

Agenda item 52: River View Natural Area Management Plan (2pm Thurs time certain):

Commissioner Novick's proposed amendments underlined.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The City Council of the city of Portland, a municipal corporation of the State of Oregon, affirms its acceptance of the 2015 management plan for River View Natural Area as the city's guide to the future protection, enhancement of natural resources and compatible recreation at the site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council will make a final decision about whether mountain biking will be an allowed use in River View after the off road cycling master plan process is complete.

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Accept the 2015 Management Plan for River View Natural Area as a guide for future protection and use of the natural area (Resolution)

Contact name: Emily Roth, Portland Parks & Recreation, Senior Planner - Environmental

Contact phone: (503) 522-5358

Presenter name: Emily Roth

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

River View Natural Area (RVNA) is a 146 – acre natural area located on the west side of the Sellwood Bridge between Lewis & Clark College and River View Cemetery. In 2011 the City acquired the property from the cemetery. Metro holds a conservation easement on the property. Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) and the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) started the planning for the site in July 2013. ESA Vigil-Agrimis was hired to provide consulting services to lead the public involvement process and develop the plan. The first Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was held in September 2013 and the sixth, and last, on September 22, 2015, at which time members provided comments on the draft management plan. The RVNA Management Plan was completed at the end of October. The plan identifies future investments on the property that will protect water quality and hydrologic function of the seven stream corridors, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve forest health and provide access compatible with the protection of natural resources including a trail and parking concept.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The management plan includes a low confidence, construction cost estimate. The improvements can be phased based on priority need but are unfunded at this time. PP&R will be pursuing a variety of funding sources to implement the plan. PP&R will need to purchase a small piece of property from Lewis & Clark College to implement the trail plan, and is now working with the college on the valuation of the property.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Ten stakeholder interviews were conducted in Fall 2013 by PP&R and BES staff as part of the public involvement process for the management plan. Stakeholders included site neighbors, PP&R's Disability Advisory Committee, PP&R Rangers, River View Cemetery, Riverdale High School, a bicycle shop owner, Travel Oregon, Tryon Creek State Natural Area, Urban Greenspaces Institute and West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District. Stakeholders expressed that the planning process should include:

- Sustainable trail design and signage, including a variety of trails available to a diversity of users with good wayfinding signage.
- Protection of natural resources including working with adjacent neighbors to remove invasive species with recreation as a secondary use.
- Encouragement of stewardship and education opportunities for the public, to ensure they become engaged stewards of the site.

This information was used to guide the actions of the plan and process.

PP&R and BES worked with the consultant team, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the PAC to develop the management plan. The PAC consist of thirteen members including neighbors; members of the Collins View Neighborhood Association; Lewis & Clark College; a professional mountain biker; and representatives from Northwest Trail Alliance, Willamette Riverkeepers, Portland Parks Board, Audubon Society of Portland, Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde, Southwest Watershed Resource Center,

and Tryon Creek Watershed Council. This group met six times. The PAC suggested the management plan guidelines, reviewed and commented on the draft information and the plan. A majority of the PAC members recommended that the management plan be approved by the Directors of BES and PP&R.

The project team hosted two open houses. The first open house was November 12, 2013 to review the site analysis information. It was overwhelming attended by the mountain bike community. The second open house was held on May 4, 2015 to review the access concept and management recommendations. The attendees were a mix of neighbors to the site, mountain bikers and community members. Attendees filled out project surveys at the events or on-line to give feedback on the information presented.

Summary of Public Involvement

- Different communities of people (age-specific, cultural, physical ability, ethnic, racial, religious, language, low-income, under-served populations, etc.): the management plan access concept shows trails for users with a variety of abilities.
- Geographic area, neighborhoods: the management plan shows development of parking and a half street improvement along SW Palatine Rd. There will probably be increased traffic in the Collins View Neighborhood once the access is developed.
- Businesses (small, large, specific types); institutions; interest-based organizations: the management plan shows a portion of the trail on property owned by Lewis & Clark College. We are working with the college to purchase this piece of property.
- Summarize significant objections/concerns and support/agreement: The mountain biking community expressed disappointment that the activity was removed from the site and planning process. They submitted a minority report stating they do not support the management plan. Neighbors, environmental interests and others on the PAC supported the management plan.
- Describe how the bureau responded to or incorporated concerns into the proposed legislation: PAC recommendations and information received from project surveys were incorporated into the draft and final plans.
- Indicate who/which groups will be testifying (if known): PP&R and BES suggest asking the following people/groups to testify:
 1. Fran Laird, Collins View Neighborhood Association
 2. Torrey Lindbo, Tryon Creek Watershed Council
 3. Brian Baumann, Northwest Trail Alliance (also a neighbor to the site)

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

YES: Please complete the information below.

NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

Jeff Shaffer

12/21/15

Finance Manager Approval/Jeff Shaffer

Date