

Prepared for 11/10/11 Sisters Trails Alliance meeting by Lisa Nicol:  
Thoughts on priority projects and grant funding

I've spoken with Jeff, Gary and Phyllis about the following projects:

- 1) **Tollgate to High School paved trail** – convert existing gravel path to paved path
  - About  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long; cost estimate = \$48,000
  - Need approvals from: High School (school board)  
Deschutes Land Trust  
Tollgate HOA  
USFS
  - This project needs an EA for a short trail section that passes thru the NF (EA is underway)
  
- 2) **Crossroads to High School paved trail** – create 8-10' wide paved trail from Crossroads to disc golf course; this trail segment will join up with future City trail expansion.
  - The STA trail segment will be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long and has been flagged by Gary
  - Is this the same routing as in "Priority Trails" document, which describes a 1.1 mile route following Forest Road 15 and then Highway 242? Cost estimate for this project was \$70,400.
  - Most of the proposed trail is on USFS property, with an approx. 150' section on Crossroads property. Is portion along 242 in ODOT property?
  - Need to work with ODOT on planning crosswalk and possibly decreasing speed limit to 40 mph.
  - The Crossroads HOA is supportive of the project
  - EA is underway

*It seems reasonable to bundle the Tollgate to High School and Crossroads to Sisters projects into a single proposal for grant funding. ("Safe Routes to School" would seem to be a very good fit, but Pauline Hardy warned me away from this federal program.)*

*To do's:*

- *Complete EAs*
- *Get buy-in from all property owners*
- *Pin down cross walk details with ODOT*
- *Identify likeliest funding sources*
- *Solicit matching funds/labor/materials*

### 3) **Crossroads to High School single track**

- Will consist of 3 sections of single track
- Should be inexpensive to construct – Gary estimated it might take 6 guys a week or two to build
- Requires an EA (underway)

*Is it possible to hire a crew of trail-builders for a couple of weeks? If so, we may want to seek funding from a local foundation to pay the cost. Other options are to pay for trail construction with STA funds, or to perform the work using volunteer labor.*

#### 4) **Sisters to Camp Sherman paved trail**

- Three segments have been identified:
  - From McDonald's to Tollgate following Wagon Road (1 mile)
  - From Tollgate to Black Butte Ranch (7.5 miles)
  - From Black Butte Ranch to Camp Sherman (5 miles)
- Cost for entire 14-15 miles of trail is estimated to exceed \$1,000,000.
- If the Camp Sherman section is constructed, there is probably the need for an underpass crossing Highway 20. Cost? Could ODOT pay for this?
- Has location where trail would cross highway been determined?
- Landowners include USFS, possibly ODOT, and possibly one private landowner west of McDonalds. Is there also private ownership near Tollgate?

#### *To do's:*

- *Complete EAs*
- *Involve Alta or some similar firm in planning this project OR perhaps wait to fully plan and fund this project until STA has gained experience with smaller paved trail projects.*
- *Identify all landowners and get their buy-in*
- *Determine whether to apply for initial grant funds for entire project or only segments 1 and 2 (as crossing Highway 20 may be problematic)*
- *Identify large funding sources as well as in-kind donations*

#### 5) **Brooks Scanlon Road** – from Three Creeks Road to Plainview/Harrington Loop

- The vision is that this trail would eventually be 25 miles long, connecting Sisters to Bend. The paved 8-10' trail would be constructed on the existing road to one side, leaving enough room for vehicle traffic on the remaining gravel portion of the road.
- Constructing the full 25 mile trail would be a large, complicated project with many landowners involved. The USFS is the largest owner but there are also small private owners along the way, as well as Fidelity National (Skyline Forest).
- Is the USFS the only owner for the 5 mile segment of Brooks Scanlon Road starting at Three Creek Road?
- Can road be closed to current vehicle traffic? If not,
- Is there enough road width for both vehicle traffic and paved recreation trail?
- There will need to be a physical barrier between trail and vehicle travel lanes
- Is an EA being done for this project?

#### *To do's:*

- *Determine if the USFS would allow a paved non-motorized recreation trail to be constructed on the existing road bed.*
- *Have Alta look at the feasibility of creating a paved trail within the existing road way, and provide some estimates of cost.*

