

Kachemak Drive Path Committee:

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35pm on August 4th 2011

Members present: Ingrid Harrald, Beth Cumming, Dave Brann, Bumppo Bremicker, Lynne Burton, Dave Clemmons

2. Approval of Agenda: Moved by Dave Brann, approved
3. Approval of minutes: Moved by Dave Brann, approved
4. Public Comments:

A resident spoke about the current road work being done on Kachemak Drive. The water and sewer lines are being put in and they are repaving, and doing much dirt work along the shoulder. She felt that this would be a good time to work with DOT and other groups to see if they could pack down the dirt on top of this and use this as a bike path.

5. Reconsideration:

Beth requested reconsideration of the second recommendation to the city council referring to the Mud Bay segment. She would like to revoke the recommendation. She feels that using harbor dredges filling the edge of the trail to beginning of woods would only be appropriate for pedestrians. The cost would be in the \$4000 range and she feels the money/effort should go towards something that would accommodate cyclists as well as pedestrians. For the first .2 miles, (from the spit trail to the crest of hill) she feels like widening the shoulder on the bay side with more substantial fill would be appropriate. She has walked the airport side and thinks it has at least 2 feet for expansion at the shoulder.

There was discussion about the problems with using so much fill on such a steep bank near an intertidal area. Other ideas thrown about included a retaining wall, geotextiles, and wooden walkways. Discussion on Carey Meyer's role in trail decision making and if the trail could go below the 26' high tide line. Dave B stated that was permissible as long as it was not paved.

The committee discussed throwing out or keeping the recommendation. Ingrid and Dave B. suggested keeping the proposal, just remove the specifics of the trail design which could be determined at a later time after this proposal goes through the commission. They stated that putting down any kind of trail would increase user groups and help show that the city should support a more substantial path.

It was decided that the recommendation would go to the commission with the following changes:

- increase to level 3 trail
- delete third paragraph

So the new recommendation would be:

The Kachemak Drive Path Committee of the Homer Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission recommends that the Commission pass the following and send it on to the Homer City Council for their XXX meeting the following, which relates to the Mud Bay segment going from the base of the Spit to airport beach access road:

Authorization to support volunteer participation working with appointed city advisors to establish the first portion of the Kachemak Drive corridor, which in the near future would exist as a Level Three pedestrian trail paralleling Kachemak Drive starting from the base of the Spit Bicycle Trail proceeding along Kachemak Drive at the toe of the road bank and then changing to the toe of the bluff and going approximately 1/2 mile and ending at the airport beach access road.

6. No Visitors
7. No reports
8. No public hearing
9. Pending Business: Resolution 11-xxx

Discussion on the write up, wording and word-smithing of the resolution. Ingrid wanted to remove all of the third Whereas, but other committee members preferred to keep it. Decision was made to hand the following comments to Renee and have her do what she thinks is best to make all the path recommendations equal in the resolution.

Beth handed out a list and quotes of the many local plans that mention support for the Kachemak Bay Trail (Homer Transportation Plan, Homer Non-motorized Trail Plan, Homer Climate Action Plan, etc). Committee agreed that this should be included in resolution. Dave C. mentioned that the first quote was from the pedestrian not cycling part of plan. All committee members agreed that they would attend meetings to support the resolution.

For Renee:

For the Resolution 11-XXX the committee would like to recommend the following:

1. The third whereas (lines 9-12) is worded so that the separated bike path seems like the major plan. If we could reword it to restate more clearly what is stated in lines 25-32, that would be preferred. Or we could get rid of that whereas altogether.
2. In lines 19-23 there were concerns that the use of "upon property within the city of homer" implied use of private property right of way, which the committee agreed would only be done by permission of owner. So maybe say "public property"? The committee would also like to change the word "pathway" on line 21 to "pathways"
3. The committee would like to add a paragraph with the list of all the plans that include support of a non-motorized pathway on Kachemak Drive. (you should already have this from Beth) - if not, please let me know and I will forward it on to you.

10. New Business:

Discussion of next steps of committee:

- support resolutions/recommendations through to city council
- call city council members ask for support
- testify/comment for review of CIP list
- start process for applying for fill for Mud Bay Trail
- Get permission to use dredge fill (enterprise fund)
- Look into HART funding
- Work with Walt to get DOT involved in the process
- Contact HEA about right of way to see if it is usable.
- Research with state for lane changes
- Surveys wanted existing speed limit enforced
- Share the road PSAs
- Share the Road signs
- Look into digital radar speed readers -\$2900 – possibly Homer Foundation? Or Police Funds?

12. Comment from the audience: It was requested that members of the committee and also members of the public go to the city council meeting and suggest that they look at the water/sewer project currently going on and see if there are any bike path solutions that can be worked out over the new water/sewer lines.

13 No comments of audience/city staff

14. Comments of committee:

Dave Clemmons – playing “catch-up” from being gone this summer. Will research other paths and “complete streets” type information and compile it for Parks and Rec.

Dave Brann- Still working on the signage, radar sign and PSAs. Homer News printed them free. Is leaving town for two weeks.

Ingrid – feels we should look at mission statement of committee and maybe change it. will help Dave C. compile information for Park and Rec.

Beth – likes the radar sign idea. Will continue to work on the Mud Bay trail and look into the 100’ ROW at base of spit. Beth went to Katie (Seaton’s asst) to talk about the aviation leasing. Seaton suggested that the trail be put in around the north side of the airport. He also suggested it being done along with the Enstar project. Beth want to make sure she had given him the right information about why this wasn’t the committees preference.

Bumppo – it is state policy now that all new roads that are put in are required to have non-motorized paths. This should be made a priority and standard policy for the federal government.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Notes by Ingrid Harrald