

Fact Sheet

Project Title: East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail, King County and Cities of Issaquah, Sammamish and Redmond, Washington

Location and Description of Proposed Alternatives: The King County Facilities Management Division proposes to develop an alternative transportation corridor and recreation trail along approximately 11 miles of former railroad corridor on the east side of Lake Sammamish. The trail would extend from Gilman Boulevard in the City of Issaquah north to the Bear Creek Trail in the City of Redmond. Portions of the railroad corridor have already been developed into an Interim Use Trail, which has been evaluated in previous environmental documents. Copies of the previous documents, along with project history, can be found on King County's website: www.kingcounty.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail. Construction of the Interim Use Trail was completed in April 2006. This ~~Draft~~ Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluated ~~s~~ alternatives for developing the existing Interim Use Trail into a ~~permanent~~ long-term, Master Plan Trail. Alternatives evaluated in the EIS include:

- **Corridor Alternative:** ~~A Master Plan Trail~~ The Corridor Alternative (the Preferred Alternative) would be located within the former railroad right of way. The majority of the trail would encompass the existing Interim Use Trail, with the trail leaving the Interim Use Trail only in those places where trail safety would be improved by doing so. The trail would accommodate pedestrians, wheeled uses, and equestrians (in the Redmond segment only) ~~use~~ on paved and adjacent or separated soft surfaces. This alternative includes vehicular parking and restrooms.
- **East Alternatives (A and B):** The East Alternatives would use the former railroad right of way in certain segments and transition to the roadway shoulder of East Lake Sammamish Parkway in several areas. The trail would transition to the roadway shoulder to avoid several driveway/public roadway intersections, approximately 1.7 miles of divided properties between SE 33rd and roughly the 1400 block of East Lake Sammamish Parkway SE, and sensitive areas. The transition to the roadway would be at a gradient that is acceptable under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). High-speed bicycle use would remain in the bike lanes on the roadway. These alternatives include vehicular parking and restrooms. For the East A Alternative, where the alignment for the multi-use (i.e., paved) trail leaves the Interim Use Trail, equestrians (in the Redmond segment only) and pedestrians ~~use~~ would continue on the existing Interim Use Trail. For the East B Alternative, these portions of the Interim Use Trail would be closed to all users. In these areas, pedestrians and equestrians would be routed away from the Interim Use Trail along with non-motorized vehicles.
- **Continuation of the Interim Use Trail Alternative:** The existing 10.6-mile Interim Use Trail would be continued beyond the currently authorized 2015 expiration date. The Interim Use Trail is a gravel trail, 8 to 12 feet wide. Equestrian use is not permitted on the existing Interim Use Trail but would be considered in the Redmond segment as part of this alternative. The existing Interim Use Trail would be extended north over Bear Creek. This alternative includes the addition of vehicular parking and restrooms.
- **No Action Alternative:** King County would continue to operate the existing Interim Use Trail through 2015, at which time the permitted operation of the trail would expire in the absence of additional environmental review. The trail would be decommissioned and closed to public use in 2015.

Proposed Implementation Date: Construction is anticipated to begin in ~~2009~~ 2010 and occur over several years. Construction sequencing and phasing will be based upon funding availability.

Proponent: Federal Highway Administration, Washington State Department of Transportation, and King County Division of Facilities Management

NEPA Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

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Permits and Approvals

NOAA Fisheries/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Federal Endangered Species Act Section 7 Compliance Consultation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Section 404 Permit

Washington State Department of Ecology

Section 401 Water Quality Certification

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Hydraulic Project Approval

Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Section 106 of the National Preservation Act

Cities of Issaquah, Sammamish, Redmond

Right of Way Permit

Shoreline Substantial Development Permit

Clearing and Grading Permit

Public Agency Utility Exception Permit

Building Permit

Administrative Design and Planning (City of Issaquah only)

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Issue Date of Draft EIS: October 20, 2006

Due Date for Comments: December 19, 2006

Date of Public Hearing: November 9, 2006

Date of Final EIS: April 2010

Subsequent Environmental Review: A biological assessment ~~will be~~was prepared and submitted to the appropriate regulatory agencies for review, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act. Letters of agency concurrence are provided in Volume III, Appendix I. Copies of the Biological Assessment can be obtained from King County Facilities Management Division. Consultation under

Section 106 of the Federal Historic Preservation Act ~~will be~~ was conducted for the project. Copies of correspondence and signed Programmatic Agreement are provided in Volume III, Appendix H.

Anticipated Date of Final Lead Agency Action: ~~Fall 2007~~ 2010

To Obtain a Copy of the ~~Draft~~ EIS: Copies of the Draft and Final EISs and Technical Appendices are available for review at the King County Facilities Management Division, King County Administration Building, Room 320, 500 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

Printed copies of the ~~Draft~~ Final EIS can be purchased from Olympic Reprographics for the cost of reproduction. Documents can be obtained by contacting Robert Stiteler at (206) 373-7043. Costs of the documents are listed below:

- Volume 1 (including a CD-ROM of Volume 2 Plan Sheets, Volume 3 Technical Appendices, and Discipline Reports) \$65
- Volume 2 Plan Sheets \$45
- Volume 3 Technical Appendices \$50

CD-ROMs of the ~~Draft~~ Final EIS and Technical Appendices are also available at the reproduction cost of \$1.50 per CD-ROM (Volumes 1, 2, 3, and Discipline Reports). Individuals can contact Cat Hicks, King County Department of Executive Services at (206) 296-1822.

In addition, you may download project documents, including the Final EIS, and get general project information at the project website: www.kingcounty.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail

Location of Background Information: Background information is located at King County Facilities Management Division, and at the following public libraries: Bellevue Regional Library, Issaquah Library, Sammamish Library, Redmond Library, and Seattle Public Library. Information is also available on the internet at www.kingcounty.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail