

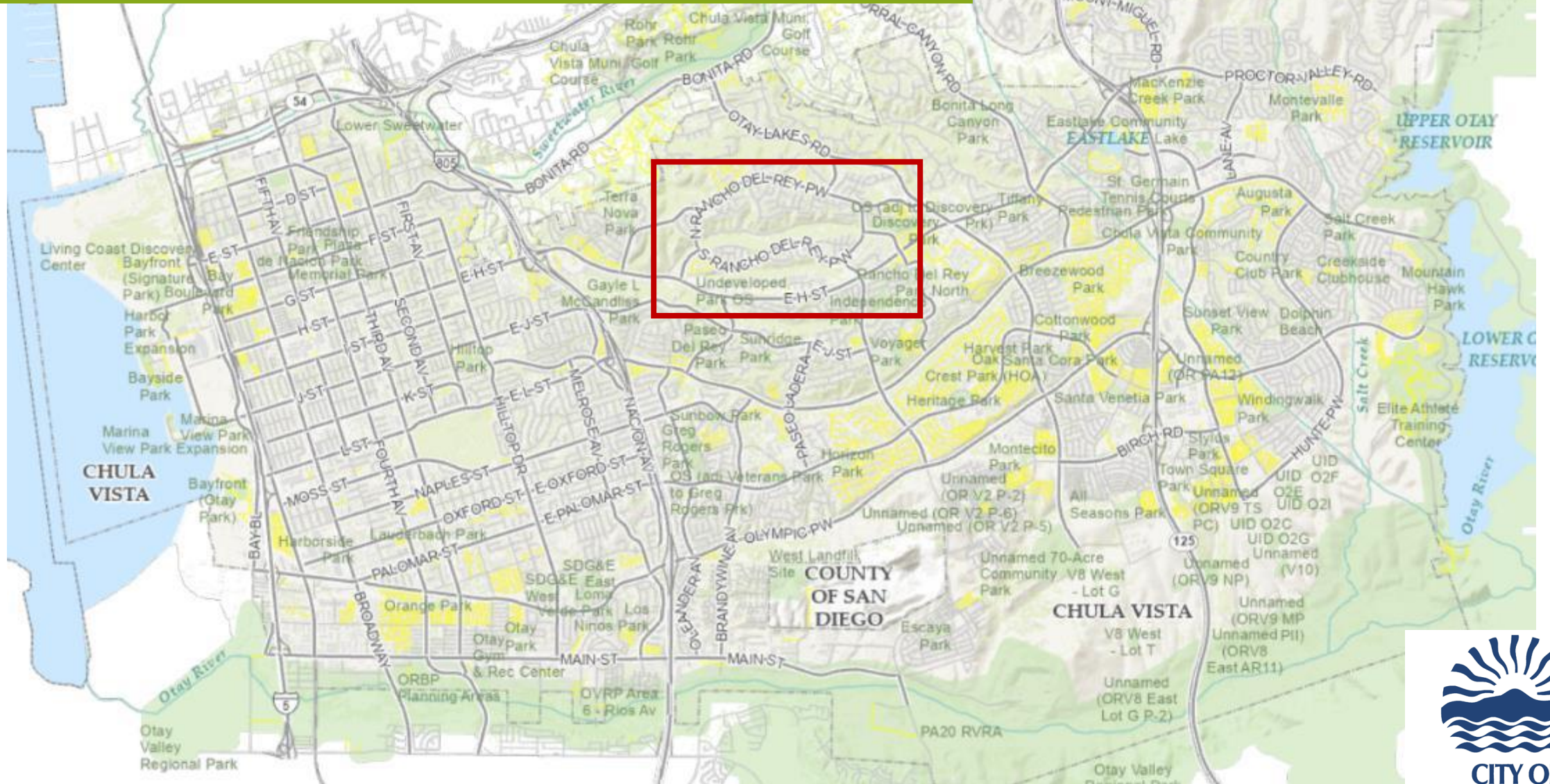


RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2021



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PROJECT LOCATION



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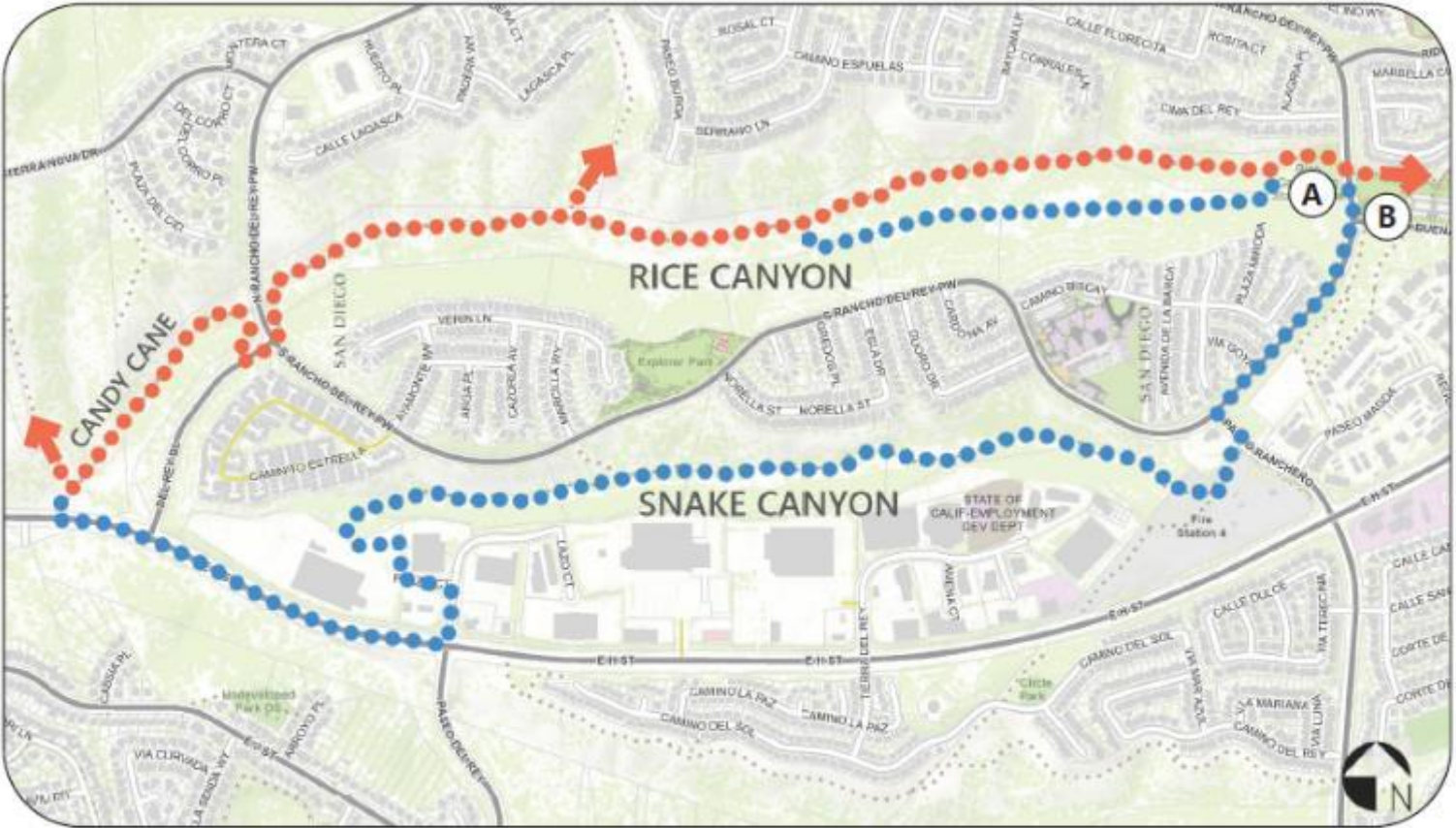
OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

- Rice and Snake Canyon Trails were formalized with the Rancho Del Rey SPA for hiking and equestrian use
- Pilot program seeks opportunities to:
 - Add a single-track segment to the existing formal trail system
 - Expand the multi-use trail system to authorize mountain biking as an allowed use
 - Implement trail improvements
- Pilot Program: 1 year
 - Monitor trail use
 - Monitor and manage impacts to surrounding habitat; close unauthorized trails
 - Opportunity to formalize partnerships and volunteer trail maintenance days
 - Collect budget data: trail improvements, operation and maintenance



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

PROPOSED LOOP TRAIL



OVERALL MAP

- A** RICE CANYON PRESERVE PARKING LOT STAGING AREA
- B** DISCOVERY PARK STAGING AREA

- EQUESTRIAN, MOUNTAIN BIKING AND HIKING
- MOUNTAIN BIKING AND HIKING
- ← CONTINUATION OF EXISTING EQUESTRIAN TRAIL

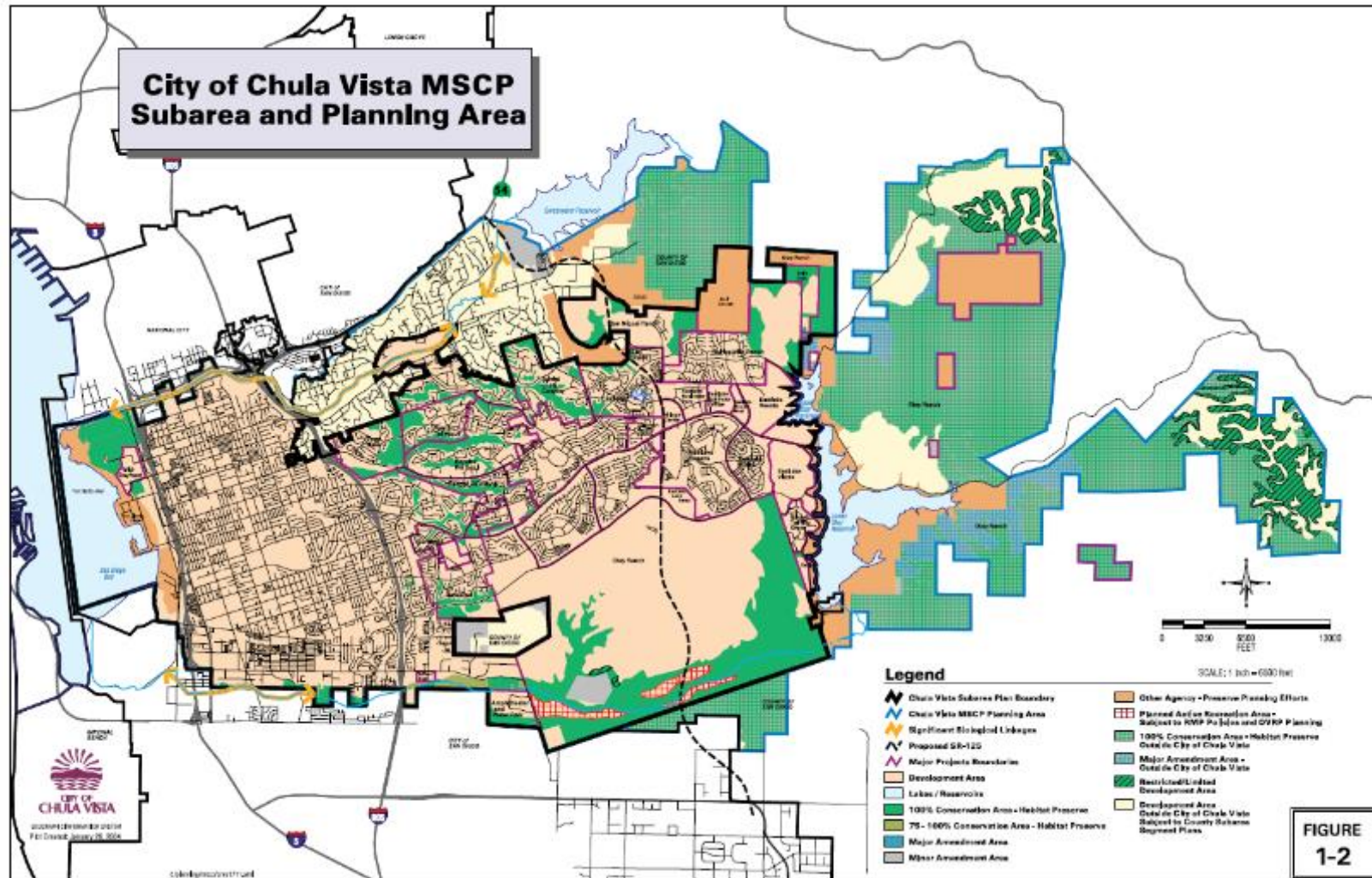


RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM



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BALANCE: OPEN SPACE PRESERVE AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

BALANCE: OPEN SPACE PRESERVE AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS

Sensitive plants:

San Diego thornmint
Otay tarplant
Variegated dudleya



Sensitive birds:

Cooper's hawk
Coastal cactus wren
Willow flycatcher
Coastal California gnatcatcher



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

HABITAT PROTECTION & TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

- Park Ranger will patrol and educate trail users
- Kiosks will be installed identifying formal trail systems
- Fencing and Signage Plan will be implemented
 - Close unauthorized trails
 - Identify formal trail system
 - Identify allowed uses on the trail segments
 - Trail Etiquette
- Vegetation Trimming
- Footbridges
- Puncheon bridge to address wet areas in Snake Canyon
- Minor grading to outslope trails/prevent water from ponding on trail





RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

- Community Services
 - Park Ranger
 - Patrol
 - Educate
 - Coordinate volunteer workdays
- Public Works
 - Install and maintain improvements
- Development Services
 - Seek grant funding to complete a City-wide Trails Master Plan
 - Seek grant funding to revegetate unauthorized trails
 - Track Pilot Program data
- Organized Trail User Groups
 - Educate members importance of staying on formal trails
 - Participate in volunteer workdays



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

FEEDBACK

- Focus group feedback (Fall 2020)
 - San Diego Mountain Biking Association
 - South Bay YMCA Trail Runners
 - CV Bike Walk Meeting
- Parks and Recreation Commission (Sept 2020)
- Community Outreach Meeting - E-comments (Feb 2021)
 - Support for expanded multi-use trail systems
 - Balance conservation and recreational uses
 - No trails behind homes in Rice Canyon
 - Trail signage
 - Potential trail-user conflicts
 - Volunteers
 - Bike park features
 - E-bikes



RICE AND SNAKE CANYON LOOP TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM

NEXT STEPS

- July 1st – Start of Pilot Program (1 year)
- Park Ranger to organize trail maintenance workdays
- Collect data over the next year regarding trail observations, operational costs, maintenance costs, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Report back to City Council

TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BACKGROUND

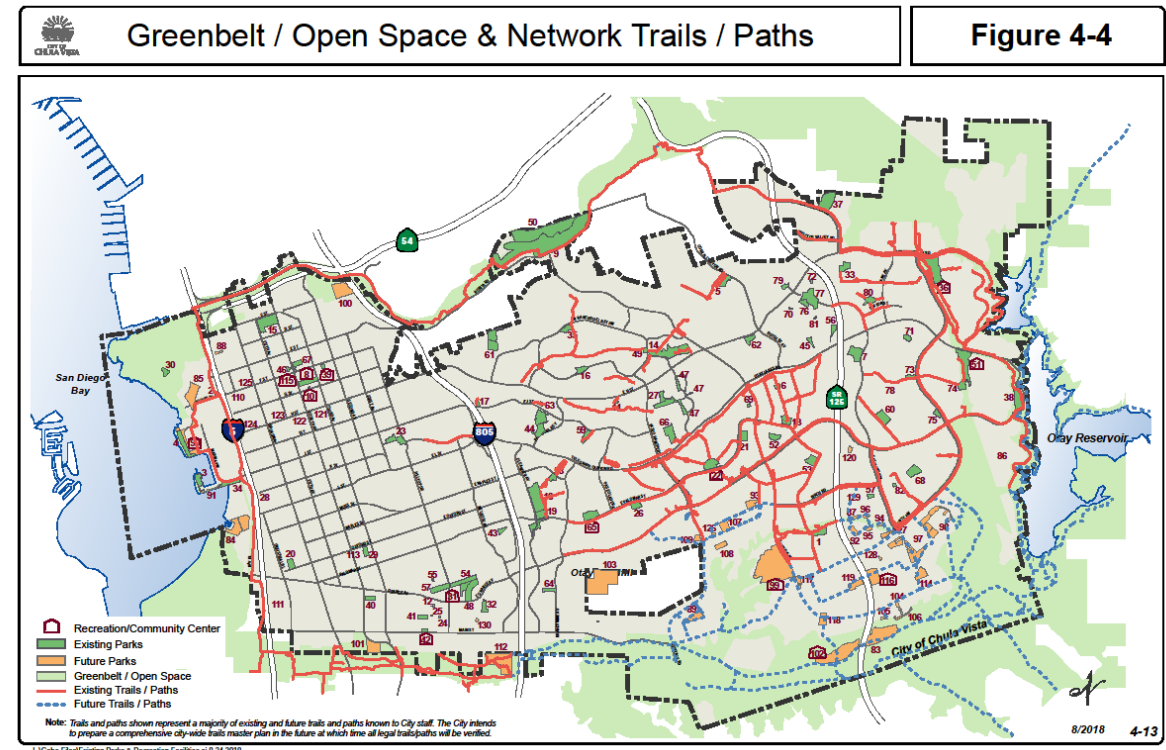
- General Plan Policy E11.4:
“**Prepare and implement a City-wide Trails Master Plan** that defines staging and access areas, trail types, standards, and siting criteria....”
- Complement Parks & Recreation Master Plan and Active Transportation Plan
 - PRMP Policies 1.29 and 1.30 **encourage the development of trails and a network** that links paths, bikeways, open spaces, parks and recreational facilities
- Focus on Trails Located within Open Space Areas
 - Goal: **Continue to protect natural resources while providing public access opportunities**



TRAILS MASTER PLAN OVERVIEW

Master Plan Components

- Trail Planning
 - Current Inventory/Identify Trail Gaps
 - Linkages (Active Transportation Plan, regional trail plans)
 - Trail Alignments and Staging Areas
 - Accessibility
- Design and Construction
 - Trail Types (Development Guidelines)
 - Trail Materials/Structure
 - Trail Support Features



TRAILS MASTER PLAN

OVERVIEW *(CONTINUED)*

Master Plan Components

- Trails Program Management/Operations
 - Management Team and Tools
 - Liability Protection

- Program Implementation
 - Acquisition / Incentives for Trail Easement Dedication
 - Prioritization of Segments
 - Funding Sources - Grants, General Fund, Fundraising events (i.e., races)
 - Program Costs

- Community Trails Plan Process
 - Stakeholders (Agencies, Community Planning and Sponsor Groups)
 - Community Outreach



TRAILS MASTER PLAN STATUS

Identify Potential Funding Sources and Apply for Grants:

- County of San Diego – Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Grant
- SANDAG – Smart Growth Incentive Program
- Wildlife Conservation Board – Public Access Program Grant



TRAILS MASTER PLAN

NEXT STEPS

- Secure Funding to Draft Plan
- Select Consultant
- Trail Planning
 - Utilize lessons learned from Pilot Program
- CEQA/Environmental Analysis
- Seek Funding to Implement Plan
 - Design and construct, trail management and operations





ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

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