

Draper Parks, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan

Focus Group: Trails NOTES



Attendance

- Jamie Bangerter – runs the mountain bike clinics for Draper City
- Kellie Davey – runs the hiking program for Draper City
- Rick Anton – trails and open space foreman for Draper City
- Jamie Pogue – chair of Draper City Parks and Trails Committee
- Rhett Ogden – Draper City Parks and Recreation Director
- Soren Simonsen – Executive director of Jordan river... (partnership of cities, county and all that partner with Jordan river)
- Brad Jensen – Draper City Parks Project Manager
- Katie Ovard-Smith – interviewed on 10/25/2021 in separate call, equestrian community

The meeting began with a summary of the purpose of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan update, followed by introductions.

The discussion on specific ideas, concerns or issues regarding trails in the City is summarized below.

Discussion Summary

- Would like to see more directional trails for mountain biking. Ups and downs get crazy trail etiquette is a challenge
- The City does a great job for the most part, but there are a few areas that need additional signage. Limelight needs improved signage.
- Give user groups their own trails. Conflicts mostly occur on multi-use trails. -May have to add more trails. Hiking only are nice, but if multi-use is needed, uphill-only biking with hikers is safer.
- Thoughts on alternating days for user groups to help manage conflict
 - Hard to get implemented but Millcreek has made it work and most people obey the rules.
 - Corner Canyon is headed towards being that busy too. Corner Canyon has more hiking only, not like Millcreek. Can always hike on trails without bikes.
 - Hope people are given enough information, really to want it to be a last resort. Better solution is to separate by users groups.
 - Would rather do anything other than have alternating days – City has talked about having a pass system, but it would be hard to enforce (too many access points, too many entrance points).

- There aren't enough bikers to need that – People note that the city has done a good job at marking the trail (bike only, hike only, no horse) so good signage is crucial.
- Redevelopment of the prison site will likely connect the Galena Soo'nkahni preserve to the rest of the City through the site.
- Not always easy to access the river except for a few key trailheads. The Point development will help. Greenway through the project is intended to connect range to river for recreation and for wildlife.
- Look at trails for wildlife value to connect/reconnect eco system.
- People wanting to recreate on the Jordan River may not realize there is not a lot of water in the river through Draper certain times of the year due to diversions for irrigation.
- What role can Draper City play to make the Jordan River more of an asset? Look at the 2016 Open Space Master Plan.
- Where does the water in Jordan river go? Jordan River Commission has been doing a lot for boat launches, one at Rotary Park, also in Sandy and Bluffdale. Add water component to this master plan.
- City has a good instructional area, would like other options for instructional with shorter trail loops, not enough parking, it can be busy.
- It would be awesome to have other options to mix things up like Little Valley but with better parking.
- Cycle Park is missing small trails for beginners to practice on like the two lower sections of Limelight. Consider instructional trails on back side of Suncrest, by Brookside. Have some of the features such a small drop for students to learn on. Anything with progression would be awesome. Cycle Park has plenty of parking.
- Things that could go up on the ridge is dog friendly trails, off leash area, instructional tails, Frisbee golf.
- More technical stuff, looping off of Woods Hollow, already super busy, can handle shoulder season. Lower Mountain would give longer use, south facing by Rattle and Hum, similar features near Cycle Park progressive rock garden, nice turns, progression of skills. Clinics are usually 3-4 hours, would only add extra 10 minutes.
- Area by Deer Ridge, make it an off leash area where people would hike with their dogs. Also add disc golf.
- Need dog/bike trails too.
- City talking about small loop of off leash trails, directional would be great.
- As the Point grows, that will add pressure to system, not enough access, one-way in and out on bikes.
- Could we turn Ann's trail into one way up hill for bikes and let everyone use is in both direction and on the other side construct a bike only trail? You must give bikers another down hill bike trail to make that work. Turn Ann's into one way uphill with multi and add another downhill bikes, need 2 ways off top off hill.
- Turn Longview Trail into uphill only and Carpe Diem into downhill only? Right now both are multi use. Carpe Diem is more technical, not built for hikers, Longview is better option. Some say carpe diem would be better as downhill only for bikes.
- Connection from Longview to Peacemaker by pond will be a hiking only trail. Forget-Me-Not ties from Longview by pond, like Jungle. Need a backcountry adventure trail that ties into Hoof 'n' Boot.

- The longest loop is about three miles and it would be nice to have longer trails about 5-6 miles for a 3 hour hike (loops are great for hiking).
- City does a great job with trailheads.
- The committee has a donor that may pay for another trail for a bike only trail in the Carpe Diem area as long as we keep a balance with hiking trails.
- Forget-Me-Not was finished two weeks ago. Is more like the Jungle Trail and ties into the Hoof 'n' Boot. Forget-Me-Not may eventually connect over into next drainage, tie around using Three Falls. There's an old road that's not official - consider making that official, it's a fun hike. Draper owns about 1/3 of the trail into the Three Falls area.
- Hoof 'n' Boot is an out and back trail and it would be nice to be made into a loop and it's almost one with the old road. We are working on making the connection from the switchback to connect to the larger trails.
- Trailhead amenities - Everyone thinks they are working just fine.
- Paved trails – Likes loop with Porter Rockwell and Canal Trail, would be great to take Porter Rockwell to the Jordan River Trail. Trails do go around Point of Mountain on Porter Rockwell down to Lehi. Good option.
- Telegraph connecting other trails to Lehi? Traverse Traverse does this. Lehi working to get connection to Maple Hollow Trail (part of BST) by Brookside – tie into this area from Telegraph. Lehi has been building trails, good partner.
- Want to extend from Longview switchback to connect to three falls, extension of BST – on wish list.
- Try and identify some area to do a trail like Lupine with one of these areas where you can take your dog we should try and make that a priority because people would love it. Lupine popular with families, need another like it. Maybe up on top of hill or valley behind Suncrest sign? Long Branch is one option. Also see opportunity off of Telegraph (4 mile loop) add mile loop within it.
- Need somewhere people can take their dogs on the trail.
- How are we doing with the equestrian committee?? Landmark will be contacting Katie Ovard-Smith.
- Jordan River Trail itself has been used by equestrians mostly in Bluffdale. South of Rotary Park, was some south of Rotary, south of 12300 towards Corner Canyon Creek, then along should into Bluffdale where there is a nice soft separated trails. Fewer horse properties long river than there used to be but are still a few there. Bluffdale still has a lot of equestrian properties.
- Blueprint Jordan River update, had survey done in 2020 for entire river by Envision Utah, can get responses possible from Draper zipcodes (Cody Lutz).
- Representative Harrison developed some legislation for safe routes to school and how can we make trails a part of that and expanding some of that legislation to save routes to parks. We lack the infrastructure to support those places and make them more accessible beyond a car.
- For the most part we a lot of neighborhood trails but need to push/map these neighborhood connections to build more of them.
- We are getting ready to revamp the Jordan Rotary Park and we need to look at connecting that amenity. Jordan River Commission is pushing for more programming and park development area along Jordan River. The Commission would like to participate in other focus groups.
- There are some big gaps in trails behind IFA, canal trail by Bellevue to Wheadon Park.
- City is revamping Draper City Park playground, connecting it will be important.

- Are you going to share with us a summary of the meeting and what was discussed with other meeting so we can see how our views align?
- Notes will be placed on the project website along with notes from other focus group meetings.

Conversation with Katie Ovard-Smith: Equestrian Community on 10/25/21

- Love the trails in the City.
- The Hoof n' Boot trail is pretty far up Corner Canyon and is really the only equestrian trail in the City.
- She was raised in Draper and has horses at the same house she grew up in. She has ridden Corner Canyon her whole life but has only ridden Hoof n' Boot once because she has to exercise five horses and doesn't have time to do the full three hours it would take to do the Boof n' Boot.
- Many equestrians ride the trail a lot - at least once a week.
- Most people that use the trail are Draper residents and most people she knows like to ride their horses from their houses instead of trailering.
- To get to Hoof 'n' Boot, equestrians have to go through a lot of bikes to get there. The City needs to have a horse/foot only trail connection from the Equestrian Center (Andy Ballard Events Arena) so that they can avoid the bikers.
- All of the bike teams are troublesome – too much of a conflict with the horses. It's not that they shouldn't be up there. The uses just need to be separated. People want to ride closer to home without getting stuck in the bike teams.
- If she or others are going to go to the effort of trailering their horses, they'll go to Dimple Dell or Yellow Fork which are more equestrian friendly.
- There are trailheads in the City that accommodate equestrian trailers.
- The Equestrian Center is owned by the City – Andy Ballard Events Arena
 - Not just for equestrians
 - Where they hold the rodeo and riding club practices
 - Outdoor facilities only
- Hikers and horses are okay together
 - People don't always understand how to deal with horses
 - Horses need to have people talk to them so the riders know they're there, and so the horses can know they're just encountering people and don't get spooked. People tend to want to get quiet around horses.
 - It's nice when people will move off the trail, but some people don't think horses shouldn't be up the canyon and don't yield to horses like they are supposed to.
- Loves having the trail system there – she lives at the mouth of the canyon.
 - It's good for the horses to be out of the arena sometimes, to see the trails and have a relaxing workout. A separated access would make this much easier for equestrians in the City.