

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Part 5. Community Priority Meetings

Purpose:

The purpose of holding Community Priority Meetings was two-part; (1) to gather input from community members and decision makers on specific park and trail infrastructure needs, and (2) to gauge interest and support for the proposed Service Areas. The attendees were asked what was needed for each service area- neighborhood, community, region and county.

Research Design:

In order to gather input from each community about their specific recreation needs, meetings were set in every community with a school, fire station, and commercial activity. Citizens in each area collaborated with County staff to assist in organizing venues, making contacts for the meetings and helping publicize them. They also helped identify key decision makers and interested residents to invite by phone. Staff provided maps of each Service Area at the meetings and took notes on the needs for each Level of Service from the attendees. At least one staff member and one P&T Committee member attended each meeting.

Sampling:

Approximately 10-30 people attended each meeting. In Bozeman, Belgrade, Three Forks, West Yellowstone, and Big Sky additional meetings were held with decision makers alone to follow up on the ideas generated at each meeting.

Findings:

The input generated regarding specific needed recreation facilities and routes was compiled into a spreadsheet for each community. The ones held in common were then compiled into one list. Below is a list of the priorities mentioned by each community followed by a list of those held in common by all the communities.

COMMUNITY LOS PRIORITIES

FOUR CORNERS PRIORITIES

NEIGHBORHOOD

Alternatives to Huffine for Dog Walking and jogging.

On negh. Roads designated for multi use speed reduction or safety mitigation should be considered

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas

COMMUNITY

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas

Monforton School Road needs a trail

Monforton School is the center of the community

Need safe crossings at Jackrabbit and Huffine

Connection to the Bozeman Hot Springs

Connection to Norris Road Fishing Access

Access toward Baxter to Regional Park

Connection to Elk Grove Park system

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas

Maintenance of Tunnels under roads

Supported the use of Tunnels

Connection to Zoot/Northstar area to Monforton School

More family oriented parks and rec. facilities, (picnic areas)

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Work with DOT for Trans./Rec. input on future highway projects
Park and Trail system along Gallatin River with appropriate maintenance and parking

REGIONAL

Access toward Baxter to Regional Park
Safe Route to Bozeman along Huffine
Safe Route to Belgrade along Jackrabbit
County needs to work with FWP to maintain fishing access at, Axtell, Norris and Cameron Bridge
Future improved connection to bus route system
Increase Bus service
Safe Route for kids to middle school and high school
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
RailRoad Right of Ways for trails

COUNTY

Consistent Signage and Trail Standards
Education on safe biking and shared use of trails
Signage on parks open to the public
Phased Approach for long term projects
Dovetail recreation priorities with existing Fed. State and Muni. Trans. Planning.

CHURCHILL PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

Alternatives to Huffine for Dog Walking and jogging.
On neighborhood. Roads designated for multi use speed reduction or safety mitigation should be considered
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Locate new parks close to existing parks to build a larger park system

COMMUNITY

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Trails are needed in Churchill along highway or in lieu of highway
Parks are currently owned by Private School liability issues and maintenance may threaten that in the future
Regional or centralized park system since the community is close together
Connection between Amsterdan and Manhattan Christian School
Route from Churchill to Manhattan
Route from Churchill to Norris Road
Route from Churchill to River on Cameron Bridge
Route to Belgrade
Utilize and follow existing highways and roads to avoid having to go through farmland
Transportation trails will serve the need for recreational trails
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Railroad Right of Ways for trails
Trails need to have multi use designation for motorized to avoid user conflicts
Maintenance and liability will be issue that needs to be addressed

REGIONAL

Route from Churchill to Manhattan
Route from Churchill to Norris Road
Route from Churchill to River on Cameron Bridge
Route to Belgrade
Utilize and follow existing highways and roads to avoid having to go through farmland
Transportation trails will serve the need for recreational trails

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Railroad Right of Ways for trails
Trails need to have multi use designation for motorized to avoid user conflicts
Maintenance and liability will be issue that needs to be addressed

COUNTY

Consistent Signage and Trail Standards
Education on safe biking and shared use of trails
Signage on parks open to the public
Phased Approach for long term projects
Dovetail recreation priorities with existing Fed. State and Muni. Trans. Planning.
Get rid of the "Us vs. Them mentality" referring to working with the county and vice versa rather than being a closed community.
Bus probably not needed currently but with aging populations some form of weekly transport for older populations may be needed in the future.
Potential designated bike route from Norris H through Churchill to Manhattan or Belgrade

MANHATTAN PRIORITIES

NEIGHBORHOOD

Basic lack of sidewalks are an issue
Weed control
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Maintain public trails through subdivision approval process

COMMUNITY

Water Park or splash park for children
Swimming pool or bus for swimming to Bozeman
Railroad is dangerous along existing park and lack of crossings for pedestrian
Bike lanes where streets are wide enough would be good
Designated bike routes
Basic lack of sidewalks is an issue
BMX Park in town that need improvement
Better river access for boat parking Four Corners Fishing Access
Better river access for boat parking Nixon Fishing Access
Access to the East Gallatin
Loop trail around town and connecting to potential developments south of the interstate
Pedestrian access across interstate overpass
Educate people about biking safely
Number one priority it to fix sidewalks
Walking trail headed west from Thriftway Store
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Trails are needed in Churchill along highway or in lieu of highway
Transportation trails will serve the need for recreational trails
Railroad Right of Ways for trails
Winter and summer maintenance is an issue for trails system

REGIONAL

Access to alternative transportation to other communities for those who can't drive
Trail to Three Forks to the Headwaters system
Trail along West Dry Creek Road toward Belgrade
Trail south to Churchill/Amsterdam
Trails along rivers that provide wildlife viewing opportunities

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Long distance trails are acceptable
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Railroad Right of Ways for trails

COUNTY

Education on safe biking and shared use of trails
Signage on parks open to the public
Dovetail recreation priorities with existing Fed. State and Muni. Trans. Planning.
Need better paved trails inside Headwaters State Park
Safe bike loop North of the interstate from Manhattan to Bozeman

BELGRADE PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

Basic lack of sidewalks are an issue
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas

COMMUNITY

Future need for swimming facilities
Current Park/Ball Fields are sufficient and scheduled for new ones
Expand on current splash park
Tennis courts need improvement
Dog Park needed
Connectivity from outside subdivision into Belgrade
Trail to River Rock
Trail to Meadowlark
Trail west towards river and 4 Dot.

REGIONAL

Trail to Bozeman
Frontage road needs to be safer, wider shoulders or trails

COUNTY

Concerned about being lumped into Bozeman want to be recognized as individual community

BOZEMAN PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

Address issues of public use and larger events on HOA maintained parks Valley Unit
Bogart needs and amphitheater
Like to see parks follow creeks
Trails along water and sewer easements

COMMUNITY

Future need for swimming facilities
Basketball Courts
Volleyball Courts
Ball Fields
Dog Park needed
Examine central scheduling for school, city and county facilities

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

REGIONAL

Trail to Bozeman
Bozeman to Belgrade Trail
Sourdough Trail into Bozeman
Painted Hills into Bozeman
Arrowleaf into Bozeman
Aquatic Recreational Center
Bike Park
Bozeman Creek Corridor
More Sports Fields
Loop trail around the city connecting to residential areas
Connect to Hyalite
Connect Nash to Sourdough
Travel shared use pathways maintained year around
Better communication between city and county.
Sports field complex for larger tournaments
Skate Park with bike accessible trails
Bus system with more routes and stops to link with trails
Increase ADA accessible facilities
Whitewater access
More access to the East Gallatin
Trail to the M
Large Acre equestrian facility
Bozeman trail Mt. Ellis Lane needs a bike/ped facility
Create trails wide enough for cross country ski grooming.
Work with Park County to establish partnership to address regional rec. needs
Connect Regional Park to the M

COUNTY

Improvements to the Fairgrounds, City County Partnership
Trails and park type facilities at Fairgrounds
Fishing access sites
Larger parks rather than the smaller pocket parks
Improved trail connections to existing infrastructure
Expand the land holdings of the Fairgrounds
Complete the Fairgrounds Master Plan
Belgrade to Manhattan River Trail
Manhattan to Three Forks trail
Trails to connect all communities

BIG SKY PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

Trails for the public use for recreation and transportation
Softball
Soccer
Swimming pool
indoor recreation center
more public rest rooms and trash cans
disk golf
ice skating

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

cross country
bike riding both mountain and street
paved trails along roadways
basketball courts
tennis
skate park
climbing wall
white water park

COMMUNITY

Lights at Softball Complex
Event Center at community park with concession facilities
Year round facilities for concerts
Areas for dogs
Play area for young families
Recreation options for seniors
Signage
Ousel Falls is not safe for all users need to address user conflicts
Fulfill community park master plan
County can help with grants
Adopt Big Sky Trails Plan into Zoning
Weed management and maintenance on trails

REGIONAL

Track Resort Tax money to see how users are spending money
Focus on the economic benefits of recreation
Better communications between community and county
Access to National Forest lands and rivers
Preserve public access to trails and areas when subdivisions come in
Protect access once subdivisions begin construction
Form a park district in cooperation with Madison County
Summer tourism improvement
Summer children's activities
Better cooperation between government, BSCC and Resorts

COUNTY

Need to work with Forest Service to upgrade signage
Need better maps
Need better user education
Recognize and work with the Forest Service to address impacts closures have on local economy and users
County assistance in funding in unincorporated areas
Improved parking at trailheads for trailers for multiple use
County needs to assist with liability of parks and trails in unincorporated areas

GATEWAY PRIORITIES

NEIGHBORHOOD

Basic lack of sidewalks are an issue
Cottonwood Road is uns
Follow Gateway Plan goals for access to Gallatin River

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Path to Gallatin River along current right of way.

COMMUNITY

Loop Trail systems connecting Zacharia, Gooch Hill, Cottonwood areas, to Yonder to Little Bear
Improved safety and signage at Zacharia, Gooch Hill, Cottonwood and Little Bear Subdivision
Improvement of state lands on Gateway Foothills Road
Don't pave Axtell, Gateway or River Road
Better parking and enforcement at fishing access sites
County to provide some liability insurance
Address user conflicts between user groups
Equestrian use on trails is important
Connect to Four Corners along 191
Gateway need a Community Park

REGIONAL

Trail to Bozeman
Frontage road needs to be safer, wider shoulders or trails

COUNTY

Willow Creek parking issues along Jefferson River

THREE FORKS PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

COMMUNITY

Better maps and promotion of the existing trail system
Fast Pitch Softball
Future development of ball fields
Take advantage of the winter climate for athletic events

REGIONAL

Connection trail to Willow Creek
Connecting trail to Manhattan/Logan

COUNTY

Work with county to combine resources

WEST YELLOWSTONE PRIORITIES

NIEGHBORHOOD

Work to connect existing trails
Don't accept poor lands through park dedication
Provide for winter snowmobile use in town "snowmobile lane"

COMMUNITY

loop trail around town

Trail from Targhee Pass to town to Duck Creek to Hebgen Lake as a paved official trail
Trail from Targhee Pass to town to Duck Creek to Hebgen Lake as a paved official trail with wider shoulder for road bikes
Better signage

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Facilitate Rail to Trail effort all the way to Ashton Idaho
Purchase or lease additional lands from the Forest Service
Expand existing parks to include skate park and ice rink
Evening programs for kids

REGIONAL

Pool
Better Maps and promotion
Work with Madison County, Idaho and Nonprofits to improve long distance trails and big ticket park facilities
Trail to Hebgen and access to multi use trailheads
Signage and Map geared toward tourists
Education of Trail etiquette
Map with use types identified
Regional events center for basketball volleyball and conventions
Work with schools to provide access to facilities

COUNTY

Connections to Big Sky
Funding mechanism for parks and trails
Foster better relationship with Forest Service
Advertise and promote existing assets for locals and tourists
Better alternative transportation connections to Big Sky and Hyalite

COMMON LOS PRIORITIES BY SERVICE AREA

NEIGHBORHOOD

Create alternatives to Huffine for Dog Walking and jogging.
Basic lack of sidewalks are an issue
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Don't accept poor lands through park dedication
On neighborhood roads designated for multi use speed reduction or safety mitigation should be considered
Trails open to the public use for both recreation and transportation

COMMUNITY

Address user conflicts between user groups
Basic lack of sidewalks is an issue
Better maps and promotion of existing trail systems
Improve access to rivers as well as maintenance and rule enforcement
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
County to provide some liability insurance
Dog Parks are needed
Create a loop trail around towns
Support the use of road tunnels and their proper maintenance
Create trails that connect neighborhoods to area amenities
Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas
Improve access to alternative transportation, Forest Service Trailheads and the Regional Park

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

There will be a future need for swimming facilities

Create loop trails around towns and connect to developed/ing areas as well as existing and proposed trail heads, parks, and commercial areas

Create more family oriented parks and rec. facilities, (picnic areas)

Utilize and follow existing highways and roads to avoid having to go through farmland in rural areas

Trails need to have multi use designation for motorized to avoid user conflicts

Weed management and general maintenance is a priority

REGIONAL

Work to improve communications between the County and all communities

Improve access to alternative transportation, Forest Service Trailheads and the Regional Park

Connect individual subdivisions for safe routes to other subdivisions and commercial areas

Preserve public access to trails and areas when subdivisions come in and protect it at time of construction.

Wherever possible try to use Railroad Rights of Way for trails

Increase safe routes to area schools

Create trail access into Bozeman from outlying communities

Create safe bike routes along major arterials

Transportation trails can provide recreational trail access as well, as long as they both connect to an end destination of interest (ie. trail head, park, business district, etc.)

Identify user groups and spending habits in order to market various activities better

COUNTY

Improved education on safe biking and trail use etiquette

Promote trails and recreation for economic development

Connect communities with trail access and alternative transportation systems

Foster relationship and increase involvement with Forest Service and other public land managers to improve and preserve access to recreation.

Address long term operation and maintenance issues

Address long term liability issues

Improve and increase fishing access sites

Foster relationship and increase involvement with Federal, State and Local transportation projects.

Consistent signage along designated routes and trails

Phased approach for implementation of long term priorities for parks and trails

Work with HOAs to create signage for parks open to the public.

Assist communities and regions with grants and other funding opportunities