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**CITY OF ROHNERT PARK
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Monday, October 23, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: Rohnert Park City Council Chambers, Rohnert Park City Hall,
130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California**

COVID-19 NOTICE

The City of Rohnert Park Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) welcomes your attendance, interest and participation at its regular meetings, scheduled on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m., and its special meetings, which are scheduled as needed. **The use of a mask or facial covering when attending the BPAC meeting is strongly recommended, regardless of vaccination status.**

Public Comments during the Meeting: Members of the Public can provide public comment at the meeting. Comments are limited to three minutes per appearance with a maximum allowance of 30 minutes allotted per comment period. Members of the public may also provide advanced public comment by sending comments to the Management Analyst by email at acotter@rpcity.org. Comments are requested by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

American Disability Act Accommodations: Any member of the public who needs accommodations should email the ADA Coordinator at jcannon@rpcity.org or by calling 707- 588- 2221. The ADA Coordinator will use their best efforts to provide reasonable accommodations to provide as much accessibility as possible while also maintaining public safety in accordance with the City procedure for resolving reasonable accommodation requests. Reasonable accommodations information is on the City website at: https://www.rpcity.org/city_hall/departments/human_resources/a_d_a_and_accessibility_resources

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee agendas and minutes may be viewed on the City's website: www.rpcity.org.

MEETING ITEMS

1. Call To Order/Roll-Call

Gary Gutierrez (Chair) __ Jan Ogren (Vice Chair) __ Shirley Johnson __ Steve Keith__ Tim Hensel__

2. Introductions

3. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement

"The City of Rohnert Park acknowledges Indigenous Peoples as the traditional stewards of the land. Let it be acknowledged that the City of Rohnert Park is located within the traditional homelands of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, comprised of Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo peoples."

4. Public Comments (on items not on the Agenda)

5. Consideration of Approval of Minutes for 9/25/2023 Regular Meeting

6. Conversation with Public Safety Representative (Discussion)

7. Bike Path Audits (Discussion)

8. Project Updates (Information)

- Hinebaugh Creek Path Rehabilitation, Snyder Lane Crossing
- Active Transportation Plan Update

9. New Matters for Future Consideration and Review of Future Agenda Items List (Discussion)

10. Adjournment (Action)

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

I, Eydie Tacata, Sr. Public Works Analyst for the City of Rohnert Park, declare that the foregoing agenda for the October 23, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Rohnert Park Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee was posted and available for review on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at Rohnert Park City Hall, Community and Senior Centers, Public Safety Main Building. The agenda is also available on the City web site at www.rpcity.org.

Executed this 18th day of October, 2023, at Rohnert Park, California.
Eydie Tacata, Sr. Public Works Analyst



DRAFT

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Monday, September 25, 2023
Rohnert Park City Hall, City Council Chambers
130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California

Members Present: Gary Gutierrez (chair) X Jan Ogren (vice chair) X Tim Hensel X
Steve Keith X Shirley Johnson X

Non-Voting Participants: Eydie Tacata (Senior Public Works Analyst, City of Rohnert Park), Ashley Cotter (Management Analyst, City of Rohnert Park), Eris Weaver (Executive Director, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition)

1. Call to Order

Chair Gary Gutierrez called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. Introductions

Chair Gutierrez commenced self-introductions.

3. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement

Ms. Johnson read the Land Acknowledgement as shown on the BPAC Meeting Agenda.

4. Public Comments

Eris Weaver, Executive Director of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition (SCBC), relayed a few announcements:

- The Golden Spoke Awards Gala on Saturday, October 14th will honor Bike Advocate of the Year and achievements such as Project of the Year. The event is a fundraiser with a silent auction that can also be accessed online. Information is online at BikeSonoma.org/gala.
- Walk and Roll to School Day is taking place this upcoming week, so there will be lots of students on the paths.
- SCBC's first-ever Advocacy Summit is on October 21, 2023 at the Sonoma Clean Power Center in Santa Rosa. It is a mini-conference modeled after the Silicon Valley Bike Summit. Advocates, local government staff, elected officials and other speakers will be there to share information and encouragement. More information is available at bikesonoma.org.

5. Consideration of Approval of Minutes for 7/24/2023 meeting

BPAC Member Shirley Johnson moved to approve the meeting minutes; Chair Gutierrez seconded. Meeting minutes were approved without corrections: 4 ayes, 1 abstention (Hensel).

6. Countywide Active Transportation Plan and Rohnert Park Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update

Eydie Tacata, staff to the BPAC, provided a background to the current effort by the Sonoma County Transportation Authority to update the Countywide Active Transportation Plan ("CAT Plan"). She explained that the CAT Plan serves as an umbrella to participating jurisdictions' Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans; for this update, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Cloverdale,

Healdsburg, Sonoma, and the County of Sonoma are included. Ms. Weaver clarified that Cotati was also participating, though they started their plan update independently and are further along.

Ms. Tacata explained the relationship between the General Plan and the Active Transportation Plan as an implementing document. She said that Rohnert Park's General Plan update is almost done. However, the City needs to revisit the General Plan, in light of recent jurisdictional control changes in west Rohnert Park. The timing may work well with the Bike/Ped Master Plan update, which can further inform the General Plan before adoption. Chair Gutierrez said that the Press Democrat commended Rohnert Park for providing additional housing and high density. He asked how the General Plan considers bike and pedestrian facilities to support housing and density. Ms. Tacata responded that the circulation element of the General Plan addresses that.

Ms. Weaver said that she has been to several of the CAT Plan consultant's presentations already and offered some observations and advice. She said that some of the consulting staff live in Sonoma County and because of this, she suggested that the consultants be taken on bike rides to experience the network first-hand. She also highly advises more robust public engagement than she's seen in other recent local plan updates. Ms. Weaver also mentioned that the Bike Coalition was pushing for routes in between the various municipalities (such as between Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, etc) to be considered in the active transportation plans.

There was discussion about transit apps to provide users a way to link their trips such as on the SMART train, bus lines, etc. There was also discussion about the Hwy. 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing; its proposed Copeland Creek location; and design challenges for an undercrossing; and bridge design alternatives that minimized redwood tree removal.

Ms. Tacata gave a handout of draft slides for the October 12th joint BPAC/Planning Commission meeting. Ms. Tacata said the BPAC had already done some preliminary work that would inform Rohnert Park Bike/Ped Plan update, including reviewing the old project list and conducting bike path audits. Chair Gutierrez noted that 5 bike path audit segments were not completed, and he wants to discuss that. He added that during the audits he noticed paths not reflected on maps but were obviously used. Ms. Weaver said that these are called "desire lines".

Ms. Johnson commented that at last month's CBPAC meeting, she was able to make the Vision Statement more inclusive by adding language to acknowledge users who are unable to "walk" or "bike"; thus, the term "rolling" was added. She commented that it's always important to show up for your community.

Chair Gutierrez asked about the "Task 5- Funding" slide and how escalating project costs over time are accounted for in funding recommendations. He was concerned about Downtown Rohnert Park and the facilities to support it; if not built soon, the costs will rise prohibitively. Ms. Tacata responded that project costs in plans are generally a point-in-time. Ideally the plan is updated, project estimates would be recalculated. She also noted that cost escalation over time is routinely considered as capital improvements program budgets are developed.

Vice Chair Ogren mentioned they would not be able to attend the 10/12 special meeting, and asked about submitting public comments prior. Ms. Tacata responded that comments could be submit before the meeting; a recording of the meeting is also available online afterwards.

7. Questions for Public Safety Representative

Ms. Cotter called attention to the list of questions that the BPAC had worked on over the past several meetings to drive conversation with a representative from Public Safety. Chair Gutierrez

asked the BPAC if they agreed with the list of questions presented so staff could forward to Public Safety.

Vice Chair Ogren asked if under the “complaints” question, if it should be made specific to bicycles and pedestrians.

Mr. Keith mentioned that Chief Tim Mattos, Director of Public Safety would be giving a presentation at the 9/26/23 City Council meeting on scooter safety and enforcement. He was wondering if the Public Safety representative would also be able to speak to the scooter issue, as a follow-up to Chief Mattos’ presentation to the Council. Mr. Hensel asked if a printed version of scooter presentation was available.

Chair Gutierrez mentioned that his neighbor’s bike was stolen recently, and he wondered if there was any Public Safety involvement in bike theft response and recovery or even databases of bike theft used at the wider network level. Ms. Weaver said that she has participated in a bike theft sting with the City of Santa Rosa. A database does exist of registered bikes that is used to return bikes to their owners. Bike owners can get a sticker for their bikes and be in the database. There is also a local Facebook group for people who need help finding stolen bikes. Mr. Hensel said that a few years ago, the Rohnert Park Public Safety Department had a database. Vice Chair Ogren said that someone she knew asked about such a database. He asked to add this discussion about a database to the question about bike theft.

Mr. Guterrez asked BPAC members if they felt confident with the questions moving forward. BPAC members responded yes. Chair Gutierrez commented that that presentation should be scheduled as soon as they have availability.

8. New Matters for Future Consideration and Review of Future Agenda Items List

BPAC members reviewed the list of future agenda items.

Vice Chair Ogren asked for a follow-up on the repaving of the Hinebaugh Creek Trail, the crossing of Snyder Lane between the segments of the Hinebaugh Creek Trail, and whether there was still funding for the project.

Chair Gutierrez wanted to add a topic about bike parking at Sunrise Park. He said there is a lot of activity at that park with pickleball. Car parking there is already limited, and there isn’t any bicycle parking available. Vice Chair Ogren commented that bike parking would benefit the project since they are also adding to the playground. The park is only ½ mile from K Section, so more of those users might ride their bikes.

Vice Chair Ogren noted that the bike path audits still needed to be addressed. Chair Gutierrez responded that the list of paths, etc., should be brought back again at the October meeting.

Vice Chair Ogren mentioned the Parks and Paths map discussed at a previous meeting, and that BPAC should coordinate with Jim Barrios, the Parks and Recreation commission liaison. Ms. Cotter briefly provided background on the BPAC discussions on this topic. Ms. Johnson noted that a map like that could be helpful in the form of an app. Ms. Weaver mentioned that she created her own map of part of a bike valet event. Ms. Tacata noted that this topic could be agendized for a future meeting, with or without Jim’s participation. Vice Chair Ogren responded that Jim Barrios should be present for the meeting. If Parks and Recreation has some sort of budget to assist with this, Mr. Barrios could help coordinate. Ms. Tacata responded that staff will prepare an item to shape this discussion. Chair Gutierrez commented that Santa Rosa hosted a “Tour de Creeks” and had a great map, and asked why the City doesn’t currently have one.

Ms. Tacata responded that an event like that and its materials was likely funded through their stormwater budget. Chair Gutierrez asked if Rohnert Park's stormwater budget could possibly fund that; Ms. Tacata responded that the City's stormwater program runs lean and does not have the dedicated funding source that Santa Rosa's program does.

Ms. Johnson also commented that Sonoma State University would be revamping their transportation plan, so keep your ears open.

Mr. Keith commented that the section of Country Club between Snyder and Southwest always has a lot of trash, and inquired whether or not that section had street sweepers. Ms. Tacata responded that the next time he or other BPAC members see that to give us a call or to report it in GovRequest, as the City does pay Recology for street cleaning, and it needs to be done.

9. Adjournment

Chair Gutierrez moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Johnson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary
Rohnert Park Bicycle and
Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Gary Gutierrez, Chair
Rohnert Park Bicycle and
Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Memorandum

FROM: Eydie Tacata, Sr. Public Works Analyst
MEETING DATE: October 23, 2023
AGENDA ITEM: #6
SUBJECT: Questions for Public Safety Representative

ISSUE:

At the June 26, 2023 meeting, BPAC members discussed questions that they had for the City of Rohnert Park Department of Public Safety. The questions were reviewed at the July 24th and September 25th meetings. Public Safety agreed to have a representative at the October BPAC meeting to field questions.

Questions for Public Safety Representatives

Table 1 contains topics and related questions that BPAC members have for Public Safety Representatives.

Table 1: Questions by Topic for Public Safety Representatives

Note: Questions regarding data collection (accidents, incidents, etc) are referencing within the last year

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Question</u>
Accidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many reported accidents have involved bicyclists and or/ pedestrians within the last year?
Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many and what type of complaints have been received within the last year?• How have the complaints been received (social media, call ins, etc)?
Bike Theft	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How frequently are bike thefts reported, and of those reported, roughly what % of bikes have been returned to their owners?• What is Public Safety's policy for identifying and returning bicycles?• Are there databases of reported thefts, bicycles recovered, or other data about bicycle theft, either in the department or used locally or regionally?

Citations/Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have there been any reported incidents of cars driving on designated bike paths? • Do citizens report trash receptacles in the road blocking the bike lane and/or bike path entrances, and if so, is this a consistent issue? Are these handled as a citation or through public outreach and education? • Is there a general frequency for public safety officers to be out enforcing laws regarding bicycles and pedestrians? • How does Public Safety determine when to give a citation to a vehicle parked in a bike lane that may or may not be marked? • How does Public Safety handle children riding bikes without helmets? Is it citation-driven or community outreach? Does Public Safety continue a program to provide helmets for children?
Potential Concerns/Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kinds of hazards/issues to bicyclists and pedestrians is Public Safety currently aware of, and how are they addressing them? • Is Public Safety aware of concerns regarding e-bikes and e-bikes and e-scooters?
Training Priorities and Internal Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there currently officers on bicycles patrolling the bike paths? If not, is this a future action item for Public Safety? • How is data collected from call-ins, etc. utilized and implemented on a day-to-day basis? What data collection tools are being used?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the BPAC members engage the representative from the Department of Public Safety at the October 23, 2023 in a conversation guided by the question list.



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Memorandum

FROM: Eydie Tacata, Senior Public Works Analyst
MEETING DATE: September 25, 2023
AGENDA ITEM: #7
SUBJECT: Bike Path Audits

ISSUE:

At the September 25, 2023 meeting, Chair Gutierrez requested a discussion on the Bike Path Audit, in particular to look at the list for the 5 segments were not audited in 2022.

BACKGROUND:

In Summer 2022, the BPAC was shown a list of bike path segments with pavement condition index (PCI) ratings from a 2018 condition assessment of off-street paths in Rohnert Park. The list is used by City staff to plan path rehabilitation projects. The BPAC discussed the list and suggested that path usage – including types of users, volume, how the path is used – should be considered when prioritizing path rehab projects.

Shortly after, the BPAC and City staff developed a **Bike Path Audit** form for collecting data about observed path usage, general conditions and impressions of segments of the off-street path network. The BPAC members collected information for the path segments in Fall 2022. BPAC members visited 21 of the 26 segments on a list of off-street path segments with Pavement Condition Index ratings of 65 and lower (i.e. fair to poor condition pavement).

On March 27, 2023, City staff presented some analysis from the Fall2022 Bike Path Audit effort. (See attached presentation.)

DISCUSSION:

The intended use of the data was to help City staff understand the path in the community context and inform decisions about path rehabilitations and future projects. Now that an effort to update the Sonoma County Countywide Active Transportation Plan and Rohnert Park Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan is underway, the data and observations collected through the Bike Path Audit in 2022 could be added to the overall data collection for the updates. Completing audits for the final 5 segments, and possibly revisiting some of the segments already audited

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the BPAC members:

- Review the bike path segments list on Slide 2
- Determine how to proceed with completing audits of the remaining path segments

The Bike Path Audit Form is also attached.

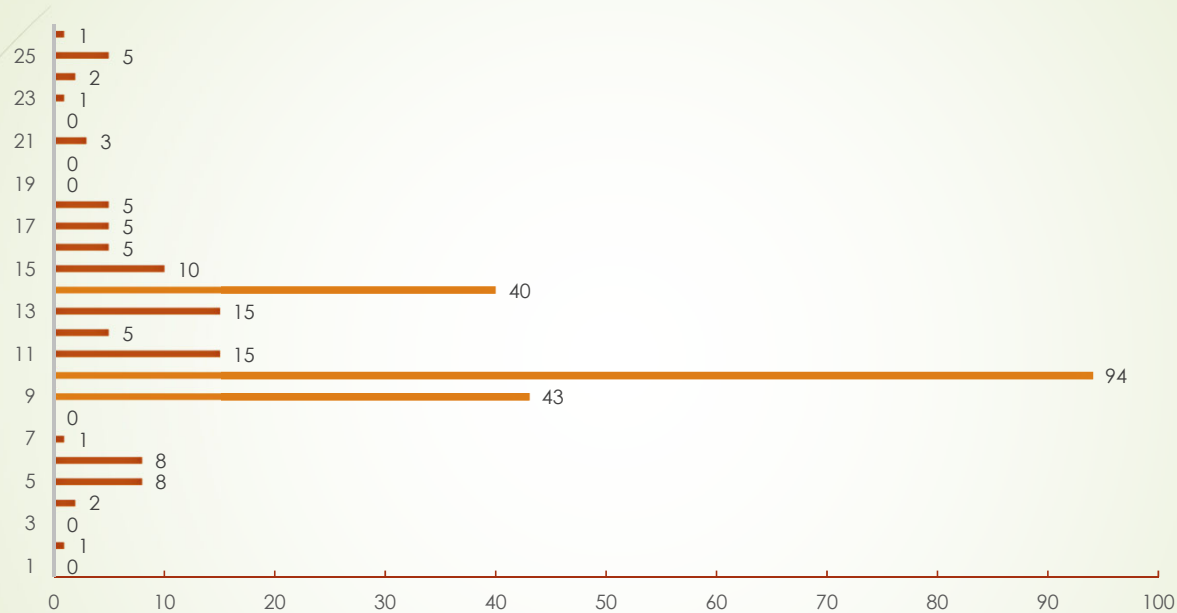


Overview of BPAC Bike Audit Findings

March 27, 2023 BPAC Meeting

Bike Path Section	From - To	Note
1 Commerce Blvd Path (west side of street)	Roundabout to Path end, approx. North of Avram Ave	Not observed
2 Commerce Blvd Path	Rugworks to Path end across from Utility Court	
3 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	SMART Railroad to Country Club	Not observed
4 Copeland Creek South side	Country Club Drive to SMART Railroad	
5 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	Snyder Ln to Country Club Dr	
6 Copeland Creek Path (South Side)	Country Club Dr. to Snyder Ln	
7 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	Seed Farm Dr to West of Bridge	
8 Copeland Creek Path (South Side)	Approx. City Hall to Seed Farm Drive	Not observed
9 Five Creek Path	Snyder Lane to Path end across creek from Eagle Park	
10 Five Creek Path	Across Creek from Eagle Park - Confluence w/ Hinebaugh Creek	
11 Five Creek Path	Bend - end	
12 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Country Club Dr - Golf Course	
13 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Snyder Ln - K Section	
14 Hinebaugh Creek Path (north)	Five Creek Confluence - Country Club Dr	
15 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Near San Mateo Court - Snyder Lane	
16 Hinebaugh Creek Path (North Side)	Commerce Blvd to State Farm	
17 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	State Farm to Commerce	
18 Hinebaugh Creek Path (North Side)	Near San Benito Ct to Near San Mateo Ct.	
19 Hinebaugh Creek Path (North Side)	SMART Railroad to State Farm Dr	Not observed
20 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	State Farm Dr to SMART Railroad	Not observed
21 RPX (South Side)	Snyder Ln to K Section	
22 Hinebaugh Creek (South Side)	Redwood Dr to Hampton Inn	
23 Hinebaugh Creek (south side, along apts)	Bend to Labath Ave	
24 Hinebaugh Creek (South Side)	Redwood Dr to Labath Ave	
25 Copeland Creek Path (North/East side of Laguna de Santa Rosa)	West City limit to Bend approx. end of Laguna way	
26 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	Bend approx. end of Laguna Way to Redwood Dr.	

OF USERS REPORTED AT CREEK PATHS OVER AUDIT PERIOD

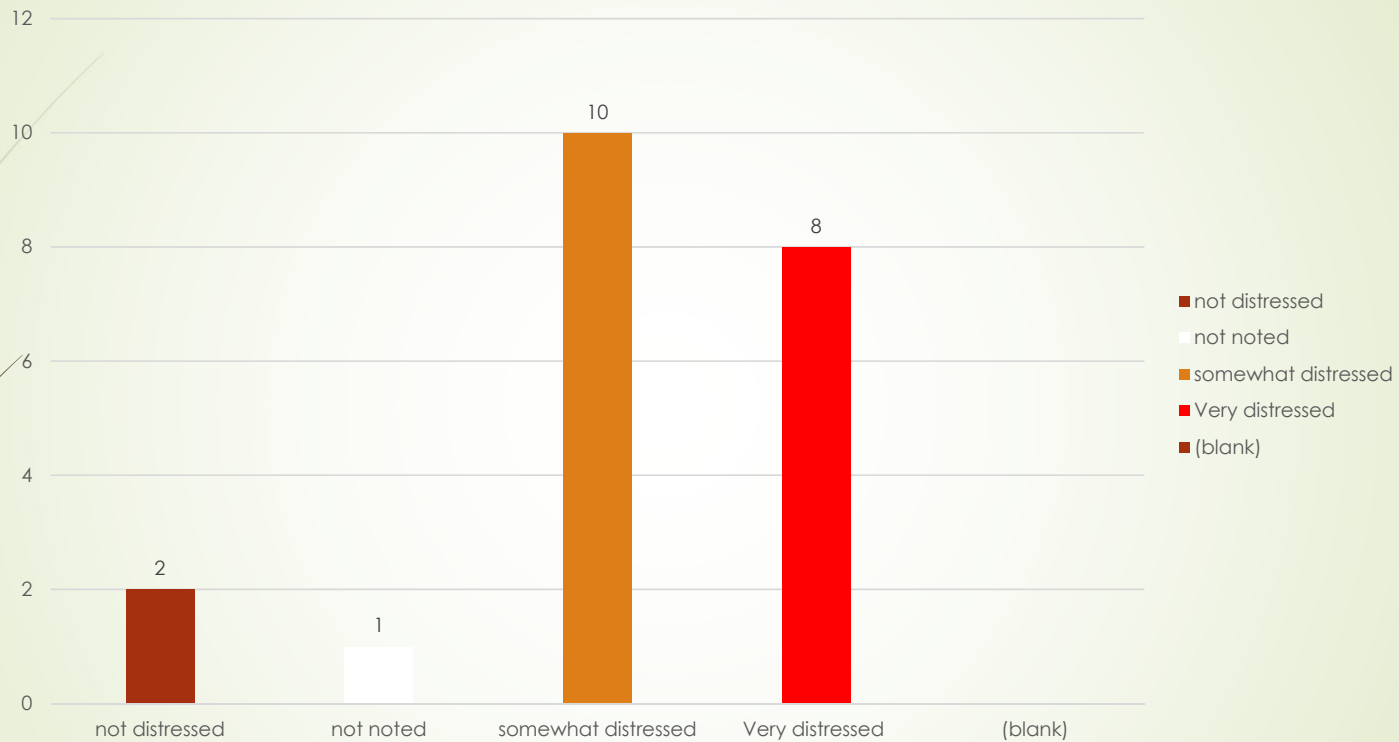


Notable: The highest use section of path is section #10: Five Creek Path, From Across from Eagle Park to Confluence with Hinebaugh Creek
Other high use sections: Section 9 (43 users), Section 14 (40 users). Higher use was observed between 2-3pm (after school) on Sections 9 & 10.



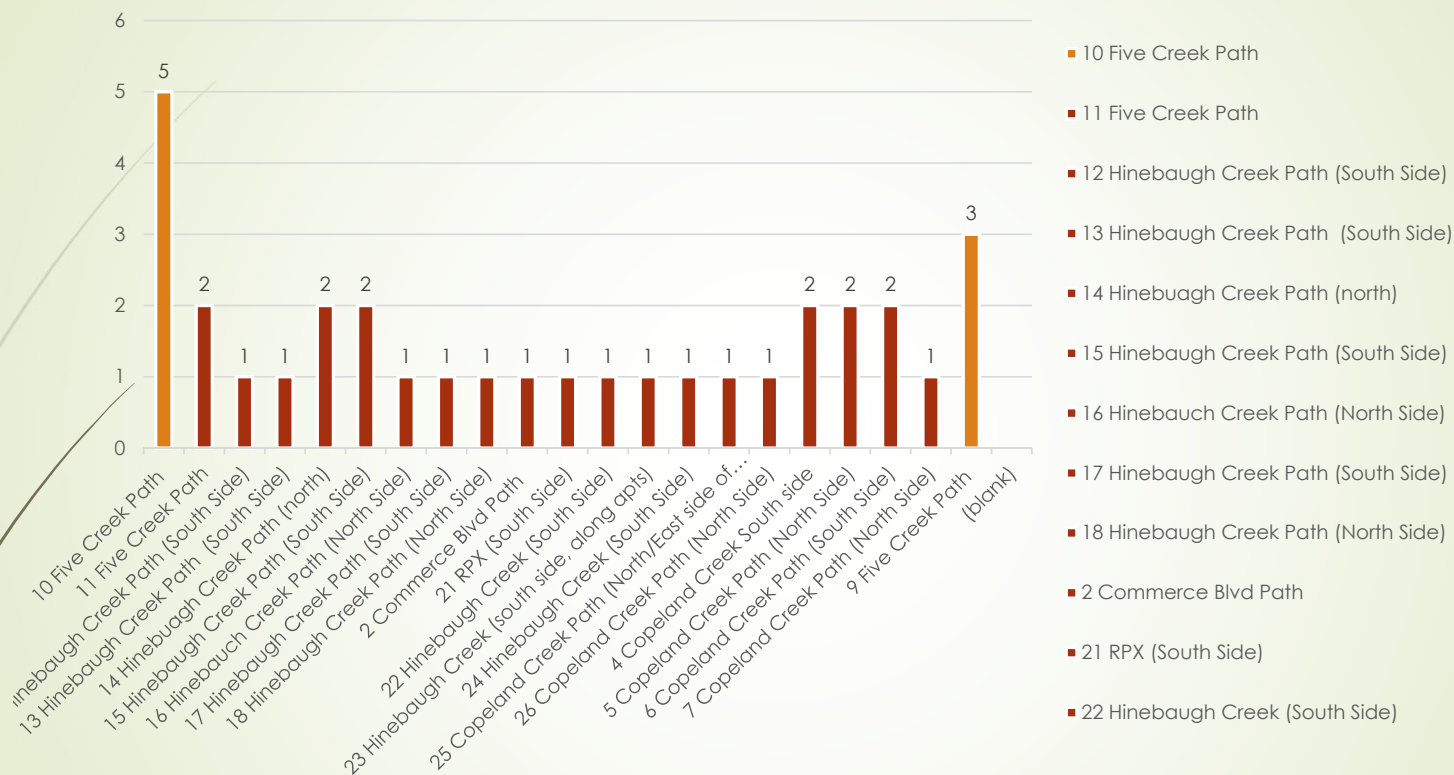
Average number of bike path users
per audit: 14

Overall Condition of Path



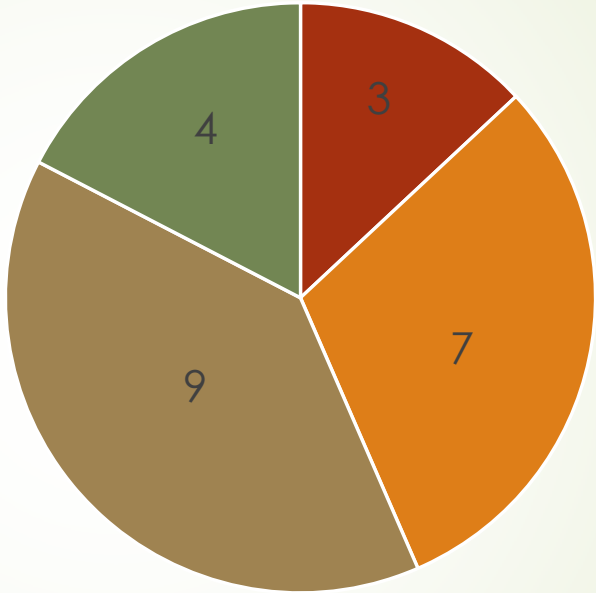
Notable: most observations found that the creek paths were either somewhat or very distressed (cracking, roughage, tree roots breaking through, etc)

Number of times each Creek Path Section Was Observed during Audit Period



Notable: Section 10, 5 Creek, was observed the most – 5 times over the audit period. Section 9 was also observed 3 times over the audit period. Most creek path sections were observed once.

Number of Groups (3+ people) at various times on bike path



■ 7am-8am ■ 10am-11:30am ■ 12pm-2:30pm ■ 3pm-6pm

Notable: Highest number of groups walking together was observed between 12pm-2:30pm

Use of Bicycles/Scooters/Strollers/Wheelchairs on Audited Paths

Use of Scooter/Bike/Stroller/Wheelchair	No
Row Labels	
16 Hinebauch Creek Path (North Side)	NO
	NO
18 Hinebaugh Creek Path (North Side)	NO
2 Commerce Blvd Path	NO
21 RPX (South Side)	NO
22 Hinebaugh Creek (South Side)	NO
23 Hinebaugh Creek (south side, along apts)	NO
24 Hinebaugh Creek (South Side)	NO
26 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	NO
4 Copeland Creek South side	NO
	9 PATHS OBSERVED NO USAGE
Grand Total	

Use of Scooter/Bike/Stroller/Wheelchair	Yes
10 Five Creek Path	Yes
11 Five Creek Path	Yes
14 Hinebuagh Creek Path (north)	Yes
15 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Yes
25 Copeland Creek Path (North/East side of Laguna de Santa Rosa)	Yes
5 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	Yes
6 Copeland Creek Path (South Side)	Yes
7 Copeland Creek Path (North Side)	Yes
9 Five Creek Path	Yes
12 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Yes
13 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Yes
17 Hinebaugh Creek Path (South Side)	Yes
	12 paths observed usage
Grant Total	

PATH AUDIT

Path Name:

From: **To:**

Date:

Time: Start / End

Weather:

Path Distresses, Hazards or Obstructions:

USERS / TRAVEL MODE / USER ACTIVITIES

	TRAVEL MODE AND VEHICLE TYPES									USER BEHAVIORS / ACTIVITY						
	WALKING / RUNNING				BIKING / ROLLING					SPEED OF USER			USER ACTIVITY (real or perceived)			
	Walking	Assisted (Cane, other)	Walking dog	Running/ Jogging	Bike	Wheelchair	Stroller	Scooter	Skateboard, other	Slow	Moderate	Fast	School	Utilitarian (chores, commute)	Active Recreation	Passive Recreation
USERS																
GROUPS																
1. Groups																
2. Groups with children school-age or younger																
3. Groups with elders																
4. Activity Groups (e.g. PE, walking groups)																
INDIVIDUALS																
1. School-age																
2. Adolescent / high-school																
3. Adult																
4. Adult - older																

Notable features on path:

Perceived safety of surroundings:

Other Auditor Notes:

Auditor Name: _____ **Contact Information:** _____