



TRUCKEE RIVER FLOOD PROJECT WORKING GROUP

September 30, 2009

3:00 – 5:00 PM

FINAL MINUTES

Present:

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Bob Ramsey	Rosewood Lakes HOA	Greg Salter	DA's Office
Burnham Moffat	FPCC		
Dave Hollecker	OCTA-Trails West		
Geoff Brownell	Michael Baker		
Roger Jewett	Homeowners		
Dody Gustafson	HV HA		
Glen Krogman	HDR		
Shaun Gooch	City of Sparks		
Marge Frandsen	HV		

Staff Present: Naomi Duerr, Susie Kapahee, Danielle Henderson, Laura Bayer, Greg Salter, Eric Scheetz

1. INTRODUCTIONS

3:04pm

A regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Susie Kapahee at 3:04 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at the Truckee River Flood Project Office Conference Room at 9390 Gateway, Suite 230, Reno, Nevada.

Susie Kapahee invited the each person to introduce themselves and welcomed the group to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Working Group Minutes of August 26, 2009 – Dave Hollecker requested that his comments regarding terracing and his concern that it impact Immigrant Wagon Road near the sewer plant be included in the minutes. Susie Kapahee said she will review the audio and add his comments to the minutes.

Pending the addition of Mr. Hollecker's comments, Dody Gustafson moved to approve the minutes. Bob Ramsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. **RECREATION PLAN** – Danielle Henderson, Natural Resource Manager, made the presentation, providing a packet of handouts to the group, including a reference timeline sheet, all of which have been updated since June 2009. Working group updates are in orange, TAC in pink, board meeting updates in green. So far Henderson says she has presented the packet to the City of Reno Parks and Recreation Commission, City of Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission and Washoe County Open Space and Recreational Space Commission. Everyone has been supportive of the efforts, which Henderson believes is because it provides a glimmer of hope that plans are in motion and there is possible future funding for such projects.

Henderson is seeking approval of the recreation concepts to amend the Locally Preferred Plan (LPP). Trails are not shown on the map, alignment is still under review. The dotted lines represent features of other plans.

In the end, the maps will have comprehensive trail system access where feasible. The maps are still in draft form; Henderson is continuing to work with the Corps of Engineers.

Bob Ramsey asked if there would be road access and bicycle paths.

Henderson explained there will be multiuse paths to hopefully limit conflicts among users. No recreational (i.e. ATV) motorized vehicles will be allowed. There will be more nature trails and access trails to the river for fishing. The Corps has standards for width and so forth to consider. The idea is to have several different kinds of trails to try to separate different kinds of users.

Dody Gustafson asked if there would be a line down the middle of the trail to separate direction and if the restriction of motorized vehicles would prohibit motorized wheelchairs.

Henderson explained that the Corps is Federal so there must be ADA access.

Gustafson asked if the Bristlecone facility would be removed.

Henderson explained that idea is to cost share. The Corps has determined what is cost sharable based on recreation benefits. Preserving a building to turn into something else might be considered beneficial to the local community but would probably not meet the eligibility requirements. If included, it would become part of the Corps project, subject to all overhead and construction.

Naomi Duerr explained that Bristlecone is a historic building. Preservation would have to through the State Historic Preservation Office. Map Five includes the original Jones Ranch, from the late 1800's, which is being considered for acquisition; according to Duerr, it could become an island in the project. UNR does not wish to see trails on the south side. One option could be to include a pedestrian bridge so the location could serve as a destination stop if placed as a historic landmark.

Henderson added there are other pedestrian bridges, included on Map Three. Project leaders will discuss with the Corps the possibility of including one more bridge.

Marge F. suggested Henderson follow up with Adrian Freund with Washoe County's Community Development Department. Naomi Duerr requested Henderson follow up as suggested.

Henderson went on to explain that the remaining two maps in the packet include restoration sites. The proposed trailheads will be modeled after what was built at Lockwood to include parking areas, toilets, picnic areas, kayak access and fishing access to river. All trailheads would be low impact development. Henderson has also been coordinating with Janet Phillips of Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway to create multiuse trails.

Susie Kapahee asked about the difference among high, medium and low level restoration.

Henderson explained that "high" would include things such as reconfiguring the channel, creating wetlands, and planting - a lot of intensive earth moving. Medium would involve less earth moving and more planting. Low restoration would not involve any earth work to change the shape of the channel, but it would involve a lot of planting to increase habitat value. All restoration analysis is based on assessments done by the Corps years ago.

The Wells Avenue overpass is not included in the recreation plan. The Corps is factoring in to where the project might place other bridges. Two that are currently included are one in the Living River Parkway near the amphitheatre, and the other near Larkin Circle in Sparks.

Duerr requested that Henderson add a note stating that the cost includes two.

Duerr went on to explain that the original conceptual plan over one year ago was 185 million dollars. The team was able to pare that to a quarter million taking all the elements, visiting various groups on what people

would like to see. That was compressed to what the Corps would cost share on to the current figure of \$46 million.

Henderson explained that the recreation is cost shared at 50/50. Under the current scenario, the project is responsible for half; \$23 million.

Upon asking for approval, Burnham Moffat expressed his support of the project saying it is an important part to get the public's support.

Moffat motioned to approve the plan. Gustafson seconded the motion, it passed unanimously. It will now continue to the Flood Project Coordinating Committee (FPCC) on October 9th.

4. **377B PLAN REVISION** – Greg Salter began this presentation. He said the Board of County Commissioners enacted a plan of how to spend the 1/8th cent intended for the project. The original 1998 plan involved five elements which ran through downtown Reno into Vista. That has since changed, is the project's job to amend the plan. The original flood project was estimated at \$115 million, that has since increased but the revenue source has gone up as well.

Naomi Duerr explained that Appendix B will be attached to plan. The first part reiterating what was in the original plan. The project may not do some things mentioned in the original plan. In March of 2006, Duerr asked the group to recall that the FPCC approved project elements, ones not previously included, like maintaining and enhancing access to the Truckee River, providing several more examples. Duerr is expecting other project elements to be approved in the October 2009 meeting that were not adopted in 2006 including fish passages, flood plain acquisition, flood proofing and structure elevation, bank stabilization, and bridge elevation in general. Duerr wants the board to formally adopt these in The Living River Locally Preferred Plan.

Burnham Moffat requested Duerr provide a handout to the group of the items mentioned above. Susie Kapahee agreed to send a link to the entire group.

The public hearing will be held on October 13th at 6pm. The information is posted on the Web.

5. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT UPDATE** – Naomi Duerr provided the presentation for Mimi Fujii-Strickler. There have been a series of meetings with TAC with maps showing FEMA zones and flooding. Everything highlighted in blue is owned by the project. The Board is asking for a comprehensive plan for all properties. Each property has been analyzed for its condition and location to the floodway. Three buildings have been recommended for demolishment to create additional flood storage and reduce maintenance costs. Duerr, anticipating support, has already applied for a FEMA grant. The process can take up to one year. Demolishment will cost over \$200,000. It would be approximately \$25,000 out of pocket to maintain the buildings.

Buildings 155, 185 and 195 are not in floodway. The plan would be to aggregate the remaining tenants in those buildings and keep them for 3-5 years. TAC agreed but recommended project leaders evaluate in one year. Buildings 101, 5205 and the Cooperative Extension will stay for future research.

Bob Ramsey motioned to approve the update. Burnham Moffat seconded the motion, it passed unanimously.

6. TRAction PROJECTS

- A. **Lower Mustang Ranch Groundbreaking** – Susie Kapahee said she is still hoping for a date towards end of October. Kapahee still needs to touch base with the Bureau of Land Management for key people to attend. The tentative date is set for October 29th.
- B. **Hidden Valley Homeowners Meeting of September 2** - Naomi Duerr updated the group on the progress of the traction project and how AB 54 fits into the program. Staff is visiting places with major elevation (more than 100), including a location in Tehama, California to learn valuable lessons from other project planners. Should be able to put together a proposed program for flood for the Board to consider in November. There are up to 60 homes eligible in Hidden Valley, dependent on people's interest. Eight homeowners have already signed up for the first round. Duerr says it could happen as soon as next summer.

Duerr asked Kapahee how often the project is meeting with homeowners.
Kapahee said communication will happen via email.

Marge F. expressed concern about a property on Pelham that tore down a levee; neighbors are concerned about a heavy winter and possible flooding.

Duerr said Jay Aldean has worked with County Public Works on finding temporary measures. There are many issues, including crossing private property and liability.

Duerr asked Susie Kapahee to follow up on other ways to approach homeowners.

- 7. **CORPS PROJECT SCHEDULE** - Duerr spoke saying the schedule is a year or two off from last schedule. The Corps has authorized the project for fall of 2011, had hoped for 2010. Two things have become problematic; the Corps is taking another look at the level of flood protection in the flood project. They had settled on 117 year flood protection in LPP, the Corps now says the model shows another number. They need to figure out the right number and go back to drawing board. The Corps is conducting an internal peer review. Naomi has spoken to Senator Reid's office about the change to the flood level protection. Duerr has also requested the Corps bring in outside experts to reevaluate. David Ford has been hired as that third party. Tetra Tech has been hired to look at the economic analysis project cost plus project benefits. All of these items have added at least six months to the schedule. Duerr says there is too much at stake in terms of the flood level protection to push the schedule.

Marge F. asked how Highway 80 at Vista (Grimes Point) fits into the project.
Duerr explained she has been in touch with the appropriate people, including Friends of the Black Rock, to discuss funding. It was ranked high in Q-1 funding. So far there are no conflicts. *Duerr said she'd follow up on the question.*

- 8. **OTHER TOPICS**
None.

There being no further business, Susie Kapahee adjourned the meeting at 4:39 p.m.