



**City of Gig Harbor
Cushman Trail Phase 2
Public Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2006 @ 5:30 p.m.**

Welcome: Mayor Hunter welcomed the public and made introductions. Staff members present were Terri Reed, Dave Brereton, John Vodopich and Eric Mendenhall. Pierce County Parks and Recreations staff members present were Terry Larson and Kathy Kravit-Smith. Parks Commission members present were Nick Tarabochia, Michael Perrow and Peter Hampl.

Kathy Kravit-Smith, Pierce County Director of Parks and Recreation, thanked the partners of the Cushman Trail Project.

Project Overview: Terry Larson, Capital Projects Coordinator, Pierce County Parks and Recreation mentioned the recent study session with the City of Gig Harbor Parks Commission. Terry explained that we are near completion of the preliminary design report which gives the basic information needed for the final design of this project. He explained some of the history of the trail and the responsibilities as far as environmental, handicap access and national standards for a non-motorized, cross-country, commuter trail.

Terry stated that the project is a partnership between Tacoma Public Utilities, the City of Gig Harbor, Pierce County and the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation who will administer the grant of about \$273,000. The project schedule calls for the public process and preliminary engineering report to be finalized in early 2007. Then the project requires a conditional use permit in State Environmental Policy Act processing by the City of Gig Harbor which hopefully will be complete by late 2007. They are hoping to allow all the processing to be done by the City since the trail sections are either in incorporated Gig Harbor or in the Urban Growth Area. Construction permits could then be issued by early 2008 and construction completed in late 2008 or early 2009. Terry said that the current budget for the project is about \$1.3 million.

Terry introduced the staff present from the consulting firm, W & H Pacific; Stacy Davis and Julia Hanson.

Public Comments:

Alice Stenhjem – abutting property owner (Foster Street), expressed her concerns about the following:

- 1) Safety, privacy, and security of the property that abuts the trail. Her concern is with the properties from the Chevron station to Foster Drive; daycares, condos and apartment buildings. She wanted to know about having a barrier between these properties and the trail.
- 2) Parking on Foster Street

- 3) Drainage and water runoff for the Ridge Condominiums
- 4) Finances

She also suggested that the trail end at the Chevron station and re-start at Wilkinson Farm Park.

Susan Lanser – Fox Island, said that she is all for the trail.

Michael Crites – felt that the trail already exists as an undeveloped trail.

Dempster Boyd – adjoining property owner (96th Street), asked about responsibilities of the property owners in funding, ingress/egress from the trail, access, budget, and maintenance costs.

Scott Junge – Rosedale area resident, asked if the trail will be developed to the same level as the current trail.

Randy Boss – former member of Pierce County Parks Advisory Board, mentioned the use of the current trail and that the trail is self-policing. He asked about the pervious asphalt surface, parking (trail heads) and permitting.

Terry Larson mentioned the time restraints on the IAC money in regards to the permitting timeframe.

Vernon Young – EnviroCorp, In favor of the trail and asked that there be rest stations along the trail at least every quarter mile.

Gary Glein, Harborview Drive, Rotary Club representative, mentioned that they are committed to supporting the trail and clean ups. Terry Larson mentioned that the Foothills Trail Coalition does maintenance type of work on trails.

Gary Williamson – Soundview, would like the trail to be level and asked about the width proposed.

Scott Junge – asked about getting Pierce Transit involved.

Bethany Kauppila – Kauppila Lane, expressed her concern about the trail going through their driveway and would like the trail to stay along the park.

Dave Percival – 96th & Burnham, mentioned the traffic on the back of his property and protection.

Peter Glen – Tacoma, likes the existing trail, thinks that the new trail will help with litter and vandalism and doesn't think that the money should be used to protect private property with fences and barriers.

Nick Tarabochia – Parks Commissioner, spoke about trails increasing property values and that safety and security are self-policed on trails. He also mentioned that the project has been very well received in the community and has a lot of support.

Citizen, commented on 49th Street running parallel to the trail and safety issues. Terry Larson mentioned that some portions of the trail may use existing sidewalks.

Dean Haugen – Spadoni Lane, asked about horses being on the trail and if there will be an overpass on Foster for cars.

Michael Perrow – Parks Commissioner, asked if the setbacks may change for property owners.

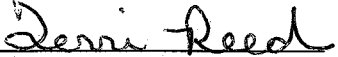
Susan Lanser – brought up the possibility of burying the utilities.

Terry Larson went through the list of items on the comment sheets that are being considered. He said that at the next meeting there will be a more developed plan after comments given today are taken into consideration.

Next Meetings: January 17, 2007
February 28, 2007

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Terri Reed