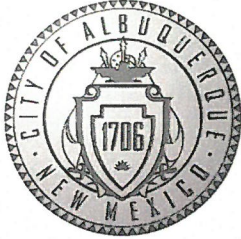
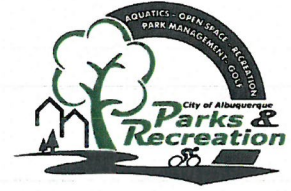


GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes



September 18, 2018
3:30 pm



Meeting Place: Parks and Recreation Administration,
1801 4th St NW

Members Present: Ian Maddieson, Likhaya Dayile, Kathleen Rhoad, Geoff Tweed

Members Absent: Tyler Ashton, Valerie Cole, Travis Davis, Warren Wild

Advisory Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Wade Patterson, Christina Sandoval

Staff Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: Jackie Bouker

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. A quorum was present. Committee members and meeting attendees introduced themselves, including Geoffrey Tweed, our newest member. Geoff will serve as the Pedestrians and Hikers representative on the committee. Ian Maddieson previously held this seat, but has termed out. This was his final meeting.

Approval of September 18, 2018 Agenda

Ian moved to approve the agenda as presented. Likhaya seconded. All were in favor.

Approval of August 21, 2018 Minutes

A small correction was noted on page 3. "Pasea" should be changed to "Paseo." Ian moved to approve the agenda with changes, Likhaya seconded. All were in favor.

General Announcements:

Kathleen noted that October 2nd is the 50th anniversary of the Trails Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Additionally (or in conjunction with this event), the Rio Grande Trail Commission is dedicating a new section of the trail. There will be a celebration in Taos on October 2 at the Taos Gorge Bridge. The event will dedicate 60 miles of Rio Grande Trail, mainly along the top edge of the gorge through the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument.

Ian noted that the Rio Grande Trail is also having an online "virtual open house" to receive input on the current proposed alignment of the trail. He encouraged GARTC members to go online and submit comments. Comments will be received until October 9 at <http://voh.riograndetrailnm.com/>

Jackie noted that the "trex" composite decking applied to the horse bridge across the clear ditch north of the Nature Center has been painted and gritted to improve conditions for horses. There has not been any feedback on the success of the modification.

Christina Sandoval, Principal Planner with Parks and Recreation, attended the meeting and provided updates on a number of Parks and Recreation activities:

October 6th (Saturday), NMX Sports and Albuquerque Area Mountain Bike Association will be providing demonstrations and rides to get kids interested in mountain biking. The event will be held at the Duranes Community Center.

Parks and Recreation is sponsoring Hikes with Kids at various Open Space locations over the next few months. Each month will rotate to a different location. The events take place monthly on Sundays and always begin at the Nature Center. Transportation to each month's location is included. Events are for ages 11 to 15 and the cost is \$5/participant.

New Business/Presentations:

GARTC Web Page Update: Kathleen provided a compiled list of links to a variety of trail resources in the region prior to the meeting for members to review and comment on. After some discussion about how best to represent the links (which are drawn from other webpages within the City website), it was decided that the GARTC page should link to each of these pages (where users can access all the individual links) rather than reproduce all of them on the GARTC page. Part of the issue is that GARTC has only a single page so any added information simply makes the page very long. In an effort to consolidate these resources, Wade will work with Philip Cleland to create the following links at the bottom of the GARTC page under the heading "Trail Map Links, Greater Albuquerque": Open Space, Paseo del Bosque, Sandia Mountains. The committee will then look at the page and make any additional decisions about how this information is represented.

GARTC Membership: Wade spoke with Helen Maestas at the City who tracks committee membership and current status. Geoff was assigned to Ian's previous position since he had served two terms and was not eligible to serve again. Currently, the Equestrian, Off-Road and Eastside Representative positions need to be filled. The folks currently occupying those seats are not eligible to serve an additional term, but may remain in place as we search for new members. Kathleen Rhoad and Tyler Ashton have served one term and are eligible to serve a second if they desire. In order to initiate that process, they should go through the GARTC website and submit an application as if they were applying for the first time. The link to the application can be found on the GARTC website: <https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/our-department/boards-commissions/greater-albuquerque-recreational-trails-committee>

A few years ago, Ian created a Facebook page for GARTC. With him leaving the board, there was a question about the fate of the page. The page is not very active at present and only has a few followers. It was asked if appropriate GARTC information could be posted to the general Parks and Recreation page. Christina Sandoval noted that Parks and Rec always welcomes photos and good appropriate links/information to post to our Facebook page.

Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:

Committee Member Recruitment: The committee discussed using the Parks and Rec FB page to promote filling the vacant seats on the committee. Wade will work with Philip Cleland (Marketing Manager and Public Information Officer for Parks and Rec) to post this information.

Connections from On-street to Off-street Facilities: Ian presented information on McDuffie Park (also sometimes called Hidden Park) located west of Carlisle and north of Lomas. The park is backed on all four sides by private residences with public access afforded via a number of pathways from all four bordering streets. These pathways are unpaved and do not have curb cuts leading to them. Ian noted that he and others often link this park together with others in the area as

part of a larger hike or run and that more could be done to ease access. There are also some additional pathway/alleyway connections on adjacent streets and it was not clear if that was also part of Parks and Recreation management for park access or not. After some discussion, the committee landed on three questions/actions related to the park:

- What is the status of the smaller pathway connections on adjacent streets? Who owns them, and what is their intended purpose?
- Could curb cuts be added at pathways leading directly to the park to ease access?
- Could signage be improved to better advertise the park from the adjacent streets?

Bike Map and Pedestrian Resources: Regarding Accessible Trails, Christina Sandoval noted that Parks and Recreation has hired a firm to perform an accessibility audit on a number of city parks. As part of this scope of work, we could ask the auditor to look at about 3 miles of trail (could be a single trail or key segments of a few) and assess according to guidelines/best practices for what constitutes an “accessible trail.” Christina noted that a trail at Elena Gallegos Open Space and the Bosque Trail (the more recent crusher fine trail providing access within the bosque itself) were both consciously developed as accessible.

Christina also mentioned that the committee had in the past talked about developing a Pedestrian Resource Guide for the Albuquerque area. She asked that any work in this arena wait until Parks and Recreation has hired a Senior Planner (the position has been advertised with interviews coming soon) This became a more general discussion about creating resources for user groups beyond bicyclists. Some topics touched on included: a rating system for trails (alerting people to difficult terrain, steep grades, etc.), pedestrian resources, equestrian resources, and disability access.

Staff Reports and Project Updates:

Wade Patterson presented a staff report on trails activities:

The North Diversion Channel Trail Bridge Deck upgrade (btw I-25 and Osuna) – The contract with KSA is nearing execution (circulating within CABQ for final signatures). Once in place, I will be working with them to develop plans for the next six bridge deck replacements along with a structural assessment of each bridge to be rehabbed. KSA is also available for any other trail design needs we may have (pending availability of funds in the contract)

North Diversion Channel at Singer – Work began on Monday September 10 for trail repairs along the North Diversion Channel south of Singer (to the first bridge). This work is to repair significant cracking that was not addressed at the time the notch was constructed. Work will complete by 9/21.

Alameda Drain Trail- Fee negotiations have concluded with Parametrix, the design consultant on this project. We will move to contracting and then get to work on the Design phase. I also met with Bernalillo County regarding their portion of the project to get on the same page and share critical information on design elements and approach.

North Diversion Channel Erosion Control at Villa Corrales Road – The access trail from Villa Corrales NE (north of Osuna) has chronic erosion issues. Parks and Rec is instituting a remediation strategy to control erosion along the escarpment using bark mulch, seeding and wattles. Work will begin in September.

I-40 Trail Connection at Skyline Road – We were recently made aware of an old easement across a private parcel intended to provide access to the I-40 Trail for this neighborhood. The issue came up during review of a request to vacate the easement. We are looking to make this

connection (about a tenth of a mile) which will provide important trail access to a lower income neighborhood. We will use KSA Engineering (consultant referenced above) for the design and our engineering on-call firm (Franklin's) for the construction.

Erosion Control at Black Arroyo – We have revisited some erosion control/mitigation efforts conducted in the spring along the Black Arroyo Trail near Cibola High School. This area recently had a significant rain event that washed lots of sediment into this remediated area. There were some failures in the area already worked on, but also sediment washing onto the trail from an area that was not included in the original scope of work.

New Business:

Ian reiterated his concerns about signs on trails referring to it as a "bikeway" rather than just a "trail." Wade noted that Parks and Recreation was unlikely to replace existing signs, but that moving forward, can use only signs that say "trail." The concern here is getting rid of existing signs that are not damaged and the commitment Parks and Recreation has to be good stewards of public funds. Ian asked if we could get stickers to put over the "bikeways" portion of signs. Wade will investigate. There is some concern about the signs not being compliant with MUTCD requirements (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) as it could impact reflectivity and may not stand up to UV exposure. The Trails and Bikeways Facility Plan (which establishes standards and practices by the City with respect to trail design and maintenance) follows the MUTCD.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the entire committee offered an enthused thank you to Ian for all his years of service on the committee. It was noted that his positive attitude, constructive input and knowledge of resources has been a great asset to the committee and its work. He will be missed.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Adjourn:


Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

The foregoing GARTC meeting summary from the September 18, 2018 GARTC meeting have been reviewed as written or with noted comments on October 16, 2018.

Chairperson – Tyler Ashton

 Oct 16, 2018
Signature Date

Prepared by – Wade Patterson

 10/16/18
Signature Date