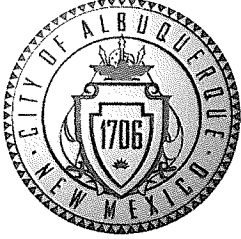


# GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 19, 2016  
3:30 pm

City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Room 7096



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

**Members Absent:** None

**Advisory Members Present:** None

**Staff Members Present:** Gabe Boyle-DMD, Jason Coffey-PRD, Julie Luna-MRCOG

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**Visitors Present:** Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle, Terri O'Hare

## **Call to Order and Introductions**

Meeting called to order at 3:36 p.m. Quorum is present

## **Approval of January 19, 2016 Agenda**

Committee members point out the year is wrong on the agenda. Ian Maddieson, Vice-Chair; I move to approve the agenda, hearing no objections the agenda is approved.

## **Approval of December 15, 2015 Minutes**

The minutes are reviewed. Kathleen Rhoad; I move approval, Warren Wild seconds, motion passes with a voice vote.

## **General Announcements:**

- **GARTC Yearly Election**

The Vice-Chair introduces the current state of the committee and the need to hold an election for officers. Val Cole; I nominate Ian Maddieson for Chair, Kathleen Rhoad; I second, motion passes with a voice vote. Ian Maddieson is the new Chair of the GARTC. The new Chair opens Vice-Chair elections. Kathleen Rhoad; I nominate Val Cole. Warren Wild; I nominate Tyler Ashton. Val Cole; I withdraw my name and second Tyler Ashton as Vice-Chair. Motion passes, Tyler Ashton is elected Vice-Chair by a voice vote. Chair is Ian Maddieson and Vice-Chair is Tyler Ashton. There is a general discussion about how to do out reach for additional Committee members. The idea of starting a GARTC Facebook is discussed. Jason will ask the Parks and Recreation Department Marketing Manager if a notice can be placed on the Parks and Recreation Department's Facebook page regarding the current vacancies. Chair would also like the notice to go on the main news on the PRD website. There is a continuing discussion regarding the need for more outreach and how to

get more members. The Chair will investigate a GARTC Facebook page.

There is a question regarding the status of the City of Albuquerque ADA Board. The ADA Board is still looking for members; it currently has six members but needs ten members.

### **Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:**

- Bosque Nature Path/public meetings update  
There is a review of the public meeting on January 7, 2016 regarding the extension of the crusher fine nature trail in the Bosque. There was a large turnout and many speakers, and only a few were in favor of the City's plans and a large number against. The different user groups, cyclists and everyone else do not go at the same speed. ADA issues with the trail portion already constructed are discussed, and there are plans to reconfigure the ramps, including at Gabaldon. Campbell is another location in need of an ADA ramp. The Chair describes the intent of the overall project as being reducing the informal paths crisscrossing the Bosque. The main question seems to be the impact on the ecology of the Bosque. The committee discusses a possible resolution regarding the new trail portion, the following wording is used as a potential resolution; "Share the reservations expressed at the public meeting, the ecological monitoring has taken place but the results haven't been published to-date". However, the trail has facilitated wheelchair access. The committee continues to discuss the potential for conflicts between various user groups. The committee does not choose to pass a resolution.
- Committee Member Recruitment  
There is a general discussion regarding the lengthy approval process for new members and what the role of City Council is in the process. The fact that the City Council can choose not to act on the appointees due to other business at Council meetings is another factor that can lengthen the process. No further discussion, as the discussion already happened earlier in meeting.
- Proposed Trail Names  
There is a general discussion about the trail names and the need for naming proposed trails, trail names in terms of connectivity, and also for maintenance. There is a general discussion about the need for better trail naming to help users locate themselves on the trail and to know how much distance they have traveled. Staff asks what level of detail is desired for mile markers, 10<sup>th</sup>, half, or quarters. The Bosque trail levee has quarter mile markers and each mile marker can be seen from the next marker. Quarter mile markers are seen by the committee as best. The committee will be asked to advise on the development of the trail naming and mile marker system as the Bridge and Trail Evaluation Study is executed.
- Strava Data  
There is a webinar coming up tomorrow regarding bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 1:30 to 2:30 at MRCOG and there is a conversation about the best way to contact committee members and visitors regarding the schedule of webinars. MRMPO can provide the recordings of the webinar, but a link to watch the webinar is not available, to see the webinar live and ask question you must attend the webinar at MRCOG. A handout is passed around, same as was distributed at the December meeting. Strava data and the collection methods are described. MRMPO purchases the data set, and is working to develop useful information regarding trail use and movements and origin and destination information. The data is limited but also very detailed. The handout provided is reviewed. Strava is a tool for analyzing gaps and some

other information but it will not replace counters and count data. Tourism is discussed and the ability to know how many people travel to ABQ for walking, biking, and horseback riding would be nice and to get some numbers for a report to City Council and the administration. The Chair hands out information regarding trail users, from observed counts. The results also show greater numbers of pedestrian users than bicycle users, and include observations relating to season. The Chair compared Garmin and Strava data heat maps. The differences in the Chairs observations and the Strava data are discussed. The limitations of the Strava and Garmin data are reiterated but the data is good for trails users who want to track fitness, but it does not count the casual trips or personal trips.

**Sub-committee Updates/Actions – None**

**Staff Reports and Project Updates –**

Report from-Jason Coffey, Trails Planner, Parks and Recreation Department.

I want to do Trail counts through MRCOG to provide us more data to create a report to tell us where we are at in terms of number of users. This could help to guide where to install more permanent count locations to augment what is already deployed. The other side of this is to help show how we can grow user numbers if we invested more resources into maintenance. There is not a specific timeframe but I want to work on getting a contract in the near future.

We are beginning the Bridge and Trail Evaluation Study, we are working on the contract and scope with AECOM, the idea is AECOM will do an asset management inventory of the trails and bridges and create a mile marker system with some basic wayfinding.

The North Diversion Channel Trail form just north of Tucker to Indian School is going to be renovated, it was going to be part of a bigger project but the costs grew beyond what we can do right now so it was scaled back to only this small section. I don't know yet exactly when it will start but within the next few weeks.

The Unser Trail between Dellyne and Montano just completed as part of DMD project in December and they built a mile trail.

The I-40 West Trail extension as part of an AMAFCA project will take the I-40 Trail all the way out to 98<sup>th</sup>. The project is out for bid.

The NDC Trail and rail spur crossing just south of El Pueblo has been brought to our attention from Councilor Winters office and the Mayor's office, so we are working with NMDOT to get a new rail crossing agreement so we can get the crossing upgraded to the current standard for trail and rail crossings. I do not have a timeframe for the work, but the process to get the agreement in place will take some time, maybe a few months.

**Public Comment-**

John Barncastle states that the agenda is not posted to the website. An update is provided regarding the hit and run collision Mr. Barncastle experienced in September, 2015. Bike ABQ is writing a letter on Mr. Barncastle's behalf to be sent to the City regarding concerns about APD's

lack of investigation of the hit and run.

Terri O'Hare; I think it would really good for this board to have some training regarding ADA guidelines, and I am hoping staff can get someone in who is an ADA authority, perhaps someone from the Governor's commission for disabilities, or some other speaker, not a webinar. The committee discusses some past efforts for trainings on regulations. The discussion continues to the overlap between ADA and Prowag.

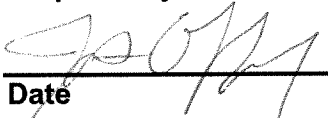
**Adjourn:** Move to adjourn at 5:37pm.

**The foregoing GARTC minutes from the January 19, 2016 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on February 16, 2016.**

**Chairperson – Ian Maddieson**

 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016  
**Date**

**Prepared by: Jason Coffey**

 3/22/16  
**Date**