

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC)
October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

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

Members Present: Andy Stevenson, Jennifer Reandeau, Justin Zarzezcny, Gary Gleason, Dick Gritman, Kat Sample, Charlie Commeree, Gordon Taylor, Bill Biery, and Jim Mraz.

County Representatives: Steve Gray, County Public Works/Road Department

Guests: Hannah Merrill, Parks Supervisor, Clallam County Parks, Fairs & Facilities

Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe: Wendy Clark-Getzin, Transportation Program Manager,
Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe

MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bill Biery moved and Gordon Taylor seconded approval of the September 1, 2021 meeting minutes, which were approved with all in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

Chair Stevenson summarized his recent conversation with a dispatcher at Bill's Plumbing regarding how they respond to complaints related to the port-a-pots they maintain under contract with various sponsors along the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT). He noted that Bill's Plumbing indicated they have not been receiving complaints, but that they would respond to a complaint if needed before the next regular-scheduled maintenance visit.

Chair Stevenson thanked Mr. Taylor for developing an inventory of ODT restroom facility locations. Mr. Taylor noted that the Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) recently had the port-a-pot located at the 18th Street Trailhead in Port Angeles removed due to repeated vandalism. Chair Stevenson inquired with staff whether the TAC will receive a listing of ODT restroom facilities with ownership information. Mr. Gray responded that the list should be available for the November meeting.

Mr. Zarzezcny reported that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be opening the gate off of Karpen Road to the PA-I—1000 DNR access road for hunting access around October 15 for about a month. The Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT) crosses and parallels this forest access road.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Draft Clallam County Six-Year (2022-2027) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Provisions Related to the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT)

Mr. Gray gave a slide presentation on the Draft Six-Year TIP focused on ODT projects that covered the ODT-Forks to La Push project that is underway, and planned, currently unfunded ODT projects such as ODT-Waterline Road improvements and completing the trail in the remaining ODT gaps in Clallam County. He also reviewed the upcoming public meeting schedule on the Draft TIP that includes:

- October 18, 2021: County Commissioner Work session
- October 20, 2021: Planning Commission Work session
- November 3, 2021: Planning Commission Public Hearing
- November 23, 2021: County Commissioner Public Hearing

Chair Stevenson inquired whether the ODT-Waterline Road Improvement Project was the only planned, unfunded project listed in the Draft TIP. Mr. Gray noted that completing the remaining ODT trail gaps (i.e., Joyce East, Joyce West and Sappho to Forks Gaps) will be reflected in the Draft Six-Year TIP as planned, unfunded projects. He also reported that the Draft TIP contains a planned, funded project line that establishes a limited expenditure of \$50,000 per year for potential trail corridor acquisition opportunities in any gap. Chair Stevenson supported this approach.

Wendy Clark-Getzin inquired whether the County was targeting applying for additional Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funding for the ODT- Forks to La Push project or other ODT projects. Mr. Gray first introduced Wendy to the TAC as the new Transportation Program Manager for the Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe assuming the duties of Annette Nesse who retired. Mr. Gray responded to the question that it was his understanding that the County will not need to apply for additional FLAP funding to support the higher project costs by Western Federal Lands (WFL), and the project was approved with a phased approach to funding trail construction. Mr. Gray also noted that the County may in a future FLAP grant round target improvements to the ODT-Waterline Road connector between the ODT-Gossett Road section and ODT-Spruce Railroad in Olympic National Park.

Charlie Commeree asked in what years the County will start work in the three ODT trail gap areas. Discussion on the challenges (e.g., funding, landowner interest), timing and priorities of closing the three gaps followed. Mr. Gray noted that the County's focus over the next few years will be the ODT-Forks to La Push, but will pursue opportunities to secure trail corridor in these gaps as funding and landowner interests allow. For example, a near-term priority for the limited funding available would be to secure the remaining trail corridor needed between the ODT-Elwha Bridge and Place Road.

2. October 25 Board of County Commissioner ODT Work session

Discussion was had on messages the TAC may want Mr. Gray to convey at the upcoming work session the County Public Works/Roads Department will hold with the Board of County Commissioners on October 25. Mr. Gray noted the work session will focus on recent accomplishments, what's next, and maintenance. The TAC identified the following maintenance challenges to convey to the Board:

- Approaching end of life issues on the 30-year old chip seal sections of the trail in eastern Clallam County. No funds are in place now and the cost of replacement is high.
- Trail surface repair needs related to root bumps, cracks and subsidence that occur in various places throughout the trail system.

The TAC discussion overall acknowledged the incredible amount of maintenance already being performed by the County, volunteers and other jurisdictions, but noted much more investment in maintenance is needed to extend the lifespan of current trail facilities and to avoid issues that result from deferred maintenance such as along the ODT-Port Angeles Waterfront section.

TRAIL PROJECT UPDATES/REPORTS

1. ODT-Dawley Road Area Trail Stabilization and Restoration Project

Mr. Gray reported the project was completed and the trail section reopened on October 1 following installation of the fence along the top of the new constructed wall. He shared photos that illustrated

before/after conditions and highlights of key project work stages. Mr. Biery asked how many bags were used to construct the wall, and will the restored trail section be hard-surfaced. Mr. Gray responded that the wall is comprised of over 2,000 bags and that the restored trail surface was hardened by the County using asphalt grindings. Mr. Gray also noted that the County has extra bags that may be incorporated into future ODT or OAT maintenance and repair projects.

2. ODT-Clallam County East-End Projects

Ms. Clark-Getzin reported that the Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe (JSKT) plans to improve and pave the ODT-Pierce Road to Old Blyn Highway now in the summer of 2022. The work will be done by Jamestown Excavation. She also reported on status of JSKT effort related to the permanent repair of the ODT-Dean Creek Bridge. Chair Stevenson recommended that steps be taken now for temporary improvements to the Pierce Road to Old Blyn Highway segment to address soft spots in the dirt/gravel surface that are of particular concern for narrow tired bicycles.

In regards to the ODT-Dean Creek Bridge Project, noted that the prior work done by the County and a tremendous volunteer effort to raise the bridge, construct the temporary wood crib support, build the rock wall, and fill in the large scour hole was a temporary fix. In addition, the County applied for permits and JSKT dug out a channel last year to direct the main stream away for the bridge abutment. The channel is still functioning.

3. ODT-Clallam County West-End Project Updates

Mr. Gray reported that the state grant for approximately \$905,000 for trail corridor acquisition for the ODT-Forks to La Push Project is now under contract. He also reported that the County has received the completed appraisal for the first 7.5 miles of the corridor needed to be acquired between US 101 and Ballard Road and that the overall appraisal value is within the projected costs.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE REPORTS

1. County Thursday Volunteer Crew September/October Projects

It was reported that the County Volunteer Crew held three work party days. Two of these work days were doing brush work on sections of the OAT and the other work day was assisting with installing the fence at the ODT repair project near Dawley Road. Tomorrow the volunteer crew plans to address trail repairs around M.P. 16 on the OAT.

2. County Maintenance Report Summary for September/October

Mr. Gray noted typical maintenance occurring this time of year such as brushing and surface cleaning. He also highlighted a fence repair project on the ODT-Gossett Road section and work by the Sheriff Chain Gang on corridor brushing between Kitchen-Dick and Carlsborg Roads.

3. Other Reports

Ms. Getzin reported on JSKT floodplain restoration efforts in the vicinity of the Dungeness River Center that will also benefit the ODT. Ms. Getzin will plan to provide a briefing on this project at the TAC meeting in November.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Lasorsa asked if Gordon Taylor could touch upon the City of Port Angeles waterfront repair project. Mr. Taylor summarized efforts to-date such as rock work on the waterward side, but that the contractors had not started yet any maintenance and repair work on the bluff side. Mr. Lasorsa noted the repair/maintenance work is under a \$200,000 cap contract.

ADJOURNMENT