

GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE MINUTES



June 21, 2016
3:30 pm

City Hall, 7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096



Members Present: Valerie Cole, Kathleen Rhoad, Ian Maddieson, Warren Wild

Members Absent: Tyler Ashton (excused)

Advisory Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Jason Coffey-PRD, Mark Fahey-NMDOT

Staff Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: John Barncastle, Jackie Bouker, Mary Whigham

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 3:35 p.m. Quorum is present.

Approval of June 21, 2016 Agenda

Kathleen Rhoad motioned to approve the agenda, second by Warren Wild. Motion passes with a voice vote.

Approval of May 17, 2016 Minutes

Kathleen Rhoad motioned to approve the minutes as amended, second by Warren Wild. Motion passes with a voice vote.

General Announcements: None

Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:

NMDOT presentation of Rio Bravo and I-25 interchange project.

Mr. Fahey describes the project to redesign the Rio Bravo and I-25 interchange. Construction is planned for spring of 2017, with a one and a half year construction time with substantial completion mid-2018. The project will include a mile of reconstruction of I-25 and a mile of reconstruction of Rio Bravo. The project does include a half a mile of 12' multiuse trail to connect to the trail on University. Mr. Fahey describes the proposed alignment of the new trail connection using boards he has brought with him. The project cost is 50 Million dollars and is funded with state and federal funds. There is concern voiced for the number of crossings required of trail users who wish to travel east on Rio Bravo to University. There is a general conversation about the difficulty of the number of crossings for trail users traveling east bound on Rio Bravo to University. Various

questions are asked and different ideas are discussed for the possible alignment of the trail and the crossing of I-25. www.i25riobravo.com is the project website and the Phase A and B study is on the website. There is a general discussion about the similarities to the problematic Paseo del Norte and I-25 interchange and the Rio Bravo project. The committee urges NMDOT to consider grade separated options for the multi-use trail extension along Rio Bravo, including bringing the trail south near I25 and building a tunnel under I25 for the trail to connect to University Blvd. Mr. Fahey welcomes GARTC's comments and says they would be helpful. August is the timeframe for the 60% plans and GARTC would like to see the plans at the August meeting. Kathleen Rhoad motioned that the Chair send a letter to NMDOT regarding the GARTC's comments on the Rio Bravo and I-25 interchange design, second by Valerie Cole. Motion passes with a voice vote.

Committee Member Recruitment

The committee encourages all interested parties to seek appointment. Ms. Whigham is in attendance as someone who is interested in the committee. There is a discussion regarding the positions available for appointment on the committee. There are questions about how many members the ADA Advisory Board has and the need for a Physically Challenged representative for GARTC.

Tramway Trail Work

The Chair hands out some images of the Tramway Trail and describes the maintenance responsibility for the trail being with NMDOT. The Chair describes NMDOT's effort to add a non-paved shoulder for runners and walkers. Efforts to eradicate Tree of Heaven are discussed and for the future efforts to include some revegetation or a more selective use of herbicide. Ian Maddieson motioned to have the Chair write a letter to NMDOT District 3 inquiring about plans for revegetation of areas where Tree of Heaven has been eradicated, second by Warren Wild. Motion passes with a voice vote.

Lost and Found Boxes

Staff reports that concerns about maintenance and liability were brought up as issues that would outweigh the benefits of lost and found boxes. There is a general discussion about other lost and found procedures.

There is a discussion about who will be in attendance for the next meeting. Ian Maddieson and Kathleen Rhoad will not be in attendance.

Staff Reports and Project Updates:

Staff describes the efforts to have the agenda finalized a week prior to the meeting and thanks the Agenda Subcommittee for being responsive regarding formulating the meet agendas.

Jason Coffey, Parks and Recreation Department

- The Bridge and Trail Evaluation Study has begun and the consultant, AECOM, is working on the bridge portion of the project first. Parks asked them to review the Bear Canyon Bridge over I-25 first due to the continued issues we are having with the surfacing of the bridge. I expect their formal recommendation letter to come next week. Built into the contract scope are three meetings with GARTC so you all will have an opportunity to have

- input on the project. As part of the GIS element of the project trail names will need to be addressed and I expect that phase to be one in which GARTC's input will be very valuable.
- The Alameda Drain and Trail Mater Plan is complete and I will be receiving hard copies of the final document soon. I have access to the electronic version via Parametrix's FTP site, so if you want to see it I can get you an electronic version.
 - Black Arroyo Trail from Hunter's Run Park to near Ellison is a slope stabilization and trail resurfacing project. This is part of our effort to try some different techniques for slope stabilization. The slope project is just a low retaining wall, not a new technique, but the material was donated by the manufacturer so we are testing the donation process and material to see if it is worthwhile to pursue on future projects. The trail will be a crack filling and then seal coat overlay to see how the treatment works. If it is successful, we may begin to use this technique for crack filling then seal coat more often to improve trail surfaces. This has required an Encroachment License from AMAFCA and the City's Real Property Division has the agreement now for review. The project cannot go to construction until the license is finalized.
 - The bollards have been ordered for the third phase of bollard project (30 total). 17 of the new retractable bollards will be installed at about two dozen locations. Work will begin soon on the removals and stationary bollards. Once the retractable arrive they will be installed. Project should be completed in September.
 - I received the updated contract from NMDOT for the rail crossing upgrade on the North Diversion Channel Trail just south of El Pueblo. Legal has reviewed the contract and I am working on getting it all set up for signature routing. The contract has to go through NMDOT's approval process too so it could be a couple months before we get moving on building the new crossing. The contract is now with the Real Property Division for review.
 - Singer Bridge widening and trail notch project has begun. To date no trail closures have taken place. DMD Construction Management and the contractor are working on a detour. The latest information I have is the detour will use a lane on Chappell Rd and bring users to the San Juan Chama Crossing just north of Singer. Once the alignment is agreed upon by DMD and the contractor we will put information on our website.
 - National Trails Day, June 4, 2016 was a success. Eight people signed in as volunteers, short of what I was hoping for, but Park Management sent 6 maintenance crew staff and we had the new sweeper and were able to get a lot of work done. It was a busy weekend with Old Town Fiestas and the Air Show and the other trails day projects so I feel happy about the outcome.
 - I-40 West Trail Extension funding agreement is still being executed. I spoke with Jerry Lovato of AMAFCA and Parks has agreed to put in \$300k toward the trail construction. The project has not gone to bid yet and more work needs to happen with the agreements because we will need to amend the agreement that was just signed by DMD, DMD has money in for some of the drainage costs, and they moved forward without having the trail money in the agreement. Not quite sure how we got crossed up on this one because of the project and the informal agreements about who would pay for what took place before I was on board. But I have told AMAFCA Parks has the money and wants to participate.
 - Bike to Work Day (BTWD) is May 19th and 20th, 2016 was successful. I don't have the final numbers but I have heard that there was an increase in participation from last year and I had fun we were able to give away a lot of free stuff. I was at the Los Ranchos/Journal Center Rail Runner Cycle Stop.
 - Paseo de la Mesa is beginning this week, 6/15/16 is the date the contractor said they would begin. This will be a crack fill and seal coat project due to the length of the trail and the cost associated with a full repave. The trail will be closed for two weeks and there is not a viable detour route. Information about the closure has been on Park's website and Facebook

since June 2, 2016 and I was originally given 6/13/16 as the start date but another job ran long so the date was pushed back.

Public Comment:

John Barncastle- Mr. Barncastle describes his efforts to get the homeless encampments removed. There is a process for removing the encampments but there is no permanent solution, so far the encampments mostly relocate. Mr. Barncastle has been working with COAST and AMAFCA on the encampments along the North Diversion Channel and has been making good progress.

Adjourn: Meeting is adjourned at 5:36pm.

The foregoing GARTC minutes from the June 21, 2016 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on July 19, 2016.

Chairperson – Ian Maddieson

Date

Prepared by: Jason Coffey

Date