



Pueblo Canyon Conceptual Plan Chat Transcript

Meeting Date January 10, 2022
Time 3:00pm
Focus Group # 1

Chat Transcript:

15:33:59 Katie Bruell : Could you put the names of those associated companies in the chat? Thanks!

15:34:59 Kevin Holsapple : I second Katie's request - thanks!

15:35:11 patricksinnott : Hi, the project team is Design Office, Tony Boone Trails, McGill Trails and Chinook LA

15:35:29 Bob Walker : What is Green/Blue zone?

15:36:07 Cheryl Kuske : Who originally requested all of this?

15:36:12 Moira Hough : what is a Nica site?

15:36:54 Macky Franklin : @Bob - it's the difficulty rating for mountain biking trails. Green = easiest, Blue = intermediate so this would be a trail/jump zone aimed at beginner/intermediate riders.

15:37:30 Bob Walker : Thanks.

15:38:00 Cory Styron : NICA is National Interscholastic Cycling Association

15:39:01 Moira Hough : thanks

15:39:13 Bob Walker : Are hikers allowed on this trail, or restricted use for biking?

15:39:18 Cory Styron : This project started several years ago for a Flow trail, working with our youth we found the need for the NICA loops, the Equestrians had a need for better access into the Canyon. The skills development also came from talking to the youth

15:39:39 Katie Bruell : Do you mean in Kinickinick Park? PEEC takes field trips there all the time.

15:39:40 Bob Walker : Kinnickinnick Park?

15:40:05 Cory Styron : Our desire is for multi use

15:40:21 Bob Walker : Will bicyclists run down hikers then?

15:40:25 Bob Walker : Who gets priority?

15:40:36 Cheryl Kuske : What exactly is involved in trail development for these activities?

15:41:13 Georgia Strickfaden : Natural area north of Aquatic Center—that has been fought for in the past to leave natural...

15:41:34 Cory Styron : Equestrian, Pedestrians and the cyclist are the priority

15:42:20 Katie Bruell : In Kinnickinnick Park? No equestrians there

15:42:21 Bob Walker : ... in that order?



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- 15:43:14 Melissa Bartlett : Are the Nike areas shown by the black dotted lines and the grid?
- 15:43:18 Kevin Holsapple : How is all this anticipated to affect existing trail uses and users?
- 15:45:02 Kevin Holsapple : A much better use of resources would be to get the existing trail system in solid, well-maintained shape and to mitigate existing damage and other problems in open space areas.
- 15:45:09 Bob Walker : Note: The trails between Kinnikinnick Park, down Ranch School Trail, to the confluence of Acid Canyon and Pueblo Canyon form the primary spring bird migration habitat for all of Los Alamos County. My first impression is that this project will almost completely destroy this prime Important Bird Area.
- 15:45:25 Katie Bruell : Agree with everything Bob and Kevin are saying.
- 15:45:44 Kevin Holsapple : who from Los Alamos County is driving this process?
- 15:45:50 Katie Bruell : I can't see how 30 kindergarteners on the trail can coexist with people practicing mountain biking jumps.
- 15:46:36 Cherylyn Heikoop : Agree with Bob, Kevin and Katie. Development across from the main wetland in Lower Pueblo is also questionable due to the migratory and breeding bird habitat there.
- 15:48:32 Cheryl Kuske : I would recommend the bike skill park be located in a non-natural area - not taking environment away from the pristine Pueblo Canyon area. I can think of multiple potential locations that are not in the wilderness portions.
- 15:49:05 Katie Bruell : Agree with Cheryl. What about on North Mesa at the original site. The bike skills park seems to have no place in our natural areas.
- 15:49:28 Katie Bruell : We don't put developed playgrounds on the trails, either. 😊
- 15:49:55 Cheryl Kuske : I agree strongly and completely with June and Bob on threats to wildlife and foot traffic. The major asset of a community like Los Alamos is that it is juxtaposed to the natural wilderness. A bike skills park and bicycle racing courses have not place in that canyon.
- 15:50:53 Kevin Holsapple : "desire by community members for a flow trail" - I volunteered input to that one - I question whether that was ever a broadly held desire and this sounds like a second hand initiative based on something that had limited support.
- 15:51:41 Bob Walker : Will this project require an Environmental Impact Statement?
- 15:53:14 Cheryl Kuske : The bicycling activities are good ideas for a small portion of our community, but locating these activities in the canyon is ill-conceived. There are other potential locations for these activities.
- 15:54:53 Kevin Holsapple : A concern I have is that there has been minimal attention given to implementing established plans for trail care and maintenance and open space care and maintenance while at the same time resources are getting expended on projects like this. First things first.



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15:54:56 Damien Milazzo : am I able to speak
15:55:21 Macky Franklin : @damien, your microphone is muted so we can't hear you if you're speaking
15:55:23 Cheryl Kuske : Agree with Kevin.
15:55:42 Damien Milazzo : I am not able to unmute myself
15:56:44 Tiffany Hall : ramps and berms
15:56:55 Linda Lindstrom to Damien Milazzo(Direct Message) : Try Alt A
15:57:12 Damien Milazzo : I'm on mobile.
15:57:18 Tiffany Hall : cool
15:57:37 Bob Walker : How do you raise your hand??
15:57:52 Catherine Cloran : Go to reactions at the bottom.
15:58:16 Kevin Holsapple : I am assuming my comments given in the chat are being collected as public input? Please confirm.
15:58:23 Cory Styron : yes
15:58:26 Linda Lindstrom to Damien Milazzo(Direct Message) : Try *6
15:59:03 Kevin Holsapple : there is a bike skills park by the stables that never seems to be used
15:59:05 Moira Hough : the meeting host should be able to unmute Damien so he can speak (I think)
15:59:26 Damien Milazzo : yes please meeting host.
16:00:02 Damien Milazzo : I'd appreciate the opportunity to offer a rebuttal to the individuals who feel the change is terrifying and a threat to their way of life.
16:00:04 Kevin Holsapple : bmx park isn't used -- much better location to consider
16:00:16 Damien Milazzo : that change
16:01:25 Macky Franklin : @damien - are you on the mobile app or did you dial in?
16:01:38 Damien Milazzo : mobile app
16:01:47 Kevin Holsapple : change is in no way terrifying to me -- wasteful change for vague reasons is not something I support
16:02:30 Macky Franklin : @damien - tap on your video screen and see if some buttons come up. Look for the one in the bottom right that looks like a mic with a line through it.
16:03:10 Damien Milazzo : yes. I understand how to unmute myself if the option is available. but the meeting host must unmute me.
16:04:06 Linda Lindstrom : It doesn't let me unmute you - there is no option - it is only allowing me to "ask you to unmute"
16:04:46 Damien Milazzo : ok. I have said unmute but apparently it still doesn't like me.
16:05:14 Macky Franklin : @damien - you could try leaving the meeting and entering again. Maybe it's a glitch
16:06:22 Kevin Holsapple : What Tabor says reinforces my thinking that we need to get existing trail system in good shape before other initiatives
16:06:36 Macky Franklin : @damien - we can hear you now



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- 16:06:43 Linda Lindstrom to Damien Milazzo(Direct Message) : You are unmuted
- 16:07:46 Cheryl Kuske : Agree with Kevin that priorities should be maintenance of existing trails instead of new trail types.
- 16:09:50 Macky Franklin : Thanks Damien!
- 16:10:53 Kevin Holsapple : I have encountered no shortage of bikers on the existing trail system. Is the thought that the existing trails are too difficult for bikers?
- 16:11:52 Bob Walker : My personal experience with bikers on Pueblo Canyon Trails -- is that they will run me over if I don't get out of the way fast
- 16:12:26 Cheryl Kuske : Same here Bob.
- 16:12:53 Kevin Holsapple : Macky's comments reinforce for me that the area near the stables would be a much more appropriate place for kids skills development
- 16:13:18 Macky Franklin : @kevin - how so?
- 16:14:09 Cheryl Kuske : Just because historically the local research and engineering programs put through sewage lines and acid dumps (which have since been cleaned up as much as possible), doesn't mean we should consider the areas that have recovered from those insults naturally as
- 16:14:28 Cheryl Kuske : dumps to further develop.
- 16:15:06 Kevin Holsapple : I realize there aren't natural features to utilize on North Mesa but it would be much faster to build there and there are already adjacent County facilities that would be helpful in supporting it.
- 16:15:33 Macky Franklin : @bob - so sorry to hear about your negative experiences with mountain bikers. We definitely have work to do with educating all trail users to make sure that they are communicating effectively to avoid surprising one another.
- 16:18:08 Bob Walker : The migratory birds don't seem to have been overly offput by the past abuses of the canyon's natural habitat.
- 16:18:14 Cherylyn Heikoop : With all due respect to the comment that the canyons are waste dumps - yes, they were. That aspect of the canyons has been under remediation, as I understand it. Nature has a way of reclaiming its space. Keep in mind that in June 1981, the area around Mt St Helens was a wasteland due to the previous month's volcanic eruption. The canyons are healing, as evidenced by the array of wildlife that can be found there. Another thing to be aware of bear traffic in the area near the aquatic center.
- 16:19:00 Bob Walker : The habitat below the Nature Center, is the most recent reports of Spotted Owl activity.



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- 16:25:18 Moira Hough : These are very useful clarifications, @Taber. A lot of this was not clear to me from the initial presentation (including that the preferred location of the skills park would be near the sewage treatment plant rather than behind the aquatic center). Thanks for your explanation
- 16:28:04 Kevin Holsapple : To sum up, my input is to redirect these resources into proper care and maintenance of the existing trail system and open spaces in accordance with already adopted and established plans. We need to implement the plans we have already adopted before creating new ones.
- 16:32:12 Bob Walker : Spotted Owl territory, low end, 3000 acres
- 16:33:07 Kevin Holsapple : will you be publishing transcripts of focus groups?
- 16:33:19 Kevin Holsapple : good
- 16:34:07 Macky Franklin : macky.r.franklin@gmail.com and syd.schulz@gmail.com
- 16:34:11 Macky Franklin : Would love to get the survey
- 16:34:21 Catherine Cloran : Interested in survey.
- 16:34:24 Damien Milazzo : I'd like to participate in the survey
- 16:34:50 Bob Walker : Send me a survey...