

MISSION

The committee finalized its mission in January of 2004:

- Describe a system of trails for pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles on public lands and privately granted easements;
- Increase trail connectivity between Ashland's neighborhoods and its varied environments, including downtown, commercial, educational, and surrounding rural areas;
- Enhance Ashland's quality of life through improved recreation, health, and transportation opportunities;
- Establish appropriate trail standards based on approved uses, site opportunities, and constraints

In addition, the committee outlined a twelve-month work plan and created four subcommittees that would do the work necessary to fulfill its mission. The four sub-committees were: Vision, Mapping, Document Development, and Public Process.

VISION

The Ashland trails vision was developed by the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission and reflects the tenor of Ashland citizenry, Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners, and city personnel:

Vision — A diverse network of trails that connects downtown, schools, neighborhoods, and surrounding areas.

Building on public input from community workshops and neighborhood forums, the Vision Subcommittee identified supporting goals and objectives. The resulting goals are:

- Transportation
- Trail Access and Connectivity
- Mitigating Concerns
- Planning for Trails
- Trail Management
- Partners and Collaborators

See Chapter 2 — Vision for the associated objectives of each goal, and Chapter 14 for implementation recommendations.

These goals parallel those of the State of Oregon as delineated in the 2005-2014 Oregon Statewide Non-motorized Trails Plan.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A. Transportation.

Goal A: Trails are an inherent part of Ashland's transportation system.

Objective A1: Provide pedestrian and bicycle commuter routes throughout Ashland.

Objective A2: Provide a diversity of trail types. Objective

A3: Provide safe routes to schools.

Objective A4: Provide linkages to municipal transit systems.

B. Trail Access & Connectivity.

Goal B: A continuous network of trails that is easily identifiable and readily accessible.

Objective B1: Provide trails that are readily accessible from all neighborhoods.

Objective B2: Provide parking at major trailheads.

Objective B3: Provide cross-town connectivity and links to trail systems in the surrounding public lands and communities.

Objective B4: Provide connections to important community centers and environmental features.

Objective B5: Provide trail access information at major bus stops.

C. Natural Environment and Citizens' Rights.

Goal C: Stewardship of the natural environment, and rights and concerns of citizens are addressed.

Objective C1: Consider aquatic, plant, and wildlife habitat and needs when designing trail locations.

Objective C2: Address the concerns of residents and property owners on or near trail corridors in planning, construction, and trail management.

Objective C3: Create and promote a "trail etiquette" protocol.

D. Planning for Trails.

Goal D: Trail planning is thoroughly integrated with city planning and vice versa.

Objective D1: Determine mechanisms for funding land acquisition for trails and trail maintenance.

Objective D2: Create planning guidelines for new trails in subdivisions and rezoned properties, including the creation of a system for flagging parcels of interest for trails.

Objective D3: Create privacy guidelines for trails.

Objective D4: Publish details of legal implications of trail right-of-way across private property, and legal implications of trespass on private land.

E. Trail Management.

Goal E: Trail management and maintenance is an integral part of city activities.

Objective E1: Provide resources for trail maintenance and management.

Objective E2: Continue development of trail maintenance safety and quality guidelines, including dog stations and receptacles (where appropriate).

Objective E3: Adopt trail management guidelines.

Objective E4: Create a "Trails Ambassadors" program of citizen volunteers to ensure implementation of guidelines.

Objective E5: Ensure that trails are well marked throughout the city.

F. Partners and Collaborators.

Goal F: The City of Ashland encourages and promotes collaborative partnerships regarding trails planning, implementation, management, and maintenance.

Objective F1: Develop trail partnerships with Federal, State,
and local jurisdictions, businesses, public
and private schools, and citizen