



Park Planning and Development

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

March – June 2020



PLANNING HIGHLIGHTS

- Under the One Truckee River Partnership, Washoe County Parks worked with the Nevada Land Trust to get the contract awarded for the Truckee River Wayfinding Signage Fabrication and Installation project. The contract was awarded to YESCO in March. The contract includes fabrication and installation of approximately 250 signs and information kiosks along the Truckee River and Tahoe Pyramid Trail corridor. Signs will be installed across all local jurisdictions including Washoe County, City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA). Sign fabrication is underway and the project is expected to be completed by November 2020.
- Weed treatments were conducted in April-May as part of the Truckee River Fund #220 Grant. Treatments were targeted at noxious weeds in open space areas in Lockwood Trailhead, Mayberry Park, Dorostkar Park, Crystal Peak Park, and Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. A spring planting project utilizing Great Basin Institute work crews was originally planned to start at Bartley Ranch in early April. This project has been deferred until fall due to COVID-19 concerns.
- The City of Reno Planning Commission approved a Special Use Permit for the Riverbend Trailhead and River Access Path project on April 15th. Next steps include pursuing a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for construction and applying for additional permits including building and NDOT encroachment.
- On May 12th, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners directed staff to conduct the Riverbend boundary line adjustment.
- Redhorse Corporation was hired to develop an environmental assessment for the Riverbend Trailhead and River Access Path project. Public scoping for the project is expected to begin in May.
- Resource Concepts Inc. submitted the first draft of the Integrated Vegetation Management Plan for Truckee River Parks for staff review. The final plan is on schedule to be completed by June 15, 2020.
- The Special Use Permit application for the Lower Thomas Creek Trail Reroute and Bridge project was approved by the Board of Adjustment on May 7th. Next steps are to apply for building permits. Construction is expected to start in July 2020 as planned.
- As part of the Rancho Wetland Repair Plan, Sierra Trail Works completed construction of a new 5-ft. wide trail on the south side of the wetlands at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. The project included installation of culverts, ditches, improvement of tie-in trails/paths and a small section of decommissioning in

addition to the new trail. Improvements to the north side wetlands trail were also completed including widening and rock armoring.

- J & A Design Studio started preliminary design plans for the Rancho San Rafael Regional Park “All Inclusive” playground which includes a playground upgrade and ADA access improvements. Next steps include securing funding for construction costs.
- A parkland easement application was submitted by Mayberry Gardens, LLC to amend an existing sewer line easement and grant a new stormwater easement on Betsy Caughlin Donnelly Park.
- The third advisory committee meeting for the Article 418 (Significant Hydrologic Resources) Development Code update met on May 11th.
- Sierra Trail Works was contracted to develop a detailed trails plan for the last 3.5-mile section of the Ballardini to Thomas Creek connector trail. This plan will be used to put the trail construction out for bid once Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding is received from NV State Parks. The RTP grant funding is currently on hold until grant administration issues between the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) and NDOT are resolved. Washoe County Parks received confirmation of the grant award in November 2019, but official award documents have not yet been issued.
- Sierra Trail Works was contracted to begin the layout and flagging of a trail corridor for the Ballardini to Hunter Creek connection this summer. The trail length is anticipated to be around 13.5 miles total. After the trail corridor is identified, environmental clearance surveys as part of the NEPA process can begin.
- NV State Lands approved the use of State Question 1 (SQ-1) bond funding to repair and improve the main access road into Crystal Peak Park including a new asphalt overlay. Work was completed in May 2020.