



Dry Creek Greenway Bike Trail Planning and Feasibility Study Summary of Public Comments

The following comments were received at Stakeholder Meeting #1, Open House #1, and from City residents through email or telephone.

Alternatives Analysis

- ◆ The City should consider a “No Project” alternative.
- ◆ The City should consider on-street alignments in-lieu of placing the trail in the open space. On-street alignments would be less costly.

Trail User Safety

- ◆ Manage vegetation so the corridor can be visually surveyed from adjacent streets and residences, and to avoid “hiding places” near the trail
- ◆ Consider “Adopt-a-trail” or “Trail Watch” programs
- ◆ Restrict night time use of trail
- ◆ Strategically place lighting. Will lighted undercrossings discourage or encourage nighttime loitering?
- ◆ Consider security features such as cameras

Neighborhood Compatibility and Safety

- ◆ Inviting the public into the open space may increase the likelihood of burglaries/theft, especially where yards are not fenced.
- ◆ Existing transient issues in the open space would be compounded.
- ◆ The trail may help the existing transient problem, because transients typically move away from paved trails to get to more secluded locations.
- ◆ Police patrols within open space and on existing trails are currently not sufficient.
- ◆ Open space trails are a benefit in terms of crime because they allow police officers to access the open space.
- ◆ The creek directly abuts residential back yard fences and the trail will impact homeowner property. Trail users will be able to see into back yards.
- ◆ Open space trails are a great amenity for families in other areas of the City, because they let families experience the outdoors and let children bicycle in a safe place.
- ◆ If restrooms are provided, address loitering and other issues
- ◆ The trail may create a parking problem in residential areas at trailheads. Where will trail parking be provided?
- ◆ Trash disposal (or lack thereof) is a concern.
- ◆ Consider neighborhood friendly fencing and planting of landscape buffers to clearly distinguish public and private property
- ◆ Post and enforce open space and trail regulations that encourage respect for private property
- ◆ What is the projected use of the trail and how does that compare to other nearby trails such as the American River Parkway?

Fire Safety

- ◆ The trail may increase the potential for fires in the open space.
- ◆ Open space trails are a benefit in terms of fire control firefighters to access the open space.
- ◆ Use non-combustible materials for trail amenities (e.g., benches, bollards, signs)
- ◆ Design trails to facilitate emergency vehicle access
- ◆ Enforce no smoking law

Transportation/Recreation System Performance

- ◆ Allow commuter bicyclists to use trail at night
- ◆ Provide separated hiking trails where feasible
- ◆ Provide trail blazing signs to key destinations
- ◆ Provide mile markers at quarter mile intervals and clear directional signage for orientation
- ◆ Provide route information at intersection points for both trail and on-street bike facilities.

Flooding

- ◆ Residents thought floodplain designation of open space would preclude trail development
- ◆ The asphalt trail surface is impervious, which may increase runoff and flood potential

Environmental Resources

- ◆ Construction may impact environmental resources, including oaks.
- ◆ Trail improvements may cause erosion of the creek bank.
- ◆ Human use of the creek corridor may scare away wildlife
- ◆ Provide environmental interpretative areas and signage
- ◆

Right-of-way

- ◆ Will City be buying property or using eminent domain?

Utilities

- ◆ Design trail section and structures to accommodate maintenance vehicles