City of Loma Linda Official Report

Karen Gaio Hansberger, Mayor
Floyd Petersen, Mayor pro tempore
Robert Christman, Councilmember
Stan Brauer, Councilmember
Robert Ziprick, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA: April 12, 2005

TO: City Council

VIA: Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM: Deborah F. Woldruff, AICP, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: TRAILS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAILS, TRAIL HEADS, AND OPEN SPACE IN THE SOUTH HILLS AREA

RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation from the Trails Development Committee and staff is for the City Council to approve the proposed trails, trail heads, and open space plan in concept.

BACKGROUND

On February 22, 2005, the City Council continued this item to the March 8, 2005 due to concerns regarding the availability of the Draft Concept Plan Map to property owners in the South Hills and other interested parties. The Trails Development Committee held their regular meeting on February 24, 2005 and discussed the outcome of the Council meeting and how to revise the Draft Concept Map so that it could be made a public document. As a result, the subcommittee met twice in March to work on the revisions to the map.

On March 8, 2005, staff requested that the item be continued to the April 12, 2005 City Council meeting so that the Committee's Draft Concept Map and proposal could be heard in conjunction with the Conservation and Open Space Element of the Draft General Plan (October 2004). The City Council granted the continuance.

On March 24, 2005, the Subcommittee presented the revised map to the Trails Development Committee. The Committee approved the revisions to the Draft Concept Map. The Committee voted to forward the revised map and proposal to the City Council for the April 12, 2005 agenda.

Additional background information is available in the City Council Staff Reports for February 22, 2005 and March 8, 2005 (Attachments 1 and 2).

AGENDA ITEM 4

ANALYSIS

Map Revisions

The Draft Concept Map was revised so that it could be released to property owners in the South Hills and other interested parties, as follows:

- A note (disclaimer) that states, *"This document is a Draft Concept Plan for illustrative and discussion purposes only, and is not an official map of the City of Loma Linda for public use. The plan depicts the approximate locations of potential trails, trailheads, and open space areas in the South Hills Area, but is not intended as a guide to hikers or other users of the subject properties. The City makes no warranty as to the accuracy of any depiction of trails, geography or other physical features. Nor does the City make any representation as to the legality or safety of any private recreational or other use of the subject properties. Entry onto any property, whether or not marked as private property on the Draft Concept Plan, without the consent of the property owner, may be considered trespassing."*

- A note (disclaimer) that states, *"The Draft Concept Plan depicted on this map identifies a focus area within which the City might consider the acquisition or obtainment of properties for purposes of open space and recreational trail uses."*

- The colors, patterns, and symbols used on the map (to show trail heads, trails, open space, city and private properties, etc.) have been changed to provide more contrast for visual effectiveness.

- The map has been labeled in bold red letters in four locations as a "Draft."

- The area located south of the City limits and San Bernardino County Sphere of Influence has been identified and labeled as Riverside County.

The City Attorney provided the text for the first disclaimer note and the Committee and staff added the second disclaimer note. Both disclaimer notes are intended to protect the City and property owners in the South Hills from any liability due to misuse or misinterpretation of the Draft Concept Map. The other revisions are intended to improve the visual impact of the Map so that the proposal is more easily understood. A copy of the Draft Concept Map is available in Attachment 3.

The text of the proposal and a detailed analysis are contained in Attachment 1.

Public Comments

Over the two-year period that the Trails Development Committee has been studying the South Hills issues, area property owners have been concerned that a Trails Master Plan would place limitations on how their properties could be used. They are also concerned with the unauthorized recreational uses of their properties, some of which has resulted in soil erosion that often leads to the impairment of slope stability and/or damages to structures such as fences and sign postings. Despite their concerns, the majority of property owners have taken a wait-and-see approach and seem willing to consider the

Committee's proposal, depending on how the details are worked out for acquisition of easements or property.

Also, a two additional letters has been added as Attachment 4, as follows:

Mr. Jonathan Baty, EnerPath, Inc. (January 27, 2005; and, Mr. Lynn Foll, Trails Development Committee member and local resident.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Please refer to the February 8, 2005, City Council Staff Report for more information on the environmental determination for the project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts associated with the study of this issue. However, the preparation of a South Hills Trails Master Plan, the related CEQA document and technical studies (i.e., acoustical analysis, air quality, geotechnical and soils analysis, and biological resources survey) could cost around $75,000, depending on the number and type of technical studies needed.

ATTACHMENTS

1. City Council Staff Report (February 22, 2005)
   A. Personal Recommendations (from Subcommittee Members and/or Interested Parties)

2. City Council Staff Report (March 8, 2005)
3. Draft Concept Map (April 7, 2005)
4. Additional Correspondence

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ATTACHMENT 1

PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT (FEBRUARY 22, 2005)

City of Loma Linda Official Report

Karen Gaio Hansberger, Mayor
Floyd Petersen, Mayor pro tempore
Robert Christman, Councilmember
Stan Brauer, Councilmember
Robert Ziprick, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA: February 22, 2005

TO: City Council

VIA: Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM: Deborah F. Woldruff, AICP, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: TRAILS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAILS, TRAIL HEADS, AND OPEN SPACE IN THE SOUTH HILLS AREA

RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation from the Trails Development Committee and staff is for the City Council to approve the proposed trails, trail heads, and open space plan in concept.

BACKGROUND

For nearly two years, the Trails Development Committee has been studying issues related to appropriate uses of the trails and the establishment of a trails master plan for the South Hills Area. On May 27, 2003, the City Council discussed potential uses of the South Hills. Councilman Ziprick placed the issue on the agenda for discussion because of a series of complaints that had been received about off-road vehicles causing noise, dust, and other disturbances. After some discussion, the City Council referred the issue to the Trails Development Committee for study and recommendations regarding appropriate recreational uses of the trails on City-owned property versus private property.

The Trails Development Committee studied the issue and received public comments from local residents, South Hills Area property owners, and pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, and motorized trail enthusiasts at their meetings on June 19, 2003, July 24, 2003, and August 28, 2003. They concluded their study of the issue and formulated their recommendations on August 28, 2003.

On October 14, 2003, staff presented to the City Council the Trails Development Committee's recommendations for the development of a Trails Master Plan that would establish a formal trails system in the South Hills area of Loma Linda. At that time, the Committee also recommended that the use of motorized, off-road recreational vehicles such as motorcycles, quads, and other types of motorized vehicles be prohibited on City-owned property until such time as a Trails Master Plan can be prepared and adopted.

On April 13, 2004, the City Council directed the Trails Development Committee to identify the locations of important trails and recommend open space areas and developable areas as they relate to the Draft General Plan. A Committee assembled a subcommittee consisting of members and trails enthusiasts representing various kinds of trail users (i.e., hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, and off-road motorcyclists. South Hills property owners were contacted so that they could be informed and participate in the discussions,

Over, the past 11 months, the Subcommittee has spent considerable time and effort in identifying the backbone trails system, trail head locations, appropriate trail uses, open space areas, developable lands, and potential constraints (i.e., environmental hazards, utility easements). The Subcommittee has also looked at examples of trails master plans from other cities and agencies, and considered elements that should be included in a Loma Linda document for the trails in the South Hills. On November 18, 2004, the Subcommittee presented their recommendations to the Trails Development Committee.

ANALYSIS

The subcommittee met many times in their efforts to identify what they considered to be the backbone trails of the South Hills. Once the backbone trails were identified and mapped, the next logical step was to identify the potential trailheads that would provide trail users with access to the trails and South Hills. As a next step, the subcommittee identified and mapped open space areas around the backbone trails that would help to maintain the natural environment. The intent was to buffer the trails with enough open space so that trail users could enjoy the outdoors in relative solitude and isolation from the nearby urban environment.

The proposal for a system of backbone trails, trailheads, and open space was digitally mapped in draft form and loaded into a PowerPoint slide. The draft map will be projected onto the screen during the presentation of this item before the City Council. Hardcopies of the draft map are not available because staff and the subcommittee and Trails Development Committee agreed with the South Hills property owners that the map would not be distributed to anyone. The concern was that a published map, even in draft form with disclaimers, would be construed as a city-sanctioned trails map and could potentially increase the use of the trails through private properties.

The open space area is depicted on the map as a very large cell (in light brown) that the subcommittee feels has some value for potential buffer areas around the trails. Encompassed within the large cell is a smaller cell (in darker brown) that the subcommittee feels has a higher value due to the ruggedness of the terrain that characterizes the uniqueness of the South Hills Area. The subcommittee and Trails Development Committee are aware that the open space areas shown on the draft map take up a majority of the land in the hills. However, the number of trails and trailheads and the amount of open space included in the recommendation constitutes a "wish list" that can be translated into a goal that the City can strive to achieve. Both the Trails Development Committee and subcommittee recognize that preservation and conservation of the entire area is very unlikely. Their hope is that when (or if) the properties in the South Hills develop, the City will have an established goal to ensure that a reasonable amount of open space is preserved to accommodate trails and trailheads.

The following outline of the Trails Development Committee's recommendations to the City Council corresponds with the draft map and also includes other information relating to trail uses, open space, and other considerations:

I. Backbone Trails and Trailheads

A. Backbone Trails

T1. Scotts Canyon Trails and Ridgelines (T1.a. through T1.d.)
- a. The main trail that runs from Hulda Crooks Park to the Riverside County line
- b. An off-shoot trail that runs all the way to Riverside County line
- c. An off-shoot trail that runs from the main trail to the Razor Back
- d. An off-shoot trail that runs from the Edison Easement (or Pilgrim Road.) to T1.b.

T2. Lookout Ridge (or Beaumont Ridge) Trail (T2.a. through T2.b.)
- a. An asphalt that would run from the San Timoteo Creek Trail to Pilgrim Road and along Lookout Ridge and down to Whittier
- b. A dirt trail that would extend from the Lookout Ridge Trail to the Beaumont Ridge

T3 Loma Linda Ridge Trail (T3.a.)
- a. A trail with entries off of Oakwood Drive and Richardson Street that junction at the Razor Back and T1.c.

T4 City View Ridge Trail (T4.a.)
- a. Crestview to backside of HC to Wackers and also check dam.

T5 Hidden Valley Canyon Trail (T5.a. through T5.c.)
- a. A northern extension of the trail that runs through an arroyo
- b. The main trail that begins at Prado Lane, runs through a low lying area and ends at the Razor Back
- c. A southern extension of the trail that runs along a ridge line

T6 Scotch Lane Trail (T6.a.)
- a. A trail that runs from the Scotch Lane to intersect with T1.c.

B. Trailheads

TH1 (Hulda Crooks/Scotts Canyon - also serves T2.b.)
TH2 (Whittier - T2w and T2e)
TH3 (Richardson Canyon – T3a)
TH4 (Crestview/Wackers – T4a)
TH5 (Prado Lane)
TH6 (Scotch Lane)

II. Trail Uses (a list of trail uses that should be considered in the master plan)

Trail uses that should be considered include walking, hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, and off-road motorcycles. The trails should be multi-use, and some trails that are very narrow or steep should be limited to one-way. Off-road motorcycles riders should be required to have passed a safety course to obtain a permit from the City. Speeds for off-road motorcycles should be limited to five miles per hour. The off-road motorcycles would need to be equipped with spark arrestor sand noise attenuators.

III. Open Space (key areas should be preserved to further enhance the trails system)

For purposes of these recommendations, open space is defined as open land that is left in its natural state. Scott Canyon is the centerpiece of the hills and the Initiative was written to protect it. This core open space area is bounded on the East from T1.d. to Whittier Canyon and down to T2. On the

South, the boundary runs from T1c to T6, and to T5c. The boundary on the West is from T5 to T6. On the North, the boundary runs from T5 and T3a and along the urban interface. This area should be preserved as open space to the maximum extent possible. The area north of T2a should be set-aside with a 300 to 500 foot setback on the north side of the ridge and a 100-foot setback on the south side of the ridge. Trail easements should be 50 feet wide on ridges and 100 feet wide in valley areas. Potential trail easements should be looked at by trail organizations.

IV. Additional Considerations

The Subcommittee felt that an adequate Trails Master Plan should include the features and components, as follows:

- Adequate parking at trail heads
- Public access and accommodation for limited mobility
- Variety of trail settings, types, and uses
- Connectivity of trails (particularly, creating a link between the north/south oriented Edison Easement and the east/west Edison Easement in the South Hills)
- Recreational areas and specific uses
- Valuable open space
- Continuity of open space
- Conservation of notable biological resources
- Wildlife corridors and suitable habitat

V. Personal Recommendations (of subcommittee members and/or interested parties)

The Subcommittee and interested parties were encouraged to provide their personal recommendations regarding the development of a South Hills Trails Master Plan and trail uses in the South Hills. Copies of letters from the following individuals are available in Attachment A:

Larry L. Leas (Resident)
Victor J. Miller (Subcommittee Member)
Janet Razzouk (Subcommittee Member)
Randall Stephens (Subcommittee Member)
Rudy Szutz (Subcommittee Member)
Richard Wiley (Subcommittee Member)
Jonathan Zirkle (Subcommittee Member)

ENVIRONMENTAL

The initial investigation and study of this issue by the Trails Development Committee is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15306. Information collection and resource evaluation activities are eligible for a Class 6 Categorical Exemption. However, the preparation and adoption of a Trails Master Plan would be subject to CEQA. If the master plan project is deferred until after the General Plan is adopted, it may be covered by the analysis on trails and recreational uses that will be included in the General Plan Environmental Impact (EIR), or any additional environmental review could be tiered from the EIR.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts associated with the study of this issue. However, the preparation of a Trails Master Plan, the related CEQA document and technical studies (i.e., acoustical analysis, air quality, geotechnical and soils analysis, and biological resources survey) could cost around $50,000, depending on what type and how many technical studies are actually needed.

ATTACHMENTS

A Personal Recommendations (from Subcommittee Members and/or Interested Parties)

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Attachment A

Personal Recommendations (from Subcommittee Members and/or Interested Parties)

July 20, 2004

Memo To: Jim Walling, Chair Person

From: Larry L. Leas 25886 Mission Road

Subject: So. Hills Trails Master Plan

I am the new face in our community: New in that I am recently retired, lived in Loma Linda for the past 20 years or so and had never attended any City meeting prior to Ryland Homes wanting to become my neighbor.

A few years back our doctor urged both my wife and I to start "walking" for our health as we are somewhat overweight and take meds for high blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes. We first started by just walking the neighborhood; then when the City opened the San Timoteo Creek flood control channel pedestrian trail we would walk it west and catch the Omnitrans Route 9 bus at Redlands Blvd and Waterman Ave., transferring to the Route 19 bus and walking the couple blocks from Mt View and Mission Road to home. Accordingly, we look forward to the completion of the exciting concept of trails connectivity linking the three new developments of Mission Creek, Mission Trails and Mission Lane. This will enable the general public to have an enjoyable relatively traffic free environment to walk. The building of the pedestrian bridge from the developments over the flood control channel connecting to that trail greatly extends the distance we senior citizens can comfortably negotiate.

Now, as a community, we are faced with how to identify appropriate trail(s) and open space uses in an effort to get "buy-in" from the greatest number of vested parties. As should be in all such discussions it appears that the subcommittee members include a considerable mix of potential users including a land developer. Such members come across as enthusiasts in their areas of interest. Yet I can easily visualize their more physically active agendas do not have to collide with the more restrictive physical agenda of we who cannot get around as easily as they can. We prefer a less strenuous trail, preferably with some shade and small rock outcroppings that can be used as natural benches. We like to "drive" to a trail that starts and ends at the same place and gives us something to "see" we wouldn't necessarily be able to see on some other trail. Shade trees, bushes, a creek (even a dry creek bed) can be a stopping place for wildlife as well as less than wild creatures such as we seniors. Please don't forget that we often need one of those portable comfort centers, at least at the trail head. That's about it – we will be able to co-exist with the other users.

Getting it right, now, means the boomers and the generations succeeding them will be able to enjoy the same trails that we look forward to using in the near future.

Thank you.

Victor J. Miller
25130 Aspen Ave.
Loma Linda, CA. 92354

(909) 796-8962
FAX (909) 799-3844 or 796-5105
e-mail victorjmiller@earthlink.net

City of Loma Linda Trails subcommittee member statement of suggestions for trails in the "south hills" of Loma Linda

Priorities

A. Preservation of 2 or 3 significant ridges and accompanying terrain which creates space for wildlife corridors, hiking and bicycle paths. Specifically:
   1) Scotts Canyon from Hulda Crooks Park south to "Razorback" with returning ridges adjacent West and at least the slopes on East side of Scotts Canyon. This runs N&S.
   2) Area along Edison easement running East and West.

B. A network of additional trails and paths which blend with development. This would allow community accessibility and continued enjoyment for the whole town.

C. I would suggest a significant expansion of the area around Hulda Crooks Park to provide space for public facilities, sports park, sports center, Lopers center, and open air natural arena, parks and parking. This area should be designed as a jewel-like entrance to the South Hills.

D. Additional trails and enjoyable usable spaces can be further created by an emphasis on development design to support maintained community and communal spaces by pockets of high density housing and avoiding the plethora of the rectangular subdivision model of the past. Examples can be seen in the unused, not maintained and abundantly wasted spaces of West Lawton or Sierra Ave. and many other tracts in L.L.

E. Size and dimension of trails themselves should vary according to specific trail, intended use and context of trail. Examples of the various tried and tested models of trails are already in the hands of the City.

The Spirit of beauty and flow of the intended human activity throughout our town can best be created and enhanced by avoiding restrictive rules and laws in this matter. It is far more important to pick and support officials who are visionary, balanced, strong and have some understanding of growing towns.

Victor J. Miller

Trails Committee
City of Loma Linda
July 22, 2004

After listening to Loma Linda residents and neighbors regarding Loma Linda's South Hills, it is difficult to come to any other conclusion than that the majority of citizens want to see the hills preserved as open space for a variety of reasons. The Trails Subcommittee sought input from bicyclists, hikers, motorcyclists, horseback riders and senior citizens. The active users with the most mobility indicated trails that they use. The majority of users cover a broad range of trails in both the canyons and ridges as part of their out in nature enjoyment. They also indicated that what gave them pleasure was the natural state of the South Hills and their complete lack of desire for highly groomed trails set among neighborhoods. The majority of users routinely cover broad territory and areas of enjoyment generally overlap by the various segments as part of their recreation.

The senior citizens indicated a desire to also enjoy the back hills and indicated a positive response to the idea of maintaining an easier accessible trail of some sort recognizing that they have various mobility problems.

A legitimate concern of the Public Works Department is the ability to upkeep trails in the hills. Currently no upkeep is necessary. Every rainstorm alters the hills and thus the trails. Current users adapt and relocate trails when mountain sides collapse or washes are created.

We have looked at currently used and possible entrances into the hills and feel that signage could be useful particularly for hikers who may not yet be familiar with the terrain and would like some concept of distances.

I recommend that the best possible use of this land is preservation for recreational, scenic and wildlife use. This land is adjacent to land that is in Riverside County's targeted land for open space preservation and wildlife corridor usage. Loma Linda citizens cherish the open space as one of the only amenities in this city. We must go to neighboring cities for entertainment, dining and shopping. When our own chamber of commerce paper listed recreation opportunities, only options provided by other cities were listed. We should seek to actively preserve the best that we have and the thing most appreciated and loved by those who live here. We all enjoy the fact that we can step out of our houses and be away from the world in just a few minutes rather than having to drive on busy freeways to some distant destination.

Should there be any questions as to how the citizens of Loma Linda feel about their hills, may I remind the committees and city council of the hillside initiative passed by the voters a few years ago and the fact that those city council members perceived as not preservation friendly were voted off the council as their terms came up for reelection and replaced with those backing the hillside initiative. That issue more than any other decided the voted outcomes.

Most of the communities surrounding us and throughout Southern California are waking up to the concrete unicity that we are becoming and are actively engaged in preserving some of their wilderness area. Yucaipa, Calimesa, Redlands, Highland, Grand Terrace, Beaumont, Riverside County and Coachella Valley all have set in motion plans to set aside large tracts of land for recreational and environmental purposes. These are being funded by a variety of creative means and land is being placed with non-profit organizations founded for the purpose of land preservation.

In March, I traveled to Reno and spent one day visiting a variety of park and wilderness recreation facilities. Some were the nicely groomed in city trails and others were located in

previous open space that now was full of housing tracts. I also read local newspaper articles dealing with complaints by both users and home owners. One thing became very clear, when homes go in the users often loose out. Home owners feel a right of personal usage and resent other users being near their homes. The city made efforts to relocated trail heads and separate various users from each other and the home owners. In several cases popular recreation areas are now cut off from public use and Reno's long time residents are feeling like they are locked off the hills and mountains that they have enjoyed for decades.

Let us work towards the preservation of as much open space as possible. The close proximity of this natural open space to urban populations and its extensive trail network make this a popular and valuable recreation resource for Loma Linda. The aesthetics of the natural ridges and canyons, geological features, the presence of Scott Canyon's blue line stream, plants and wildlife can never be restored if once lost. People enjoy the natural quiet, solitude, space, scenery, vistas and natural sound when wandering through the existing hills. We should err on the side of conservation.

Thank-you for the opportunity to speak out,

Janet Razzouk, M.S., R.D.
Trail Subcommittee
Vice-Chair, Parks Recreation and Beautification Committee

Sub Trails committee recommendation

July 22, 2003

Dear Trail committee members,

The intent of this letters is to give my recommendations on the use of the south hill as it relates to the general plan.

As a representative of the Sub trail committee, it is my recommendation that the South hill be preserved as much as possible. This includes preserving all of Loma Linda's 700 acres southwest of Hulda Crooks park as well as the water easement land directly behind the park.

While I feel it is not right for us to completely exclude developers from building on privately owned land. I do feel that developers need to follow strict guidelines to ensure the preservation of the previously mentioned Loma Linda owned land.

After talking to a number of Loma Linda residents, I have observed that 9 out of 10 individuals expressed that they wanted the hill "left as they were". While I am sure many others, not asked, share their same views, it is understood such restrictions are not feasible.

As for the usage of the Loma Linda owned Land, I feel we should do the following:

1. Deem all Loma Linda owned land as "open space".
2. Develop proper signage instructing the types of usage for trails.
3. Work with privet land owners and developers to expand connecting trails.
4. Develop trail heads with adequate parking and access to the trails.

I further feel that trails, and or selected areas should be open for the following to enjoy:

1. Hikers
2. Mountain bikers*
3. Horseback riders
4. Off road motorized vehicles. **

* After talking with a number of horse back riders, they expressed that mountain bikes poses a greater risk that Motorized bikes (This need to be considered).

** Motorized vehicles should meet safety and noise regulation, plus a yearly permit should be required. Permits should be obtained after proper inspection from a fire official.

Thank you
Randall Stephens

Trails Committee,

We must keep the South Hills from becoming crowded like Mission Road. As soon as it is opened for development that could happen. We would like to keep Loma Linda from becoming overbuilt with stop and go traffic.

In the development of the South Hills I feel we should first develop the trailheads with adequate parking. Then put signs on the trails that encompass the city owned property that is already set aside for trails.

There is an initiative already for the development of the South Hills that I feel should be maintained.

Rudy Szutz

DICK WILEY'S TRAILS THOUGHTS

1) TRAILS USEASE / TYPE

A) WALKERS / HIKERS

B) JOGGERS

C) MOUNTAIN BIKING

D) HORSES - TRAIL RIDES

E) HORSES - HAY WAGON RIDES - WITH OR WITHOUT BAR-B-QUES OR LECTURES

F) MOTORCYCLES - TRAIL RIDES

G) MOTORCYCLES - HILL CLIMBS

H) MOTORCYCLES - MOGALS AND OR RACING COURSES

I) STUDY AREAS - SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, GOVERNMENT.

2) WILDLIFE LIVING AREA

AN AREA TO CORAL AND PLACE/KEEP GROUND ANIMAL

AN AREA THAT CAN SUSTAIN THE ANIMALS PLACED I. THE COMPOUND, BUT CAN'T GET OUT (6-8' WALLED AREI

AS ANIMALS ARE CAPTURED IN CITY AREAS THEY CAN BE PUT IN THIS COMPOUND. HOPEFULLY AT THE CHEA EST COST TO THE CITY. (1/2 TO 1 MILE SQUARE) AREA COMPOUND

3) A SENIC DRIVE - ROAD AREA

POSSIBLE TOP OF FRONT - NORTH RIDGE TOP - BETWEE- RAILROAD TRACKS AREA TO HALDA CROOKS PARK OR WHITTIER BASIN AREA. OPEN DURING DAY LIGHT HOURS.

4) A SMALL (25 TO 50) CAMPING SITE / AREA
THIS COULD BE FOR TENTS, CAMP POP-UP TRAILERS, TRAILERS OR MOTORHOMES AND HIKERS / BACKPACKE

5) KEEP AND USE THE BEAR VALLEY WATER POND A. SOUTH END OF WHITTIER.
USE IT FOR FISHING, ROW BOATING, CANOEING, AS A WATER FEATURE.

6) POSSIBILITY OF A SKI LIFT TYPE TRAM RIDE IS CERTAIN PARTS OF THE BACK HILLS - COSTA RICA HAS SOME OF THESE IN THEIR RAIN FOREST AREAS. JUST ABOUT ANYONE COULD RIDE THIS AND ENJOY THE WILD LIFE / OPEN AREAS. MAYBE SOME STOPPING / JUMP OFF AREAS.

7) HAVE AN AREA FOR MOTOR / BIKE SAFETY TRAINING AREA.
TO TEACH SAFE RIDING, BASIC FIRST AIDE (FOR WHAT THEY MIGHT INCOUNTER), CITY RULES AND REGULATIONS TO BE ALLOWED TO USE TH BACK HILLS AREAS, ENVIROMENTAL CONCERNS / ISSUES, RACING / HIC CLIMB SAFETY AND ISSUES, THEN WHEN COMPLETED YOU GET A JERSEY WITH A CITY NUMBER AND PATCH TO ALLOW YOU TO RIDE IN THE HILLS.

8) A COLLECTING AREA / AREAS (WATER) AS DRINKING AREAS FOR WILD LIFE IN OPEN AREAS IN THE BACK HILLS.

9) FIRE CONTROL / VEGETATION AREAS TO SLOW OR STOP WILD LAND FIRES.

DICK WILEY'S TRAILS THOUGHTS

10) MAJOR FIRE ACCESS ROADS TO TIE IN WITH TRAIL HEADS OR MAJOR HIKING AREAS.

11) AVAILABILITY FOR SENIORS - NON WALKERS (HIKERS) PARA OR QUADRAPLEGICS TO HAVE USEAGE OF SOME TRAIL AREAS.

12) GRANTED PROPERTY OWNERS - NOT RESCENTLY PURCHASED PROPERTIE FOR DEVELOPMENT - TO HAVE RIGHTS TO MAKE SOME MONIES OFF OF THEIR PROPERTIES.

Trails Committee
Hillside Subcommittee
Proposed Report on the Hillside Trails System
July 22, 2004
Proposed by Jonathan Zirkle

Description of the Current Hillsides

Loma Linda currently has a large, mostly undeveloped hillside area to its south. This area, including the area in its sphere of influence makes up roughly 2600 acres. This area is roughly analogous with Hill Side Conservation/Mixed Use area found in the Proposed General Plan.

Geologically, the hills are highly unique. They are a young geological formation, formed by the up lifting of various substrata. They consist of soft soils, largely devoid of rocks, not commonly found in hillsides outside of Loma Linda. The are located over a significant number of active faults. Due to their young age, soil consistency, and mechanism of formation, they are very steep and in places, unstable. The Trails Committee recognizes that this geology provides interest and enjoyment to the citizens and recreational users of the hills.

Currently, the area is home to many different plant and animal species, some of which are on the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife's Threatened Species list. It was beyond the scope of the Trails Committee to survey these species, but the trails committee notes that the hillside area is mostly coastal sage and grasslands, with significant variations of wildflowers (in season), cactus, and succulent plants. Additional information about these species can be found in the New General Plans Draft EIR. The Trails Committee recognizes the value of maintaining vital habitat for threatened species, as well as provide viable habitat for rare and common species that populate the hills, such as coyotes, rabbits, snakes, pigs, deer, bobcat, raptors, and other animals found in the hills. The Trails Committee recognizes that these species provide interest to the citizens and recreational users of the hills, and are vital to the character of the hills.

At this time, the primary commercial uses of the hills consists of utility corridors for pipelines, corridors for high tension wires, and grazing. While the Trails Committee recognizes that high tension lines are not aesthetically pleasing, most trail users will quickly pass underneath them, and be beyond the electromagnetic effects and the buzzing sound of the wires. The trails committee recognizes that placing trails under high tension lines greatly diminishes the recreational value of the trail, and therefore, has avoided placing trails under these lines except as is necessary to cross beneath the lines, or in limited circumstances, as is necessary to connect with other trails. Grazing, at the current level, is compatible with recreational use of the trails, and provides pleasure and interest to the trial user who may cross a ridgeline and suddenly find him or herself looking over a flock of sheep.

Currently, there exist many trails in the hills. See our large map. The character of the trials range from large, smoothly graded dirt roads, to very narrow steep hiking paths. These trails have been created in various ways for various reasons. Trials have been created by utility companies pursuant to easement, as fire brakes to control wild fires, by off road vehicles, mountain bike riders, horseback riders, joggers, hikers, and wildlife. Due to the differing methods of creation and use, the trail system includes a very large variety of trials, with a high variability of characteristics such as width, steepness, level of maintenance, and visual aesthetics. Although there is large variability in trial characteristics, most recreational users will use a variety of trials when they enter the hills. The trial variety is considered an asset by the users, and provides interest and pleasure to the citizens and recreational users of the hills.

At this time, a large portion of the hillsides are held by private landowners. The private land owners have expressed an interest and a willingness to participate in discussions with the Trails Committee to preserve the Trails system. It is the trails committee recommendation that every effort be made to maintain a cordial relationship with the landowners for the express purpose of maintaining open space and access to the hillside trail system.

Current users of the hillside trail system include utility companies, fire fighters, police and safety officials, horseback riders, hikers, joggers, mountain bikers, etc.

Proposed Future of the Hill Side trails system.

The unique flora, fauna, geology, agriculture, and wilderness atmosphere of the hills combine to create the recreational quality of the trial system. For this reason, to preserve the recreational potential, it is important that the central portions of the hillside trail system should remain undisturbed by development. See our map.

At this time, the current level of trail maintenance serves a diverse group of users. Nevertheless, it is proposed that the city endeavor to increase the accessibility of the hills to users not physically able to use the current trail system, and for users, such as street bicycle riders who require hard surface trails. For that reason, it is proposed that the city develop an asphalt trail to the top of look out ridge, starting at Pilgrim Road (connecting with the San Timeteo Canyon trial) and ending on Beaumont street somewhere between the rail road crossing and Mountain View Road. This trail should accommodate walkers and street bicycle riders, be well marked, and include benches, picnic tables, and trash cans. The area open space hillside slop area north of this trail with a slope greater than 15% should remain open space, or agricultural use.

The trails committee proposes that a map be placed at the most commonly used entrances to the hillside trial system (Hulda Crooks Park, Crestview Street, Richardson Street, Scotch Lane, Prado Lane, Pilgrim Road, and Oakwood Street) indicating what trails are open to use, and what areas are off limits due to private property. The committee proposes that Markers be placed in the following locations---too be determined--- to provide land marks for the trail users. These land marks are to be placed on the primary

peaks with the best views of hillsides areas, the San Bernardino mountains, Mount San Jacinto, and the surrounding communities. It is proposed that one or two park benches be placed on some of these peaks.

The trails committee proposes that any future development near the entry points into the hillside area provide for access to the hillside trail system. It is anticipated that this will not place a burden upon any developer, as the most of the primary entrances are at entrances maintained by utility companies pursuant to their easements. The committee also proposes that the exiting trails outside of the hillside area system be clearly connected to the major entry points into the hills and that an additional connector trail be created between the trails indicated on the trails master plan and the entry point on Richardson Street.

As for the remaining trial system, the committee proposes that no changes be made, and that no additional maintenance is required.

In order to preserve the nature of the hillside trails, the trials committee makes the following additional proposals.

1. All land currently owned by the city to be designated by the General Plan and to be zoned recreational/open space.

2. That the General Plan include, and that the city adopt, a view corridor ordinance, whereby it would be illegal to place a residential or non-recreational commercial structure within view of any of the designated maker points on land that is south of the tow of slope or south of current residential/suburban development subdivisions (line to follow Beaumont and all the city streets to the end of Lawton, then to follow ridgeline to Cemetery).

3. That the city set aside a fund to obtain ownership of all land within the Hillside Conservation/Mixed Use area and that the City investigate joining the San Bernardino County MSHCP, if that will result in assistance acquiring land with sensitive habitats.

4. That the general plan and the zoning ordinances zone the area within the view corridor to permit existing uses, agricultural structures, public safety structures, public utility structures, public services structures, and public and private recreational structures, and to not permit any other structures.

5. That adequate connector trails exist to provide easy access to the trail system from the San Timeteo Trail system through any development that may be made in the Pilgrim Road Area.

6. That all development, agricultural usage, or recreational usage be designed to provide for habitat corridors, where applicable, for all naturally occurring species in the hills, with special consideration for the needs of animals transiting into of

the view corridors of the hillside trails system with the San Timeteo Canyon wash area and the adjoining Riverside County hills and with Reche Canyon.

7. That the Planning Commission immediately receive a copy of all of our various proposals for the purposes of informing themselves of the debate on General Plan as it relates to the hillsides.

8. That the Planning Commission not vote to approve the General Plan until Mr. Elssmann presents his plan for the hills which he has promised City Council in September, to determine if Mr. Elssmann's plans are compatible with the hillside trails system, and if not, whether the General Plan is a sufficient basis for the denial of Mr. Elssmann's plan if they are found to be incompatible.

ATTACHMENT 2

PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT (MARCH 8, 2005)

City of Loma Linda Official Report

Karen Gaio Hansberger, Mayor
Floyd Petersen, Mayor pro tempore
Robert Christman, Councilmember
Stan Brauer, Councilmember
Robert Ziprick, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA: March 8, 2005

TO: City Council

VIA: Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM: Deborah F. Woldruff, AICP, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: TRAILS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAILS, TRAIL HEADS, AND OPEN SPACE IN THE SOUTH HILLS AREA

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the City Council continue this item to the April 12, 2005 agenda to coincide with the Council's review of the Land Use and Conservation And Open Space Elements of the Draft General Plan. During the four-week continuance, the Trails Development Committee and South Hills Trails Master Plan Subcommittee will meet (separately and together) to further define the proposal and refine the Draft Map.

BACKGROUND

On February 22, 2005, the City Council continued this item to the March 8, 2005 meeting. The Trails Development Committee held their regular meeting on February 24, 2005 to discuss the outcome of the City Council meeting on February 22nd. The Committee agreed that several additional meetings of the Trails Development Committee and South Hills Trails Master Plan Subcommittee should be scheduled during March 2005. The purpose of the Committee and Subcommittee meetings is to revise the Draft Map so that it can be released as public information, and to further define the proposal document for the April 12, 2005 City Council meeting.

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ATTACHMENT 3

DRAFT CONCEPT MAP
(April 7, 2005)

ATTACHMENT 4

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

City Council
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda 92354

January 27, 2005

Attn: Pam, City Clerk

Open Letter to City Council Supporting Open Space and Trails Preservation in Loma Linda Hills.

Loma Linda – translation prettyl hill!

Honorable council members and planners for the city of Loma Linda, this letter is designed to ring in resounding support of the preservation of Loma Linda's wonderful natural hillsides, open space and trail network system.

I have been a resident of the Inland Empire for over 30 years and upon returning from University and helping grow a business here, I discovered the Loma Linda Hills and Hulda Crooks Open Space Park (a stroke of genius for the city to acquire after the Savings and Loan scandal). These trails rekindled a lifelong interest in bicycle commuting and mountain biking which established friendships here that have lasted decades. Riders who have ridden your trails have won the first annual 24hrs of San Jacinto, Cyclecross races back East, and Big Bear's single-speed mountain bike races. A Redlands native Kyle Strait won this year's RedBull Rampage in Utah! Your trail resources probably played a part in each of these victories. Always knowing the trails of Loma Linda were a short ride from home, they served as a reason for rides with friends and relatives from out of State, joy rides with my wife and daughter (now 6 years old) and a respite from the travails of an auto-myopic society seemingly bent on paving just about everything!

Trails with names like Jedi, Dragon's Back, and Scott Canyon are fixed permanently in our psyche and I feel the leaders of the region must rest assured those trails have a special place in all who have visited the hills of Loma Linda by mountain bike or foot. These venerable trails and many more should be the focus of a joint preservation effort between the cities of Loma Linda, and Redlands, and the Counties of San Bernardino, and Riverside. Preserve these routes for all to enjoy. I cannot think of a better network of hiking and cycling trails within such close reach of such a burgeoning population. Realize the hundreds of signatures presented before you by local business owners and trail users represent just a fraction of those who have experienced the rush of Loma Linda's Hulda Crooks Open Space Park and trail network. Please in Hulda Crook's memory, take this time to preserve and protect your hills, a General Plan amendment protecting this wonderful landscape will serve generations past, present and future.

I and my friends and family have purchased thousands of dollars worth of bicycles and cycling equipment from business owners in your community. Our post-ride ritual is lunch or dinner at Cool Cactus. We feed ourselves with organic vegetarian nutrition provided by Clark's in Loma Linda. In a word, we support your community in many ways that are mostly silent, but healthy, fun and permanent! I trust we can count on your support to preserve and protect the awesome resource that is Loma Linda's Lomas Lindas!

Save the Jedi Trail!

Sincerely
Jonathan Baty
Vice President, & CTO
EnerPath, Inc.
1758 Orange Tree Lane
Redands, CA 92373

JAN 31 2005

Deborah Woldruff

From: Foll, Lynn (PALM SPRINGS, CA) [lynn_e_foll@ml.com]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2005 7:41 AM
To: Deborah Woldruff
Subject: hills/map

Hi Deborah: here is a speech I wish I had given last Thursday night. It was useful for me to write it; I'm sharing it in case it may be useful to you.

This map indicates a special area of Loma Linda that, because of its natural beauty and recreational potential, needs to be carefully protected. Development will ultimately take place, but it needs to be as special as the environment which gave Loma Linda its name.

We don't want to see the hills leveled and hundreds of carbon-copy homes built 10 feet apart. For recreation, we don't want to have to use paths under the power lines where no one can build. In other words, we don't want to have to change the name of the city to Loma de las Muchas Casas.

Developers should plan to enhance the natural beauty of the area by respecting, improving, and maintaining the trail system in this beautiful area.

Good luck and thanks for all your hard work with the subcommittee.

Lynn Foll

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