

**Santa Rosa Citywide Creek Master Plan
Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting # 3**

Friday, November 4, 2005
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Santa Rosa Public Works Department
69 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
MSC-South, Conference Room 5

Agenda

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| 10:00 - 10:15 | Welcome and introductions |
| 10:15 - 10:25 | Status report, review revised workplan |
| 10:25 -- 10: 35 | Update on biological resources field work |
| 10: 35 - 11:25 | Review posted draft maps and field notes resulting from recreation, access, and transportation field work |
| 11:25 - 11:30 | Review next steps for TAC and time line |

Meeting Notes

The meeting was convened at approximately 10:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves. Attendees included:

Alistair Bleifuss, Creek Stewardship Program
Carol Vellutini, Sierra Club
Gordon Burns, Santa Rosa Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Martin Clinton, Santa Rosa Cycling Club
Becky Frank, Caltrans Office of Transit and Community Planning
Joe Honton, Laguna Foundation
Christine Culver, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition
Kenneth Tam, Sonoma County Regional Parks
Sierra Cantor, Sotoyome Resource Conservation District
Colleen Ferguson, Santa Rosa Public Works
Bruce Ho, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Bill Cox, California Department of Fish and Game
Michelle Jensen, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Peg Henderson, National Park Service Rivers and Trails Program
Derek Acomb, California Department of Fish and Game
Sheri Emerson, Santa Rosa Public Works Department

Sheri Emerson provided a status report and briefly reviewed the revised workplan. Main items mentioned included:

- The Citywide Creek Master Plan webpage has been updated: <http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/default.asp?Pagelid=1216>
- The Cultural Resources report is in progress.
- California Department of Fish and Game has completed detailed habitat surveys of Piner and Paulin Creeks. Results will be available as soon as possible.
- Sheri Emerson is preparing a Request for Proposals for the Recreation, Access, and Transportation component of the Plan. The RFP will be released once Community Based Transportation Planning grant funds from Caltrans are available, expected sometime in November.

Sheri Emerson provided a brief report on the Biological Resources field surveys:

- Initial field surveys for biological resources are complete. The project team will more closely evaluate fish passage issues throughout the project area.
- Habitat quality was evaluated using a modified scoring system based on the California Department of Fish and Game Aquatic Bioassessment Laboratory physical habitat quality evaluation, part of the California Stream Bioassessment Procedure. Citywide, habitat quality was rated as 8-12 on a 20 point scale. This range is generally considered 'marginal' to 'suboptimal'.
- Canopy readings within each reach ranged from very low in grass-lined flood control channels to very high in more natural reaches with healthy and mature creekside vegetation.
- Invasive species were observed in nearly all creek reaches within the project area.
- Steelhead were found in Ducker, Piner, and Paulin creeks during 'spot' sampling of selected locations. The Sonoma County Water Agency will complete a more comprehensive survey next year.

Peg Henderson described the project team's methods in surveying existing conditions related to Recreation, Access, and Transportation. Field survey notes were transferred to maps of each of the six watersheds. This information will be used by a consultant firm for an opportunities and constraints analysis, and in the development of recreation-related recommendations and an implementation strategy.

Draft maps and field notes were posted around the room. Meeting participants spent about 45 minutes discussing and reviewing the maps. Participants were given pens and self-stick notes so that they could add comments to the maps. Comments are shown below for each watershed.

Brush Creek

- For ALL creeks—if there is to be a paved trail then keep the opposite side unpaved; or have only one side with access
- Need improved signage on Hwy. 12 directing riders to bike path (at Brush Creek)

- Surface connector from Yulupa to Brush Creek path needed
- Fix south bike pedestrian access on Brush Creek at Hwy 12
- Get rid of junk car and remove ugly rip-rap. Restore with better plants. (Austin Creek west of Middle Rincon Road)

Matanzas Creek

- Popular bike route along Creekside Street and Cypress Way—good connector (downstream of Bethards Drive)

Santa Rosa Creek

- Paved bike pedestrian Class I along creek parallel to (Santa Rosa) creek and Montgomery (between Middle Rincon and Calistoga Road)
- Channel is major bicycle connector from Santa Rosa to Oakmont (Santa Rosa Creek)
- Bridge from channel to north side of creek
- At confluence of Abramson Creek: pedestrian-bike bridge in 2006-07 or 2007-08 by Water Agency
- Abramson Creek: Dairy gate blocks through traffic; at about 2 inches above the confluence on the map; south of Guerneville Road (there is no scale shown on this map)
- At confluence of Peterson Creek: pedestrian-bike bridge in 2006-07 or 2007-08 by Water Agency
- Provide two or more open access points: Santa Rosa Creek to Place to Play (with arrow pointing south across SR Creek)
- At confluence of Brush and Santa Rosa Creeks: bike path connection, improved access on south side of Brush Creek—need bollards
- Peterson Creek, Piner Creek near confluence with Coffey Creek and Paulin Creek near SMART: Public access bollards, remove gates

Paulin Creek

- Franklin Park - Location of restrooms?
- King at Carr Street – Open space enhancement?
- Steele Lane Park – Existing paved trail through Steele Lane Park to Major Drive
- County complex – existing public restrooms
- County Center Drive to Mendocino Avenue – existing paved trail
- Range Avenue to McBride – Existing unpaved trail
- Steele Creek – SMART station with bike access from SRJC to SMART bike/pedway
- Railroad at Piner Creek – No existing paved trail RR to Coffey Lane
- Apache Street to Railroad is not currently open to public
- Northwest Community Park – existing restroom
- Paulin and Piner Creek, public access needed, put in bollards, remove gates
- Piner confluence to Marlow Road unpaved
- West Steele Lane to Apache Street is unpaved
- Coffey Lane to McBride is unpaved
- Show paved trail through Northwest Community Park and potential connection along left bank of creek in this area

- Unpaved trail existing from north side of creek from Piner confluence to Marlow Road
- Interpretive signage needed at confluence

Piner Creek

- Peterson Creek - Service road not open to public Guerneville road to Youth Park
- Bike pedestrian bridge needed at confluence Forestview and Peterson Creeks
- Piner Creek – Service road closed Marlow to Coffey Lane
- Bike/pedestrian bridge needed at Paulin Creek / Highway 101
- Bike/pedestrian bridge needed at Piner Creek/Highway 101
- Fountaingrove Park – potential access?
- Bike/pedestrian access from SMART path to SRJC

Roseland/Colgan Creeks

- Educational and interpretive signs in this area – future city park (Colgan Creek along Kawana Springs Road)
- Farmer's lane extension, need bikeways with access to creek (Taylor Mountain access)
- Develop corporate stewardship program with Best Buy/Costco and others to keep this area free of trash (Colgan Creek near Colgan Avenue)
- Hunter Creek trail is 8 foot wide paved from Santa Rosa Avenue to (existing) Hunter Lane (paved to Snyder Lane or Petaluma Hill Road?)
- Existing 8 foot paved path from Colgan Creek at Stony Point Road to Todd Road
- Future connection from Colgan Creek to Hearn is proposed through new Dutton Meadows development
- North/south trail at Railroad needs to cross Hearn -- Colgan Creek trail could connect to railroad trail instead of needing another crossing
- Corby overpass – this is a nasty existing on street connection for bikes and pedestrians – separate overpass would be better
- Roberts avenue to south of Santa Rosa creek is 8 foot wide paved (Joe Rodota connection)
- Connection class 1 along rail to connect Joe Rodota trail to Roseland Creek
- Open space enhancement on SCWA parcel on Roseland Creek at West Avenue
- Extend potential Roseland Creek trail to Taylor Mountain Regional Park
- Crossing needed at potential connection – Northpoint Parkway extension
- Existing access at Trombetta Street to Roseland Creek
- Access to Roseland Creek when development of the vacant parcel owned by church on Stony Point Road
- Existing access to Roseland Creek along Sunnywood Drive/neighborhood park
- Check area on Roseland Creek, end of Fresno Drive for existing access

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 am. Sheri Emerson indicated that the next TAC meeting will likely be held in January of 2006.