

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC)
June 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes

A. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:

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

Members Present: Charlie Commeree (Chair), Wendy Clark-Getzin (Vice-Chair), Andy Stevenson, Gordon Taylor, Jennifer Reandeau, Judy Sarles, Justin Zarzeczny, Dick Gritman, Bill Biery, Jim Mraz, Lorrie Mittmann, and Grant Herman.

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

Guests/Public: Jeff Bohman, Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC), Molly Erickson (PTC), Michelle Connelly, PTC, Jim Staffer, Glen and Tanner Chipman.

B. MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Chair Commeree suggested moving the City of Sequim and PTC presentations to before Trail Project and Maintenance Reports. The modification was supported with Member Clark-Getzin voting not in favor.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Commeree moved to approve the May 1 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Sarles with all in favor.

D. DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) Report

Jeff Bohman, PTC Board President, provided a summary of PTC planned Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) support projects, purchases, and activities associated to their 2024 Clallam County Lodging Tax Grant Award. The briefing included details on the work and anticipated outcomes of PTC's Trails Ambassador Program. Jim Staffer was introduced as the person who will be the Lead Ambassador. Mr. Staffer further discussed the work of the Ambassador's. Discussion followed.

2. City of Sequim Trail Report

Meggan Uecker, Resource Analyst, for the City of Sequim Public Works provided a Olympic Discovery Trail-Sequim Updates presentation. The presentation which is attached covered the following topics: current Sequim ODT route and characteristics, maintenance of ODT route, recent ODT Projects, scheduled ODT projects, and other City related ODT information. It was also noted the City of Sequim recent purchase of a 16-acre parcel adjacent to the ODT along Hendricksen Road for future public park and recreation. Question asked about equestrians being able to get through the city on horses. Discussion followed.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS/MEMBER UPDATES:

Member Gray noted that the Regional Trails & Active Transportation Coordinator job description has been approved by the County Administrator and that the County Commissioners have approved creating this new position in Public Works. The County anticipates opening recruitment for the position in June. This will be a full-time position that will include a primary role in the County's RAISE grant ODT projects.

F. TRAIL PROJECT AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS

1. Update on Dungeness River Floodplain Restoration and Levee Road Realignment Project-Phase 3

Member Gray provided a project update. The County awarded bid of approximately 1.8 million was to Nordland Construction. Project construction is anticipated to commence this week with completion by early-August. The main work to be completed by the contractor includes earthwork to prepare top of levee for road and trail path, guardrail, curb installation (between trail/path and road section), stormwater quality measures,

improve intersection alignment at Sequim-Dungeness Way, and construction of a parking area at south end consisting of widened gravel parking area (accommodate 10 – 15 vehicles). Following completion of this work, the County Public Works Department will chip seal the road portion only with that work anticipated to be completed by the end of August. There is no current plan to pave the trail/path section. It will be left as gravel surface like the surfacing where it connects to the north levee section and the Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe Rivers Edge levee on the south end.

2. ODT improvement/expansion project updates:

- a. *ODT-Forks to La Push Project Update:* Member Gray provided an update of work to reach an agreed upon scope of work and budget with the selected consultant for the ODT-Calawah River Trail Bridge Crossing in Forks. He also briefed the Committee on the County Commissioner letter to Rayonier that was part of the meeting packet materials. In addition, he noted that the Public Works Department continues to work with the landowner on finalizing a purchase and sales agreement of purchase for approximately 0.6-mile segment along SR 110 in the Wilson Road area. Discussion followed.
- b. *OAT-Whiskey Creek Bridge Project:* Member Gray provided a project update. He noted that the County Commissioners will be discussing approval of the contract for bridge materials purchase with action anticipated on June 11. Bridge installation will be done by Public Works and volunteers. Volunteer work will be led by Jeff Ralston. County volunteer crew has been working on the trail approaches to the bridge crossing. Member Zarieczny indicated that DNR has submitted a landowner consent to support the County's permit efforts for the project. Purchase of the bridge truss and rails with shipping is estimated at around \$75,000. Wood decking and mid-rails is planned to be purchased locally. Discussion followed.

3. County Volunteer ODT/OAT Trail Crew Maintenance Project Reports:

The County volunteer crew led by Jeff Ralston held four Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT) work parties during May. Three workdays were spent on work related to the M.P. 14.3 log bridge repair and trail tread/drainage work in the vicinity of the bridge. The trail crew also continued work on the trail approaches to the planned Whiskey Creek Bridge replacement.

4. County ODT/OAT Maintenance Reports:

The Clallam County Trail Maintenance/Volunteer Coordinator conducted 10 ODT and 8 OAT field workdays in May performing a variety of maintenance activities. The ODT work consisted of primarily mowing and brushing, including use of the new tractor. The OAT work was mostly related to the M.P. 14.3 bridge project work and clean-up and trail work at the Whiskey Creek Bridge crossing.

5. Other ODT/OAT Reports:

Chair Commeree asked for an update on the RAISE grant. Member Gray indicated USDOT has not yet finalized the RAISE Grant Agreement that will need to be approved and signed by each jurisdiction.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Glenn and Tanner Chipman. Mr. Chipman introduced his son and indicated they had enjoyed over 100 trails together, including the ODT. Mr. Chipman assists his son in these travels by pushing him in a wheelchair. He expressed appreciation to the County and Committee efforts that support for trails. He indicated the Rayonier sale will have large real estate excise tax that should be used to support the trail in that area. Discussion followed with Mr. Chipman regarding his travels with his son

H. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.