



ne 3 - Portland Forest Park Mountain Biking











2006 Forest Park Single Track Pilot Project



Firelane 5 and Firelane 1







Definition and Summary

What is SCORP?

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

- this plan currently done every 10 years is based on scientifically collected data, by county, region and state
- It serves the basis by which all Oregon recreation providers (state, federal, local, and private) catalogue and rank their recreation needs, obtain funding through partnerships and grants, and affirm their respective roles.
- SCORP is specifically identified in the FPNRMP (p25, p80) as the basis for needs assessment and planning

Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis - Multnomah County Summary 2013-2017 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Supporting Documentation

"The top priority needs for Multnomah County residents are soft surface walking trails, nature and wildlife viewing areas and access to waterways" p 5

Oregon Trails 2016: A Vision for the Future 2016-2025 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Priorities for the state and Region 2 - Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Columbia and Hood River Counties p 104

- Increase use of trails by seniors and minorities
- Repair major trail damage 77%
- Protection of natural Features 77%

Routine upkeep of trails 60%

Economic Impacts in Oregon p 107

- Walking/hiking was estimated to generate \$1.1 billion in expenditure
- Mountain biking was estimated to generate \$83 million in expenditure



SCORP non-motorized Trail and Maintenance Priorities for the next 10 years

percent rating moderate or high priority from 2016-2025 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan p99-100





Catherine Thompson City Council testimony January 24, 2018 Sources for Slides

- 1. Photographs taken on Wildwood Trail in Forest Park and Washington Park. Catherine Thompson
- screen shots from YouTube video by Jay Horita-Chu https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgTH7gLIiTA, Rob Cromar https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0dY3h63GrE
- 3. screen shots from You Tube videos Firelane 10 Forest Park, Joseph Nolf https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKZ3iVtj5Sk, Firelane 1 Nick Payne https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAyVGux505k, Firelane 5 with Johnny, Paul Greenwault https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nu7494oIWcc, Forest Park Mountain Bike Ride February 28th, 2015, gt420 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVZlxI4ZI4k
- 4. Photographs of the 2006 Forest Park single Track Cycling Pilot Project extension of Firelane 5. February 11, 2017. Catherine Thompson
- 5. Photographs in Forest Park of Firelane Five, February 11, 2017 and Firelane 1, February 20, 2017. Catherine Thompson
- 6. Photograph of "Hike It Baby" Group Wildwood trail near Newberry Road, December 9th, 2017
- 7. Graph based on data, Forest Park Recreational User Study P age 14 https://www.portlandoregon.gov/PARKS/article/317545
- 8. SCORP definition and excerpts
- 9. Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018_SCORP/Demand_Analysis.pdf
- 10. 2016-2025 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan p 99-11 http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/Trail_Programs_Services/Documents/2016Orego nStatewideTrailsPlan.pdf
- 11. 2017 Outdoor Foundation Topline Report p8-9. https://outdoorindustry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017-Topline-Report_FINAL.pdf

My name is Catherine Thompson. I am a retired pediatrician and I am here to talk to you about serious safety issues that plague Forest Park and our other natural areas. I am one of the authors of the Make Forest Park Safe Again Petition that you have all received and I appreciate the opportunity I have had to talk to a few of you in your offices and I hope I will have the

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chance to meet with the rest of you.

Unlawful cyclists have hit 7 hikers, run dozens off of the trail, and have verbally intimidated hikers. According to a ranger there is not a trail in the park that is not used by bikers.

This is a slide of some of the bikers I have encountered on Wildwood

One the things that is making it worse is the sense of entitlement mountain bikers feel which has been fueled by language. Bikers portray themselves as a minority with needs and that they are being persecuted. This is a misappropriation of the the language of equity. When we speak of equity, minority refers to disadvantaged and legally protected minorities not a simple numerical minority. Needs refers to the genuine needs of people who are disabled not desires.

This attitude is captured by the words of Juston Manville "I am the Rosa Parks of Mountain Biking"

A woman was standing on a hiking trail in Marshal Park when this man yelled "Princess, get out of my way" When she did not move he rammed into her. There is a police record on this case.

I would like to show you some pictures while I quote some of the statements coming from the Planning Bureau and the Parks Department There are no soft narrow trails for bikes to ride in Forest Park firelane 1.3.5.10

Scientific studies have proven that biking causes no more damage than hiking. Bikers are the best stewards

some of our critical firelanes have deteriorated to such a degree that they are inaccessible for a fire truck, as seasonal streams they cause erosion and sedimentation in our watershed, and they are unsafe.

Hlke-lt-Baby a national hiking group. Hiking is the most popular most equitable and fastest growing trail use in our nation.

90% of Forest Park Trail users are hikers and 10-20 % of them are children

Pedestrians in all of our natural areas need protection. It is time to budget for and implement all of the high priority items from the Forest Park NAtural Resources Management Plan designed to keep users safe.

I have provided graphs based on scientifically collected data to corroborate my statements

In particularly the SCORP data the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and its companion piece the 2016-2025 Statewide Recreation Trails Plan are meant to be the basis for all of Oregon to rank needs and funding. The trails plan specifically recommends outreach to minorities and seniors and ranks hiking, running, ADA and paved bike trails all ahead of soft surface mountain biking trails.

Catherine Thompson M.D. Testimony to City Hall January 24, 2018

Discussion Topics by Slide

One

- The language of equity.
- Injury, intimidation and assault in our nature areas by scofflaw cyclist Two and three
- Are there really no soft surfaced trails for mountain bikers in Forest Park? Four
 - What does the Forest Park single track cycling pilot project built in 2006, look like today?

Five

• What condition are our fire lanes in? Firelane 1: a concern for BES, Parks and the Fire department

Six

- Hike It Baby a national hiking group
- The 2012 Forest Park User Study calculated that there were close to half a million visitors to Forest Park at that time
- 11% of park visitors surveyed had one or two children with them
- 90% of all park users arrive on foot, 90% of children, disadvantaged minorities, people of color seniors, women, people with legitimate special needs are on foot. They need your protection.
- Do you think, as IMBA aserts, that 4-foot wide trails are safe for multi use bidirectional travel?

Seven through eleven

- What do scientifically conducted studies tell us about recreational use locally, in our state and in our country
- SCORP

Twelve

• Source information for slides

Parsons, Susan

| From: | Catherine Thompson <thompsoca@gmail.com></thompsoca@gmail.com> |
|-----------------|---|
| Sent: | Wednesday, November 22, 2017 10:47 AM |
| To: Subject: | Parsons, Susan testifying during the public comment period of the City Council meeting January 24, 2018 |

Hello Susan,

I would like to testify on January 24th during the public comment period of the City Council meeting about existing safety issues and environmental hazards in Forest Park.

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Thank you.

Catherine Thompson, M.D.

Request of Catherine Thompson, M.D. to address Council regarding existing safety issues and environmental hazards in Forest Park (Communication)

JAN 2 4 2018

PLACED ON FILE

Filed _____ JAN 16 2018

| COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS: | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|------|--|
| | YEAS | NAYS | |
| 1. Fritz | | | |
| 2. Fish | | | |
| 3. Saltzman | | | |
| 4. Eudaly | | | |
| Wheeler | | | |