

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL  
TRAILS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

August 20, 2013

4:00 pm

1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Albuquerque, NM  
Large Conference Room

**Members Present:** Valerie Cole, Gary W. Kelly, Anita Kelly, John Thomas, Warren Wild, Guy Miller

**Members Absent:** Ian Maddieson (Chair), William Schimberg

**Advisory Members Present:** None

**Staff Members Present:** James Lewis, (COA - Parks and Recreation - GARTC Staff), Susannah Abbey (COA, Open Space), Christina Sandoval – Principal Planner (COA - Parks and Recreation).

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**Visitors Present:** Bryan Wolfe (COA-Planning/Engineering), Lt. Todd Hudson (APD Open Space Unit), Julie Luna (MRCOG- Transportation Planner), Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle, Stephen Verchinski.

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Vice Chairperson Gary Kelly called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**Approval of August 20, 2013 Agenda**

**Motion to approve agenda by Valerie Cole with a second by Anita Kelly, (Motion passes 6-0).**

**Approval of July 16, 2013 Minutes**

**Motion: Anita Kelly moved to approve the minutes with no amendments needed. Second by Valerie Cole. (Motion passes 6-0).**

**Update Items/Presentations**

**APD Open Space Unit (Lt. Todd Hudson):** Lt. Hudson discussed the role the Open Space Unit police officers have in the field and how many officers and shifts there currently are for the Open Space Unit. He gave a detailed account of the importance to have Major Public Open Space (MPOS) officers considering there are approximately 29,000 acres of MPOS.

**Update: Piedras Marcadas Trail:** Three Engineers from the Planning Department went out to the site and wrote up two separate reports on the crossing. Another analysis was

completed by Attorney and ADA specialist John McGovern and his company, Recreation Accessibility Consultants LLC. Bryan Wolfe, Christina Sandoval, and James Lewis discussed proposed changes that will be made to the midblock crossing at Golf Course Rd. The changes include installing non-electrified signed mast-arms for both north and south bound travel lanes along Golf Course which will help notify vehicular traffic that a pedestrian crossing is approaching, signs re-installed along the road at 100 feet from crossing, the removal of the six existing bollards in the median refuge, addition of truncated domes (detectable warning surface) in median refuge (2 total-one per side), move the existing truncated domes on the east and west side of the road closer onto the curb ramps and about 3 inches from back of gutter, and stencil on the trail (both sides) a caution symbol or other marking per the MUTCD to better alert pedestrian traffic that they are to stop at the upcoming mid-block crossing and use caution if crossing the street instead of using the signal.

**Pedestrian/Cyclist Counts on Multi-Use Trails (Julie Luna-MRCOG):** Julie summarized the project and gave details on how the loop sensors and cameras work for counting cyclists versus pedestrians. She explained the difficulty of fine tuning the machinery to ensure the system is accurate. Once the system works correctly, MRCOG will have a good understanding of the recreating and commuting trends throughout different seasons of the year. Therefore, Planners will be able to incorporate these trends for future trail planning.

#### **Announcements:**

None

#### **Staff Reports**

**Susannah Abbey – Open Space Report** – Susannah spoke about the big storm and how OS is working on removing large trees that fell within trails in the *bosque*. ABQ- The Plan – The River Bosque first phase will be a crusher fine trail. Details will be available at the next community meeting September 4 at the Albuquerque Museum 6-8 pm.

**James Lewis- Strategic Planning and Design-** James discussed the Trails and Bikeways Facility Plan update and the details of the meeting prior to this GARTC meeting he had with the Planning Department. Stephen Verchinski mentioned that “water trails” within the middle Rio Grande Albuquerque area should be included in the updated Plan. James is working to get a new company to seal large cracks along the Paseo del Norte Trail. James will participate in ADA audits and an ADA webinar in early September. The 50 Mile Loop Plan will be finalized soon by Wilson and Co.

**Public Comment**–John Barncastle spoke about the State Fairgrounds opening up a pedestrian thoroughfare near the racetrack but they do not allow backpacks.

**Discussion, Action Items, and New Business:**

**Follow up Meeting with AMAFCA:** No follow up meeting has been set up and there will not be one set up in the future. However, John Thomas announced that he went to the last AMAFCA Board meeting. There was a request from GARTC to remove this item from future agendas.

**GARTC Letter to the Mayor and City Council on Piedras Marcadas Trail:** Due to the City being proactive in making changes to possible safety problems at this crossing, a letter from GARTC has been tabled at this time. There is still discussion by GARTC of a letter in the future.

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

**Trail Names:** James would like to meet with Ian regarding naming of trails (ongoing).

**Bollards:** John Thomas recommends the City use 2012 bollard guidelines from AASHTO. James has ensured GARTC that certain standards for bollards will be added and many ideas from AASHTO may be incorporated as well as best practices from other sources.

**Adjourn:** John Thomas made a Motion to adjourn. Second by Anita Kelly. All in favor; motion passes 6-0

The foregoing GARTC minutes from the August 20, 2013 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on September 17, 2013.

*Signature*  
Vice Chairperson – Gary Kelly

Date  
9/17/13

Prepared by: James Lewis

*Signature*

Date

9/17/13

