.

6. Review Draft Trails Master Plan Maps: The TOS discussed three conceptual maps.

- **Improved Surface Pedestrian Trails:** Improved surface pedestrian trails include gravel, compacted aggregate, and paved trails. Because they provide a new and different recreational opportunity to the trail system, the improved surface trail map was well-received by the committee. However, members rated pedestrian only trails as their number one priority, and the committee suggested that this priority should include unimproved surface pedestrian trails of varying lengths and difficulties.
- **Recommended Biking Trails:** This map was also well received by the TOS, but the committee asked a number of questions about trail design and user groups interactions, especially with regard to the larger recommended loop. The committee recommended better biking connections between the downhill ski hill and the ACAC, and also asked whether recommended biking trails should be provided for differing skill levels.
- **Recommended Equestrian Trails:** The equestrians on the committee asked a number of clarifying questions about this map, but were generally positive about the depicted improvements to safety and rider experience. The TOS also discussed the potential for paddocks in Euer Valley, perhaps in proximity to the envisioned vault restroom facilities and picnic tables.
- **Class 1 Trails:** The TOS considered the priority of various proposed Class 1 trail segments, and suggested that the proposed Class 1 trail intersecting Mougles at Basel may be a lower priority than other proposed Class 1 trail segments.

7. Incidental Discussions

- Several TOS members reiterated their interest in providing winter recreational and transportation access on the golf cart paths.
- The TOS discussed the upcoming TMP development and adoption schedule. The TOS may schedule a special meeting in June to review a draft.
- Following a brief discussion about how the TMP will deal with the dog management issue, the chair and staff lead agreed to meet with the members of the proposed Dog Management Subcommittee to discuss and clarify next steps.

8. The TOS meeting was adjourned when it lost quorum at 5:25 PM.