

1. South DRT History – *Henry Stroud and Michelle Healy (60 min)*

Ms. Healy introduced the history of the Deschutes River Trail (DRT) and reviewed the agenda. She explained that the district is not working on this project, but Connect Bend, a grassroots organization, has been. She said that the district is not restarting the project at this time and said the board would hear from Connect Bend. Royce Kallerud of Connect Bend gave a short presentation on their organization and advocacy for a footbridge in southern Bend. He shared the organization's vision and counter arguments to the opposition for this project.

Mr. Stroud gave an overview of the project history explaining that it is one of three gaps on the DRT. He spoke about the existing conditions of the neighborhoods and surrounding property. He said some improvements have been made with trails including safer crossings and erosion work. He next reviewed more about the project including:

- Past plans where this bridge project was included dating back to 1996
- Current plans
- High priority projects
- Federal and State protections
- Project Initiation (2012)
- Citizen Advisory Committee alignment selection
- Proposed changes to river guidelines
- legislation

Mr. Stroud explained that after the measures against the bridge failed in the legislature, the district hired a third-party facilitator to help bring the two sides together. As a result, the district halted the project, removed it from the CIP and SDC project list and directed staff to focus on other trail projects. He added that for future consideration of this project, the district would need the following:

- Restore trust and participate in open dialogue with stakeholders
- Engage the US Forest Service and other key agencies
- Evaluate district staff resources/workplans
- Solicit expert opinions to accurately determine project impacts
- Perform feasibility & preliminary site design
- Commit to respecting the outcome of the process

2. Review Summer Whitewater Park Operations – *Julie Brown and Jason Monaghan*

Ms. Brown gave a summary on the river usage for 2022. She shared the daily and weekend averages and commented that there was a 15% decrease from 2021 on river use; however, CET reported a 15% increase from 2021 (bus rides) and a 16% increase was reported on the tube rentals.

Mr. Monaghan spoke about the changes to the whitewater park:

- Upgrade mechanical equipment in the vault
- Met with Bend Fire pre-opening and late summer
- Installed signage
- Collected observation data pertaining to the no leash rule

- Researching webcams for installation at the park

He next spoke about the data collection at the Whitewater Park over the summer, that included 57 site visits totaling 60.5 hours of observation from June 29-Sept. 9.

Total Surfers	Total surfers with leash	Total rides	Total with helmets	Total PFDs
1,044	0	4,454	170	102

Ms. Brown explained the robust river communications that went out over the summer:

- Signage
- Videos
- Social media
- Website
- Paid advertising
- Community feedback/engagement

Mr. Rae of Bend Paddle Trail Alliance (BPTA), reviewed the efforts of BPTA:

- Participation in video/photography projects
- Helmet and lifejacket loaner program
- Whitewater instruction program coordination and planning
- Community feedback/engagement
- Sharing on social media

Mr. Rae added that there appeared to be less injuries this summer without the leashes. He said the leash often causes the board to pop up and the board or the fin can hit the surfer in the face and cause injury.

Mr. Monaghan reviewed the next steps:

- Make decision on webcams
- Low-water inspections, preventative maintenance
- Meet on-site with Bend Fire late winter and early spring
- Possible relocation of loaner equipment to island
- Assess signage in-river and at the whitewater park
- Continue planning for whitewater instruction program and/or river safety info instruction

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes 7/19/2022
2. Minutes 9/06/2022

Director Méndez made a motion to amend page 53 (minutes from July 19) in the board packet to clarify that the report given to staff was that a raised crosswalk is planned (instead of enhanced). Director Hovekamp seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

Director Hovekamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Director Méndez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Approve preferred concept plan for Sawyer Park – Bronwen Mastro

Ms. Mastro reviewed the project timeline, location, funding, existing conditions and parking study that was conducted over the summer. She explained the public outreach and process, including bi-lingual surveys with 116 respondents. The key takeaways were the following:

- People expressed how much they love this park and the unique, natural character.
- People use the park for a variety of reasons
- Though the park is well loved, there is room for improvement
- If you do not live nearby, the park is hard to get to without a car

Staff developed three concept designs for the public to comment on and select the best option. She shared the preferred concept design and explained the multi-modal desires for the park. The concept has 57 parking stalls although code allows for 254. She reviewed the parking criteria and access considerations.

Director Méndez made comments on why he is opposed to this plan due to the parking and shared ideas on how the money for this project could be spent elsewhere. The board discussed his comments and offered other alternatives.

Director Borja made a motion to approve the Sawyer Park Asset Replacement preferred concept design. Director Hovekamp seconded. The motion passed, 4-1. Director Méndez voted against the motion.

2. Resolution of support for LWCF grant application – Bronwen Mastro

Ms. Mastro said the grant application requires board approval.

Director Hovekamp made a motion to adopt Board Resolution No. 2022-06 authorizing the executive director to apply to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for a 2022 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in support of improvements at Sawyer Park. Director Kropf seconded. The motion passed, 4-1. Director Méndez voted against the motion.

3. Award GMP for Drake Park DRT Project – Brian Hudspeth

Mr. Hudspeth showed the board the work that has been completed on the Drake Park DRT project and what is left to complete. He explained that delays and inflation has caused the cost of finishing this project to go up considerably. He said there is not a lot that can be trimmed from the project and the grant money received and used for the project requires completion of certain aspects. He reviewed the funds that the additional money will come from to finish the project and asked the board to approve the increase for completion.

Director Méndez made a motion to authorize the executive director to award the GMP with Emery and Sons Construction Group, LLC not to exceed \$6,071,526, and to authorize an additional 5% owner's contingency of \$300,000 for a total construction budget of \$6,371,526 dollars with funding coming from the unappropriated contingency within the facility reserve fund, and to delay the construction of Little Fawn Park until such time that another park is removed from the Capital Improvement Plan or additional funds are identified for Drake Park construction. Director Borja seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0

4. Approve IGA with the city of Bend for the Wilson Avenue Corridor Project Improvements at Ponderosa Park – *Brian Hudspeth*

Mr. Hudspeth said the city of Bend is doing a reconstruction project of Wilson Road that includes a roundabout at Ponderosa Park. The city is proposing a ten-foot-wide trail instead of a sidewalk at the roundabout and the district worked with the city on the design. The city would like an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to complete this six-month project. The city will pay the district for the use of the parkland. The district will have full review of the plans, the ability to work with the contractor and a one-year warranty.

Director Méndez made a motion to authorize the executive director to negotiate and execute an IGA with the city of Bend for the Wilson Avenue Corridor Improvements at Ponderosa Park. Director Hovekamp seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0

5. Contract Amendment for Big Sky parking lot – *Brian Hudspeth*

Mr. Hudspeth said this project is in motion. There have been some parking lot failures in the park due to a sinkhole that opened in the asphalt. The hole is quite deep and will need to be repaired because it is a safety issue. Park Services has this on the asset repair list. The contractor is already on site that can complete this work. He asked the board to increase the budget for the contractor to do the work, to save costs.

Director Kropf made a motion to authorize the executive director to execute a change order to the construction contract with Deschutes Construction Corp. for the construction of the Big Sky Park Improvements for a total amount of \$102,291, and to approve an additional 10% construction contingency of \$10,229, for a total construction budget not to exceed \$2,942,965. Director Borja seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Horton gave updates on the following topics:

- Building a Better Central Oregon will be honoring Alpenglow Park on Wednesday, October 19, from 4-6 pm. Two board members are invited to all the Invited two board members to attend the award ceremony.
- Ted Schoenborn was honored at NRPA with the Robert Artz Spotlight award.
- Goats will be placed at Alpenglow Park this week to help with weed control.

- The Riverbend South project will begin soon. The trail will be closed for a period of time for staging and construction.
- SDC waivers recommendation is to extend the program for two more years, the city has confirmed that this will meet their needs.

PROJECT REPORT

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Méndez commented that staff did a great job on informing the public on river safety.
- Director Borja reminded the board of the Community Celebration in the Pine Nursey Park Oct. 7th.
- Director Kropf said he will miss about 20 minutes of the next meeting.
- Director Hovekamp said it was a good discussion on the South DRT stating that it is a difficult topic and history. He thanked staff for the presentation.
- Director Schoen said she and staff spent the day with City of Beaverton and THPRD on Saturday and thanked staff for their time and efforts. She also attended a camping code meeting at the city and said it was interesting to hear all perspectives and options the city is considering. She added that she would like the district to continue thinking about the parking program.

ADJOURN 9:18 pm



Prepared by,


Sheila Reed
Executive Assistant



Deb Schoen, Chair




Nathan Hovekamp, Vice-Chair



Jason Kropf

Zavier Borja



Ariel Méndez