

**Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC)
July 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

A. 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 Zarzeczny, Gary Gleason, Dick Gritman, Kat Sample, Charlie Commeree, Bill Biery, Jim Mraz, Lorrie Mittmann, and Wendy Clark-Getzin.

County Representatives: Steve Gray, County Public Works Dept. (Ex-officio TAC member)
Mike French, County Commissioner

Other Meeting Participants: Kenton Hotsko, Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC).

B. MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: NONE

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The May 3, 2023, meeting minutes were approved without change or objection.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Puget Sound to Pacific Collaborative \$16.13 million RAISE Grant application was selected for award to address planning and design on trail gaps and community connections between Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal and La Push. The grant supports for 34 projects between 13 co-applicants. Co-applicants include Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap counties; the cities of Bainbridge Island, Port Angeles, Poulsbo, Port Townsend, Sequim and Forks; the Quileute Suquamish Tribes; the Port of Port Townsend; and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The City of Port Angeles is the lead applicant. Reviewed and discussed the seven projects that will be led by the County totaling an estimated four million.
- On June 6, the Rails-to-Trails (RTC) held their annual board meeting at the Seven Cedars Committee. A key focus on the meeting was to celebrate local, regional, and national efforts that support the Great America Rail Trail (GART) and the vision of the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) as part of the GART route. Highlights of this partnership included the submitted RAISE grant application. Many local trail supporters and agency representatives attended. The Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) helped organize the meeting. It was noted that PTC played a key role on getting the ODT selected as part of the GART route. On June 7, Governor Inslee received an award for his trail advocacy which was followed with a ride on the ODT with the Governor from the Port Angeles waterfront to Blyn.

E. TRAIL PROJECT AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS

1. ODT improvement/expansion project updates.

- Negotiations continue with two landowners to acquire trail corridor between Forks and La Push between US 101 and Bogachiel River Bridge along the SR 110(La Push Rd) corridor.
- ODT-Pierce Road to Old Blyn Highway Improvement (widening, paving) and ODT-Dean Creek Bridge Abutment Improvement Projects are still both scheduled to go to construction this summer.

2. County Volunteer ODT/OAT Trail Crew Maintenance Project Reports

- The County volunteer crew in May/June completed tread/drainage work on ~ 2-miles of the Adventure Trail, including laying down about 15 yards of crushed rock to improve trail tread.

3. County ODT/OAT Maintenance Reports:

- The County Trail Maintenance coordinator in May/June work activities included mowing and other trail corridor vegetation management (e.g., weed whacking ~ 5 miles of trail) activities. Other work included, but not limited to, leading/coordinating work parties, continued bollard and bollard pavement marking painting, and removal of five bollards between Pinnell Road and the west trail entrance to Robin Hill Park, including the wood bollard at the west entrance.

4. *Other ODT/OAT Reports:*

- Chair Stevenson noted need to paint speed bumps on the ODT Sol Duc River Bridge (Merrill & Ring Bridge).
- Member Taylor described the completed Eagle Scout bridge deck replacement just east of Kitchen-Dick Road.

DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. *Draft ODT Trail Etiquette Signs*

Chair Stevenson presented three draft trail courtesy type signs being considered by Jefferson County for the ODT. The signs address messaging for trail speeds (max. speeds of 15 mph), staying to the right, passing on left, and providing audible signal when passing. The sign designs were based on similar signs on the Centennial Trail in Spokane. Discussion followed. Members overall favored the sign option with the header Trail User Guide that included:

- Picture of Bicycle with text: 15 mph max. speed give audible signal when passing.
- Picture showing two-way traffic with text: Groups form a single line when meeting others.
- Picture of Pedestrian with text: Pedestrians move to the right when being passed.

Further discussion was had on sign wording. Member Roher indicated the key courtesy rule is to stay to right. Favors putting in a centerline as being more effective than signage. Chair Stevenson to write up a summary of TAC and PTC Board comments to share with Jefferson County.

2. *New State Local Parks and Maintenance Program*

Chair Stevenson summarized the new state Wa. State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Local Parks Maintenance grant opportunity to address deferred maintenance. Cities, counties, tribes, and port districts are eligible. The maximum grant limit is \$100,000 with no required match. Only one project application per jurisdiction.

County Parks is planning to apply. ODT projects could be part of County application. PTC will be talking to other ODT jurisdictions to encourage application. PTC identified root abatement across jurisdictions as a potential project. The Committee supported project ideas that included: root abatement, County purchase of mini excavator/flair mower for ODT, patching cracks on ODT segment east of Elwha Bridge, and Whiskey Creek Bridge replacement (may not be eligible) on Adventure Trail. Discussion was had on these potential project ideas and on root abatement techniques and challenges.

Chair Stevenson asked Bill Biery to inquire with the City of Sequim on the costs for their recent trail root abatement project.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments.

G. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.