

**State of the Trails Workshop
April 30, 2011 at Point Vicente Interpretive Center**

General Preserve-wide Comments

Signage, Maps and Outreach

- I. Better/more signage and public information should be provided**
 - a. Signage needed to identify transitions between Preserve areas, at private property, at City boundary (i.e. City of Rolling Hills trails), etc.**
 - b. Consider signage without clutter**
 - c. Educational signage and more information at trail head**
 - d. Yield signs**
 - e. Dangerous condition signs (cliff)**
 - f. Improve signage: no smoking; reckless trail use is illegal and wrong; leash pets for safety and habitat protection; leave no trace: pick up pet waste and pack it out; preserve is closed one hour after sunset; Palos Verdes Nature Preserve—a real treat, so treat it well!**
 - g. Readability of trail signs: consider placing arrows above trail name and uses; it makes it easier to understand which trail the arrow refers to**

The City of RPV, with the assistance of the PVPLC, is currently working on developing a Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan with the intent to update all parks and Preserve signs for uniformity and comprehensiveness. The PVPLC will implement the updated Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan for the Preserve properties once finalized as funding becomes available.

- 2. Improve maps**
 - a. need better color definitions (currently hard to differentiate trail usage)**
 - b. maps should be coordinated with non-preserve trails for connectivity**
 - c. show amenities adjacent to reserves**
 - d. identify true trailheads differently from other access points**
 - e. Standardize nomenclature between maps (i.e. trail use symbols)**

The PVPLC intends to update the existing trail maps when funding becomes available. Improvements will consist of showing trail connectivity between and outside of reserves, better symbolizing trail designations, amenities and other features.

- 3. Develop trail etiquette brochures for distribution at bike shops, hike outlets, etc.**

At the time the trail maps are updated, information on trail etiquette will be added to the leaflets. Map improvements, brochures and signs recommendations will be considered as funding is secured, and must be approved by the City.

4. Install ¼ mile designation reminder signs, closure signs, habitat/animal education signs

The City has a policy to minimize the proliferation of signs to prevent visual pollution, so any new/improved signs will be situated at key locations. These types of signs will be considered in the development of an Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan described above in Response No. 1.

5. Signs are too easy to break. Need to be more robust and durable (bullet proof).

Carsonite posts were chosen because they blend well with the natural landscape, and are flexible as well as strong under rough weather conditions. However, PVPLC is currently working with National Park Service to re-evaluate the materials used for Preserve signs, among other sign related issues.

Trail Use and Designations

6. Keep current trail use designations as is.

The Preserve Trails Plan recommended by the PUMP Committee was reviewed and adopted by the City Council in 2008 with some modifications. At the time the Council adopted the Preserve Trails Plan, the Council directed Staff to conduct regular reviews of the trail system to examine any issues over time. The purpose of the State of the Trails workshop is to consider public feedback among other considerations (i.e. user experience, habitat impacts, connectivity, etc) in its review of the Preserve Trails Plan. Recommendations pertaining to the Preserve Trails Plan will be presented to the City Council at a public meeting in fall 2011.

7. Expand all trails to multi-use; provide more multi-use trails throughout the coastal zone.

See Response No. 6.

8. Provide a variety of trails to suit all users

It is important to provide some trail access to all user groups, but not all trails to all users. This helps provide a quiet experience for hikers and equestrians, while still offering opportunities for bicyclists to enjoy the Preserve. City Council will consider all recommendations to the Preserve Trails Plan at a public meeting in fall 2011.

9. Multi-use of trail can be monitored on a trial basis by the City's park rangers.

City Council will consider whether changes to the Preserve Trails Plan are warranted. Furthermore, they will consider if there should be a trial period during which the rangers will monitor use of the Preserve trails.

10. Standardize guidelines related to designations and trail clearing

At the time the PUMP committee developed the Preserve Trails Plan it was determined that trail standards would not be applied as the determinant of use designations since the trails were pre-existing through historic use, and also factored in many other considerations, including user experience, and minimizing redundant trails.

11. Trail usage should not only be based upon topography.

Use designations were not based on topography, but were based on many factors as listed above (historic use, user experience).

12. Widen trails for multi-use.

Widening trails to accommodate increased access by various user groups will lead to habitat impacts that would require mitigation to minimize impacts and is directly in conflict with the intent of the NCCP (as vetted in the PUMP processes).

13. Use standardized criteria to designate trail usage (i.e. physical characteristics, width, height, etc.)

The City and the PVPLC cannot designate trail usage based on standards of trail specifications because trails are adapted from historic use and are unimproved, and also involve other considerations towards habitat impacts, erosion, and accessibility/connectivity.

14. Allow some specific trails to downhill bicyclists only.

The Preserve Trails Plan does offer multi-use downhill trails but not solely for bicyclist use.

15. Trail closures are disappointing

Closures of certain social trails are necessary to alleviate impacts on habitat and duplicate trails are considered inconsistent with the NCCP. Criteria for closing trails include eliminating redundant or parallel trails, for trail rerouting, temporary habitat disturbances (fire recovery). The NCCP tries to insure access to all areas of the Preserve while balancing habitat protection.

16. Create loops of trails for users

The existing trails plan does provide loops for all user groups.

17. Open more miles trails to reduce the number of people on the trails.

Creating new trails or duplicating trails for different user groups contradicts the NCCP's prime directive to provide suitable habitat for listed species of concern.

18. Trails can support additional use designations

Use designations are based on the criteria as stated above.

19. Restrict use after rains for everyone

- a. Restrict horse use after rain as hooves make nasty impressions and destroy trails (sprained ankles, etc).
- b. Signage for restrictions after rains and warning signs for dangerous temporary conditions

Posting signs for trail closures after significant rains will be considered policy. The Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) document will establish protocols for closing trails after rains, fires, landslides, etc. There is currently a policy of closing trails for 3 days after a rain event, but the PUMP document will detail protocol for future disturbances. Education of set policies will then be disseminated to the public.

AMENITIES

20. More trash bins on trails

The City is in the process of installing new/additional trash bins in areas easy to access for maintenance. All trail users should carry out all trash they bring in.

21. Bathrooms needed at major trail heads

The City will identify locations to look into installing additional restroom facilities and will seek funding opportunities, such as grants.

HABITAT CONCERNS

22. Reserves were purchased for protection of wildlife and habitat

This is true.

23. Each trail has an edge effect on habitat

This is an accurate statement and was considered in the development of the Council adopted Preserve Trails Plan.

24. Vegetation fuel load is a fire danger. More controlled weeding.

Fuel modification zones have been established by the Fire Department, and the City implements the fuel modification on an annual basis and spends a significant effort controlling weeds in restoration areas (dictated by funding) and along trails.

OTHER PRESERVE-WIDE ISSUES

25. Reduce pet waste

Pet waste is directly the responsibility of the pet owner. Community doggie-bag dispensers may be found at certain locations within the Preserve. Moreover, the city will consider installing more doggie bag stations at key entrances to the Preserve as funding sources become available.

26. Rangers are good. They should use ATVs for more mobility to enforce trail use compliance.

The use of ATVs within the Preserve may contradict Preserve policy of no motorized vehicles other than service vehicles. Currently, Rangers drive into accessible areas with vehicles and walk trails for enforcement. Many trails are not designed for ATV use.

27. Extend hours after sunset until 10:00 pm or consider 24-hour usage.

Current preserve hours are one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, per RPV City Municipal Code 12.16.030. Recently, the City Council established permitting process for accessing the Preserves for night hikes. Requests to change the permitted hours will have to be considered by the City Council.

28. East Boundary Trail in Shoreline Park should provide connection to adjacent residential area outside City.

The Trail map for the Ocean Trails Reserve does identify a trail connection to the trail outside of Reserve in the City of Los Angeles and a trail connection exists that may need to be improved. The PVPLC will update the trails map to better identify this connection.

29. There is little traffic on many of the existing trails.

Comment noted

30. More research needed on use patterns, types of users, maintenance and their impacts when presented to the City Council, quantitative usage data should be provided:

- a. High volume vs. low volume
- b. Soil impact, use, maintenance – collect real data
- c. Document trail user interface/conflict. Trails should be open until conflicts are documented.
- d. There have been reports of trail conflicts between hikers, equestrians and bikers

A trail user survey was taken in 2007 to assist the PUMP Committee in its development of the Preserve Trails Plan. At this time, funding and resources are not available to conduct another formal trail user survey. However, PVPLC KEEPERS do report a monthly snapshot of number of Preserve users, and the City and the PVPLC rely on the reporting of the Rangers for quality of user experiences.

31. The City's trails should be marketed to and through local businesses (i.e., Starbucks, etc.)

The City and the PVPLC conduct outreach, via website announcements and postings, volunteering, special events, news coverage, and more to raise the public's awareness of the Preserve and its trails system.

32. Headphones should not be allowed so that users can communicate to avoid conflict.

The RPV Municipal Code does not prohibit the use of headphones in the Preserve by any user groups. Such requests would have to be considered by the City Council in order to be codified.

33. Install bike racks at trail heads and trail use changes to encourage compliance with trail designations

The City and the PVPLC will look into funding opportunities to install bicycle racks at certain key trailhead locations, as well as at trail segments designated for pedestrians only.

ABALONE COVE RESERVE

Trail Configurations, Use and Designations

34. Consider opening all trails to bike access.

It is important to provide some trail access to all user groups, but not all trails to all users. Limiting certain trails to pedestrians and equestrians only helps provide a higher quality experience for such user groups, while still offering opportunities for bicyclists to enjoy other areas of the Reserves.

- 35. Change the following to PED/BIKE because trails are family friendly for biking, not steep so kids can ride there. In general are wide enough for multi-use. Also allows access to tide pools for bikers who come from the Portuguese Bend Reserve:**
- a. Chapel View
 - b. Beach School
 - c. Sea Dahlia
 - d. Portuguese Point Loop

- e. **Sacred Cove View**
- f. **Cliffside**
- g. **Via de Campo**

The City and the PVPLC have reviewed and researched this request and are of the opinion that with all things considered, such as habitat protection, line-of-sight, user experience, access, etc. that the designations for the following trails will be recommended to be changed to pedestrian/bicyclists at the City Council meeting in fall 2011:

- a. Chapel View: good line of sight
- b. Beach School: good line of sight, wide, paved
- c. Portuguese Point Loop: flat, wide, good line of sight
- d. Via de Campo: flat, wide, good line of sight

36. Rugged and challenging nature of trails here is enjoyable.

Comment noted

37. Reroute steep end of Sea Dahlia Trail to provide safer and clearer access to the beach

Topography limits the ability to reroute this trail, but erosion control measures may be implemented by the PVPLC volunteer Trail Crew. This request will be added to the "Preserve Project List" for future consideration.

38. Please retain the PUMP committee trail use designations. They were derived by extensive deliberation of a large user community. Keep all present use designations for trails at Abalone Cove.

See comment 35.

39. Hardin Trail has condition problems related to drainage

The drainage issue will be investigated by PVPLC to determine whether repairs or closure are warranted and will be added to the Trail Project List if appropriate.

40. There are hazardous conditions with emerging social trails from the beach up to Portuguese Point Loop (east side of point) which should be addressed

These trails have not been improved, but will be investigated by PVPLC for safe connectivity or closure. Unapproved trails will be closed by PVPLC.

41. Trail standards are not consistent with use restrictions

Please see Response numbers 6 and 8 regarding the complexity of factors considered in trail designations and trail standards.

42. Trails on Inspiration Point are underutilized

Comment noted

43. Existing trails are family-friendly: wide, not too steep, etc

Comment noted

Amenities

44. Area south of archery range/east of Bow and Arrow Trail should be opened as a bike park with jumps and opportunities to provide safe, off-street bicycle trails for children. This would limit radical riders from other trail and save a place for uses to enjoy. This was once brought up in a city meeting as a possibility.

A recreation area as described is not consistent with “compatible uses” under the NCCP and would require mitigation for habitat loss.

45. Provide parking for trailhead access near the archery range

Public parking is not allowed at the Archery Range. In order to provide increased parking opportunities for Preserve trail users, the City and the PVPLC obtained a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy, as part of the City’s segment of the California Coastal Trail, to construct a dirt parking lot at Gateway Park off Palos Verdes Drive South. When completed, this parking lot will provide users access to the Portuguese Bend Reserve, Forrestal Reserve, and Abalone Cove Reserve.

AGUA AMARGA RESERVE

46. Nice Reserve – keep as is

Comment noted

ALTA VICENTE RESERVE

47. Keep as is – nice reserve

Comment noted

48. Trails need better trail markers, signs, brush clearance; reconsider revegetation efforts to minimize weeds

The suggested trails improvements will be added to the “Preserve Project List” for future consideration as funding resources become available. Additionally, the PVPLC

Volunteer Trail Crew or Stewardship staff will evaluate what repairs are warranted to improve access and user experience. PVPLC is currently restoring 10 acres of habitat at Alta Vicente Reserve.

FORRESTAL RESERVE

- 49. Area appears to be well managed and “working” well. Management should be replicated at other reserves**
- a. Long history of maintenance and community involvement**
 - b. Little conflict**
 - c. Enforcement**
 - d. Lots of self-policing as a result of high level of attention**

Comment noted

Trail Configurations, Use and Designations

- 50. Change to multi use and/or change to PED/BIKE only:**
- a. Quarry – was a personal favorite that I’ve done much trail work on. This trail is the most rideable to connect up to Flying Mane and Mariposa. Pirate and Dauntless are climbs that only elite, physically fit riders can use. Even Quarry has a very steep section toward the end but Forrestal is a low-use area for bikes because of steep inclines. Cyclists have done much repair on this trail. Wide enough to bike. Lightly used and little congestion.**

This is one of four trail segments (there are a total of 22 trails) within the Forrestal Reserve designated for pedestrian use only to provide hikers with a quiet and tranquil experience. The trail designations at Forrestal were reviewed by the City Council numerous times. The trails system at Forrestal was designed to provide a few loop opportunities to bicyclists.

- b. Exultant – very unused. Easiest route to/completes the Dauntless Trail. Wide enough to bike.**

This trail was designated as pedestrian only because of the terrain, narrow width (adjacent to a storm drain), habitat protection, and user experience to name a few. This is one of four trails at Forrestal designated for pedestrian use only. There are a total of 22 trails at Forrestal,

- c. Cristo Que Viento should be multi-use – seldom used**

This trail is too steep through delicate habitat and erosive tread.

- d. Other pedestrian/bike trails seem to work well.**

Comment noted

51. Pirate and Dauntless are too steep for riding up.

Bikes can be walked up trail or user can choose alternate route (i.e., the Conqueror Trail)

52. Modify the lower portion of the Packsaddle Trail to intersect the Flying Mane Trail about 100 ft east of the current intersection. The first part of the existing track is dangerous to traverse. Minor brushing will provide a much better route. The lower portion of Packsaddle is difficult to traverse

This trail section is unsustainable in its current state and will be evaluated for realignment. The City and the PVPLC will follow up on this trail conditions to determine if it's a suitable for a Preserve Trails Project.

53. At two locations, one along Flying Mane (near the lower west end) and the other from Packsaddle (about 50 yards up from the beginning) there are new unauthorized trails leading to overviews of Klondike Canyon. If there are no habitat constraints, one or both of these trails should lead to observation points from which to view the Klondike Canyon.

The City and the PVPLC will investigate these two spur trails to determine whether they should be closed or recommended to be an official trail to an overlook. Such a determination will consider potential impacts to valuable canyon and riparian habitat.

54. All Forrestal trails will never be crowded because the steepness dissuades all but the fittest bikers and hikers

Comment noted

55. Good experiences at Forrestal – seems less populated and no bad experiences between bikers and other users.

Comment noted

56. Trails well maintained and well marked signage

Comment noted

57. Exultant Trail has a spur trail from the top of the hill to the end of Intrepid Dr. that should be closed

The PVPLC is working to develop ways to effectively close spur trails like this one.

58. Mariposa Trail has an erosion issue at the bridge and needs work

The City and the PVPLC are researching solutions to repair the bridge that is being undermined. If a new bridge is required, funding sources such as grants will be needed to cover costs for the bridge's repair or replacement.

59. Explore trail linkages (i.e. Packsaddle Trail)

There is a long-term plan to connect Forrestal, via the Cristo Que Viento Trail, to the common open space area adjacent to the Rancho Palos Verdes Estates Residential Tract. The Packsaddle Trail connects to the City of Rolling Hills which requires a permit to access its trails.

60. Access through Forrestal is the only access to southern portion of Portuguese Bend

See Response No. 45. Additional trails that would connect Forrestal to Portuguese Bend may adversely impact habitat and is discouraged by the NCCP. In order to enhance access to both Forrestal and Portuguese, a parking lot will be created at Gateway Park and provide an alternative entrance into Portuguese Bend Reserve.

61. Natural widening of trails should prompt usage changes

Trail width is not the sole factor to consider in trail designations, and should not be the determinant of use changes. Other factor to consider is the ability of all Reserve trails to provide a desired experience for all users as well as habitat protection and minimizing impacts. See Responses Nos. 6 and 8.

62. "Observatory Trail" at end of Cool Heights Street cul-de-sac with a reroute to connect to Cristo Que Viento Trail to create a loop to remain in RPV on reserve

- a. Ped/bike designation
- b. Cool Heights residents would support – investigate with petition

The trail issues relating to the "observatory" was addressed at great length by the City Council in 2004 as part of residential development project at the end of the Coolheights Drive cul-de-sac. Based on all information presented to the City Council, it was determined that duplicate trails along both ridges were not ideal, resulted in erosion impacts, traversed private property, and impacted habitat to name a few. It was agreed to relocate the "observatory" off the official Cristo Que Viento trail, which was completed by the PVPLC soon after the Council's decision in 2004.

63. Keep trail designations as is

Comment noted

Signage

- 64. The intersection of the Packsaddle Trail and Flying Mane Trail has not had a trail sign for a long time. Many people don't know where Packsaddle is located. The vegetation along Packsaddle is particularly nice.**

Trail signage in this location will be verified. It should be noted that the Packsaddle Trail leads to the City of Rolling Hills which restricts entry by permit only.

- 65. Two trails reach the boundary between Rancho Palos Verdes and Rolling Hills:**

- a. **The top end of the Packsaddle trail has a sign posted by the Rolling Hills Homeowners Association stating their restrictions on trail use. It should also have a sign at the end of the Packsaddle trail (one side indicating the trail end and the other side giving the standard trail information.**

Appropriate signage will be evaluated under the City's Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan and implemented accordingly.

- b. **At the top end of Cristo que Viento Trail there is an intersection with a path into Rolling Hills and closed Forrestal path down the ridge east of Cristo que Viento. When people descend down this eastern ridge they end up traversing a closed portion of the Forrestal Reserve and crossing private property owned by Joe Nassari. Place a trail sign at the upper end of the Cristo que Viento Trail telling users that they have reached the end of the Forrestal Reserve trail. It should also inform hikers which is the proper trail to descend. It would be a courtesy to Joe Nassari if a trail sign at the top of the eastern ridge directed hikers onto Cristo que Viento, rather than having them decide to head down the closed eastern ridge onto the Nassari property.**

See Response above and No. 62. This duplicate spur trail was closed by the City Council in 2004. PVPLC staff is currently reviewing trail signage and markers, and will consider this sign request.

- 66. Dauntless trail sign gets knocked over at Canyon Trail**

PVPLC crews reinstall signage when they are broken off, and has been replaced. It is recommended that trail users notify the PVPLC immediately of any missing or damaged signs.

- 67. Signage needed to mark end of public access on Cristo Que Viento and Packsaddle – "Public Trail Ends Here"**

This sign issue will be addressed at the time the City develops its Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan.

68. Indicate Vista Point at end of Basalt Trail (on map)

Comment noted and will be included when maps are updated next.

69. Fossil hill: signage to clarify trail [designation]

The PVPLC will reevaluate the placement of existing trail markers and signage in this area for clarification.

70. Revegetation perceived positively. Should have signage to explain restoration efforts.

Comment noted and will be evaluated when funding is available. It should be noted that the proliferation of signs within the Preserve is discouraged. However, interpretive signs in limited areas that increase public awareness can be supported.

71. Signage needed at end of Intrepid Drive (kiosk?)

There is a Preserve Welcome sign at the entry points to the Preserve that identifies rules, as well as a trail map brochure box. Improvements to this trailhead will be explored based on available funding opportunities such as grants

Other Trail Issues

72. Control weeds before they seed along trails (Flying Mane)

The PVPLC crews mitigate weeds on an as needed basis.

73. Stone wall needs map (on Forrestal Dr. at gate entrance)

A Preserve Trails Map will be installed on the stone wall as funding sources become available. In the past, the City has applied for grants to improve the trailhead including the installation of a trail map on the stone wall.

74. Revisit moving gate farther north/west to improve access to parking

Relocating the access gate at Forrestal has been part of an overall trailhead project the City has tried to obtain funding for through grant opportunities. The City and the PVPLC will continue to explore funding opportunities to complete the trailhead project including relocating the entry gate.

75. Explore increased usage – Would that impact positive user experiences?

See Response Nos. 30 and 31.

76. Exultant trail erosion issue

It is assumed that this comment refers to the spur trails that bisect the Exultant Trail. The City and the PVPLC will continue to make an effort to close spur trails to curb damage to soils and habitat. It should be noted that a few years back, the City repaired the drainage swales to minimize erosion impacts to the slope and related trails.

OCEAN TRAILS RESERVE

77. Change the following trails to PED/BIKE:

- a. **Sagebrush Walk (up to the picnic bench from Shoreline Trail) – wide, good line-of-sight, and seems silly a bicycle can't ride out to the point. Low user density. Bike rack in place.**

The City and the PVPLC has reviewed this request and is of the opinion that the portion of the Sagebrush Walk Trail between the picnic bench and the East Boundary Trail is suitable for bicyclists because of the trail tread, line-of-sight, and minimal impacts to habitat. As such, a recommendation will be made to the City Council in fall 2011 to re-designate this portion of the Sagebrush Trail to pedestrian/bicycle.

- b. **Sunrise Trails (view point; up to the picnic bench) – allows access to ocean, wide trail, low user density.**

There are bike racks at the top of the trail and it's just a short walk to enjoy the beach. Line of sight, steep topography, erosive trail tread and heavy pedestrian use prohibits the riding of bicycles down to the beach.

78. Trail signage unclear

- a. **Need clarification of sign for bikes. Was not aware of two trails only tarmac'd along cliff top that is signed no bikes**

Comment noted and will now be addressed because the management responsibilities for this Reserve have not yet been passed over to the PVPLC.

- b. **Trail signage should include maps**

Comment noted

79. Keep all present use designations as is

Comment noted

80. West Bluff Trail down to the beach should either be fully developed or blocked off

The West Bluff Trail does not access the beach below and any spur trails will be closed by PVPLC when the Reserve is incorporated into the PVNP.

PORTUGUESE BEND RESERVE

Trail Designations and Alignment

81. Some of the closed and ped-only trails should be open as multiuse for bikes

Comment noted and will be evaluated among the considerations discussed previously (see response to comments 6 and 8).

82. Every trail should be multi-use because it's easier to enforce

Trail designations should not be based on the ease of enforcement. As previously indicated, various factors are considered when designated trail uses such as habitat protection mandated by the NCCP and user experience. In regards to enforcement, the Rangers are well equipped with the understanding of various trail designations and deal with the same situations elsewhere (i.e. Santa Monica Mountains).

83. Multi-use trial period (1-3 years) to collect data

PVPLC does not have the capacity or funding to conduct extensive trail user impact surveys. Designations are made with several factors to consider including user experience, habitat protection and more. A request to consider a trial period may be made to the City Council.

84. Trail users should be responsible for making the right decision about their abilities

Comment noted

85. The following trails should be multi-use:

- a. **Grapevine** – was approved by PUMP committee for multiuse but changed by City Council. Most popular and creates separation of users. Density is low. Good line of sight. Wants it reopened to bikes.
There is no way to allow bike access to this trail without changing other trail designations in this area.
- b. **Landslide Scarp** – allows a connection to Burma Road. Also lightly used as Toyon Trail too steep for most riders. More rideable for recreational biking. Good line of sight. Easiest from PV Drive South.

The City and the PVPLC will make the recommendation to change to bike usage to provide an accessible biking loop.

- c. **Vanderlip and Water Tank** – fire roads with good visibility, allows connection to Filiorum from Garry’s Gulch and to other Bend Trails. Creates a cycling loop.
No change recommended because it’s heavily used by equestrians.
- d. **Ishibashi Farm** – so unused, grass growing on trail bed. Mostly fire road, and fire roads should be available for multi use. Single track arm is “unhorse-able” according to equestrians. Good line of sight.
The City and PVPLC will make the recommendation to change to bike usage to provide bicycle access to the Reserve from Palos Verdes Drive South.
- e. **Paintbrush** – is a fire road mostly, and is slated for improvement. For an added cycling loop.
No change recommended.
- f. **Rim** – great values, lightly used because of steepness. For an added cycling loop. Realign of avoid Rolling Hills. Adds variety.
 - i. Reroute Rim Trail so it doesn’t go into Rolling Hills
No change recommended to maintain a quiet hiking experience in northeastern portion of the Reserve and because of erosive soil tread in this area.
- g. **Peacock Flats**
No change recommended.
- h. **Any fire road should be multi-use, but some are not.**
See response to comments 6 and 8.

86. Confusions on what trails are open and what is not

- a. **Particularly at Del Cerro Trail head – trail adjacent to fire road looks open**

Trail markers are placed at trail junctions to identify the official trail routes. Furthermore, the trail maps found on the PVPLC’s and the City’s websites identify the official trails. Efforts will be made to close parallel spur trails.

- b. **Habitat doesn’t seem significant in that general area**

The habitat in this area is considered significant in that the slopes off Burma Road host many native annuals and patches of recovering coastal sage and cactus scrub habitats.

- 87. Please retain the PUMP committee trail use designations. They were derived by extensive deliberation of a large user community.**

The Preserve Trails Plan recommended by the PUMP Committee was reviewed and adopted by the City Council in 2008 with some modifications. At the time the Council adopted the Preserve Trails Plan, the Council directed Staff to conduct regular reviews of the trail system to examine any issues over time. The purpose of the State of the Trails workshop and the upcoming City Council meeting in fall 2011 is to provide an overview of the Preserve Trails Plan.

- 88. A sustainable Ishibashi Trail route is needed to slow traffic and reduce risk to users, edge effects, and cutting between switchbacks.**

The City and the PVPLC will evaluate the Ishibashi Trail route to determine what measures need to be implemented to reduce user risks, edge effects, and the creation of spur trails.

- 89. Close Ishibashi Trail to bikes or realign the blind curve to avoid horse-bike conflict**

The PVPLC plans to close spur trails off the Ishibashi Trail in fall 2011. The Ishibashi Trail was designated as multiuse to provide a loop trail for all user groups. The suggestion to realign the blind curve will be evaluated by the PVPLC/City in the near future to determine if the realignment should be included on the "Preserve Trail Project" list.

- 90. Rename Burma Road Trail due to negative war connotations**

Trail names were designated through the PUMP process and formally accepted by the City Council. Suggested name changes could be presented to the City Council for its consideration at the upcoming fall 2011 meeting.

- 91. Rename Ishibashi Farm Trail to avoid confusion with Ishibashi Trail.**

See #90.

- 92. Toyon and Garden trail area need speed limits to keep people on the trail and keep other users and wildlife safe**

The Preserve Trails Plan does not include speed limits because it was the general consensus of the PUMP Committee that speed limits are difficult to enforce. The City and the PVPLC will seek input from the Rangers regarding speed limits.

- 93. Some spur trails have been effectively blocked and these efforts should be extended.**

The PVPLC will continue to close spur trails in priority with other restoration efforts when time is available or when addressed by the PVPLC volunteer Trail Crew.

- 94. Anxious to see improved way of informing users about closed trails, or more effort to plant barriers on closed trails. Important starting point for good foundation of people getting used to what changed.**

The PVPLC will continue to close spur trails and will investigate improved practices for closing spur trails, and will include a combination of educational and interpretive signage, barriers and revegetation.

- 95. A sustainable Rim Trail route should be identified to minimize spur trail damage to pillow lava area and to avoid Rolling Hills.**

The PVPLC has conducted trail improvements to upper Rim Trail and plans to address needs on the on lower Rim Trail in the near future.

Signage

- 96. Many users are confused by trail signage. There should be a prominent sign at the trail head indicating only designated trails are open.**

The City and the PVPLC are working together to inventory and update all signs in the Preserve. These issues will be taken into consideration during this process, and will be implemented to assist navigation, trail closures, and safety. See Response No. 1

- 97. Improved signage with rules and warning needed.**

See Response Nos. 1 and 96.

- 98. Signage needed directing traffic uphill on Ishibashi Trail and Rim Trail (from Burma Road).**

See Response Nos. 1 and 96.

- 99. Replace <-trail-> directional/closure signs with “area closed” to avoid directing users down the closed trail**

See Response Nos. 1 and 96.

- 100. Trail signage for Ishibashi, Toyon and Garden trails.**

See Response No. 1 and 96.

- 101. Pillow lava area needs better signage**

See Response Nos. 1 and 96.

Other reserve issues

I02. Bike jumps built up from dirt should be removed promptly to discourage trail modifications for private purposes.

The PVPLC has removed spur trails and bike jumps, and will continue to close spur trails, including bike jumps.

I03. Lots of thistle

As part of the NCCP, the PVPLC targets introduced species annually, based on a set of criteria (Targeted Exotic Removal of Plants). In addition, the PVPLC crews weed whip with priority along trails and in restoration areas.

I04. Protect pillow lava area

Signs may help educate trail users on unique rock formations under preservation by reminding trail users to stay on trails. Such interpretive signs will be considered in the City's sign inventory and development of the Parks and Preserve Master Sign Plan. See Response Nos. 1 and 96.

I05. Update maps to establish access to Upper Filiorum Reserve

The existing Preserve Trails Maps will be updated when funding becomes available. Upper Filiorum map will be created when trails are approved by City Council, and will show connectivity to adjacent reserves. The City Council will consider the proposed trails plan for Upper Filiorum in fall 2011 at a public meeting.

I06. The ranger presence appears to be partially effective in improving compliance. A presence on smaller trails (without SUVs) would be helpful.

Comment noted. The Rangers are assigned with the task of patrolling the Preserve, among other open space areas within the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, in order to ensure compliance with the Rancho Palos Verdes Municipal Code and the Council adopted Preserve Trails Plans. The Rangers patrol the trails regardless of the size of the trail.

I07. More parking access

- a. Open dirt parking lot off PV Drive South. Can be shared with road maintenance. Let us not wait for Gateway Park.**
- b. Create parking for horse trailers at sandbox area**

See Response No. 45. The City intends to provide parking and access to lower Portuguese Bend and Forrestal through Gateway park improvements.

San Ramon Reserve

I 08. Switchback Trail -- establish trail markers and vegetation clearing

The requested trail improvements will be added to the “Trails Project List” for future implementation by Stewardship and the volunteer Trail Crew. The PVPLC will install, if not already installed, the appropriate trail markers.

I 09. Interest in developing route to Friendship Park and check the City’s Conceptual Trail Plan about restoring connections.

The Preserve Trails Plan for San Ramon will be updated in the future to show connections to adjacent trails, including adjacent Friendship Park.

I 10. Marymount Trail needs vegetation clearing (iceplant)

The PVPLC crews will conduct the necessary vegetation clearing based on priority along trails and in restoration areas. This project could also be taken on by a PVPLC volunteer trail crew.

I 11. Need access from Marymount Trail to Palos Verdes Dr. East

The City and the PVPLC will add the suggested improvements to the “Trails Project List” and will complete the necessary trail repairs or improvements based on priority and as funding sources become available. Such trail work is typically completed by the PVPLC Stewardship and the PVPLC volunteer Trail Crew.

I 12. Make lower Palos Verdes Drive East Trail more accessible

The City and the PVPLC will add the suggested improvements to the “Trails Project List” and will complete the necessary trail repairs or improvements based on priority and as funding sources become available. Such trail work is typically completed by the PVPLC Stewardship and the volunteer Trail Crew.

THREE SISTERS RESERVE

I 13. Make connection to/from Upper Filiorum Reserve in lower section

The City and the PVPLC are examining options and seeking funding opportunities to implement trail connections to Upper Filiorum for adjacent Reserves. This will be added to the “Trails Project List.”

114. Make trails multi-use

According to the Council adopted Preserve Trails Plan, all the existing trails at Three Sisters Reserve are multiuse.

115. Thistle problem on Barkentine Trail

Weeds are an issue in most of the Reserves, and the PVPLC Above our requirements to strategically target certain invasive plant species, PVPLC strives to maintain vegetation along trails as resources allow. Work is completed based on priority and available resources.

116. Reroute Upper Barkentine Trail to avoid soil loss due to erosion

The trails at Three Sisters, including the Barkentine Trail, are intended to be unimproved. Repairs to these trails are addressed by the volunteer Trail Crew based on priority and available funding. Repairs to the Barkentine Trail will be added to the “Trails Project List” for future repairs to be prioritized among other Preserve trails. Rerouting this trail is unlikely due to adjacent high quality habitat.

117. Drainage and erosion issues

See Response No. 116.

VICENTE BLUFFS RESERVE

118. Great walk around the bluffs. Trails at Vicente Bluffs have a lot of casual walkers, possible conflicts if bicycle use is allowed there.

Comment noted.

119. Better (quicker) maintenance for rain erosion would be appreciated

The City and the PVPLC strives to respond to trail maintenance as quickly as possible. However, PVPLC has a limited budget to address these. See Response No. 19.

120. Fishing Access is too steep for bicyclists; do not change designation

Comment noted. The existing Preserve Trails Plan for Vicente Bluffs does not allow bicycle use on the Pescadero Trail adjacent to the Fishing Access.

121. There is a need for consistent naming and labeling of trails at Vicente Bluffs (on maps)

Comment noted and will be considered when revising the trail maps.

VISTA DEL NORTE RESERVE

I22. There is a small homeless encampment in the north edge of the reserve. Other homeless have been sleeping elsewhere in this reserve. I previously notified the Lomita Sheriffs Dept, but it is difficult for them to continuously police. I live across the street from this reserve and like to hike with my family, but am afraid.

When encampments are brought to the attention of PVPLC, staff notifies the City, who in turn notifies the Rangers. The public is encouraged to notify the rangers directly. A Ranger hotline is being developed and will be available in November.

I23. Make trails multiuse and add more trail signs on Indian Peak Loop Trail

Comment noted. The trails were recommended by the PUMP Committee and accepted by the City Council to be designated as pedestrian only because of various factors including line-of-state, user experience, adjacent land uses, and connectivity to name a few.