

## PARLEY'S RAILS, TRAILS AND TUNNELS [PRATT] COALITION

### MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Juan Arce-Larreta conducted the meeting.

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

PRATT Board Members Attending: Rita Lund, Ken Jones, George Ramjoué, Juan Arce-Larreta, Robin Carbaugh, Suzanne Weaver, Lynne Olson, and Rick Johnston.

Excused: Matt Sibul, Kim Paulding, Milton Braselton, and Julie Peck Dabling.

Others in attendance: Brian Bonell\_Lochner, Lex Hemphill\_Sugar House Park Authority, Walt Gilmore\_Salt Lake County Parks Project Manager, Michael G. Kavanagh\_SHCC, Dell R. Cook\_SLC Engineering, Steve Gilbert\_ArcSito, Todd Perkins\_Perkins Engineering, Jack Hammond\_Architectural Nexus, Mark Parry\_UDOT Project Manager, Cara Lingstuyl, Julie Bryan\_Millcreek F.I.D.O.S, Sandy Weinrauch\_former Bike/Ped Planner for UDOT, Laynee Jones\_Lochner, Kyle Hastings\_U of U MBA Fellow, Scott Kisling, Sharen Hauri\_MGB+A, Emy Storheim\_SLC Open Space, and Pat Sanders\_Brolly Arts.

Excused: Dan Bergenthal, SLC and Rep. Roz McGee.

#### 2. Approval of August Minutes

Approval of the August minutes was postponed until the October Board meeting.

#### 3. Project Reports:

Juan moved the discussion of Phase III to the end of the agenda.

Walt Gilmore provided an update of progress on Trail construction.

#### **Phase V: Fairmont Park to the Jordan River Parkway**

Walt reported that there are decisions that need to be made by UTA in conjunction with the financial feasibility study that UTA, South Salt Lake, and Salt Lake City are undertaking. So Walt is talking with Mark Parry, UDOT Project Manager, about issuing a "stop work" order on the Parley's Trail Phase V study until the feasibility study is finished. The Trail consultant for Phase V, Todd Perkins, said the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Financial Feasibility Study will be out in next few weeks.

UTA will build a portion of Parley's Trail on their bridge structure over Roper Yard, beginning at 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> West. PRATT Trail will need a separate pedestrian bridge for the east end touchdown at 600 West. UTA's rail bridge is being redesigned to cross 9<sup>th</sup> West. UTA is looking to acquire some additional property for a new rail yard at Workman Park, where the Trail ties into the Jordan River. The Trail will be reconfigured to run on the property line south of the new rail yard in order to reach the bridge that crosses the River.

#### **Phase IVa: The Draw at Sugar House**

Steve Gilbert of ArcSitio, consultant for The Draw, reported that that he is working with environmental artist Patricia Johanson on some revisions to plans. This is in response to a letter from the Sugar House Park Authority (SHPA ) expressing concern about the look and placement of the bulb structure. Lex Hemphill, SHPA President, said the letter reflected the PA Board's concerns about design components. Walt added that the County and City agree with Sugar House Park Authority.

Regarding the acquisition of property from Woodbury Corporation, Walt said another meeting is scheduled. Members asked about our options if Woodbury didn't sign a contract for the easement for The Draw.

#### **Ph IVb: Sugar House Park Trail from 1700 East to 1300 East**

Walt announced that this last month, he had met with UDOT's Real Estate Division, and he is ready to process the land trade agreement between UDOT and the Park through the County, SLC and the Park Authority. For now, the trail project is on hold until funding is available to put this segment out to bid.

#### **Phase III, PHNP alignment**

PRATT needs to come up with a final opinion about our preferred alignment for the trail through Parley's Historic Nature Park (PHNP). Brian Bonell and Walt presented information about the six alternative alignments that have been researched. The Board's discussion related to issues of cost; schedule; cultural impacts; and users conflicts.

MGB+A is the consultant for Salt Lake City's Parley's Historic Nature Park Master Plan. The City wants to protect resources and to expand the general use of PHNP. Sharen Hauri of MGB+A said they will focus on protecting wildlife habitat and a healthy stream system, which helps with flood control, an important function of the park. The creek is being studied as a part of the Riparian Corridor study being done to support the ordinance that will be completed next year. Dell Cook said a third part of the Master Plan is management. Once the City has decided what uses are appropriate and where they are appropriate, the Master Plan will make recommendations for how to manage what is proposed.

Lynne suggested using a decision-making exercise to identify PRATT's priorities for the route for the trail. Sharen said it would be helpful to know the Trail alignment before going too far into the process. Walt said the County is eager for resolution. The original \$1.8M project has already ballooned to \$3.4M. Longer we wait, the less we can afford to build. Plans, Specs & Cost Estimates will be under preparation in under a month. The Park is SLC Property, and the City will make the final decisions. The City is waiting for a decision from PRATT.

Ken made a motion: *That the PRATT Board express consensus for using the northern most alignment, and encourage conversation between Utah Department of Transportation officials and the Governor regarding this alignment. That the PRATT Board request Mayor Corroon and Mayor Becker convene a fast meeting with high level officials to discuss the northern alignment trail option.* The motion passed 7 to 1.

Juan introduced Kyle Hastings, a first-year MBA student from the University of Utah. Kyle chose PRATT as the organization that he wanted to work with through the University's Fellowship program. The Board will vote him on as an ex-officio member of the Board at the October meeting.

The rest of the agenda was postponed until next month. George will lead a discussion of strategies for setting goals for each phase of the project – including Memo's of Understanding and fundraising. Kim Paulding has asked to be excused from Board.

Lynne relayed message from Geoff Ellis that other trails organizations would like to build trails along freeway rights-of-way. George said that UDOT has an obligation to accommodate other modes of transportation. He volunteered to work with Geoff to prepare a strategy, to build a coalition to voice our opinion to UDOT.

Scott Kisling explained a decision-making process that could be used to choose a preferred alignment for the trail through PHNP. He suggested making a list of criteria, such as preserving historic structures; preserving trees; separation of uses; cost; political viability. Lynne will ask Board members for additional criteria, and then send the list around by email for Board members' responses. The resulting table would provide a score for each alternative, and an objective, data-defensible result. George recommended asking the City and County for their criteria, too.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm. The next meeting will be held on Oct 22 in Room S3009 at the Government Center.