



City of Citrus Heights
Community Workshop #1 Summary
May 14, 2013 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Citrus Heights Community Center
6300 Fountain Square Drive

Introduction

The City of Citrus Heights is undertaking a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a multi-use trail system within the City's 26 miles of creek corridors and SMUD utility corridor. The study will identify existing conditions, constraints, opportunities, alignment options, phasing options, and cost estimates for a multi-use trail available to walkers, bicyclists, joggers, wheelchair users, and other non-motorized uses.

The Creek Corridor Project will play a major role in the ultimate location of future multi-use trails within the creek corridors. Although many of the creek corridors have informal trail networks, very few are paved trails that provide access for all abilities. The City hopes to provide improved connections to key destinations for pedestrians and cyclists; improve access to the creek corridors for all residents; increase the number of recreational facilities to more neighborhoods; and improve transportation choices within the City.



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Workshop #1 Purpose

The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the project, its goals, and the public engagement process, and to obtain initial input from the community to help inform the feasibility study. The workshop included various information stations where attendees could view graphics, maps, and other project information materials. Representatives from the City and the project consultant team were available to discuss the project and answer questions.



The flyer features a logo for the Creek Corridor Trail Project on the left, which includes a stylized 'S' shape representing a trail and icons of a person walking and a bicycle. To the right of the logo, the text reads 'City of Citrus Heights Creek Corridor Trail Project Community Workshop'. Below this, there is a 'Join Us!' section with a paragraph of text explaining the project's purpose and providing details about the workshop. At the bottom, there are three images: a person walking a dog, a blue box with event details, and a scenic view of a creek.

City of Citrus Heights
Creek Corridor Trail Project
Community Workshop

Join Us! The City of Citrus Heights is hosting a community workshop to discuss the Creek Corridor Trail Project. The purpose of the project is to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a multi-use trail system within the City's approximately 26 miles of creek corridors and SMUD Utility Corridor.

Come learn about the project and tell us your thoughts. City representatives and members of the project team will be available to answer questions and discuss ideas in an informal format. Drop by at your convenience between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

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6300 Fountain Square Drive
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Publicity & Noticing

Community workshop [notification flyers](#) were sent via e-mail to local jurisdictions, interested agencies, vicinity organizations, businesses, and interested individuals. In addition, over 8,500 [notification postcards](#) were mailed to residents who lived within 500 feet of a creek within the City limits. Additional notifications were sent through the REACH neighborhood associations, the City's e-notifier, and the project Trail Advisory Group. In addition, an article announcing the workshop was on the front page of the "Connections" mailer that is sent to every resident of the City. The workshop notice was also posted to the City's website and the project website, and was announced on the changeable message sign in front of City Hall for two weeks leading up to the workshop.

Further, press releases regarding the community workshop were sent via e-mail to the following news outlets:

- The Sacramento Bee
- Citrus Heights Messenger
- Capitol City Radio
- Fox 40
- KCRA 3
- KRBK 1530 AM
- KNCI FM
- KOVR 13
- KSFM FM
- KVIE
- KXTV 10
- KYMX FM
- KZZO FM
- Sacramento Business Journal
- Sacramento County Public Information Office

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Community Workshop Format

Approximately 150 community members attended the workshop which was organized as an open house with a series of information stations.

Attendees were encouraged to visit the stations where project team members were available to answer questions and discuss the project.

Attendees were given an [informational flyer](#) describing the goals and schedule for the project, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) flyer, as well as a comment card to provide input on the project. Comment cards could be turned in at the workshop, or returned via email, fax, or mail.



Information Stations:

The following list shows the information that was included at each station.

- **Welcome Table**

- This station included sign-in sheets, a stations map, an information brochure, FAQ Sheet, and a comment card to provide input. Project staff were available to explain the workshop layout.

- **Project Overview Station**

- This station included a large map of the project area highlighting the creek corridors and SMUD utility corridor being evaluated as part of the study. Attendees were asked to indicate the location of their place of residence or work by placing an adhesive dot on the map. The exercise indicated that those in attendance represented residents and/or employees throughout the project area. In addition, attendees were provided with the project background and schedule as well as City's desired goals for the study.

- **Tailoring Trails to Fit in Citrus Heights (Community Values)**

- As part of the initial public engagement process for this study the Trail Advisory Group (TAG) developed Community Values based upon an exercise in which they answered the following question: For this project what would you like to create, avoid, and preserve? The Community Value statements created by the TAG were displayed at this station. Attendees were asked to provide feedback on the value statements using post-it notes and to participate in the exercise by including additional answers to the three questions. Community comments are listed below.

- **Opportunities and Constraints**

- This station included maps that illustrated



the identified opportunity and constraints for potential trail alignments within the project area. The information on the maps was based upon initial field studies performed by the project team. Community members were encouraged to provide their insight based upon their local knowledge of potential opportunity areas to provide enhanced connections and other community benefits as well as potential areas of constraint.

- **Trails for All Users and Trails to Destinations**

- This station focused on how to make the trails accessible for all types of users (walkers as well as those with mobility challenges, cyclists, and other users) as well as better connections to community amenities such as parks, schools, commercial areas, etc. Large posters illustrated major connections that trails can provide within the City, examples of other trails in the region, and trail designs that can be used to provide access for all uses. Attendees were asked to place post-it notes on highly desirable connections or areas that could benefit from improved access.



- **Public Safety**

- This station was staffed by representatives from the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District and the Citrus Heights Police Department. Large maps of the project area as well as a neighborhood maps were available, allowing attendees to identify areas of specific concern.

- **Site Considerations**

- This station included a large map of the project area. Representatives from the Citrus Heights Public Works Department were available to answer questions related to flooding, drainage, and open space concerns raised by attendees.

- **Parks and Trails**

- Maps showing the types of existing trails in Citrus Heights parks and locations of park properties in the study area were located at this station. Staff from the Sunrise Recreation and Park District was available to discuss the ways in which trail networks interface with the park system.

- **Community Survey Table**

- A computer was available so that attendees could complete the on-line community survey. Hard copies of the survey were also available that could be completed at the workshop or mailed, emailed, or faxed to the project team.



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Community Input:

Community Values identified by attendees:

What would you like to preserve?

- Right to enjoy and access public property - not fence off and deny access.
- Native trees, flora, and fauna.
- The beauty along the creek.
- The native animals.
- The entire area. The organic nature trail. The natural nature history.
- Safe for all families.
- Our creek corridors.
- Neighborhoods.

What would you like to avoid?

- Lowering property values for those who live near the creeks.
- "On your left!" fast bikes.
- People not understanding to "stay to the right" if you're traveling slow or walking.
- Any access to my property without my permission - otherwise known as trespassing.
- Drug users, burned out cars, trash. Already had to have enforcement on SMUD corridor and had a law suit preventing County from opening area between houses.
- Traffic congestion due to road construction.
- We live in a flood plain Code 106.30.040 states no paved areas or proper fencing is allowed. How are we supposed to protect ourselves from noise pollution, trespassers, or the constant vandalism?
- Crime, losing privacy, disrupting flocks of turkeys which roost in trees behind houses (Westbrook Dr.) Public access to back of my house.
- Disruption to homeowners who live near the creek via construction, machinery and all the things that accompany construction.
- Vandalism and property destruction.
- Littering.
- The creek amenities enjoyed by only those who live along the creek.
- Any form of construction.
- Erosion

What would you like to create?

- Fishing ponds or areas - bass and bluegill.



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- Off street bike trail system.
- Preserve my property rights and my right of privacy.
- Add facts about the native animals among the trail.
- Increased property values for homes along creek trails.
- Enjoyable areas to ride my bike and better access to destinations like shopping, stores, etc. via bicycle.
- Plan and coordinate connectivity with other trails in Roseville, Folsom, American River, County areas, etc.
- More public access to neighborhood creeks.
- Flood protection.
- Safe environment for horseback riders and walkers.
- Trails that are at least 5 miles in length so that we don't have to drive to Folsom or Roseville to run.
- A way to bring families together while doing something active.
- Sense of community.
- A city to be proud to live in.
- Out houses for emergencies.
- A running/hiking trail through natural landscape.
- Nothing. Leave it alone.
- A multi-use trail system that can be enjoyed by dog walkers.
- Opportunities for older and disabled residents to access park like facilities without having to drive.
- Police protection.
- City identity.
- A safe environment for children, especially those with special needs who like to explore but also like to bolt.



A summary of feedback received via comment cards and post it notes is included below, some comments have been edited to remove address or home locations.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Love it! Love it! I am very glad the trail is by my home. I live near a creek and it would make me feel safer and I am looking forward to the trails you are in the process of making. Thank you. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I am against the bike trails on Brook Tree Creek. More study on the impact of traffic on path and privacy of homes that it is running near. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I don't think at this time this is necessary. Who is going to pay for the property alongside the creek that you use for this? What about the wildlife that will be displaced and people will have access to their habitat. I own property along the creek and don't want the public to have access through it. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I would love to have more access to my neighborhood creek, Brooktree Creek. I'd love for the creek area near Mariposa Park to be opened up – right now it's caged in with fencing. Trash builds up. I'd also like wider bike lanes on major roads, like San Juan, Madison and Sunrise so that biking to shopping areas is safer. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The negative of placing it on Arcade Creek is it would place it right by our decks and we have purchased our property for seclusion and the beauty of an unaltered Arcade creek (Crosswoods).• Put it on Cripple Creek, etc. Not Arcade Creek.• I would like to propose that you widen the sidewalks and make them accessible to both bikes and pedestrians - bikes would be walked on the crosswalks. The Police and Fire could monitor people obeying the bike speed limit, help people who have an illness and people would bike because they are afraid of being hit by a car on the road bike trail. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I live in Crosswoods — approx. 20-25 ft. from creek. Massive erosion has taken place since 1992. This last winter –early spring – floods came up to within 5 ft. from the house and keep the property behind our house flooded for 3 days, killing many bushes. Also, the residents in Crosswoods are elderly and are frightened of strange people coming through, especially at night. Thank you. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will suggest separation of walking and bicycle riding trails. This will make it easier for pedestrians with/without dogs to be a safe distance away from bicycle traffic. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Major flooding annually when it rains. A trail would be a huge problem. No wall can be built for privacy against a trail. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patton Avenue in north – backed up from Holly to just before Patton – showed on map. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We do not want to see any bike trail between Zeeland and Calvin for the following reasons:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ There is no room without destroying creek residents' livability and privacy.○ It will bring a potential for crime into this secluded area.○ Fire and safety issues based on what happens currently on the Mesa Verde trail behind the school.○ Wildlife will be impacted.○ Numerous neighbors are opposed to this trail. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None of the trail points should be too far from restrooms! There could be signs showing the nearest places for "rest".• Will there be street/trail lights for safety at night? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easement has been encroached upon. Fences and locked gates where they shouldn't be. Citrus Heights is allowing this.• Opening the easement would make C-Bar-C and Woodside more accessible to the community |

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| <p>(walking vs. driving).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easement, while unmaintained, is a fire hazard. • People who live on easement dump trash in the easement area. • Utilize people who owe community service time for part of labor. • Citrus Heights needs to connect with Orangevale because easement runs through Citrus Heights and Sac County. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about the animals living on creek. What impact will it have on them? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am concerned that the trail may go through my backyard. Will I have access to the half of my property across the bike trail? What about fencing? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have several questions/concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is being considered re where the creek passes through backyards, etc. ○ What kind of enforcement of drug dealing/squatters, etc. We already have had drug problems under the bridge. ○ How will the “green belt” issues be handled? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excited for the project. I would utilize it for shopping rather than driving my car. If the creek corridor is able to be utilized, it would make for excellent nature walks. I would also wish to see as much natural settings remain as possible. I work with youth groups and would hope to utilize the trail corridor to teach nature studies. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowered property values - do not tell me they will increase – I have a history!! Crime/rapes / (loss of privacy), burglaries, trash, 24 hour access to my home. Damage to habitat – 100 yr. Valley Oaks. Damage to fragile creek banks. Damage to animal habitat – wild turkeys, coyotes, hawks, egrets, wood pecks, squirrels, raccoon, skunks, etc. Creek floods in winter. Creek is low and an eye sore in the warmer weather. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am concerned about how this will affect the Stock Ranch Nature Preserve – which hasn’t been finished yet. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep lighting out of the natural areas. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It seems most people are concerned with people entering their backyards via the creek. While I don’t have to worry about that, I think it is pointless to. Focusing on the negatives will never get anything done; especially when the positives are incredible. As it is, if I want to take a decent length bike ride I have to travel to the American River Bike Trail or take side streets. This trail would make it easier for people who want to ride. It would promote bicycle and foot transport across the city and is a great idea. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I’m very excited the city is looking into trail systems, <u>safe</u> bike paths and other ways the citizens can move about without a personal car. Most important thing is to protect the environment. Next important for me is safety while on the trails. Adding an extensive trail system will add value to the city and make it a desirable place to live. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I’d like good signage along the trail, educating pedestrians to walk facing traffic (left side of trail). • I’d like the Citrus Heights trails to connect to Roseville’s and perhaps work with Orangevale and |

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| <p>Folsom to have a trail that connects with the American River Bike Trail Perhaps along the big power lines that cross Wachtel.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am in favor of getting people “outside,” connected with nature and aware of their surroundings. I would not want to see blacktop everywhere. But the creation of more “mini parks” would be great. The addition of fruit trees to make them “fruit parks” would be nice too. I would like to see some way that bikes don’t race along. Let us enjoy nature. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project would make Citrus Heights such a wonderful place to live. We have actually thought about moving elsewhere that had paved trails because we believe it is so important. It would help families spend time together while getting much needed exercise. It is so important to us that this works out! I would be willing to help, if at all needed! |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I feel the concept of the project is very good. Citrus Heights has done many good things for its citizens since incorporation. I would add something else. Identify 10/12 bridges in the city limits to become covered bridges. Incorporate education, safety, technology, green construction and city identity into the project. This also creates neighborhood identity. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance in Citrus Heights isn’t always well done. Will there be a budget and staff to maintain? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about losing quiet, privacy, behind house; disrupting wildlife, turkeys that roost in trees behind house. Also crime w/trails behind our houses. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the project goes forward, will there be some oversight over any possible historical artifacts that may be discovered during construction phase – care, having someone with historical knowledge, preservation? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra traffic behind my horse property. Vagrants already use the creeks for tents and camps. More traffic entails additional police protection to cover the additional trails – w/police force already reduced, who will patrol the trails? Property recompense for vagrant damages. Unleashed animals are dangerous to public. Who will enforce leash laws to protect property owners? Trails do not belong on private property. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Creek Corridor Project needs to be on public or commercial properties only. Not privately owned residential property. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destruction of wildlife habitat. Concerns at increased traffic (foot/bicycle) behind my home. Easier access to the negative element (I live on Mavana off Sayonara). Don’t like people being able to see into my backyard. Increased traffic will also increase fire risk. Removal of growth and leveling of ground will impact flood control. Who is going to be responsible for keeping the trails <u>clean</u>? Increase crime opportunities. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decreased property values. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where will opportunities for children to learn be? I have a little one with autism who happens to love outdoors. He also likes to bolt. Where will the safe trails be?• We love to bike to Rusch Park but getting over to cross the freeway makes it very unsafe at Antelope and I-80. Is there going to be better access to get there?• What is happening with the freeway wall on Tupelo? Will there be climbing plants on the wall or covered? We feature local artists on them. Walls are not pretty to look at. Will there be trees or an inner trail between the wall and sidewalk? Right now it's just a dirt path. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find it very ironic that there wasn't any bike parking when I arrived for this Community Workshop. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concerns: traffic, noise, waste, safety, vandalism.• Question: Lighting, fencing installed? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As the trails at "this" time don't affect my property, the future surely would and I wouldn't want them anywhere near my house! The creek "bottle-neck" is very narrow behind the house and would have constant noise, garbage and most likely crime. My back windows literally would have people wizzing or looking through them! The property line goes all the way across the creek and down west. People walking dogs through the area would be a constant nuisance and stink, as there are a lot of them that don't pick up after them or control them. Also, with all the ADA requirements, it's insane how much it would cost to comply even if funded. And our little friends the raccoons, skunks, etc. would be disrupted! |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worried about trash, vandals. A chain had to be put across SMUD access path because of it; now on both sides of Villa Oak past Claypool – before Olivine. Who would maintain picking up trash and making sure no homeless sleeping there, camping or drug use? When county previously planned pathway between Claypool Way and Olivine homes, it was stopped by a lawsuit (before Citrus Heights became a city). |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wildlife should not be disrupted in any way.• <u>Natural trails</u> should be left (existing ones) and included along with the paved/gravel trails planned. Existing mountain bike paths not demolished!• Privacy and safety of creek families and pets assured.• Thank you – Shadow Creek Park is good example. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All for it! Lived in Citrus Heights since the 70s. Feel confident Citrus Heights can do a great job of planning this to accommodate the needs of the community and wildlife/nature we enjoy here. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concerns:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Extra traffic and strangers coming to my neighborhood.○ Crime.○ Trash and people don't clean up after their dogs.○ Trails should be in parks and public places only, not in people's backyards.○ Dogs barking when people ride by. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think this is a good idea because it will connect our community as well as upscale and raise property values in our neighborhoods. I'm very glad this will be happening. I live at Twin Oaks and Garry Oaks. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Year in Eden's Acre: Life on an Urban Creek. Book about 1 year of wildlife watching in Citrus Heights. On Kindle \$2.99. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code 106.30.040 state no <u>paved areas</u>, fences (except wrought iron or wood slats) are allowed with 2.5x the height of the creek PLUS 30 feet. We live in a huge flood plain! How are we supposed to build a proper fence to fight the noise pollution and trespassers in our backyard? Also, the creek erodes. It will require constant repaving. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian activated traffic signals are needed on busy corridors – such as Auburn Blvd between Orlando and Grand Oaks. At least crosswalks, if not signals at freeway on ramps and off ramps (Antelope & I-80). |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity: If/when there is a natural area place to run or walk, then I am in Citrus Heights when I'm doing my after-run shopping. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My wife and I walk through Shadowcreek Park several times a month. I am concerned that several narrow places along the bank would prevent construction of a paved trail as wide as our pictures and plans show. One narrow place is just downstream of the Parkoaks Bridge over Brooktree Creek. Another too narrow place is behind the two houses on Parkcreek Circle immediately west of the alleyway access from Parkcreek Circle into Shadow Creek Park. An improved trail in Shadow Creek Park would not connect to other creek side trails you are considering. East of Parkoaks Drive, Brooktree Creek flows through a concrete channel. East of Dewey, the concrete channel is even narrower. Coyle creek flows into Brooktree Creek at the western-most dip in the trail through Shadow Creek Park. The right of way for Coyle Creek is generally too narrow for a paved trail between Brooktree Creek and Parkoaks Drive. Upstream of Park Oaks Park, Coyle Creek has a narrow right of way and a concrete channel. Teens walk (wade) upstream in the channel to Dewey, but most other people would not do that. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arcade Creek between Crosswood Circle Bridges floods over banks in ½" rain situations, making a nuisance on any asphalt trail. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I feel the trails should be in parks and other public areas and be connected by bike lanes in the streets not on private property. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More trail so it can be used by people who use mobility scooters. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm concerned that late night supervision will be enforced as we live across the street from the corridor. Would hours of use be enforced? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like tie to American River Bike Trail. I work in Sacramento off Howe and American River Drive but live by Greenback and Auburn Blvd. Bike lanes to get to American River Trail unsafe because of cars, manhole covers, garbage cans blocking the lane. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm interested in having trails in Citrus Heights. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm concerned about the large existing homeless community along the Arcade Creek corridor. The homeless have thrived in this area long before the Stock Ranch development. Despite the efforts of the CHPD, homeless crime and vagrancy has not been diminished as a result of increased use. To compound the issue, large tracts of the creek pass through private |

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| <p>associations such as Crosswoods East & Crosswoods which are comprised of private roads and streets. It seems the proposed project actually increases the ability of the community to commute through the surrounding neighborhoods.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I hiked most of the streams and creek corridors maybe eight or nine years ago. I am concerned that the city does not have a 100 foot buffer along each side of creeks where development is restricted. Structures are now built too close for stream and wildlife protection. The feasibility study should first identify corridors which are too narrow for a multi-purpose trail.• Privacy concerns. Extra "traffic". |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patton Avenue – road splits large parcels in half. Trail would run through private property. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When is Mesa Verde trail going in? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will trails be lighted? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dark sky/negative impacts on wildlife. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concur about City setback standards/allowing development too close to the creek. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Love to hike around. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would love to see connection to American River Trail. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concern about trash, crime, safety. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desire for open areas, dog walking areas. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comments on lack of ability to monitor safety. Bikes too fast. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You cannot align a trail with a creek without impacting the environment. |