

Overview

Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation and the National Park Service have conducted extensive field work and data gathering toward establishing a preferred alignment for the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. To ensure that the project is a success, Salt Lake County will be conducting public meetings and including the following stakeholders: Bonneville Shoreline Trail Committee, Bonneville RC&D, Wasatch Cache National Forest, Sandy City, Holladay City, Draper City, and Salt Lake City. In addition, mapping and preferred trail alignment documents will be completed and utilized as planning tools in this plan.

2001 Planning Grant Summary

Grant Amount:	\$15,000
Matching Dollars:	\$18,750 (\$35,250 in-kind)
Match:	\$54,000
Project Cost:	\$69,000

Salt Lake County-Bonneville Shoreline Trail

Local Responsibility

The Bonneville Shoreline Trail plan is currently being used by the County, Forest Service and some of the city planners to plan acquisition, to coordinate with other agencies, linking to other trails throughout the Valley. As a result of this project, existing and recommended alignments of the trail have been mapped through the global positioning satellite system from the Davis County line to the Utah County line.

State Leadership

The Quality Growth Commission awarded Salt Lake County with a grant in the amount of \$15,000.

Economic Development

This is not a component of this plan

Infrastructure Development

This is not a component of this plan.

Housing Opportunity

This is not a component of this plan.

Conservation Ethic

The Bonneville Shoreline Trail involves a pathway or National Forest type hiking and biking trail on the west slopes of the Wasatch Mountain Range and possibly on the east slopes of the Oquirrh Mountain Range on or near the shoreline bench of ancient Lake Bonneville. The concept is actively being pursued in several counties. In Salt Lake County the existing and planned trail alignment measures 56 miles.

The purposes of the trail are:

- (1) To provide a trail which provides interface with the burgeoning development of the foothills for residential use.
- (2) To preserve limited public access to National Forest and other public lands and trails across lands that are currently privately owned.
- (3) To provide access to foothills and mountain lands to suppress wild fires.
- (4) To contribute to the preservation of aesthetic, wildlife, historic and educational values of the foothills when private lands are acquired for the trail or conservations easement are acquired on abutting land.

“Salt Lake County has used the funding to pay for the mapping, the staff and the vehicle used to map the existing trail and to plan and map the recommended trail alignment.”

Don Davis-Landscape Architect/Project Manager

Implementation

The plan is not complete, but it is being used by the County, Forest Service and some of the city planners to plan acquisition, to coordinate with other agencies, linking to other trails and budgets for next year.

Promoting Intelligent Growth

Particularly, Sandy City and Wasatch/Cache National Forest administrators reacted positively to its value to assist them in planning the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and other trails in their jurisdictions. The forest ranger was pleased at the effort we put into limiting the trail alignment from going into wilderness and road less areas on the forest to only a couple of miles on a trail, which is planned to be 56 miles.

The plan recommends that bicycles not be allowed in the area from the south bank of Millcreek to the Bell's Canyon trailhead in Little Cottonwood Canyon. This will comply with forest regulations for no bicycles in wilderness areas even though the trail will only intrude very short distances into the wilderness areas affected.

Accomplishments

The trail construction will be difficult to build in some reaches of this area and there will be a need to minimize environmental impacts to very sensitive, fragile, rocky and vegetative slopes. Hikers will not make as much impact on the trail through use as bikers would make.

The existing and recommended alignments of the trail have been mapped through the global positioning satellite system from the Davis County line to the Utah County line. The text, charts and some photographs have been incorporated into a draft plan. The draft plan and maps were presented to the stakeholders on September 12 and 26, 2003 and to the public on September 25, 2003.

Benefits

Salt Lake County has used the funding to pay for the mapping, the staff and the vehicle used to map the existing trail and to plan and map the recommended trail alignment. Administrative and meeting time has also been funded from the grant.