



November 13, 2020

## Trail User Working Group meeting chat log

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- 00:47:53 Sean Dougan: For new members: Please introduce yourself, who you represent, and what you hope to get out of this group! Thanks.
- 00:49:01 Austin McInerney (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Maybe offer a Zoom tutorial for those that are interested/new to using the platform?
- 00:52:22 Sean Dougan: Thank you for your continued support of the Ivan Dickson Volunteer Trail Maintenance Program Ian! Great to have you!
- 00:52:29 Luana España: Welcome Civicorps Youth! I'm so happy to see representing the group. Thanks for all the great work your team does in Oakland!
- 00:58:43 Mary Barnsdale: Does visitation data come somehow from google maps?
- 01:00:32 Rick Rickard: I believe it's from smart phone tracking apps.
- 01:01:08 Scott Bartlebaugh: I believe the data is from mobile devices (phones). There was a presentation at the Oct 26 PAC mtg and can be viewed on the park district YouTube channel.
- 01:03:40 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Hi Mary, Google staff can provide this information (not tied to any personal information for individuals) at a very high level where people are traveling to with google maps etc.
- 01:03:57 Norman La Force: I do not recall receiving them (the notes from the August meeting). Where can I get them or can they be emailed to me?
- 01:04:25 Amelia Marshall: Request that notes from each meeting be promulgated sooner rather than later, so that corrections can be made promptly.
- 01:04:32 Kim Thai: <https://www.ebparks.org/about/planning/tuwg/default.htm>



- 01:04:46 Mary Barnsdale: Thanks, Rick and Simone
- 01:05:55 Devan Reiff: The notes were intended to be posted to the website already, let me know if you'd like me to mail you a copy during our meeting now. Otherwise, they will be posted Monday.
- 01:06:37 Brian Holt - Chief of Planning/Trails/GIS: Amelia had her hand up
- 01:11:04 Bonnie Lewkowicz (BORP): have a question
- 01:11:11 Jim Hanson: Bonnie has her hand up.
- 01:13:43 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I think that 'Be Respectful of diverse opinions' or something along the lines of civility should be added to the Ground Rules
- 01:14:21 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Request that this mission statement be sent out in writing.
- 01:15:21 Simone Nageon de Lestang: My apologies I did not see #4 covers
- 01:15:38 Gary Fitts: Can you post a view link to the Mirror Board?
- 01:16:43 Maria Mayer | MIG:  
<https://app.mural.co/t/migjc9597/m/migjc9597/1605126922810/8660ff98bb802ba091da7a96ae5d73ad66aa5589>
- 01:16:47 Austin McInerney (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: "...without compromising..." is a high bar in the mission statement considering what some participants have stated. How do we define "compromising"?
- 01:19:03 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I agree with this definition of consensus
- 01:19:16 Mary Barnsdale: Yes, agree
- 01:19:17 Kathy Roth: agree
- 01:19:20 bonnie Lewkowicz (BORP): Agree
- 01:19:23 Gary Fitts: Yes



- 01:19:25 Scott Bartlebaugh: agree
- 01:19:26 Elena Miramar: Sounds good
- 01:19:28 Jess Brown: Sounds good
- 01:19:28 Luana España: Agree
- 01:19:28 MICHAEL: Agreed
- 01:19:29 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: The devil is in the details.
- 01:19:36 Pam Young: Yes thank you
- 01:22:34 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: I support the definition and encourage the conveners to ensure that we all hear from all perspectives during the conversations. We want to avoid any participant from complaining outside of the forum that they were not consulted nor had an opportunity to weigh in on matters.
- 01:23:33 Pam Young: Let's talk about assumptions
- 01:24:53 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Agree with Pam. Start with what we agree on.
- 01:25:26 Rick Rickard: Jim Hanson's hand is up.
- 01:26:23 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Would like the work product to include: 1) recommendations for designing new trails on land banked properties, 2) ideas for creative management of existing trail network, 3) strategies for managing e-bikes on natural surface trails, and 4) better understanding of what the opportunities are for increased volunteer trail stewardship work.
- 01:27:22 Kathy Roth: I think we are all in agreement on that.
- 01:27:43 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Classic balancing act is recreation versus environmental stewardship.
- 01:27:57 Kathy Roth: in agreement on adding protecting natural resources to the mission statement.



- 01:28:48 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Agree with Jim Hansen.
- 01:28:58 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I would like to develop a work product that is actually HELPFUL to EBRPD in their pursuit of designing new trails and allows trail development projects to run smoothly without threats of legal action.
- 01:31:17 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I think the work product should equate to the amount of time spent by this group. I.e. 1-2 years of meetings by 50+ engaged participants should equate to a workable product
- 01:33:07 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: In that Brian says this is not a design review panel on new trails, it will be all about where the trails are built and who goes on which trails.
- 01:35:08 MICHAEL: Others = dogs!
- 01:35:10 Austin McInerney (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Structure to how the various user groups present their perspectives, interests and desires would be helpful.
- 01:35:18 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: We were told it would be a two year process.
- 01:36:50 Morris Older: August topic likely will take more and one meeting
- 01:37:54 Morris Older: Consensus, per the definition, may be limited on major issues
- 01:38:50 bonnie Lewkowicz (BORP): Right on, Austin
- 01:38:53 Pam Young: One meeting should focus on environmental and habitat protection - baseline studies, avoidance minimization of impacts, assessing impacts, incl significant effects, cumulative impacts
- 01:38:56 Civicorps JTC: Well said
- 01:39:34 Mary Barnsdale: Agree with Austin. Well said
- 01:39:55 Scott Bartlebaugh: Agree with Austin's work product items to include
- 01:39:57 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I do believe that information gathering and fact finding is truly important to this process. I agree with Austin that structure to how perspectives



are presented is very important to our ability to gain consensus and this should be provided in advance

01:40:49 Rick Rickard: It might make sense to include in future meetings an opening presentation from staff about how they are currently addressing particular issues, especially in regard to new trail design.

01:43:44 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Is Mercury in retrograde?

01:51:48 Mary Barnsdale: Sustainable Trails slide: All good

01:52:19 Gary Fitts: Please post this slide deck

01:53:12 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: The sustainable trails concept is designed for bicyclists. Hikers and horses are fine on legacy trails.

01:54:21 Brian Holt - Chief of Planning/Trails/GIS: That sounds like an assumption, Amelia.

01:54:48 Austin McNerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Conversion of legacy trails into sustainable trails is a worthy goal and one that all trail users should support. Contrary to what Amelia states, I don't know many hikers, especially those in wheelchairs, who like sloggng up/down steep, rutted trails.

01:55:22 Rick Rickard: Agree with Austin.

01:55:50 Luana España: Agree with Austin

01:55:54 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Legacy trails need to be left in place where multi-use is contemplated.

01:56:23 Scott Bartlebaugh: Agree with Austin. I don't enjoy hiking up or down 20% grades.

01:57:10 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: What fraction of legacy trails are 20% grades? Few, I bet.

01:57:48 Civicorps JTC: 20% sounds like an assumption



- 01:58:31 Mary Barnsdale: Sean is describing what could be exciting and worthwhile. Glad to be part of this
- 01:58:46 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Such a grade can be seen in the part of Wildcat Canyon by Richmond. Not fun to hike.
- 01:58:59 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Right on, Sean!
- 01:59:19 Morris: hikers and equestrians overwhelmingly prefer single track trails
- 01:59:52 Morris: very well said, Sean!
- 02:00:32 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: I dispute Morris' statement that hikers and equestrians prefer single track. Many state that in multi-use situations there needs to be room to avoid bikes.
- 02:00:33 Pam Young: Trail permit issuance - yes
- 02:00:54 Luana España: Well said Sean - listening to different perspectives and finding common ground!
- 02:01:09 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Well done Sean! Thanks for the definition of sustainable trails.
- 02:01:21 Scott Bartlebaugh: Well done Sean. Thanks.
- 02:01:48 Mary Barnsdale: Very good context Thx, Sean
- 02:02:10 Kathy Roth: Apparently people do like steep rutted trails because in so many places people cut switchbacks and make steep straight lines where things are carefully graded. (I'm not supporting this)
- 02:03:36 Joseph Mouzon: That was an awesome presentation! I really appreciate the framing and his suggested solutions. Well done, Sir!
- 02:05:12 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Can the GIS Dept. provide details on slopes of existing trails? Are conversations underway with resource agencies to better



define what is permissible under current requirements and what would need to be done to allow new trail construction within EBRPD lands?

02:06:07 Brian Holt - Chief of Planning/Trails/GIS: Thanks Austin - we are discussing this with our GIS Department. And yes, we have ongoing conversations with the resource agencies on what is permissible.

02:08:36 Sean Dougan: Thanks everyone. I'm happy to respond to questions through chat or offline later.

02:09:05 Lisa Baldinger: <https://www.ebparks.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=33553>

02:09:05 Kathy Roth: I just wanted to thank him for that presentation, and I had the thought that the average hiker takes the trail for granted until something had gone wrong. I had never thought about how informal trails grow up when the official trail does not go where the people want to go.

02:09:10 Gary Fitts: Thanks Sean. Can you post your slides?

02:10:08 Sean Dougan: Yes, will share on the website.

02:15:37 Simone Nageon de Lestang: I believe that fact finding and discussion of the actual impacts of each user group will be essential to the proper function of this group. I think that should happen before the next scheduled meeting on Bicycles or Equestrians because user impact should be something that we all learn about together

02:23:07 bonnie Lewkowicz (BORP): 3 minutes?

02:23:42 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Joaquin Miller Park - not EBRPD - is the Wild West with no law enforcement, and horses largely driven off the trails.

02:24:44 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Nice job, Morris! Thank you for providing a comprehensive presentation!

02:25:04 Mary Barnsdale: which trail was Morris saying we should look at?



- 02:25:22 Civicorps JTC: Norman hand is up
- 02:25:41 Gary Fitts: THANKS Morris. I'd like to have a copy of your remarks if possible.
- 02:27:00 Kathy Roth: Morris was talking about a trail in Samuel Taylor Park in Marin as a good example.
- 02:27:16 Scott Bartlebaugh: I think Morris was saying take a look at Bills trail in Samuel P Taylor State Park in Marin
- 02:27:21 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Many horses can/will climb stairs if the treads are wide enough.
- 02:27:45 Morris Older: Bill's Trail in Samuel P. Taylor. Reopened recently, it is not on their maps, but is accessed from DEVIL'S Gulch. I can share the old map which shows it.
- 02:28:14 Gary Fitts: The Ridge Trail between Tilden to Sibley has some stairs, no problem for horses.
- 02:28:15 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: NO on multiuse trails everywhere!
- 02:29:30 Gary Fitts: Resource request: I'd love to have a discussion board that we can use in between meetings. Is that something EBRPD could provide?
- 02:29:53 Morris Older: Trail guideline of steps for horses is that they be 8 feet apart so all 4 of the horse's feet go on each
- 02:29:59 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Fernandez Ranch reportedly lacks good horse trailer parking, which is why it is more attractive to other user groups.
- 02:30:00 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: John Muir Land Trust is doing a GREAT job! Thanks Linus!
- 02:30:14 Morris Older: Landing before the next step.
- 02:30:48 Mary Barnsdale: Maybe we could consider field trips to Rancho Pinole and Samuel Taylor?





- 02:30:57 Morris Older: Fernandez is a great example of multiuser trail design.
- 02:31:05 Gary Fitts: We also have an email list for discussing these issues. If you'd like to join the list, or post thoughts, send to [parks@twha.org](mailto:parks@twha.org)
- 02:33:09 Morris Older: I have hiked many times with Sierra Club, and the comments heard there informed my comments as well as comments from other hiking groups
- 02:35:33 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Survey results are on the website, right?
- 02:35:44 Brian Holt - Chief of Planning/Trails/GIS: We will get them to everyone
- 02:36:06 Lou Hexter:
  1. What are some of the goals that hikers have in using trails?
  2. What are some of the issues that hikers experience and/or create on trails?
  3. What do you think would improve trail user experience?
- 02:36:47 Mary Barnsdale: Quick health break?
- 02:36:52 Devan Reiff: If you haven't filled out the survey yet, please take a few more days to--- most of you have, and thanks for that.
- 03:06:47 Morris Older: Beam me up!
- 03:07:13 Kathy Roth: I had brought up Shell Ridge as an example of good cooperation between bikes and other groups, and just to be clear, Shell Ridge is not part of EBRPD. It WCOS.
- 03:17:59 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Oblivious trail users using earbuds is a huge problem for equestrians, whether they're worn by bicyclists or hikers.
- 03:18:56 Lou Hexter: For those who were note-takers in the breakout rooms, if you can send your notes to Devan, just to make sure we have a record of all comments, that would be great.
- 03:19:25 Lou Hexter: [DReiff@ebparks.org](mailto:DReiff@ebparks.org)



- 03:21:15 Kim Thai: I think I'm having audio issues, so I will also type out my breakout group's points
- 03:21:39 Kim Thai: And I'll send our comments to Devan
- 03:25:43 Amelia Marshall. KM6UFZ: Breakout group 3: Q1, Goals: Respectful and open discussion among user groups. Safe use of trails. Environmental protection. Q2: Issues: (a) being forced to leap off the trail as reckless, speeding bicyclists bore down on us on a narrow trail. Q3: Improvements: Signage, e.g. where it is OK and not OK for dogs to be; Have user groups sign codes of ethics; Education and permits required for E-bike riders.
- 03:29:29 Devan Reiff: Group 4: goals were for safety and trails comfortable for older users. Not everyone is a hiker. Suggestions: signage at trail intersections; and education (bicyclists should call out and have bells): consider a bike reservation system, like group picnic areas; consider "hiker only" days; and advertise widely.
- 03:31:18 Kathy Roth: Thank you!!!
- 03:31:26 Pam GGAS: Thank you very much
- 03:31:40 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Check out the Ridge Trail Challenge that is happening this month - <https://ridgetrail.org/challenge/> Great way to get out on some of these multi-use trails :)
- 03:32:09 Lou Hexter: Thanks, everyone!
- 03:32:13 Mary Barnsdale: Thank You.
- 03:32:13 Norman La Force: A lot to cover., Thanks for the meeting and keeping us on time.
- 03:32:40 Austin McInerny (he, him) BTCEB-NICA: Thanks! Looking forward to the consolidated set of group discussions. I think the answers to question #3 will provide opps for future collaboration



03:32:41 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Also if you want to get out and steward some of our trails sign up for Ridge Trail Month. Spots still open :) <https://ridgetrail.org/rt-month/>

03:32:53 Civicorps JTC: thank you all for this opportunity. Seeya next meeting

03:33:19 Simone Nageon de Lestang: Thank you EBRPD Staff!

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