

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
AGENDA  
April 19, 2017**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

- ADMIN-1     Advisory Board Member Introductions  
ADMIN-2     Adoption of Minutes – March 15, 2017 Advisory Board Meeting

**ACTION ITEMS**

- ADMIN-1     Adjustment to Policy – Naming of Parks and Park Facilities

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- I-1             Meadow Creek Valley Master Plan Implementation  
I-2             Upcoming Recreation Programs  
I-3             Key Recreation Center Improvements  
I-4             Ragged Mountain Natural Area Final Trail Use Plan  
I-5             Tonsler Park Master Plan Implementation Update  
I-6             McIntire Park Projects Update  
I-7             YMCA Project Construction Status Update

**CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS**

**BOARD MATTERS**

**DIRECTOR'S MATTERS**

**ADJOURNMENT**



City of Charlottesville  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Agenda Item  
April 19, 2017

**ADMINISTRATIVE – 1**

Advisory Board Member Introductions

**ADMINISTRATIVE – 2**

Adoption of Minutes – March 15, 2017 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

ACTION REQUIRED:

Advisory Board adoption of the minutes of the March 15, 2017 meeting.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Minutes of March 15, 2017 meeting.

## ***PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD***

### ***MINUTES***

***March 15, 2017***

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. @ Carver Recreation Center. Members present were: Ruth Barnett, Elise Cruz, Llezelle Dugger, Ned Michie, John Santoski and Jennifer Slack. Members absent: Anne Hemenway and David Hirschman

Staff: Vic Garber, Doug Ehman, Chris Gensic, John Mann

Guests: Dede Smith, Gene Philippe, two college students

### ***Motion - Minutes – February 15, 2017***

- Elise Cruz requested changing the sentence under Chairman's Matters from Elise Cruz stated trying to keep track of Bob Fenwick's concerning Skatepark funding to Elise Cruz inquired about City Council concerns regarding Skatepark funding.
- Ned Michie made a motion to approve the minutes with above change, Ruth Barnett second, motion was unanimously approved.

### ***2016 Integrated Pest Management***

- Doug Ehman stated that the 2016 Integrated Pest Management report was subject to review by the Advisory Board, and will also will go to the Planning Commission
- John Mann reported that this was the second year presenting the report to the Advisory Board. He gave an overview of the report as follows:
  - Major reduction in glyphosate usage in the City overall
  - Transition to organic herbicides was initiated on school grounds
  - Initiatives were taken to reduce problematic areas
  - A habitat restoration project has occurred @ Pen Park. United Way volunteers cut down vines, removed non-native trees, partnered with Charlottesville Garden Club, goal was to establish native plants that will re-seed into the area
  - No herbicides were used on general turf areas managed by the City
  - Several turf managers received certification from the State of Virginia as fertilizer applicators
  - The Weed Dragon, a flame based weed control device, was utilized in specific areas where deemed appropriate. Interior of McGuffey Park has remained free of synthetic chemicals.
  - Utilized mulch blower for mulching applications. Increased mulch applications are a major goal of the IPM program as they reduce weeds and chemical applications while building soil health. Acquisition of a mulch blower would contribute to further anticipated reductions in chemical applications and a move to a fully organic protocol.
- Will continue to review landscape areas in City, ex. poor performers as Jackson Via
- Continue not to use herbicides near children's area, etc., only use some in athletic fields
- Adding 70 ash trees, stated that they had stopped planting ash trees approximately 8 years ago
- 2017 goals glance – looking for increased funding strategies, mulch blower - \$57,000, will increase mulching applications, asked for increased funding
- Put up signs when applying, not required but informs public

- Enhance mechanical weed maintenance frequencies
- Dutch Elm – issue for many years, have been treating every 3 years for probably a total of 10 years
- Reported that David Hirschman was a representative from the Advisory Board on the committee
- City Website – Parks, pest management

### **Meadowcreek Valley Master Plan**

- Chris Gensic reported that they are working way through, Kneedler Bridge - FEMA flood analysis, published, local city & county permits, cost estimate – hope to get to use steel beams, hoping bridge would be under construction this year.
- Senior Center bridge – flood plain wider upstream, will have to start from scratch, hire a design firm, move towards construction, cost estimate higher due to longer bridge, there is a grant for \$140,000 that is specific for these two bridges
- Easement under property, Kenwood – stated that Brian Daly was working on, will need additional easement
- Section trail – Holmes & Rio, can build when funding available
- McIntire to railroad bridge – bids due March 22
- Dairy bridge to Hydraulic Road – funded by VDOT
- Ned Michie stated that he thinks engineering is needed with Kneedler bridge, Elise Cruz stated that she would like to schedule a walk in this area for Advisory Board members

### **Ragged Mountain**

- Doug Ehman stated that City Council has approved the proposed uses for Ragged Mountain, but wanted guidance by asking staff to bring back modified trail alignments, staff will present to City Council on Monday, April 3
- March 4th walk @ Ragged Mountain was well attended, walked perimeter, routes have been flagged as best as can, few adjustments made after walk, comment line open – have taken comments, providing City Council packet on collected comments
- Chris Gensic showed map with proposed trails to board members
- Staff trying to work which trails will get built first, tree stewards will be helping
- Elise Cruz asked about option J, Ned Michie agreed that option J is down the road; asked about the hiking only; Chris Gensic replied that City Council's ordinance wording is very specific.
- Asked what's going on with County; Doug Ehman replied that staff is taking direction from City Council
- Dee Dee Smith, guest, stated that giving history on the water supply @ Ragged Mountain that the two oldest are the cleanest because were better protected
- Vic Garber reported that looking @ trail building workshops, Chris Gensic stated that they are also talking about doing a camp with kids
- John Santoski asked about volunteers & trails if it comes to City vs. County on trails, Doug Ehman replied will deal as it unfolds

### **Tonsler Park**

- Doug Ehman reported that construction documents are still in Purchasing, department backlogged with construction projects
- Trying to time up the planning on Field House, early fall start, depends on construction package

### **McIntire Park**

- West side on hold – pedestrian bridge, Skatepark came in high, will know by end of month,

### **YMCA Project Construction**

- Doug Ehman reported that he was told that contractors be off site by middle of May

### **Chairman's Matters**

- Elise Cruz reported that Marnie Allen, new board member, had resigned from the board due to work conflicts. There are now two vacancies on the Advisory Board
- Elise Cruz reported that she was going to be purchasing a house in the County in the near future and may be leaving the board at that time.
- Asked if agenda & minutes were on the City website

### **Motion – Adjourn Meeting**

- Ned Michie made a motion to adjourn meeting, Ruth Barnett second, motion was unanimous
- Meeting adjourned @ 7:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daly  
Secretary to the Advisory Board

City of Charlottesville  
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## **ACTION – 1**

### Adjusted Policy – Naming of Parks and Park Facilities

The current Policy regarding the Naming of Parks and Park Facilities was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in April of 2010. It stipulates that final park naming decisions will be made by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The City Council’s resolutions regarding renaming the current Lee and Jackson Parks will require public engagement and action regarding the renaming of these parks. Staff proposes that the Policy be amended for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to recommend new Park names to the City Council, who would provide formal approval.

City staff is in the process of developing a public engagement process to carry out the Council resolutions. It is likely that the adopted Park Master Planning Process will be followed in some fashion. The process provides for a specific role for the Advisory Board and any recommendations regarding naming may be included in that process.

A draft of the Adjusted Policy is below and changes are highlighted in yellow:

## Policy - Naming of Parks and Park Facilities

As a general policy, parks shall be named in accordance with geographical, historical or ecological features indigenous to the park site or to the immediate vicinity of the site. Parks may be named for an individual under the following conditions:

1. Where the individual has made a significant gift of land for park purposes to the City, or
2. In memoriam for an individual who has made a significant contribution to the park system of the City of Charlottesville.
3. For an individual who has made a significant contributions to the quality of life in the community.

Recreational facilities or resource management areas within a park may be named for an individual, living or deceased, who:

1. Has made a significant contribution to the protection of natural, cultural, or horticultural resources of the City's park system; OR
2. Has substantially contributed to the advancement of commensurate types of recreational facilities and opportunities within the City's park system; OR
3. Has made a significant contribution to the betterment of a specific park, consistent with the established criteria and standards for the designated park classification as identified in the Comprehensive Plan.

In support of this policy, nominations for naming parks, recreational facilities or resource management areas shall be evaluated on the basis of the above criteria and upon appropriate documentation.

~~Final action on naming of parks and facilities shall be made in open session by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.~~

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall approve the naming of Parks and Park Facilities consistent with this Policy and make a recommendation to the City Council, who shall make the final adoption of such names in open session and on the Regular Agenda of Council.

***Adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – May, 2010***

***Re-Adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – April, 2017***

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**INFORMATION – 1**

Meadow Creek Valley Master Plan Implementation

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for the Meadow Creek Valley. Specific details are outlined below.

Meadow Creek Valley Plan Implementation Update April 2017

Kneedler Bridge

Local floodplain permits have been filed – awaiting approval  
No Rise Certificate is being considered  
Cost estimate ~\$110,000

Senior Center bridge

RFQ for design to be released in April/May  
Cost Estimate \$160,000

Trails

Greenbrier trail and boardwalk currently in site plan review at NDS  
Cost estimate \$350,000

Culverts

Construction drawings being generated now  
Met with Army Corps and does not require special permits  
Local review will occur after final construction drawings  
Continue to pursue land acquisitions (Dominion, Holiday Drive)  
Cost estimate \$50,000

Kenwood Easement

Negotiations ongoing

Budget

CIP balance	\$312,000
DCR grant	\$140,000
<u>Dominion Grant (RTF)</u>	<u>\$ 10,500</u>
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND</b>	<b>\$462,500</b>

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Holmes-Rio (+LMOA)

Final negotiations with the Locust Meadows Owners Association ongoing  
Trails can be built when easement approved and funding is available  
Developer bridge over Meadow Creek to Locust Avenue to be built 2017

Leander Right-of-Way/ Moore's Creek

The Leander right of way exists and discussions continue regarding other parcels along this reach of Moore's Creek

250 Bypass Trail

- Hydraulic to Dairy/Meadowbrook Heights – final plans delivered this week
- One final land acquisition pending
- YMCA - connective trail – it will occur as part of the YMCA project and constructed in April 2017
- West Parking lot connector
- Pedestrian Bridge over railroad– Bids have been received and are being evaluated
- McIntire Park Trail connection to interchange and north/south bridge over tributary to Schenk's Branch – awaiting NDS final approval of site plan for the east side of McIntire Park which should be complete before the end of April.

**INFORMATION – 2**

Recreation Center Operations and Improvements

Vic Garber, Recreation Division Manager, will provide an update on current Recreation Center Operations, Programs, Events and upcoming improvements.

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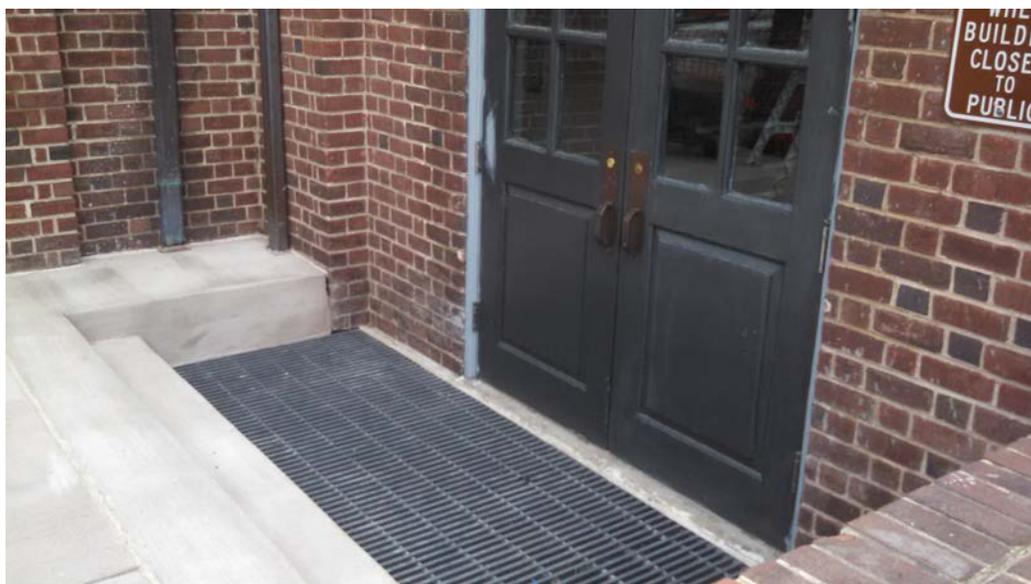
### **INFORMATION – 3**

#### Key Recreation Center Operations and Improvements

A project to improve the exterior access, enhance ADA Accessibility and the interior spaces of the Herman Key Recreation Center has been under construction since February of 2017. Staff will provide an update on the construction. Some pictures of the work are provided below.



**Exterior – West side sidewalk and drainage**



**North West Exterior – Drainage and Doors**



**North Side/Market Street Entrance ADA improvements**



**Entrance Interior – New Front Desk**

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#### **INFORMATION – 4**

##### Ragged Mountain Natural Area Final Trail Use Plan

The final Trail Use Plan for Ragged Mountain was accepted by City Council at their April 3, 2017 meeting. The Plan map and implementation schedule is provided as an attachment to the Board Package. Staff will continue to construct hiking only trails in the park at this time. Trails that currently exist and are identified as shared use in the Plan are available for such use.

#### **INFORMATION - 5**

##### Tonsler Park Master Plan Implementation

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for Tonsler Park.

#### **INFORMATION - 6**

##### McIntire Park Projects Update

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for McIntire Park; including specifics regarding the Skate Park, the Pedestrian Bridge over the Norfolk Southern Railroad and trails.

#### **INFORMATION - 7**

##### YMCA Construction Project Status

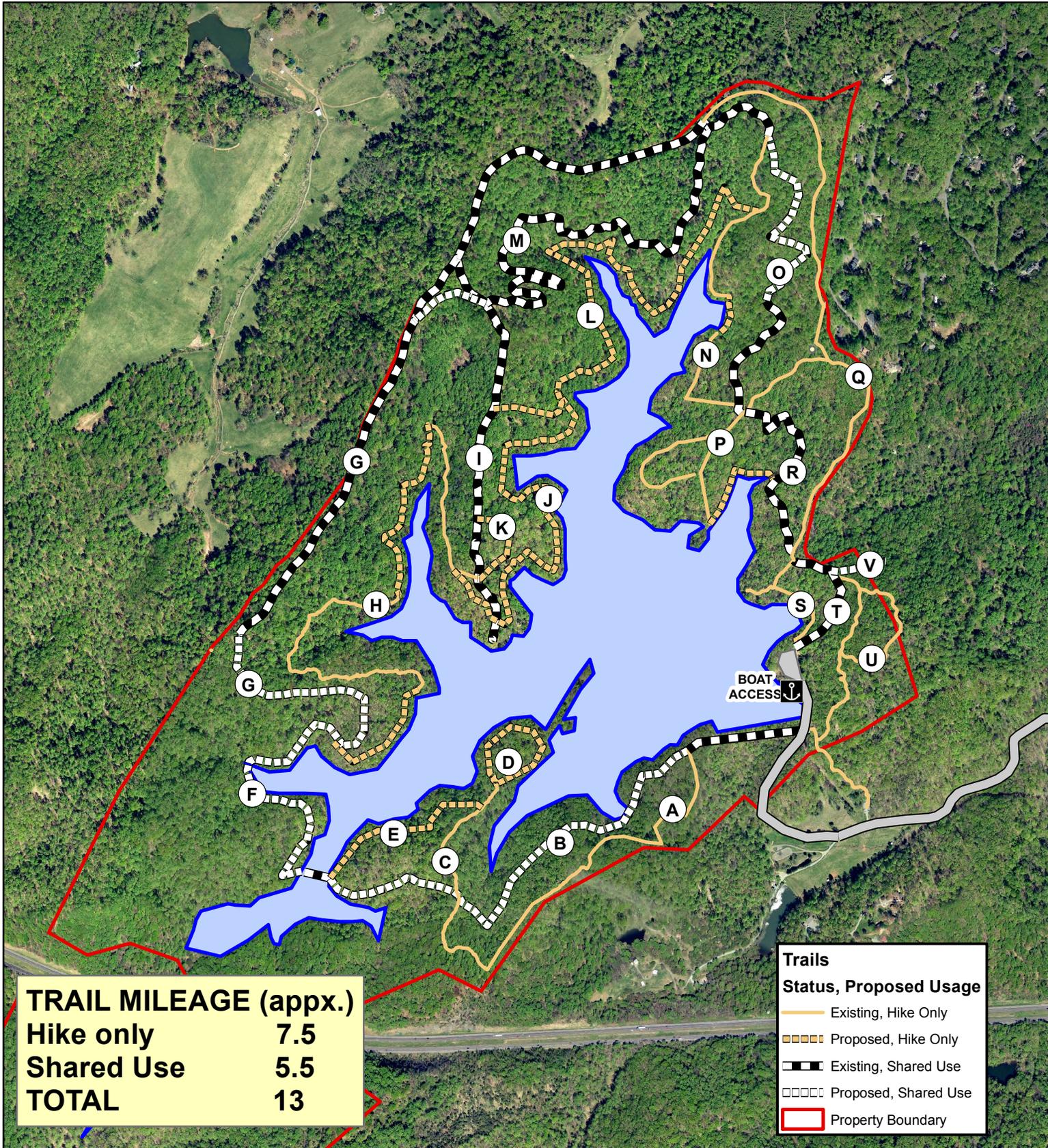
Staff will provide an update on the construction of the new YMCA in McIntire Park as well as other ongoing discussions with the YMCA.



# RAGGED MOUNTAIN TRAIL USE PLAN

Hiking permitted on all trails and exclusivley on brown trails  
Biking/Jogging permitted only on checkered trails

Approved by City Council April 3, 2017



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Trail locations are field located during construction with approximate routing shown in plan. Final locations will depend on site specific conditions and field verification.

## Ragged Mountain Trail Use Plan Trail Alignment Descriptions

Sections are labeled A-V starting from the parking lot and going clockwise around the reservoir.

April 3, 2017

This document describes the rationale behind the locations for proposed trails and permitted uses on the accompanying map. Staff was directed by City Council to create a draft trail use plan that accommodates hiking, jogging, and biking around the reservoir, provide for a separated pedestrian only trail as much as possible, and takes into account environmental and topographical limitations. This plan provides for nearly 90% of the trail to be separated with the exception of the environmentally sensitive area in the southwest corner of the property. This is near the floating bridge where staff believes one shared trail close to the reservoir shoreline is the most appropriate means of protecting the sensitive area from human encroachments. The corridors noted on the map are somewhat broadly defined as final exact trail placement will be determined by staff and informed by comments from users on the proposed alignments.

- A. The existing trail from the dam to the peninsula is designated hiking/jogging only.
- B. On the west side of the spillway a new shared use trail can be built closer to the reservoir, roughly 50 feet in from shore. The terrain is somewhat steep and passes through a mountain laurel area for a portion, then can cross over the existing trail/roadbed towards the bridge.
- C. Portions of trail in this area are along old roadbeds. The roadbed is wide, but may be steeper than desired in some areas. Options for rerouting it are limited and use of the old roadbed may be the best option to reduce further ground disturbance. Where possible, rerouting or modification should be done to create a more sustainable trail.
- D. The peninsula is designated hiking only (no jogging) to allow for quiet enjoyment of nature.
- E. A new hiking only trail will be built near the shore to the floating bridge.
- F. On the west side of the bridge, only one shared use trail is proposed near the lake shore. This area is already somewhat disturbed, and keeping the trail below the sensitive area will limit the threat of spread of invasives in accordance with the Ecological study recommendation. DEQ recommended using the upper roadbed since it already exists, but that portion is not on City property and the road going uphill from the bridge is not sustainable due to steep grades. A small footbridge where the tributary meets the reservoir will prevent the need to have any trail intrude up the hollows into the sensitive areas. The existing unplanned trail leading uphill from the bridge will need to be properly routed on contours to be sustainable and safe.
- G. An old driveway/roadbed leads from the reservoir up to the maintenance road on the property boundary. This driveway lends itself well to shared use, and is already disturbed. The upper maintenance road from the top of this old driveway to a point just before Ednam Forest is proposed for shared use.
- H. The hiking/jogging only trail can follow the reservoir shore, connect to the existing trail built by Ivy Creek Foundation in the next hollow, and will require construction of another section near the shore to connect to existing trails that lead to the old upper dam access road bed.
- I. The old upper dam access road bed is wide and flat and well suited for shared use.

- J. Terrain between the old upper dam access road bed and the next two hollows leading towards the tunnel is quite steep. This trail may not be needed if users can agree to share the old upper dam road bed for about 300 yards.
- K. The old waterworks pump valves and sluice offer a good hike only side trail and interpretive opportunity.
- L. There are a number of ravines running down the next hill towards the lake, so the new hiking only trail should either be located above these ravines, or along the reservoir shore, and may require some small footbridges over the ravines. There is an old driveway/roadbed that might be more suitable for trail use, and intersects with the upper dam road at a good location to diverge a hiking and jogging only trail towards the tunnel. From the tunnel to the eagle bridge, a new trail is proposed near the reservoir shore.
- M. The existing trail that has switchbacks leading down to the tunnel is proposed for shared use and may require limited improvement for such use. This trail connects to the upper roadbed.
- N. The existing trail along the reservoir shore is proposed for hiking and jogging only and connects to the Bear Statue. The last portion will need some rerouting since it follows an old roadbed used by ICF as a trail that is too steep in some areas.
- O. A new shared use alignment has been flagged to avoid use of the upper roadbed behind Ednam Forest in accordance with neighborhood request. This trail includes new portion to be built that is just out of sight of the Ednam residences, then connects to and uses the existing trail to the bear statue. The alignment of this trail will need to be field verifies and might shift somewhat based on ground conditions. It is intended to avoid entering the pine forest stand.
- P. The roadbed leading from the water tower to the lake, including a loop trail on the peninsula, is proposed for hiking only.
- Q. The upper roadbed along the back of Ednam Forest is proposed for hiking only all the way to the mountain man statue.
- R. The existing trail from the bear to the mountain man is proposed for shared use and may require some improvements.
- S. The existing lower trail from the mountain man to the parking lot is proposed for hiking only.
- T. The upper roadbed from the mountain man to the parking lot is proposed for shared use.
- U. Roundtop Mountain trails and the link trail from the lower parking lot are proposed for hiking only (no jogging). There is an existing trail going up to Roundtop that is too steep and may require re-routing
- V. If the connection is desired to the Ragged Mountain trails from adjacent property and biking is permitted on that property, a new shared use link would need to be constructed to avoid existing Roundtop trails.