

**To: Status Report to the Parks and Recreation Board**  
**From: Open Space Working Group**  
**Date: February 6, 2025**

**Task 1: Recruit new OSWG members to ensure that the group represents a wide range of perspectives on open space and trails issues.**

- The working group now has seven members of the public and two PRB members who attend meetings. The group is recruiting an additional member to represent the accessibility community.

**Task 2: Seek public input for the Trails and Open Space Plan update.**

- Group members attended a virtual meeting with Sites Southwest, the contractor developing the revised Open Space and Trails Management Plan. Group members provided additional comments on the plan. OSWG scheduled a meeting with Sites Southwest to review the draft plan in February.

**Task 3: Monitor conditions of the County open space and trails and submit recommendations for open space and trail maintenance projects to the Open Space Specialist if appropriate.**

- Continued to refine ideas on a County Adopt-a-Trail program to encourage volunteer trail and open space monitoring and maintenance. Continued the CMC RIMS Pilot Project for crowd-sourcing trail maintenance needs, with a total of 60 trail assessments posted on the app. Some trail issues clearly should be submitted to the Los Alamos Now app. However, the RIMS app had three important advantages over Los Alamos Now that make it much more suitable for the Adopt-a-Trail project:
  - RIMS generates a map with specific geographic coordinates of an issue, where Los Alamos Now relies on a text description of the location
  - RIMS can be used to generate a list of tasks for volunteers, where Los Alamos Now assigns a task to staff and evaluates staff performance based on completion of the task
  - RIMS builds a sense of community among trail users and allows them to take an active role in protecting this community resource
  - RIMS allows users to see the map of reported issues; with Los Alamos Now only staff is notified of the assessment

**Task 4: Identify open space and trail projects suitable for volunteers.**

- As part of the CMC RIMS pilot project, the group met with Eric Peterson to define categories of suitable volunteer projects, such as
  - Suitable for volunteers without training (trash pick-up)
  - Suitable for volunteers with training (trail drainage feature clean out)
  - Suitable for supervised volunteer work party (larger, more complex maintenance)
  - Suitable for staff or contractor

Respectfully submitted,

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