



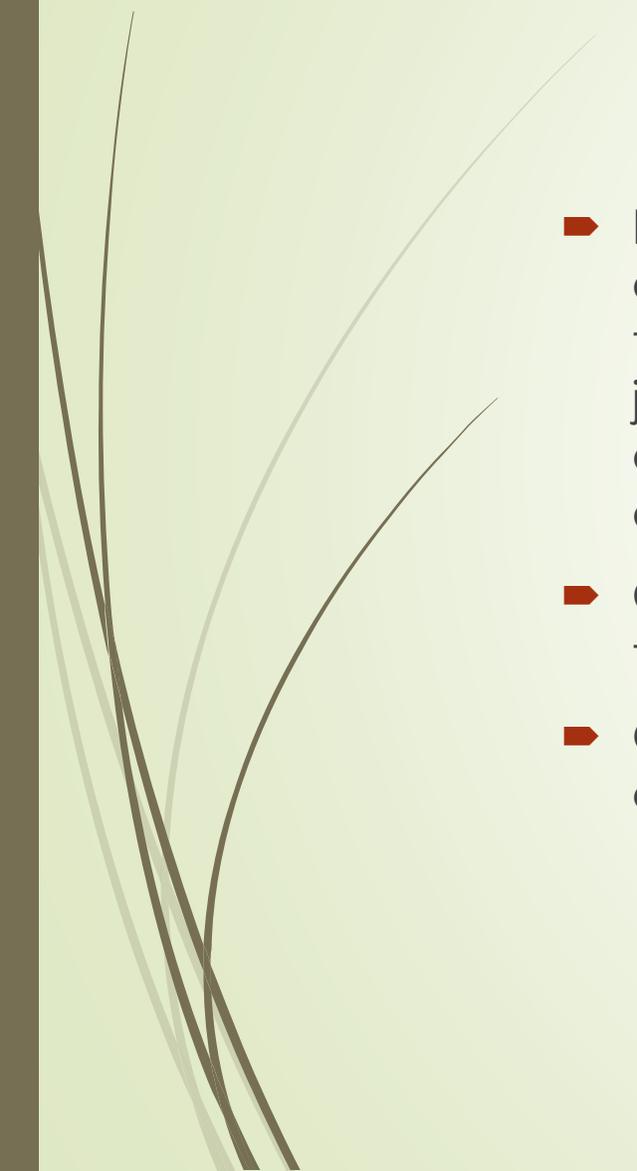
# Los Alamos County Proposed Flow Trail

Parks, Recreation and Open Space



# What is a Flow Trail?

## Definition and Criteria

- ▶ Flow Trails take mountain bikers on a terrain-induced roller coaster experience, with little pedaling and braking necessary. This style of trail typically contains features like banked turns, rolling terrain, various types of jumps, and consistent and predictable surfaces. Conspicuously absent are abrupt corners or unforeseen obstacles. As a rider carves back and forth, and up and down, he or she develops a rhythm and *flows* down the trail.
  - ▶ Characteristics of a flow trail include, Synergy with landscape, Opposition to user forces, Conservation of momentum and Leading the user forward.
  - ▶ Other guidelines for a Flow trail include, accessibility , forgiveness and consistency.
- 



# Proposed Bayo Canyon Alternative

Corridor- Bayo Canyon Trailhead to NM 502 "Y"





# Bayo Canyon Alternative

## Pros

- The possible addition of a flow trail provides for unique and specific uses
- The Bayo canyon alternative includes improved access with Bayo Canyon road
- Upper & lower section are more sustainable
- Provides pick-up/ drop off locations
- Provides networking for other routes and connections

## Cons

- Possible user conflict- tent rocks extension (Equestrian and hiker interactions)
- Middle section presents terrain issue including steep side slope and large rock gardens
- Possible Cultural and Endangered Species Habitat impacts
- Possible viewshed disruption
- Bayo Canyon Firing Range- Legacy Site evaluation

# Public Comment

- ▶ Comments were made about concerns in Bayo Canyon due to a number of reasons, the most often asked were:
  - Parking and access
  - Low traffic and quietness
  - Historic and cultural sites
- ▶ Comments were made about concerns of adding a flow trail given its unique and specific use and concerns of overall trail maintenance levels to existing trails.
- ▶ Comments were made about the possibility of user conflicts and the safety of hikers and equestrian users.
- ▶ Comments were also made about the viability of a flow trail in White Rock Canyon
  - According to IMBA's Flow Trail criteria White Rock Canyon does not fulfill the characteristics of a flow trail.
- ▶ Staff is in the process of investigating and following up on these comments in relationship to the ongoing family friendly flow trail project.



# Next Steps...

- ▶ Trail layout and flagging is complete
- ▶ Cultural and Endangered Species evaluation in process
- ▶ Pictures of proposed trail route (Drone Flights be scheduled)
- ▶ Open Space Subcommittee Meeting updates ongoing
- ▶ Parks and Recreation Board proposed flow trail project updates
- ▶ Additional Public meetings to address flow trail project questions
- ▶ Tentative timeline/schedule