



Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) April 13, 2009 – Meeting Summary

Attendees: Kevin Axt, Bertha Eades, Glenn Eades, Cindy Jayne

City Staff: Carolyn Hope, Chester Knapp, Joel Pfundt

Other Attendees: Seleta Reynolds, Fehr & Peers/Mirai

1. PRO Plan Update

Carolyn Hope, the City's project manager, gave a presentation on the update to the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Trails and Art Plan for 2010 – 2016. This update is just getting started and will be completed by June 2010. This update is intended to build on the success of the current PRO plan and will include public outreach, visioning and interdepartmental coordination in order to develop a new plan.

Carolyn mentioned the following public meetings and encouraged anyone interested to attend:

April 15, 2009, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Audubon Elementary
Gymnasium
3045 180th Ave NE, Redmond

April 23, 2009, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Redmond Junior High
The Commons
10055 166th Ave NE, Redmond

May 6, 2009, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center
Auditorium
16600 NE 80th Street, Redmond

Also, there is a survey online that is available for community members to fill out at www.redmond.gov/survey and the project Website is at www.redmond.gov/insidecityhall/parksrec/parksplanning/ProPlan.asp.

Committee members then engaged in a discussion about their vision and ideas to consider in during the plan update:

- Make sure there is coordination between the transportation and recreation purposes that trails serve.
- The reality is that there will be a mix of users on trails and that's OK. The committee acknowledged that there will likely be conflicts between user groups and that more needs to be done to address this issue.
- Committee members were concerned that the Power Line Trail that runs north-south along the west edge of the City is not feasible, which diminishes the effectiveness of the overall plan. Are there other trails that should be reviewed for feasibility as well?
- Amenities should be included along trails to make routes look and feel more user friendly. Amenities should consider construction and maintenance costs during design.
- Wayfinding is a good idea and needs to be improved. Good signage gives validation and permission to people to get out on the trails. Distance, and maybe time, should be included. Wayfinding can also show where Redmond is because some people use the trail system and don't even know they are in Redmond or near services.
- Completing the missing link is important.
- Improve the way land uses relate to the trail system. Many buildings turn their backs to the trail even though it is such a great amenity.
- It is important to design trails in a way that minimizes the opportunity for conflicts among users.
- Consider preparing a Parks and Recreation map that would focus more on trails, parks and access than the bicycle guide map.
- The functional designations like "backbone trail" need to be kept in the plan.
- Survey – is it statistically valid random survey? No.
- Bear Creek Trail system is going to be great once it is complete.
- Ensure neighborhood connections link up, for example make sure developer completes connections from Redmond 74 development to Puget Power Trail.

Carolyn will be returning with further updates later in 2009.

2. NE 116th St Access to the Sammamish River Trail

Cindy Jayne presented her concerns about how cyclists go westbound on NE 116th St when leaving the Sammamish River Trail at the York Bridge. Most cyclists travel along the south sidewalk until past the bridge and then cross the street, which requires them wrong way ride and then cross the street with limited sight distance. There are better ways to go west available but they are longer so cyclists tend not to use them. Three concepts were discussed:

- Providing better signage that identifies safer routes.
- Construct curb cuts on the bridge to allow the street crossing at a potentially safer location. Joel will follow-up on this suggestion to find out feasibility.

- Construct a new ramp on the north side of the bridge to provide more direct and intuitive access to NE 116th St westbound. This option seemed to be supported by the group but is the most expensive.

3. 2009 Work Program

Joel reviewed the 2008 Work Program with the committee and there was agreement that completed items can be removed and that many of the other items are ongoing tasks that will continue in 2009. The committee did some excellent work in 2008 and staff appreciates the committees input.

4. Updates

a. Bicycle Education Course

Joel presented a proposal to offer a course in coordination with a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor to educate participants about bicycling. The curriculum outlined was supported by the committee. It included learning about your bike and how to maintain it, general riding techniques and road riding techniques. It would also include organized rides. The group suggested a couple of different ways to advertise for the course. Unfortunately most information has already gone out for this year. The plan is to get an early start and have a course set up for 2010.

b. Puget Sound Energy Trail (Phase III) – Sammamish River Trail to Red-Wood Rd (SR 202) Update

An e-mail from Mr. Kevin Axt was provided to the committee. He is concerned about the paving of the Puget Power Trail since it is an important mountain bike route. The committee agrees that a soft surface trail needs to remain part of this project and Joel will prepare a response to Mr. Axt's e-mail.

c. Proposal by Citizen to Adopt SR 520 Bike Trail

A citizen has come forward who would like to adopt the SR 520 Trail to help maintain it and keep the blackberries at bay. The committee suggested contacting Parks Operations to see if there is an opportunity to tie into some of the conservation/maintenance work they are doing.