



Park Planning and Development

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting OCTOBER 2019



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Arrowcreek Fuels Grant

- On October 10, 2017, BCC approved a grant for \$39,000 to do additional fuel reduction work on Arrowcreek Open Space.
- Collaborative partnership with Arrowcreek Homeowners Association and Friends of Arrowcreek, which owns the two golf courses.
- A grant extension was approved by Nevada Division of Forestry through October 1, 2019. An additional extension was requested through October 1, 2020 and paperwork is currently being processed.
- High Sierra Forestry was contracted to oversee the fuels reduction project. Paul Roen was hired to conduct the mastication work on 25 acres of Arrowcreek open space which was completed on June 30, 2019.

Ballardini Ranch Trail connection to Thomas Creek

- Funding provided by WC-1.
- Construction of a connector trail between Ballardini Ranch Trailhead and Old FS Road has been completed.
- Working with USFS on environmental compliance requirements for the portion of trail from Old FS Road to Thomas Creek trailhead. The proposed trail alignment was flagged on the ground by Sierra Trail Works. Botany surveys were completed by the USFS in May. Redhorse Corporation was contracted to do the cultural survey work. Field surveys were started in August 2019 and are ongoing.
- The Arrowcreek HOA is also working on designing a new trail system that would connect from Arrowcreek to various points on the existing and future portions of the Ballardini Ranch Trail system. Arrowcreek contractor began work on trails plan on May 15th. An agreement will be put in place for any trails constructed on Washoe County Open Space areas.
- Currently working with the Forest Service to get the next phase of the project (Ballardini Ranch to Hunter Creek trail connection) on their NEPA schedule for FY20.

Blackstone Estates Park Agreement

- The agreement between JC Blackstone LLC and Washoe County for the use of RCT funds to reimburse part of the construction costs for a new neighborhood park in Spanish Springs was approved by the BCC in September. The park is expected to be built within the next 9-12 months.
- The park will not be dedicated to Washoe County and will be managed and maintained by the HOA in perpetuity. Maintenance terms will be included in the HOA's CC&Rs as detailed in a subsequent maintenance agreement to be completed in the coming months. Staff is currently working with the developer to draft the maintenance agreement.

Bowers Mansion Rehabilitation

- Funding provided by WC-1 and endowment
- Melvyn Green & Associates, Inc. hired to prepare Maintenance and Rehabilitation Recommendations.
- Plan completed October 2018.
- Melvyn Green & Associates have submitted bid documents. Contracted with the Poggemeyer Design Group to manage the project. Project expected to go out for bid in December 2019.

Crystal Peak Park Planting

- This is a partnership project with Nevada Land Trust and REI to plant native species near the new ArTrail installation at Crystal Peak Park.

- Stantec completed a landscape plan for the project in October 2019.
- Parks staff completed site prep including installation of landscape fabric prior to the event. The volunteer event took place on October 12th with 23 volunteers plus park staff in attendance. Approximately 260 native plants were planted and a drip irrigation system was installed. Parks staff will be adding bark mulch and boulders to complete the project over the next several weeks.

Easements

- Three parkland easement applications have been submitted. TMWA is the applicant for all easements. Two of the proposed easements are on Washoe County's Arrowcreek Open Space parcel and they would allow TMWA to complete required upgrades on two wells located on existing easements on the subject property. The third proposed easement is on Washoe County's Sugarloaf Peak Open Space parcel and would allow TMWA to construct an additional water line connecting the existing water tank to a new subdivision located to the northwest of the site. All the of these easements will be presented to the Park Commission in the coming months.

Golden Valley ADA Path Improvements

- RCT funds will be used to address ADA access issues between parking areas, ball fields, and the playground.
- Project includes surface hardening of main access paths and addressing some existing drainage issues.
- Project is in initial design phase and additional funding sources are needed to meet objectives.

Hunter Creek Bridge

- Received cultural and NEPA clearance from the USFS in December 2018.
- Final bridge plans were approved and signed by the Forest Service in February 2019. Western Wood Structures built and delivered the bridge to the trailhead on July 9, 2019.
- Nevada Environmental Consulting was contracted to do in-stream work including bank armoring. We have received all required NV state permits including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit. Nevada Environmental Consulting completed the channel stabilization work on August 21, 2019.
- Sierra Trail Works completed installation of the bridge in August 2019 and completed the approach trails in September 2019. Social trail decommissioning is expected to occur in November 2019, which will conclude the project.

Lazy 5 Drainage Issue

- Working with engineers in the CSD to address a drainage issue that is impacting a parking lot at Lazy 5 Regional Park. Project is in initial design phase.

Lower Thomas Creek Trail Reroute

- In the summer of 2018, a private landowner removed and fenced off a portion of the Lower Thomas Creek Trail that crossed his property without an existing easement.
- WC-1 funds will be used to design and construct a trail reroute in the Washoe County open space area on the opposite side of the creek, including a bridge installation to connect to existing trail.
- A boundary survey of the Washoe County parcel line and existing trail easement was conducted by Summit Engineering in May 2019.
- Currently working with Lumos, Inc. on the bridge design plans and building permit package for Washoe County.

Master Plan- County Wide

- The plan was approved by the Park Commission and the BCC in September.
- Next steps include presenting the findings of the master plan at various Citizen Advisory Boards meetings around the county and identifying grants/funding sources for plan implementation.

North Valleys Trail Project

- Funding received from Recreational Trails Program to construct new trail and trailhead adjacent to North Valleys Phase V Expansion.
- Trail Construction was completed in December 2017. Sierra Trail works installed 2 bridges in spring 2018.
- The connector trail and stairs from the ballfields to the trailhead were completed.
- Trail map was completed. Kiosks were installed in June 2019. Still waiting on interpretive panels from Coulter & Associates.

One Truckee River – One River Plan

- The One Truckee River Management Plan was completed in September 2016. The plan establishes goals for managing, protecting and providing stewardship for the Truckee River across all jurisdictional boundaries. Nevada Land Trust and Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful are the lead agencies working with the assistance and cooperation of a large Truckee River stakeholder group to fundraise and implement the plan.
- Initial funding for plan development was provided through the Washoe County State Question 1 Program (BCC approved SQ-1 grant in 2015). A funding agreement for implementation of additional work was approved by the BCC on March 27, 2018. Both existing SQ-1 grants were approved for an extension through June 20, 2020 by the BCC.
- The second funding agreement includes the development of a wayfinding plan and installation of signs and kiosks. Alta Planning + Design was contracted to develop the wayfinding and signage plan. The signage plan is expected to be finalized in October 2019. One Truckee River through the Nevada Land Trust is putting together a bid package for the signage project which will be advertised in the next several months.

One Truckee River – River Restroom Project

- Partnering with One Truckee River and Truckee Meadows Water Authority on initial planning for the River Restroom Project which aims to improve water quality by installing restrooms at high priority locations along the Truckee River.
- NV State Lands approved SQ-1 funding in July 2019 for the project in the amount of \$286,937.
- Working on a funding agreement with TMWA to allow them to purchase two to three “Portland Loo” style restrooms. The agreement is expected to go to the BCC on November 12th for approval.

Parks and Open Space Vegetation Management Plans

- Regional Parks and Open Space would like to develop two vegetation plans: 1. Integrated vegetation management plan (IVM) to assist park staff with managing noxious weeds and other undesirable vegetation types. 2. A restoration plan for park and open space areas along the Truckee River that identifies restoration areas and best methods to achieve restoration goals.
- NV State Lands approved SQ-1 funding in July 2019 for the project in the amount of \$160,000.

Rancho San Rafael Upper Playground

- Construction of a new All-Inclusive playground in location of existing playground
- Project is in initial design phase.

Rancho San Rafael Wetland Flood Damage Restoration Plan

- Nevada Environmental Consulting was contracted to develop a Flood Damage Restoration Plan for the wetland cells in Rancho San Rafael Park that were damaged during the last major flood event. The plan includes berm repairs, weir construction and upgrades, new trail and trail reroutes, sediment removal, and revegetation.
- A complete narrative report including spatial data was submitted in February 2019.
- The contractor is still working on plan sets for the sediment removal, berm repairs, and weir construction work.

- A volunteer trail work day in collaboration with Clay Grubb (Tahoe Rim Trail Association) and the Biggest Little Trail Stewardship group occurred on March 28th to remove vegetation and flag the trail corridor for the trail reroute around the wetlands on the north side. Sierra Trail Works was contracted to construct the rough cut of the trail which was completed on April 17th. Volunteers completed the finish work including back sloping and armoring drainages on May 5th. The trail is open and we have received positive feedback from trail users in the park. Additional trail improvements including slope stabilization are expected to move forward in November 2019.
- The wetland repair portion of the project is expected to go out for bid in Summer 2020.
- Nevada Environmental was contracted to do culvert, ditch, and road repair work near the bottom of the multi-use pasture to address sedimentation and road/trail damage. Work was completed in September 2019.
- Construction of the South side wetland trail is expected to move forward in November 2019 if weather permits, otherwise expected completion in spring 2020.

Riverbend Boundary Line Adjustment

- Working with the River Bend Mobile Home Park and Storage, LLC (River Bend LLC) on a potential boundary line adjustment.
- The concept was approved by the Park Commission at the June meeting.
- An appraisal was recently completed and the developer is drafting a formal proposal to be reviewed by the Park Commission.

Riverbend Trails Plan and Parking Area Upgrades

- This project includes new trail construction and potential parking area upgrades for the Riverbend Open Space parcel along the Truckee River near Verdi, NV.
- NV State Lands approved SQ-1 funding in July 2019 for the project in the amount of \$80,000.
- Project timeline will depend on the outcome of the potential land exchange at Riverbend.

Stateline to Stateline Bikeway – Tahoe East Shore Trail

- The newly opened 3-mile section of the trail (from Ponderosa Ranch to Sand Harbor) is open and incredibly popular.
- Washoe County and partners have not yet begun to collect fees in the new parking areas, but are working on transferring land from NDOT to TTD, so that TTD can collect and distribute the funds.
- Staff will present the parking fee schedule and other agreements to the BCC in the coming months.
- The draft environmental assessment for the next portion of the trail (from Sand Harbor to Spooner Junction) has been completed and the public comment period is now closed.

Tahoe Area Plan Update

- Planning staff are in the final phases of updating the Tahoe Area Plan, which includes updates to the Recreational Opportunities Map. The map identifies a number of new proposed trail alignments within the planning area.

Truckee River Fund Grant #220

- On April 23, 2019 the BCC approved a \$45,000 grant from the Truckee River Fund to conduct weed treatments and revegetation projects in priority parks along the Truckee River and its tributaries.
- A contractor was hired to treat whitetop in Rancho San Rafael Regional Park during the week of May 20th using grant funds.
- Weed inventories have been completed at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Lockwood Trailhead, Mayberry Park, Dorostkar Park, Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Anderson Park, Betsy Caughlin Donnelly Park, and Crystal Peak Park.
- Fall volunteer seeding/planting events are scheduled at Rancho-Evans Creek (October 23rd), Crystal Peak Park-Fisherman's (October 25th) and Cold Springs Park (November 3rd).
- Spring 2020 weed treatments and planting projects are in the planning stage.