Park to Playa Trail
California Trails and Greenways Conference Presentation
April 9, 2014
Park to Playa Trail

Presenters

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• Greg Maher, Senior Designer/Project Manager, Alta Planning + Design
• James Powell, Designer, Alta Planning + Design

Project Partners

• Mountain Recreation & Conservation Authority
• Baldwin Hills Conservancy
• Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
• County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
• County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
• State of California Department of Parks and Recreation
• City of Los Angeles
• City of Culver City
Presentation Agenda

• Introductions
• Project Overview
• Background and Setting
• Steps to Feasibility Study
• Feasibility Study Implementation
• Developing Identity for the Park to Playa Trail
• Lessons Learned
• Q and A
Park to Playa Trail Study Corridor

Map of the Park to Playa Trail Study Corridor showing various parks, trails, and ownership/management details.
Park to Play Trail: Project Goals

- Seamless, high-quality trail experience
- Connectivity and efficiency for trail users
- Compatibility with existing park uses and facilities
- Promote and create safety
- Resolve conflicts between trail users
- Environmental sustainability
Ecology

Part of a system of grasslands, floodplains, woodlands and swamps.

By 1950 most was consumed by agriculture and urban development.
Baldwin Hills Conservancy Boundaries
Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan
La Cienega Gateway
Baldwin Hills Area Ownership
Oil Extraction Sites

The trail passes through part of a working oil field.
Project History

- Feasibility Study competed in 2011
- Public Involvement during feasibility study
  - Public Workshops
  - Conducted On-Site Interviews
  - Web Based Survey
Agency Partner Meetings

• MRCA
• Los Angeles County Supervisor’s Office
• City of Culver City
• City of Los Angeles
• Baldwin Hills Conservancy
• Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
• State of California Department of Parks and Recreation
Community Engagement

- Public Workshops
- On Site Interviews
- Web Based Survey
Web Survey Results

- 170 Responses
- Most Popular Trails at BHSO & KHSRA

**Which Local Trails do You Use?**

- Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook
- Kenneth Hahn State Rec Area - La Brea Loop
- Ballona Creek Bike Path
- Beach Bike Path
- Kenneth Hahn State Rec Area - Japanese Waterfall Trail
- Culver City Park
- Ballona Wetlands
- Norman O. Houston Park
- Ruben Ingold Park
- Stocker Corridor

[Bar chart showing popularity of trails]
Community Identified Needs

Connections:

- For Bikes
- To Transit
- To Local Destinations
Community Identified Needs

Amenities

Benches

Bike Parking

Fencing

Shade Structures
Community Identified Needs

Native Landscape Plants

- Achillea millefolium (Narrow)
- Carpressia californica (Bush onion)
- Muhlenbergia rigens (Zien grass)
- Cosmochius Ray Hartman (Butterburr)
- Epilobium canum (Eclipse)
- Rosa californica (Wild rose)
- Salvia splendens (Pitcher sage)
- Baccharis pilularis (Pigeon point)
- Lotus scoparius (Desmoed)

Landscaping, Habitat Restoration
Agency Needs: Design Criteria

Consistent with current accessibility policies and practices
Project Implementation

Trail Improvement Priority and Phasing
- Very High Priority - Short-term
- High Priority - Short-term
- Medium Priority - Long-term

Segment C
Green Valley Connection
Stocker Corridor
Trail Alignment - Segment C

[Map showing Blair Hills Corridor, Blair Hills Park, and surrounding areas]
Segment C
Segment C Topography
Pedestrian Bridge Option
Trail Alignment- Green Valley Connection
Green Valley Connection

Slopes of 13% - 14% over most of the 1550 foot run
Trail Alignment- Green Valley Connection

- Invasive Eucalyptus Trees
- Concrete V-ditch
- 4’ Sidewalk
- Selective eucalyptus tree removal and habitat restoration
- 8’ Sidewalk
- Vegetated swale with rock check dams
Stocker Corridor
Trail Access - Stocker Corridor

Stocker Street

Overhill Drive

Windsor Hills Elementary School

Ruben Ingold Park
Trail Alignment
Giving Identity to Park to Playa

Map of entire area: Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Culver City Park, Ballona Creek Bike Path, Kenneth Hahn State Rec Area, Stocker Corridor, View Park, Windsor Hill, Ruben Ingold Park, Norman O. Houston Park, Parcel Ownership/Management, Bicycle Facilities.
Giving Identity to the Trail
Project Segments

Map showing segments

Proposed Trails & Connections:
- Preferred Alignment
- Existing Trail
- Improve Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Planned Trail
- Proposed Trail Connection
- Proposed Bike/Ped Bridge
- Trailhead
- Trail Gateway
- Trail Access
- Improve Crosswalk
Final “Backbone” Trail
Branding and Identity
Establishing Identity

User Map

Trail Medallion on Park Sign

6” Porcelain Enamel trail medallion

8” Aluminium trail medallion
Gateway Signage

Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area
County of Los Angeles
PARK to PLAYA TRAIL

Stocker Corridor
California State Parks
PARK to PLAYA TRAIL
Trail Identity and Wayfinding Elements

**ON TRAIL ELEMENTS**

- Map Kiosk
- Direction Sign
- Confirmation Sign
- Pavement Markings
Wayfinding Elements: Map Kiosks
Wayfinding Elements: Direction Signs
Wayfinding Elements: Confirmation Posts

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- **A**: Arrow Up
- **B**: Arrow Right
- **C**: Arrow Left
- **D**: Restroom
- **E**: Drinking Fountain
- **F**: Picnic Area
- **G**: Parking Lot
- **H**: Bus Stop
- **I**: View Point
- **J**: Steps
- **K**: Steep Slope
- **L**: Accessible Trail
- **M**: Mile Marker
- **N**: Quarter Mile Marker
- **O**: Double Arrow
Wayfinding Elements

• Pavement Markings
Placement Strategy
Placement Strategy

- Improve wayfinding of adjacent parks as well
- Plan/photo of Japanese garden parking
Placement Strategy

• Make sure users know when they arrive at or leave the p2p trail.
• Show plan where direction sign is on p2p and confirmation post is on side trail.
• Or show photo of someone happy on a trail.
Summary – Lessons Learned

• Political champion
• Meaningful partnerships
• Individual commitment
• Meaningful public engagement
• Close work between consultants and agencies
• Carefully resolved and applied design standards
• Continuity through identity and wayfinding
Thank You!

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