memorandum

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| Date: | Wednesday, May 04, 2022 |
| To: | Project Management Team |
| From: | Matt Hastie, MIG|APGBrandon Crawford, MIG|APG |
| Subject: | Advisory Committee Meeting #1 Minutes |

## Attendees:

Annie Marland, BPAC, Sisters Trails Alliance, annie72sisters@gmail.com

Brandon Crawford, MIG bcrawford@migcom.com

Catherine Hayden, Sisters Trails Alliance cfhayden@gmail.com

Chris Cheng, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Chris.CHENG@odot.state.or.us

Devin Hearing, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) devin.hearing@odot.oregon.gov

Ian Reid – USFS, Sisters District ian.reid2@usda.gov

Karen Swirsky, Kittelson & Associates kswirsky@kittelson.com

Katie Popp, Kittelson & Associates kpopp@kittelson.com

Kim McCarrel, Sisters Trails Alliance and Equestrian Board kim@nwhorsetrails.com

Mark Thompson, Sisters Trails Alliance markthompson59@gmail.com

Matt Hastie, APG|MIG mhastie@migcom.com

Nicole Mardell, Deschutes County Community Development Nicole.Mardell@deschutes.org

Patti Adair, BOCC Patti.Adair@deschutes.org

Paul Bertagna, City of Sisters pbertagna@ci.sisters.or.us

Peter Gutowsky, Deschutes County Development Services peter.gutowsky@deschutes.org

Peter Russell, Deschutes County peter.russell@deschutescounty.gov

Sara Baughman, US Forest Service sara.baughman@usda.gov

Steve Swisher, Deschutes County Planning Commission swishersn@live.com

## Notes:

**Project Background and Objectives**

* Matt Hastie discussed project overview and objectives (see [project website](https://projectcomment.com/scvaptrailsexpansionoutreach))
* Sisters Country Vision Action Plan also includes Camp Sherman
* Project is mostly focusing on areas within Sisters School District (Sisters Country), but we can also identify connections between Sisters Country and areas outside study area
* Included in Sisters Country is Black Butte and Cross Roads
* Ian Reid – Trail project recommendations will probably go through environmental analysis and impact analysis after being incorporated into TSP
	+ Environmental impact analysis will be noted as an implementation action in this project

**Plans/Policy Review**

* Need to add City of Sisters Comp Plan to list of plans/policies to review – there are goals/policies related to trails connections
	+ Comp Plan addressed through the TSP review
	+ Need to review TSP section 5.5 – goals and policies related to Bicycle Use and trails
	+ Annie – Bike/Ped advisory committee has discussed preliminary plans for trails from Bend to Sisters, Sisters to Redmond, Redmond to Bend
	+ Mark – Want to make sure people with disabilities are considered for trails.
	+ Ian – Deschutes FP is dated. Looking into overall objectives, need to be aware of sensitive areas and wildlife areas to avoid.

**Existing Conditions and Mapped Trails**

* Chris - The Transamerica Trail crosses through Sisters Country and should be included on map/inventory of existing trails
	+ Kim – as does the OR Timber Trail
* Sara will provide trails data from National Forest system.
* Mark – missing trail from high school to Tollgate – relies on School District land
	+ Deschutes Land Trust helps manage that area. They likely have mapping information for it. They helped plot out the path for that trail
	+ Steve S will provide contact information
* Should add a category for ADA access on trails to trails data

**Needed Connections or Improvements**

* Sisters to Crossroads trails needs to be ADA accessible too. Should also access schools.
	+ Goes past Edginton
* It would be helpful to know how "adaptive trail" is defined. Does it mean wheelchair accessible? Adaptive bike accessible? Or some other definition.
* Need a trail connection from Sisters to Camp Sherman
* Is there interest to resurrect Black Butte Trail in this process?
	+ Annie – started sisters to Black Butte process a while ago. Got approval for Sisters to Tollgate. Also got approval for Sisters to Black Butte but was withdrawn. A lot of interest among the community
	+ City is ready for that conversation. City has the existing trail up to city limits
* Is there an off-highway grid trail plan? Should there be?
	+ Desire for off-highway trail from Sisters to Bend – still in County plans?
* Kim – STA has been putting together plans for future trails.
	+ STA and COTA working on a plan for additional bike/equestrian trails
	+ Matt – Please share a draft with PMT.
* Chris – Looking at trail connection for Sisters to Bend and Sisters to Redmond. Was thinking about applying for a FLAP grant but didn’t. Would be good to look at those potential connections/trails.
	+ Received a grant for Tumalo to Sisters
	+ Don’t have much grant money to work outside Sisters Country for this project but can do policy language to support it. Interested parties can provide Public Comment for overall County TSP
* Trail from Sisters to Black Butte has been mapped out on west side of highway. Have plans to do second trail for horses so they’re not on same path.
	+ Existing trail from Mainline (city limits) to Indian Ford; plan to create separate trail for equestrians
* Ian – There are trail advocates that aren’t represented here, such as COTA. There are other equestrian groups and trails groups to talk to.
* Should be aware that there may be people who don’t want more trails.
* Would be good to start contacting specific orgs to help with broader outreach.
* Annie – will the project address what kinds of trails or materials?
	+ Not in the scope to come up with the trail designs or types
	+ This project will start to determine the users of types of users, which will guide the design.
* Owner of Blazing Saddles is a member of COTA – good contact person.

## Action Items

* Include Transamerica Trail and Oregon Timber Trail in directory of existing trails
* Reach out to COTA advocates – owner of Blazing Saddles is a good contact
* Share draft of STA and COTA bike/ equestrian trails with PMT

**Need to follow up with:**

* Sara Baughman - Will provide trails data from National Forest system.
* Steve Swisher – Contact information for Deschutes Land Trust (Re: mapping information for missing trail from high school to Tollgate)

## Chat/Comment Log

From Chris Cheng (he/him) - ODOT to Everyone 12:05 PM

*One more note for existing conditions not shown on the map - the Transamerica Trail also crosses through this area*

From Kim McCarrel to Everyone 12:06 PM

*So does the Oregon Timber Trail.*

From Chris Cheng (he/him) - ODOT to Everyone 12:07 PM

*So does the Sierra Cascades trail from Adventure Cycling*

From Kim McCarrel to Everyone 12:14 PM

*Matt, can you take in GPS tracks?*

* *Yes, GPS tracks should be GIS compatible*

From Kim McCarrel to Everyone 12:25 PM

*It would be helpful to know how "adaptive trail" is defined. Does it mean wheelchair accessible? Adaptive bike accessible? Or some other definition.*

From Steve Swisher to Everyone 12:30 PM

*I agree with the need from the HS to Crossroads*

*A trail connection from Sisters to Camp Sherman*

*i agree with relooking at Sisters to Black Butte*

From Kim McCarrel to Everyone 12:30 PM

*Yes to the Sisters to Black Butte Trail.*

From Steve Swisher to Everyone 12:37 PM

*the Deschutes County line is less than a mile from the turn of highway 20 to Camp Sherman*

From Ian Reid, Sisters District Ranger to Everyone 12:42 PM

*I do not know those 2 are tied to COTA--I just threw it out as a question*

From Peter Russell, Sr Trans Plnr to Everyone 12:43 PM

*We were looking for the sweet spot of a committee that had a wide range of bike/ped/equestrian viewpoints, but still a manageable size. We can still reach out to other groups or organizations, both pro and con.*

From Chris Cheng (he/him) - ODOT to Everyone 12:44 PM

*Alex Brieger is COTA's Trails Program Manager: he'd be a good contact*

*alex.brieger@cotamtb.com*