



**Project Title:** Marquam Nature Park Soft Surface Trails

**Public Involvement Plan**

*April 14, 2011*

Project Manager: Allison Rouse

PI Start: May 2011

PI Complete: June 2011

**Project Scope**

To design and construct a number of soft surface hiking trail segments, bridges and wayfinding signage as called for in the 2003 Marquam Hill Plan and using the preliminary alignments determined by public process in 2007.

**Project Background**

Marquam Nature Park supports an abundance of native tree species, such as Douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, and bigleaf maples, and a variety of natural habitats. The entire park has a protective environmental zoning overlay applied, to ensure preservation of that habitat and the natural hydrology (flow of water through its many seeps and perennial and seasonal streams).

The new trails developed in this process are based on the 2003 Marquam Hill plan. The alignments were preliminarily identified through a public process in 2007. The new trails will responsibly expand hiking options within the park while preserving the habitat and other environmental values. The project will provide key pedestrian connections between the surrounding neighborhoods, OHSU, and the Terwilliger Parkway. The project will eliminate a network of unsafe demand trails that damage habitat and water quality. Funding is provided by a Local Share of Metro's 2002 Greenspaces Bond Measure.

The park currently contains one official trail, the Marquam Trail, a part of the 40-Mile Loop and the SW Trails network. The Marquam Trail connects uphill to Council Crest and the Oregon Zoo and downhill to Terwilliger Parkway. There are also quite a few unsafe and damaging demand (a.k.a. "social") trails that connect the surrounding neighborhoods with destinations such as the Marquam Trail, OHSU, and Terwilliger Parkway.

A small kiosk with information about the Nature Park and the trail network is located at the base of the Marquam Trail along Terwilliger.

**Project Direction**

Starting with the alignments proposed in 2007 and PP&R's 2009 Trail Design Guidelines, Portland Parks & Recreation will build low-impact, maintainable trails that make key pedestrian connections between SW Fairmount Blvd and the existing Marquam Trail and SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drive near OHSU, expand recreational opportunities within the park, and eliminate and/or formalize the demand trails that are unsafe and degrade habitat and water quality.

## **Public Involvement Overview**

Eight preliminary trail segment alignments were determined through a public process in 2007. Each segment of the 2007 proposed trail network has been assessed by consultants as to its environmental impact; safety and maintainability; circulatory and recreational contribution; and cost. The estimated Total Project Cost to design and build all of the 2007 trails significantly exceeds the project budget. Public input will be sought to identify the highest priority segments to move ahead with the available funding into design and permitting. PP&R will build those trails in 2012.

## **Stakeholder Identification**

- SWNI Parks Committee
- SWNI Trails Committee
- Homestead Neighborhood Association
- South Portland Neighborhood Association
- Friends of Marquam Nature Park
- Friends of Terwilliger
- Southwest Hills Residential League
- OHSU
- The Veterans Administration
- Metro
- City of Portland Bureau of Development Services
- City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
- City of Portland Bureau of Transportation

## **Publications/Notification**

- SWNI News
- OHSU newsletter
- Other TBD from stakeholder input

*Electronic Communication – notification for public meeting, TBD from stakeholder input*

*Road- and Trail-side signs*

*Website*

- PP&R*
- Friends of Marquam*
- Other TBD from stakeholder input*

*Media*

- PSA*

## **Public Meetings**

One public meeting – date in May 2011, time and location to be determined.

## **Schedule (subject to change)**

- April Develop project website
- Post Assessment Memo for 2007 Trail Segments
- Develop public meeting date, time, place, list of invitees and notice methods

May early: Send PSA notice of meeting  
late: Hold public meeting to discuss trail segment priorities

June PP&R confirms trails to be designed and permitted in 2011 and built in 2012  
Proceed with surveying and design of trails

November Submit for environmental and site development permits for 2012 construction project

March 2012 Receive Permits and Bid out Trail Construction

June-August 2012 Construction

August 2012 Trails Opening