

Kachemak Trail notes:
January 6, 2011
Regular Meeting

Meeting Called to Order: 5:37pm

Present: Bumpo Bremicker (arrived 5:50pm), Beth Cummings, Capt. Joe Litchfield, Dave Clemens, Ingrid Harrald, Lynne Burt

Minutes from last meeting approved with small changes: Burton to Burt and Ingrid departing at 6:30pm

Public Comments:

Chase Warren - Bicyclist that uses Kachemak Drive regularly. Expressed dissatisfaction about trail being built on the route from airport road across wetland to arctic. Voiced that he would rather have minimum improvements of the shoulder of Kachemak Drive vs. this. Opinion was that there needed to be access to businesses and destinations along Kachemak Drive to make the path usable. Path should follow Kachemak Drive enough to allow this.

Discussion on this topic amongst committee.

No other visitors.

Pending Business:

A. Trail Location - Three options discussed:

1. Along Kachemak Drive following ROW and Power Line ROW
 - concerns about having multiple crossings of street (N/S)
 - Erosion concerns
 - concerns over property owners rights
 - discussion about width of road/speed limit
 - questions over actual route of power lines on East End of trail
 - Capt. Joe expressed strong opposition to this option. Too much energy being spent to cater to bicyclists. Too little concern to home owners in the area.
 - Rika Mouw mentioned that with the water and sewer lines, they use the outer part of the easement, and there is enough space on the inside of the easement to put bike trail
 - Beth Cumming walked the area south of Kachemak Drive from base of spit to Bay Club. Found the land beautiful and flat and felt this would be a great option for a trail in this area. Encouraged people to go check it out. It was heavily forested, quiet, and quite enjoyable.
2. Follow FAA Road west until it ends, continue along fence line until Arctic or Jack London and continue along property lines until connecting with Little Fireweed.
 - Discussion on the wetland status of land
 - Clemens discussed the lack of options for cyclists to safely bike that route
 - No access to businesses on Kachemak Dr.
 - Nice that it would not infringe on land owners
 - would be a great ski and pedestrian trail
 - discussion of what physical type of trail it could be to make it safe/fast for cyclists
3. Starting at Ben Walters meeting up with Calvin Coyle trail and then around to the Horse Park
 - attendees agreed this would be a great recreational trail but would not work for the issues this committee is trying to correct. (Safety and use of Kachemak Way).
 - Agreed that user groups on Kachemak would not use this trail

B. Connection Options - See above notes

C. Design Options - Did not cover, not enough time

B. New Business:

- Group discussed traffic use along Kachemak Drive.
Looked at trail width requirements from COH Trail Manual and Kachemak Road widths.
Decided more information was needed for the next meeting:
 - bike use along Kachemak Drive. Ingrid will look into this.
 - Road width requirements at various speeds: 25mph, 30 mph, 35 mph. Bumpoppo will look into this.

No comments from Audience or staff:

Comments from committee:

Clemens - meeting was productive, lots of great ideas and options

Harrald - Agreed with Clemens. Would like to continue next meeting with more research and discussion.

Burt- The option #1 trail seems promising and that she thinks it will encourage more ped/bike users.

Cumming - Feels the only option is a path following along Kachemak Drive. Encouraging the start of an advocacy group for the Kachemak Trail, this could move the process forward quicker.

Litchfield - Puts 100% support behind the #2 option trail. This is the only option he agrees with. Would like to have Dave Brann talk more on this topic at next meeting.

Next Meeting: Thursday, Jan 27 5:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm