

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

ADOPTED November 27, 2006
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2006-08
EFFECTIVE DATE November 27, 2006

Prepared for
THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE

By
LAFAYETTE PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Lafayette City Council

Ivor Samson, Mayor
Carol Federighi, Vice Mayor
Mike Anderson
Carl Anduri
Don Tatzin

Lafayette Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission

Jeff Peacock, Commission Chair

Trails Subcommittee

Judy Nelson, Chair
Alison Hill
Mike Ousley
Jeff Peacock

Parks Subcommittee

Geoffrey Bellenger, Chair
Rick Anderson
Michelle Edmunds
Carol Singer

Community Center Subcommittee

Peter Read, Chair

Advisors

Jennifer Russell, Director, Parks, Trails & Recreation
John Kiefer, Volunteer Trail Maintenance Coordinator
Fran Sticha, Former Parks, Trails & Recreation Commissioner
Mike Anderson, City Council Liaison
Carol Federighi, City Council Liaison

Table of Contents

SUMMARY	6
INTRODUCTION	8
TRAILS PLAN.....	14
STANDARDS	17
IMPLEMENTATION	24
MAINTENANCE.....	27
TRAILS USAGE.....	30
ENVIRONMENTAL	32
APPENDIX A : TRAILS MASTER MAP	35
APPENDIX B : SAMPLE TRAIL INSPECTION REPORT	36

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

SUMMARY

SUMMARY

This Trails Master Plan is a complete revision of the original Lafayette Trails Master Plan, developed in 1983. The original Plan consisted of a map and attached typewritten descriptions of the trails marked on the map. During the last 23 years the information on the Trails Master Plan has become dated as additional easements have been acquired, and additional trails have been established. In addition, some plans for proposed trails have been abandoned. The standard for Trails Master Plans has changed markedly, and the current Trails Master Plan for Lafayette is no longer adequate.

This update of the Lafayette Trails Master Plan is the culmination of a long planning process that has included an in-depth field analysis of proposed trail routes, public hearings and commission presentations to gather resident opinions, as well as coordination with City staff from the Parks, Trails & Recreation, Planning, and Engineering Departments.

- Introduction:** Defines the geographic constraints and opportunities of the planning effort, how the Trails Master Plan relates to the General Plan, and the nature and extent of public involvement in the process.
- Trails Plan:** This section begins with the goals and objectives that were presented to the public in the 2002 Lafayette General Plan and in the 1983 Lafayette Trails Master Plan. They form the framework under which the Master Plan was prepared. Included in this section is a listing of proposed trail segments, with a map of the entire trails system included as an Appendix.
- Standards:** Contains narrative and graphic descriptions of trail standards.
- Implementation Plan:** This section delineates methods for acquiring trails, installation responsibility for each trail segment, a phasing plan and cost estimates associated with implementation.
- Maintenance Plan:** Issues related to the long-term management and maintenance of the trail including access control, volunteer management, a safety checklist, trail etiquette, maintenance costs and liability issues.
- Environmental Analysis:** This section summarizes the environmental analysis completed for the Lafayette Trails Master Plan as a whole, based on the general information available at the time of its adoption. Specific analysis will be completed for each trail segment before development as new environmental information about that segment becomes available.
- Appendices:** The appendices contain a map of the entire trails system, an example format for the Trail Inspection Report, and detailed descriptions of the trails.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

City of Lafayette Setting

Lafayette is located on 14 square miles in Contra Costa County, one of nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. The City was incorporated in 1968, although settlement of the area began in 1848.

Lafayette is noted for its high quality of life with top-rated schools, low crime rate, small town downtown, clean air, mild climate and oak tree-studded hills. Located between Berkeley and Walnut Creek, Lafayette has its own Bay Area Rapid Transit station (BART) and is only a 30 minute BART ride from San Francisco.

General Plan

On October 28, 2002, the City Council adopted Lafayette's current General Plan. The General Plan is a statement of the community's vision of the future. It is a long-range and comprehensive plan that coordinates all major components of the community's physical development.

The principal goals of the Plan are to preserve and enhance the character of Lafayette as a low density, semi-rural residential community, enhance the vitality of our downtown, and protect our ridgelines and sensitive hillside areas through the application of residential design guidelines, control of hillside densities, and the careful review of the environmental and visual impacts of development.

The General Plan is the guiding force behind all of Lafayette's future land-use decisions. The following goals and policies set forth by the Parks, Trails and Recreation section of the General Plan address the City's existing and future requirements for parks, trails and recreation facilities. The General Plan emphasizes coordination with other jurisdictions such as the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), Save Mt. Diablo, Muir Heritage Land Trust, and the Greenbelt Alliance, along with City programs to achieve a high quality of City facilities. It provides a policy framework through which we can continue to provide a diversity of recreation opportunities for our community.

The Goals, Policies and Programs of the General Plan are the foundation for the Lafayette Trails Master Plan. In particular, this Plan is intended to address the following specific General Plan goals and policies:

Goal P-1 Provide an attractive system of parks, trails and recreation facilities throughout the City to meet the needs and interests of all ages and capabilities.

Goal P-3 Implement the Lafayette Trails Master Plan.

Policy P-3.1 Complete the Trail System: Complete the trail system as shown on the Lafayette Trails Master Plan on file at the City offices and the Parks, Trails and Recreation Department.

Program P-3.1.1: Work with the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD), East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), Contra Costa County, adjacent cities, regional trail groups and other public agencies on trail planning issues.

Program P-3.1.2: Construct trails according to the standards established by the California Trails Manual and EBRPD standards.

Program P-3.1.3: Incorporate trails development in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Program P-3.1.4: Where development is proposed on a parcel that includes a planned or proposed trail as shown on the Lafayette Trails Master Plan, the applicant shall be required to provide an easement or dedicate public right-of-way that can be used to construct a public trail per the Lafayette Trails Master Plan.

Program P-3.1.5: Require easement surveying and permanent marking as a condition of approval.

Program P-3.1.6: Periodically review and update the Lafayette Trails Master Plan.

- Policy P-3.2 Design of Trails: Locate and design trail routes to the following criteria:
- a) Emphasis on scenic qualities
 - b) Use and enjoyment by neighborhoods and City residents
 - c) Connection with local and regional open space areas, parks, points of interest, and community facilities

Policy P-3.3 Local Use: Encourage residents to use the trail system.

Program P-3.3.1: Continue to prepare, update and distribute maps of neighborhood trails for local use.

The trails defined in the 1983 Trails Master Plan were analyzed as a first step in the update process, followed by a comprehensive field analysis to identify new trail segments which could fill gaps that existed in the original plan and to expand and enrich the recreational opportunities of the trail system. This analysis also included trails requested for inclusion by members of the community.

The Lafayette Trails Master Plan provides a comprehensive long-range planning document that provides flexibility. The proposed trail alignments and standards have been developed based on current information and known future conditions with the idea that as circumstances change, the Plan can accommodate changing conditions and still remain effective. For instance, trail alignments on private parcels that have no current development plans have been designated based on existing topography and alignment of proposed streets. When development occurs in these areas, the City will work closely with the developer to establish the actual trail alignment based on the proposed plans in order to maintain community character, meet the needs of the City's recreational users, avoid or limit environmental impacts, and maintain the viability of the development project.

Unique Opportunity

Lafayette has an existing network of over 16 miles of community trails. Existing trails link neighborhoods, as well as providing feeders to the Regional and Lamorinda trail networks. Lafayette is also fortunate to have a dedicated, well informed and highly organized group of trail activists who are willing to devote their time and economic resources to preserving and enhancing existing trails, and to developing and maintaining new trail opportunities.

The City of Lafayette has many unique aspects that enable the development of an exceptional trail system, including three large regional facilities:

1. Lafayette Reservoir, located in the southwest corner of the City, is operated by the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and provides boat rentals, fishing, family and large group picnic facilities, playgrounds, hiking and biking.
2. Briones Regional Park, located north of the City limits, is operated by the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and provides hiking, biking and equestrian trails, and picnic facilities.
3. Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, located southeast of the City, is also operated by the EBRPD, and provides hiking, biking and equestrian trails, and picnic facilities.

These regionally managed lands provide large areas of open space for wildlife protection and public access that are easily accessible to Lafayette residents. They constitute a major part of the beautiful natural setting of the City. The trails system as described in this Plan provides access to public places and to scenic vistas that represent a significant natural amenity to the community. Where feasible, the proposed city trails interconnect with these regional facilities, providing a continuous trails system.

Public Participation

The Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission's Trails Subcommittee provided direction and input throughout the planning process. Public participation in the planning process was solicited through public hearings, the Lafayette Vista newsletter, and the Lafayette website. Drafts of the Plan were also posted on the City of Lafayette website, <http://www.lovelafayette.com/>.

The Lafayette Trails Master Plan was also presented at public meetings of the Parks, Trails & Recreation and Planning Commissions for their review and input early in the process.

The initial draft of the Lafayette Trails Master Plan was reviewed in a public hearing of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission held on December 14, 2005 and was considered at public hearings of the Planning Commission on February 16, 2006 and the City Council on March 27, 2006. The final draft was considered at public hearings of the Planning Commission on October 19, 2006 and the City Council on November 27, 2006 and approved at a public hearing of the City Council on November 27, 2006.

Goals & Objectives

The following goals and objectives represent the guiding direction for the planning of the trails system.

1. Provide recreational opportunities for walkers, hikers, and equestrians.

2. Provide for diversity in trail experiences, including variety in terrain difficulty, environment and interpretive opportunities.
3. Provide connections to parks, open space, schools, community facilities, and trail systems within the City of Lafayette
4. Provide connections to adjacent trails in the Lamorinda area, including the Lamorinda Trail Loop.
5. Provide a safe environment for trail users by minimizing vehicular crossings, maximizing the separation between trails and adjacent roadways, and maximizing visibility and warning signage where interfaces between vehicles and the trails occur.
6. Provide maintenance and regular upkeep to ensure trail safety.
7. Provide a system of easily visible signs and markers to allow users to clearly identify the trail system.
8. Seek, and whenever possible obtain with minimal financial burden to the City of Lafayette, easements that will provide the community with recreational trails via designations on private parcels where future development may provide a trail, including: Locating trails along existing paths, roads and utility easements, working with private landowners and developers to establish the actual trail as indicated in this Master Plan and requiring grants of trail easements from private owners and developers as conditions of development approval where nexus requirements are met.
9. Ensure that development proposals are evaluated by the City for recreational trail easement conditions to help complete or provide connections to Lafayette or regional existing or master planned trails, or for neighborhood recreational use.
10. Locate, design, and maintain trails with environmental sensitivity in order to minimize the impact on the natural environment.
11. Locate trails to minimize the impact on the privacy of adjacent neighbors.

Environmental Compliance

As noted above, the Trails Master Plan is a comprehensive long-range planning document that proposes certain trail segments for inclusion in the City's trails system and provides standards for the trails' construction and maintenance. Appropriate site-specific environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") will be performed prior to the construction of actual trail segments. Where appropriate, that environmental review shall incorporate the provisions of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Air Quality and Urban Development: Guidelines for Assessing Impacts of Projects and Plans into CEQA project review procedures for the individual trail segments. That CEQA review may result in additional standards and design features applicable to individual trail segments that are not included in this planning level document. Environmental review for construction of specific trail segments may occur in

conjunction with the environmental review of development applications that involve the dedication of trails to the City.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

TRAILS PLAN

TRAILS PLAN

Descriptions of each trail are contained in this section, with a map of the entire trail system included as Appendix A. The trail descriptions are intended to provide an overview of the existing and proposed trail systems that are part of this plan. Detailed information on the trail segments, including trail type, current status, and development plans, is incorporated in the Trails Implementation Plan, which is a working document intended to provide more fine-grained detail than is included as part of this document.

Trail system descriptions included in the Trails Master Plan and indicated on the map provide general direction for the implementation of the trail system. It is understood that the actual location of trail alignments will be determined at the time of implementation based on community character, environmental conditions, and private property concerns. It is also understood, that additional trail segments may need to be dedicated or acquired in the future to enhance the overall effectiveness of the trail system.

Trail Users:

City of Lafayette trails are primarily for pedestrian use. Trails may be designated as multi-use providing opportunities for pedestrians and equestrians, as appropriate. Bicyclists are permitted on hard surface trails only. No motorized vehicles except authorized trail maintenance vehicles and emergency vehicles shall be allowed on any trails. Should conflicts arise on specific trail segments in the future, the City may restrict the use on certain segments to avoid environmental degradation, significant increase in maintenance, conflicts with properties adjacent to the trail, or trail user conflicts.

Lafayette Trail Systems:

#	TRAIL SYSTEM NAME	DESCRIPTION
1	West Trail	Trail connects neighborhoods across northwest Lafayette to the Briones Regional Park
2	Walter Costa Trail	Trail connects from the base of Lafayette Reservoir (EBMUD Filter Plant) North to Happy Valley School and up to Lafayette Ridge (Briones)
3	Lafayette Ridge Feeder Trails	Feeder Trails to the Lafayette Ridge (Briones)
4	Springhill Valley Area Trails	Neighborhood trail in eastern Reliez Valley
5	Western Reliez Valley Area	Neighborhood trail in western Reliez Valley
6	Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail (EBRPD)	Trail across eastern Lafayette to Mt Diablo
7	Acalanes / Glorieta Area Trails	Trail along Acalanes Road to the Orinda border
8	Lafayette Reservoir Trail System (EBMUD)	Trails around the Lafayette Reservoir
9	Shield Block Creek Trails	Creekside trails through the Shield block in downtown Lafayette
10	Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail (EBRPD)	Regional trail from Olympic Blvd to Valle Vista
11	Lafayette-Moraga Trail Connectors	Trail links to the Lafayette-Moraga Region Trail

#	TRAIL SYSTEM NAME	DESCRIPTION
12	St. Mary's Trail	Trail between Stanley Middle School and Buckeye Fields.
13	Burton Ridge and Feeder Trails	Trail from Olympic staging area to Las Trampas Regional Park, with feeder trails from the Burton Valley area.
14	Palos Colorados Rim Area Trails	Trail follows the Lafayette-Moraga border between the Lafayette Reservoir and the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail. Includes the Silver Springs Neighborhood Loop Trail.
15	South Lafayette Area Trails	Trail across southern portion of Lafayette with connectors from Burton Valley.
16	Lamorinda Loop	Lafayette portion of the Lamorinda Loop trail.

Note:

The Reliez Valley Road Walkway and the Aqueduct Trail, listed in the 1983 Trails Master Plan, have been removed from the 2005 Trails Master Plan. The Reliez Valley Road Walkway has been constructed and is part of the Lafayette Walkways plan. The Aqueduct Trail was removed by approval of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission on January 12, 2005 and with the recommendation to the Circulation Commission that it be added to Circulation Plan.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

STANDARDS

STANDARDS

Introduction

Once the actual locations of the proposed trails included in the Master Plan have been established, the trails shall be developed in accordance with the following standards. In certain locations where physical or environmental constraints preclude the practical implementation of a trail under the following standards, the City of Lafayette reserves the right to vary from the standards in order to preserve the continuity of the system, avoid or limit environmental impacts, and preserve community character. The City's goal is to design and construct trail segments in as natural a condition as possible, while still ensuring public safety, limiting environmental impacts, and preserving community character.

Deviation from the standards is subject to the approval of the City of Lafayette. These variances will be made only after a determination is made that public safety or the environment will not be unduly affected. Although the Plan endeavors to provide standards for all conceivable occurrences, it is possible that some circumstances may not be anticipated. Therefore, site-specific conditions may dictate the redesign or refinement of trails to meet these circumstances.

The purpose of the Trail Standards is to:

- Ensure trail safety by:
 - minimizing trail hazards, including natural & vehicular interface
 - minimizing trail deterioration
- Protect the rights of adjacent landowners, thus making the trail a sought after amenity
- Minimize maintenance costs
- Provide for a consistent trail identity that maintains the unique flavor of each neighborhood yet presents a cohesive trail system
- Avoid or limit disturbance to the natural environment
- Maximize the enjoyment of users through a diversity of experiences

TRAIL STANDARDS

Trails shall be installed per the following standards and shall be designed and constructed in as natural a condition as possible:

TRAIL WIDTH: 3 feet minimum desirable. A narrower width may be utilized in natural open space or environmentally sensitive areas, where areas immediately adjacent to the trail can provide level spaces for turnouts as necessary.

EASEMENT WIDTH: 5 - 20 feet. 20 feet is the preferred width to allow for flexibility in trail placement.

GRADE: Elevation change on trail segments should not exceed 10%. To decrease grade, use terrace steps. Terrace steps should not be used on trails that are designated as handicap accessible.

CROSS GRADE: Should not exceed 8%. Low grades help prevent drainage problems; steep grades allow the water to run faster, building up erosive force.

EROSION CONTROL: Drain dips or water bars shall be installed where trail gradient and soil types indicate that erosion will compromise the trail surface. If minor rivulets appear over time, drain dips shall be installed to decrease the chances of more serious erosion.

VEGETATION: Vegetation adjacent to the trail shall be preserved as much as possible to protect the aesthetic quality of the trail. Pruning along trails should be selective. Dead and dying limbs and snags that may fall on the trail should be removed; others should be left to decompose naturally. Groundcover plants and low shrubs should not be cleared, except from the actual trail. Hazardous vegetation in trail vicinity (e.g. Poison Oak, Blackberries) should be removed or sprayed as necessary.

All pesticide use shall conform to the restrictions on the product label, and will be consistent with all local, state and federal statutes and regulations regarding pesticide use. The City shall encourage the use of non-polluting herbicides near watercourses, and will avoid spraying where feasible in sensitive habitat areas.

SIGNAGE: Trail markers shall generally be installed at every junction in a visible location. Signage should occur at all street and trail intersections and at trail heads. Trail markers shall have symbol decals affixed to both sides in the same position. Signs shall be installed clear of the trail. Appropriate warning signs should be installed where deemed necessary. Street signage warning motorists of trail crossings should be located in advance of trail crossings. Signs should meet City, County and State standards.

BARRIERS: All proposed trails are restricted from use by motorized vehicles. A barrier at trail entrances shall be created if motorized vehicle use becomes a problem.

CREEK CROSSINGS: A bridge or culvert may be provided over creeks or drainages when necessary for safety or erosion control reasons. The following standards should be used, adapted for local conditions:

Bridge:

- Width: 4 foot minimum.
- Surface or tread: Non-skid or non-slip surface, such as wood, textured concrete, or asphalt.
- Rails: Install protective side railings at least 3.5 feet high.

Culverts:

- Diameter: Must meet City standards.
- Slope: Approximately 2%.
- Coverage: Trail surface above the culvert should be a minimum 12 inch deep compacted, decomposed granite or native soil. Soil should be protected with rip-rap from concentrated flows, particularly at culvert outlets.
- Headwalls and outlets: Protected and concealed with boulders where possible.

Trail Easement Restrictions

1. A trail easement is not to be used by owners or developers for access to the property while the property is being developed or improved unless such access is first approved by the Planning Services Division. Any damage to the easement or developed trail caused by such use is to be repaired and paid for by the developer or property owner as specified and approved by the Planning Services Division Staff.
2. A trail easement is not to be encroached upon by fences, vegetation, earth mounds, drainage ditches, sheds, animal houses or structures of any kind.
3. There shall be no dumping of rubbish, building materials, garden clippings, run off water, etc. on the trail easement.
4. Any vegetation planted by the owner or developer shall be planted at sufficient distance from the trail easement to ensure that present or future branches do not interfere with safe passage. If said branches do interfere with safe passage and owners do not remove them after being requested to do so by the City, the City shall have the right to remove said branches or growth at the owner's expense.
5. The trail easement shall be marked by the developer or owner with permanent survey markers as required by the City Engineer.
6. If the trail easement is over a private road or driveway or other area which the owner wishes to post with signs indicating "Private", then trail signs shall also be posted by the Parks, Trails & Recreation Department indicating the trail easement and showing appropriate identification and directions including the City of Lafayette logo.
7. Public passage over the trail easement shall not be restricted or obstructed in any manner whether or not there is an established trail.

Trail Construction

The use of diesel-powered machinery shall be minimized to the extent feasible. In addition, where applicable, trail construction shall comply with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's

Regulation 6 (regulating particulate matter emissions from construction and equipment exhaust). Additionally, the City shall consider adopting the erosion and sedimentation controls described in ABAG's Manual of Standards for Erosion and Sediment Control, published in June 1995, and shall require that new trails construction provide for source control and reduction of pollutants in conformance with the City's Stormwater Management Program and other National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) criteria.

Standards Applicable to Trails in Ecologically Sensitive Areas

1. Agricultural Areas

Trails development in agricultural areas should be avoided while those areas are in active agricultural use where potential conflicts could occur. If trails are located in active agricultural areas, appropriate fences or buffers should be in place to prevent conflicts between trail users and agricultural operations, including cattle grazing.

2. Biologically Sensitive Areas

Development of trails in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive area shall not occur prior to preparation of a Biotic Resource Analysis of the property. This analysis shall determine the presence and location of threatened and endangered plant and animal species, and other information relevant to the preservation of significant biotic resources. Measures must be implemented to avoid disturbance of threatened and endangered plant and animal species.

Development of trails in riparian areas shall provide for appropriate setbacks from the stream channel, and the implementation of erosion control measures to avoid sedimentation of the stream. Erosion control measures shall be consistent with the City's grading and storm water ordinances and the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. The City shall ensure that a Streambed Alteration Agreement (pursuant to Sections 1601-1603 of the California Fish and Game Code) is in place prior to trail construction involving creek or stream crossings. If applicable, the City will also ensure compliance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits 14 and 42.

3. Archaeologically Sensitive Areas

A records search shall be conducted prior to trails construction within mapped archaeologically sensitive areas. If that records search recommends a survey of the site, a qualified professional archaeologist shall perform an archaeological field survey. In the absence of this map, trails construction within 200 feet of a stream shall require a records search and, if necessary, a field survey.

If archaeological resources are discovered during trails construction, the City shall implement procedures described in section 15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines and section 5.13 of the City's Local CEQA Guidelines. Specifically:

In the event of an accidental discovery of a possible unique archaeological resource during construction of the project, the City may provide for the evaluation of the find by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be a unique archaeological resource, the City should take appropriate steps to implement appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures. Work on non-affected portions of the project, as determined by the City, may continue during the process. Curation may be an appropriate mitigation measure for an artifact that must be removed during project excavation or testing.

In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, the following steps should be taken:

(1) There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until:

(A) The coroner of the county in which the remains are discovered must be contacted to determine that no investigation of the cause of death is required, and

(B) If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American:

1. The coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours.

2. The Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descended from the deceased Native American.

3. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code section 5097.98, or

(2) Where the following conditions occur, the landowner or his authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance.

(A) The Native American Heritage Commission is unable to identify a most likely descendent or the most likely descendent failed to make a recommendation within 24 hours after being notified by the commission.

(B) The descendant identified fails to make a recommendation; or

(C) The landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendant, and the mediation by the Native American Heritage Commission fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner.

4. Unstable Soils Areas

Prior to construction of trails in areas identified on General Plan Map VI-1 as “Liquefaction potential possibly present” or on Map VI-2 as “Area of known slides and ground highly susceptible to sliding” a site-specific geotechnical report shall be prepared, and construction shall be supervised and certified by a geotechnical engineer, and where necessary, by an engineering geologist.

Development of trails in areas of unstable soils shall require implementation of erosion control measures. Erosion control measures shall be consistent with the City’s grading and storm water ordinances and the City’s Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

5. High Traffic Areas

Trails shall provide a safe environment for trail users by minimizing vehicular crossings, maximizing the separation between trails and adjacent roadways, and maximizing visibility and warning signage where interfaces between vehicles and the trails occur. Brochures for trails where such interface may occur shall include warnings of vehicle use and safety tips to avoid conflict.

To the extent feasible, trail heads will not be located in areas with known parking shortages, and will be located near public transportation transit points.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

In this section, the implementation of the Trails Master Plan will be addressed. Included in the analysis are the various methods of acquiring trail segments, installation responsibility, timing, and implementation costs. Current information on the trails described in this Plan are contained in the Lafayette Trails Implementation Plan, which describes the proposed trail segments in greater detail; including type, length, detailed segment descriptions, and development status.

METHODS OF ACQUIRING TRAILS

There are several avenues that the City can use to acquire trail easements: dedications, donations, and cooperative agreements are preferred. The City may also acquire trails through land purchase.

A. EASEMENT DEDICATIONS AND DONATIONS:

- Dedications

- Acquisitions from Developers

- Whenever a development proposal for any division of land, such as a tentative map or tentative parcel map, is proposed for a parcel that includes a proposed or existing trail as identified on the Trails Master Plan, the City shall require the dedication of the trail easement as a condition of approval of the land division if a nexus can be found between the proposed project and the Trails Master Plan. The Parks, Trails & Recreation Director may also request improvement of the trail easement to conform to adopted City standards. Although the Master Plan identifies proposed trail locations, the specific location of a trail will be fine-tuned on individual parcels to accommodate specific development proposals. However, the trail exit and entry points should be located consistent with the adopted Master Plan to ensure continuity of the trail system.

- Donations

- 1. Establishing a Non-profit Advocacy Organization

- A coalition of trail advocates could organize a non-profit group (eg: "Friends of Lafayette Trails") that would support the realization of the Lafayette Trails Master Plan and solicit donations for its development and management. For the sake of fund-raising legitimacy, the organization would need to have a 501-C3 tax status. Land conservation groups play an important constituency-building and watchdogging role as well. Such a group could play a vital and ongoing role in assisting the City in raising funds both privately and from grants.

- 2. Service Organizations

- Service, community and fraternal organizations can offer volunteer workers for trail construction and maintenance, as well as solicit free or wholesale materials and construction equipment for trail repair and construction (wood, decomposed granite, etc.) The Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission should work with groups of this type to join forces to implement the trail system. In addition, the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission could create and underwrite "trail adoption" programs that enable service and hiking clubs to maintain particular sections of the trail.

3. Gifts Catalog

A "wish list" could be prepared and distributed to service groups and the public, which would be valuable in securing donations. A description of trail components such as "a half mile of trail along Burton Ridge" and "an interpretive sign for birds found in the Lafayette Community Park", along with their associated costs, could be included.

4. Commemorative Donations

Donations in memory of an individual may be made either of land, easement, or funding for trail acquisition. Commemorative plaques may be posted in accordance with the Lafayette Commemorative Program adopted January 24, 2005.

B. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS:

The Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission should work to encourage joint agreements with public and private agencies to establish permanent trail segments where appropriate. In Lafayette, these would include the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD), EBMUD and PG&E. The City, in conjunction with the County, could also enact an ordinance in accordance with Government Code Section 51200 et. seq., the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 or the Williamson Act, which would permit the City to acquire trail easements from landowners in return for lower tax assessments on that portion of the property.

C. LAND PURCHASE:

Although purchase of trail segments is the least preferred alternative due to cost, it may prove necessary on private parcels where development has already occurred and/or where there is little prospect of re-development that would allow the City to attempt to acquire an easement and to facilitate the implementation of the trail.

Supplemental funding through State, Local and Federal sources could include bonds, initiatives, and fund raising special events. Federal, State, Regional Park, and County grants and private donations are also potential sources for trail implementation funding.

D. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The City's authority to regulate land use is expressed in both statutory grants of specific authority and the more general delegation of authority under the police power to act to promote the public's health, safety, and welfare. Statutory sources of authority to impose exactions include state laws governing general plans, zoning, subdivision and building codes. Since virtually all land use approvals must be consistent with the General Plan, conditions can be imposed to achieve the General Plan's goals.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

MAINTENANCE

MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

To maintain City-owned trails in a safe, usable and attractive manner, consistent with the protection of natural resources.

MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY

The maintenance of the trails, consistent with the trail standards, shall be the responsibility of the City of Lafayette Parks, Trails & Recreation Department. Trail maintenance work may be performed by the Lafayette Trail Maintenance Volunteers, under the direction of the Trail Maintenance Volunteer Coordinator, where practical, and shall include: spraying and pruning of vegetation on or near trails, minor erosion removal and control, clearing trails of debris, and litter removal.

When the Trail Maintenance Volunteer Coordinator identifies trail maintenance issues and/or safety and liability concerns where the work is best performed by the Parks, Trails & Recreation Department, a Trail Maintenance Request report will be issued by the Coordinator. This Report provides an important communication link which enables the issue to be addressed in a timely manner.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES

Trail Maintenance Volunteer Coordinator:

The Trail Maintenance Volunteer Coordinator shall be responsible for identifying trail maintenance issues and recruiting volunteers. The Coordinator shall inspect trails periodically throughout the year; and shall provide an annual trail condition survey report each Spring to the Parks, Trails & Recreation Department. The Coordinator and Parks, Trails & Recreation Department staff will meet periodically to coordinate maintenance issues.

The Annual Survey Report will identify trail conditions & maintenance issues, recommend work responsibility and report work progress.

Encroachments:

Any parties that have encroached on the designated trail should be immediately notified that removal of these obstructions is required. The encroachments pose a safety and liability risk to the City and to the encroacher, therefore their immediate correction is necessary. See "Trail Easement Restrictions" on page 20.

Motorized Vehicles Control:

Except for authorized maintenance and emergency vehicle access needs, the trail system is for non-motorized use only. Trail entry points will be designed to discourage motorized vehicle use. Trail signage, barriers, fences, and active trail management will help restrict use by motorized vehicles.

Trail Closures:

Some trail sections may need to be temporarily closed due to hazardous conditions. As soon as practical in the spring, the Trail Maintenance Volunteer Coordinator shall inspect all trails to determine the condition of trails for safety and maintenance issues. If a trail is to be closed for any reason notification should be placed on the trail.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

TRAILS USAGE

TRAILS USAGE

Daylight Hour Trail Use:

Trails are open for use from dawn to dusk.

Trail Brochures:

Trail brochures are available at the Lafayette Community Center and will be available on the Lafayette website. Each brochure should include a trail map and description. Points of interest such as historical structures, unique vegetation, wildlife habitats and view opportunities could also be noted. The brochure should contain a map of completed and proposed sections of the trail and also should include:

1. Standard trail etiquette and rules
2. Emergency contact phone numbers (Police, Fire, & Sheriff)
3. Information on how the public can help to implement the remainder of the trail system (ex: donations, public involvement, volunteer groups)
4. Contact information for requesting trail maintenance

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL

ENVIRONMENTAL

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Lafayette has completed an Environmental Checklist / Initial Study (IS) for the purpose of determining whether the Lafayette Trails Master Plan might have a significant effect on the environment. It was determined from the IS that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. As a result, an Addendum to the General Plan Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") will be filed.

As specific segments of the Trails Master Plan are located, acquired and developed, all information relating to any specific impacts not anticipated in the EIR will be analyzed. If warranted by that analysis, supplemental CEQA documentation will be prepared and subject to public review at the time of acquisition or development. CEQA documentation regarding the Lafayette Trails Master Plan will be on file with the City of Lafayette Park, Trails & Recreation Department.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE CALIFORNIA



Trails Master Plan

APPENDICES

Appendix A : Trails Master Map

See Attached Map

Appendix B : Sample Trail Inspection Report

TRAIL	CONDITION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS
Moraga Rd to Reservoir.	1. Minor PO 2. Pruning & removal of broken branches from trail	Volunteer Coordinator Volunteer Coordinator	
Silver Springs	1. Minor PO 2. Pruning & removal of broken branches from trail 3. Cut weed from trail. Do ASAP. (At beginning of Loop, go Left & across bridge to open section.) 4. Bridge & creek bed OKAY 5. Cut artichokes from trail - 4' wide. Do ASAP. (At beginning of Loop, go Right. Clear from beginning of open space, up hill & down to bridge.)	Volunteer Coordinator Volunteer Coordinator Public Works Public Works	Complete
Jakovina	1. Minor PO & pruning 2. Grasses are high at the trail head & on trail thru open space at LOWER Sessions Rd. Spraying or cutting required for 100 yards 3. The TOP of the LOWER section, just before it crosses upper Sessions, is also overgrown. Spraying or cutting required. 4. Outflow pipe from the neighbor's yard is overflowing the trail, cutting a groove into the hillside. Investigate further as to remedy.	Volunteer Coordinator Public Works Public Works Volunteer Coordinator	
Walter Costa	1. Minor PO & pruning. 2. Signs required at North & south end of short connector trail at end of Quail Ridge. Research & owner contact required. 3. Sign required at Timothy Lane. Research & owner contact required. 4. Check condition of bridge at EBMUD. Need sealant? 5. Heavy drainage across dirt portion of trail. Investigate wooden bars angled across trail to direct water.	Volunteer Coordinator Trails Subcommittee Trails Subcommittee. Volunteer Coordinator Volunteer Coordinator	
Springhill	1. Remove erosion from RR ties, just above road. 2. Pruning & removal of broken branches from trail	Public Works Volunteer Coordinator	Complete
Rohrer Dr.			

TRAIL	CONDITION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS
	1. Spray Front side - thistle coming up on trail	Volunteer Coordinator	
	2. Back side- Okay	-----	
	3. Pruning & removal of broken branches from trail	Volunteer Coordinator	Complete
	4. Wire fence erected 3-6 feet into easement. Write letter to prop. owner- Must remove fence from easement. Trampoline frame has been removed from easement.	Trails Subcommittee.	
	5. Owner of Hansen Stables says trail is used by a few experienced horse riders.	-----	