

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL  
TRAILS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

November 18, 2014  
4:00 pm

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

**Members Present:** Bill Schimberg, Valerie Cole, Gary W. Kelly, Warren Wild, John Thomas, Ian Maddieson, Guy Miller, Tyler Ashton

**Members Absent:** None

**Advisory Members Present:** None

**Staff Members Present:** Barbara Taylor (COA, Department Director- Parks and Recreation), James Lewis (COA, Parks and Recreation), Kent Swanson (COA, Open Space Division)

**Staff Members Absent:** Christina Sandoval (COA, Parks and Recreation)

**Visitors Present:** Jill Mosher (NMDOT- District 3), Diane Sholtis, P.E. (COA-DMD Engineering), Carrie Barkhurst (COA, Planning), Richard Meadows (Bernalillo County, Public Works), Jim Buckman (Parsons Brinkerhoff), Linda Rumpf (COA, Planning), Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Ian Maddieson called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

**Approval of November 18, 2014 Agenda**

**Motion: Ian moved to approve agenda with one change needed. Diane Sholtis P.E. will present first and Richard Meadows will present after Diane. Second by Gary. Motion passes unanimously 7-0. (Note that Tyler was not present for motion)**

**Approval of September 16, 2014 Minutes (Note: There was no quorum in October)**

**Motion: Gary moved to approve minutes with no changes needed. Motion passes unanimously 8-0.**

**General Announcements:** James introduced Barbara Taylor, present at the meeting and new Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. She announced her email address. James stated that Director Barbara Baca retired. John Thomas asked to have a count of how many members were planning on attending the December meeting due to the holidays and the possibility of people being out of town. There was a count and all eight members will be able to attend on December 16, 2014, therefore a meeting will take place.

## New Business/Update Items/Presentations

- **Diane Sholtis, P.E. (COA-DMD Engineering) – Unser Blvd. Improvements with Multi-Use Trail** – Diane presented the latest design and overview for the Unser Blvd. project with emphasis on the multi-use trail that will be constructed between Vulcan and Santo Domingo. She answered questions and in coordination with James and the consultants will get back to Gary Kelly regarding his comments on the Santa Fe Village Dog Park gates and a median refuge at Unser and Montano. Gary is requesting an audible push button signal at Montano and Unser. Diane will add this request to the project. Diane stated there will be a public meeting in December at the Taylor Ranch Community Center regarding the project and status. Diane also stated the project should go out to bid January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and construction should be complete by fall of 2015.
- **Richard Meadows (Bernalillo County Public Works Transportation Planner) – HAWK Pedestrian Signal on Isleta Blvd.** – Richard Meadows and consultant Jim Buckman from Parsons Brinkerhoff discussed the pedestrian “HAWK” signal that has been installed on Isleta Blvd. The County was able to get a Safe Routes to School grant through the NMDOT for the signal. There are many community facilities and two schools in the vicinity where the HAWK signal was placed. Richard passed out two reports; one on crashes by MRCOG and one on pedestrian hybrid beacons (PHB), the newer more accepted term for HAWK signals. This type of pedestrian hybrid beacon is one of the first installed in the Albuquerque Metro area. The compliance rate for these types of PHB’s nation-wide is over 90% and has been successful to date since being installed in the Albuquerque South Valley. The County had to demonstrate that there had been fatalities and crashes at this location to receive this type of safety funding. The community was in favor of this midblock crossing signal due to past safety issues. Jackie Bouker would like to see a PHB installed at the Griegos Drain and Montano.
- **Scott Hale (GABAC Chair) – Discuss GABAC concerns for bikes and trails** - Mr. Hale was absent due to a family matter. He will be rescheduled for the December meeting.

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

- **GABAC-GARTC Mutual Concerns and Collaboration - (GARTC):** Ian explained that this discussion item will be rescheduled in December when Scott Hale from GABAC can be in attendance. Gary asked GARTC members to do a “round-robin” of each person’s concerns regarding a GABAC-GARTC collaboration although no members from GABAC members were present for this discussion. Each member stated their concerns and Ian summarized GARTC’s viewpoint. Gary and Ian requested this summary be put into the minutes although there was no motion on this. Ian summarized the concerns GARTC has for combining/consolidating GARTC and GABAC into one larger pedestrian-cycling advisory group. GARTC’s current members would like the committee to remain as it exists. Valerie, as an equestrian member, has stated that her role is strictly recreational and does not

have an interest in being on a committee that includes commuter cyclists. Many of the GARTC members agree with this viewpoint. The idea of having a quarterly collaborative GARTC-GABAC meeting (2-4 per year) was accepted by most, if not all the members rather than merging the two committees permanently. Ian also brought up the possibility of trying to regain non-voting members (other agencies and municipalities) to attend GARTC meetings since trails tend to cross many jurisdictional boundaries.

- ***Discussion whether to define “recreational” and how it can be studied - (GARTC):*** Gary stated that in October, GARTC (no quorum that month), briefly discussed this topic and wanted to figure out how to study recreational in relation to trails. Ian sent out and passed around a handout on the word “recreation” and discussed the definition in general. Ian would like to look into data that people are submitting into various recreational smartphone apps and Garmin, Strava, and other GPS downloads. One example are “hot spot” maps showing the highest use areas. This data, once quantified, essentially proves that people are using the trails for recreational use. This topic will be discussed more in December.
- ***Update on Midblock Crossing Video Presentation – (GARTC):*** Ian is continuing to work on a presentation but nothing was discussed in detail at this meeting. Carrie asked for Ian to send the midblock letter GARTC wrote to her so she can put it into the public record for the Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan through City Council, which is where the Plan currently is being heard.
- ***Update on Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan and EPC Approval Next Steps – (GARTC/Staff):*** Carrie Barkhurst stated the next steps of the approval process for official adoption of the Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan (BTFP) include City legal review, and at least one December public hearing at the City Council sub-committee Land-use, Planning, and Zoning (LUPZ). This is likely to be heard on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December and then again in January.
- ***Piedras Marcadas/ Golf Course Midblock Crossing Update - (Staff):*** James discussed that the project was approved through DRC for final signature review. James stated he should be receiving the estimate for construction from the City’s on-call contractor any day and that the project is ready for construction once the estimate is accepted and the correct work orders and permits are obtained.
- **Sub-Committee Reports:**
  - ***None***

### **Staff Reports and Project Updates**

James is still researching the best solution for replacing the boards along the NDC Trail and is going to get estimates for replacing the boards with new similar treated lumber. Bear Canyon Arroyo trail between Wyoming and Eubank is complete. James asked GARTC members to provide him with ideas for locations along trails to place 10-20 industrial style mounted and stationary bike pumps. James suggested they think of areas that are “goathead heavy”. James discussed the possible extension of the Paseo del

Bosque Trail in the County to go south to meet up at the Valle de Oro Wildlife Refuge. This project will need to be coordinated with the Army Corps and their timing of rebuilding the levees in this area. James and Kent installed "equestrian" signs, similar to what he and Kent installed at the Montano bridge, at each end of the Paseo del Norte Bridge per equestrian Jackie Bouker's request.

Kent Swanson was present for the Open Space Division but had to leave prior to staff reports. He left James with handouts to give GARTC members regarding the most up to date map of the single track trail system at Golden Open Space.

**Public Comment:**

**John Barncastle** - John had comment regarding what he calls a "tragedy" regarding the NMDOT construction at South Pino Arroyo trail/sidewalk near San Antonio and I-25 off ramp crossing. He had problems crossing this area while under construction indicating there was not sufficient signage and detours put into place for pedestrians and cyclists which he believes endangered lives as he was put in a position where he had to "ride the opposite direction against traffic". He stated that communication with the project managers and engineers has been difficult.

**Adjourn: Gary moved to adjourn at 6:09 pm. Second by Tyler. All in favor; (motion passes 8-0)**

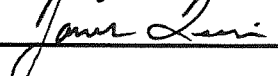
The foregoing GARTC minutes from the November 18, 2014 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on December 16, 2014.

Chairperson – Ian Maddieson

  
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12/16/2014  
Date

Prepared by: James Lewis

  
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12/16/2014  
Date