



Policy 500 | All-Weather Trail Improvements

DATE	COMMENTS
5/7/2024	I think it is a wonderful idea.
5/7/2024	We fully support this initiative. It is a much needed improvement to our community. If there is any other way we can support you, please let us know.
5/7/2024	I think this is an enormous improvement to the amenities we already enjoy. I am in complete support of this proposal. I would like to see additional areas/trails improved in the same manner, if at all possible. YES, moving forward on the project as proposed is a huge benefit for the costs outlined. I am in complete support of this project and the associated costs. I think it will be a great amenity for the community.
5/7/2024	What else does the Conservation Easement Reserve fund pay for? Yes, of course we want you to have what you want, but would that be taking funds away from something else that others might place more importance on? We need more details about the Conservation Easement Reserve fund. I don't think that getting opinions without knowing the whole story is credible. I want to voice once again that those in support of the trails, may or may not still be in support of the trails if they had the full information of how much is in the funds and other needs of the funds. This is unfair marketing because only the benefits and financial costs were listed, not the opportunity cost. If the council wanted to know what the community wanted, then the full picture of the funds and uses should be provided. I am not opposed to the trails and I would fully support them if I knew there was enough moneys in the fund to continue to support the other areas dependent on the funds. Very few voted and those that did are positive because they would directly benefit from them so they took the time to show support. This is a bias result. Really, only the council has the whole picture of what is in play here and should make the decision objectively without being swayed by the voices of few. In the future, Policies put before residents for comments should have transparency of the opportunity costs.
5/7/2024	Sounds like a good idea but Will there be any cost to the individual home owner?
5/8/2024	Does the proposed trail loop on the west end? Does not appear that way on the map. Great Project that I support.
5/8/2024	Just wanted to show my support for the expansion of all weather trails. I feel like this is a part of what living in hidden springs is all about.
5/8/2023	I am in support of an all weather trail on the route identified on the map provided with this email. However, I take issue with the use of "gravel" as specified on the email and estimate. Gravel is miserable to bike on. I suggest we use a mix which has binding agents so that the surface is more compact. Kids will be riding this trail to get to and from school, the merc, the pool, etc. Riding through 6 inches of gravel is extremely challenging and loud. Gravel was discussed and rejected as an idea at the Open Space Committee. Please do not make this change without going through OSC.

5/8/2024	We are supportive of this plan.
5/8/2024	We are in full support of an all-weather trail. Just another benefit for our neighborhood.
5/9/2024	LOVE IT! Thank you so much to all on the Open Space Committee and HSTA Town Council. As a long time resident of HSTA, I really appreciate the trails and use the existing all weather trails extensively when it's too wet to use natural soil trails. I strongly support the expansion as a resource to the community as well as an incentive to avoid using the other trails when muddy.
5/9/2024	Just a quick comment regarding the All Weather Trail Improvements that are currently under review. I am in full support of the project. The current All Weather Trails seem to be very popular with the community and the more we improve them or add to them is awesome in my opinion.
5/9/2024	We're all for the trail improvements and new sections - thumbs up. Do you happen to have a map image that includes the extents of the trail? Also, I assume a new footbridge would be needed on the new West extension past the community garden, correct? Thanks for the opportunity to comment. We would definitely use the new trail all the time.
5/10/2024	Yes! We love this project and appreciate HS providing year round accessible trails!
5/10/2024	I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed "All Weather Trail Improvements" project. This is an amenity that Hidden Springs has needed for a long time. In the future I'd like to see this concept extended to include continuation to the east with an eventual connection to the Cartwright Ranch trail system.
5/10/2024	I think this is a great idea and hope this project continues to progress. The only question I have is how much participation (funding, volunteering, etc.) will be contributed by Cartwright Ranch as they will also benefit from this project. Good luck! I strongly support the project but still wonder whether contacting Cartwright Ranch HOA before we start to check on their support wouldn't be a bad idea. Better now than after the fact. Given the continuity of our respective neighborhoods, I expect both subdivisions would utilize the trails.
5/15/2024	The all-weather trail is an excellent idea overall. Glad to see money well spent encouraging outdoor activities for residents. However, I don't agree that this is the most cost-effective way to provide a 4-mile all weather loop. The new-trail line item (\$19,600) is redundant to the existing farm path which is already all-weather. I would recommend that \$19k for New Trail south side, plus the entire Phase 2 section (\$15k) be spent providing all-weather access to the existing all-weather trails. For example, consider the section of trail between the Dry Creek Bridge East and Dry Creek road. Making that all-weather provides access TO the all-weather system from the north. Also consider the section of Red Tail trail from Deerpath to Dry Creek Road. This would give access to the system for the entire Rolling Hills subsection (which I'd like to point out has been, up to this point, excluded from the all-weather improvements.) Also consider the short section of Red Tail trail connecting Sage Creek Drive and Deerpath—that would give Rolling Hills residents the ability to walk/run "figure-8" routes, rather than just the 1.5 mile paved loop. Note that the trails could be treated at a 24" width instead of 48". So for the cost of \$35,000 (NT-south plus Phase 2) at \$7.00 per foot, this would enable all-weathering a total of 5000'—nearly a mile!—of all-weather trail, AND expand access to the existing all-weather system. I'd like to point out that, in general, the Rolling Hills section of Hidden Springs does not get its fair share of the all-weather funds. The lower portions of Hidden Springs already have received funding for all-weather trails. The walkers, runners, hikers from Rolling Hills would like the same access available to the other residents, and in proportion to our contributions to the HOA funds. Thank you for considering my suggestions here. Feel free to contact me if you'd like me to add any clarifications.
5/15/2024	Just writing to express my support for the proposed all weather trail improvements. I fully support this proposal as it will provide an excellent winter/muddy season trail loop option for residents to get outside and enjoy our amazing open space! It will also reduce trail usage/pressure on other Hidden Springs community and local Ridge to Rivers trails that are not all weather and reduce trail damage on those.

5/26/2024	Thank you for seeking input from the residents. I do not support spending this kind of money on completing a trail loop used by such a limited number of people in two seasons. The plan to spend tens of thousands of dollars on a short trail at a time when we have all faced special assessments (sewer) and even our annual HOA fees, is not justified. My request is to ensure the money in the Conservation Fund is invested (to grow) while fixed rates are higher than in the past, and save it for an improvement which benefits a much greater share of the residents.
5/26/2024	I support expansion of the all-weather trail. Trail usage is only increasing over time, and people continue to use trails when they shouldn't. If this measure reduces damage to the rest of the trail network (and I believe it will) it is well worth the expense and effort.
5/25/2024	Please do build this trail! It would be suitable for all kinds of weather and travelers.
5/25/2024	This is an exciting development for our community and I am very supportive. Thank you for exploring!
5/27/2024	We would prefer to see the money spent on the basics like taking care of our trees and common areas versus spending money on other things. Many of the trees lining our streets (along the common areas) need attention or replacement. We'd like to see the landscape as a priority as it is something that sets our neighborhood apart and is something everyone may enjoy. We know work has been done; however, there is still much to do. Once our trees and common areas are healthy and well maintained this would be a great idea.
5/27/2024	Hey HSTA I am against this proposal as it will ruin the current ambience of the trails, in addition most of this area already has some gravel surfaces and is already "all-weather".
6/3/2024	Please accept our thoughts and suggestions on the proposed Loop Trail: We are in favor of creating an All Weather Trail along portions of the proposed Loop where there is existing trail. However, we are opposed to the construction of new trail on the north side of Dry Creek where no trail currently exists. We hope to see this area left undisturbed as it has always been. It is the last remaining undisturbed section along Dry Creek in Hidden Springs and we don't need to blaze a trail through here. Let's please leave it as-is for conservation reasons that we can all understand. No one will miss not having a trail here if we should decide to forgo it. As a suggestion, let's please improve the existing network of trails. Rather than a loop, please consider improving the current Dry Creek Trail extending east of Humphreys Way on the south side of Dry Creek all the way to the metal bridge. It is all existing trail which also suffers from muddy conditions at times. This would improve and complete a Dry Creek "greenbelt" as an All Weather Trail which then connects to the one at Cartwright Ranch.
6/4/2024	<p>I am writing to provide input on the proposed trail renovation. Let me start by saying that I fully support the project and believe a "greenbelt" would be a great addition to our community. However, I do have questions about what I understand to be the revised proposal due to funding restrictions. I do not think creating a small loop between the farm and the end of the teaching farm area is an ideal solution. It doesn't satisfy the objective of creating a connection / greenbelt linking the Hidden Springs and Cartwright communities nor does it create an ideal experience for trail users due it being a short loop.</p> <p>I believe we could provide a better solution by creating a linear trail that connects the Cartwright community with Hidden Springs while creating a longer more diverse walking/biking experience for users, which is one of the remarkable features of a greenbelt for most users. We could accomplish this by renovating the trail on one side of the creek only, but extend it the entire distance. If the trail was to extend from Cartwright on the west side of the creek to the road and then transfer to the other side (northeast) of the creek before the farm, it would require bikers to slow down when crossing the road and improve safety. Secondly, it would put the trail on the side of the creek least affected by seasonal flooding. Thirdly, it may help reduce the additional traffic burden behind the homes on both sides of the creek.</p> <p>Feel free to reach out for clarification, if you have any questions regarding my description.</p>

6/6/2024	<p>I am adamantly against the use of funds for this all weather trail. The amount of money to create and maintain the trail seems to be disproportionate to the short length of the trail and the limited use it will get during the winter months.</p> <p>There are a number of other areas where this money could be spent to improve the lives of the residents, particularly during the winter months. One specific area is in the expansion of the size and equipment in the work-out gym. The gym is tiny, relative to the number of residents and is often the only reasonable location for exercise in the community during the winter months. Please consider redirecting financial resources to the expansion of the gym.</p>
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