

Summary of public outreach during the development of the 2011 West Linn Trails Plan

Project management team (PMT)

City of West Linn staff and MIG provided policy direction, evaluated the plan development process and timeline and facilitated community events and meetings.

Comprehensive Trails Plan website

Provided information to public throughout the plan development process.

Online public comment

Solicited public comments regarding trail alignments and other plan elements throughout plan development. Also allowed the public to draw, on a map, areas of specific need or constraint for a given trail.

Community intercept events

PMT was present at four different citywide events (West Linn Central Village, 6 pm on Saturday, December 5, 2009; Willamette Falls Drive, 10 am on Saturday, December 12, 2009; West Linn High School, 10:30 am on Sunday, December 13, 2009; and, December 19, 2009 at the West Linn Holiday Parade) to publicize the project, gather public input and promote the project website. During these events the PMT discussed the City's trail resources through informational displays and handouts while allowing the public to become familiar with the project, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Public workshops

Three public workshops (Feb. 16, 2010 at Cedar Oak Primary School – 33 attendees signed in; Feb. 22, 2010 at Willamette Primary School – 33 attendees signed in; and, Feb. 24 at Bolton Primary School – 34 attendees signed in) were used to present an overview of the plan development process and solicit comments about critical trail users and trail system elements. Mapping exercises allowed meeting participants to indicate their preferred routes and links between routes.

Neighborhood meetings

City staff met with residents at a number of neighborhood meetings to provide information about the project and upcoming events. The neighborhood meetings provided another opportunity for residents to learn about the Plan and provide input about their preferences.

Technical Working Group

The TWG was comprised of 13 members from the City's advisory boards, staff, Planning Commission, ODOT, US Forest Service and others. The TWG met at key project milestones to review and provide technical guidance on the Plan.

Other Published Notices

- Portland Tribune and Community Newspapers: Public Notice of Planning Commission hearing 6/2/2011

- West Linn Tidings
 - City News: The West Linn Tidings, Dec 10, 2009

City's trails planning is underway

The city of West Linn's comprehensive trails planning got underway this month with the launch of a new Web site, <http://www.westlinntrailsplan.org>. Citizens can submit comments and ideas online starting Friday. In addition, a planning team will be on hand at the holiday parade Saturday morning on Willamette Falls Drive and at the brunch event Sunday morning at West Linn High School. The trails plan aims to take advantage of natural features and existing public lands while providing plans for future development of paved and unpaved trails catering to a variety of uses. A draft should be available by next fall. For more information, visit the Web site or call 503-557-4700.

- What's Happening: The West Linn Tidings, Feb 18, 2010

WEST LINN TRAILS MASTER PLAN PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2 – 7 p.m., Willamette Primary School cafeteria, 1403 12th St.. Discuss the future of West Linn's trails with a look at the overview and mapping. Visit www.westlinntrailsplan.org.

- Press Releases
 - Fri., May 6, 2011: West Linn Trails Master Plan Adoption Process Moves Forward

Section	Issue	CID	Comments	TID	Response
		137	Please send a link to the proposed Trails Master Plan. I am having difficulty locating on City's website.	T38, T39, T40	
		138	There has been a lack of public involvement in the plan's development	T6, T106	
		139	Only 1/2 of 1 percent of eligible voters involved in plan development is not "strong support" as claimed by City staff	T6	
		140	Barrington Heights NA was not sought for input	T6	
		141	No notice of public workshops	T6	
		142	I-205 Trail does not satisfy screening criteria (environment, connectivity, concurrency)	T7	
		143	Decisions should not account for regional desires	T10	
		144	Has anyone walked along the proposed trail area on the Tualatin?	T18	
		145	Trails Plan is incomplete	T19	
		146	CDC Chapter 28 was modified by staff to existing version after approval by code development committee	T19	
		147	Staff should devise a completely new approach to the selection of trails and the Plan's development	T22	
		148	Trail Plan is staff legacy project	T25	
		149	Appears that City has decided to complete a trails plan and will implement it regardless of public opinion	T30	
		150	information presented to date lacks a balanced perspective	T30	
		151	Residents are not accurately informed	T30, T6	
		152	Agenda did not properly reference Trails Master Plan as PLN-11-01	T45	
		153	Specific amendments to Comprehensive Plan were not identified	T45	
		154	Lack of proper notice made it impossible to reference testimony and written submissions.	T45	
		155	Maps provided for review contained discrepancies; maps at meeting were inconsistent with cardboard maps on display	T45	
		156	According to the maps available for review, part of the Palomino Loop trail that were constructed with over 500 hours of Eagle Scout work will be eliminated. Why?	T45	
		157	Some emails submitted for the June 15 meeting did not make it into the record	T45	
		158	Support Trails Plan	T52	
		159	Many runners and walkers use the trails; these people express their support through usage	T52	
		160	Most opponents at June 15, 2011 meeting are against trails in their backyards; these people do not represent the bulk of West Linn citizens	T52	
		161	Concerns regarding exact location and design will be handled in the future	T52	

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Public input process		162	Planning Commission should recommend approval to the City Council	T52	
		163	The Parks Department has done an excellent job in planning and developing trails and parks	T52	
		164	West Linn Trails Survey December 2009	T54	
		165	In person interviews conducted by 20 West Linn High School Students		
		166	Purpose of survey was to assess the opinions of residents having parks and trails near their homes		
		167	104 surveys completed		
		168	86 percent satisfied with parks and trails in West Linn/8 percent dissatisfied		
		169	16 percent use trails near their home nearly every day/25 percent use trails once a week		
		170	54 percent use trails for exercise/44 percent to be outside		
		171	What is the correct procedure to establish standing in this legislative procedure?	T55	
	172	Staff informed me that parties who had not testified on June 15, would not have standing unless they attend the meeting on June 22; this seems to be an unfair hardship	T55		
	173	I was of the understanding that those who submitted testimony sheets would have standing if they did not have an opportunity to speak; can the City please clarify?	T55		
	174	Staff continues to assert that the public wants this but where are those citizens and why haven't they attended the meetings or written letters. Do the few people that support the plan know of its cost?	T59		
	175	Trails Master Plan has been a priority for the City Council since Parks SDC created in May 2009	T60		
	176	The City Council reiterated that support by awarding a contract to MIG for this Trails Plan in October 2009	T60		
Public input process		177	To ensure that the City Council receives the best product for final consideration I recommend staff request the Planning Commission receive all public testimony and provide input to staff regarding issues for further consideration. Following plan revisions addressing these issues, staff will return to the Planning Commission in Fall 2011 with a proposed Trails Master Plan. The Planning Commission will then make a recommendation to the City Council and the City Council would hold a public hearing later in Fall 2011.	T60	
		178	Confusion about a trail through the White Oak Savanna and the Oak Savanna Trail as opposed during the June 15, 2011, Planning Commission hearing	T62	
		179	The trail through the White Oak Savanna will be a small trail approximately 4-feet wide and will be made of natural materials	T62	

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		180	The trail will be ADA accessible and will be made of natural materials	T62	
		181	Completion of this trail segment in the White Oak Savanna is a stipulation of Metro's funding for this project. Metro will not release the full funds until this trail is complete.	T62	
		182	Have heard much testimony against the Plan	T63, T65	
		183	Some comments should make Parks Department reconsider a few specific items; this is why the City offers the opportunity for public comment	T63	
		184	I disagree with the viewpoints expressing that the entire Plan be scrapped until an undisclosed time in the future	T63	
		185	Parks Department worked hard to incorporate citizens' wants, desires and needs	T63	
		186	Planning Commission should listen to the citizens	T65	
		187	Wants public involved during the construction phase	T68	
		188	City's approach is one-dimensional and does not consider factors other than recreation	T69	
		189	opposed to trails that impact livability	T70	
		190			
		191	Small fraction of public has been involved in the development of the Trails Plan	T77	
		192	Trails Plan has adverse effects	T78	
		193	Decision are being made by people with no stake in West Linn's future	T78	
		194	Plans should be assessed for social impact	T80	
		195	Recommend to deny the Plan	T81	
		196	Staff has a personal agenda	T82, T95	
		197	there has been no demonstration of significant public support	T83	
		198	during the development of the plan, public input that didn't meet staff desires was excluded	T83	
		199	has heard a stated preference against riverfront trails	T84	
		200	No notice from City	T87	
		201	facts presented are unrealistic and biased	T89	
		202	Fields Bridge Park is not what City proposed to residents	T94	
		203	Residents have been misled and deceived by staff	T95	
		204	plan is totally flawed	T97, T73	
		205	have the trails sites been studied in person?	T97	
		206	City cannot guarantee the Plan will succeed	T98	
		207	City needs to prioritize needs and daylight hidden agendas	T98	
		208	Solar trail is politically advantageous	T98	
		209	Standards for the decision to approve or deny this Plan are not related to the Plan	T98	
		210	Who runs West Linn?	T100	
		211	People in favor of plan are outnumbered 100 to 1 but that is the nature of a new plan; people only get excited if they are directly affected	T102	

Public Input Process

Section	Issue	CID	Comments	TID	Response
Public input process		212	Maps of existing and proposed trails is a bit misleading. Many of the new routes are along City streets with existing sidewalks and bike lanes; some of these routes will only require signage to be considered a trail	T102	
		213	I recommend passage of this plan	T102	
		214	Community Attitudes Survey 2010 Campbell DeLong Resources, Inc.	T103	
		215	Of survey respondents, majority favor street improvements followed by trails, pathways and sidewalks		
		216	Visited City Hall on June 24 to follow up on request to review public records and was informed that staff had not even bothered to look for the information	T104	
		217	Shouldn't the documentation that verifies the removal of Palomino Loop Trail be included in the proposed Trails Master Plan?	T104	
		218	Request for information regarding the exclusion of the Palomino Loop Trail from the inventory of current trails in the Trails Master Plan	T105	
		219	Staff informed me that I would be required to submit a public records request at a minimum of \$9 to find out why	T105	
		220	This is an unfair burden on one person when the information is a benefit to the entire community	T105	
		221	Oregon Attorney General recommends waiving fees for information that benefits the general population	T105	
		222	Planning Director agreed that this request was reasonable and promised to provide it but did not	T105	
		223	I visited City Hall to meet with Planning Director but was told he was unavailable only to witness him leave City Hall and go to sleep in his car	T105	
		224	What can citizens do when City officials mislead them and delay their participation in the public process?	T105	
		225	Planner was terribly confused about the issue of standing	T105	
		226	I am deeply concerned that staff who are paid with taxpayer money would provide information that would cause a citizen to believe they had no standing in an issue facing all our citizens	T105	
		227	Why would the Planner say that someone does not have standing, when in fact they filled out a community comment form on the topic and thereby have followed the letter of the law in order to have standing?	T105	
		228	can find no evidence that City was reimbursed for private use of this public land	T106	
		229	How was this public trail converted to private use without a public process?	T106	
		230	Would it be prudent to request an audit of public property to ensure these losses do not continue?	T106	
		231	Private notice for June 22, 2011 Planning Commission meeting on Trails Plan	T107	
		232	states that public testimony from June 15, 2011 nearly stopped the Master Trails Plan		
		233	states that 16 spoke against Plan all ending with applause from the audience		

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	Public input process	234	There seems to be a force trying to shove this Trails Plan down residents' throats even though they don't want it	T108	
		235	Were not made aware of plans directly from City. Only became aware of project after neighbor received notice that City approved an ODOT power plant in the I-205 right-of-way	T110	
		236	When we researched the project and discovered the trail being planned on this right-of-way we began to seek meetings with the City's Parks Department	T110	
		237	It is difficult to get information from the City about these proposed projects	T110	
		238	I feel it is unfair for the Parks Director to assert that the City has reached out to our organization	T110	
		239	The Trails Plan was developed with a flawed process and is over-reaching, insufficiently supported and invalid	T110	
		240	Please add to residents ability to protect and enjoy the Willamette River and create a trails system worthy of your citizens.	T111	
		241	If a property owner has prior knowledge of a trail system before they purchase property, they cannot have a voice in opposition to the plan. Also, when a person purchases property next to publicly owned land, they are accepting whatever changes may occur to the public property	T112	
		242	Can this issue be brought to a vote in the next election? Because this plan will affect all of West Linn it is fair to give an opportunity for all residents to make their opinions count.	T112	
		243	Do not shelve the plan, refine it to address those comments warranting merit	T112	
		244	I felt the behavior of those testifying at the June 22 Planning Commission meeting was appalling, showing little civility	T114	
	245	City staff should not be subjected to insults and should not have to endure having their motives questioned. Staff works hard to do a good job for the residents of West Linn	T114		
	246	I would certainly not want to be an employee of West Linn if being treated in such an offensive manner was part of the job	T114		

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		247	Thanks to Commissioner Horsey for voicing support for the staff near the end of the meeting	T114	
		248	Trails Plan should be passed on to the City Council for approval with few changes. The adopted plan should be in the best interest of all citizens.	T114	
		249	Attached Survey of Residents Attitudes toward trails near their residences as presented by teacher at West Linn High School	T115	
		250	My perception of both hearings was that of a hostile and intimidating nature towards the Planning Commission and Parks Department	T116	
		251	Overall, opinions seemed shortsighted, self serving, and displayed an interesting sense of entitlement rights among homeowners	T116	
		252	I ask that staff and the Planning Commission sift through these arguments to pick the ones with merit to scrutinize for further study and research	T116	
		253	If property owners intend to pursue a vacation of the public access on Calaroga Ct., I would like to see an open public process so that all nearby residents can discuss and give input	T116	
		254	The pattern of entitlement is not uncommon; we've seen people who visit the San Juan Islands in Washington fall in love with the area and purchase property only to then oppose all new tourism or development.	T116	
		255	People who do not live in West Linn refer to the City as West Berlin to describe the attitudes of West Linn residents	T116	