



Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

September 20-21, 2011

John Day

9/21/2011 Meeting Minutes

Those attending all or part of the meeting included:

Commissioners Present:

Davis Moriuchi, Chair
Jay Graves, Vice-chair
Sharon Rudi
Sue Musser
Robin Risley
Jim Brown
Brad Chalfant

Staff:

Tim Wood, Director
Steve Shipsey, Assistant Attorney General
Vanessa DeMoe, Commission Assistant
Chris Havel, Associate Director
John Potter, Assistant Director of Operations
Roger Roper, Assistant Director of Heritage Programs
Lisa Van Laanen, Assistant Director of Administration
Cliff Houck, Real Property Manager
Jim Morgan, Natural Resources Manager
Darin Wilson, Engineering Manager
Richard Walkoski, Recreation Programs Manager
Kathy Schutt, Planning Manager
Tasha Petersen, Human Resource Manager
Jerry Winegar, Eastern Region Manager
Curtis Smith, SE District Manager
Wayne Rawlins, Grants Program Manager

Visitors:

Mike Cosgrove, Scenic Bikeway Committee
Jay Gibbs, Cycling Proponent

Tuesday, September 20th

Bates State Park Grand Opening: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00

Workshops: 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1. Park System Plan
John Potter, Assistant Director of Operations

Mr. Potter provided the Commission with an update on the Park System Plan. He discussed the following topics with the Commission:

- Business Model Research
- Tapestry Research
- Enhancement Planning
- Next Steps

2. Human Resources Program
Tasha Petersen, Human Resource Manager

Mrs. Petersen provided the Commission an overview of the OPRD Human Resources Division. She shared information about the staffing of the program, its customers and the services it provides to both its customers and the agency.

Wednesday, September 21st

Executive Session: 8:30 a.m.

The Commission met in Executive Session to discuss acquisition priorities and opportunities, and potential litigation. The Executive Session was held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2) (e) and (h). The Executive Session was closed to the public.

Business Meeting: 10:15 a.m.

1. **Commission Business (Action)**
 - a) Approval of Agenda

Chair Moriuchi proposed that Item 12 be heard after Item 1 to accommodate public comment.

Commissioner Risley moved to approve the revised September 2011 Commission meeting agenda. Commissioner Rudi seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2. **(12) Recreation and Community Programs**
 - a) Scenic Bikeway Approvals (Action)
Richard Walkoski, Recreation Programs Manager

Mr. Walkoski stated that this item is for the adoption of the five bikeways being considered for designation. He shared that during the spring and summer of 2010 the

rating subcommittee of the scenic bikeway committee visited the proponents and rode all or most all of the routes to rate them. The subcommittee found the five routes to meet the criteria for designation. The full committee voted to recommend the routes for designation and instructed the proponents to prepare bikeway plans for the routes. Those plans consist of the records of the local public meetings, notification and minutes, a local marketing plan, sign location tables and other items which are detailed in the Bikeway handbook.

Mr. Walkoski discussed the August 19th, 2011 public hearing held in Florence, Oregon. In addition to the public hearing at Florence, OPRD has been advised to have department staff at the local meetings held by the proponents. Since that was not done for these first routes, OPRD has scheduled public meetings in three locations near the proposed routes during early September. ORTAC will be given any comments obtained in those meetings. ORTAC recommended that the proponents and department convey traffic and road condition information on the routes so riders will be able to select routes appropriate for their skill level. The routes were approved by ORTAC with the condition that no undue opposition surfaced in the September public meetings.

Discussion

Commissioner Brown asked how the department and the committee deal with the issues that the local communities and ODOT bring forward regarding the impact on public road systems.

Mr. Walkoski explained that before the route ever gets to the point where it can be proposed, the local proponents go to the local roadmaster in the area and present the route and ask if there are any concerns. He said that if there are other issues along the way, those negotiations are brought to the subcommittee; if the subcommittee does not feel its safe it would not be carried forward.

Public Comment

Jay Gibbs, Cycling Proponent

Mr. Gibbs thanked the Commission for the opportunity to allow the cycling and non-cycling communities to collaborate in this process. He shared that he will be visiting some of the local communities to raise awareness about the routes, share the unique characteristics of cyclists, and provide information about the marketing plan.

Mr. Gibbs shared his appreciation for Alex Phillips, OPRD's Bicycle and Water Recreation Coordinator. He stated that she is very knowledgeable and passionate about her work and had a very articulated line of sight for the group. He added that she was very timely in her response through out the process.

Commissioner Graves expressed his thanks to the committee and staff for the time and commitment to the Scenic Bikeway program and process.

Commissioner Graves stated that one of the missions of Cycle Oregon is rural economic development. He said that an unforeseen benefit is the educational opportunities; on both sides we need to understand what the rules of the road are and educate the riders and drivers.

Mr. Walkoski explained that the approval of these routes is not the end of the department's involvement. He said that there are a lot of things that follow this action including signage, promotion and marketing that the department will be involved in.

Commissioner Chalfant moved to approve the proposed Scenic Bikeways routes. Commissioner Graves seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

3. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes (Action)

a) July 2011

Commissioner Musser moved to approve the July 2011 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Rudi seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

4. Director's Update

a) State Fair Update

Lisa Van Laanen, Assistant Director of Administration

Ms. Van Laanen provided a brief report on the 2011 Oregon State Fair to the Commission. She said that confirmed data and reports will be provided as the information becomes available. Current information included:

- Paid attendance was up 2.6%; totaling ~235,577 paid patrons
- Labor Day attendance was over 38,000
- Jobs – 140 hired by OPRD; 330 hired by Manpower, 600 hired by the carnival
- Almost 3,000 jobs created for the 11 day event
- Concert attendance - 4,000 for The Band Perry and Cheap Trick, 3,800 The Judd's, Selena Gomez over 9,000, El Circo 5,000
- Overtime hours - 591 hours overtime for 2011; 2010 overtime hours were 2,300, down 66% in 2011

b) 2012 Commission Meeting Schedule

Director Wood shared the below list of proposed 2012 Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission meeting dates and potential locations with the Commission. The Commission will finalize the 2012 schedule at the November 2011 meeting in Hood River.

- January 24-25 Portland
- April 3-4 Medford
- June 19-20 Prineville
- August 28-29 Salem
- November 6-7 La Grande/Pendleton

5. Consent Calendar (Action)

a) Approval of Delegated Authority Report

1. Contracts (Action)

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Contracts. Commissioner Graves seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

2. Natural Resources (Action)

Commissioner Chalfant moved to approve the Natural Resources report. Commissioner Musser seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

6. Rulemaking

- a) Request to go to rulemaking – OAR chapter 736, division 4; ATV Grant Program (HB 2329)(Action)

Wayne Rawlins, Grant Program Manager

Mr. Rawlins said in 2009 the 75th legislative assembly passed SB 578 which restructured the ATV advisory committee and tasked the department with reviewing off highway vehicle classifications and making recommendations to both OPRD and the legislative committee on transportation. He said as a result of the passing of SB 578 came HB 2329 Mr. Rawlins explained that the needed rule changes include adding an all-terrain vehicle classification for side-by-side vehicles (Class IV), adding representatives to the ATV advisory committee, modifying safety curricula to include the new class of vehicles, and several technical adjustments.

Mr. Rawlins stated that staff will work with a Rulemaking Advisory Committee consisting of riders, OHV clubs, law enforcement agencies, federal and state off-highway vehicle land managers, transportation agencies, and safety personnel to help incorporate the laws into the administrative rules. Staff will then conduct public hearings and evening meetings throughout the state to ensure sufficient input. The rules will be adjusted as indicated by Rules Advisory Committee and public comments. He said that final commission approval will be requested at the January 25, 2012 meeting.

Commissioner Rudi moved to approve the request to go to rulemaking – OAR chapter 736, division 4; ATV Grant Program. Commissioner Risley seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

- b) Request to go to rulemaking - Natural Areas (SB58) (Action)

Jim Morgan, Natural Resource Manager

Mr. Morgan said that this request to go to rulemaking was to incorporate the Oregon Natural Areas Program into OPRD. Mr. Morgan stated that with the passage of Oregon Senate Bill 58 (SB 58) in the 2011 legislature session, responsibility for the Oregon Natural Areas Program was transferred from the Department of State Lands (DSL) and the State Land Board to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Natural Areas Program is a cooperative interagency program that identifies significant plant, animal, and plant community resources in Oregon.

Mr. Morgan explained that SB 58 abolished the Natural Heritage Advisory Council, a board appointed by the Governor, which formerly oversaw the program. ORS chapter 319 now authorizes the OPRD Director to appoint a natural area advisory committee to advise in the function and performance of the Natural Areas Program. It also grants the Commission authority to designate State Natural Heritage sites. A function of the program that transfers to OPRD effective January 1, 2012, is managing federal funds

made available under Section 6 of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). These funds (\$129,096 in the 2011-13 biennium) are dedicated toward research and management of invertebrates listed under the ESA in Oregon and are managed through a contract with the Institute for Natural Resources housed at Portland State University.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the request to go to rulemaking - Natural Areas. Commissioner Graves seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

7. Operations Procurements and Facility Investment Program (FIP) Projects

Darin Wilson, Engineering Manager

a) Cove Palisades E-Loop Campground Utility Project (Action)

Mr. Wilson said that this item was to award a contract to do the E-Loop Campground project. He said the goal of this project is to replace the existing electrical, water, and sewer lines, replace the RV dump station, relocate the campground amphitheater and replace the sewage disposal system by constructing a new drain field at the Crooked River (E-Loop) Campground. Mr. Wilson requested approval to award a contract to Bill Booker Construction in the amount of \$1,208,344.20.

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the Cove Palisades E-Loop Campground Utility Project. Commissioner Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

b) Enhancement Reach Projects (Action)

Mr. Wilson stated that at the July 20, 2011 meeting, the Commission approved the FIP Project Plan for the 11-13 biennium for everything except the “enhancement reach projects.” At the July Commission meeting, there was discussion about the merit of investing in certain parks, particularly Prineville State Park, where staff may not have yet fully considered the impact of several external projects and other considerations related to the long-term level of the reservoir. There was also discussion about the challenge of prioritizing projects from past-approved master plans that may not necessarily align with OPRD’s strategic direction any more.

Mr. Wilson provided a revised list of proposed enhancement reach projects for the 11-13 biennium with a justification for each. He explained that staff had reduced the list of identified projects to only those most likely to be considered for design, archaeological clearance, or permitting toward the later part of the biennium. These are basically staff’s best recommendation at this time for which projects to have ready for the 13-15 biennium. The park system planning (currently in process) may alter these priorities once there is further feedback from the Commission. Based on this planning, staff will also be refining the criteria for prioritizing future enhancement projects as well as how the Commission would best like to provide input and review the recommendations.

Mr. Wilson proposed the approval of the project list with the omission of the Fort Stevens project to allow staff to take more time to look at this project and ensure that it aligns well with the park system plan.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Enhancement Reach Projects, with the omission of the Fort Stevens project. Commissioner Musser seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

8. Heritage Programs

- a) Heritage Programs Report (Information)
Roger Roper, Assistant Director of Heritage Programs

Champoeg Field School

OSU doctoral candidate (and former SHPO archaeologist) Mollie Manion and Dr. David Brauner led an archaeological field school for several weeks in July and August at the Newell House Site at Champoeg State Heritage Area. (See attached photos.) The site has been investigated by archaeologists several times over the years, but it continues to yield new information about this early settlement. This year's excavation was productive in both the quality and quantity of recovered artifacts (up to 200 per day) and unearthened structural features. The discovery of older artifacts than had been found previously at the site helped confirm Manion's assumption that the house dates back to at least the 1830s rather than the 1840s. The field school enjoyed extensive press coverage and high visitation by park visitors. Manion's work and her forthcoming dissertation will add to the park's interpretive offerings for years to come.

Military Heritage Consortium

Heritage Programs Division is taking the lead in pulling together all the groups and organizations around the state that are involved in preserving and promoting military history. This was prompted by the large number of requests for assistance Heritage Programs staff have received in recent years from military history groups. The goal of this initiative is to help coordinate efforts better in order to avoid duplicated effort and to do a better job preserving and interpreting the history and artifacts. Participants include the Oregon Military Department, Oregon Military Museum, Tillamook Air Museum, METRO maritime park, OPRD and friends groups (Fort Stevens, Fort Yamhill, and Fort Lane), and numerous local and regional museums and groups that have military components. The kick-off meeting is scheduled for October 28 at OPRD headquarters in Salem.

Willamette Falls / Blue Heron Paper Company Property

The recent bankruptcy and closing of the Blue Heron Paper Company in Oregon City, though bad news for the local economy, has created an opportunity for the community to take better advantage of this iconic property at the base of Willamette Falls (literally the end of the Oregon Trail). There are many players involved in trying to make the most of this opportunity, including the Governor's Office, Oregon Solutions, Metro, DEQ, the city, and private-sector developers. SHPO staff have also been invited to participate, primarily because of the cultural resource issues involved. There are numerous historic buildings on the property, plus the strong potential for archaeological sites.

The general goal, shared by virtually all of the participants, is to create a destination attraction that features a blend of recreational, historic, and commercial uses. Similar successful developments have taken place in other cities, including Minneapolis (Mill Ruins Park) and Seattle (Gas Works Park).

Much depends on who acquires the Blue Heron property in the coming months. In the mean time, OPRD/SHPO staff will continue to work with the assembled team to find a viable solution.

b) WW II Memorial (Information)

Over the past couple of years, a dedicated group has been working to gain support for constructing a WW II memorial at the State Capitol State Park. Their preferred location is near the northwest corner of Willson Park, which is west of the Capitol Building. The memorial, as proposed most recently, would occupy a 75' x 75' parcel and feature a central 33' obelisk, black granite walls along two sides (North and West) for inscribing the names of fallen soldiers, and two benches flanking the obelisk. A map of the world would be etched into the pavers in the central part of the plaza.

The proponents received support from the 2011 Legislative Assembly with the passage of HB 3416, which established the World War II Memorial Task Force and authorized them to raise funds to construct a memorial at this location. No state funds were appropriated for the project.

Despite the Legislative authorization, the project still needs to go through a series of reviews and approvals. These include the following:

- City approval for the building permit.
- City Landmarks Commission approval because the location is part of the National Register of Historic Places designation for the State Capitol. Salem Landmarks granted approval on August 18, 2011. There were no public comments.
- The Capitol Planning Commission also has a role in reviewing the proposal and making recommendations to OPRD and the state Department of Administrative Services (DAS).
- OPRD reviews, including:
 - Review by a design committee convened by the OPRD Assistant Director for Heritage Programs. According to state administrative rule, the proponents must address several specific criteria for the committee's consideration. The committee makes a recommendation to the OPRD director.
 - The director, in turn, makes a recommendation to the Parks Commission.
 - The Commission either approves or denies the director's recommendation.

OPRD staff have been working with the proponents in order to help them through the process and avoid unnecessary delays and setbacks. After a recent on-site meeting, the proponents agreed to shift the memorial 40 feet to the east of the NW corner of the block (their original proposed location) in order to maintain existing pathways there and reduce the footprint by 15 feet to avoid the removal of three specimen trees. Additional adjustments may need to be made as the project moves forward through the various reviews, though the proponents also need a certain degree of confidence that the design they are proposing to potential donors will be reasonably close to what is actually built.

9. Real Property

Cliff Houck, Real Property Manager

a) Champoeg State Heritage Area - Sulak Acquisition (Action)

Mr. Houck stated that the Sulak property was an Acquisition Initiative approved at the July 2011 Commission meeting. The purchase of this in-holding follows up on the 1990 Master

Plan and the addition to Champoeg State Heritage Area identified in the 2006 Acquisition Priorities Report. Mr. Houck said that the 57.13 acre parcel (Sulak property) was appraised by Rick Walker Certified General Appraiser on May 24, 2011 and established a market value of \$612,000. A staff review was completed of the appraisal and a phase one environmental report by Fernwood Environmental Service with “No Recognized Environmental Conditions.” Mr. Houck shared that the Sulak family has requested a closing date of December 17, 2012. This closing date will provide OPRD with adequate time to gain a response from the National Park Service to a recent grant application for partial funding of the purchase with the use of a land and water grant; additional funding would be provided from the acquisition budget.

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the Champoeg State Heritage Area - Sulak Acquisition. Commissioner Musser seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

b) Beaver Creek Acquisition Update (Information)

Mr. Houck discussed the properties of interest and provided a detailed update on transactions and discussions regarding the properties. He provided a map showing ownership in the area of OPRD and of The Wetland Conservancy to help show the connectivity and overall land protection.

c) OC & E Woods Line State Trail Permit and Property Donation (Information)

Mr. Houck explained that in 1992, OPRD entered into a Rail Banking Agreement with the Oregon, California and Eastern Railway Company (OC&E). The agreement allowed for the OC&E’s right of way from Klamath Falls to Bly (Milepost 65.4) to be made available to the public as a recreational trail. The purpose of this “Rails to Trails” agreement was for OC&E to “bank” their right of way with the State until such time as it may again be needed for rail purposes. Although OPRD’s use as a trail may go on indefinitely, OPRD cannot grant any permanent rights or easements to any portion of this right of way property.

Mr. Houck shared that the Howard Jones Co., in conjunction with OM Power #1, LLC, has recently begun drilling operations for geothermal exploration on the Jones’ property abutting the OC&E Woods Line State Trail. The Jones’ easement to cross the OC&E Trail (granted prior to OPRD’s interest in the property) is located just east of the Highway 140 and OC&E intersection in Olene. Due to topography, and to minimize effects on the trail, they have requested a permit to cross the trail further east of this location. They have also requested a permit to run the pipeline needed to transport the geothermal fluid. Mr. Houck said that through the permit discussions Mr. Jones has agreed to donate a one acre site to improve access for trail users.

Discussion

Commissioner Chalfant asked if the agency would have to compensate them in any way if the agency had to terminate the permit. Mr. Houck replied that they would have to deal with the railroad at that point, including crossing and use of the corridor.

10. Natural Resource Management

Jim Morgan, Natural Resource Manager

a) Natural Resources Plan for Bates State Park (Information)

Mr. Morgan stated that in the adoption of the master plan for Bates State Park the department agreed to develop a natural resources management plan to supplement the master plan. A major component of the plan addresses aquatic resources, including Bridge Creek, Bates Pond (through which Bridge Creek flows), Clear Creek, and the Middle Fork John Day River. Mr. Morgan explained that by using newly acquired data, the department completed a draft analysis of options or alternatives intended to provide the components needed to complete the natural resources management plan for Bates State Park. Mr. Morgan shared that staff has documented that Bridge Creek, as it enters into Bates Pond, is susceptible to thermal loading; the water temperature is elevated to a point and then at the time it exits Lower Bridge Creek, may at times exceed water quality standards. The department identified that at times the park's aquatic resources exceeds both the temperature and bacteria water quality standards for the Middle Fork John Day. Mr. Morgan said that there seems to be a great focus on thermal impacts of having Bridge Creek reside for a period of time inside a pond. He added that another issue is fish passage, namely for steelhead, Chinook salmon, and bull trout. He shared that ODF&W constructed a fish ladder in 2002 to allow fish passage and it has been successful to a large extent. He said that as happens in this profession, the state of the art 10 years later is out of date and in this case the fish ladder has been identified as having some challenges for all life stages identified for the fish species.

Mr. Morgan said that ten alternatives for managing the aquatic resources have been identified and analyzed; for each alternative, detailed information is provided that include a description of the alternative, benefits/detriments, constraints/risks, and level of effort/costs. The department intends to present the draft of these options to a stakeholders group on September 27, 2011, to identify any information that may have been overlooked and to gather feedback from the stakeholders. The stakeholders group includes those participating on the master plan development with additional vested neighbors and agencies. Any newly-contributed information or viable alternative will be incorporated into a final aquatic alternative analysis report that will be presented to the Commission in November 2011. The alternative analysis will be incorporated into the natural resources management plan anticipated for completion in December 2011.

Discussion

Chair Moriuchi asked if there is an absolute standard that we have to meet for temperature. Mr. Morgan replied that a load allocation will be provided. He explained that the load allocation is based on a designated amount of temperature or elevation that is allowable within that reach of the river; the load allocation is yet to be determined.

Commissioner Graves asked if swimming is considered in the water quality standards. Mr. Morgan replied that DEQ would identify beneficial uses, at this point it has been based on fish not recreation.

Commissioner Chalfant asked if modeling is being done in terms of solutions to try and address lowering the thermal gain through that area. Mr. Morgan replied that OPRD staff are currently working with a consultant as part of the work for development of the alternative analysis.

b) Sodom and Shearer Dam Removal (Information)

Mr. Morgan reported that the dam removal project was implemented on time and within budget. He said that both the Sodom and Shearer Dam were breached and removed. Mr. Morgan said that these dam removals and subsequent stream restoration work, completed largely with funds provided by OWEB and NOAA, open 71 miles of fish habitat in the Calapooia River. He shared that during the dam removal process it was discovered that this stretch of the river is particularly productive in lamprey. They had the opportunity to salvage thousands of lampreys from that area. Gaining fish passage will also gain more lamprey productivity.

Mr. Morgan reported that staff are currently working on development of an off line system for maintaining Thompson's Mill. He said that one of the options in removal of the dam was to operate the mill and maintain the mill pond without direct connectivity to the Calapooia River. He said that staff are still working on design. One of the options for supplementing water loss is through possible groundwater or a recirculation pump. He said the objective is to maintain the mill pond not only for operation and fire protection but for aesthetics. Mr. Morgan said while working through the design phase the removal of the dam project has proceeded and the initial phase of removal and restoration work including re-vegetation should be completed by the end of 2011.

Discussion

Commissioner Rudi asked if there is potential for any flooding because of the dam removals. Mr. Morgan replied that the effect of the dam removals will allow more passage of water at the low to medium flows. He said that at a certain level of flood stage the dams effects are insignificant; the country is very flat and by the time the bank is at full stage the width of the river is miles wide instead of feet wide and the dams, if still in place, would have an insignificant impact. Mr. Morgan stated that what the removals do is take OPRD out of the water management business. Historically OPRD has been perceived as causing some additional flooding problems, OPRD is no longer regulating water and should not be perceived as being the cause of potential flooding.

11. Planning and Land Use

Kathy Schutt, Planning Manager

a) Lewis and Clark State Recreation Site Comprehensive Plan (Action)

Ms. Schutt provided a report to the Commission on the Lewis and Clark State Recreation Site (Lewis and Clark SRS) and the proposed comprehensive plan. She explained the park management issues, an explanation of the planning process and timing, and a plan overview. Highlights from the presentation included:

Lewis and Clark SRS include:

- A day use area with parking lot, restrooms, trails, some interpretive signs and a large grassy area for picnicking and play.

- Climbing area on the slopes and cliffs of Broughton's Bluff
- A very small boat ramp and beaches along the river

Park management issues:

- Large numbers in the summer months
- Designated parking is in short supply
- Pedestrian access
- Portions of the interchange are unvegetated
- Traffic, pedestrian and cycling conflicts
- Undesignated and deteriorating trails to and along the Broughton Bluff climbing area
- Minor improvements to the day use area and natural resource restoration projects

Why plan now?

1. OPRD completed a master plan, in 1994, for its parks in the Columbia Gorge, including a proposed large gateway and welcoming facility at Lewis and Clark SRS that was based on the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area proposal. Since then, the U.S. Forest Service completed a much smaller welcoming facility on the north side of the freeway. For this reason OPRD has taken a new look at the "gateway" role for Lewis and Clark SRS.
2. This year, ODOT began a major renovation of the freeway bridge over the Sandy River, and will add a designated cycling and walking route and underpass. This route will provide a safe, non-motorized connection between the two recreation sites and the Portland area, and will provide a safer access under the bridge to connect to Lewis and Clark and the Historic Highway.
3. OPRD has been awarded a grant to complete a bike/pedestrian trail from the new underpass along Jordan Road. Final design for this project is expected in 2012.

In order to keep apace with these actions, OPRD has completed portions of a Comprehensive Plan for Lewis and Clark SRS. This informal plan will guide parking, road and trail improvements for the park prior to completion of a Comprehensive Plan and formal amendment of the OPRD master plan for our 30 Columbia Gorge parks.

Plan Overview

Staff completed resource and recreational needs assessments, an opportunity and constraint analysis, and management zone-based recommendations for the plan. A number of natural resource projects are proposed, including management of the river riparian area, the wooded area north of the new parking lot, weedy areas and eroded and unvegetated places.

Site design strategies included:

1. Looking for opportunities to provide more designated parking in damaged areas and within the Scenic Area/Multnomah County limit for the site
2. Revegetating the interchange access, improving orientation signs and placement
3. Providing traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossings for Jordan Road
4. Completing a riverside trail that offers views, fits with resources, connects to underpass
5. Improving day use area trails, interpretation and staging
6. Directing pedestrians between parking and beaches and the boat ramp

7. Pursuing solutions to traffic conflicts at the Historic Highway bridge

Proposed facility improvements:

- New parking lot and overflow parking on ODOT parcel, plant and add pathways
- Build trail along west side of Jordan Road from freeway underpass to Historic Highway
- Block off parking along the road, add crossings, improve orientation signage
- Improve day use/climbing trails and interpretation

Discussion

Commissioner Graves asked if the projected 118 parking spaces relate to how many cars are currently occupying the area. Ms. Schutt said that the maximum number allowed by zoning would not be enough to accommodate the amount of cars that try to fit into the current space. She said that alternatives may be to utilize other parking space up river and to provide signage and area access information to the public. Ms. Schutt stated that one of the next steps is for ODOT to look at the north side of the freeway for additional parking.

Commissioner Chalfant asked if there have been any conversations with TriMet regarding a shuttle. Ms. Schutt replied that TriMet does provide service in the City of Troutdale but service does not extend across the river. Ms. Schutt added that on the west side of the freeway there is still more work to do in resolving the connection to the Metro trail; it could be a discussion to see how a shuttle could fit into that situation.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Lewis and Clark State Recreation Site Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Musser seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

b) Cape Lookout State Park Comprehensive Plan Update (Information)

Ms. Schutt shared that the Cape Lookout Comprehensive Plan will be covering the entire park. She stated that the plan will come back to the Commission at the November meeting for approval. Ms. Schutt said that the planning process has emphasized the need to redesign the park to address problems associated with shoreline erosion and ocean flooding. She provided a map to the Commission that represented the flooding; showing the two extremes of flooding that could be addressed within a planning window of approximately 30 years. She said that it is also important to acknowledge that in addition to the flooding there is erosion that is happening outside of the existing protection area.

Ms. Schutt discussed the plans design concepts and priorities and the next steps in the planning process. Highlights from that discussion included:

- Emphasis on redesign of the park's core area because of the threats of shoreline erosion and ocean flooding
- High priority projects - related to visitor safety
- Second highest priority projects - critical or high investment facilities that are currently threatened by shore erosion or ocean flooding
- Third highest priority projects – longer term threats to critical facilities, or to address important traditional facilities that are threatened by their current proximity to ocean hazards

- Two design concepts for the new campground
 - Concept 1 reallocates part of the drainfield area to campground development with the addition of pretreatment in the sewage treatment system to enable a smaller drainfield.
 - Concept 2 avoids the entire drainfield in the placement of campground facilities.

- Redevelopment of the existing day use parking lot
 - Concept 1 takes advantage of the best ocean views for new cabins that would occupy part of the existing parking area.
 - Concept 2 would take advantage of the highest ground for placement of the cabins.
 - With both concepts, some of the parking for beach access would be redistributed to other areas, leaving enough of the original parking for picnicking activity.

- Next Steps in the Planning Process:
 Public and stakeholder committee meetings scheduled for September 22 and 23 will be followed by a 30 day written comment period. During this time staff will meet with the Tillamook County Commissioners to brief them on the Master Plan content and any issues raised in the public and stakeholder meetings. Staff intends to present the draft Plan to the Commission for a decision in November.

Discussion

Commissioner Musser asked if the camping area has to be moved back, will the public naturally move to the other area or will they choose to go to another site; should funds be put into relocating the camping if it will not be used or responded to well.

Commissioner Brown responded that within the coastal parks this park provides more direct access to the beach.

Ms. Schutt agreed that the visitors would like to be as close as possible. She said that the intention of the existing dune was to try to protect the main camp loops. In the future one of the scenarios, given the risk, is to maintain or raise the dune to try and keep the core existing facilities intact.

The Commission and staff discussed other coastal parks at risk from ocean flooding.

Mr. Potter and Mr. Morgan mentioned some additional natural resource issues and potential solutions regarding Cape Lookout State Park with the Commission.

12. Budget

a) Budget Update (Information)

Lisa Van Laanen, Assistant Director of Administration

Ms. Van Laanen provided the Commission with an update on the 2009-11 and 2011-13 biennia. She highlighted the following information:

2009-11: The Department's Accounting section is closing out the 2009-11 biennium. Accruals and disclosures must be completed by August 26, 2011. Final adjustments can still be made through December 2011. Final cash balances carried to the 2011-13 biennium will be available after December accounting close.

2011-13: After all the bills were passed and signed from the 2011 Legislative session, OPRD's budget was impacted by three bills: SB 5534 (budget bill), SB 58 (transfer Natural Heritage from State Lands) and SB 5508 (adjustments for DAS Assessments).

Emergency Board Meetings: With the approval by Oregon voter of annual legislative sessions, the Oregon Legislature will return to session in February 2012. Between now and then, only meetings of the Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means have been scheduled for September 2011 and November 2011. This body will hear issues and make recommendation to the full body for action in February.

Lottery Forecast: On August 26, 2011 the September 2011 Lottery Fund forecast will be released by the Department of Administrative Services. It will include the final forecast for 2009-11 and an updated forecast for 2011-13.

Department's Total Fund budget by Summary Cross Reference (SCR):

Budget By SCR: (including packages):	
Director's Office	3,667,192
Central Services	27,478,648
Park Development	28,598,720
Direct Services	82,239,134
Community Support and Grants	34,759,899
Oregon Exposition Center	15,033,824
Total	191,777,417

Ms. Van Laanen stated that this budget is not yet audited at the detail level by DAS. A number of technical adjustments are being made to the budget report for SB 5534 before the audit may be completed. She stated that budget allocation has been finalized at the Executive Team level and is now going on at the various management levels in the organization. Impacts at the various levels of the organization are still being analyzed.

Commissioner Brown stated that there are two areas of the budget process that the Commission should be involved, the submission process and the reconstitution process.

- 13. Reports (Information)**
 - a) Critical Incident Response
 - b) Cottonwood Canyon Development Plan
 - c) YMCA Camp Pool Project
 - d) Illinois River State Park

The above reports were provided to the Commission as informational items only; there was no presentation or discussion on these items.

14. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

The November 2011 Meeting of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission will be held in Hood River. The meeting will be held at the Columbia Gorge Hotel.

Itinerary:

Tuesday, Nov 15th - site visits in the Gorge
- work sessions

Wednesday, Nov 16th – business meeting

The September meeting of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission adjourned at 1:45 pm.