REGION 2 DESIGNATION

THE ROAD AND TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN

LAGUNITAS SCHOOL MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

OCTOBER 3, 2015
“We are dedicated to educating, inspiring, and engaging the people of Marin in the shared commitment of preserving, protecting, and enriching the natural beauty of Marin’s parks and open spaces, and providing recreational opportunities for the enjoyment of all generations.”
PURPOSE OF MEETING

• Review RTMP basics
• Describe RTMP designation process
• Orientation to RTMP project proposal process
• Breakout into groups
  o Review proposed road and trail designations for Region 2
  o Solicit and collect public input
PURPOSE OF MEETING

4. BONUS: Brief presentation by MMWD
   ○ Proposed trail project near Cascade Canyon
   ○ Opportunity to engage with MMWD staff to ask questions and provide feedback during breakout
Part I: The Road and Trail Management Plan
LONG TERM GOALS OF RTMP

- Designate a sustainable road and trail system that requires less maintenance
- Achieve measurable reductions in physical and environmental impacts associated with the road and trail system
- Enhance visitor experience and safety for hikers, equestrians, and bicycles.
COMPONENTS OF RTMP

7.

- 2011 Existing Conditions Report
- Policies (existing, amended, new: all gathered together in one place)
- Process for establishing a designated system
- Process for sourcing project proposals to amend the system
- Standards, guidelines, and best management practices (BMPs)
RTMP IMPLEMENTATION

8.

- System designation
  - Provides “starting point” for RTMP implementation

- Project sourcing, selection, & approval
  - Future projects will make incremental adjustments to the designated system

- Baseline monitoring
  - “Pay as we go” system resulting in continuous physical and environmental improvement
Part II: Introduction to System Designation
SYSTEM DESIGNATION

11.
SYSTEM DESIGNATION COMPONENTS

- Staff proposal based on policy input contained in final RTMP, the ECR, and public input received during previous RTMP workshops
- Based on EXISTING Baseline Network (as of Fall 2011)
- If it’s not designated, it won’t be maintained and might eventually be actively decommissioned
- Only designated roads and trails will be shown on our public maps
WHAT SYSTEM DESIGNATION IS NOT

- Decision of where to locate new trails
- Change-in-use for currently signed and maintained facilities
- Specific decisions about how to improve or amend existing facilities
SYSTEM DESIGNATION OVERVIEW

14.

- Is it in the 2011 Existing Conditions Report?
  - Only facilities surveyed in 2011 report are managed within the RTMP
  - 250 miles across 6 regions

- For those facilities mapped in the ECR: Are they in (Designated), or out (Undesignated)?
SYSTEM DESIGNATION OVERVIEW

• For those facilities that are IN (i.e. Designated):

  15. Already signed & maintained: No change in use for now
      • Use may or may not change later in conjunction with budgeted RTMP project
For those facilities that are IN (i.e. Designated):

16. Not currently signed & maintained:
   • Proposed new designated use on maps today.
   • Not open until brought up to standard of their intended use
   • Required work must comply with RTMP process & BMPs (e.g. CEQA review, net baseline reductions)
   • Progress on the design and planning for these projects will be posted to RTMP page
   • High priority
For those facilities surveyed in 2011 and that are OUT (i.e. Undesignated):

17.

- Will no longer maintain
- Might be actively decommissioned over time
  - Often in conjunction with other work to improve existing facilities or build new trail
  - Subject to formal outreach/planning processes
- Some will be subject to passive decommission (“benign neglect”)
**SYSTEM DESIGNATION OVERVIEW**

18. **IMPORTANT:** Trails not in 2011 ECR and/or illegally improved since 2011:
   - Managed outside of the RTMP process
   - Subject to decommission
   - Unimproved game trails (footpaths) not a target for decommission unless they present a threat to natural resources
PROPOSED DESIGNATION BREAKOUT

DRAFT MAP REDACTED

19.
PROPOSED
DESIGNATION
BREAKOUT

DRAFT MAP REDACTED

20.
PROPOSED DESIGNATION BREAKOUT

DRAFT MAP REDACTED

21.
SYSTEM DESIGNATION OVERVIEW

- Things to focus on in the breakout
  - Feedback regarding the proposed system designation (trails “in” vs trails that are “out”)
  - Proposed use designations for previously unsigned & unmaintained trails
- Tips
  - Be as specific as possible
  - Don’t table hop
  - Positive feedback is just as important as negative
Part III: Beyond Designation
Project Proposals and Selection
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

- Baseline for Region One is: **6,300**

- In any given year, net projected impact of projects in that region must reduce the region’s overall baseline score.

- Public can submit proposals to alter and/or amend designated system
  - Form available on our website
Road and trail projects are composed of actions:

- Planned Maintenance
- Reconstruction
- Reroute
- Decommission of non-system (i.e. undesignated) trails
- New Trail Construction
- Road-to-Trail Conversion
- Change-in-use (in conjunction with other actions)

Actions in proposal must create overall reduction in net biophysical impacts for those trails.
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

• Basic structure of a public proposal
  • Project Overview
  • List of Actions
  • Action-by-action implementation details
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

• Minimum requirements for proposals
  • Complete – with enough supporting information to allow staff to fully evaluate and score it
  • Consistent with the policies, standards, guidelines and BMP’s contained in the RTMP
  • When scored by staff, shows net projected reductions to existing baselines
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

- Examples of proposals that can’t be processed

- Projects that consist ONLY of a proposed change-in-use (there must be a physical component)

- Do nothing proposals “don’t touch x trail”

- Proposals that do not identify any actions that would reduce biophysical scores of existing facilities
Ingredients of a good (i.e. successful) proposal

- Thoughtful and honest about anticipated pros and cons
- The greater the net environmental benefit (i.e. projected baseline reduction) the higher the ranking
- Result of broad engagement with greater community
- Will identify resources to implement (importance of leveraging Measure A and District funds)
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

• When and how public proposals will be accepted
  • Anytime following Region 2 designation
  • Following initial outreach, will formally solicit proposals annually in April
  • Submit by August 31 to have a chance of being considered for the following year’s budget
  • Editable PDF form available on our website

• Alternative arrangements available for persons with disabilities
How will I know what happened to my proposal?

- Proposals inconsistent with the RTMP will not be scored
- Scored proposals will be added to the running list of proposed projects
- List will be periodically updated and made available online
PROJECT PROPOSALS & SELECTION

• For high-priority projects identified as prospects for near-term budgeting and implementation
  • Direct engagement with staff and other constituencies
  • Field visits
  • Progress reports on RTMP web page

• Once budgeted
  • Detailed design work
  • Environmental review (CEQA)
  • Proposal just a starting place – final designs subject to change through process
NEXT STEPS

• What happens next
  • We take the input we gather today and re-huddle
  • Final system map posted to web site in approximately 4-6 weeks
  • Project proposals accepted following system designation
  • Watch the website for:
    • Progress reports on Marin County Parks’ work to improve and open newly designated trails
    • Updates to the list of public proposed projects
Thank you for coming!
Follow our progress at
www.marincountyparks.org

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