

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4th, 2012

Agenda Item: 12a

Action

Topic: Scenic Bikeway Approvals

Presented by: Alex Phillips

Background:

An Application for the Grande Tour Bikeway being considered for designation as state scenic bikeways was submitted by local proponent groups in January 2010. During the spring and summer of 2010 the rating subcommittee of the scenic bikeway committee visited the proponents and rode the route to rate it. The subcommittee found the route included in Attachment A to meet the criteria for designation. The full committee voted to recommend the routes for designation and instructed the proponents to prepare a bikeway plan for the route. The plan consists of the records of the local public meetings, notification and minutes, a local marketing plan, sign location tables and other items.

The OPRD Bicycle and Water Recreation Coordinator worked closely with the proponent group during the development of the bikeway plans. Once the bikeway plans were finalized they were submitted to the full scenic bikeway committee for approval, which was given on January 19th, 2012. The plan is available at: <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PARKS/BIKE/>.

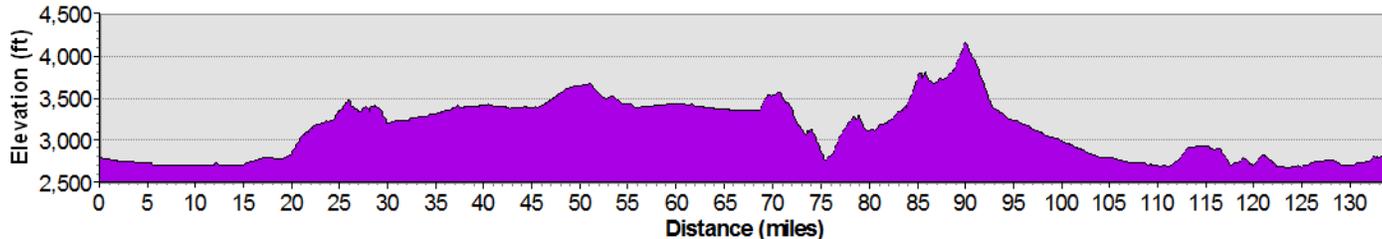
Next, the Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council (ORTAC) recommended their designation pending favorable public comment. OPRD held a public hearing in La Grande, a summary of the comments are attached.

Prior Action by Commission: No prior action on this item. The commission received information on route proposals and the application process at the July 20th, 2011 business meeting.

Action Requested: Staff requests Commission approval of the Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway.

Prepared by: Alex Phillips

Grande Tour Elevation Profile



Legend

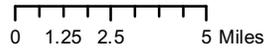
- × 5 Mile Markers
- ~ Bikeway
- 🚰 Drinking Water
- 🚻 Restrooms
- P Parking
- 🍴 Food
- 🏕️ Camping
- 🏠 Lodging

Caution: Confusing Intersection!

Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway



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3/6/2012

Hearing Summary for Twin Bridges Bikeway
Hearing held February 27, 2012 in La Grande, Oregon
Compiled by Alex Phillips

Notification: A media release was sent to all media outlets and to individual reporters who have shown an interest in the bikeway. The La Grande Observer published an announcement of the meeting in the February 23rd newspaper.

Last year, on June 8th 2011, the local proponent held a public meeting to discuss the bikeway. The La Grande Observer published an announcement of the meeting on June 6th, 2011.

The same paper published three articles about the proposed bikeway. The September 29th 2010 article was titled “Oregon Scenic Bikeways designations could lure visitors, aid local economy”. The October 31st, 2010 article was titled “Grande and Scenic”. The February 4th, 2011 article focused on economic development in the region and mentioned the proposed bikeway.

Hearing Synopsis: Approximately 27 people attended the hearing, with 15 people testifying during the hearing. Two written letters of support and three written letters in opposition were submitted after the hearing. One letter to the editor appeared in the La Grande Observer on March 7, 2012 with the writer asking why ATVs could not be on the road along with bicycles and motorized vehicles.

Comment Content

In Support of Designation

Comments in support of the designation could be grouped in four categories.

1) Economic development: The designation and accompanying promotions brings in tourists from out of the region and out of state. One person commenting mentioned that cyclists are warm and friendly and spend money in each of the communities in which they pass. The bikeway was called a “clean tourism attraction” by one of the people commenting.

2) The route is great for cycling: Several spoke in favor of the route because of the scenic beauty, low traffic roads and courteous drivers. Courteous drivers were mentioned by many of the people commenting. One commenter said cycling the area is a wonderful way to celebrate the Baker and La Grande valleys.

3) Designation helps alleviate safety concerns: one person said the route shows a safe route through the area, several commented that the bikeway directional signs will also help alert drivers to cyclists on the road. One person mentioned a concern that families might bring kids to the route.

Staff Response: Marketing materials clearly label which bikeways are “family friendly” and which ones are more challenging.

4) Safety: Two comments from those in support mentioned the need to separate cyclists from drivers as much as possible via bike lanes or shoulders.

Against Designation

The three comments against the designation were almost exclusively based on the inability to share the road because of narrow roads, no shoulder, wide trailers and RVs and the inability of stock or wood hauling trucks to stop quickly.

Also mentioned were problems caused by cyclists not riding single file.

One letter writer mentioned that gravel roads closed to motorized traffic are a better location for a bikeway. The same writer mentioned the safety concern of cyclists riding with cattle as ranchers use the road to transfer cattle from one allotment to another. Also mentioned was that in the event of a major accident on I- 84 traffic is routed onto a section of the proposed bikeway, which can bring unpredictable heavy traffic to the bikeway.

In response to a supporter's comment that signs can help alert motorists to bicycles on the road one commenter wrote that orange vests worn by road workers and signs stating trucks are entering the roadway do not prevent accidents and neither will the bikeway signs.

Staff Response: ODOT conducted a review of the state managed roads, which make up most of the bikeway, and found that the road meets and often exceeds the recommended separation guidelines in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Guide for roadways with bicycles. The review is included in the ODOT letter of support and can be found in the bikeway plan. Several members of the bikeway committee, representing a spectrum of cycling experience and comfort levels, rode the route and rated the road conditions very highly.

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Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4, 2012

Agenda Item: 12b

Information

Topic: Heritage Programs Report

Presented by: Roger Roper

Kam Wah Chung Museum—Translation of Documents

Efforts are underway to begin translating some of the thousands of documents that are part of the Kam Wah Chung collection. The Friends of Kam Wah Chung have hired someone who is working under park staff supervision to organize and prioritize documents for scanning and translation. A grant from Heritage Programs is helping support the work. The scanned documents will then be made available online for translation by members of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (Portland Lodge), who offered to assist with the project. OPRD's IT staff have provided technical assistance to ensure that the back-and-forth exchange of scans and translations goes smoothly. The first scans should be available for translation some time in June. This effort is in addition to the on-going work of Oregon College of Oriental Medicine (OCOM) in translating the medically relevant materials.

Heritage Conference

The conference will be held April 26-28 at the Salem Conference Center. The conference is being held jointly with the Northwest Archivists Annual Meeting. Here is a sampling of conference offerings:

- Heritage Excellence Awards Dinner (April 27). Recognizes individuals, organizations, and projects for their exceptional contributions to Oregon's heritage.
- Keynote Address: Dr. Robert K. Sutton, Chief Historian, National Park Service. (Earlier in his career, Dr. Sutton was involved in restoration efforts at Fort Stevens and performed a number of cultural resource surveys for OPRD.)
- "Remembering the Columbus Day Storm: Tips on Implementing Your Disaster Preparedness Plan." This half-day workshop includes a recounting of some of the key impacts related to the 1962 storm, followed by discussions about preparing and implementing disaster preparedness plans for museums and archives.
- "Sprouting the Interest of Tomorrow's Historians: Case Studies for Engaging Youth in Heritage"
- "Opening Doors to Oregon Heritage Barns"
- "Creating Dynamic Public Programming via Documentaries, Public Broadcasting and Film." Presenters include an independent filmmaker, Oregon Public Broadcasting, and The Archaeology Channel.
- "Tales from the Digital Frontier: Stories of Inspiration, Progress, and Cannibalism." Panelists will present projects they are involved in related to digital collections, digital archives, digital preservation, and access mechanisms.

Prior Action by Commission: None

Action Requested: None

Prepared by: Roger Roper, Assistant Director—Heritage Programs

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4, 2012

Agenda Item: 12c

Information

Topic: Heritage and Museum Grants

Presented by: Roger Roper

Heritage and Community Programs has recently awarded grants under one of its five heritage grant programs: Certified Local Government (CLG) grants. The CLG Grant Program typically provides a total of about \$225,000 per year in federal funds with an average of 20 grants per year. Grantees must match their grants at least one-to-one.

CLG grants are available only to local governments that have been certified as local preservation partners by both the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the National Park Service. Certification requirements include adopting a local historic preservation ordinance and establishing a local historic preservation commission. There are currently 40 CLGs in Oregon, 36 cities and 4 counties.

Recently awarded grants:

- Certified Local Government Grants
 - 20 grants
 - \$254,695
 - For a broad range of historic preservation activities, including surveys, National Register nominations, public education, training, and rehabilitation.

Further details about the specific grants are provided on the attached reports.

Prior Action by Commission: Sept. 19, 2007, approval of Heritage Programs' overall grant program, in lieu of individual grant approvals.

Action Requested: None

Prepared by: Roger Roper, Assistant Director—Heritage and Community Programs

2012 Certified Local Government Grants Heritage Programs, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Grantee	Project Description	Grant Amount	Match Amount	Project Total
Albany	Intensive Level Survey of 5-10 properties identified in a Reconnaissance Level Survey. Work with property owners to determine and encourage interest in National Register nomination. Educational programs including newsletters, three preservation workshops or lectures. Revision of the Historic Overlay Ordinance and Comprehensive and Preservation Plans. Administration and design review.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Ashland	Educational programs including brochures, postcards, handouts and interpretive panels regarding the value of historic preservation. Preservation month activities including guest speakers, historic cemetery clean up, guided walking tours, and preservation awards. Development and implementation of design standards. Attendance at the Oregon Heritage Conference. Administration and design review.	\$14,490	\$14,490	\$18,980
Astoria	Reconnaissance Level Survey on the Adair-Uppertown Area (approx. 360 properties). Architectural assistance to historic property owners. Host a Historic Preservation Fair and give preservation awards. Administration and design review.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Baker City	Replace damaged front entrance stairs at the city-owned, National Register-listed Carnegie Library building.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Benton County	Nomination of the Palestine Church to the National Register. Educational programs, including Preservation Month activities (lectures, tours and workshops) and a Historic Benton County Driving Tour brochure. Administration and design review.	\$14,470	\$14,470	\$28,940
Cottage Grove	Host a 3-day window restoration workshop for contractors. Develop a long range preservation plan. Restoration plans for the Hemenway Building in the downtown district. Conduct test panel treatments on the Cottage Grove Hotel in the downtown district. Replace the roof on the city owned and National Register listed Veay House.	\$14,490	\$14,490	\$28,980
Douglas County	Administration and design review. Enhance the county website with improved access and updated information. Preservation month activities in partnership with the Douglas County Museum. Purchase additional preservation resources for the county library. Attendance of commissioners and staff at conferences and workshops. Administration and design review.	\$9,350	\$9,350	\$18,700
Enterprise	National Register nomination for the Enterprise City Library. Interpretive plaques for historic buildings. Attendance of staff and commissioners to conferences and workshops. Administration and design review.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Gresham	Reconnaissance Level Survey of Northwest neighborhood (approx. 465 properties). Administration.	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000

Grantee	Project Description	Grant Amount	Match Amount	Project Total
Hillsboro	National Register nomination for one property each in the Orenco Townsite and Downtown Neighborhood Conservation Districts and submission of a Hillsboro Multiple Property Document including Orenco and Downtown Historic Contexts. Educational programs including Landmark newsletter and resource owner notification and training. Attendance of staff and commissioners to conferences and workshops. Inventory update for newly annexed areas. Transfer interactive cultural resource map to city website. Administration and design review.	\$14,425	\$14,425	\$28,850
Jacksonville	Major revision of Historic Protection and Design Regulation code. Attendance of staff and commissioners to conferences and workshops.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
McMinnville	Educational programs including events in association with McMinnville's 100-year anniversary, publication of a book about the development of the Granary District and the buildings within it, and the annual preservation award program. Pass-through grants for rehabilitation work on National Register properties.	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$28,000
Medford	Reconnaissance Level Survey of Summit-Fairmount neighborhood (approx 1,000 properties). Offer a public education event related to the results of the survey. Implement the preservation award program. Attendance of commissioner to NAPC conference. Enhance the city website to include more preservation information and the review process. Administration and design review.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Monmouth	Update the 1987 survey of 63 structures throughout Monmouth. Update, reformat and print walking tour brochure. Administration.	\$3,170	\$3,170	\$6,340
Oregon City	Create Multiple Property Submission for Oregon City including a context for the downtown. Offer a pass-through grant program in partnership with Main Street Oregon City for the individual nominations under the MPS.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
Portland	Public hearing mailing to property owners in the proposed Buckman Historic District. Survey of unreinforced masonry buildings in 6-10 specific areas. Based on the survey select two areas for detailed survey and seismic evaluation. Using this information create case studies and planning tools related to seismic concerns for approx. 200 properties. Administration and design review.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Redmond	Intensive Level Survey of approx. 70 properties in the Downtown City Center, based on an earlier survey. National Register Nomination of a downtown commercial historic district.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
Roseburg	Educational projects including update Mill-Pine and Downtown District brochures. Create Laureiwood brochure, website access to brochures, and smart phone tours from the brochures. Digitize all remaining paper copies of historic resources records. Develop a searchable database, create maps, and attach pictures and make them available online. Administer cooperative paint grants using private funds. Attendance of staff and commissioners to conferences and workshops.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000

Grantee	Project Description	Grant Amount	Match Amount	Project Total
Springfield	Reconnaissance Level Survey of the Willamette Heights neighborhood (approx. 150 properties. Intensive Level Survey of two properties within Springfield's downtown. Educational and training activities including: installation of one district gateway sign and touch up of six existing signs; historic preservation month activities for 2012 & 2013; develop and staff commission display table during summer art walks; coordinate with Cottage Grove for contractor training on wood window repair; publish and distribute annual newsletter; create Historic Fence Guidelines brochure. Attendance of staff and commissioners to conferences and workshops. Inventory update for newly annexed areas. Administration and design review.	\$13,800	\$13,800	\$27,600
The Dalles	Install three interpretive panels associated with the Columbia River and Lewis and Clark history.	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$29,000
Number of Grants: 20		Grand Totals	\$254,695	\$509,390