



Policy 500 / All-Weather Trail Improvements / 30-Day Comment Period

The Open Space Committee and Town Council would like to expand and improve an all-weather trail to create a “loop system” for residents to enjoy year-round. In accordance with Policy 500, this 30-day comment period is to allow members of the Association time to comment on the proposal, voicing support and/or concerns regarding this improvement. The comment period for the all-weather trail Improvements proposed opens today Tuesday 5/7/24. The 30-day comment period will run through end of business, Thursday 6/6/24. During this 30-day comment period, please email your comments regarding the improvements to hsta@hiddensprings.com. The Open Space Committee and Town Council will review the comments and discuss the project further at the June Town Council Meeting 6/25/24.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this project.

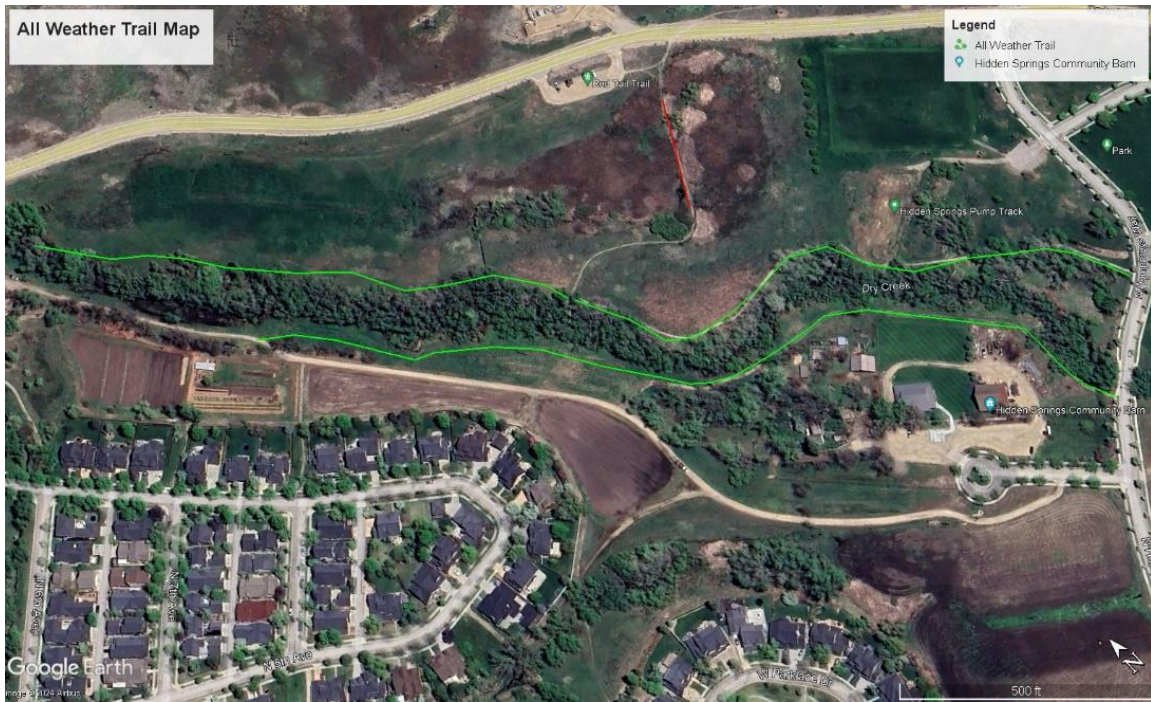
The All-Weather Trail will:

- Provide alternatives for outdoor recreation during winter and inclement weather
- Create a more accessible trail option and recreation opportunity for users that may not be able to utilize single-track trails with steeper grades
- Protect the greater trail system from inappropriate use and damage during winter and muddy seasons by providing alternative locations
- Be funded through Conservation Easement Reserve fund.



What is an All-Weather Trail?

- An all-weather trail is essentially a gravel “green-belt”
- A trail that remains usable during inclement weather (drains well and doesn’t get muddy)
- 4 feet wide to allow for various types of traffic and walking side by side
- All-weather trail specifications:
 - ✓ Prepare a 4” deep cut the entire width of the trail, machine compacted, add an additional 2-3” which are crowned and compacted again
 - ✓ A mix consisting of 25% topsoil and 75% ¾-minus road mix



All-Weather Trail Project Phases and Associated Costs

Green line denotes the trail loop.

The project would be funded through Conservation Easement Reserves.

Phase 1	Distance/ ft	Price/ ft	Estimated Total	Detail
New Trail – Section 1 North Side of Creek	1200	\$14.00	\$16,800	Surface new trail with 6" of mix 4' wide per Ridge to Rivers specs.
New Trail – Section 2 South Side of Creek	1400	\$14.00	\$19,600	Surface new trail with 6" of mix 4' wide per Ridge to Rivers specs.
Phase 1 Sub Total	2600	\$14.00	\$36,400	
Phase 2				
Resurface of existing trail- North Side of Creek from Humphreys west	1400	\$8.00	\$11,200	Resurface existing trail with 3" of mix.
Resurface of existing trail- South Side of Creek from Humphreys west	550	\$8.00	\$4,400	Resurface existing trail with 3" of mix.
Phase 2 Sub Total	1950	\$8.00	\$15,600	
Estimated Project Cost to Complete	4,550	\$8-14	\$52,000	

History

Hidden Springs trails saw unprecedented use in 2020 as local residents as well as Dry Creek Valley neighbors explored the outdoors vs staying indoors with the onset of COVID. In 2021, the Association in partnership with the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley (Open Space Consultant in 2021) was awarded an AARP grant (\$15,000) to construct an all-weather trail. The goal was to construct a 4-mile all weather trail loop.

The use and enjoyment continue today with the build out of neighboring communities, and Hidden Springs' highly desirable trail system. Every winter and spring, wet weather saturates the ground making use impossible without damaging the trails. Unfortunately, the costs of supplies and labor increased significantly between the time the grant request was written and awarded and a contractor scheduled. The Association was only able to do a 2-mile section versus the entire loop and not to all-weather trail specs due to increased labor and supply costs in 2021.

In a number of 2023 Open Space Meetings, the Open Space Committee discussed improving the section constructed with grant funds as well as completing the loop.

Check Out Other All-Weather Examples

- [Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Trail #19A](#)
- [Rim Trail](#)
- [Harrison Hollow Trail #57](#)
- [Oregon Trail](#)
- [Upper Portion of Basalt Trail](#)
- [Red Fox Trail #36](#)
- [Gold Finch #35](#)
- [Owl's Roost #37](#)
- [Hulls Pond Loop #34](#)
- [The Grove #38](#)
- [Red-Winged Blackbird #35A](#)
- [Mountain Cove #22C](#)
- [Eagle Ridge Loop #25A](#)

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this project.