

**Ridgeline Area Open Space  
Vision and Action Plan**

# **Citizen Involvement Summary Report**



**Includes:**

**Summary of Comments from December 5 and 7, 2006 Workshops  
and  
Questionnaire Responses**

**Draft, January 25, 2007**



## Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision Workshop Summaries – December 2006

Two public workshops were held in December 2006 for the ridgeline open space vision and action plan. The purpose of the workshops was to provide background information about the effort and the physical attributes of the ridgeline area and to get public input on key issues, values, and opportunities related to the ridgeline area. This information will be used to help the partnership team begin to develop the Ridgeline Open Space Vision and Action Plan.

### Public Workshop (Tuesday, December 5, 2006)

**Location:** Eugene Public Library

**Attendance:** Approximately 70

**Format:** The workshop included a half hour background presentation with fifteen minutes of general questions and comments. For the last hour and fifteen minutes, the participants split into three discussion groups which focused on the following topics:

1. Recreation, Visual Quality, and Cultural Resources (facilitated by Philip Richardson and Steve Gordon)
2. Habitat Management and Water Resources (facilitated by Trevor Taylor and Ed Alverson)
3. Farm and Forest/Economic Benefits/Tourism/Conservation Incentives (facilitated by Dana Erickson and Joe Moll)

### Meeting Notes:

The meeting notes below are taken verbatim from the workshop flip charts with minor modification for clarity and grammar.

### General Question and Comments from Full Group

- What are three things that have resulted from planning processes? (Is it worth our time?)
- There is a subtle natural prejudice against fir and lack of research re: ancient Douglas fir. Ridgeline is different from “historic savanna” landscape. Results in fir being devalued (not based on science)
- Fire hazards – not much resilience in South Hills system – need to build in resilience.
- Opportunity to help private property owners manage their land for oak habitat benefits while recouping money with Douglas fir sales
- Goals should be more coherent – there is likely to be conflict between public goals and private property
- Garbage collection in parking lots in parks should be improved
- More police presence in parking lots and other locations where people gather and cause problems or commit crimes
- Community outreach with landowners – how are landowners being informed, especially in and adjacent to the study boundaries?
- Is process advocating land acquisition? If so, is there a set criteria yet?

## Discussion Group #1: Recreation and Cultural Resources

This group categorized topics by issues (I), Opportunities (O), and Values (V)

### Values (what people liked about the area currently)

- Mt. Baldy and the Cascade Raptor Center property
- Purpose Statement – Recreational Element:
  - Health/exercise
  - Access, bus, walk
  - Identify core values
  - Time outside experiencing nature
  - Understanding appreciating nature
  - Outdoor recreation – safety (monitoring)
  - Proximity – don't have to drive away from city
  - Quality, quantity, location
- Existing ridgeline trail system

### Issues:

- SHPO – Century Farms
- Development is inevitable – a general feeling or fear
- Money always wins – pessimism
- Trails in deteriorating shape (e.g. Spencer Butte)
- Build new trails and money for blocking and restoring old trails
- Trails day- replace markers and clarify routes on existing trails
- Focus first on existing facilities before expanding (BLM has example language – will send to Philip)
- Horseback – equestrian trails very limited - Fern Ridge to Mt. Pisgah should be a goal
- Consider equestrian along the Amazon Diversion Channel levees
- May be opportunities for separate rural equestrian trail
- See Elijah Bristow (Width, surfacing) equestrian example
- See also Portland – Seattle examples
- Rails to Trails, Vernonia
- Amazon Headwaters – there is a conflicts with mountain bikes – especially elderly walkers; safety, courtesy racks – signs
- Trail need to be properly designed built to help minimize safety issues
- Maintain mountain bike trails – avoid erosion
- Find sustainable solutions – test case/demonstration project - look at Oakridge
- Is main purpose recreation vs. thoroughfare (lesser value)
- Potential value conflicts (ecological vs. recreation)
- Eugene ranked #2 for biking – but not for Mountain bikers.
- Young Mountain bikers can't drive to Oakridge (MB Mecca)
- “up” density need more open space acquisition and trails
- Widen swaths, widen trails, design for multi-use and safety

- Higher priority on educating Eugeneans about Ridgeline trail
- In some cases in urban areas – multi use (i.e. thoroughfare) may be in own best interest

#### Opportunities:

- Loop Opportunities
- Connect Ridgeline to Hendrick's Park spur (Ribbon Trail) cross 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue safely
- Markers showing landmarks in viewshed (screening adjacent development)
- Design trails to take advantage of visual opportunities.
- Add more mountain bike trails – spread users out
- Place will draw constituency groups, efforts
- Mountain biking – east to west – can gather support grants
  - want better system: community – building – for youth also – can be good partners
- Accessibility to trails – bus, bike, walk
- Loop trails are very popular with users
- Trails also as functional transportation (to school, work)
- Equestrian trail to LCC (not along 30<sup>th</sup>)
- Look for new partnerships (bikers, equestrians) for trail planning and construction
- Skills parks – to build skills for varied levels mountain bike riders
- And equestrian skills park
- Challenge Parks (B.C., Falls City near Salem, Odo Forestry)
- More school use as outdoor lab.
  - Broaden exposure for more groups to experience South Hills trail
  - Children in volunteer trail exercises (e.g. BLM Wetlands)
  - Teacher workshops/work days
  - Interpretive signs
- Rails to Trails – Cascades to Coast
- Amazon (rural) no side bike walk equestrian South Side
- Provide safe facilities for bike touring – safer bike lanes uphill and downhill
  - Wineries/farms
  - loops
  - agricultural-tourism
- Bike expressways
- Powerline easements (maintenance) ride for mountain bikers
  - Mountain bikers find aesthetics less than ideal

#### **Discussion Group #2: Habitat and Water Resources**

- Problem with habitat loss of all types due to development
- Degraded water quality
- Oak Savanna habitat is critical / rare habitats

- WUI is critical
- Still have good opportunity to protect connected landscape
- Concerned about invasive plants; fuel loads; funding stewardship
- Available of local native plant materials
- Douglas fir management
- Connected habitats for wildlife; species diversity – corridor with this connecting larger chunks
- Concern – losing opportunities as lands are developed – need to prioritize
- Consider Douglas firs in addition to protection of rare habitats (oaks, prairie)
- Differences between historical conditions on the ridgeline and elsewhere in the Willamette Valley – need more study
- Maintain water quality and forest cover as land is developed
- Emphasize continuous habitat along entire corridor – need to try to protect a big swath (as wide a corridor as possible)
- Long-term planning important
- Don't let opportunities pass by
- Protect enough area to let land restore itself
- Soil types influence habitat types
- Cedar – important tree “magic” of particular ecosystems
- Living laboratories
- Sense of the commons
- Habitat restoration
- Habitat diversity
- Reduce fragmentation (clearing around houses)
- Use fire as management tool
- houses reduce use of fire as tool
- Corridor – connect to different elevation levels
- vertical and horizontal connectivity
- Freeways as barriers to connectivity
- Challenge of vegetation management – how do you preserve the health of the trees that are important? Especially difficult on smaller parcels
- Interest in rare habitats
- Consider native pollinators
- Oak habitat important for the above
- Trail as opportunity for habitat protection (in addition to concerns)
- Science supports prioritization of Oak, Savanna and Prairie
- Preserve remnants of rare habitats
- areas that have been converted to Douglas fir
- Need long term funding
- Oaks important in mitigating fire hazard

- Work with private landowners
- ¼ of group are agency employees “cultural eco-chamber “ – need to get to science and use all available information
- Another bias is natural resource agencies don't have ability to focus on development that is destroying Oak Savanna
- Maps don't account for gradient of habitat types – be careful with development and restoration.
- Voluntary action can influence policy
- Voluntary standards for residential development can be a tool for landscape scale
- Green building council – design standards
- Diversity
- Development Standards – hard to get landowner buy-in – education is key
- History of landscape – anthropogenic (fire, etc.)
- What do we want? Not just historic
- Science says diversity is in more open habitats (savanna and prairie)
  - birds
  - invertebrates
  - pollinators
- Landscape is changing – history of intervention
- Do we want to intervene?
- Think more broadly about needs of species (e.g., pollinators)
- How do we save it?
- Oak Savanna Study (B. Johnson)
- Data from several sites in South Hills
- Restoration as cultural relationship w/place
- What makes Eugene unique? Diverse mosaic of habitats & human community
- Scientists need to talk to residents
- Can contribute valuable information
- Fire was historically part of the landscape
- Young firs can kill old growth fir and oak
- Young fir are ladder fuels – need to clear out small trees to enhance habitat and reduce fire hazard
- Ridgeline trail needs to provide wildlife corridor – enhance connectivity

### **Discussion Group #3: Farm & Forest, Economy, Tourism, and Conservation Incentives**

- Expanding public access for all non-motorized users, especially mountain biking trails, throughout city. Can bring in money. (e.g. unidirectional or parallel trails) (hiking & Mtn. biking)
- Limit urban growth to protect open space and parks (ex. Camelback Park in Boise Idaho)
- Family friendly, multi-use recreational areas

- Connectivity – Continuous trail
- More extensive mountain bike trails
- Inclusion of rural landowners in recreation plan (will result in more buy-in & possibly funding)
- Educational value of trails
- Mitigate conflicting impacts – have each use mitigate its own impacts.
- Create opportunities for landowners to benefit economically from recreation
- Lack of opportunity to recreate is same as re: tourism for area
- Value – friendship/local recreation/long enough to make a visit/day of it
- Core areas for each type of recreation - kids/adopt trail
- Opportunity to share what this area has and is about
- 20-mile trail puts us at level of national attention
- Use process to ask rural landowners what it would take for recreation to be welcomed
- Touring/Off-road: “Eugene to Crest” (pct) - Stay at B & B’s Tie into Eugene as start point
- Fundraisers
- Ridgeline has a unique area of non-timberland; still working landscapes that could host a recreation/”open space” opportunity
- Still working landscapes, working forests now
- What does it look like to reach landowners?
  - Incentives? Will work for some
  - Compelling? Monetary incentive – yearly lease
  - Don’t propose taking land away, or the forced management of it
  - Interpretation and education opportunities for value and importance of privately owned lands, working lands, and their responsible management/stewardship
  - Any way to incorporate public user help in stewardship?
- Landowners need to hear about this early on, and be asked how they want to participate. What do you think? Do you want to be included?
- Economic, interpretation stops with bathroom breaks
- Address fear and reality. Small woodland areas are losing their ability to manage their land. Eugene area one of worst. Burn, chemicals, cutting.
- Bringing public further into the woods – forget it! Increases risk.
- Recreation will be easier than oak habitat to achieve
- Oaks – values are known but in a forested landscape not grown for economic benefit
- Any examples of community funds recreational users paying (even voluntary donation/honor system) Moab – private access
- Donation box and BLM fee station in a second place
- Destinations
- Meadows
- Tops of mountains, hills, views
- Tower at wild Iris Ridge

## Public Workshop (Thursday, December 7, 2006)

**Location:** Spencer Creek Grange

**Attendance:** Approximately 25

**Format:** The workshop included a half hour background presentation with the rest of the time reserved for group discussion.

### Meeting Notes:

The meeting notes below are taken verbatim from the workshop flip charts with minor modification for clarity.

- Is a trail the main goal of this effort?
- Gray boundary area – what does it define?
- Area starting to become more affected by development pressure (proximity to Eugene)
- Wide open spaces – residents value
- Traffic much denser now
- Interested to learn about conservation easements
- Interest in having horse trails
- Some newer residents hostile to horse back riders crossing properties
- More public walking trails nearby (+)
- Concerns about water quality and quantity (aquifer is being depleted)
- \*Limit development because of aquifer depletion (2) - should consider this with approval process
- Children used to catch cutthroat trout 30 – 40 years ago – now much less water.
- Much less water, animal grazing, pesticides, as water quality issues
- Septic fields have been approved very near creeks (notice suds in creeks every Monday)
- New Developments should have gray water filtration, solar
- Questions about ponds created at top of hill
- Arsenic a problem in “Eugene Formation”
- Old, failed septic systems are a problem
- Lead in South Fork Spencer Creek from shooting range
- Trailhead break-ins a big problem (Neighborhood watch programs – web cams – equestrian patrols)
- How does this process compare to plan for limiting development, or greenbelt development?
- Public safety concerns if more public access is opened (Lane Co. Sheriff Dept. not very effective)
- Trash
- Damage to property from (adjacent) public access can be a problem (leaving gates open, cutting fence, theft trespass issues)

- County won't fund prosecution of criminals
- Multi-use trails very important (hikers, bikers, horses)
- Like vision of connectivity, helping people get out into nature and drive less
- Eugene to Pacific Crest Trail – connection to this could open up funding opportunities
- Concerns about ATV/trail bikes due to fire hazards and conflict with non-motorized recreation
- Identify land that has habitat value and mail information to these landowners.
- Limited amount of land for people to live – how to accommodate them?
- Pumping water from city – Sewer – Water Quality – need land for agriculture
- Is Ridgeline area the goal of the process or is it OK to plan beyond the study area boundary
- Other branch of Spencer Creek is still healthy in part thanks to recent LTWC stream restoration efforts
- One concern is fire – due to rural nature and forests and distance from services. How does recreation, etc. interface w/ fire danger?
- Kalapuya used fire to manage lands, but danger increases with more people. Some regulations in place (e.g., ATV use), to protect against wildfire.
- Will fire department access be provided / required in areas where trails put in? i.e., would Defensible Fire Act be applicable?
- Was there a fire access plan for Spencer Butte?

## Ridgeline Area Open Space Questionnaire

The Ridgeline Area Open Space Questionnaire was developed as a tool to collect public input to be used toward developing the vision and action plan. It was distributed at the December 5 and 7 public workshops and was available through the internet. As of January 25, 2007, a total of 83 completed questionnaires were returned. The responses are shown below, with the numeric values indicating the total number of responses under each category. The bulleted responses were recorded verbatim, directly from the questionnaire.

### **1. How important are the following ridgeline area open space attributes to you?**

Farm resource values

- 26 Very Important
- 35 Somewhat Important
- 16 Not Important

Forest resource values

- 37 Very Important
- 25 Somewhat Important
- 14 Not Important

Natural resource values (water quality, wildlife habitat, and biological diversity)

- 70 Very Important
- 7 Somewhat Important
- 1 Not Important

Rural Character

- 53 Very Important
- 22 Somewhat Important
- 1 Not Important

Recreation (hiking, bicycling, bird watching, horseback riding, picnicking, etc.)

- 75 Very Important
- 5 Somewhat Important
- 0 Not Important

Scenic quality

- 69 Very Important
- 7 Somewhat Important
- 0 Not Important

Other (please list):

- Good bicycle road routes
- Protection of rare habitats
- Views of the city
- Quiet areas; Areas without power lines
- All equally important

- Preservation of the natural landscape
- Vista points (places to get grand views)
- Outdoor space for meditation
- Has to provide good recreation to all people
- Access through various parcels right of ways
- Water quality, stormwater/flood control
- Cooperate mgt with agencies, special interest, and private property owners
- Wildlife corridors
- Views!
- Non-motorized multi-use including horseback riding
- Equestrian use where possible.
- Safe.

**2. Have you participated in any recreational activities in the ridgeline area within the past year?**

**73** Yes

**9** No

If yes, which type of activities have you participated in and what was the location:

**56** Hiking

**41** Wildlife Viewing/Bird Watching

**27** Jogging/Running

**27** Mountain Biking

**24** Bicycle Touring

**20** Horseback Riding

**7** Auto Touring/Driving for Pleasure

**14** Picnicking:

**28** Dog Walking

**3** Hunting

Other (please list below):

- Motorcycling Road
- Plant study
- Motorcycling
- Walking Amazon Park jogging trails
- Ecological research
- Biking
- We use the area very often – about 5x per week.
- Photography

- Marathon walking training, rollerblading on paved paths, bicycle commuting to work.
- Nature walks for education

**3. Are there any other amenities you would like to see accommodated in the ridgeline area that are currently not available (please list)?**

- Trash cans at trailheads.
- Bathrooms? (within funding constraints)
- More mountain bike trails and stunt and skill MTB trails (stunt park)
- More mountain bike trails. Skills and challenge park for mountain bikes
- More trail access
- Intensive use mountain bike “challenge & skills” park(s). More mountain bike opportunities (multi-use trails). Signed road bicycle routes (like Cycle Oregon Scenic routes)
- Restore Amazon canal to natural state. Make it healthier ecosystem, (esp. downtown)
- Bike path connections from West Eugene wetlands to Mt. Pisgah.
- More horseback riding
- Bike path connecting Springfield and Eugene to Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah
- Rest rooms, pet bags
- Conservation and restoration of rare habitats – prairie and oak savanna should be a priority among these
- Habitat buffers on either side of the trail
- Additional mountain bike accessible trail
- More Oak Savanna
- View points I can drive to by car
- Bathroom?
- Connections to existing trails through “undefined” areas. – connectivity.
- Can you remove a few homes?
- Garbage collection cans – picnic tables in parking lots. Police patrol at night of parking lots
- Mountain bike access throughout trail system
- Regular trail maintenance on Ridgeline
- Connection so you don't have to walk on Dillard
- Restrict mountain bikes in wet weather
- Interpretive signs describing unique features
- Volunteerism to benefit area
- Outreach to private property owners to gain consensus
- More mountain bike areas
- In more rural areas allow equestrian use – some of us can no longer hike
- Bridge over canal (2)

- Hiking access to entire ridgeline area
- Horseback riding in South hills area (2)
- Water source.
- Open for horseback riding
- Bathroom facilities/Hitching posts
- Accessible links
- Better designated parking areas at intervals

**4. What are the most important topics that you think should be addressed in the ridgeline area (Pick the 3 most important issues)?**

**58** Habitat management and protection

**12** Wildfire danger

**42** Recreational facilities on public lands

**21** Invasive plant species (noxious weeds)

**36** Water Resources (quality/availability)

**50** Scenic Quality/Rural Character

Public Safety (Please Elaborate):

- Safe bike routes and roads
- Trail Head/vehicle safety
- Car break-ins/vandalism
- Safe parking lots
- Too many car break-ins currently at trail heads.
- If we establish public access, we must collectively provide security, which Lane County taxpayers have proven unwilling to fund.
- Occasional police patrolling in park area
- Trail head vandalism

Other (Please Elaborate):

- Multi-use, non-motorized trails
- Recreation corridors/access
- Biking
- Youth/kid programs on how to enjoy and respect this space
- Horseback riding (3)
- Horse bridle pastures
- Keep it natural

## 5. *Where do you live?*

- 48 City of Eugene
- 9 Spencer Creek area
- 5 Russel Creek area
- 2 Fern Ridge Reservoir Area
- 4 City of Springfield

### Other:

- Albany
- Oakridge
- Gimpl Hill Road
- Fall Creek
- Santa Clara
- Lane County/Goshen (2)
- Just south of Ridgeline Head waters of Camas Swale.
- McKenzie River east (Leaburg)
- Near Goshen
- Creswell
- Cottage Grove
- Mt. Pisgah area
- Cheshire/Low Pass
- Junction City (2)

## 6. *Please add any additional comments you feel would be helpful for this effort:*

- For a “City of the Outdoors” we need more rural trails! Thanks
- Re: the Ridgeline Trail itself, I use it both on foot and on mountain bike. I would like to see further expansion of the trail be bike legal. There are numerous ways to prevent user conflict. As part of the *Disciples of Dirt*, I helped cut the Dillard-to-Spring Blvd. section of trail and worked with the city of Eugene on a brushing party on that section of trail in summer 2005. The northern part of that trail needs re-routing, and I would be glad to help with that. The Ridgeline area is a wonderful community resource, and I want to see it preserved and enhanced! Thank you! Al
- More Mountain Bike trails are really needed in this area. A Mountain bike stunt park would be wonderful.
- Is it better to maintain what we have? Or is it better to enhance what we have? Or is it better idea to restore what we had?
- Buy as much property along the Ridgeline as development is taking over and getting too close to the trail in too many places and it is ruining the feel and quality.
- Please don't allow housing development in the Amazon headwaters area (Martin St. for example). Please stop construction currently underway.

- Looking out for fire management and possible thinning of forest for this reason. Coordinate with nearby landowners for management, especially of recreation impacts.
- Extend trail end to end. Provide connections to city. Recognize intrinsic value of coniferous forest even if it is not 1850 historical ecosystem.
- Better maps at parking areas
- Add the Wildish lands!
- Thanks for putting forth the effort to maintain/increase recreation opportunities and preserve our natural environment. Eugene is sorely lacking in nearby outdoor activities that are open for all users.
- Open habitat restoration (e.g. prairie, savanna and woodland) requires funded, programmed management especially for management of invasive exotic grasses and wildflowers.
- Oak Savanna protection is a priority.
- Protect rock outcroppings – connect trail to large habitats with vertical as well as horizontal connectivity – connect to west to Willamette River.
- I would like to see a continuous trail along the Ridgeline that would be accessible to mountain bikes.
- I would love to have mountain biking opportunities close to town.
- Many of my comments are reflected in the notes from the habitat mgt/water resources discussion group. Please transcribe notes from all the group discussion and put them on your website.
- Add bed and breakfasts along trail network for tourists
- This is a great survey!
- In areas where there is presently horseback riding activity (Amazon canal between Greenhill & Fern Ridge) and others, make sure this activity will be considered and included. Design trails in a way that every user (hiker, biking, horses) can use them safely.
- Safety and patrol of parking areas, cleaning up – monitoring partying, thefts, etc.
- The higher trails on Spencer Butte need extensive work to stabilize some parts and to keep people on the trails. Extensive areas of mature vegetation have been destroyed by multiple trails.
- Great work! Keep it up! Think about a long-term funding source for land acquisition and easements.
- Need quantity and quality of trails sufficient to satisfy local desire for the outdoor trail experience. Otherwise, people will drive many miles (add to global warming) in pursuit of a beautiful trail.
- Thank you for opening this discussion. As a long distance walker it would be wonderful to have Pisgah connect to Fern Ridge.
- I am a beginning Mt. biker and would like trails close to home, and easy. Now I drive out of town to ride. Thanks.

- A) Excellent having a public forum to discuss these topics. B) Public relations to ease private property concerns. C) Developing an open-space/recreation/property management plan – For example: A mission statement?
- I would like to see the Ridgeline project connect to a west/east trail system, much like the Pacific Crest Trail.
- I am a new resident of Eugene and love the Ridgeline Trail and hope it can be expanded. I am taking my 3 year old grandson on hikes and hope the area will be there for his grandchildren too! Thank you for your work in this area.
- I've become a senior citizen who is an avid equestrian trail rider. Horses allow me to get out on the trails. My small farm is on Hampton Road which borders Wild Hog Creek. We ride to ridgeline behind LCC, ride on Pisgah, Bristow and on as much of the Eugene to PCTrail as possible. My vision is to actually be able to ride from LCC area to PCT on my horses. I think the eastern edge of that dream would be the Ridge Line Trail. I also understand there are stables in West Eugene that have a great desire to allow horseback riding in the Fern Ridge areas and that should be encouraged. I believe horses provide another dimension to the rural recreation experience. It's our cultural heritage and should be preserved especially here in Eugene, Oregon, "Oregon Trail" country. Finally, I have been thinking about some long-term public use of my acreage. Would you like to call me at 747-3916 or e-mail me at [bjkeele@epud.net](mailto:bjkeele@epud.net). Thank you, Betty Jean Keele.
- Development of more mountain biking trails in Eugene area.
- I would like to see more mountain biking trails close to Eugene
- Horse people are slowly losing places to ride. The ridgeline is one of the few places left to us.
- Please don't pave the road along the south side of the Amazon channel west of Greenhill Road to Fern Ridge Reservoir. It is highly used by horses from neighborhood stables. Horse and bikes don't mix.
- Horse riders are losing areas where they can ride near where their horse is. Plus security would become an issue.
- The meeting at the library was very informative and I enjoyed our discussion group afterwards. I was there to represent the equestrian viewpoint. I want to state for the record that I'm married to a bicyclist and I've ridden a bicycle for 4 months in New Zealand and 12 mos. (3 trips) in Australia so I'm not "anti-bicycle." And we walked for 12 months in N.E. (2 of 3 trips) so I'm also pro-hiker. I just have to represent the equestrians on the west end of town because there are so few places to ride our horses that don't require a trailer trip and we're losing rather than gaining areas. We used to be able to ride all around the area that's now "Meadowlark." And aesthetically speaking our view east is now a sea of houses to Greenhill. Meadowlark seems like the perfect place to end the pavement. There's parking and it's well used and a decent wetland experience. Please leave us our little loop of unpaved "Paradise" that's used by equestrians, off leash dog walkers and joggers and birders. Pavement would have a very negative affect on the 3 stables on the

south side and Chuck Johns on the north side who rides his horses over to feed his cattle. I can understand the goal of “end to end.” But the general consensus of our discussion group was why not use the resources to upgrade and protect the heavily used areas before tackling other areas. The mountain bikers were very well represented at the meeting and they aren’t interested in our flat stretch or they’d be on it already and there are enough side paths without taking our few miles of “country” on the edge of town. Thank you for your time and consideration and if you need more equestrian voices please let me know and I’ll go get them!

- I would hope horses would be allowed and encouraged to enjoy and help maintain this trail.
- Allow equestrian use in suitable trail sections. Possibly Spencer Creek area, Amazon Creek area. Great interest in bridle trails in area.