

Beacon Hill Trail System



BEACON
HILL

recreation
area



Draft Concept Plan

May 2009

Beacon Hill Trail System

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Acknowledgments

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American Society of Landscape Architects (Idaho-Montana Chapter)

Beacon Hill Event Center

Eastern Washington Orienteering Club

Fat Tire Trail Riders Club

Friends of the Centennial Trail

Hillyard Business District

Hillyard Steering Committee

Inland Northwest Trails Coalition

International Mountain Bicycling Association

Minnehaha Neighborhood Council

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Northeast Community Center

Spokane City Parks and Recreation Department

Spokane City Bicycle Advisory Board

Spokane County - Engineering

Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf

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Executive Summary

The Beacon Hill Trail System (System) is a popular and frequently-visited recreational and natural resource located near the center of the metropolitan Spokane Area. The System encompasses a mix of public and private lands covering over 1000-acres. This Draft Beacon Hill Trail System Plan (Plan) seeks to provide a vision and a guide for the formal recognition of the trails.

The present extent and configuration of the trails are threatened by development of private lands both adjacent to and within the existing System. One of the Plan's goals is to seek formal recognition of the trails that are located on private lands and secure permanent landowner approval for continued public use of those trails. Another of the Plan's goals is to map and rate all trails within the system.

This Plan outlines a vision for the System and identifies potential maintenance needs, potential new trail locations, trails that may be suitable for decommissioning and removal, trailhead improvements, potential recreation opportunities, creation of an outdoor recreation center and connections to the surrounding communities. The plan also looks at alternative transportation options for users of Beacon Hill and integration with the Spokane area bus and trail systems. The Plan also identifies potential partners that will collaborate on the System's development and management.

The System provides important recreational and natural connections to many adjoining neighborhoods: Hillyard, Minnehaha, Pasadena Park, Northwood and Valley Springs. The Beacon Hill Plan Advisory Committee (Committee) has endeavored to include those neighbors in the Plan development process. Engagement of the larger community was also sought through a survey, website postings and public meetings. Public agencies have also participated in the Plan's development. The Spokane City Parks and Recreation and Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Departments own or control significant portions of the lands on which the System is situated. Avista Utilities is a major landowner and has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Plan and System. All have contributed time and resources to the Plan's creation.

Private landowners comprise the major portion of ownerships within the System. Many have expressed their support and desire to participate in the Plan process and to continue to allow public use of their lands. They have



also expressed their concern to have that use more closely monitored to minimize public encroachment on those portions of their lands outside of the permitted trails.

The Committee has received invaluable guidance through a technical assistance grant provided by the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program administered by the National Park Service (NPS). The Committee has had the benefit of the experiences of other communities also using this program in their plan-creation process. The System has the opportunity to become integrated into future private developments and public facility improvements. A design charrette hosted by the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and NPS resulted in the creation of a number of exciting concepts and potential features of regional significance. The work product also identified possible projects that could serve as enhancements to the quality of life for residents of the Inland Northwest.

The Beacon Hill Trail System exemplifies the spirit of "Near Nature, Near Perfect". The Plan hopes to serve as the blueprint for maintaining and preserving the outstanding resource that now exists.

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Introduction and Background

Introduction

Trails and open space are important to the residents of Spokane, as reflected in the city's current motto: "Near Nature, Near Perfect." The 1908 Olmsted brothers' "Systems of Parks and Parkways" Plan set the vision for open space being an integral part of the city and contributing to a high quality of life for the people of Spokane. More recently in 2007, a city-wide survey conducted by the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department showed 67-percent of participants favored acquiring park space to be left in open space and 65-percent favored expanding the bicycle and pedestrian trail-network. In February 2008, Spokane County showed its commitment for trails through adoption of the Spokane County Trails Plan which was developed in a collaborative effort led by the Inland Northwest Trails Coalition. The idea to formalize the Beacon Hill Trail System was captured in this document.

Beacon Hill is one of the last undeveloped ridge lines in the Spokane Area. It is a unique piece of open space — valued for its views, its character, its close proximity to Spokane neighborhoods and its great trail system. Beacon Hill has long been envisioned as a large park for the Spokane community. The area was depicted as 'Upriver Park' in the 1908 "System of Parks and Parkways" Olmstead brothers plan. However, today less than half is in public ownership, with the remaining being held by Avista, developers and private land owners. This document describes the planning process and preliminary concepts for the development and management of the Beacon Hill Recreation Area. This plan was developed by the Beacon Hill Trail System Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives from City and County Agency staff, trail and recreation advocates, Avista, businesses, neighbors and land owners. In addition, planning assistance was provided by the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program of the National Park Service (NPS).

The Planning Process and Public Involvement

The Fat Tire Trail Riders Club (FTTRC) saw Beacon Hill as a valuable resource that needed some thoughtful planning to ensure the open space and trails could be used and cared for by generations to come. Beacon Hill was well used and known by mountain bikers, yet there were unresolved issues including lack of trail user knowledge about land ownership and management and illegal activities including unauthorized trail building, motorized use and illegal dumping. In the summer 2006 Pete Rayner, owner of the Beacon Hill Events Center and an assemblage

of parcels encompassing 182 acres of Beacon Hill, began to start planning a housing development. Pete contacted the FTTRC because he knew that mountain biking was popular on the informal trails on his private lands. He wanted to develop his property while also incorporating the near-by trails and open-space. To help catalyze the planning process, the FTTRC successfully applied for a technical assistance grant from the NPS's RTCA Program for 2007 and 2008.



The initial work of the Advisory Group was to identify the affected parcels of land and determine their ownerships. Over 100 parcels were identified as being influenced or affected by the existing or potential future trails. The list was then refined to identify those parcels and owners that were critical to the existing trail network. Letters were sent to the private landowners, enlisting their support of the plan and continued use of their properties by the public. A number of the owners of those critical parcels have responded positively and efforts continue to enlist the support of the remaining owners. The goal is to formalize permission to use the private properties via written agreements between the property owners and City Parks, as the lead public agency for the project. For more information on private parcels, please see the landownership and private lands section.

The Beacon Hill Advisory Group also set to work on developing the vision and goals, inventorying existing trails and developing base maps. In early 2008, the Beacon Hill Project was selected as the 2008 NPS Washington State project to benefit from a design charrette or workshop through NPS's formal partnership with the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). To help plan for the charrette, or intensive brainstorming workshop, a subgroup was formed. The charrette planning team worked together for six months to develop maps, create desired outcomes, gather background

material, raise funding, recruit participants and organize the charrette agenda. Extensive mapping work was donated by the Spokane County GIS Department. The Idaho-Montana ASLA chapter also helped with the charrette.

The workshop was held on October 24-25, 2008 and facilitated by the NPS. The event started off with a site tour of Beacon Hill. Then participants were welcomed by key note speaker, Mayor Mary Verner and given additional background information over dinner. Saturday, with professional expertise of the landscape architects from ASLA who donated their time, a diverse group of Spokane citizens; city, county and state agency staff; trail advocates; climbers; private landowners; engineers; police officer; health advocates; and neighbors worked hand-in-hand to develop a plan for the Beacon Hill Recreation Area and its integration with the surrounding community. The 50 charrette participants were divided into five teams which focused on the following areas: (1) trailhead and access; (2) recreation opportunities; (3) interpretation and education; (4) management and maintenance; and (5) community connections. It is noteworthy that all participants volunteered their time. Molly Zammit, local landowner, provided her catering services which kept all the participants fueled with energy. It is estimated that over \$50,000 of professional services were donated during this event. The workshop provided an opportunity to broaden community involvement with new stakeholders brought together. The concepts quickly expanded from a focus on mountain biking to a regional multi-use destination. The magic of the design process showed through as ideas were generated and then illustrated by landscape architects. "The Beacon Hill Charrette brings this project to another level, one that will benefit the area, its people and the future. We are laying the foundation for a project that will have a huge impact on our area while protecting Beacon's natural beauty for everyone." Mike Aho, Spokane Parks and Recreation Department.

The charrette culminated in an open house on Saturday evening where the public was invited to see and comment












on the concepts and ideas developed during the charrette. The open house was advertised in the Out There Monthly; Spokesman Review; flyers at local businesses; REI, Spokane Mountaineers, FTTRC and neighborhood email list serves. Over thirty community members came and they, along with charrette participants, were given sticky dots to vote for their favorite ideas. Questionnaires were also collected to help access the community's input.

A clean-up event was organized by the Spokane Mountaineers and Boy Scout Troup #19 on Saturday October 25, to help raise awareness of the charrette and exhibit good stewardship of Beacon Hill. Over 75 people blasted graffiti, cleared deadwood and removed 5 tons of trash. The locations of remains of old cars dumped on the hill were identified for another work party event that occurred November 15-20. During this event, an amazing feat was accomplished with over 35 car hulks removed from the hill through the work of a skidder and tow trucks, some of these cars dated back to the 1940s. Angie Feser, Fat Tire Trail Riders Club's new president described the experience "We'd get down into these gullies and we'd turn around and find another car." The FTTRC and the Spokane Mountaineers also worked with land owners to restore areas damaged by the car hulks and the removal process. The clean-up events were advertised and covered through the Spokesman review, flyers posted and notices sent out to interested parties by email.

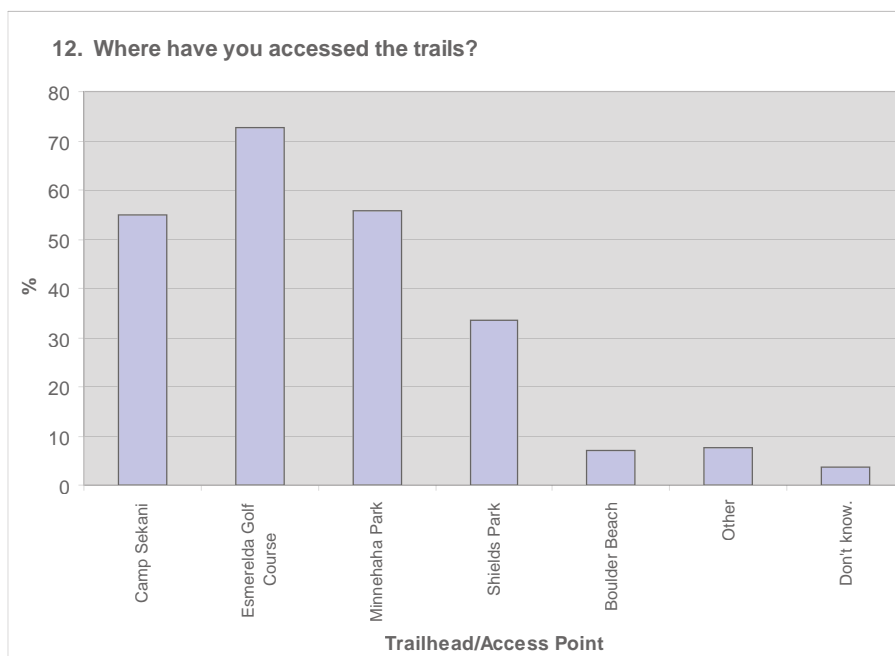


To help inform the charrette process and overall planning of Beacon Hill, an informal web-based survey was conducted. The survey took place in the summer of 2008 and 184 people participated. The survey was advertised through *Out There Monthly*; *The Spokesman Review*; and REI, Spokane Mountaineers, FTTRC and the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department's neighborhood email lists. Below are the graphs depicting results to some of the key questions asked. The complete results of the survey can be found in Appendix I.

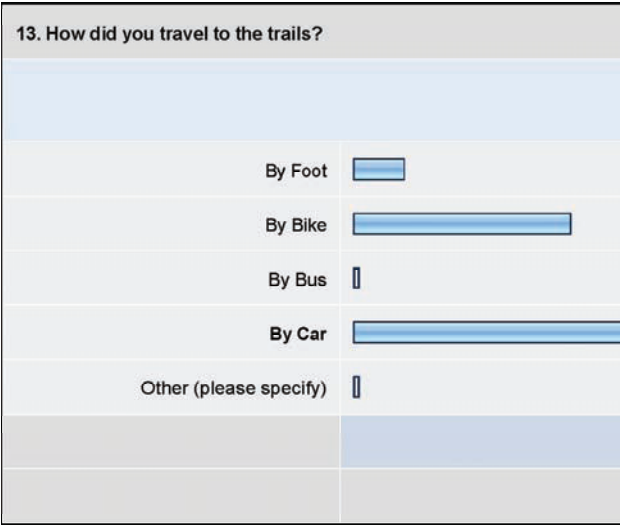
The graph to the below shows that a range of different activities occur at Beacon Hill, with mountain biking, hiking and climbing being the most popular:

9. How do you use these trails: (You can select as many as you like.)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Paint Ball		1.3%	2
Climbing		25.3%	40
Walking with Pet		16.5%	26
Nature Observing		10.8%	17
Geocaching		7.0%	11
Hiking		40.5%	64
Trail Running		12.7%	20
Mountain Biking		88.6%	140
Other (please specify)		1.9%	3
answered question			158
skipped question			26

As seen in the graph to the right, the most popular access site is Esmerelda Golf Course with over 70% of users accessing this site. The Minnehaha Park and Camp Sekani were also popular among survey participants. The number of users at Boulder Beach maybe underrepresented as this access site was left off the survey and the number reflected above is written in responses.



The two graphs below show the types of improvements and amenities that users said would enhance their experience. In both of these questions, results show that (1) a trail map and (2) trail signage are top priorities. In addition, (1) reducing motorized use; (2) bathrooms, (3) garbage cans and (4) parking were seen as desirable. These results confirmed what the Beacon Hill Advisory Committee also felt were priorities.



The results show that the overwhelming majority, 82% of users, drive to the trail system. One of the goals of the design charrette was to generate ideas on how to increase awareness and opportunities of alternative transportation methods.

To help enhance this theme, survey participants were also asked where they would like to see the Beacon Hill Trail System connect to. As depicted below, the (1) Centennial Trail; (2) Hillyard Community; and (3) new north/south freeway were seen as the top three priorities.



These results were considered in the design charrette and overall planning effort.

Vision, Goals and Benefits

Vision Statement

The Beacon Hill Trail network is a premiere regional destination for non-motorized trail users that is valued for its character, great views, proximity to Spokane neighborhoods and remarkable trail system.

The trail system:

- connects the Centennial Trail, Camp Sekani, Shields Park, Minnehaha Park and Esmeralda area;
 - provides for recreation, physical activity, alternative transportation opportunities and an outdoor experience in an urban environment;
 - incorporates design standards that are sustainable, user-friendly, blend in with the natural environment and provide opportunities for a variety of skill levels and activities;
 - is designed to recognize and respect private landownership and
 - is the result of a shared effort managed in partnership with private landowners, Avista, the City of Spokane, Spokane County, the Fat Tire Trail Riders Club, other trail user groups and volunteers.
- form agreements with public and private owners that allow long-term recreation access;
 - create a trail plan that includes identifying trails that will be kept open, closed, re-routed, improved and/or created to maximize recreation potential;
 - adopt IMBA design standards for the various types of trails developed or improved;
 - develop concepts for trailhead access and signage; and
 - create a map that allows everyone to find, use and enjoy this trail system.

Benefits to the Community

The Beacon Hill Trail network positively impacts individuals and improves the Spokane community by:

- encouraging physical activity which benefits both physical and mental health.
- providing outdoor recreation opportunities, including hiking and mountain biking.
- preserving the environment by protecting the trail corridor as open space and providing opportunities for people to connect with nature.
- promoting economic growth by: generating income to local businesses through tourism, special events and other compatible uses; increasing the value of adjacent and nearby real estate; and making the area more attractive for businesses.

Goals

Goals for the planning process are:

- establish a group dedicated to the promotion, expansion and maintenance of the trail system;
- create a shared vision for the area among partners including land managers/owners, trail users and advocates, adjacent neighborhoods and the greater community;

Historic and Natural Resources

History

Beacon Hill has long been envisioned as a special place for the people of Spokane. It was first outlined as part of the 'Upriver' park which was one of the six large city parks recommended by the Olmsted brothers in 1908 "Systems of Parks and Parkways" Plan (see map below.) Today, Beacon Hill is a mix of public and private ownership. Camp Sekani, Shields Park, Minnehaha Park, Camp Sekani Conservation Future Properties and Esmeralda Golf Course represent the public parcels on the Hill.

Camp Sekani

This 238-acre park is the heart of the current trail system and owned and managed by the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. The name Sekani comes from a

Tribal name meaning 'dwellers of rocks'. This camp was used in the past as a Boy Scout camp and cabins and a totem pole remain from that era. It is now well-known by mountain bikers and used for downhill races as well as everyday recreationists. Hikers and neighbors also frequent this area and it is sometimes used by youth camps. The hillside offers beautiful views of the natural surroundings and the City of Spokane. A Hollywood movie, Diamond Dog, was filmed here in 2007. There are also two parcels totaling 56 acres that were purchased with Conservation Futures funds and managed as conservation lands that are just west of Camp Sekani.

Shields Park (Minnehaha Rocks)

This park was established in the late 1980s as a joint city-county park (the east half is inside city limits). The property was purchased in 1986 when Sam Angove, previous County Parks Director, presented a check of \$50,000 from the Spokane Mountaineers to the widow of John H. Shields, the property owner. The unique rugged rock formations are popular with climbers and the park served as the site for Washington State's first open climbing competition in the spring of 1988. Improvements to the site (parking, rest rooms) were added as the Centennial Trail was funded and developed.

Minnehaha Park

Located near the Hillyard neighborhood, the area began to make local history in 1887. Five years earlier, Edgar J. Webster had come to practice law but instead purchased 1,700 acres of land and, using the natural springs in the area, founded a resort and homestead. Webster called his home Minnehaha, the Sioux word for waterfall. After building tennis courts and a dance pavilion, he declared "Minnehaha Springs and Health Resort" open for business. Webster was determined to make his resort a success. He even went so far as to invest in and build the Ross Park Electric Street Railway, which then ran a line out to his resort for the convenience of customers. But ultimately, his business failed, leaving the buildings to manifest into, among other things, a brewery, a dance hall, a brothel and a bowling alley. Eventually, the grounds and buildings were sold to the city as park land for \$35,000. One of the stone structures still stands in the middle of the park, its windows boarded up. The resort was just one of several boom and bust cycles that Minnehaha would experience.

The park remained mostly unused until 1917, when the then top silent movie star, Tyrone Power Sr., took an interest in its possibilities. With the area's basalt hills, springs and pine trees providing natural variations of landscape in the area, he had a vision of Minnehaha becoming the next major movie studio. When Power came to town in August of 1917, his arrival at the train station was greeted with great fanfare from Spokane residents, including the first Miss Spokane, Marguerite Motie. He promised Spokane's citizens returns of millions for investments of thousands. Hundreds of locals flocked to the opportunity to become financially linked to him and the Washington Motion Picture Company.

After Tyrone Power's failure, the studio was rented by one movie company after another until the structure and its equipment were finally purchased in 1922 by another Hollywood actor, Wellington Playter. Eventually Playter also went out of business, but not before spending lavishly to attract the attention of top star and director, Nell Shipman, to scout Minnehaha as the studio for her next film, *The Grub Stake*. Shipman's popular movies portrayed her as a strong woman surviving rugged, outdoor adventures. When she arrived in Spokane in 1922 with her director, Bert Van Tuyle, she carried with her the cache of a worldly independent woman. The scenic area in which Minnehaha is settled, along with the diverse landscape of the Inland Northwest, appealed to Shipman. Her appeal and enthusiasm were infectious. Once again, local businessmen lined up to invest in the new venture and cameras were to roll once more in Spokane.

Today, Minnehaha Park is used as an informal trailhead and public park. In addition to trail access to Beacon Hill, it has a tennis court, playground and short paved accessible trail.

Natural Resources

Beacon Hill is part of an important wildlife corridor for Eastern Washington that runs from Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge to Mt. Spokane. Continuous open space is critical to the survival of wildlife. Beacon Hill is a natural oasis close to the city and home to deer, moose, red fox, marmots, chipmunk coyote and squirrels. Many birds also can be found on Beacon Hill including wild turkey, osprey, song sparrow, American robin, black billed magpie, white breasted nuthatch, American crow, northern flicker, red tailed hawk, yellow breasted chat, black capped chickadee and quail. Beautiful wild flowers open up in the

spring time. A bio blitz conducted by students at Camp Sekani discovered 56 different mammals, birds, insects and plants.



Land Ownership and Private Lands

Beacon Hill is a mix of public and private ownership, with just 48% of the lands in public ownership. Table one summarizes the critical parcels that make up the trail system. Developing and maintaining relationships with all landowners is crucial to the successful continuation of recreation access on Beacon Hill. Trails will only be maintained and placed on a public map guide with permission of the landowners. The future development of the west facing slope by Beacon Hill Properties will also have a trail network that will be connected to Beacon Hill Trail System. New trails crossing private property will not be created unless the individual land owners would like to allow trail recreation on their lands through an agreement or easement. Trail users are asked to respect the land and stay on designated trails only. Future recreation access and use of this system is the responsibility of all users.

Beacon Hill Landownership – Table 1

Property	Size (Acres)	Percent of the Whole
Public (City, County)	520	48%
Avista Utilities	93	9%
Beacon Hill Properties	182	17%
NAI Black	70	6%
Other Private (15 landowners)	219	20%
Total	1084	100%

As of February 2009, the FTTRC has verbal “handshake” agreements with all of the public landowners and most of private landowners deemed critical to the trail system to (1) support the project, (2) include these parcels on a public map of the trail system and (3) various degrees of management. The next step is to meet with individual landowners with the goal of creating written agreements that work for all parties where possible. Agreements will be developed that fit the needs of the individual landowner. There are a number of options for landowners who want to support the trail use, ranging from informal or ‘handshake’ agreements that can be relinquished at any time to formal written easements. More information on land ownership and various types of agreements can be found in Appendix II.

Providing recreation access can also benefit individual landowner, below is a description of key benefits.

- A recognized system increases appropriate trail use by families, hikers, climbers and mountain bikers — thus discouraging unwanted and illegal uses such as motorized vehicle use, vandalism and littering.
- Landowners may enjoy improved management and maintenance of the trail. Upon approval and agreement with individual landowners, the FTTRC and its partners will maintain and manage the trail system for sustainable trail development. Landowners and the public will be provided appropriate contacts to address any maintenance or management issues that may arise. The planning process will increase public awareness and appreciation for who actually owns/manages the land.
- Partnering to help connect this trail system will contribute to community outdoor resources and the quality of life

of current and future generations of Spokane residents — providing a tangible example of “Near Nature Near Perfect”.

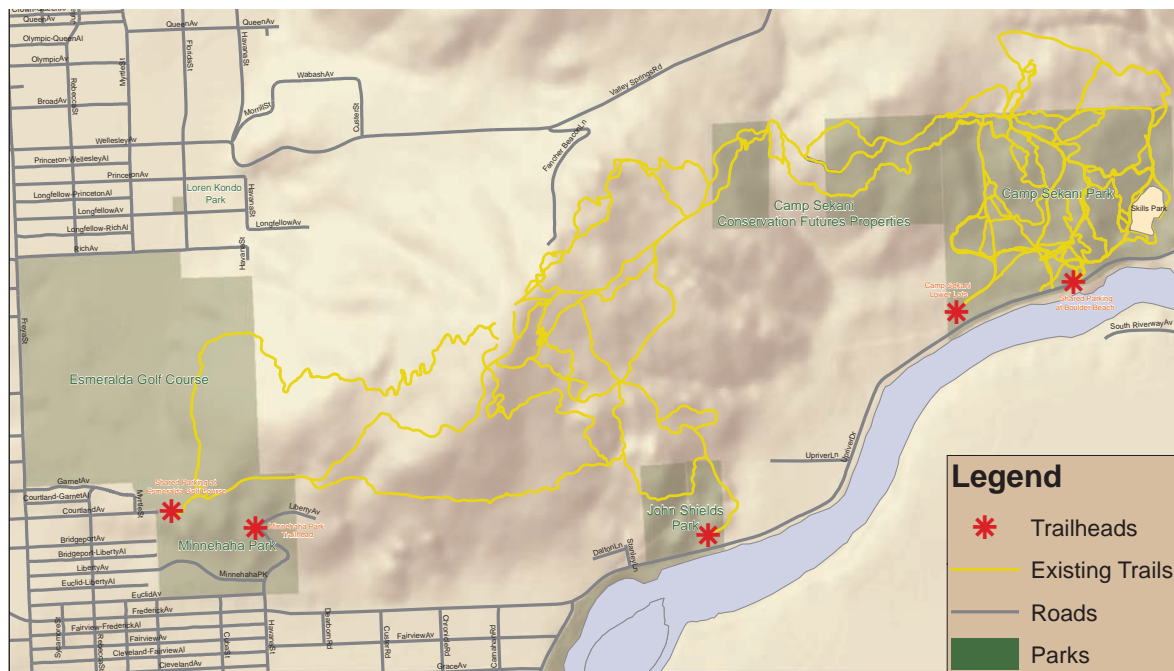
- Landowners may also see an increase in their property values. Studies show that properties adjacent to, or nearby, a trail system have enhanced marketability, in the form of increased property values and the ability to sell more quickly than homes that are not close to these recreation amenities.
- Landowners who choose to provide an easement may also enjoy certain tax breaks.

All of the critical landowners have been contacted. We have informal verbal ‘handshake’ agreements with critical landowners to create a map and continue public recreational use of the trails located on their lands. There are a number of options for landowners who want to support the trail use, ranging from informal or ‘handshake’ agreements than can be relinquished at any time to a formal written easements. More information on these options can be found in Appendix I. Washington State has a recreational use statute, RCW 4.24.200, that limits the liability of all landowners who provide free public access to their lands for recreational purposes. In addition, landowners can further reduce their liability by providing an easement of the trail corridor to the city, county or non-profit organization (such as the FTTRC). Next steps with landowner outreach is to meet with individual landowners to develop written agreements that allow continued public recreation access and meet the needs of the individual landowner. A few of the critical landowners are considering applying for Spokane County’s Conservation Futures program which, if acquired, would put these lands in public ownership.

Trail System, Recreation Opportunities, Trailheads and Linkages

Trail System Development

Beacon Hill has an extensive network of trails. The majority of trails on Beacon Hill are informal and unplanned. Routes include power line access roads, old 4x4 roads, motorcycle trails, hiking trails and dedicated bicycle trails. Given the sheer volume of trails, preferred routes were selected; these routes will be signed and users will be encouraged to use them. The remaining undesirable trails will eventually be decommissioned. The map below shows the existing trail system that will be maintained and enhanced for visitors to enjoy.



New Trail Routes

The current trail system is the result of 40 years of unsanctioned use. To turn it into a user friendly network will require more than the elimination of unapproved routes. Given the terrain and historic trail development, the majority of the trail system is for intermediate to advanced users. New trails will need to be constructed connecting trailheads with beginner/intermediate routes allowing for loops of varying length and difficulty. This is referred to as a stacked loop system. Each trailhead should have a short (two miles or less) beginner loop accessible right off the parking area, connecting to longer and more technical loops farther in. The most advanced routes should be the least accessible, requiring the greatest fitness and skill to reach. In an area the size of Beacon Hill this ideal will be difficult to achieve, but all efforts will be made to create a filter effect encouraging users to stay within their ability.

The primary trails that will need to be developed include:

- The highest priority trail would be a beginner climb from Camp Sekani toward the radio towers, the highest point in the trail system. This route would follow a gradient of five to seven percent and stay within Camp Sekani and conservation land, ending at the border of private property

adjacent to conservation land. No beginner climbing routes currently exist on the Sekani side of Beacon Hill.

- Route from Minnehaha Park to Shields Park. The current trail is much too difficult for most users to enjoy. It has relatively low usage and crosses multiple private parcels. A more appropriate trail would ascend gradually to join the trails above Shields Park at a major junction halfway up the hill. Creating an easy route from there down to the climbing rocks will be difficult at best. The terrain is exceptionally steep and rocky. By establishing “ride-arounds” of the more challenging sections an intermediate climb/descent could be established.
- A new trail route connecting Minnehaha Park to the existing Esmerelda Trail. As parking at Esmerelda Golf Course will be discouraged, a new route connecting the Minnehaha trailhead to the Esmerelda Trail is needed. This trailhead is the first that will receive improvements and funding is currently being sought after. Many trails run through this area and the most appropriate trail will be chosen.

- A climbing trail contained entirely within the conservation land neighboring the 70 acre Avista parcel would connect the power-line road with Sekani cross country trails, providing a five or six mile beginner route. The current intermediate trail would be retained, creating new loop options.
- Re-route the Esmerelda Trail to accommodate Beacon Hill Properties' housing development. The proposed trail will run north of the existing trail along terrain too steep for development.
- A spur trail will branch off the existing Esmerelda Trail to allow access from Rich Avenue.
- Other new route needs include: Many of these routes are illustrated on the recreation opportunities map, future trails map and/or the site-drawings for each trailhead:

Develop two additional summit access trails: (1) a beginner single-track route paralleling the powerline/emergency road featuring a viewpoint/bench and (2) an intermediate/advanced trail ascending the open south facing slope from the midpoint of the proposed Minnehaha/Shields trail.

- Develop new beginner trails including a (1) short loop at Minnehaha Park; (2) longer interpretive loop near Esmeralda Golf Course; (3) longer loop trails from Shields Park; and (4) trails connecting the proposed north-side trailhead.
- Formalize 'easy/beginner' trail routes from Camp Sekani lower lots to the (1) meadow area which is envisioned to be a multi-use area potentially for a ropes course, archery range and orienteering and (2) the skills park and mountain biking staging area.
- Develop two new ADA accessible routes from the proposed sandpit trailhead to (1) the skills park and (2) the Spokane River.

Trail Closures and Habitat Restoration

There are many trails that need to be decommissioned due to erosion, wildlife habitat, illegal motorized use and dumping and/or private property issues. The overview map shows the trail system that will be maintained and enhanced. As time and funding allow, all existing trails that are not shown on this map will be decommissioned. Priority will be given where trails negatively affect private property, wetlands and the wildlife migration corridor.

Below is a list of key priority trail closures:

Fall line motorcycle routes

- Little-used route down the creek to Collin's property.

Emergency Access

An emergency access system will be created to allow vehicle access for safety and fire emergencies.

Gate owners, key holders and phone numbers will be collected and information distributed to proper Emergency Services personnel (Fire Dept., ambulance, DNR, etc.)

- Potential helipad/evacuation sites identified
- Maps provided to Emergency Services personnel

Recreation Opportunities and Designated Use Areas

The trails and open space are used for a variety of activities. The most popular is mountain biking, followed by hiking and rock climbing. At the design charrette, the recreation opportunities team explored ways to enhance the trail system and other recreation opportunities on Beacon Hill. Some concepts on how to enhance and separate uses to prevent conflict were also developed. Below is a summary and illustration of some of the key concepts identified at the charrette and other planning efforts.

Trail use was separated into two types: general use and specific use. These uses could include cross-country mountain biking, downhill mountain biking, running, hiking, dog walking, wildlife watching/birding, picnicking, geocaching, orienteering, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. In addition, the following recreation uses require a special designated location including: skills biking/trails, archery, rock climbing, ropes course, disc golf, sledding, playground, off-leash dogs, paintball, camping, picnic areas and golf.

Some of the key strategies and needs that were identified include:

Identify loop trails

- Separate incompatible uses
- Create a "center" at Camp Sekani
- Link public lands/activity centers
- Close unnecessary and undesirable trails
- Develop picnic and rest areas
- Educate users on trail sharing
- Create a unified park-feel and rename the area 'Upriver Park' in honor of the Olmsted brother's vision

Designated Use Areas

Following is a description of the existing and proposed designated use areas:

Camp Sekani Bike Park

It is envisioned in the future that Camp Sekani will be a destination mountain bike park, with both downhill and free-ride specific trails and features. Free-riding is a style of mountain biking that “celebrates the spirit of technical riding and downhill” (IMBA; The Ups & Downs of Freeriding; Spring 2004). Freeriding trails are technically challenging and steep trails on both natural and manmade terrain. Camp Sekani will be a high density freeriding area with limited downhill and freeride trails incorporated elsewhere as appropriate. Some trails in the skills park and free-ride/downhill specific trails will be closed to other uses for safety reasons. This encompasses approximately one-third of the 238-acre park. Trails and jumps will be designed to enhance the downhill riding experience. The Spokane Parks and Recreation Department and FTTRC have been working together over the past few years to develop and maintain appropriate trails.

Camp Sekani Skill Park

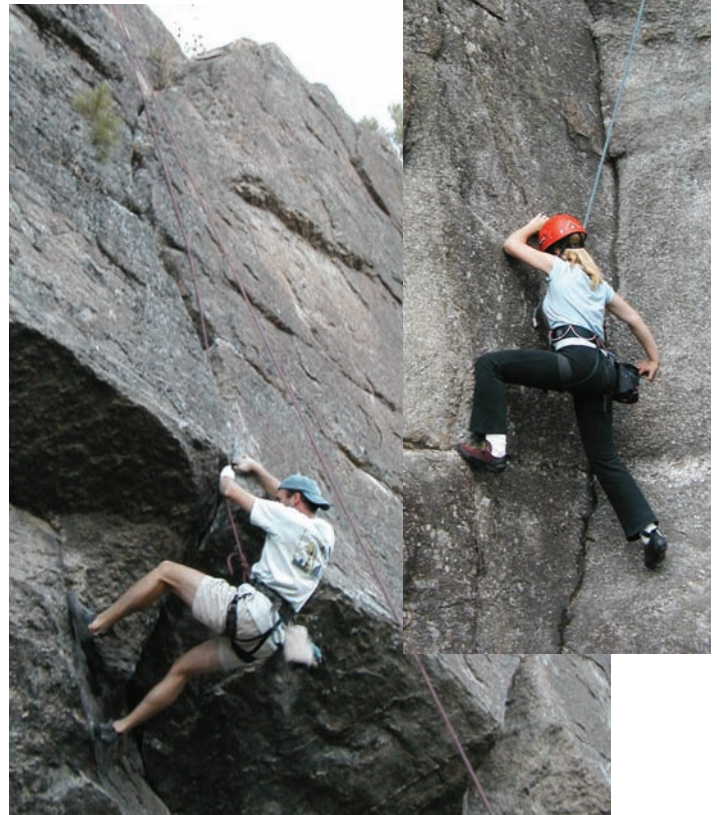


The Spokane Parks and Recreation Department and volunteers from FTTRC have been working on developing a skills park for mountain bikers at Camp Sekani. This is an area for mountain bikers to practice and develop their technical skills. The first phase which focused on beginner areas is complete. In 2009, the skills park will be expanded to include intermediate and advanced lines. For safety reasons, this area would be part of the Camp Sekani Mountain Bike Park and some trails will be designated exclusively for mountain bike users. Spectators would be welcomed to watch from the perimeters of the bike park.



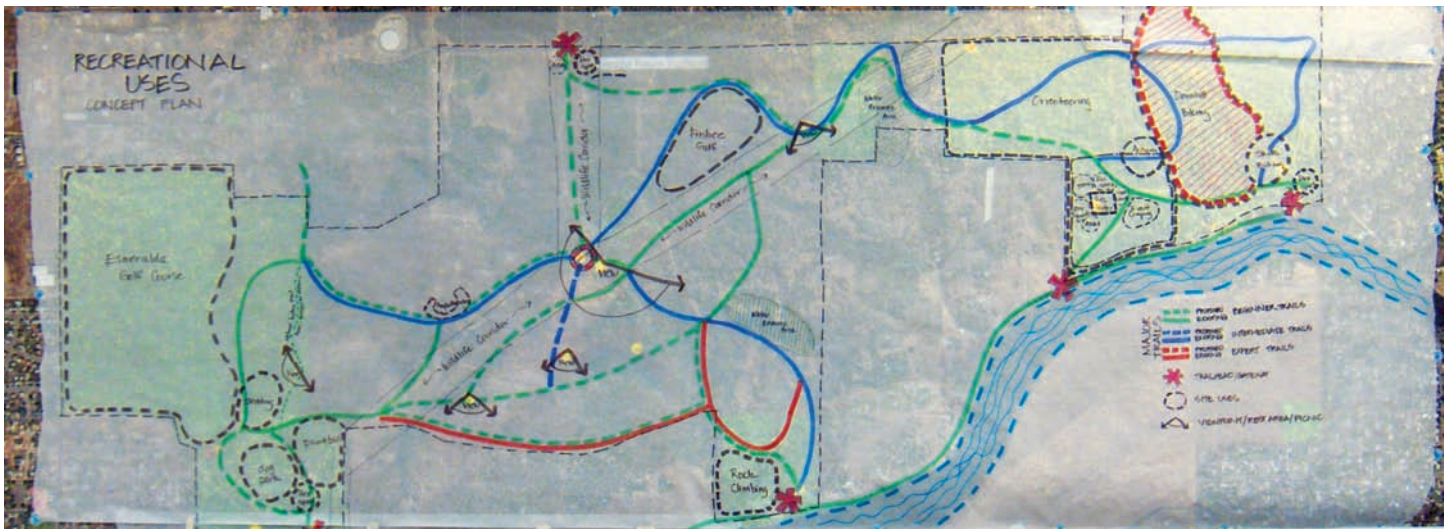
Rock Climbing at Shields Park

Shields Park is already a destination rock climbing area. In the past there have been some conflicts between paint ball users and climbers. The pictures below depict the popular rock climbing area.



Esmerelda Golf Course

This existing golf course would continue to provide golfing opportunities on Beacon Hill.



Other preliminary concepts for new designated areas include: Amphitheater (near Beacon Hill Events Center)

- Sledding hill (Adjacent to the Esmeralda Golf Course)
- Disc golf field (North-end)
- Archery (Camp Sekani)
- Playground (Camp Sekani)
- Event Camping (Camp Sekani)
- Off-Leash Dog Park (Minnehaha Park)
- Paint ball area (Minnehaha Park)

Recreation Center or the 'Lodge'

A recreation center or 'Lodge' is envisioned at Camp Sekani. This could serve a multitude of purposes and be the center for outdoor activities, gatherings and learning.

Below is a list of potential uses:

- Recreation hub for all users
- Meeting/instruction place
- Environmental Learning Center
- Outdoor Recreation Club Center
- Interpretive uses
- Teach sport, survival and life skills
- Gear rental/storage
- Lodging/hostel
- Office space/library
- Maintenance storage
- Showcase 'green technologies'

Parking Areas, Trailheads & Pull-outs

Parking and trailheads can be one of the major expenses in developing a trail system. At this time, trailheads are informal, comprising of shared parking at the Esmeralda Golf Course, shared parking at Boulder Beach, Minnehaha Park, Shields Park and other small pull-offs. In the future it



The meadow area at Camp Sekani (above) is a likely location for the Recreation Center.

is desired to eliminate shared use parking at the Esmeralda Golf Course and Boulder Beach areas. Over time, formal trailheads will be developed and improved at the following sites in order of priority: (1) Minnehaha Park, (2) Camp Sekani lower lots, (3) Camp Sekani sand pit and (4) a new site on the north-side off of Valley Springs Road. In addition, it is envisioned that the trailhead at Shields Park will be improved and expanded. A trailhead on the Sekani property would facilitate access to the many potential future uses of the park including ropes course, skills park, biking and hiking, outdoor classroom and recreation center. Trailhead designs were generated at the charrette workshop held in October 2008. A description of each of the trailheads and the primary components are described and illustrated below. These trailheads represent conceptual ideas. Before construction could begin, detailed designs, environmental analysis, permitting and funding would need to be obtained. Concepts and proposals on how these trailheads are integrated with the trail system and larger community/regional trail system can be found in the trail system and community connection sections.

Minnehaha Park

Current Condition:

This 38-acre park is owned by the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. Existing facilities include an informal parking area, playground, tennis court and garbage cans. It is being used as an informal trailhead for neighbors and other trail users.

Future Desired Condition:

Formalize and improve this trailhead and shift use from the Esmerelda Golf Course to this site.

Concepts, Opportunities and Amenities:

- Paved parking for trail users in the upper area.
- Direction and interpretive information kiosk.
- Restrooms (what type?)
- Trashcans and doggy bags
- Lighting
- Picnic area
- Plant vegetation
- Create park n' ride parking in the lower lot.
- Develop an emergency access route which will also be the vehicle route for the private landowners. Place up to three new gates to protect private property and allow for emergency vehicle access.
- **Constraints and Issues:**
- Provide vehicle access for private property.
- Provide separation of trails and private property.
- Enhance visual access to parking lots to address security concerns.

Potential Partners:

Potential partners would include Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, FTTRC and Minnehaha neighborhood.

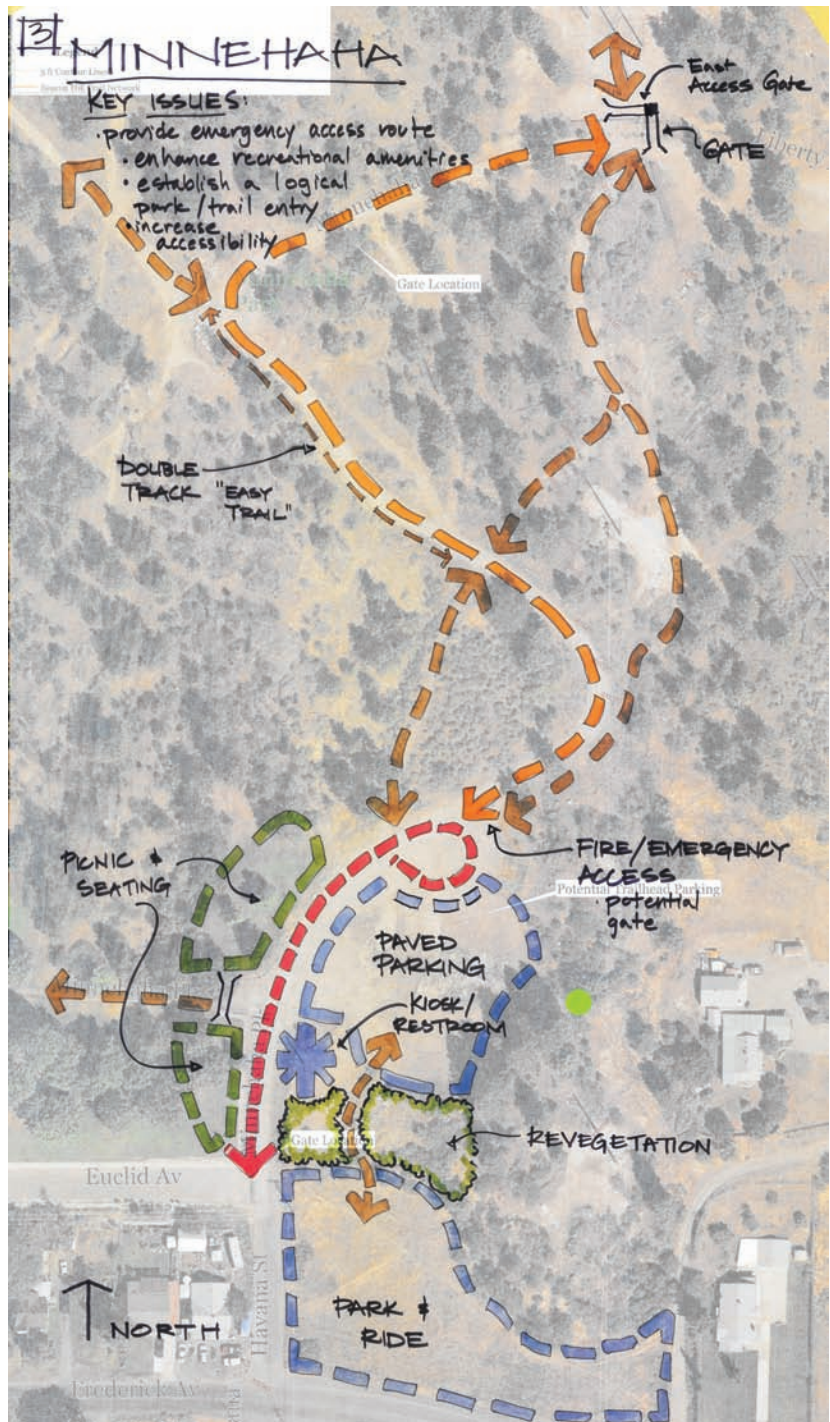
Esmerelda Golf Course

Current Condition:

This trailhead is using facilities provided for the Esmerelda Golf Course. This 162-acre golf course is owned by the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. This is the most popular trailhead access point.

Future Desired Condition:

Trailhead use at this site will be discouraged in the future.



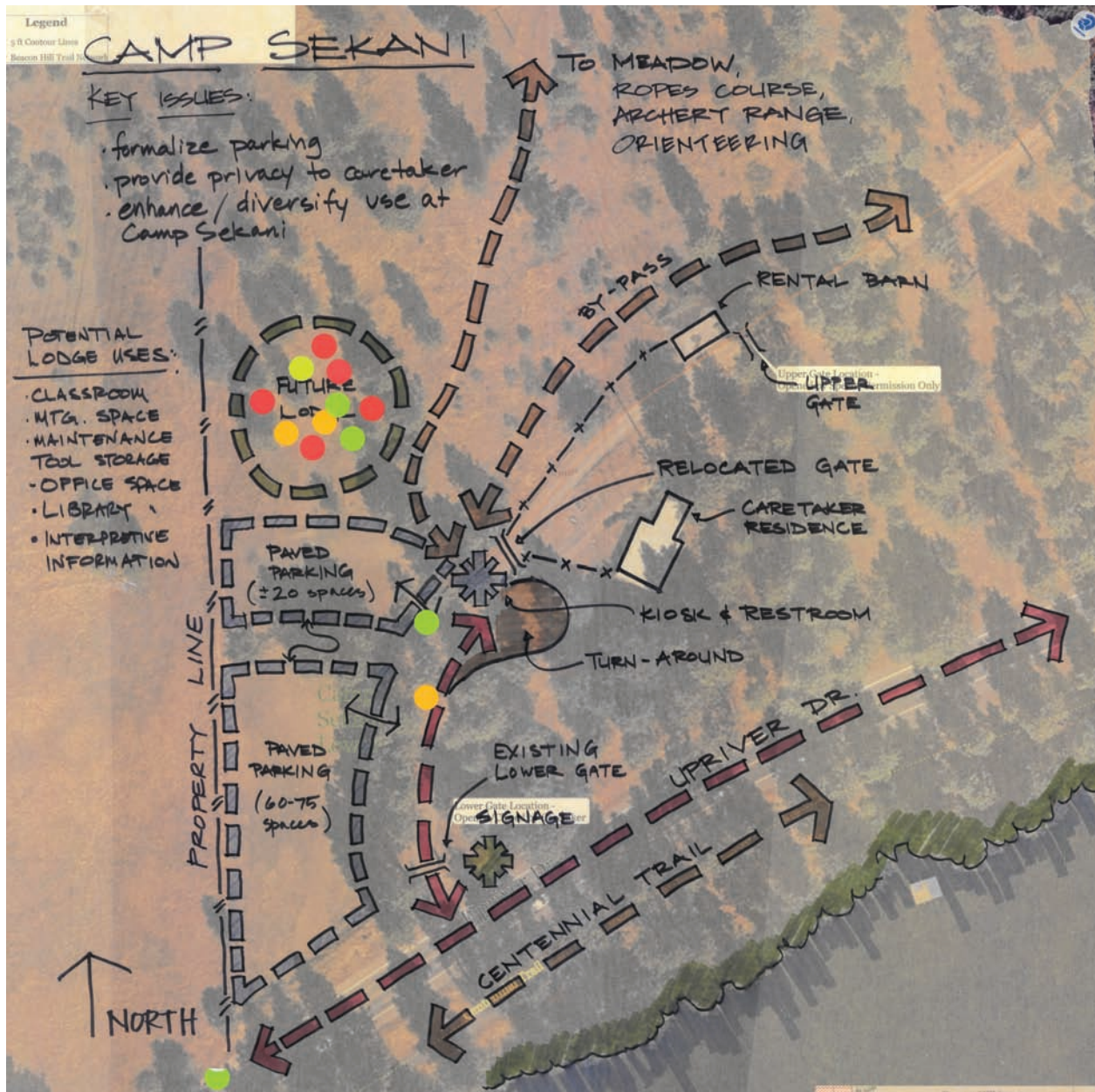
Concepts, Opportunities and Amenities:

Discourage use at this site and direct them to Minnehaha Park.

- Develop primary access trail from Minnehaha Park area to connect with base of Esmerelda trail, discouraging use of golf course access.

Potential Partners:

Partners would include the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, FTTRC and Minnehaha neighborhood.



Camp Sekani

This 238-acre park is owned by Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. Camp Sekani is envisioned to become a mountain biking park and is already very popular with mountain bikers. Recent trail improvement efforts by FTTRC and Spokane Parks and Recreation Department have concentrated on this site. There are two trailhead sites envisioned for Camp Sekani: (1) the existing parking area called the 'lower lots' and (2) a future site at the 'sandpit'. The newly developed mountain bike skills park is located near the sand-pit site. The meadow area would no longer be used as a parking lot during race events. Event shuttles for overflow parking would be developed for parking areas at near-by Pasadena Elementary School, Spokane Community College, or other appropriate location.

1. Lower Lots

Current Condition:

Two parking lots exist now. The gate is opened and closed for daylight use by the site caretaker.

Future Desired Condition:

Formalize and improve this site as a trailhead. Diversify use of the area to make Camp Sekani a regional destination for geocaching, ropes course, archery range, orienteering, family picnicking, hiking, interpretation and educational activities and mountain biking.

Concepts, Opportunities, & Amenities:

- Formalize parking providing approximately 80-95 spaces.
- Relocate lower gate to allow vehicle access to the parking areas while still providing privacy for the caretaker.
- Direction and interpretive information kiosk

- Restrooms
- Park entry signage
- Lighting
- Trash cans and doggy bags
- Create a 'rental barn' where recreation equipment like bikes, GPS units and boats/canoe could be made available.

Constraints and Issues:

- Water and sewer is not currently available. Methods will be explored to bring water/sewer to the site by extending lines near Felts Field or Pasadena Park neighborhood. If extending water/sewer lines to these sites is unfeasible, facilities that do not require these utilities will be selected.
- Enhance visual access to parking lots to address security concerns.

Potential Partners:

Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, FTTRC, Spokane Mountaineers, Eastern Washington Orienteering Club and West Valley School District are potential partners at Camp Sekani.

2. Sandpit

Current Condition:

Informal pull-out.

Future Desired Condition:

Create a formal trailhead primarily for mountain bikers. This could also serve as overflow parking for water users.

Concepts, Opportunities, & Amenities:

- Create two paved parking areas one on either side of Upriver Drive with lighting.
- Direction and interpretive information kiosk.
- Have first aid information and resources available.
- Restrooms
- Trash cans and doggy bags
- Lighting
- Create park entry signage east of the site near Upriver Drive to ensure visitors know they are entering Beacon Hill. Also develop trailhead entry signage for the sandpit site.

- Create a dock for water access.
- A chairlift to accommodate downhill riders may be developed at this site in the future. Any designs would allow enough space for a base to be placed near the trailhead.

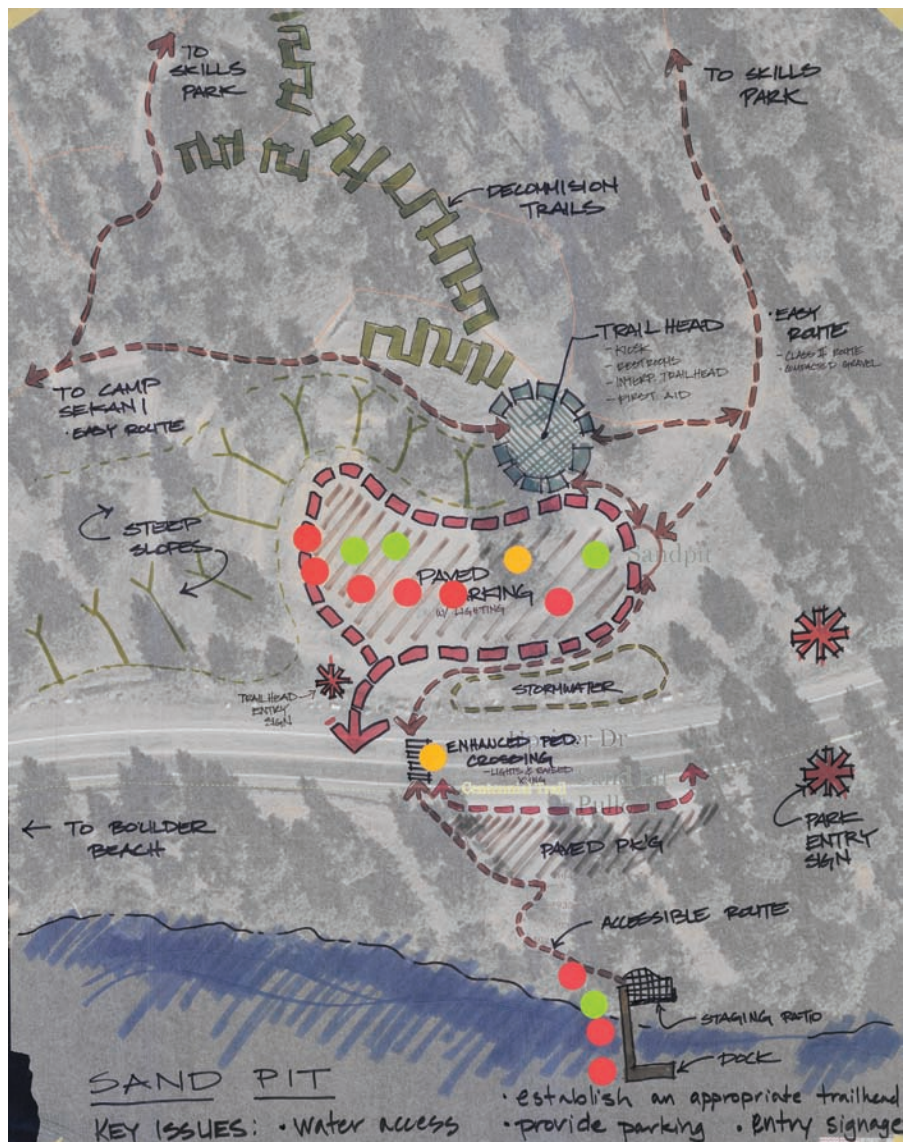
Constraints and Issues:

Similar to the other Camp Sekani site, water and sewer is not available. The same strategy described above for the lower lots site will be used.

- Enhance visual access to parking lots to address security concerns.
- Creating a smooth traffic flow and reduce safety hazards of Upriver Drive.
- Sand maybe difficult material to create a parking area in.

Potential Partners:

Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, FTTRC, Washington State Parks and Friends of Centennial Trail are potential partners for this.



Shields Park

Current Condition:

This 26-acre park is a joint City-County owned park and maintained by Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf. It is the only existing formal trailhead for Beacon Hill. Facilities include paved parking for 32 spaces, trashcans, blank kiosk, American with Disabilities Act (ADA) composting toilet and an ADA trail. The park itself contains a number of granite rock cliffs which are very popular with climbers.

Future Desired Condition:

Maintain and enhance this site as a formal trailhead for Beacon Hill.

Concepts, Opportunities, & Amenities:

- Develop a pavilion and picnic area.
- Develop and formalize the unpaved informal pull-out located just west of the paved lot to accommodate use during peak times.
- Solar lighting
- Repair erosion on the north end of the informal parking area and place some boulders as a barrier to prevent this from reoccurring.
- Relocate existing blank kiosk and create material including a map and interpretive/education information to post on it.
- **Constraints and Issues:**
- Water and Sewer are not available. Lights would need to be solar.
- Enhance visual access to parking lots to address security concerns.

Potential Partners:

Spokane County Department of Parks, Recreation and Golf, Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Parks Foundation, Spokane Mountaineers and FTTRC are all potential partners on this.

Boulder Beach

Current Condition:

This trailhead is used to access the Spokane River and adjacent beach, as well as the Centennial Trail. The Boulder Beach parking is also used by mountain bikers and hikers accessing the Camp Sekani/Beacon Hill Trail system. This parking lot is at or near capacity during peak season. The site is owned by Washington State Parks. Existing facilities include parking for about 12 cars and signage. There is also an informal pull-out near here on

the north side of Upriver Drive. The informal pull out is a traffic safety issue due to line-of-sight issues.

Future Desired Condition:

Use of this site by trail users will be discouraged in the future. It is anticipated that this site will be less used once the sandpit site is created.

Concepts, Opportunities, & Amenities:

Discourage use at this site and direct them to Camp Sekani or (to be developed) sandpit trailhead

- The informal lot across from the Boulder Beach paved parking area will be decommissioned. Boulders will be placed to block access, the parking lot will be decommissioned Potential Partners: Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, FTTRC and Friends of Centennial Trail are potential partners on this.



▪ North-side off of Valley Springs Road

Current Condition:

This currently does not have recreation access on it. It is owned by Avista and gated.

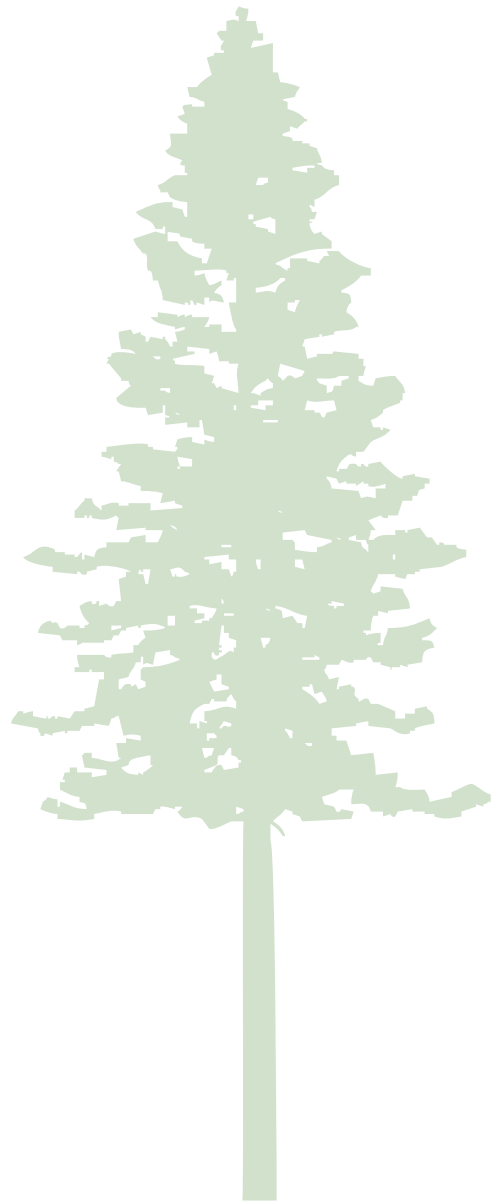
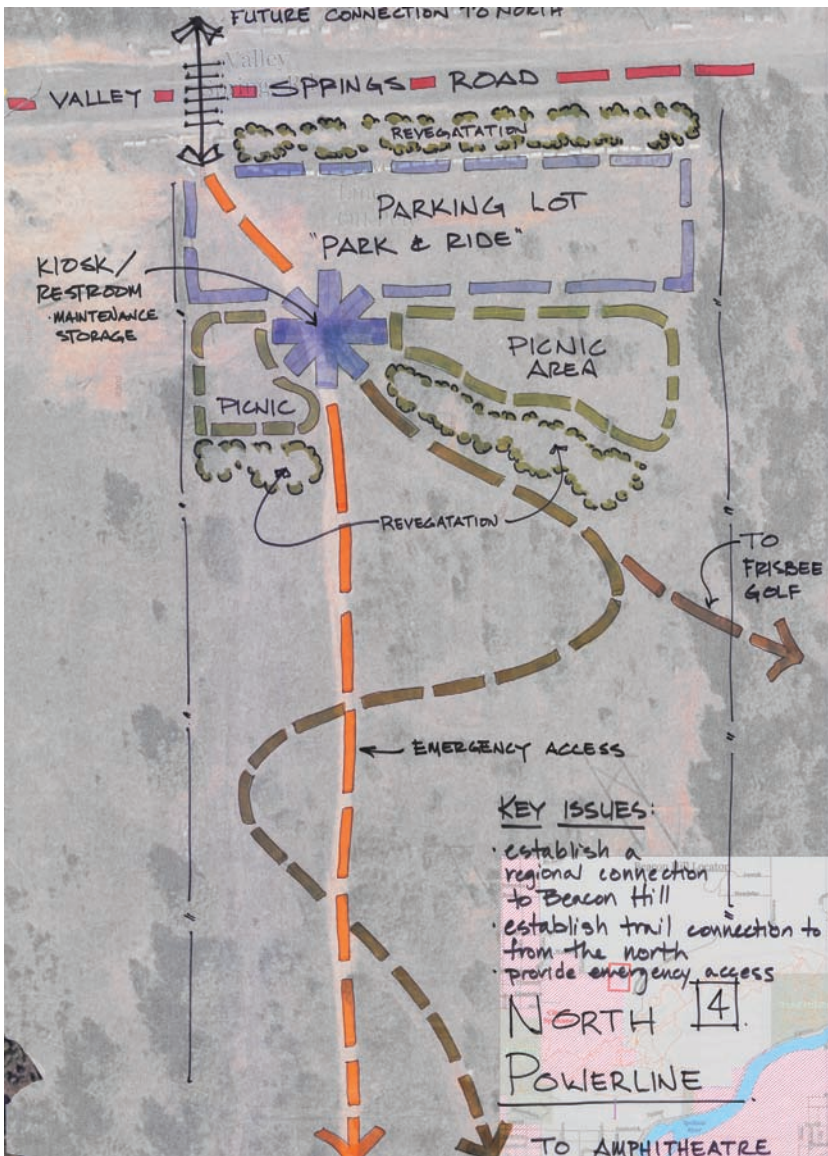
Future Desired Condition:

In the future, as housing developments are created in this area, a formal trailhead to the north is envisioned to accommodate trail use and create more opportunities for neighborhood and Beacon Hill visitors to use alternative transportation.

Concepts, Opportunities, & Amenities:

Create a large parking lot that could be shared by trail users and used as a park n' ride for public transportation users.

- Restroom
- Trash cans and doggy bags



- Lighting
- Direction and interpretive information kiosk
- Picnic areas
- Maintenance storage area
- Plant vegetation
- Create an emergency access route.
- **Constraints and Issues:**
- Water and sewer is not available. It is anticipated that an easy connection to these utilities could be made after housing developments are created.
- Enhance visual access to parking lots to address security concerns.

Potential Partners:

Avista, Beacon Hill Events Center, Spokane Transit Authority, FTTRC and the Hillyard neighborhood would all be potential partners on this trailhead development.

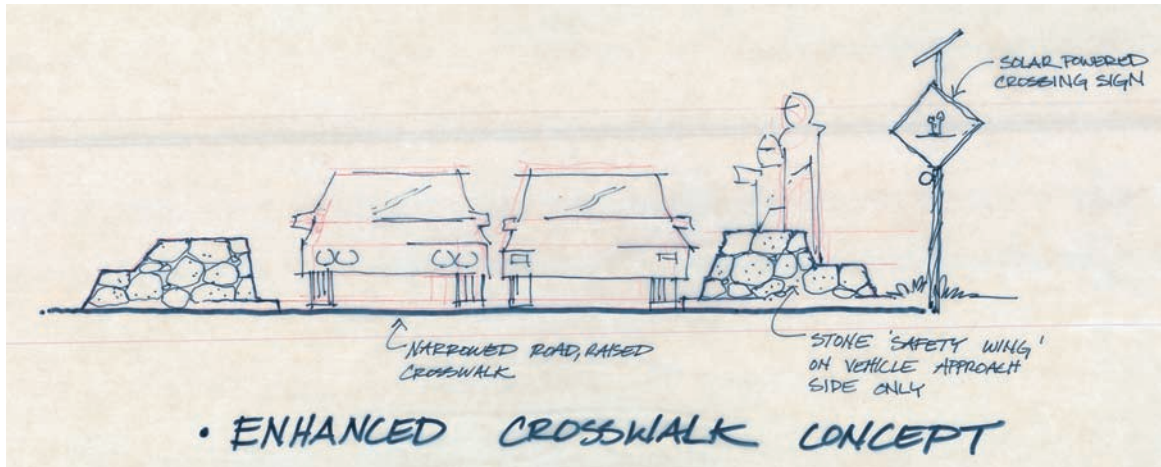
Linkages, Community Connections and Alternative Transportation

Beacon Hill is pictured as a future regional hub for trail activity and connected widely to other trails, neighborhoods, bus routes, businesses, community resources, schools, parks and the Spokane River. While today most users drive to Beacon Hill, these connections and improvements would create more opportunities for visitors to use alternative transportation methods such as walking, biking, carpooling, or taking the bus.

Key Concepts:

Increase awareness and opportunities for alternative transportation methods to reach Beacon Hill.

- Create and/or designate new bike/pedestrian paths.
- Develop signage to increase awareness and improve way-finding.
- Implement traffic calming measures on major roads to create a pedestrian/bicycle friendly atmosphere.



Alternative Transportation

- Encourage carpooling
- Create pedestrian and bicycle connections
- Transit
 - Proposed park and ride locations
 - Mission and Greene
 - Market and North/South Freeway
 - Francis and Freya
 - Minnehaha Park
 - New North-side trailhead
 - Transit and bus routes
 - Green bus serving Beacon Hill, Plantes Ferry and Centennial Trail
 - Add Routes along Upriver Drive and/or Frederick Ave to Minnehaha and Hillyard neighborhoods
 - Encourage bike/bus use on existing lines

New trail routes and connections

- Connect to the proposed new north/south freeway (I-395) with pedestrian/bicycle connections at: (1) Francis Avenue, (2) Everett Avenue, (3) Wellesley Avenue, (4) Garland Avenue, (5) Euclid Avenue and (6) Upriver Drive.
- Improve connections to near-by neighborhoods by: (1) implementing sidewalk improvements and filling gaps within one-half of a mile to one mile of park access and (2) improve neighborhood crossings.



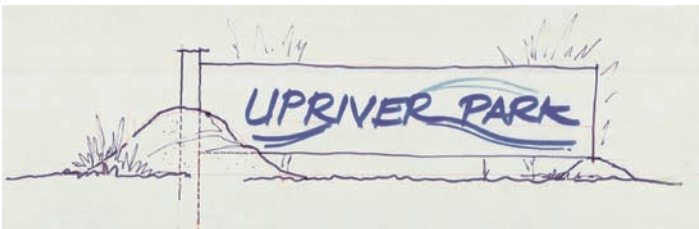
- Create pedestrian/bicycle river crossings over the Spokane River at (1) Camp Sekani and (2) over Upriver Dam.
- Create the Bigelow road bike loop that follows the Centennial Trail, Argonne Road, Bigelow Gulch Road and Freya Street.
- Create a separate bike/pedestrian path on the north side of Upriver Drive.
- Create a bike route on Wellesley and Theirman to connect to Bigelow Gulch.
- Create new trails connecting Minnehaha Park to the neighborhoods via Courtland Avenue, Bridgeport Avenue and Frederick Avenue.
- Create a wildlife/pedestrian connection to the north over or under Bigelow Gulch.
- Connect trailheads on the south-side to the Centennial Trail by:
 - Creating bike routes along Havana and Frederick from Minnehaha Park Trailhead;
 - Developing an enhanced pedestrian crossing to Centennial Trail from Shields Park. This cross walk could include a raised walk with solar lights.
 - Creating an enhanced raised pedestrian crossing off Upriver Drive to provide access to the Centennial Trail and Spokane River from the Camp Sekani Sandpit Trailhead. The proposed crossing would be raised and include lights.

Traffic Calming:

- Create a more pedestrian/bicycle friendly Upriver Drive by (1) reducing the speed to 20 MPH from Shield Park to Camp Sekani, (2) narrowing road lanes and widening shoulders and (3) developing signage to enhance park-like feel.
- Implement traffic calming measures at Freya.

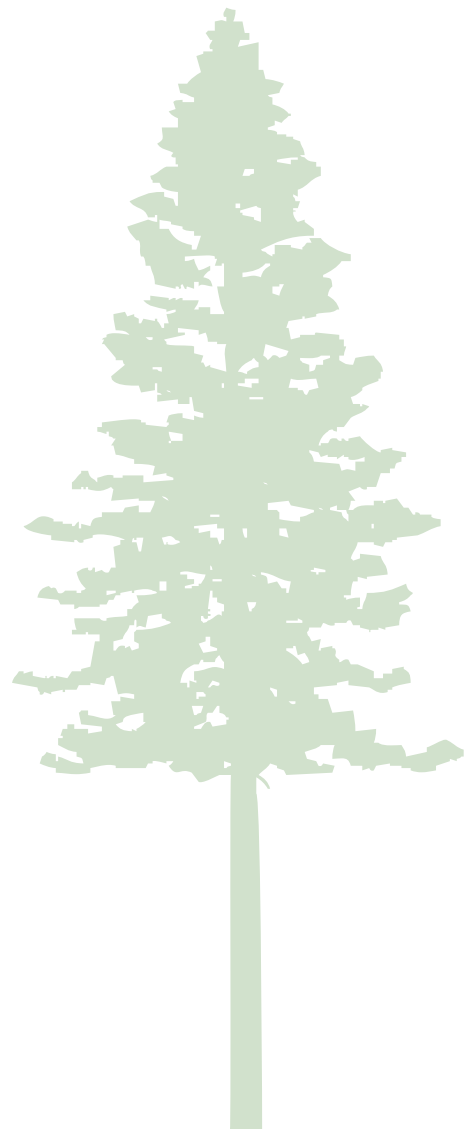
Potential Partners:

Connections to the community are part of the long-term vision for Beacon Hill. Potential Partners could include: Hillyard neighborhood, Minnehaha neighborhood, Northwood neighborhood, Spokane Regional Health District, City of Spokane Transportation Department, Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane County Transportation Department, Spokane County Parks and Recreation Department, Spokane Transit Authority and Washington Department of Transportation.



Signage:

- Create signage along north/south corridor saying where to get off for Beacon Hill.
- Place signage on Upriver Drive, Market Place, Argonne Road and Bigelow Gulch for destination signage.
- Develop way-finding signage along existing and new bike routes about Beacon Hill.
- Develop way-finding and informational signage in near-by neighborhoods and pedestrian routes.



Trail Design Guidelines and Etiquette

Allowable Uses

The Beacon Hill Trail Network will be open to all non-motorized users. The majority of existing use includes mountain bikers; hikers; and trail runners. The trails will be constructed and maintained from a mountain biker perspective. However, all non-motorized trail users are welcome and encouraged to use the trails system. In accordance to regulations from the land managers including the City of Spokane, Spokane County and Avista, the trails are not be open to motorized use.

Trail Etiquette

The rules of the trail developed by International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) will be followed. These include:

1. Use open trails only. Respect trail and road closures. Do not trespass on private land.
2. Leave no trace. Pack out what you pack in. Stay away from wet and muddy trails. Do not create new trails.
3. Control your bicycle and speed. Obey all regulations and ride within your limits.
4. Yield to others. Follow the trail etiquette triangle. Downhill travelers should yield to those heading uphill.
5. Never scare animals.
6. Plan ahead and be safe.
7. For more information, see www.imba.org

Sustainable Trails

All new trails will be built to be sustainable. Existing trails will also be maintained to this standard. IMBA guidelines on sustainable trail building and maintaining will be followed. Key elements of a sustainable trail include:

- Supports current and future use with minimal impact to the area's natural systems.
- Negligible soil loss or movement while allowing vegetation to flourish
- Pruning or removal of some vegetation only as necessary
- Accommodates existing use and appropriate future use
- Requires minimal rerouting and maintenance
- Built with land manager's permission



Interpretation and Education

Interpretation refers to a program designed to provide informative and educational material to people on a variety of topics that are directly related to a specific area or region. This information can be presented utilizing a variety of media such as signs and displays, brochures, guided walks and tours, podcasts, websites, information kiosk and K-12 curriculum guides.

Interpretation and education concepts and themes for the Beacon Hill Trail System were explored during the charrette. The proposed outdoor center or 'lodge' at Camp Sekani could serve as the main interpretation center for the area. Below are some of the key themes and possible stories that could be told.

General Interpretive Themes

Cultural History

Beacon Hill has a rich history. Possible stories could include information on Native Americans, settlement, growth and development, movies, rail history, power generation and Felts Field. An explanation of how the park lands were developed and how they got their names is another interesting piece of history that could be interpreted. Beacon Hill's history is also rich in advocacy and stewardship which could provide opportunities to educate people on the value of open space. Some examples of this include: the 1908 Olmstead brothers' plan which identified Beacon Hill as the 'Upriver Park',

history of Shields Park, conservation future properties and the current stewardship of Camp Sekani and Beacon Hill by FTTRC, Spokane Mountaineers and other partners.

Natural Resources and Sustainability

There are abundant opportunities to teach people about various habitats, wildlife and plants of Beacon Hill. In doing so, a greater sense of stewardship of the area can be gained. Beacon Hill is part of an important wildlife corridor and moose, turkey and deer can be seen while enjoying a hike or bike ride. Many people enjoy having the opportunity to learn about different plants and wildlife they can see in an area. Hydrologic and geologic features and history could also serve as interesting interpretation topics. Information on the aquifer, wetlands, springs, rock formations and ice-age floods could be shared. Stewardship could be encouraged through promotion of alternative transportation, education on leave-no-trace methods and identification of human impacts to the land and ways individuals can help create a sustainable environment.

Healthy Living, Outdoor and Life Skills

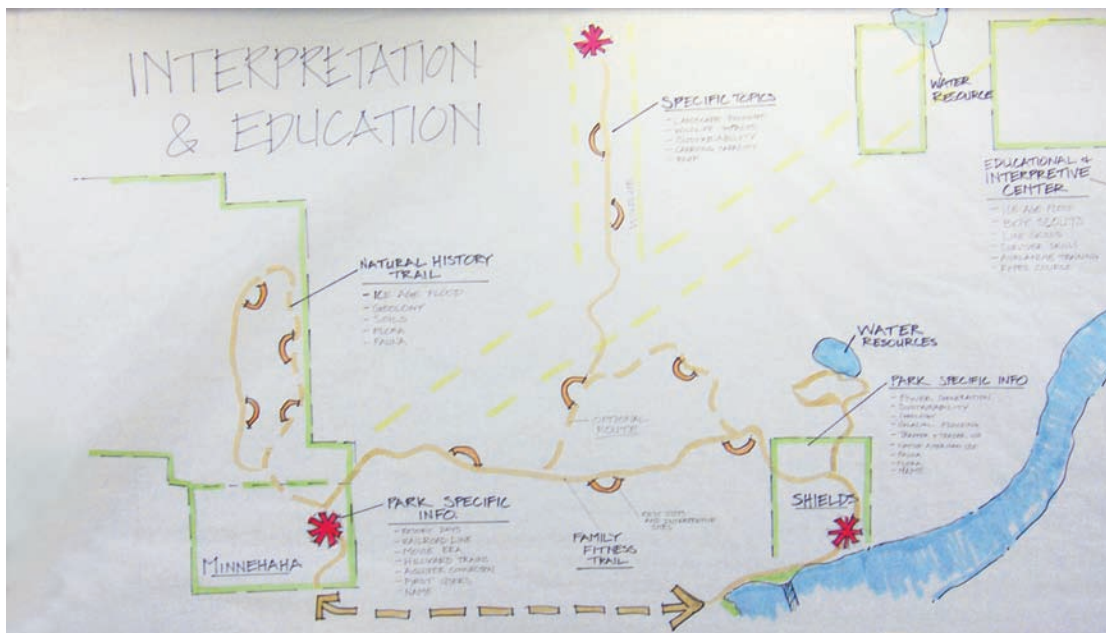
Beacon Hill provides a great opportunity to teach people about healthy living and the benefits of exercise and eating right. It can also serve as a learning center for outdoor skills. The new skills park at Camp Sekani assists users in building their biking skills. The proposed outdoor center and meadow area at Camp Sekani could also serve as a launching area for school and youth groups/camps to teach outdoor, survival and life skills.

Place-based Themes

Below are potential interpretive stories that could be told at the public parks on Beacon Hill.

General Trailhead Information

- Orientation and wayfinding
- Water/first aid/restrooms
- Difficulty of trails
- Seasonal use
- Land ownership
- Trail rules and etiquette



Camp Sekani & Recreation Center

- Ice Age Floods
- Boy Scouts
- Life skills
- Survivor skills
- Avalanche training
- Ropes course

Shields Park

- Power Generation
- Sustainability
- Geology
- Glacial Flooding
- Native American use
- Trapper and trader use
- Fauna
- Flora
- Park name (who/why)/history of creation

Minnehaha Park

- Resort days
- Railroad line
- Movie era
- Hillyard trains
- Aquifer connection
- First users of the area
- Park name (who/why) and history of creation

Some potential opportunities for interpretation trail elements that were developed during the workshop are displayed below. This illustration is provided to show some ideas on how this could be incorporated into the trail system. The first focus for interpretation will be at the trailheads and at the Camp Sekani Recreation Center. Interpretive trail components would be explored in the long-term future. At that time, concepts would be ground-truthed and further defined.

Management & Maintenance

The trail planning team recommends that the ultimate management responsibilities of the trail system reside with an Advisory Board. The proposed organization, purpose, responsibilities and financing are outlined below.

Beacon Trails Advisory Board

Membership

The Beacon Trail Advisory Board (BTAB) shall consist of at least 5 and no more than 9 members, required membership include a representative from Spokane County Parks and Recreation, Spokane City Parks and Recreation, Avista, Private Property Owner, Fat Tire Trail Riders Club and Spokane Mountaineers. It is recommended that other members represent neighboring land owners of the Beacon area, representatives from other user groups and individual users of the area.

Purpose

The BTAB will work jointly and cooperatively on issues and problems inherent in the establishment, governance, use, operation and maintenance of the Beacon area outdoor recreational trails within and between their respective holdings.

An important aspect of this organization is the partnership between Spokane County Parks and Recreation, Spokane City Parks and Recreation, Avista, Fat Tire Trail Riders Club, Spokane Mountaineers, Land Owners, citizen volunteers and civic organizations. This partnership is critical to the development of a well-maintained, consistent trail network that satisfies all users. This partnership does not create a new legal or administrative entity. Property provided by the entities to accomplish maintenance and operation services to the trail network shall remain the property of the entity providing the property. Property in private ownership may transfer to public ownership upon sale or gift to the public.

Mission

The mission of the BTAB will be to promote the use and maintenance of the Beacon Trail Network, for the safe and enjoyable use of all users and to provide an umbrella to help promote communication and coordination among all the parties involved in the development and maintenance of the trail, including the Spokane County Parks and Recreation, Spokane City Parks and Recreation, Avista, Spokane Mountaineers, Fat Tire Trail Riders, private landowners, volunteers and other user groups.

Responsibilities

BTAB will provide the framework to plan, prioritize, schedule and oversee trail maintenance work by:

Setting specific maintenance goals and standards for levels of service.

- Developing the necessary maintenance programs which will provide those levels of service.
- Executing those programs using the most efficient combination of resources.
- Controlling and evaluating the effectiveness of the work in relation to the desired level of service.
- Helping coordinate a system wide Adopt-a-trail program.
- Encouraging and receiving input and funding from and work with citizens and citizen groups in planning, establishment, governance, use, operation and maintenance of trails within each entity's jurisdiction.
- Acting as a liaison with other governmental agencies or any private entity or person in the planning, establishment, governance, use, operation and maintenance of trails within each entity's jurisdiction.

Powers

- Collect and disseminate information on the Beacon Trail Network.
- Allocate expenditures of money contributed to the Beacon Trail Maintenance Fund through either an Agency Funds or Intergovernmental Agency Funds budget account which will be recorded by either Spokane County Parks and Recreation or Spokane City Parks and Recreation in its capacity as treasurer.
- Create official standards of construction, maintenance and operation of the Beacon Trail Network to assure consistency of service and use among all entities within their respective properties.
- Recommend that appropriate grants and other funding opportunities be applied for and if received assist in the administering of grants, donations or awards.

Financing

There shall be established a fund to be known as the Beacon Trail Fund which shall be administered through either Spokane County Parks and Recreation or Spokane City Parks and Recreation through either an Agency Funds or Intergovernmental Agency Funds budget account with oversight by the BTAB and subject to state audit.

- The purpose of this fund is to pay for expenditures related to the Beacon Trail Network.

- Contributions to this fund will be by the Spokane County, City of Spokane and Avista in an amount not to exceed \$7500 a year.
- Disbursements from the Fund will be administered by the BTAB. The balance in the Fund need not be expended each calendar year and may accumulate for future expenditures.

Law Enforcement

The BTAB will also work with Spokane City Police, Spokane City Parks, Spokane County Sheriff's Dept. and Spokane County Parks to identify and clarify jurisdictional issues for the Beacon Hill area. This area is a mix of both County and City jurisdiction. Trail users should not hesitate to call 911 for a crime in progress or that has just occurred. 911 should be called to report an emergency including

a fire or if the caller needs immediate police or deputy response. Crime Check (509-456-2233) should be called to report a crime that is no longer in progress. If the caller is unsure if the report is an emergency, 911 should be called to allow operators to decide how the call should be routed. Operators will also decide whether to dispatch county or city law enforcement.

- Law enforcement issues that have been identified:
- Unauthorized motor vehicle use – 4x4s, ATVs, ORVs and motorcycles.
- Illegal camping
- Fires
- Dumping
- Shooting



Implementation of Plan

Future Planning Steps

This document focuses on the Beacon Hill Trail System at a conceptual level. Before any element of the plan is implemented additional planning work will be needed. Individual proposals are unique and different levels of work will be needed depending on each individual project. Key components to the planning work required include:

- Landowner Agreements
- Detailed engineering and design work
- Environmental review and permitting
- Identifying funding opportunities
- Coordination and building partnerships

Implementation/Prioritization

The trail system has been designed to be developed in phases. Important pieces of implementation are securing grants and developing partnerships. Another component of the implementation and management of the trail system is formation of the BTAB as described in the management section. This committee would meet to evaluate and pursue implementation of priority elements. The BTAB intends to be opportunistic and flexible while working towards implementing the trail system to take advantage of available opportunities. This initial list of phases or

priorities may change as opportunities present themselves. This concept plan is expected to be implemented over the next 20 years.

The first phase is the trail system development. This is developing a cohesive plan to identify and contact all landowners, introduce the Beacon Project, educate them as to the benefits of allowing public use on private land and hopefully develop agreements that work for all parties. More detailed information on land ownership and agreement options can be found in Appendix II. In addition the first phase includes inventorying the trail system, creating a map guide for users to enjoy and developing signage. Creation, closure and enhancement of high priority trails and trailheads would also be included. It should be noted that phase I is underway now and will take several years to complete. Phase II and III are part of the longer term vision for Beacon Hill. Construction of plan elements will be driven by the availability of volunteer labor and funds to construct them. All trail construction will be done to appropriate trail standards and will be cleared with project partners and land owners prior to beginning the work.

Some proposals such as publishing a map guide or installing signage at Camp Sekani are already underway,

while others such as creating a trailhead on the north-side would be implemented only if use and proposed housing developments warrant this. Following is a list of proposed draft priorities:

Phase I: Near-Term

1. Formalize and Enhance the Trail System
2. Develop agreements with landowners.
 - Complete the trail inventory.
 - Create a trail map for visitors.
 - Complete the Camp Sekani Skills Park.
 - Close top-priority inappropriate or unnecessary trails:
 - Little-used route down the creek to Mr. and Mrs. Collin's property.
 - Develop signage:
 - Camp Sekani
 - Rest of Beacon Hill
 - Develop management and maintenance agreements.
 - Create, sign and map emergency access for vehicle and helicopters.
 - Create new top-priority trails:
 - Climbing trail from Camp Sekani to Summit
 - Trail from Minnehaha Park to Esmeralda Golf Course (base of Esmeralda Trail)
3. Develop Trailheads
 - Minnehaha Park
 - Enhance Camp Sekani lower lots
 - Close off Upriver Drive pullout by Boulder Beach (traffic hazard)

Phase II: Mid-Term:

1. Develop Camp Sekani as a Multi-use Area
2. Create opportunities and partnerships with other user groups, educational groups and the community to provide a range of recreation opportunities at Camp Sekani .
 - Develop the Camp Sekani Recreation Center.
 - Develop and Close Trailheads
3. Create Camp Sekani sandpit.
 - Enhance trailheads with interpretive elements.
4. Enhance Trail System
5. A route from Minnehaha Park to Shields Park.

- Beginner's climb from Camp Sekani toward the Radio Towers.
- Re-route Esmeralda Trail to accommodate development .
- Create additional trail opportunities.
- Close remaining undesirable trails.

Phase III: Long-Term

Create designated use areas (i.e. dog park, paint ball area, disk golf, sledding hill, playground, event camping, archery, amphitheater).

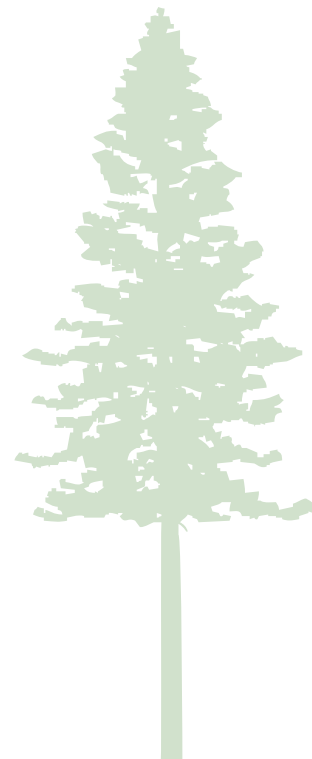
1. Create the North side trailhead.
2. Create interpretive trail opportunities.

Grants

The trail system has been planned with the intention of securing federal, state and local grant monies. It is envisioned that limited funds from the City or County will be available for the development, maintenance and management of the trail system.

To date, funding for planning and the charrette has been raised totaling \$2000 from a variety of sponsors (see list on front cover). In addition, a grant of \$2000 was received from the Spokane Parks Foundation for signage at Camp Sekani.

Additional funds are needed to implement this plan. As mentioned above, this is a long-term plan and grants will be sought. A list of primary state and federal funding sources are listed in Appendix III.



Trail User Maps

A map will be created for the Beacon/Camp Sekani area. As mentioned in the landownership section, landowners are being consulted to determine if trails on their lands can be shown on the map. One side will show the area as a whole, from Esmerelda/Minnehaha area to Camp Sekani. Road and access points will be marked, as well as the main trails that run east/west. The reverse side will show the Camp Sekani/Bike park area with detailed trails marked.

On all trails, ability levels with the usual disclaimers will be marked. Downhill, cross-country/multi use will be marked and down hill specific trails will have a disclaimer noting high speed biking. Downhill and skill park trails that are exclusively for biking will be noted. Within Camp Sekani it may be appropriate to give the right of way to Downhill Riders when trails cross. Both city and county parks will need to be consulted regarding verbiage for recreational use disclaimers.

Maps will also have IMBA Rules of the Trail, rider/landowner respect/courtesy notes, low impact info and support FTTRC/local advocacy remarks. Information on who owns and manages the trail system and who to call

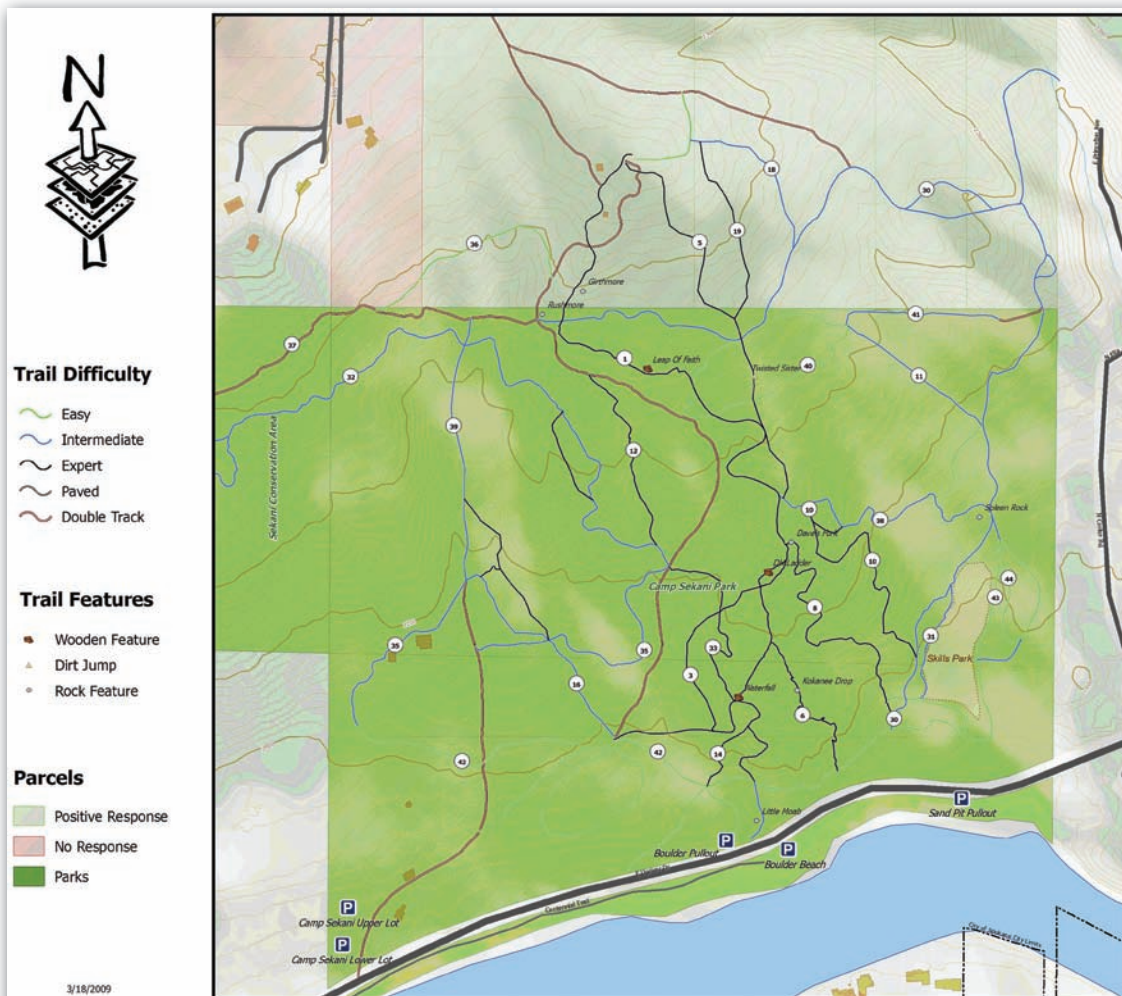
if illegal activity is occurring or maintenance is needed will also be provided. Other potential information could include other ways to get to Beacon Hill besides driving (Centennial Trail connections, bus routes, etc.)

(The following is suggested verbiage to be used on the map)

About Private Land:

Many of the (Beacon Hill) trails cross private property. There are agreements with several but not all landowners. All public use of the trails designated on the map have agreements in place to promote outdoors activities. However, many of the agreements are temporary and can be revoked at any time. Please thank the landowners by staying on the marked trails and by not creating new trails or features. Straying off marked trails is considered trespassing and violators may be prosecuted. The future of trails on private property rests with all of us.

Sponsors and partnerships will be sought to fund the first printing of the map. It would be sold at local bike shops, through FTTRC and other outdoor outlets to pay for future printings and help fund maintenance of the area. To date, \$2000 has been raised through a partnership with NPS.



Left is a draft map (this is a sample portion of the to-be-published map):

Trail System Sign Plan

Signage Objectives

Prior to deciding on a sign scheme, the planning team agreed on the following three objectives that the signs would need to meet. These are in order of importance:

1. Low-cost, durability and ease of installation
2. Ease in user understanding & ability to effectively inform users of important information
3. Aesthetics

The trail signs will be consistent with Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf signage plan whose goal is to have coordinated signage system throughout the County.

Trail Map/Sign Plan Integration

In order to create an intuitive trail network a trail numbering system will be incorporated into the map. Attempts will be made to assign close numbers to similar or neighboring trails.

The trail number will be clearly visible on any signposts below the trail name. Cross-country loops of varying lengths may be designated with a colored stripe on the edge of the post. A given loop could follow trails 4, 28 and 12 but all posts would have a red stripe indicating a designated loop. These loops will have length, difficulty and vertical feet gained listed on the kiosks and/or the maps.

Types of Signs Needed

Signposts will be brown Carsonite posts similar to reflective posts used on major highways. The following different types of labeling will be needed to ensure that the public is provided adequate information when interfacing with the trail system:

Trailhead Signs

Trailheads and parking areas require the most information needs on the system. In order to meet these information needs, Kiosks will be installed. Trailheads will receive three feet by four feet kiosks and display the following types of information to the public:

- Map of the entire trail system and/or a map of the local area of the trail system
- Uses allowed on the trail system
- Contact information for the trail system
- Pack it in/pack it out & Leave No Trace ethics
- Stay on trails/avoid private property
- IMBA rules of the trail
- Emergency contact information

- Kiosks will need to be constructed for the parking areas at Camp Sekani and Minnehaha Park in addition to the one currently at Shields Park. Any future parking areas will require additional kiosks.

Trail Intersection/locator signs

Major trail intersections will receive small scale trail maps with “You Are Here” references and rules of the trail.

The Beacon Hill Advisory Group estimates that five of these signs will be needed: three on private property; one in county conservation land and one in city park land.

Trail route signs

These signs will be posted periodically along established trails and at trail intersections and forks. They will provide the trail number, name, sponsor and ability level.

The planning team estimates 150 -200 of these signs will be needed.

Trail-crossing/hazardous intersection signs

These signs will be placed whenever trails intersect one another in such a way that visibility or speed control issues can not be corrected with a re-route. They will be constructed exactly the same as a trail route sign but with highly-visible warning labels. Additional warning signs will be placed before unavoidable obstacles.

The trail planning team estimates that 20 of these signs will be necessary.

Trail Closed/Private Property Signs

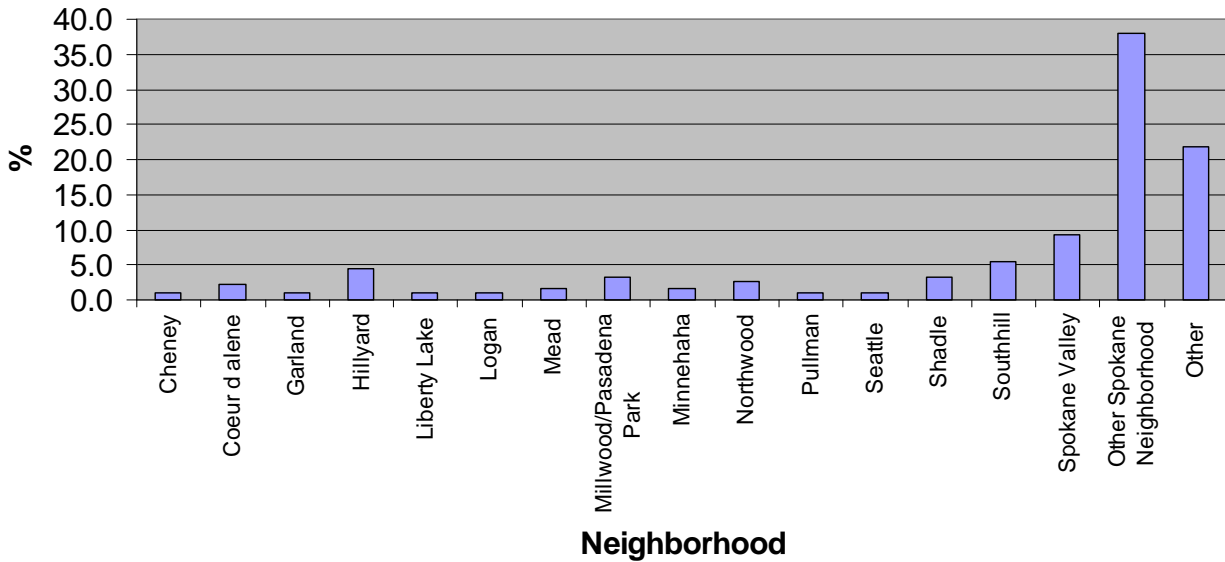
These signs will be installed on trails that are being listed as closed. In addition, if no trespassing/private property markers are needed, two labels would be used: “Trail Closed;” and “Private Property.” For trails being decommissioned, no signage will be placed that might draw unwanted attention to the trail’s former location. The trail tread will be roto-tilled or similarly obliterated. Native plants and grasses will be planted and seeded. Deadfall and leaf litter will be spread over the reclamation area so that it blends in as naturally as possible with the surrounding terrain. Visual barriers (tree seedlings, logs with branches attached, large rocks or other) will be placed as close as possible to the former trail starting and finishing points to distract trail users’ attention away from the area being closed.

Draft Beacon Hill Concept Plan

Appendix I — Survey Results



1. What neighborhood do you live in?





Responses - "Other"

- Elk - far north Spokane County
- Redmond, WA
- Wet Side
- Born and raised in Spokane with family still there, but now live in Sammamish
- New Mexico
- Downriver/Audebon Park
- Seattle
- Southhill
- Shadle
- River run
- Issaquah
- On Beacon Hill
- Colville
- Mead
- Hauser, ID
- Liberty Lake
- Airway Heights
- Colbert
- Foothills
- Post Falls
- Downriver/Audebon Park
- Seattle
- Southhill
- Shadle
- River run
- Issaquah
- On Beacon Hill
- Colville
- Gary Park neighborhood
- Garland
- Coeur d alene
- Black Hawk North Spokane
- Mica
- Portland, Oregon
- Valleyford
- Manito
- Southgate
- Marshall Valley
- Relocating to Spokane but have not found a house yet
- Logan

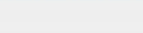
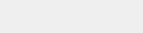
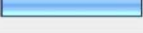
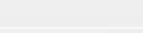
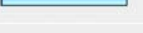
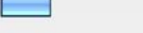

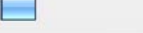
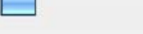
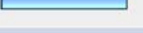
- Pullman
- Sandpoint Idaho
- Cannon Hill
- Brownes addition
- Spokane County
- West Central
- South
- Newman Lake
- Emerson
- WOODRIDGE
- Kellog Idaho
- Cannon/cliff
- Carnahan,hill
- Manito Park
- Otis Orchards
- Indian Trails

Questions/results (#2-5) are from people who lived in the surrounding neighborhoods.

2. Are you familiar with the Beacon Hill Trail Network, see the map below?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		97.4%	37
No		2.6%	1
answered question			38
skipped question			146

3. What parks, trails or other community resources would you like to connect to?

- Trails on Mt Baldy to the north and upcoming N/S Freeway bike trail
- Wellesley Ave to the North of the area(Close to the Hillyard area) would be nice.
- Minnehaha park
- The obvious and proposed new freeway right-of-way trail
- No, but just because I am selfish and love it the way it is.
- Not sure it would good if beacon trails connected to other parks trails
- YES - TRAILS BORDERING NORTHWOOD TO THE WEST.
- Centennial Trail, bike shops
- Not that I know of because I do not ride.
- No
- Avista Power line
- Beacon is geographically separated from other area trails and cant be connected
- Trails on WA DNR land between Theirman and Northwood nbrhd - this is north of camp sekani, and north of the "new" valley springs subdivision.
- Upriver Dam area, water reservoir to the north
- What about the section just north, across Wellesley, up to Francis/Bigalow?
- The newest subdivision in Northwood have "common space" parcels that serve as stormwater control. Try to secure access through these areas for trail system.



4. Is there anything that would enhance your use or experience of the Beacon Hill trail system?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
More people using the trail system		0.0%	0
Less people using the trail system		0.0%	0
A trail map		23.7%	9
Better signage in the community		0.0%	0
Better signage on the trails		21.1%	8
More pedestrian connections from my neighborhood		7.9%	3
Better parking/trailhead access		15.8%	6
Nothing		5.3%	2
Don't know		5.3%	2
Other (please specify)		21.1%	8
answered question			38
skipped question			146


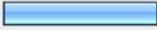
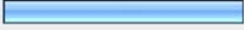



Responses under "Other"

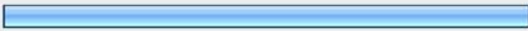

- Enforcement to prevent illegal dumping
- Better signage & A trail map
- Get all motorized recreation out of there
- It is also an unofficial dog park, which i love!
- Shuttle rode
- More x-country singletrack trails
- Stop the illegal dumping and motorized use
- No horses on trails when muddy

5. Is there anything else you would like to share?










- Citizens are simply not aware and the trails are very rough
- Dirt bikes ruin the experience on beacon , they are loud, fast and rude and they don't mind running over people on bikes
- Just how much i love the area and don't want it developed more than for biking and dogs...
- Out houses, better control on garbage dumping
- My son and his friends love to ride there and bmx, which is great because there are not many dirt trails for them to do that on.
- Chairlift would be really cool
- You do not have all the trails listed
- Thanks for caring about beacon hill!
- Block access for autos to dump trash

6. Did you know that the Beacon Hill trail network is a mix of private, Spokane City, Spokane County, and Avista property?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		72.1%	129
No		27.9%	50
<i>answered question</i>			179
<i>skipped question</i>			5

7. Do you know how much of the Beacon Hill Trail network is in public ownership?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
0%		4.4%	7
20%		25.3%	40
40%		39.9%	63
60%		22.2%	35
80%		8.2%	13
100%		0.6%	1
<i>answered question</i>			158





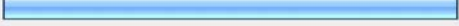

8. Have you ever visited the Beacon Hill Trail Network. See the map below for the trail area.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		87.8%	158
No		12.2%	22
<i>answered question</i>			180
<i>skipped question</i>			4

Questions/results (#9-17) are from people who have visited Beacon Hill.

9. How do you use these trails: (You can select as many as you like.)				
			Response Percent	Response Count
Paint Ball			1.3%	2
Climbing			25.3%	40
Walking with Pet			16.5%	26
Nature Observing			10.8%	17
Geocaching			7.0%	11
Hiking			40.5%	64
Trail Running			12.7%	20
Mountain Biking			88.6%	140
Other (please specify)			1.9%	3
			<i>answered question</i>	158
			<i>skipped question</i>	26



Responses under “Other”

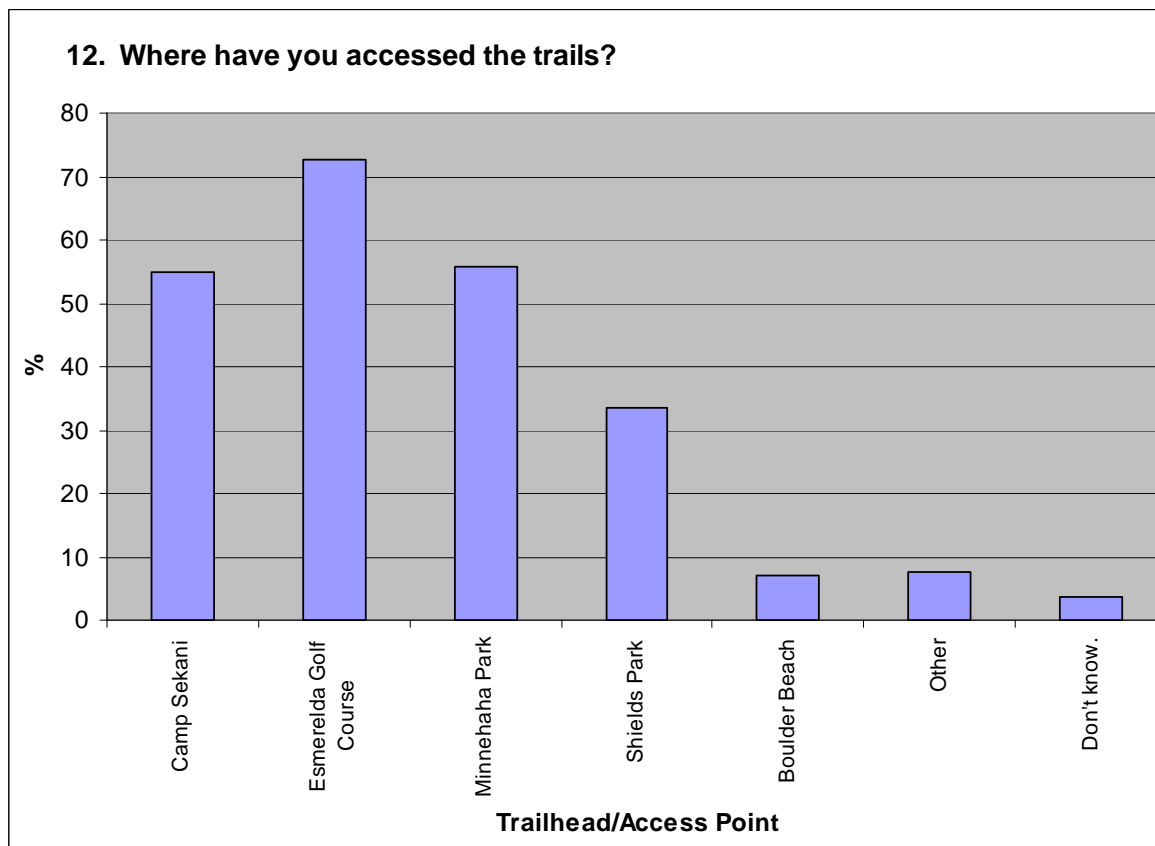
- Snowshoeing and geological surveying
- Downhill/Freeride
- I have not yet used them.

10. What is your primary use for these trails: (Please select only one.)				
			Response Percent	Response Count
Paint Ball			0.0%	0
Climbing			1.3%	2
Walking with Pet			4.4%	7
Nature Observing			0.0%	0
Geocaching			2.5%	4
Hiking			8.2%	13
Trail Running			1.9%	3
Mountain Biking			80.4%	127
Other (please specify)			1.3%	2
			<i>answered question</i>	158
			<i>skipped question</i>	26

Responses under “Other”


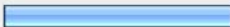



- Downhill/Freeride
- I have not yet used them.


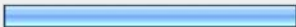





11. Which type of mountain biking do you do the most of? Please select only one.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Cross-country riding		74.0%	94
Downhill/Free-ride		26.8%	34
answered question			127
skipped question			57

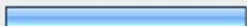
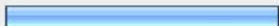







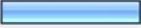
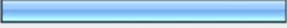
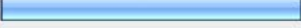





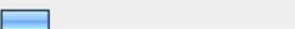
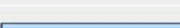

Responses under “Other”

- East Longfellow Ave a
- Various points along Centennial Trail
- Valley Springs rd.
- Upriver drive
- Wellesley up and over
- Columbia drive
- Private property on garden springs road
- Sunflower rd (through DNR land)

13. How did you travel to the trails?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
By Foot		8.9%	14
By Bike		39.2%	62
By Bus		0.6%	1
By Car		81.6%	129
Other (please specify)		0.6%	1
answered question			158
skipped question			26

14. How far did you travel to get to Beacon Hill?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
0-5 miles		35.4%	56
5-15 miles		50.6%	80
16-50 miles		8.2%	13
51-100 miles		1.9%	3
101-200 miles		0.6%	1
201-350 miles		2.5%	4
351 - 500 miles		0.6%	1
over 500		0.0%	0
answered question			158
skipped question			26














15. How would you describe your last experience on the Beacon Hill Trail network?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent		41.4%	65
Good		47.1%	74
Okay		8.9%	14
Poor		1.9%	3
Very Poor		0.6%	1
answered question			157
skipped question			27

16. What could be done to improve your experience? Feel free to select as many as you like.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Make some easier trails and routes		12.3%	19
Create longer distant routes		33.5%	52
Better maintenance of trails		23.2%	36
Improve trail signage		48.4%	75
Availability of trail maps		51.0%	79
Better parking		20.0%	31
Fewer number of trail intersections		9.0%	14
Increase the number of stunts on the trails		16.8%	26
Decrease the number of stunts on the trails		9.0%	14
Create more networks of shorter loops		7.7%	12
Reduce motorized use of the trails		49.7%	77
Restrooms		30.3%	47
Other (please specify)		27.1%	42

Responses – “Other”

- Make some easier trails and routes
- Expand the No Shoot Zone on the north side to an easily recognizable boundary in the field.
- Benches for resting
- Garbage Cans
- Atvs are accessing BH. Difficult to block but needs attention
- New climbing route on east end to avoid steep, eroding road and far east line
- Better security at parking areas (like that can happen! :-)
- More drops and jumps
- Less people
- The trail signage would be great and a little more maintenance but a ton of the riders do a great job taking care of the trails. So im pretty pleased of the area. Just wish that it wasn't going to be developed for housing.
- Close the area to illegal dumping
- Create a looped cross-country style trail that encompasses the entire hill
- Cut back the brush on the ravine bridge crossing
- Be able to shuttle trails
- More public land the city should purchase some of Beacon Hill
- Get rid garbage dumps
- Limit the 'spiderweb' effect of too many trails
- Orv's are destroying the trails up there and there really is now way to keep them off the trails unless it is banned to all motorized uses
- Table-top jumps!
- No preference, I really like it the way it is
- Chair lift
- Work together to clean up garbage


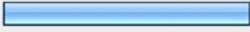
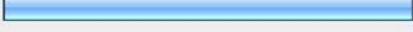

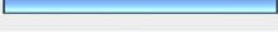




- Preserve trails from or integrate into nearby development
- Prevent garbage dumping - we cleaned this area several years ago and once again it's a mess!
- Have some signs identifying trails leading to specific features, like gravity tree. Simply putting a map with a "you are here" sticker at a few trail intersections would be great.
- Remove trash
- Shuttle rode or chairlift
- Is this a horse area? Horses have damaged a lot of the XC trails
- New trail to Columbia drive or elsewhere in Northwood to replace the trails being eaten up by the Valley Springs sub-division. (perhaps up the gulley), and connection (via streets) to DNR land
- Restrict access road to radio/cell towers, illegal dumping
- Restore poorly designed user-created trails cutting down steep slopes
- Way to many trails and subsequent erosion
- Watering hole at Camp Sekani for DH riders
- ALLOW MANMADE FEATURES ON TRAILS
- Properly constructed trails/closure of poor design trails
- H2O sprinklers for the Dirt Jumps!
- Reduce Trash and paintball impact.
- Clean up trash and decrease unnecessarily vehicular access. I'm female and run alone generally. I've run into sketchy men in trucks at the top of Esmeralda.
- Don't add stunts to existing trail that only a few can do
- New DH course and proper building of new stunts

17. What single improvement would be the most important to you.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Availability of trail maps		16.6%	26
Restrooms		2.5%	4
Make some easier trails and routes		2.5%	4
Create longer distant routes		10.2%	16
Better maintenance of trails		7.0%	11
Improve trail signage and maps		14.6%	23
Better parking		2.5%	4
Fewer number of trail intersections		1.3%	2
Increase the number of stunts on the trails		7.0%	11
Decrease the number of stunts on the trails		3.2%	5
Create more networks of shorter loops		3.2%	5
Reduce motorized use of the trails		15.9%	25
Other (please specify)		13.4%	21
answered question			157
skipped question			27

Responses – “Other”


- Close the area to illegal dumping
- Maintenance or stop illegal debris dumping
- Overall im very very pleased and love riding all over the Beacon Hill. I LOVES IT!!!
- Being able to shuttle the trails
- More public land
- Garbage and bums
- I bike the trail weekly and have seen way more orv use this year than any other year.....they don't seem to understand trail etiquette as they never yield to oncoming bikes...they will not stop when you try to talk to them...the area cannot support that kind of use or those kinds of attitudes
- More trails
- Clean up garbage by working together
- Trails
- More downhill trails
- Preservation of existing trails and continued improvements
- Not a good judge as I have not yet used them.
- Remove trash
- Shuttle or chairlift
- More downhill oriented trails
- Reduce impact from Motor Vehicles, Trash & Paintball
- Separate hikers from bikes
- The "other" comment listed above since it has to do with safety, or the feeling of safety
- Lets not make new trails over the existing

Questions/results (#18-19) are from people who have NOT visited Beacon Hill.

18. What type of activities do you like to participate in?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Hiking		40.9%	9
Walking with Pet		40.9%	9
Mountain Biking		68.2%	15
Climbing		4.5%	1
Nature Observing		45.5%	10
Geocaching		9.1%	2
Trail Running		13.6%	3
Paint Ball		4.5%	1
Other (please specify)		18.2%	4
answered question			22
skipped question			162


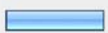


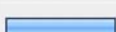

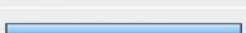
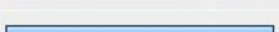


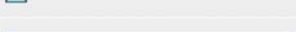


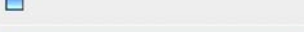

Responses - “Other”

- Road biking
- Recreational biking
- Walking

19. Why have you not visited Beacon Hill?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
I didn't know it existed.		31.8%	7
I don't participate in trail-related activities.		4.5%	1
I've been wanting to go, but just have not done it yet.		31.8%	7
I'm afraid I would get lost without a map of the area.		0.0%	0
I'm concerned about my safety.		0.0%	0
Other (please specify)		31.8%	7
answered question			22











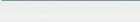




Responses – “Other”

- Just getting in to MTB
- I have
- Wasn't sure the location and facilities
- My 15yo goes there with his friends, I have
- not had the time yet. (Besides, I hate to watch him wreck)
- Not very close to where I live
- Living on south hill, there's lots of closer opportunities

20. What type of amenities would enhance your trail experience? You can select as many as you like.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Benches		10.6%	19
Information Kiosks		18.4%	33
Lighting		3.4%	6
Parking at trailheads		40.8%	73
Water fountains		20.7%	37
Pet waste disposal		10.1%	18
Garbage cans		45.3%	81
Bathrooms		51.4%	92
Mile markers		15.1%	27
Picnic Tables		3.4%	6
Trail signing		54.2%	97
Historical/Interpretive signs		11.2%	20
Artwork (murals, sculptures, etc)		2.8%	5
Trail Map		55.9%	100
Other (please specify)		12.3%	22
answered question			179
skipped question			5







Responses – “Other”

- Lots of dumping in the area - trash removal and ways to prevent dumping
- To keep them open forever
- Drinking fountains
- Cleanliness
- Armoring the trail and the berms
- It perfect the way it is...natural....we don't need to turn it into a national park...it's a rare wilderness experience at the edge of a major city...it should be protected...but never changed
- Assurance of continued and future access
- Just keep letting us ride there.
- Regular clean ups, block cars so they can't dump
- Fine as is
- Combine resources at existing trail heads, e.g. Esmerelda lot for Golf and Biking
- Blocking motorized access thus garbage dumping
- Playground so I can sit with younger kids while older ones ride
- Chairlift
- More dirt jumps with water to them
- I actually prefer it to remain as pristine and undeveloped as possible except basic trail maintenance to prevent erosion, etc.
- Safer street crossings from Beacon to Boulder Beach area. Blind corners make cars/bikes hard to see.
- Restrict building of more trails
- Safe parking areas
- It depends on where on the trail you are. The closer to parking areas the more benches, trash cans, lighting, etc. The further away the more "natural" the experience should be

21. What type of amenities would enhance your trail experience? Please select the one MOST important to you.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Benches		1.7%	3
Information Kiosks		2.2%	4
Lighting		1.1%	2
Parking at trailheads		11.2%	20
Water fountains		5.6%	10
Pet waste disposal		1.1%	2
Garbage cans		11.7%	21
Bathrooms		10.1%	18
Mile markers		2.2%	4
Picnic Tables		0.6%	1
Trail signing		25.1%	45
Historical/Interpretive signs		0.6%	1
Artwork (murals, sculptures, etc)		0.6%	1
Trail Map		17.9%	32
Other (please specify)		8.4%	15
answered question			179
skipped question			5

Responses – “other”

- Cleaned up
- More durable trails
- Leave it alone...nature does not need improving
- Assurance of continued and future access
- Keep letting us ride there
- Cars blocked so others can't dump
- Fine as is
- Method to keep out motorized vehicles
- Blocking motorized access thus garbage dumping and drug paraphernalia
- Chairlift
- Restrict building of more trails
- Safe parking areas
- It depends on type of experience you are shooting for/ where you are on the trails. I suppose my first choice would be sufficient trail access that works for everyone (parking at Esmeralda doesn't always make the golf course people happy...)

22. Where would you like to see the Beacon Hill Trail network connect to?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Centennial Trail		66.9%	119
New North/South Freeway		16.9%	30
Valley Spring Road		14.6%	26
Northwood Community		9.6%	17
Hillyard Community		19.7%	35
Other (please specify)		15.2%	27
answered question			178
skipped question			6

Responses – “Other”

- Don't care
- I'm not sure it should connect to any other network.
- Baldy mtn. Hills
- I really think that the hill is pretty well centrally located and it's already on the centennial trail so i don't see much of a problem.
- Keep it the same! We don't want idiots crowding the trails!
- Leave it alone...there is plenty of access points
- It's already is connected to centennial trail and associated neighborhoods.
- None needed leave as is
- Hill and trails located north of beacon
- Scc
- Mt baldy...county property
- Nowhere
- Maintain connections to all nearby parks and trailheads.
- Why does it need to connect to anywhere
- No suggestion
- Riverside
- Don't know the area well enough to comment
- Spokane valley
- Not sure it needs to connect to anything
- Do not care
- None. I go to beacon to ride beacon's all mountain type trails, the xc ups and the freeride downs a bit of every thing!

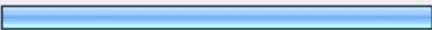


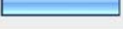
- Create corridor to the north generally following vacant land around the power lines.
- I like where it is
- No opinion
- N/a
- You guys are doing a great thing with this - keep it up! I think when the county approved the valley springs sub-division, they included a requirement for wildlife

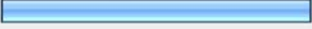

access (corridor of some kind) between camp sekani and dnr. We all have to watchdog to make sure it happens. "common area" was shown on preliminary plat maps from the northeast corner of the camp sekani property extending all the way to where Columbia drive passes under the avista powerlines.



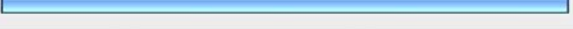
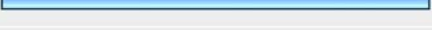
23. What are your preferred trail lengths?							
	Less than 1 mile	1-2 miles	3-5 miles	6-10 miles	11-15 miles	16-20 miles	Response Count
Walking/Hiking	2.4% (2)	22.9% (19)	60.2% (50)	27.7% (23)	3.6% (3)	2.4% (2)	83
Trail Running	6.4% (3)	8.5% (4)	61.7% (29)	31.9% (15)	4.3% (2)	2.1% (1)	47
Walking with Pet	13.7% (7)	37.3% (19)	43.1% (22)	13.7% (7)	2.0% (1)	2.0% (1)	51
Geocaching	23.1% (6)	34.6% (9)	46.2% (12)	3.8% (1)	3.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	26
Nature Observing	10.3% (4)	25.6% (10)	51.3% (20)	15.4% (6)	2.6% (1)	7.7% (3)	39
Mountain Biking	4.6% (7)	8.5% (13)	17.6% (27)	38.6% (59)	31.4% (48)	34.6% (53)	153
Climbing	71.1% (32)	17.8% (8)	13.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	45
Other (please specify)							5
answered question							171
skipped question							13





Responses – “Other”

- I downhill at Beacon so trail length is limited. I would prefer the longest trail I could find!
- Not a good judge...
- Actually, I like the Moscow Mtn. model where you customize the length of your ride by connecting trails
- Longer downhill course
- Trail length does not matter. As long as it is a fun trail

24. Which type of rides/walks/runs is the most important to you? Select only one.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
loop trail		71.8%	127
out and back trail		1.7%	3
shuttle ride/hike		7.3%	13
don't care		19.2%	34
answered question			177
skipped question			7

25. Would you like to volunteer to help with the trail system?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		51.4%	91
No		48.6%	86
answered question			177
skipped question			7

26. Thank you for your interest in helping with the trail system. Please provide your name and contact information as well as what your interest is (planning, building, clean-ups). Your information will be kept confidential.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Activity (i.e. planning, clean-up, trail building)		87.7%	64
Name		95.9%	70
Email		94.5%	69
Phone Number		71.2%	52
Organization (if any)		42.5%	31
answered question			73
skipped question			111

27. How old are you?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
12 and under		0.0%	0
13-19		4.1%	7
20-29		13.4%	23
30-49		57.0%	98
50-65		25.0%	43
65 and over		0.6%	1
answered question			172
skipped question			12

28. Open ended final comments/recommendations

- Cement relations with private land owners to prevent being locked out by development
- Keep up the great work, this is so exciting!!
- I work on the trails already:)
- Not yet but I hope that we don't loose any trails anytime soon. I hope that the Bicycle Butler can be more involved in helping you guys out. Thanks
- I'm more of a all mountain rider so long loops with some stunts on it I prefer no just DH and XC
- Thanks to current volunteers for all you do for our trails!!
- Land acquisition should be #1 priority or it all becomes housing!
- Let's ride!
- To summarize...leave it be..it's great the way it is....get strict on what kind of uses are allowed so there is no trail conflicts between users, no confusion and no trail degradation
- I already do trail work at Riverside and Bluff. Beacon is my 3rd local choice behind Riverside and Bluff/south. I like Beacon as it is..the mix of XC and DH is great. My biggest concern is the coordination of existing/future trail as the property by the golf course is developed.
- Mileage and/or signs would be helpful for pacing
- No, I just love it...Have for years.
- The Spokane Mountaineers clean up mini and the surrounding hills each year, removing lots of trash.
- We must save this amazing chunk of land. It is part of what make Spokane attractive
- It's heartbreaking to see this park and others in Spokane being used as a dump- there needs to not only be clean-ups, but rather, a shift in enforcement of laws, community involvement, etc!
- To make more of Beacon Hill public property
- It's a great park, don't let it become a garbage dump
- Thanks for all the hard work.
- Improve "comfort" for hikers and trail runners ie. Promote better bike manners
- Thank you!
- Shuttle or chairlift
- More attention to Cross Country singletrack trails
- You guys are doing a great thing with this - Keep it up! I think when the County approved the Valley Springs sub-division, they included a requirement for wildlife access (corridor of some

kind) between camp sekani and DNR. We all have to watchdog to make sure it happens. "common area" was shown on preliminary plat maps from the Northeast corner of the camp sekani property extending all the way to where Columbia drive passes under the Avista powerlines.

- Keep up the good work
- You are performing a wonderful service to the community
- Would help on trail building given plenty of notice ahead of time
- I support your efforts to gain control of this system to help preserve it. Thanks
- Keep up the good work!!!
- The beacon trail network is a good thing, but it needs more input by downhill riders and not just all input from the cross country riders
- Beacon has a wonderful blend of riding, great XC up downs and then the reward of the down hill areas. I don't hit anything over 10 feet so a lot of the stuff is over my head but I still like to watch my buddies hit'em. 15-20 mile loops are great. 1-2 hours of riding. Log rides, ladder bridges, drops, tech climbing and single track it all blends well to me. The only thing I dis-like and feel are out of place for %90 of riders are the jump sections, very few of the doubles and jumps up there are quality builds with good transitions.
- Thanks to the FTTRC for their valued trail improvements. It's got to be tough keeping up at this heavily used area.
- Love the trails
- We need private property cooperation and grant or money source
- This seems like a good idea, collecting the data
- Allow STUNTS ON THE TRAILS. KEEP ADVANCED ONESPLEASE, BUT JUST MAKE AN EASY ROUTE AROUND STUNTS.
- Buy great dirt for Dirt Jumps, Install Sprinklers to keep Firm, More STUNTS!!!
- As an XC rider I am concerned that Beacon will be taken over by downhill and freeriders
- I appreciate you taking on this effort. This trail system is one of my favorite places to be in the Spokane area.
- Would like to see more XC races like to old days.
- Beacon Hill has been awesome. Keep up the work.

Draft Beacon Hill Concept Plan

Appendix II – Land Ownership and Private Lands

Land Ownership

The table below summarizes information about the size, ownership, and status of properties that makes up the ‘critical parcels’ of the trail system. Critical parcels are those that have existing trails on them, deemed vital to the trail system.

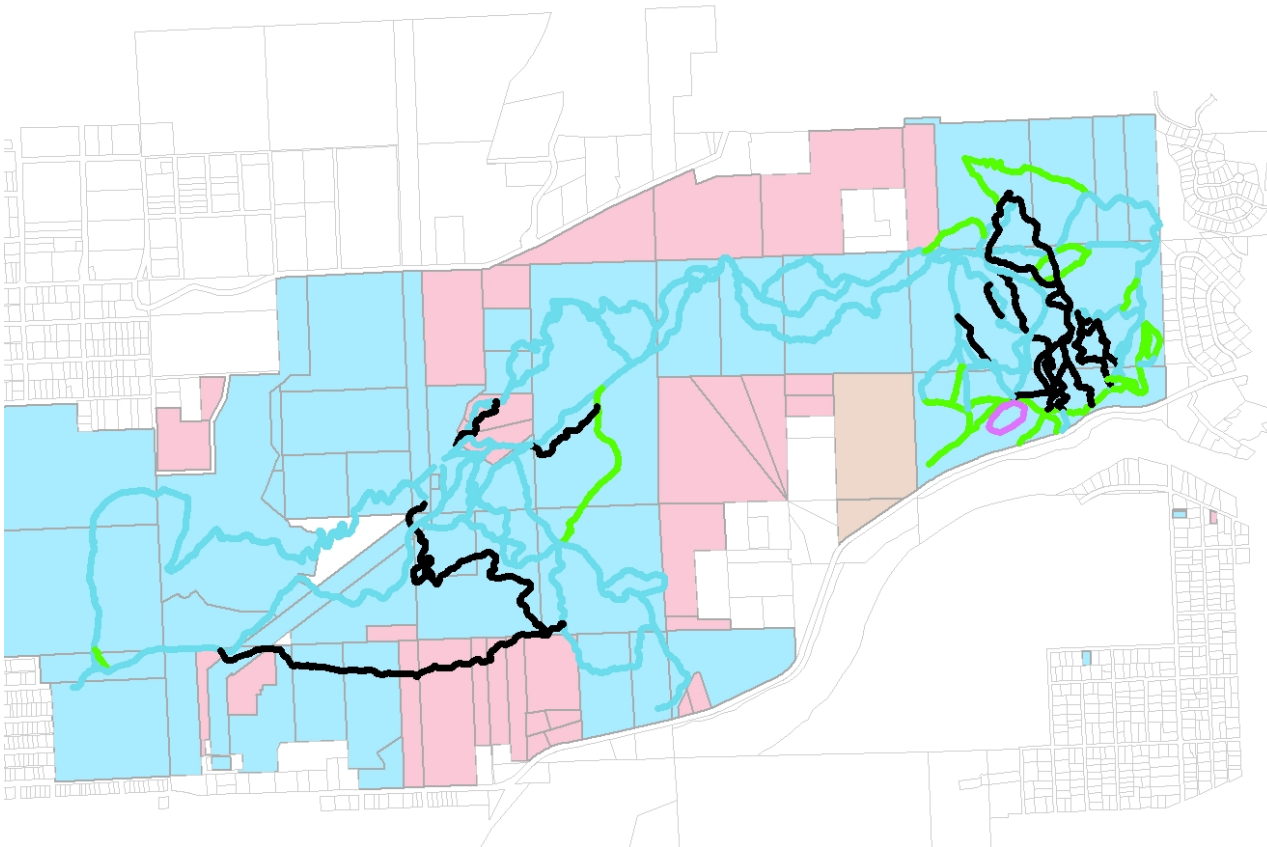
Property Type	Property Owner	Parcel Size (acres)	Percentage of the whole	Status
Public Property				
Camp Sekani	Spokane Parks and Recreation Department	238	22%	The City is a partner on this planning effort and will be a partner in management of the system. The Fat Tire Trail Riders Club is helping with maintenance of this Camp Sekani through the City’s Adopt a Park program.
Conservation Futures Property near Camp Sekani	Spokane Parks and Recreation Department	56	5%	
Minnehaha Park	Spokane Parks and Recreation Department	38	4%	
Esmeralda Golf Course (only the open space portion included in trail system)	Spokane Parks and Recreation Department	162	15%	
John Shields Park	Spokane County Parks, Recreation, and Gold and Spokane Parks and Recreation Department	26	2%	The City is a partner on this planning effort and it is anticipated that the County will also be a partner in management of the system.
Public Property - subtotal		520	48%	
Private Property				
Beacon Hill Properties	Pete Rayner	182	17%	Avid supporter of the project. A verbal handshake agreement is in place.
Powerline right-of-ways	Avista Utilities	93	9%	Avid supporter of the project. A verbal handshake agreement is in place.
Proposed Housing Development & Open Space	Tomlinson, NAI, Brian Walker	70	6%	Verbal handshake agreement is in place
Banta		68	6%	Verbal acknowledgement of the trail efforts. Permission to conduct GPS works and produce a public map has not yet been granted.
Private/open space	Matt and Cory Collin	19	2%	Verbal handshake agreement is in place.
Residential	Phil and Molly Zammit	11	1%	Verbal handshake agreement is in place.
	K. Shoff	10	1%	Verbal handshake agreement is in place.
Radio Towers	Erfurth, etc. all	21.5	2%	Verbal acknowledgement of the trail efforts.

	Trans West Reality	1.5	0%	No trails on this property
	Avista	10	1%	Need to verify the owner
	Mason	10	1%	?
	Virk	5.5	0.5%	Potential for developments, special circumstances on map
	Lower Trail – this trail could be re-routed and may not be critical (various – Lemon, Combs Living Trust, Rudeen Development, Worthington, Degen)	57	5%	No response El
	Sandifur	5.5	0.5%	Potential fore developments, special circumstances on map
Private Lands subtotal		564	52%	
Total		1084	100%	

Note: The numbers represented above are approximate. The acreage for the entire parcel is included even though trails may be on only a portion of this property.

Description and Current Status of Key Parcels

Below is a description and status of key properties that make up the Beacon Hill Trail system. As shown above as of February 2009, verbal handshake agreements have been formed with most of the critical properties. The map below also illustrates the parcels on Beacon Hill and landowner response received so far. The blue represents landowners who support the project at some level and have given verbal permission to continue with mapping efforts. The pink represents areas where a response from landowners has not been received.



Beacon Hill Properties: Beacon Hill Properties is a partnership consisting of Dave Baker and Pete Rayner. Beacon Hill Properties owns the largest block of undeveloped property inside the City limits (182 acres). A hugely popular hiking and mountain biking trail approximately 2 miles long, the “Esmeralda Trail” crosses the property. This trail is heavily used by the community, offering exercise, natural beauty and scenic vistas.

Recognizing the value of recreational trails and open spaces for a community, Beacon Hill properties approached and began working with the Fat Tire Bicycle Club, a 501 C3 organization formed for the purpose of mapping, making permanent and expanding the trails system throughout the Beacon Hill, Camp Sekani, Avista and City Parks and Recreation Department parcels in NE Spokane. Peter Rayner is an avid supporter of this trail project. At this point, Beacon Hill Properties is working with the Beacon Hill Trails group to determine what parcels are required to keep the trail intact.

The current zoning; is approximately 42 acres “multi-family” and 140 acres of “low density residential”. The combination provides for a maximum of 3,000 residential units “RU”. Preliminary master planning studies indicate density will be closer to 1,000 RU. The property is located in the 4800 block east between Minnehaha Park on the south and the extension of Wellesley Avenue on the north. The entire property possesses territorial views.

Beacon Properties Vision is to develop a Master Planned Community consistent with the goals and objectives of the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan, its PUD and related ordinances. Specifically the plan will include:

- A broad range of housing options woven into a cohesive community, including single family, townhouse, condominium, senior and workforce housing.
- Permanent trails system
- Mass transit friendly, park and ride
- Friendly to alternative transportation.
- Green and sustainable building guidelines
- Significant open-space.
- A community the entire region should be proud of

See web site_www.beaconhillevents.com.

Matt and Cory Collin Property: This parcel is in between two conservation futures parcels. The Collins support the project and has dedicated their parcel via open space taxations listing. They have concerns about trail encroachment around the year round spring. They would like help keeping motorized-use out and keeping users from coming into their back yard.

Brian Walker Property: These four parcels comprise the top of the downhill course and the primary cross-country loop. Spokane Parks and Recreation and FTTRC have met with Mr. Walker to discuss both his development plans and the Beacon Trails Project. At this time we have a handshake type agreement to map and maintain the trails.

Banta Property: FTTRC has met with the realtor, who is listing these two (plus one) parcels. At this time, she is submitting an application for Conservation Futures purchase.

A “Private Property Temporary Trail” designation will be used on the map for the below listed parcels. This designation will inform map users that the trails on these particular parcels may be moved, closed, or decommissioned at any time, and that the future of the parcels is uncertain..

K Shoff has two parcels with trails, and verbally supports the efforts of the Beacon Project to encourage appropriate non motorized uses, mapping, and trash clean up. These parcels may be listed as “Private Property Temporary Trail.”

Erfurth etc. all (radio towers) is comfortable with current non motorized recreational use, but has concerns about potential liability. He is also aware of the WA state recreational statue protection.

Virk & Sandifur. These parcels, which have scenic singletrack on them, needs to be marked “Private Property Temporary Trail” for several reasons. Dr. Virk plans to break ground for a residence in 2010, and will work with FTTRC trail crew to reroute the trail away from the proposed residence. Mr. Sandifur’s piece has the potential to be sold at any time, and he wishes to not have it encumbered by any agreements.

Options for Landowners Wanting to Support the Trails

Next steps with landowner outreach is to meet with individual landowners with the goals of identifying any issues of concern and creating written agreements that work for all parties. These agreements could range from an informal agreement that could be revoked at any time to an easement. Agreements will be developed that fit the needs of the individual landowner.

Washington State has a recreational use statute, RCW 4.24.200

(http://www.americanwhitewater.org/resources/repository/Washington_Recreational_Use_Statute.htm) that limits the liability of all landowners who provide free public access to their lands for recreational purposes. In addition, landowners can further reduce their liability by providing an easement of the trail corridor to the city, county or non-profit organization (such as the FTTRC).

Below is a description of the primary options available to landowners wanting to support.

Conservation Futures

One option for selling the land is to apply to Spokane County's Conservation Future program

http://www.conservationfutures.org/news.php?news_id=45. Nominations re-open in 2009, with additional programs being created for trail easement option. This is a legally binding sale that transfers ultimate responsibility to land trust or city.

Conservation or Trail Easement

An easement is a voluntary agreement between the landowner and a nonprofit organization or governmental agency that allows trail access on their land.

- Sale or Gifted – can be sold at fair market value, value according to landowner, or gifted for a tax break. A qualified easement may provide the following tax breaks: 1) the value of an easement can be a charitable contribution, subject to the individual's personal financial situation. 2) The value of the easement can reduce the assessed value of the property for property tax purposes. 3) The easement can reduce the value of the owner's estate for estate tax purposes.
- Legally binding – transfers ultimate responsibility to land trust or city.
- Any width of corridor from 5ft plus.
- Flexible or secured location– trail can be moved at discretion of landowner for timber harvest, management or other needs. FTTRC would be responsible for rerouting the trail at no expense to the landowner.

Informal Agreement

- 'Secured' through a formal handshake agreement/document (simple one to two page document).
- Non-binding – can be withdrawn at anytime.
- Any width corridor from 5 ft plus
- Flexible or secured location – trail can be moved at discretion of landowner for timber harvest, management or other needs. FTTRC would be responsible for rerouting the trail at no expense to the landowner.

Open Space Taxation Act

The Open Space Taxation Act, enacted in 1970, allows property owners to have their open space, farm and agricultural, and timber lands valued at their current use rather than at their highest and best use. This generally reduces the tax burden on the property. One of the criteria for open space use is enhancing recreation opportunities. For more information, go to <http://dor.wa.gov>.

More information and example agreements can be obtained through Fat Tire Trail Riders Club, Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, and Spokane County Parks, Recreation, and Golf Department.

Draft Beacon Hill Concept Plan

Appendix III — Primary Funding Opportunities for Trails in Washington State

Federal

SAFETEA

The single most significant source of funding for trail projects nationwide is contained in the federal transportation legislation Congress authorizes once every five to six years. It was re-authorized (2005) as SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act- Legacy for Users) includes funding for fiscal years 2005-2009. This is an important funding source because the legislation includes initiatives to protect and enhance communities and the natural environment as it provides for the nation's transportation needs. These activities include programs that fund development of facilities for bicycles and pedestrians as an integral part of a communities' transportation infrastructure.

Following are two of the more important program areas for bicycle and pedestrian interests to monitor:

Transportation Program Enhancements

The Enhancements is a block grant type program that makes federal money available to state and local communities for a broad range of transportation activities. The TEA-21 legislation mandated that 10% of all Surface Transportation funds be set aside and used for transportation 'enhancement' activities (which amounted to \$62 million nation-wide for fiscal year 2006). Enhancements include the development of facilities such as sidewalks, bike lanes, and pedestrian trails. The Washington State Department of Transportation administers the distribution of enhancement funds in Washington.

The applications are due every couple of years. A 20% match is required. For more information see <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/Enhance.htm> and

The Bicycle/Pedestrian coordinator for the state of Washington who would be familiar with this enhancements money as well as other potential funds through the SAFETEA-LU. Her name and number is Charlette Claybrook 360 705-7302.

Recreational Trails Program

Another important program expected to be reauthorized under SAFETEA is called the National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP). This program supports the maintenance of trails that provide a 'backcountry experience'. Eligible projects include maintenance of recreational land, shelters, signs, and parking as well as those that promote safety and environmental protection. NRTP grants require a 20% match. The NRTP is administered in Washington by the Recreation and Conservation Office (www.rco.wa.gov/) A letter of intent is due in February and the applications are due in March.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was enacted by Congress in 1964 to establish a funding source for grants to state and local governments for land acquisition and/or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. LWCF is federally funded and overseen by the National Park Service but administered in each state through a governor-appointed state agency. In Washington, LWCF is administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). LWCF grants require a 50% match from state or local funds. Areas funded through LWCF assistance are required to be dedicated in perpetuity for public recreation use. Letters of intent are due in February and applications are due in March. (www.rco.wa.gov/)

EPA Environmental Education Grants

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sponsors environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to help people make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. The program is managed by EPA's Office of Environmental Education and awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Annual funding for the program ranges between \$2 and \$3 million. More than 75 percent of the grants awarded by this program receive less than \$15,000. This represents an opportunity to pursue funding for various environmental education projects (e.g., interpretive signs, exhibits, websites, brochures, etc).

State

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

The WWRP is a grant program authorized by the Washington State legislature to support acquisition and development of outdoor recreation and conservation lands. Eligible projects include state and local parks, water access sites, trails, critical wildlife habitat, and natural areas. Grants require a 50% match. WWRP is managed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (www.rco.wa.gov/). For applicants besides State Parks, letters of intents are due in March and applications are due in May.

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)

The ALEA is a grant program authorized by the Washington State legislature to provide grant-in-aid support for the purchase, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes, and for providing and improving access to such lands. It is funded by is funded entirely by revenue generated by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from management of state-owned aquatic lands. Eligible projects include acquisition (purchase), restoration, or improvement of aquatic lands for public purposes and for providing and improving public access to aquatic lands and associated waters.

Any divisions of local or state government, as well as Native American Tribes are eligible to apply if legally authorized to acquire and develop public open space, habitat, or recreation facilities. The ALEA program is managed by the RCO (www.rco.wa.gov/). Letter of intent and applications are both due in March.

Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA)

The NOVA Program is funded by the State of Washington and helps develop and manage recreation opportunities for such activities as cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding, mountain bicycling, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, motorcycling, and riding all-terrain and four-wheel drive vehicles. By statute, activities supported by the NOVA Program must be accessed via a "Nonhighway Road" (NHR). These are roads open to the public but not constructed with gasoline tax revenues. NHRs are found in National Forests and National Parks. Eligible projects include planning, capital improvements, maintenance and operation, and off-road vehicle (ORV) education and enforcement. Municipal subdivision, State agencies, Tribal governments, and Federal agencies are all eligible to apply. The program is managed by RCO (www.rco.wa.gov/). Letters of intent are due in September and applications are due in October.

RCO staff can help direct people to one or more of the grants that they manage. A good general contact is Greg Lovelady 360 902-3008.

Safe Routes to Schools

The Safe Routes to Schools program is a program run by the Departments of Transportation and Health, Washington Traffic Safety Commission, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction for schools and school districts in Washington working within their communities for traffic safety, transportation efficiency, healthy children, Strong neighborhoods and reduced pollution. The Safe Routes to Schools grant program aims to protect children from traffic deaths and injuries, and promotes a healthy lifestyle through biking and walking. It also provides sensible transportation by reducing the number of car trips to and from schools. For more information, see http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Bike/Safe_Routes_Projects.htm/.

No Child Left Inside

No Child Left Inside is a grant program administered by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. The program has \$1.5 million available to Washington state outdoor education and recreation youth programs to help get our children back outside to learn about and enjoy nature. <http://www.parks.wa.gov/NoChildLeftInside/>

Other

Other grant opportunities are available from various private groups, foundations and businesses. These have to be tracked and monitored from year to year for funding levels and availability. There are several web-based programs that assist people in identifying and locating these types of grant opportunities.

Some of these are:

- The Red Lodge Clearinghouse (www.redlodgeclearinghouse.org)
- The Environmental Grantmakers Association (www.ega.org)
- The Trails and Greenway Clearinghouse (www.trailsandgreenways.org/)
- American Rivers Restoring Riverfronts: A Guide to Selected Funding Sources (<http://www.americanrivers.org/riverfronttoolkit/>)
- Foundation Center's Guide to Grants (www.fdncenter.org/pnd/)

There is also a federal website to search for grants. It is <http://www.grants.gov/>.