

LOS ALAMOS

where discoveries are made

Los Alamos Flow Trail Presentation

What is a Flow Trail?

- Smooth
- Fun
- Safe
- Predictable
- Navigable / User-Friendly
- Relevant to Design



What is Flow?



RFP Scope

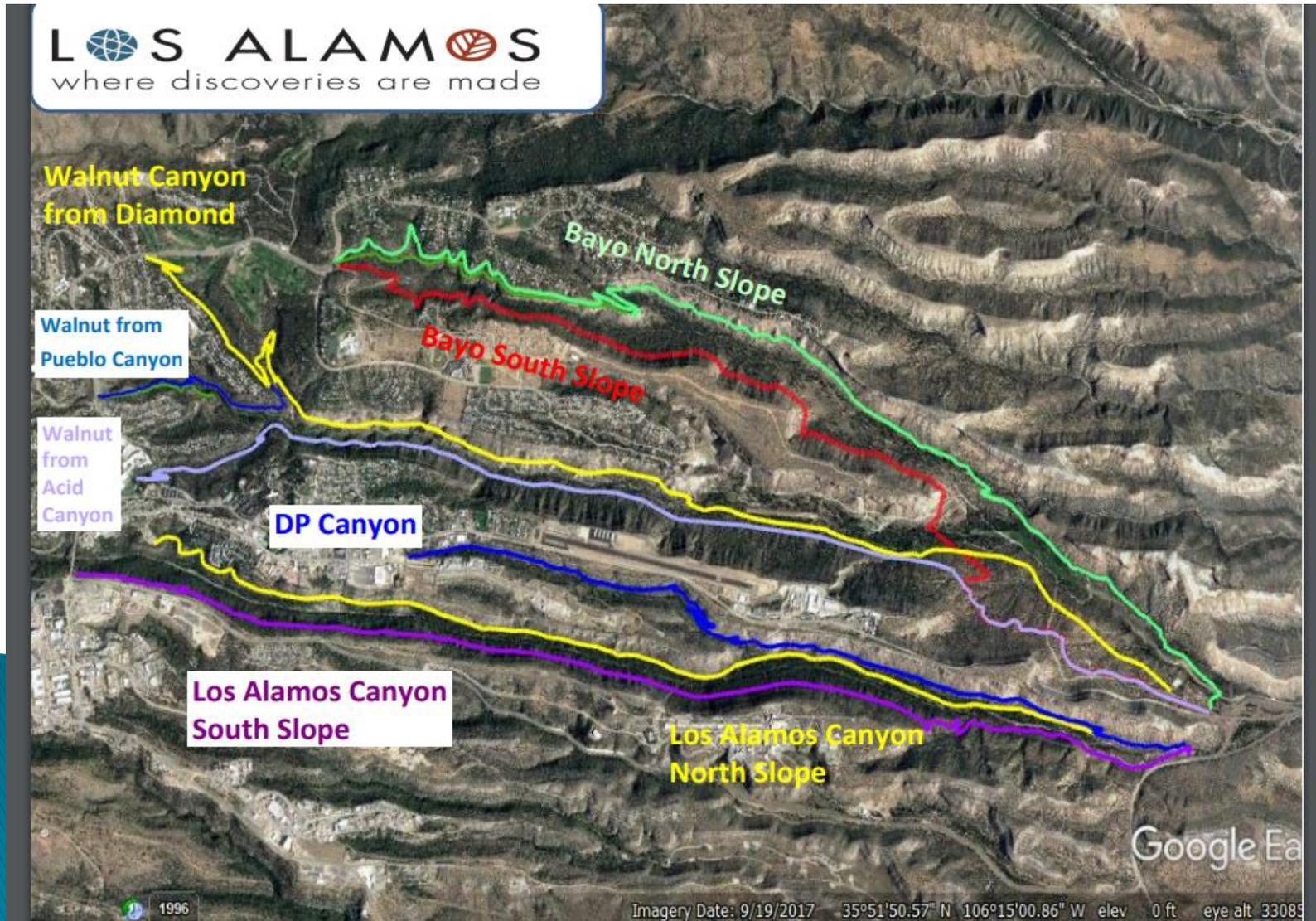
2. **Design Services.** Contractor shall complete Design Services as assigned by Task Order by County. Design Services shall include Contractor's analysis and surveying of a proposed alignment. Contractor shall perform the following Design Services:
 - a. Contractor shall review and analyze and survey the Project's existing seven (7) mile flagged trail corridor proposed alignment to include feasibility, safety and functionality for a "green" level International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) mountain bike flow trail.
 - b. Design of this Project shall consider existing topographical conditions and the potential for conflicts with other users of the County's trail systems. In the event that these considerations present obstacles to completion, Contractor shall provide suggestions for alternative route(s) and at County's request shall provide the same Design Services for such alternative route(s).

Task Order #1

Scope of Work:

- ▶ Contractor shall review and analyze public input and staff information pertaining to the flow trail project that has been compiled to date. Then deliver in writing to Los Alamos County staff six to eight best potential trail options, to include the flagged corridor in Bayo Canyon, per the scope for the team to evaluate in Task Order 2.

Task Order 1 Proposed Trail Options Map



Task Order 2

Scope of Work:

- ▶ Contractor shall meet with staff to physically evaluate the trail options described in Task Order 1. Upon completion of field visits, staff and consultant will narrow options to the best 3–4 choices. These will be the options presented in Task Order 3.

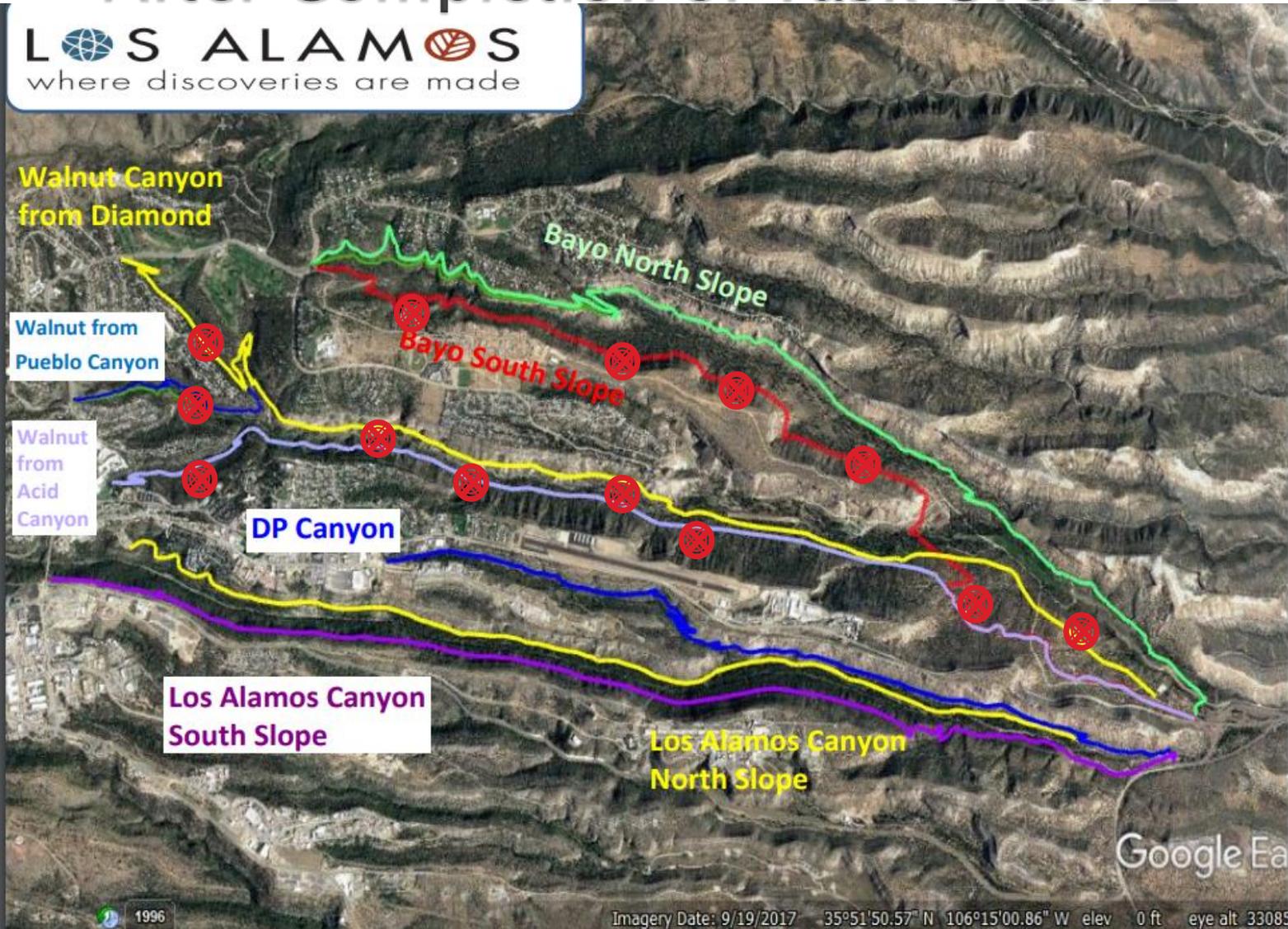
Task Order 3

Scope of Work:

- ▶ Consultant to prepare updates to Task Order 1 based on site visit.
- ▶ Consultant to prepare presentation to include updated deliverables from Task Order 1 and feasibility analysis of project.

Updated Proposed Trail Options Map After Completion of Task Order 2

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Flow Trail Options Analysis

- ▶ DP Canyon to Los Alamos Canyon: With good city proximity for access, constant topographical relief and the best suited geology and the least terrain limitations, DP Canyon is one of the best suited options for the proposed project.
- ▶ LA Canyon North Side: With good city proximity for access, relatively constant topographical relief in combination with very little terrain limitations, LA Canyon North side is one of the best suited options for the proposed project.
- ▶ LA Canyon South Side: With good city proximity for access, relatively constant topographical relief in combination with very little terrain limitations, LA Canyon South side is the third best option. This option is slightly less desirable mainly due to the north facing aspect component of this trail.

Flow Trail Options Analysis

- ▶ Bayo Canyon North Slope: With good access and consistent usage of the Bayo bench, this alignment offers a route down that would require less construction than Bayo South and adds a new trail into the system. The egress will be victim to the flat nature of all Bayo routes, but could offer a solution to the Bayo South user conflict issues.
- ▶ Walnut Canyon from Acid Canyon: With good access and the least invasive tread construction as compared with Bayo Canyon North, this alignment offers a different solution. It is important to note that this is in spotted owl habitat. This alignment does circumvent the flat nature associated with both Bayo routes.

Flow Trail Options Analysis

- ▶ Bayo Canyon South Slope: With good access and an invasive tread construction as compared to other trails, this not an ideal route. There is also a concern from the equestrian community that this is the only trail connecting the horse stables to the outside trail systems. The egress will be victim to the flat nature of all Bayo routes and will not be as flowy as other routes.
- ▶ Walnut Canyon from Diamond Drive: With limited access, major bench cutting, and a creek crossing with a bridge of substantial proportion, this alignment is less than ideal. There is also a significant concern for archeological sensitivity towards the lower portion of the canyon.

Flow Trail Options Analysis

- ▶ Walnut Canyon from Pueblo Canyon: This trail falls victim to the same shortcomings as the proposed alignment from Diamond Drive. In addition, a span across the canyon is needed as crossing from one side of this route to the other is too invasive for the project's consideration. It is possible to connect this route to the Diamond Drive route, however it will be subject to the same limitations as the Diamond Drive route, making it less than ideal.

Feasibility Analysis

- ▶ **No options meet the full scope as assigned.**
 - The current budget will not be enough to complete the trail as desired.
 - The terrain is steeper and rockier than anticipated and will require more extreme measures to create trails, such as blasting and big dozers.
 - County owned land is not conducive to a 7 mile, family friendly flow trail due to terrain challenges.

Other Considerations

- ▶ If Los Alamos is aiming to cater to beginner terrain (green, family-friendly), building a flow trail down county owned canyons is not appropriate.
- ▶ If the desire is to have a continuous trail down the canyons regardless of skill level, they already exist. Being that this will not be a “beginner” trail, the County could consider just improving existing trails.
- ▶ Flow trails require constant maintenance. The County’s budget would need to be increased to maintain any improvements.
- ▶ If Los Alamos is looking for the “tourist draw” that will attract bikers from far and wide, there are other amenities that may accomplish this, such as a ride center.

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Flow Trail Project – Next Steps

Options for Paths Forward

- ▶ Discontinue the current project and hold off on considering scope changes until the GRT situation is resolved.
- ▶ Develop project scope revisions and return to Council
- ▶ Develop a masterplan of all biking trails and amenities with priority rankings and cost estimates.