



Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION PROJECT

Community Meeting #2

Bernal Heights Library Meeting Room
February 22, 2012 from 6:00 - 7:30pm

Summary of Community Comments:

1. Is there a plan to add lighting?
 - a. *There are no plans to add lighting*
2. Pedestrian safety at existing crosswalk at Folsom needs to be addressed
 - a. *Involves other City agencies, RPD will bring up to MTA*
3. Is it possible to add solar trail lights?
 - a. *Not in budget*
4. Trail building material (surfacing, edging) will be from the site when possible
5. Wondering whether conceptual trail layout can be staked in the field for community review
6. The trails have been established by the users and the concept plan should keep the main routes
7. The existing trail on the northwest side is very popular but also has several safety hazards. Both children and dogs have fallen down the hillside in this area
 - a. *Placing the trail next to the cliff edge is not sustainable. There has been lots of erosion and trail loss. A more sustainable location would be upslope away from the hazards.*
8. How much removal of existing trails will take place?
 - a. *Trying to strike a balance between removal of redundant trails, encouraging use of trail alignments that get people where they want to go, protects resources and reduce erosion*
9. Wind is an issue on the northwest side, the southeast side provides seasonal interest because of wildflowers
10. How do you get people to stop using existing trails and start using new sections?
 - a. *Build trails that get people where they want to go and provide a safer and more enjoyable trail experience*
11. People like to loop around the hill (rather than mainly going up and over)
12. Like the trail around the old house foundation.
13. Motorcycles used to be a problem and are responsible for the establishment of many of the existing trails
14. Is it possible to shift the entry at the east end of the site slightly north?
 - a. *May be possible, section is steep*

#

#

#

15. Find a connection to the north (towards Stoneman and Coso). People come up from Folsom, try to create route uphill perhaps by using rock outcrops.
 - a. *The northern slope is very steep and large, placing a trail in this location may be cost prohibitive, cause substantial damage and may not be sustainable given the erosive nature of the slope*
16. People go down the gullies not up. Dogs on hills responsible for some damage.
17. Areas to the south and northeast are susceptible to mudslides
18. Will pesticides be used? If so will they be posted?
 - a. *Pesticide use in SF is strictly regulated under Dept of Environment guidelines. Any pesticide use (if necessary) will follow the guidelines and use least toxic alternatives*
19. Trails on the south and east were established by people going down the hill. Do they need to be or will they be blocked? People try to short-cut
20. The east entry road crossing is blind in two directions
21. Is it possible to cut back the hillside at the east side to provide better sightlines?
 - a. *Would be very costly, budget does not allow*
22. Need to get input from DPT on road crossing for safest route
23. Is it possible to have a site walk with the community?
24. Trails on the south side line up with stairways on the opposite side of the road. Will those connections remain?
 - a. *Provide directional signs to point people to trail*
25. Add speed bumps or enforce speed limit on northern road
26. What will the trail width and material be?
 - a. *Trail will vary between 3-4 feet wide, trail surface will be native chert where possible*
27. The roadway and shoulder on the north are DPW property. The rocks were placed to deter trash dumping and parking.
28. Will the guardrail at the top be removed?
 - a. *There are lots of trail connections in this area, may need to provide an opening*
29. Keep planting native, there are enough gardens below
30. Add benches to spine area by guardrail, maybe made by local maker, possibly funded by donations; make bench material dog/urine resistant if possible
31. The proposed trail plan looks OK, understand that there are other constraints related to the area that are not under RPD's control
32. Design for users including dogs, provide signage that encourages good activities
33. Balancing user needs within the trail environment
34. Provide trail signs that educate and relate to resource protection
35. Park staff from another agency reported that they found that dogs do their business within the first 50-100 feet of entering site and that providing trash cans in those locations helps promote the proper disposal of dog waste
36. Commercial dog walkers
37. Trash cans for dog waste and leave meandering trail are top priorities
38. Sustainable trails for the long-term and trail safety are important
39. RPD trash cans need to be redesigned so that they are easier to use