

Summary Report from the Bike Park Working Group to the Parks and Recreation Board for April 2025

The Bike Park Working Group (BPWG) was established by the Parks and Recreation Board in November 2024. The purpose of the BPWG is to assist and advise the PRB to review current parks and recreation programs and facilities in the county to determine and advise additional needs and submit recommendations pertaining to a bike park for further consideration and possible action. More specifically, Overview of the proposed bike skills park and pump track, including project goals and expected benefits to the community and discussion of the initiative's alignment with Los Alamos County's recreational and community objectives. The following summarizes the group's accomplishments in FY2024 and Spring 2025.

Task 1: Recruit new BPWG members to ensure that the group represents a wide range of perspectives on the Bike Park issue.

Several members were recruited in Nov 2024.

James Wernicke, Former Parks & Recreation Board Chair

Nathan Maier, local mountain biker and trail builder

Annette Weyrauch, local mountain biker

Craig Martin, Open Space Working Group liaison, longtime Los Alamos trail advocate

Kyle & Turin Dickman, Co-founders of Tuff Tykes youth biking club

Greg Weiss, President of local IMBA chapter Tuff Riders and trail builder

Additional Members recruited in Spring of 2025

Jerry Cowen, Parks and Recreation Board vice Chair

Cathy Miller, mountain biker, Equestrian Liaison

Task 2: Wrote a Proposal for a Possible Bike Park in Los Alamos County submitted to the Los Alamos County Council in February 2025

The proposed bike park(s) would be a family-friendly recreational area with features suitable for beginner to intermediate riders. It would serve either and possibly both the Los Alamos and White Rock communities. In a park-like setting with planted trees, benches, restrooms and interpretive signs that explain trail etiquette and natural history, the bike park would include a pump track, dirt jumps, skills courses, and short flow trails. The park would be carefully designed to minimize environmental impacts and ensure safety, fun, and accessibility for riders of all ages and skill levels. It would provide riders a venue to develop the skills needed to safely ride the largely advanced trails that exist in Los Alamos County.

Task 3: Seek public input from several user groups, including the public in a survey to establish a desired location as well as other input. The survey results will be submitted to the PRB and the County Staff, County Council and Site Southwest for the North Mesa Park Workplan.

A bike park survey was developed and distributed to various groups, including Tuff Riders, Tuff Tykes, the Stable Owners, and the public. The survey was available to the various groups and the public for approximately 3 weeks. The data was collected and collated.

Task 4: The BPWG organized bikers to attend the North Mesa Park listening session that was held on March 12th at the Cottonwood at the Green, Los Alamos Golf Course.

Over 100 bikers were in attendance including approximately 25 children, showing their support for the bike park. The survey results were given at the meeting and presented to Site Southwest and the County Staff. Discussion tables were set up to allow the various groups to give their input. Various groups did have productive conversations.

Task 5: The BPWG will develop and give a Power Point presentation at the May Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

A simple proposal, the survey results, funding options will be presented in the Power point presentation. Suggestions for experienced contractors familiar with the construction of a bike park will be included.

Respectfully submitted,

BPWG Members: James Wernicke, Nathan Maier, Annette Weyrauch, Craig Martin, Kyle & Turin Dickman, Greg Weiss, Cathy Miller