

Introduced by _____ Council Bill No. R 162-07

A RESOLUTION

approving an amendment to Chapter 7 of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan, 2002 Facilities Needs Update to extend the Bear Creek Trail from the Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 7 of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan, 2002 Facilities Needs Update is amended by adding the 2007 Trails Plan map, which is set forth in Exhibit A, attached to this resolution. The map shows an extension of the Bear Creek Trail from the Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2007.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

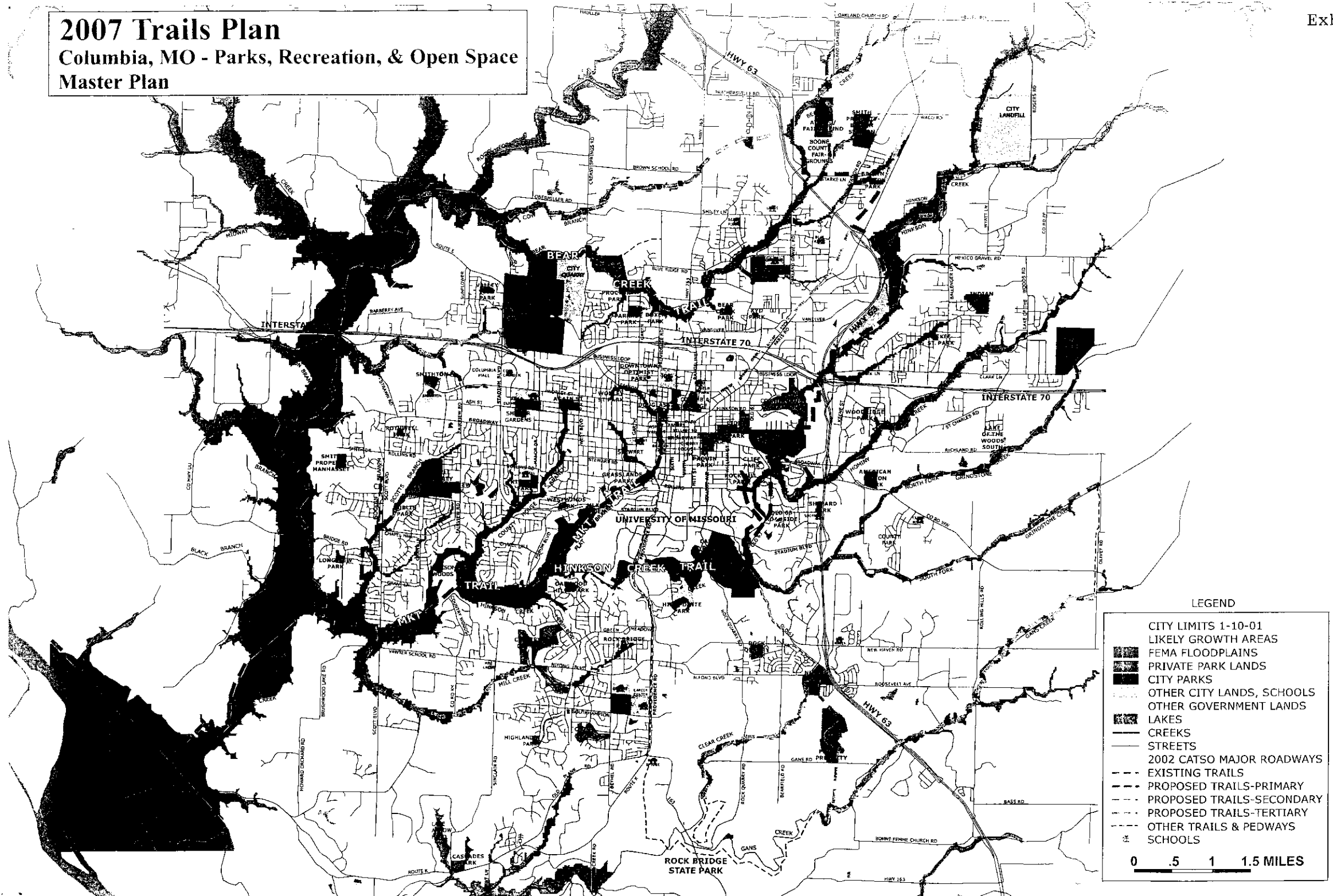
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


















City Counselor

2007 Trails Plan

Columbia, MO - Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Master Plan




LEGEND

-  CITY LIMITS 1-10-01
-  LIKELY GROWTH AREAS
-  FEMA FLOODPLAINS
-  PRIVATE PARK LANDS
-  CITY PARKS
-  OTHER CITY LANDS, SCHOOLS
-  OTHER GOVERNMENT LANDS
-  LAKES
-  CREEKS
-  STREETS
-  2002 CATSO MAJOR ROADWAYS
-  EXISTING TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAILS-PRIMARY
-  PROPOSED TRAILS-SECONDARY
-  PROPOSED TRAILS-TERTIARY
-  OTHER TRAILS & PEDWAYS
-  SCHOOLS

0 0.5 1 1.5 MILES

Source:

Timothy Teddy
Mike Hood

TO: City Council
FROM: City Manager and Staff 
DATE: July 9, 2007
RE: 2-RPT-07 Amendment of the Trails Plan to extend the future Bear Creek Trail from the Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road



Fiscal Impact

YES

~~NO~~


Other Info.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution approving an amendment to the 2005 Trails Plan element of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. As directed by the City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed a proposed amendment to the 2005 Trails Plan that extends the future Bear Creek Trail from the Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, on March 15, 2007, and the Planning and Zoning Commission, on July 5, 2007, each recommended approval of the amendment by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION:

The proposed amendment would add a future trail corridor approximately two miles in length and designate it as "tertiary" priority. The draft FY2008 Capital Improvement Program lists the extension of the existing trail from Blue Ridge Road to Lange Middle School as a 1-2 year project and the future extension from Lange to the Fairgrounds as a 6-10 year project. Extension of the trail beyond the Fairgrounds would provide a recreational amenity and additional bicycle and pedestrian access to an area of significant future growth.

SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Approval of an amendment to the Trails Plan to add the Bear Creek Trail from the Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road.

Staff report, maps and minutes are attached.

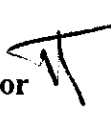
MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning and Zoning Commission
Jeff Barrow, Chairman

FROM: Timothy Teddy, AICP, Planning and Development Director

DATE: June 28, 2007

RE: Amendment to the 2005 Trails Plan to Extend the Planned Bear Creek Trail from Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road



INTRODUCTION

In August 2006 the City Council directed staff to obtain Commission input on the possible extension of the planned Bear Creek Trail beyond the limits in the adopted 2005 Trails Plan. The resulting amendment consists of an extension of the Bear Creek Trail as a proposed trail from its current planned terminus at the Boone County Fairgrounds to Oakland Church Road west of Route B. Previously the Commission has reviewed the amendment at a work session.

The Trail Plan is an element of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan (*full text and maps at: http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Master_Plan/index.php*). It delineates existing and proposed trails. The proposed trails are coded by priority: primary, secondary, and tertiary order of importance. The proposed amendment would add a section of Bear Creek, approximately two miles in length, as a tertiary trail acquisition target. The existing Bear Creek Trail extends from Cosmo Park on the west to Albert-Oakland Park on the east and includes improved trail heads and the Garth Nature Area. The section of Bear Creek north of Blue Ridge Road to the Fairgrounds is a primary acquisition target for future trail development.

DISCUSSION

This amendment is an effort to keep pace with expansion of the City. Recently, several property owners have annexed and received zoning and plat approvals on property north of Waco Road, extended. The recent approval of Tuscany Ridge 2 preliminary plat included reservation of a common lot along Bear Creek for future trail use by the City. By the terms of an agreement approved upon annexation and rezoning of the Tuscany Ridge tract, the City must amend its trail plan to include a planned trail within one year of the agreement approval (March 5, 2008).

Land use along the proposed route consists of mostly vacant land use, a large proportion of which is committed to future development of residences and recreation, and low-density residential. The Arbor Falls subdivision, now under construction, ultimately will add 435 single-family dwellings and up to 264 multiple family dwellings. Tuscany Ridge will add 500 single-family dwelling units south of Waco and 164 single-family dwellings north of Waco to the neighborhood. Gregory Heights is an established neighborhood to the west of the proposed trail. The City and County jointly own the 80-acre Atkins

property and the City owns the Smith property which will provide future recreation destinations on the west and east sides of the trail respectively.

The only major roadway crossing of the future trail anticipated at this time is Waco Road, which in the City's draft FY 2008 capital improvement program is planned to be extended, from Brown Station Road to Oakland Gravel Road within the next five years.

Given the expected future growth and the presence of recreational destinations like the Fairgrounds, Atkins property, Smith property, and (farther south) Albert-Oakland Park, extension of a trail route is a good investment. Mapping of a general trail route allows City staff to obtain greenspace trail easements as platting and development occurs.

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously recommended approval of the "2007 Trails Plan" which adds the Bear Creek Trail to Oakland Church Road to the 2005 Trails Plan.

Minutes of the March 15, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, 2005 and proposed 2007 Trails Plans are attached.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, March 15, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

ARC, 1701 West Ash

MINUTES

Commission Present: Bill Pauls, Dennis Knudson, Marin Blevins, Dan Devine, Mike Jones

Staff Present: Mike Hood, Mike Griggs, Gary Ristow, Tammy Miller

Pauls called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Blevins, seconded by Devine.

Minutes: The February minutes were approved on a motion from Devine, seconded by Knudson.

Monthly Report: The February monthly report was approved on a motion from Devine, seconded by Knudson.

Crane Property Update

After four years of negotiations, Hood said the City has agreed to a contract with the Crane family to purchase their family farm. This purchase will allow the development of a regional park in southeast Columbia, which was identified as a need in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Hood showed the Commission maps of the property which adjoins the Philips tract. The Gans Creek watershed is located on the property, as well as a couple of caves, limestone bluffs, natural springs and acres of pastureland. Hood said he anticipates athletic fields being built as well as a possible connector trail to Rock Bridge State Park, which shares a boundary with the land. Access to the property will be excellent with Gans Road and the new interchange that is planned off of Highway 63.

The cost of the land is \$8 million. Council is expected to consider authorization of the purchase at their March 19 meeting. Hood said he was optimistic of a favorable vote.

Pauls asked if any specific proposed use was being discussed for the new park, such as disc golf. A resident had approached him about that issue.

Hood answered that he expected interest from various entities, but the planning would be farther ahead. The City will close on the property in September and will not take possession until the fall of 2008 after the family moves. The park will likely be planned in a similar method as Stephens Lake Park, with public hearings planned. That planning process took about 18 months, which will likely be about the same length of time as the new park. Funds for the park development may be tied to renewal of the parks sales tax, slated for the ballot in 2010.

Devine asked how the purchase would tie up financing of other parks projects?

Hood said though this is a large purchase, other ballot issue projects would not be affected. The City had been anticipating a major land purchase such as this one for some time, however, there is little flexibility for other projects that may come up.

Trail Master Plan--Bear Creek Trail amendment

Hood told Commissioners that an amendment to the Trails Master Plan is being considered, specifically the Bear Creek Trail. The Master Plan shows the trail ending at the Fairgrounds, but with added development in that area, Council has asked staff to look at extending the trail north of that location. Hood shared a map with Commissioners. The proposal would extend Bear Creek Trail following the east branch of the creek to the Smith property north to the Atkins property, then to the northeast corner where the new library is proposed. The trail would then turn back to the creek bottom all the way to Oakland Church Road.

Blevins asked about development there?

Hood answered there are new plats to the east and north of the Atkins property, with possibly 2000 houses being built. Blevins then asked about construction issues the department might face.

Hood said that getting the trail across Highway 63 would be the biggest challenge. The trail would hopefully go underneath the highway, but an overpass may have to be built.

Pauls asked about crossing Oakland Gravel Road.

Hood said that culverts may work.

Devine made a motion to accept the amendment to the Trails Master Plan of extending the Bear Creek Trail to Oakland Church Road, seconded by Blevins.
All in favor, motion passed.

MPRA Conference Report

Pauls commented that the MPRA Conference in Springfield was a great experience. He described the tours he took and praised the facilities in Springfield, including the ice rink and zoo. Pauls added that he heard many compliments regarding the parks system and staff in Columbia as well.

Hood added that the Springfield parks and recreation system has really grown, with 200 permanent employees and 24 new positions planned this year. He said one thing that struck him was the amount of ice damage still left from winter storms. He told Commissioners that it was an outstanding conference.

Griggs said touring the parks facilities offered ideas to Columbia staff. He commented that Springfield now has 9 planners on staff but no in-house construction staff, whereas Columbia does have a construction staff.

Council Items

Hood told Commissioners that the Crane property contract was on the agenda for the March 19 Council meeting. A draft of the CYBA memorandum of understanding is also on the agenda. Hood added that Farmers' Market memorandum would be completed in about a month.

Another item on the Council agenda is a report on the Mavericks' proposal for the new stadium at the American Legion site. Hood said Parks and Recreation staff would have to get new fields on the Atkins tract ready by 2008 and would lose usage of the American Legion fields this fall if the Mavericks' proposal moves forward. He added that a decision regarding the proposal would need to be made quickly if the fields were to be built in time.

Capital Projects Update

Griggs shared updates as follows:

Cosmo-Bethel- dirt work has begun for the new shelter and playground and curb cuts have been made where the community garden used to be.

RC track at Cosmo- electricity has been installed for anticipated races, giving participants the ability to charge their cars.
ARC parking lot- earth work is being completed and sidewalks are being installed.

Garth dog park- fence is being installed.

Antimi- concrete work around the concession stand and bleachers is being completed. New shade structures will be added to the bleachers.

Commission Comments

Jones commented he had heard compliments on the good use of CDBG funds for Douglass Park projects.

Pauls asked about the rocks at the Skate Park and the issue of youth relocating them and making a mess. He asked if it was possible to use really large rocks similar to the ones at Stephens Lake to deter kids from moving them?

Hood said staff could plan toward that goal.

Griggs added that those boulders are usually donated.

Pauls also commented that the Garth Nature Area was looking really good.

Staff Comments

Ristow commented on the community event at Douglass Park over the weekend that was planned as a counter-response to the Neo-Nazi march in downtown. Ristow said the community really came together and made it a nice event.

Devine asked if there were plans to turn it into an annual event?

Ristow said that had been discussions about that, it would depend on the community support.

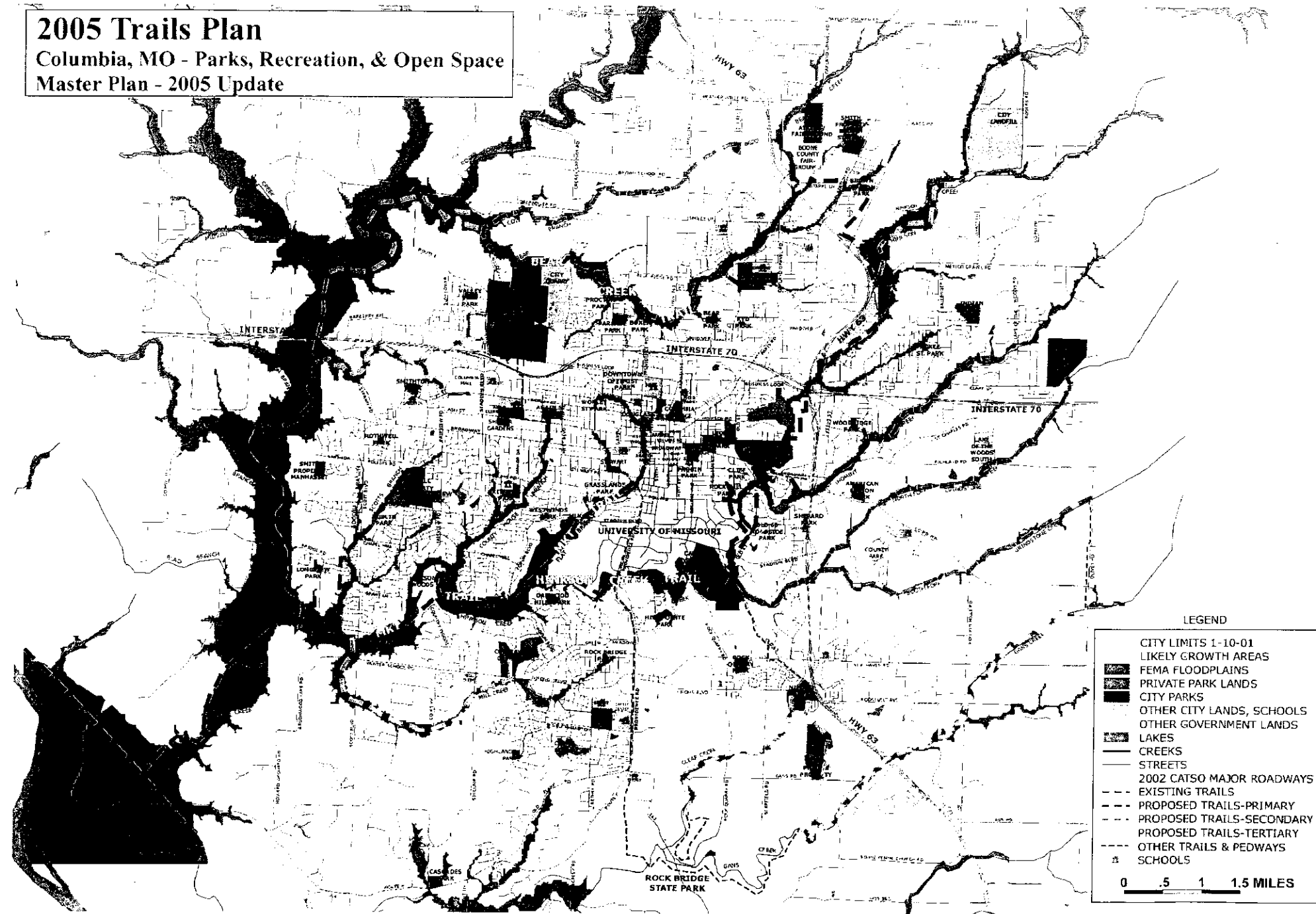
Hood added that Parks and Recreation staff assisted, but it truly was a collaborative effort that made it a success.

Public Comments

None

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

2005 Trails Plan
 Columbia, MO - Parks, Recreation, & Open Space
 Master Plan - 2005 Update



LEGEND

- CITY LIMITS 1-10-01
 - LIKELY GROWTH AREAS
 - FEMA FLOODPLAINS
 - PRIVATE PARK LANDS
 - CITY PARKS
 - OTHER CITY LANDS, SCHOOLS
 - OTHER GOVERNMENT LANDS
 - LAKES
 - CREEKS
 - STREETS
 - 2002 CATSO MAJOR ROADWAYS
 - EXISTING TRAILS
 - PROPOSED TRAILS-PRIMARY
 - PROPOSED TRAILS-SECONDARY
 - PROPOSED TRAILS-TERTIARY
 - OTHER TRAILS & PEDWAYS
 - SCHOOLS
- 0 .5 1 1.5 MILES

EXCERPTS
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
July 5, 2007

2-RPT-07 Revision to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan regarding the Bear creek Trail expansion.

MR. BARROW: May we have a staff report, please?

Staff report was given by Mr. Tim Teddy of the Planning and Development Department. Staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously recommended approval of the "2007 Trails Plan" which adds the Bear Creek Trail to Oakland Church Road to the 2005 Trails Plan.

MR. BARROW: Any questions of staff?

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

MR. BARROW: Anyone wishing to speak in support of this, please come forward. Anyone wishing to speak in opposition to it? Anyone wishing to speak at all?

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

MR. BARROW: Commissioners? Mr. Holden?

MR. HOLDEN: Well, I'm very happy to see that we're connecting our recreation areas with more and better trail systems, and so, I'm happy to support this.

MR. BARROW: And I'll speak, too. I'm happy to support a trail extension. I hope when the City is actually locating these trails, that they be sure to try to protect the riparian corridor of the creek itself so that the City is not adding to the degradation of our streams. And I would also like to say that I'm happy to see this map that you gave us. It shows likely areas of growth, and it also just shows white areas that have dotted lines for trails, and I think that it would really behoove the City to work with -- I believe the County has a Parks and Rec Board, although they have no money. But it would be good to work with them and also the County Public Works Department so when roads and things like that are being planned and built, that we can have culverts that would accommodate a trail that would go underneath them. And it might be good to work with the highway department so when Highway 63s or those type of roads are being built, that we can accommodate the expanding trail system. I'm just throwing that out there for the record. But I'm happy to see the City is looking beyond its own borders for expanding the trail system, and I hope they can cooperate with state and county officials in seeing that happen. Ms. Anthony?

MS. ANTHONY: Yes. I'm thrilled to see this. I'm a relative newcomer to Columbia, and I think that the trail system is amazing and unique and makes Columbia exceptional, and I'm just thrilled to see that we're extending it.

MR. BARROW: Further discussion? Yes, Mr. Rice?

MR. RICE: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion we recommend approval of this report with the revision of the master plan regarding the Bear Creek Trail expansion.

MR. BARROW: Ms. Curby?

MS. CURBY: I'll second that.

MR. BARROW: It's been moved and seconded. I guess, in speaking to the motion, I would like to say that I'm really happy with this process, that the Parks Department staff looked at this and they took it to their commission, and that we're getting their full comments and buy-in on this. Now it's coming to us and now we go to City Council. So, I think that's just a very deep process. Any further discussion on the motion? Roll call, please.

MR. WHEELER: A motion has been made and seconded to recommend approval of a revision to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan regarding the Bear Creek Trail expansion.

Roll Call Vote (Voting "yes" is to recommend approval.) Voting Yes: Ms. Peters, Mr. Rice, Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Anthony, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Cady, Ms. Curby, Mr. Holden. Motion carries 8-0.