

Community-Initiated Neighborhood Trails Process

October 7, 2015

WE KEEP PORTLAND MOVING.



PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

what are we talking about?

We **ARE** talking about:

- A **pilot** project – PBOT does not have ANY process for allowing community groups to build new trails
- How to build NEW trails
- A way to transfer liability and maintenance responsibility of existing, unpermitted trails

We **ARE NOT** talking about:

- Encroachment policies
- Funding non-profits to maintain trails
- A specific trail

how did we get here?

Southwest Urban Trails Plan (2000) –

“Residents and adjacent property owners need to be notified about the proposed improvements and should be supportive. Opposition to the improvements could require a more formal public process requiring City staff participation (pg 21).”

ORS 105.668 (2011) -

Immunity from liability for injury or property damage arising from use of trail or structures in public easement or right of way

public outreach

November 2014. Draft Trails Process released

November 2014 – February 2015. First comment period (targeted outreach, PAC, SWNI, SW News, SWTrails = 3,000+ website views, 175 comments)

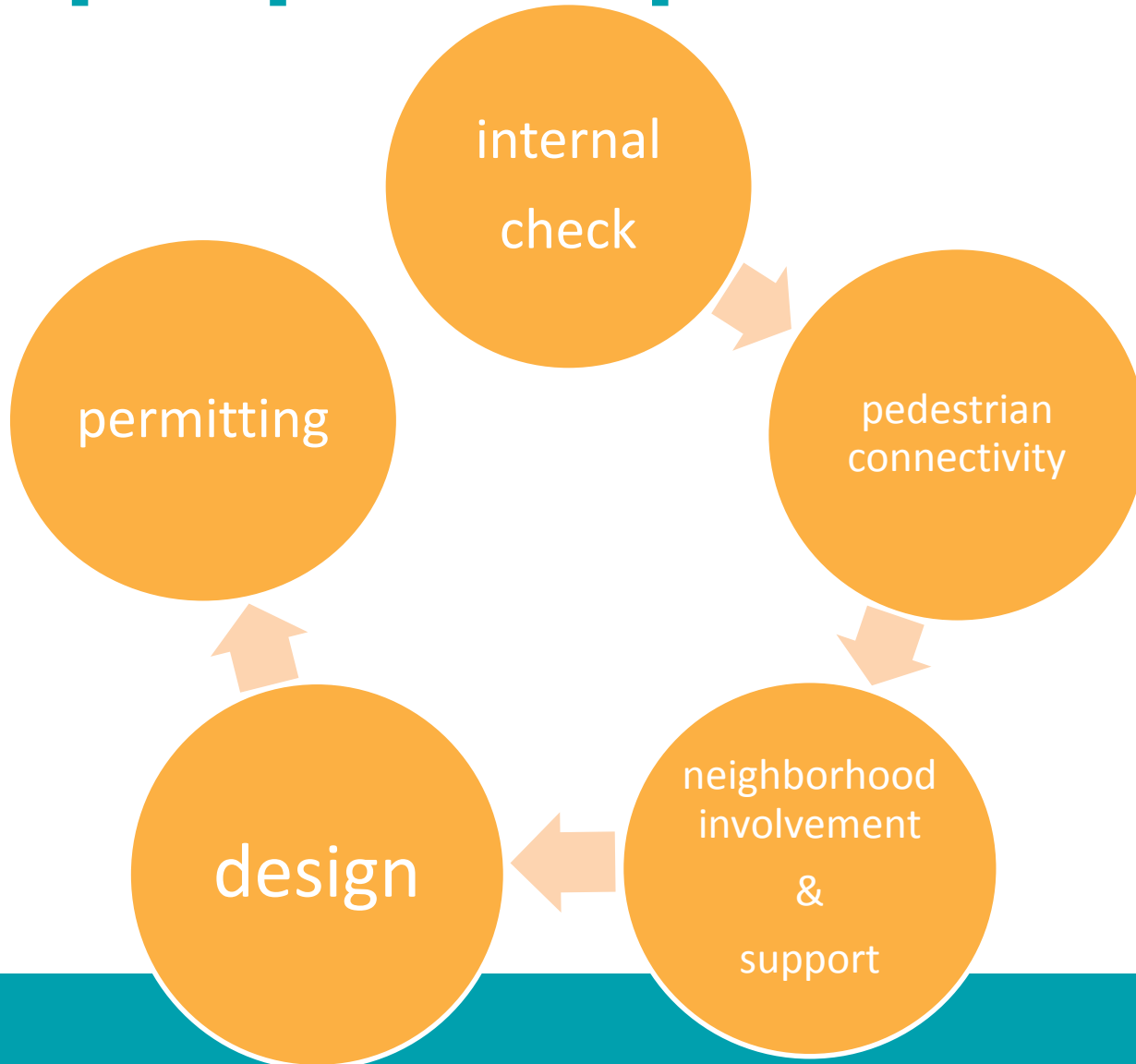
March 2015. Staff incorporated comments

April 2015. Released updated draft (8,000+ mailers, NCs, previous commenters, targeted groups = 4,800+ website views, 150 comments)

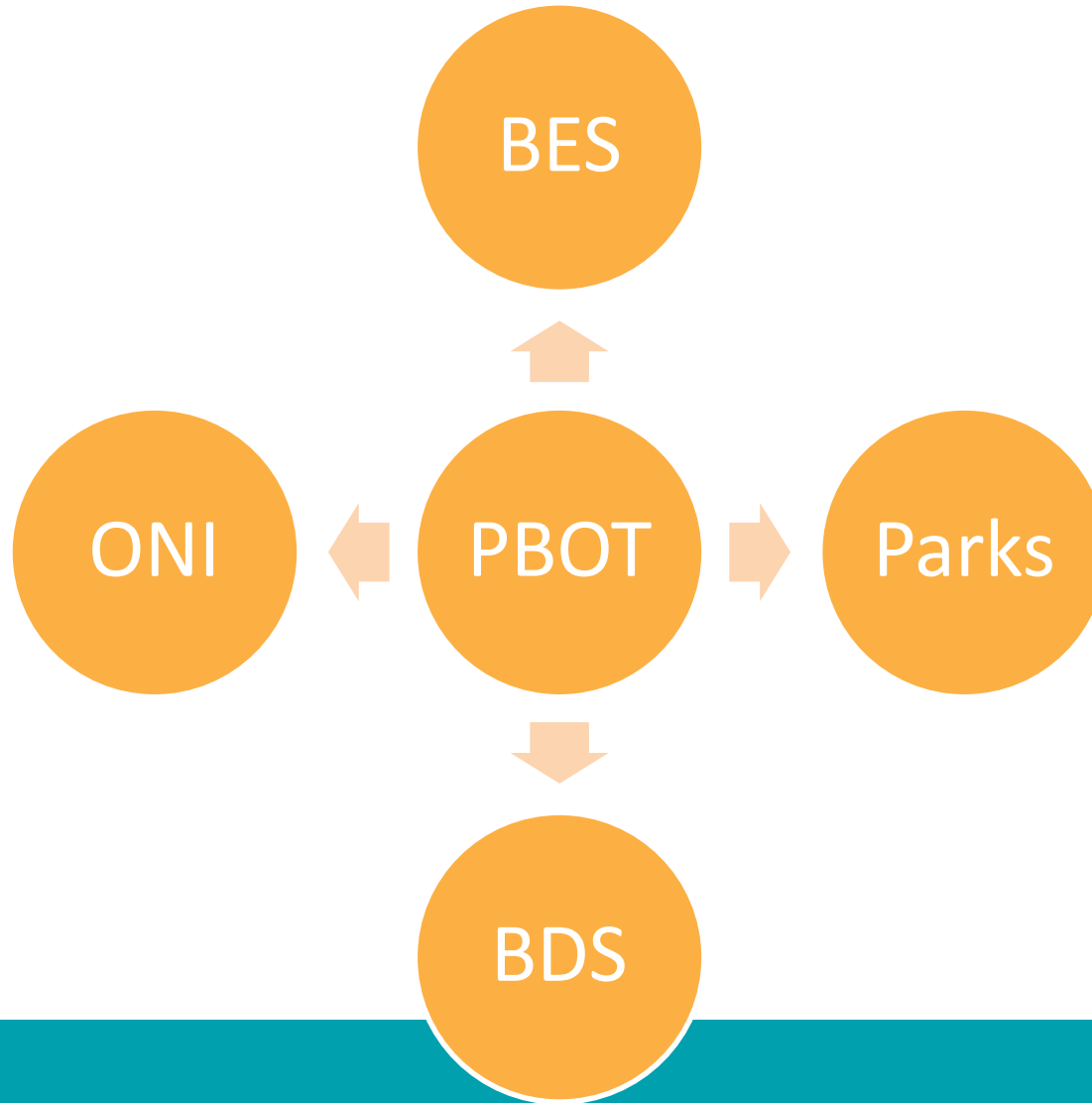
Summer 2015. Council date delay due to requests from SWNI and SWTrails.

Total: ~20,000 website views, 300+ comments

proposed process



step 1. internal check



step 2. pedestrian connectivity

transit

places of work

schools

parks & open space

other services

...or allows a connection that is difficult to make due to limited parallel access.

step 3. public involvement & neighborhood support

on Council approved map (3.1 of SW Trails Plan)



neighborhood notification



NOT on Council-approved map



proof of community support



step 3. public involvement & neighborhood support

proof of
community
support

Options	Adjacent Neighbors	Households within ¼ mile of ROW	Neighborhood Association
Method	Petition	Petition	Letter
1	75%		
2		At least 50% of households	
3	50%		Approved Letter of Support

step 3. public involvement & neighborhood support

proof of community support

Only for proposed trails that ARE NOT on Council-approved maps!!

Options	Adjacent Neighbors	Households	Method
1	75%		Petition
2		At least 50% of households	Petition
3	50%		Letter of Support

step 4. design guidelines

Trail Type B – Hiking (moderate challenge)

DEFINITION

Moderate challenge hiking trails may include steps and obstacles such as rocks and roots. They are located where some segments with slopes as steep as 8% are needed to avoid multiple switchbacks, tree removal or slope destabilization. Although less difficult than the high challenge hiking trails, they also require higher physical exertion and increase the diversity of trail experience.

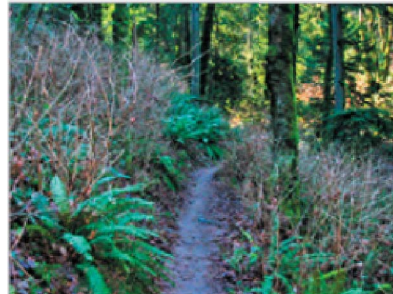
USERS

The moderate challenge hiking trail requires good balance and moderate fitness. Single-file walking and (sometimes) running are desired uses. Moderate challenge trails are accessible to users who can navigate steeper slopes although there may be barriers such as steps, rocks or roots. Signs (Detail 12) or steps may be used at entry points to signal less accessible trail ahead.

MATERIALS

Native soil and rock are most common although steps, railings, and boardwalks are used as needed. [See Technical Provisions table page 8 for landings and passing area.]

Width	18" - 30"
Surface	Soil / stairs
Longitudinal Slope	0 - 8%
Cross-Slope	2% min. - 4% max.
Radius	NA - switchbacks
Sight Distance	Limited, consider safety needs
Easement Width	Tread + 10' min.
Side Slope	Varies
Vertical Clearance	8'
Horizontal Clearance	2' from side of tread



Wildwood Trail - steep topography requires steep longitudinal slope



Connor Trail - steep segment of climbing turn near OHSU



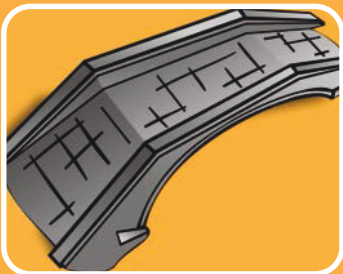
Trail Design Guidelines for Portland's Park System

step 5. permitting & review



Encroachment Permit

- All trails would need this
- Issued by PBOT (offer to waive fees)



Building Permit

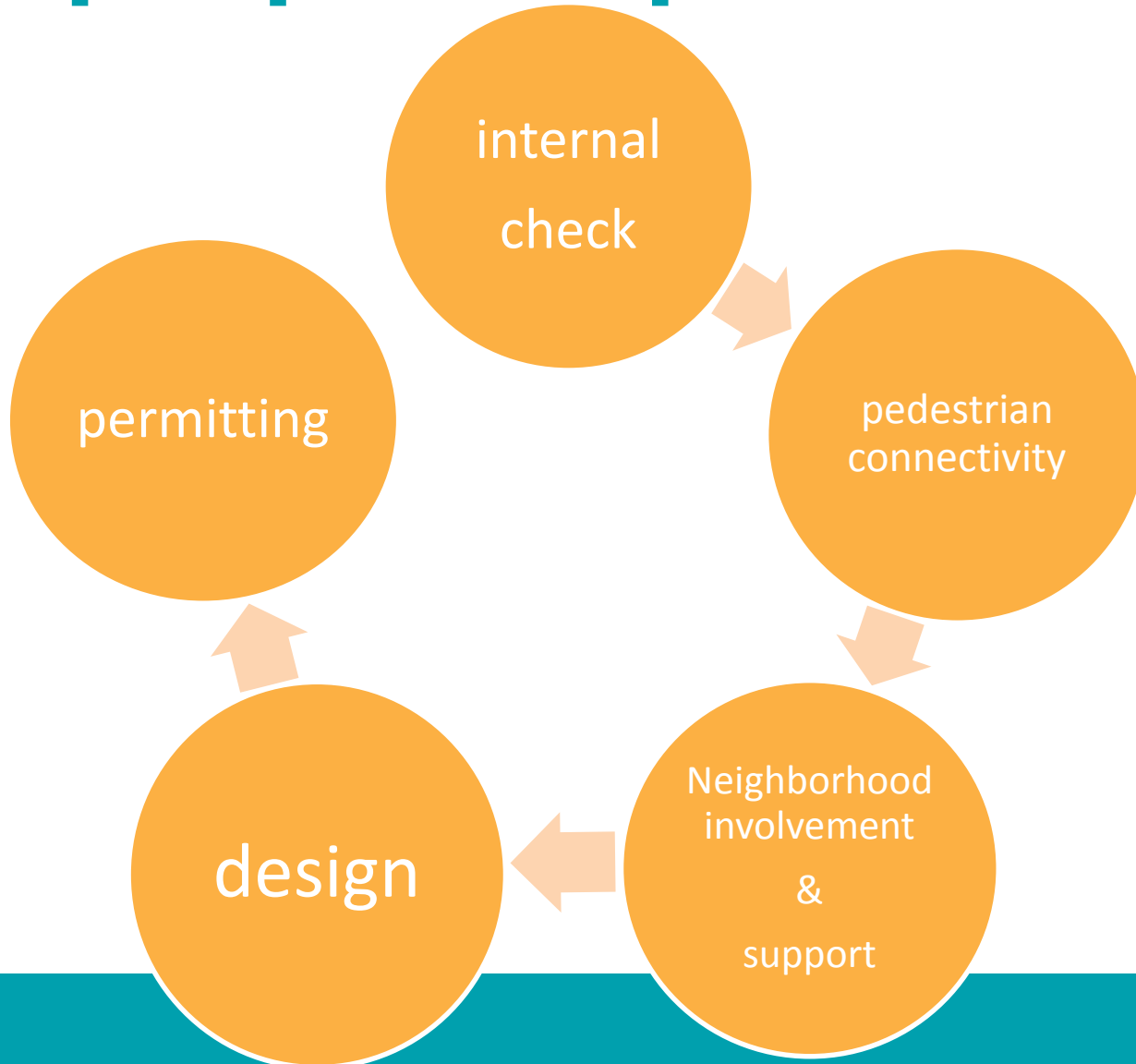
- Needed if building stairs, bridges, etc.
- Issued by BDS



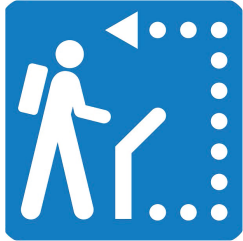
Environmental Review & Permitting

- As required by City Code
- Issued by BDS

proposed process



pilot project evaluation



How many start the process vs. how many finish the process?



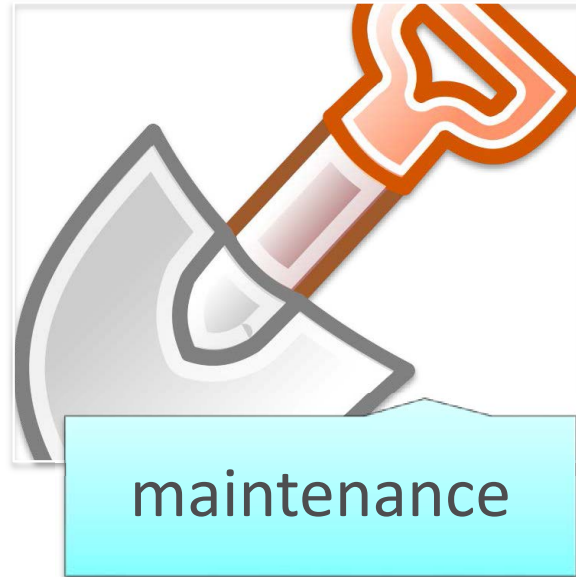
How much staff time/resources does this process take?



Are there any parts of the process that are consistently causing issues?

other issues

and how this process might help out



resources

Draft September 2015



UNIMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAYS : WHAT TO DO?

There has been some... the responsibility for un...

Hopefully, t...


PBOT UNIMPROVED RIGHT OF WAY TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROCESS

While on a (st)roll through your neighborhood, you find yourself on an unimproved PBOT right of way. If you—or a community group—are interested in making this an official trail, answer the following:

Should there be a trail here according to Map 3.1 of the SW Urban Trails Plan?*

YES NO

Is there a trail here?



What responsibility do I have?

You are required to maintain... intentionally block pedestrian... "current and necessary use" of... (BDS) at 503.823.CODE. BDS w... Chapter 29.20.010 of City Code

How can I maintain the ROW?



Individuals that own property... allow others to maintain the R... from the property owner before

Can I build anything on the stairs, retaining wall, etc.

If adjacent property owners w... an "encroachment permit." De... the type of construction, enviro... factors as determined by City.

The Bureau of Transportation fully co... statutes and regulations in all progr... contact PBOT's ADA Coordinator at... 503-823-6868, or use Oregon Relay

Draft September 2015

I don't live along an unimproved ROW but would like to see it improved for pedestrian access.

Can I help maintain the ROW?

Members of the public that are not adjacent property owners **may not** conduct maintenance on a ROW without the permission of the City or adjacent property owners. We recommend any permission from the adjacent property owner is in writing. You can use the Community-Initiated Neighborhood Trails Process (portlandoregon.gov/transportation/trails) to apply for maintenance permission from the City.

Can I build anything in the ROW?

Members of the public **may not** construct anything in the ROW without the proper permits from the City. You can use the Community-Initiated Neighborhood Trails Process (portlandoregon.gov/transportation/trails) to apply for permission and the proper building permits from the City.

I don't think the adjacent property owners are maintaining the ROW near their home properly or blocking access. What can I do?

If you believe an adjacent property owner is not properly maintaining the ROW adjacent to their property, please contact the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) at 503.823.6868. BDS will then assess the right-of-way's "current and necessary use" (per Chapter 29.20.010 Code) and notify the adjacent property owner of their responsibility.

Still have more questions?
Contact PBOT's Right-of-Way Group at (503) 823-7002, Option 4 and we'll try to help.

Get neighbors involved

Activity support is an effort to promote the presence of responsible pedestrian users in a given area. What you can do:

- Encourage immediate neighbors to walk the trail on a regular basis.
- Start a Foot Patrol trained by the City of Portland's Crime Prevention Program. Neighbors volunteer to walk in a small group along the trail, be a friendly presence and report problems, where necessary.
- Call the police when you see suspicious activity. Call 9-1-1 for immediate threats to life or property or a crime in progress. Otherwise, contact the police non-emergency number at 503-823-3333.

Maintain the trail

The strategies that you employ above are only as good as your commitment to maintain them. Steps you can take:

- Repair burned out lights, trim vegetation regularly, and pick up litter and debris.
- Eliminate trip hazards along the path whether that includes uneven surfaces, rocks, or ruts along the path.
- Work with PBOT to see if a dog bag dispenser and garbage receptacle can be installed to discourage waste being left on the path.
- Report all graffiti. If it's on your property, take a picture, report it and remove it immediately. See www.portlandoregon.gov/uni/graffiti for more info.

City of Portland Contacts

For questions and information about the Community Initiated Neighborhood Trails Process:

- Visit www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/trails
- Contact the Trails Program with the Portland Bureau of Transportation at 503-823-7736

For help with crime and livability issues in Portland, contact the City of Portland's Crime Prevention Program:

- Visit www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/cp
- Call 503-823-4064
- Email onicpa@portlandoregon.gov

For ADA Title II or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation/interpretation services, complaints, or for additional information, call 503-823-5266, TTY: 503-823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

A Path to Trail Safety

What volunteers and homeowners can do to improve their neighborhood trail



This brochure applies to Portland Bureau of Transportation Community-Initiated Neighborhood Trails

Property owners to... nance agreement... ved right of way.

www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/trails

questions?