

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: American River Parkway Advisory Commission Meeting

SUBJECT: Sutters Landing ADA Trail

DATE: January 3, 2025

TIME: 9:30 am – 11:00 am

LOCATION: Sacramento County Regional Parks
10361 Rockingham Dr, Ste 100
Sacramento, CA 95827

TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. Action Items

The Board approved the December 6th, 2024 Regular Meeting Action Summary with eight members in attendance.

2. Presentation of the Sutter's Landing ADA River Access Trail Project

Pamela gave a presentation on the Sutter's Landing ADA River Access Trail Project. She noted that at this time an alternative has not been selected for project improvements. The project's public engagement group will be reaching out to various ADA groups before selecting an alternative so that the team can make an informed decision.

Questions from Board members:

Dianna Poggetto stated that she has a son who uses a wheelchair. She is shocked that the team hasn't reached out to the ADA groups for input sooner to gather input regarding design features, especially for other sensory needs including sight and hearing impaired. The path should incorporate detectable warning surfaces/ truncated domes. She suggested to reach out to the Easter Seals Sacramento and the Access Leisure group.

Mark Berry also commented that he uses the area a lot, and the whole area needs a lot of work. Mark wanted to know if the team knew the number of cyclists that use the trail daily. His concern is that area users will be funneled into one spot. Pamela stated that the project is geared towards pedestrians for river access, and not bicyclists. Mark also asked if the team knew the number of kayakers that use the area. Pamela answered that the City has not done a count for these numbers. Mark questioned the motivation for this project. Board member Liz Bellas added that the American River Parkway Plan has identified this location as needing access to the river and it was included in the American River Parkway Plan goals, so that is why the project is where it is.

Cara Allen with the Wildlife Conservation Board added that the purpose of the project is to support the concession stand so that the people renting kayaks and paddle boards have access to the water.

Sue Fossum asked if cyclists would be allowed on the ramp and suggested that adequate signage will need to be incorporated for safety concerns. Liz noted that when users cross over the levee, the ramp is no longer a trail for bikes and is subject to County ordinances which currently do not allow bikes.

Dianna Poggetto also asked what the width of the ramp would be. Pamela and Lana both stated that the ramp consists of 8 feet of pavement, with 2 foot shoulders on each side. Dianna stated that more pavement would be

TOPICS DISCUSSED

preferred for ADA purposes (wheelchairs) and less decomposed granite as DG gets messy during the rainy seasons.

Kelly Hopkins commented that she prefers Alternative 1 as it is already at a location used by kayakers and paddle boarders. She also wanted to make sure the design team looked at turning movements for a standard kayak that is about 14 feet long. She also would like for the design team to let the committee know about future public meetings, as they are interested in attending.

Peggy Kennedy stated that she likes Alternative 3. She asked how ramp users and cyclists will be kept separate. Liz showed Peggy on the exhibit how they are kept separate.

Chris Little added that there is a lot of concern about bikes getting to the area. She is a walker, and electric bikes are fast. Bikes should be discouraged from using the ramp. Liz stated that the County ordinance is in place for bikes to stay on trails only, and she hopes users will be walking their bike on the ramp.

Comments from the public:

Dan Meier stated that he is a volunteer for the Friends of Sutter's Landing (FOSL) and he likes the consulting team. He stated that in the recent letter he received, it appears there are no funds for restoration. The City only proposed invasive species removal which is unacceptable. The City's grant application specifically said that a restoration project would be a component of the ADA access project and invasive species removal does not qualify as restoration. The City is currently doing mitigation for the Two River's Trail Phase II project in the vicinity, and he thinks it is also very minimal. Dan would like to see more restoration including plantings as part of this project. A Feasibility Study should also be prepared with alternatives showing 30% design and cost estimates. Pamela noted that the City has not scoped a formal Feasibility Study, but feasibility tasks are being performed as part of the project's preliminary engineering. A cost estimate has also been prepared and provided to the City for grant funding purposes. Dan added that is hard to provide comments and choose an alternative without seeing the entire package of plans and estimates. The presentation made at the Lower American River Conservancy promised restoration and social trail remediation, and he is not seeing that as part of this project.

Cara added that the intent of the project is to provide ADA compliance, along with the restoration component, which is not just removal of the invasive species but a restoration of the understory. Cara will reach out to Tin-Wah to discuss restoration. As for the Lower American River Conservancy, the City agreed to include a restoration plan, not just invasive species removal, as part of this project.

Tom Meyer also made a comment that rip rap should be incorporated at the stair's approach areas. He noted that Glenn Hall access has sediment at the edges and the decomposed granite is already eroding. The sediment was not engineered at that location, and more will need to be done here so it does not look like Glenn Hall. He noted that Alternative 1 would take out the two existing social trails on the levee face. He also stated that there needs to be a maintenance agreement between agencies, as right now the trail is not maintained. There is no direction for walkers and bikers. His observation of the proposed alignments: "this looks like a boat launch trail with window dressing for ADA". During the summer months, the beach is packed with people, dogs off leash, loud music. He asked why ADA groups would choose to come to this location since fishing/bird watching is not possible here. Liz added that meeting with both advisory committees for City and County ADA groups will provide the needed feedback. He also stated that better signage needs to be included with the project.

NOTE: These minutes are preparer's understanding of items discussed at the meeting. If discrepancies are noted, please contact the preparer within three days of receipt.

PREPARED BY: Pamela Dalcin-Walling, Project Manager (916) 858-0642

DATE: January 15, 2025