

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC) May 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order and conducted via video/phone conferencing.

Members Present: Andy Stevenson (Chair), Gordon Taylor (Vice-Chair), Justin Zarzezcny, Gary Gleason, Kat Sample, Bill Biery, Jim Mraz, Lorrie Mittmann, Erik Rohrer and Wendy Clark-Getzin.

County Representatives: Steve Gray, County Public Works/Road Dept. (Ex-officio TAC member)

Guest: Jai Lust, USFS Wilderness and Trails Coordinator

MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: No agenda modifications/additions requested. Chair Stevenson requested putting Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) speed limits on a future agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The April 6, 2022 minutes were not ready for review and action was tabled to the June meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Member Gray provided the following announcements:

- County East Beach Road was reopened at the end of April.
- Tanner Boggs, County Trail Maintenance Worker/Volunteer Coordinator, resigned. His last day is July 15. County is accepting applications now to fill the position until May 18.
- Introduced and welcomed Jai Lust, Wilderness and Trails Coordinator for U.S. Forest Service (USFS), who will be serving as the USFS representative on the Trail Advisory Committee.

Chair Stevenson noted that the County is working on Joyce-Piedmont Road and has done surface repairs from East Beach Road intersection north to the Olympic National Park boundary and little beyond. Discussion followed related to the planned future improvements for the Joyce-Piedmont Road under the County's Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP funding award. Member Mittmann inquired about consideration of expanding/improving parking off of Joyce-Piedmont Road as part of the future road project in the vicinity of where the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT) it crosses the road.

TRAIL PROJECT UPDATES/REPORTS

East-end project update reports included:

- *ODT-Railroad Bridge Park.* The Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe (JSKT) provided a presentation on May 2 to the County Commissioners on the Tribe's plans at Railroad Bridge Park to extend the bridge as part of floodplain restoration efforts; to realign the ODT to connect to the extended bridge; and to relocate and expand parking outside of the floodplain. Several of the presentation slides were shared to highlight the project. As part of the floodplain restoration effort, the Tribe is also requesting County approval to remove the last approximately 550 feet of W. Hendrickson Road located in the floodplain. The anticipated bridge closure for the construction work is from mid-July thru Mid-October.
- *ODT—Pierce Rd to Old Blyn Highway.* The JSKT is expected to apply to the County for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) federal funding to address the \$400,000 funding shortfall to improve and pave the ODT segment between Pierce Rd. and Old Blyn Highway. The

County administers the STBG program for project selection of STBG funding allocated to the County. If awarded, the goal is get the work under contract in 2022.

- *ODT—Old Blyn Highway Segment.* The JSKT has hired a consultant for design of a separated trail along Old Blyn Highway. West of Thompson Road the trail would be located on historic right-of-way (ROW), while east of Thompson Road it will likely be in the County road ROW.

Chair Stevenson made motion to advise the County Commissioners that the TAC supports the JSKT application for STBG federal funding for the ODT improvement project between Pierce and Old Blyn Highway as a critical necessity. Commissioner Gleason seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

West-end project update reports included:

- *ODT—Forks to La Push.* Western Federal Lands Highway Division has completed the topographic survey between US 101 and the Bogacheil River Bridge. The County continues to actively negotiate for trail corridor acquisition between 101 and the bridge. The approximately 1-mile segment between the Forks Calawah River Park and US 101/SR 110 intersection is still in the very early stages of design.
- *OAT—Milepost 2.0 Bridge Replacement Project.* Work to replace OAT Milepost 2.0 Bridge commenced on May 2 and expected to be completed by May 6.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE REPORTS

1. *County Thursday Volunteer Crew Project Reports.* The County ODT Crew held several work parties on the OAT to remove the M.P. 2.0 Bridge and to perform tread work between Joyce-Piedmont and Whiskey Creek. The volunteer crew is also part of the Milepost 2.0 Bridge Replacement that commenced on Monday.
2. *County Maintenance Reports.* Highlights of County trail maintenance in April/May were provided
3. *Other Reports:* Member Zarzeczny reported that conditions are still too wet to restore and reopen the OAT trail segment closed due to timber harvesting west of Joyce-Access Road and that trail clearing efforts were further hampered by break-down of the DNR excavator.

DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Reviewed and discussed First Quarter 2022 Trail Counter Reports.
2. Discussed the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDFW) and Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) public process underway related to use of E-bikes on non-motorized natural surface trails and closed roads located on state lands managed by the two agencies. Public comment will be used to help inform future E-bike use policy on non-motorized trails on state lands such as the OAT. The deadline for completion of the DNR/WDFW survey on this issues is July 15. Discussion followed. Chair Stevenson supported continuing this item to the June meeting to determine whether the TAC as a whole should provide comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Member Taylor moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Chair Stevenson. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm.