
**City of Sherwood, Oregon
Cedar Creek Local Trail Advisory Committee (LTAC)
Work Session #1 Minutes
September 23, 2015**

LTAC Members Present:

Wade Anderson
Charles Ballenti
Naomi Belov
Chris Flores
Josh Flosi
Max Greenwood
Ken Wheeler
Rick Woidyla

Staff Present:

Michelle Miller - City of Sherwood
Patti Ross – City of Sherwood
Dave Simmons – CH2M

LTAC Members Not Present:

Kevin Davis

Alternates or Interested Parties Present:

Michelle Miller began the meeting with a short explanation and purpose of the team and work sessions. She provided a quick mention of the first introductory session in May of 2014. She then led introductions around the room after which she introduced Dave Simmons, CH2M Engineer and Project Manager.

1. Cedar Creek Trail and Outreach Overview

Dave Simmons gave a high level presentation by first showing a map of the trail and identifying the project limits.

Project I – Both planning and construction are funded for this 2 mile segment. There was a decision to apply the bulk of the grant to this project. There are five segments within Project I:

Segment 1 – Intersection of 99W/Meinecke Road

Segment 2 – Along Alexander Lane parallel to OR99W

Segment 3 – Along Cedar Creek from Alexander Lane to Stella Olson Park/Washington Street

Segment 4 – Along Villa Road from existing Stella Olson Park trailhead to Park Street

Segment 5 – Oregon Street from Langer Farms Parkway to Murdock Road

The general alignment was defined in the Ice Age/Tonquin Trail Master Plan, so moving forward the project team will be refining the design consistent with the trail design criteria, to fit the context of the corridor, avoiding or minimizing natural resource impacts.

Project II – Planning has begun on this portion. This section will plan the alignment within the Cedar Creek corridor from OR 99W to Roy Rogers Road. Ultimately, with access on Roy Rogers, the trail can extend to the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge.

The trail alignment will be going through newer developed areas, within the City compared to Project I. Some of these new developed areas are built right up to the edge of Cedar Creek and associated floodplain, wetlands and natural resource buffer areas, limiting the locations for a trail.

The area where the trail can go is pushed right up against and within resource areas. This will be the challenge over the next 2-3 months. Project staff will provide screening criteria, identify opportunities and constraints, and develop concepts for the corridors on each side of the creek.

At the next meeting, for the purpose of selection, the project staff will provide screening that will be reviewed to measure and assist in selecting the best corridor i.e.:

Grade	Environmental & Sensitive Areas	Neighborhoods
Steep Slopes	Natural Resources	Where Homeowners Recreate
Shifting	Wetlands	Backyard Privacy
Alignment	Creek & Flood Plains	Ease of Design
Surveys	Sewer Lines	

This should create a tool that will help guide the discussion as well as aid the development of a recommendation.

Decision Making Structure - In conjunction with input from the general public, LTAC will advise the Parks and Recreation Board who will then make recommendations to the Sherwood City Council for their decision. So as to maintain a full understanding, to make informed decisions throughout the recommendation process, Dave requested that there be consistency in attendance for the LTAC meetings. If a member is unable to attend, they should have the alternate representative attend the meeting prior to the one they will miss so that person is up to date on what has been presented and discussed.

Of great importance for the LTAC Members is to have discussions with neighbors and bring that information back to the LTAC meetings to be discussed and addressed. Also, invite those people to the LTAC meetings and the upcoming Open House events to voice their opinions or concerns. When necessary individual meetings with property owners will be held.

Project Meeting Schedule – Dave reviewed the proposed project schedule, which outlined the timing of all of the upcoming meetings. It was stated that there would be Open Houses held to gather adequate input from the public. After LTAC Meeting #3 there will be a break until the spring of 2016, while additional survey and natural resource data is gathered along the project corridor.

Throughout this process, there will be periodic updates to the Parks Board.

Trail Facility Types, Dimensions and Crossings - During the presentation, Dave reviewed the trail facility types that will be used with this project (See attached PowerPoint).

- Shared Use Paths – this trail design type can be used in areas away from roadways or adjacent to roadways.
- Boardwalks are used when crossing sensitive areas such as wetlands and/or floodplains.
- Shared lane markings are used when the trail follows an existing street.
- Bridges will be constructed when the trail crosses the creek.
- A trail width of 12' is standard, but may be narrowed to 10' at locations that present a physical constraint such as an environmental feature.

2. Project I Segments

Dave reviewed a project map showing the initial design efforts underway with Project I, reviewing each segment.

Segment 1 – The Meinecke Road/OR99W Intersection currently has one crosswalk across OR99W and there is a need to add a second signalized crosswalk. The long term plan will be to raise OR99W and construct a bridge over Cedar Creek, which will allow construction of a trail under the bridge. In the near term, improving the intersection is part of this project. Part of this effort will be to review the signal timing, to ensure adequate time is allowed for pedestrians to cross the road.

Michelle added that there is a residential construction project near this intersection that will increase the traffic on the trail and for people to connect at this intersection.

Segment 2 – The trail will follow Alexander Lane to Cedar Creek. Along the street, pedestrians will use the existing sidewalk and bicyclists will use the street. Signing and paint markings will guide users along this portion of the trail.

Segment 3 – The trail follows along Cedar Creek, from Alexander Lane to Stella Olsen Park. This segment will be the most challenging as it has the environmentally sensitive areas. There are also areas on both ends of this segment where the grade of the trail will be approximately 5%, which is the maximum desirable.

Segment 5 – This part of the trail, along Oregon Street from Langer Farms Parkway to Murdock Road, will be adjacent to the roads. There is limited space along the railroad, which is operated by Portland-Western Railroad. Utility conflicts will also pose challenges.

Naomi asked if we would have to purchase property to create the easement along Oregon Street. Dave responded that placement of the trail next to the railroad tracks would require an easement.

Michelle indicated there is some money in the budget for right of way purchase and that there are federal guidelines for ROW acquisition that state there must be an appraisal of the market value.

3. Discussion

Pedestrian and Biker Safety and Etiquette

Michelle stated in areas of the trails where there is sharing between pedestrians and bikes, the general rule is that pedestrians have priority.

Max suggested that there be public education/etiquette published in the Gazette and Archer regarding sharing of the paths.

Chris asked how we will handle areas where bikes are not allowed(keeping bicycles on the trail). There will be signage, fencing and other treatments in those areas.

Dave stated that there will be areas where there are no dedicated bike lanes i.e. Downtown and along Alexander Lane.

Trees/Plants/Wildlife and Potential Private Property Impact

A question was asked about the size and average age of the trees along the areas of where the trail may go. All trees that are 6" or bigger are marked on the map. The trees are a normal 1/3 mix of good, old and dying and those that just need to be trimmed. It was stated that there will be an effort to cause the least impact. The trail cannot be constructed without some impacts.

There are a lot of non-native invasive plants such as blackberry bushes, reed canary grass and brush to be cleaned up in many areas that will open up an opportunity for restoration and enhancement to be mitigated by replanting. This is also an opening for Clean Water Services to step in and enhance or increase buffers in these areas.

Josh requested doing something that will not necessitate taking down trees. He is in favor of the trail but does not want it right along property lines.

Trails/Access/Bump-outs/Buffers

It was pointed out that this would be a good time to look at access points to get to the High School using the trails instead of having to go all the way around.

There are many good places to have bump-outs and even seating to enjoy views along the trail.

Dave pointed out that there are some areas within Segment 3 where access to neighborhoods might not be ADA compliant due to the steep existing grade.

Maintenance/Cleanup

Maintenance needs to be addressed and there needs to be a plan.

Michelle stated that there may be limited funds in the budget for maintenance. Dave said this would be a good opportunity to involve the community, residents and volunteers to come together towards this common cause.

Safety

Several committee members indicated there is concern from their neighbors about the trail bringing increased crime to their area. Specific data on crime statistics in other areas of the City and elsewhere in the Portland area where trails are built was requested.

Dave added that there are some neighborhoods north of 99W that do not want the trail in their backyard. Definitely invite a few of those people or make sure their input is heard or represented at the LTAC. There is frequently fear of the unknown and there needs to be an effort to limit this scenario.

Grants and Funding from Other Sources

One of the last products to be completed with Project II is a Prospectus to ODOT that could then open up qualification for more federal funds. There are also state funds and city funds that could be pursued.

4. Administrative

Next LTAC meeting 10/21/15 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Meetings to Schedule:

HOA Presentations

Peer to Peer Meetings that also includes bringing in a couple of residents that already experience living on a current trail i.e. Woodhaven and Rock Creek Trail.

5. Adjourn

Meeting ended at 8:50 PM.