

**BOISE RIDGE TO RIVERS FOURTH QUARTER PARTNERSHIP MEETING
BOISE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION
TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018 8:00 A.M.**

Partners present: Sara Arkle and Doug Holloway, Boise City Parks and Recreation (City); Brent Ralston and David Draheim, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Scott Koberg, Ada County Parks and Waterways (Ada County); Stephaney Kerley, Boise National Forest Service (Forest Service); David Gordon, Ridge to Rivers (R2R). Brenda Reynolds, minutes recorder.

Others present: Bonnie Shelton, Boise City Parks and Recreation; Austin Rogerson, Boise City Community Engagement; Jamie Cooper and Molly Brunett, Drake Cooper; Carlos Matutes, Southwest Idaho Mountain Biking Association (SWIMBA).

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

II. IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:

A. FY 18 4th Quarter Budget and Work Plan Review

Fourth quarter updates included the design process for the new single-track trail, which would be located on Forest Service land starting at the new Stack Rock trailhead; the Red Tail trail bridge replacement at Hidden Springs; the Cottonwood Creek crib wall repair; the Highlands trail bridge installation; and the Red-wing Blackbird trail realignment (scheduled to begin in six weeks). New projects that were not on the original work plan included the Ridgecrest trail and the Red Cliffs trail realignments.

B. Trail Condition/Maintenance Update

Trail conditions were good at the end of winter; however multiple storms in the spring caused repeated maintenance to some trails in order to repair erosion damage. There were trails that did not receive maintenance as the soil conditions became too dry. Those trails would be added to the list for fall maintenance. There was discussion regarding trails on partner agency land and private property which may be relocated for maintenance sustainability.

C. 2018 Projects Update

The upper Table Rock Trail delineation was complete. Cribbing and armoring at ramps and crossings would be complete for Dry Creek and Shingle Creek. The bridge on Lower Halls Gulch Trail would be replaced with rough cut timber. Freestone Creek Trail armoring would be completed in the next month. All-weather trail installation at Lower Halls Gulch would start after Labor Day. Bucktail Trail had continued to be a challenge to maintain. The trail was scheduled for excavation with plans to install flat stones in place of topsoil and coping stones on either side of the trail to focus traffic. Work was scheduled to begin in the fall.

D. Volunteer Projects/Donations/Community Engagement

On National Trails Day, a group of volunteers helped to establish a neighborhood access connection to the Hillside to Hollow Reserve from Lancaster Drive. Eagle Scout projects included closing several unofficial trails in the Oregon Trail Reserve and Lower Halls Gulch Reserve. They installed fence and cleaned up several areas. Meriwether Cider Co., Café Mulé, 10 Barrel Brewing Co., Pulse Running Co., and Boise Brewing had made donations which would be used for trail projects.

E. Trail Additions

S. Koberg reported on the proposal for a new trail loop to be built near Hidden Springs. The upper portion of Red Tail Trail located on private property (Teel) would be exchanged for a loop on the southern-most portion of the Teel property. This would also allow for a connection to Ada County property west of the Red Tail Trail. These proposed changes would be communicated with the surrounding communities and open space

committees as plans were developed. If all parties accepted the proposed changes, a contractor would be scheduled to start building the new trail in the fall.

F. Open House

An open house had been scheduled for August 29, 2018 to discuss the R2R Trail System. It would be held at the Boise Depot from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Trail projects and R2R accomplishments would be highlighted. Information would be shared regarding possible trail realignments due to maintenance and sustainability issues. Partners were invited to attend the open house to share their agency updates.

G. Ada County/BLM Foothills Camping Closure

A report was given regarding the involvement of Ada County addressing the camping issues at the 8th Street ATV parking lot. BLM had concluded that this area was a developed recreation site and as such was a day use only site. It could not be used for dispersed camping and signs had been posted.

H. Mountain Bike Purpose Built Trail Update

Changes to the BLM NEPA document were discussed regarding the proposed purpose built trail from Upper Military Reserve to Lower Military Reserve along Freestone Ridge and Central Ridge. This trail had been removed from NEPA consideration. The proposed purpose built trail west of 8th Street, the Curlew connection, and several other trails would remain on the document. BLM had been working on the EA and preparing the UXO statement of works. Possible funding for the purpose built trail could come through a grant with the Idaho Mountain Bike Plate Fund which would be pursued this winter.

I. Trail Etiquette Campaign

Jamie Cooper and Megan Brunett, with Drake Cooper, presented marketing ideas to educate the public on trail etiquette. Marketing strategies were in the early stages of development. Campaign ideas were shared on how to engage trail users to adopt a culture of cooperation among all types of trail users. Progress would continue to be shared with the partnership.

J. R2R Partnership Updates

Ada County

The City of Eagle had been in communication with Ada County regarding Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes at the Eagle Bike Park. Proposed trails would connect to R2R trails which do not allow for e-bike usage. Signage would be necessary at these access points.

Forest Service

Several projects were under construction including the parking lot and road improvements to Bogus Basin. Idaho Department of Lands had marked timber for the Bogus Basin Forest Health Project. Two other possible CEs were Boise Ridge and Sinker Creek areas which had experienced significant damage to trees from dwarf mistletoe and bark beetle activity.

BLM

The land use plan had been drafted. After final review, there would be a 90-day public comment period. This plan should be complete by April of next year.

City

Communication had begun with the developer of the Collister area to possibly create a connection to Polecat Reserve. The Quail Ridge community had expressed concerns about trail access at the top of Quail Ridge. This location however does not tie in to Ridge to Rivers trails at this time. The City had been trying to alleviate concerns through planning processes and engaging the neighborhood associations with regards to new developments and trail connections. Trails in the Barber Valley area had been mapped. This information would allow for possible connections once developments were established in that area.

K. Opportunity for Non-Partner Agency Questions

Carlos Matutes, the newly appointed executive director of SWIMBA, introduced himself and explained his role. Until this point, SWIMBA had been one-hundred percent volunteer based. His major focus would be advocating for bikers and educating their members on how to be good stewards of the trail system. Trail condition information would be updated and shared on their website in conjunction with the R2R webpage. SWIMBA would continue to be engaged in trail building and maintenance work. They had approximately 300 members with a goal to increase membership to 2,000 by the end of 2019.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Partnership at the time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.