MISSION

The Working Group will work directly with Park District staff to evaluate various trail interests, constraints, and conflicts that influence the planning, design, and implementation of new natural surface trails.

MISSION STATEMENT

- Suggested group charge very good; develop into mission statement
- Mission statement is helpful to unite group
- Is there intent to create mission statement? If yes, will make drafts per group suggestions
- Will circulate mission statement for revision/endorsement
- Wordwritting difficult in person work on consensus via email
- Synthesize revised statement w/comments; approve next meeting
- Use whiteboard to record discussion and edit statement
- Mission constrained by staff needs? Can we redefine?
- Review suggested charge and “without compromising either the beauty or enjoyment of any persisted use.”
- Add language that speaks to evaluating alternative scenarios; no rubber-stamping
- Can discuss reassessing/amending parks district policy

SCOPE OF DISCUSSION

- Does this include just new parks/trails or also re-routes of existing trails?
- Important to be inclusive of existing parks; allocate user conflicts
- How can we see this improve and expand the park district’s trail network – not just new trails?
- Provide bulleted list of current trail development criteria

ADDING TO SCOPE?

- Include discussion of trail maintenance
- Campers are a consideration in developing new trail opportunities
- Use trail scope to inform decisions
- Take care re: “scope creep”

OUTCOME

- Develop solutions/make recommendations that are implemented
- DISCUSS what a good outcome should be
- Can’t use description of work/product need to define
- The more we can communicate at the aspects of enthusiasm for parks, the better
- Get out to a variety of parks, speak to a breadth of users
- Create a plan for getting people connected to trails for a healthy Bay Area

DATA

- Ensure we understand full universe of resources and users; gather data
- Use data to inform conversation; makes it easier to balance uses, mission statement more realistic
- Some inaccuracies in data (e.g., user types from 2011 & 2013)

GROUND RULES

1. Attend scheduled meetings.
2. Attend scheduled site visits.
3. Participate in meeting discussions.
4. Keep an open mind and be respectful.
5. Represent stakeholder perspectives.
7. Avoid sidebar conversations.
8. Avoid repetition.
9. Step up, step back.
10. Be a liaison to the public.
11. Staff will present WG report to the District’s Operations Committee.
12. Have fun.

GENERAL

- Approve ground rules
- Site visit to McClellan property (trail issues, creek restoration)
- Site visits to Wildcat Gorge, Cucamonga-Meadow Canyon trails via Long Oak trailhead
- Visit Reddy Ranch, Cochran Hills, Chupan Cercado Hills
- Site visits must be inclusive to those with disabilities

CONSENSUS AND DISCUSSION

- Operate by consensus to the extent possible.
- Must agree on definition of consensus
- Listen to all points of view; find agreement where possible
- Uge consensus approach – full consensus as per First Nations
- Depends on topic of discussion
- Suggestion: can use level-of-support scale
- “Consensus means the willingness to go along with the decision either in active support of it or in not opposing it.”
- Group generally agrees
- Add as ground rule if incorporated into rule 8
- Use CEQA considerations
- "A little less zeal, please!"
- Chat will help eliminate sidebar conversations

ACCURACY OF NOTES

- Have implicit ground rules / understanding that notes can be inaccurate/incomplete
- Comments will be summarized, not directly quoted
- Remember that meetings are recorded
- Notes are informative, not conclusive or definitive; don’t need to argue about meaning
- Notes about media suggested in response to discussion
- Meeting notes can be developed and reviewed by group
- Approval of notes on item on agenda

SPEAKING TO PUBLIC / MEDIA

- May refer media to Park District if uncomfortable
- If media chooses to interview group, can talk to these but declarations of group are for the group
- Add “media” to ground rules on conversations outside working group
- Consider taking in the process to public
- Caution members from going to media to speak for others or to promote specific interests
- Here to come to internal agreement, not to externally lobby on behalf of positions
WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION

GUEST SPEAKERS
- Note guests can be invited to provide specific perspectives
- Like idea of bringing in guests
- Must be selective re. adding members; bring guests to meetings focusing on specific issues

SPECIAL NEEDS
- Non-mobility related disabilities: e.g., autism, hearing impairment
- Special Ed college prep HS - director may suggest representative
- Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council
- Would be good to hear from educator working with autistic children
- Broad spectrum of abilities among, for instance, autistics
- Include those with intellectual disabilities (beyond autism, Down's, etc.)

YOUTH
- Need young people involved
- Hear from those trying to bring inner city youth to parks
- Inner city youth: Cycles of Change and Rich City Rides
- Brianna Noble - lesson program for underserved children: "Mulatto Meadows"
- May be hearing from that group

HIKING AND RELATED USES
- Hikers consistently underrepresented - largest category of users
- At least one (more) representative from a hiking group
- Trail runners
- Needs for parents with children in buggies
- Many members fit more than one category
- John Graves: also represents dog and trail running interests
- Cathy Roth - retired ER doctor, cyclist, volunteer w/Save Diablo, dog park advocate
- Professional dog walkers
- Commercial dog walkers: Molly Kennefick, Diane Livoti
- Many young equestrians - often dependent on nearby trails

DIVERSE REPRESENTATION / EASE OF PARTICIPATION
- One person can't speak to all multicultural perspectives
- Need more diversity in group, especially from groups strongly represented among users
- Include different cultural groups, languages, trail needs
- For instance: defining multi-use; engaging diverse users; etc.
- Evening meetings more accessible to working individuals
- 4 pm has worked well as a meeting time for PAC; late in work day, doesn't impact evenings
- Middle Eastern communities

NEXT STEPS

SCHEDULE
- Meeting in November? December? January 2021
- Early November might work well; not too much time between meetings
- Avoid losing momentum
- Better to have less than 3 months rather than more
- Less travel over holidays
- Site visits prior to January?

TOPICS
- Topic-based meetings? Agendize these subjects
- Practical details such as deferred development / maintenance
- Prior to specific user interest topics - need overview of where trails are working well
- Plus expectations for access and limitations on healthy access
- Like the idea of point/counter-point discussions
- Focus site visits on specific issues

RESOURCES
- Dropbox to be set up for resource sharing
- For now, email Devan re: resources to include: dreiff@ebparks.org
- Feel free to reach out to EBPDP

PARKING LOT
- Define types of trails and other basic definitions
- Provide Sierra Club white paper
- Where are multi-use purposes working well?
- Include user survey data in resources - who are the users?