

Appendix C: Public Outreach Process Detail

Part 6. HOA Mailing

Purpose:

Prior public outreach input established a broad range of interest in locating facilities close to population centers and connecting existing subdivisions. In an effort to address this concern and gauge interest from homeowners in getting involved in connecting communities via parks and trails a survey was sent to every HOA.

Research Design:

A returnable postcard was drafted asking the contact what aspects their HOA may be interested in making improvements to: parks, trails, open space or if they were not interested. The post cards were sent to every HOA tracked by the Gallatin County Weed Department and the Road Improvement District list maintained by Morrison-Maierle. Printing for Less assisted with the mailing and each postcard was stamped with the correct return address and postage prepaid.

Sampling:

337 post cards were sent 45 were returned. Of those 26 were interested, 14 not interested and 5 stated none of the answer choices were applicable.

Limitations:

Due to the possibility that a majority of HOA's have changed leadership, or are no longer active, the results are a fairly good indicator of HOA support for park and trail improvements within existing subdivisions. However, an updated list of contacts would greatly improve the response and the usefulness of the results. Such an undertaking would require a considerable amount of staff time and may necessitate a separate effort, perhaps in the form of a grant, to complete.

Findings:

A map identifying those subdivisions with interest and those with no interest to improve recreational facilities was created for use in future route and facility planning.

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Map of HOA Interest in Parks and Trails:

