

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC) November 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order and conducted via video/phone conferencing.

Members Present: Andy Stevenson (Chair), Gordon Taylor (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Reandeau, Justin Zarzezcny, Gary Gleason, Bill Biery, Richard Bloomer, Jim Mraz, Lorrie Mittmann, and Wendy Clark-Getzin.

County Representatives: Steve Gray, County Public Works/Road Dept. (Ex-officio TAC member)

Other Participants: Jeff Bohman, Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) Board President; Kenton Hotsko, PTC Trails Maintenance Coordinator; and Liz Cusanelli, USFS-Olympic National Forest Recreation Management Specialist (pending appointment as USFS representative to the TAC).

MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Taylor motioned and Member Gleason seconded approval of the September 7 and October 5, 2022 meeting minutes, which were approved without objection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Member Biery announced the upcoming November 19 Cranksgiving event that will start at 8:00 a.m. Donations of food/money support Sequim Food Bank.

Member Gray encouraged members to visit the new look County Web Site that includes the now live Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) Geospatial Portal that provides information about the ODT and interactive map applications as discussed at the October meeting. Chair Stevenson noted appreciation of County efforts and asked where comments related to the ODT Portal should be directed. At this time, comments should be directed to Steve Gray.

TRAIL PROJECT UPDATES/REPORTS

ODT-Forks to LaPush Trail Corridor Acquisition Project: Recent correspondence suggests Rayonier is close to sending us a draft purchase and sales agreement for the trail corridor needed along SR 110 between US 101 in Forks and the Three Rivers Area (Ballard Road/Mora Rd area). This purchase would span most of this gap and include over six miles of trail corridor (150-foot wide) totaling approximately 110 acres.

2023 Clallam County Lodging Tax Grant Application: Clallam County Public Works Department applied for a \$250,000 lodging tax grant to assist with completing acquisition of the ODT-Forks to La Push route. The 2023 grant request also proposes improving an approximately one-mile segment of the 25-to-30-year ODT sections in eastern Clallam County. The improvement would be to replace the old chip seal surface with asphalt and to widen the paved footprint from 8-feet to either 10 or 12-feet. Chair Stevenson noted support for 10-feet wide. The Department will also be asking for extension of their current 2022 lodging tax grant (\$250,000) for trail corridor acquisition.

Move ODT Route off Old Blyn Highway Project: The Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe (JSKT) continues work with their consultant on the design to move the ODT route section on Old Blyn Highway to a separated path. JSKT has applied for a state bike/pedestrian grant for construction funding. If awarded, timing may allow for concurrent construction with the JSKT's 2023 planned improvements for the ODT-Pierce to Old Blyn Highway section. JSKT and County Public Works staff met recently

on potential route design options and right-of-way needs east of Old Blyn Highway and Thompson Road.

ODT-Kacee Way to Elwha Bridge. City of Port Angeles digging out ditch today in area where slumping and trail cracking previously occurred with the intent to improve drainage.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE REPORTS

1. *County Thursday Volunteer Crew Project Reports.* The County Volunteer Trail Crew held four work party days in October on the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT):
 - Significant tread work and drainage and curb log improvements in the vicinity of OAT Milepost 6 and westward. Work party used PTC's new power wheel barrow. County Road Crew dropped off a truckload of gravel to support trail tread work. [3 Workdays]
 - Tread and curb log improvements at ~ OAT Milepost 2.5 and culvert clean-out/drainage work at ~ OAT Milepost 3.2.

Tomorrow's planned work party (Nov. 3) includes trail surface clearing (e.g., leaf blowing) and drainage work between OAT Milepost 1.25 and 3.5.

Work party sizes are typically 8 to 12 individuals. Most recent work projects on the OAT is based on input from PTC trail adopter responses coordinated by Member Taylor on maintenance needs.
2. *County Maintenance Reports.* County Road Crew removed overflowing garbage can at the OAT-Dan Kelly Horse Parking Area. No one claimed placement or management of the waste connections receptacle.
3. *Other Reports:* County will be scheduling interviews next week for the Trail Maintenance /Volunteer Coordinator position.

Member Taylor noted that PTC conducted at least four segment mowing's and has been addressing continued ODT sign vandalism. He also noted a confrontation between hiker and equestrian between Kitchen-Dick and Vaulter regarding whether horses are allowed on the trail and who has right-of-way. He installed another "Trail Courtesy – Who Yields" in this section.

Liz Cusanelli noted that the culvert replacement at Kugel Creek is completed, and that Cooper Ranch Road is now open. She noted some signage left on the trail related to the prior closure that should be removed.

Chair Stevenson suggested that County consider mowing ODT segments when County Road crews are mowing roads in that area. He noted the ODT-Gossett to Waterline Road segment needs mowing. Member Gray indicated that County trail mowing will also be addressed by Trail Maintenance worker when the position is filled.

DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS ITEMS:

E-Bike Use on DNR- and WDFW-Managed Lands—A Report to the Legislature in Response to ESSB 5452. Chair Stevenson provided insights on his review of this Report. Member Zarzezcny (DNR) provided comments on DNR perspective of report related to the OAT. DNR will use report to make recommendation to the legislature in early-2023. Member Gray highlighted findings, recommendations, and next steps in the Report that were included in the packet. Discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.