Mount Shasta Greenway Project Update

The Purpose of this presentation is to update the Mount Shasta City Council on the most recent status and progress of the Greenway Project.

City Council Meeting August 25, 2014

Topics

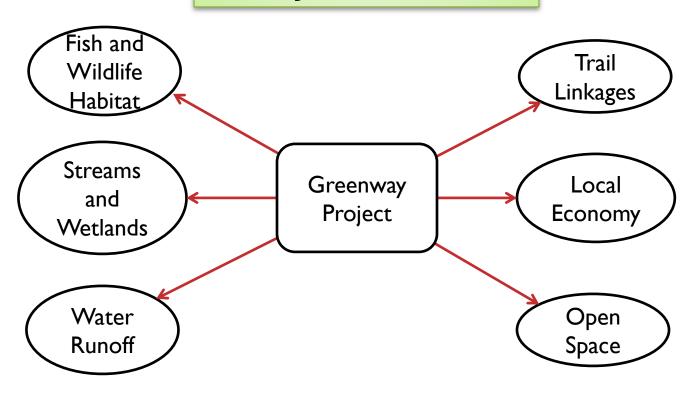
- Vision & Scope
- Background
- Partners (Current and Proposed)
- Principle Greenway Project Components
 & Initiatives
- Next Steps
- Concluding Comments

Vision & Scope

Establish a 5-mile greenway network through Mount Shasta City and extending to Lake Siskiyou that provides safe off-street multi-use trail linkages, incorporates streams, wetlands, and open-space, restores fish and wildlife habitat, mitigates urban storm-water runoff, and benefits the local economy.

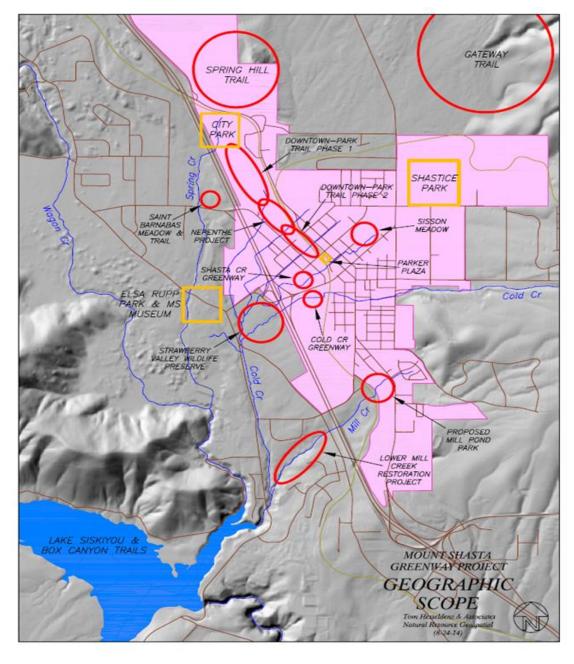
Vision & Scope

Not Just a Trail



Vision & Scope

- Phase I: Lake Street to City Park (Downtown-to-City-Park Trail—I mile).
- Phase 2: Lake Street to Mill Pond Park (I mile).
- Phase 3. Mill Pond
 Park to South Old
 Stage Road (1/2 mile).
- Phase 4: South Old Stage Road to Lake Siskiyou (1-1/2 miles).



Background

- Greenway History in Mount Shasta
 - Initiated in early 1990's as part of Merrill family's wetland mitigation for Lake Street development. Led to the start of Cold Creek Greenway behind Taco Bell, Black Bear Diner, and Shasta Creek Greenway behind Burger King, and the Strawberry Valley Wildlife Preserve. This project also led to creation of the Siskiyou Land Trust.
 - Mercy's Nepenthe Project was started soon afterward, and the Downtown-to-City-Park Trail was first proposed at that time. The City eventually adopted this trail route as part of its Community Action Plan, progress on the trail was delayed by landowner negotiations.
 - Negotiations to purchase Sisson Meadow were also started in early 1990's by the Siskiyou Land Trust, followed by completion of the acquisition in ~2000 and the installation of boardwalks and a pond in ~2006.
 - The Downtown-to-Park Trail Project was resurrected in 2009 when the Trail Association (led by Joe Wirth) formed a consortium of six community organizations.
 - Appraisals for the project's Phase I section (City Park to Mercy Hospital) were obtained in 2011-2012.
 - Entered escrow in 2014 on a \$30k Purchase of Scott Valley Bank property pending the resolution of two contingencies.

Background

- Current Status
 - Escrow has been extended to October to resolve a road maintenance issue on Kingston Road.
 - Consortium has requested Tom Hesseldenz to prepare proposals for pre-construction planning and design for the Downtown-Park Trail Project and for preparation of a Greenway Master Plan.
 - Consortium being transformed to a more sustainable organization. Greg Messer preparing proposal for the evolution and will chair the new organization.
 - Parks & Rec anticipates sewer system expansion and reengineering. Although the expansion will not occur in the Greenway phase I timeframe, the Greenway phase I design needs to include their requirements.

Partners (Current and Proposed)

- Non-Profit:
 - Siskiyou Land Trust *
 - MS Trail Association *
 - MS Rotary Club *
 - Mountain Runners *
 - Mountain Wheelers *

* Consortium Member

Partners (Current and Proposed)

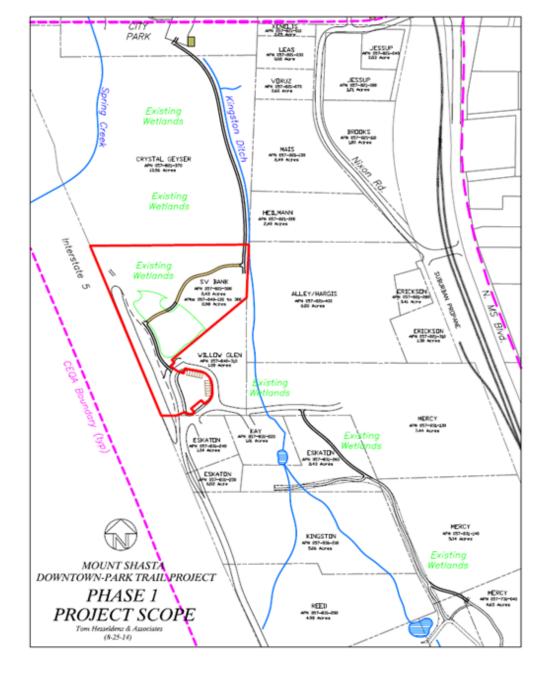
- Government:
 - Mount Shasta City
 - Mount Shasta Recreation & Parks District
 - Siskiyou County
 - U.S. Forest Service

* Consortium Member

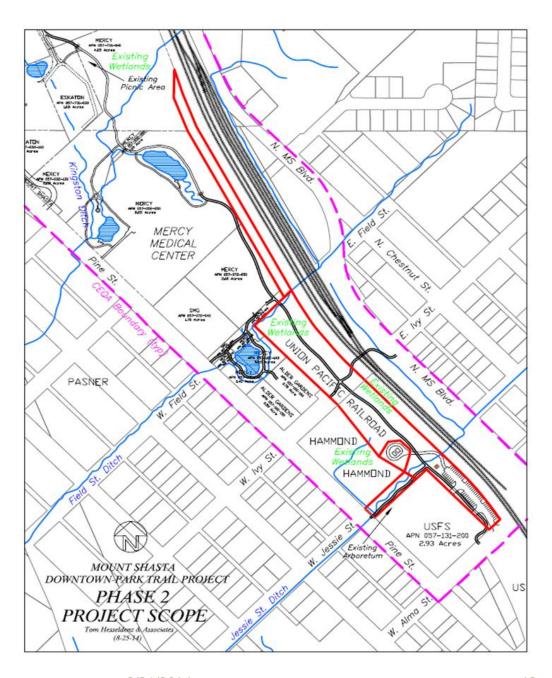
Partners (Current and Proposed)

- Businesses:
 - Mercy Medical Center
 - Crystal Geyser
 - Eskaton
 - Union Pacific
 - Mount Shasta Resort
 - Mount Shasta Visitors Bureau/Chamber

Greenway Phase I: Lake Street to City Park (Phase I of the Downtown-to-City-Park Trail—.5 mile).



Greenway Phase I: Lake Street to City Park (Phase 2 of the Downtown-to-City-Park Trail .5).



Principle Greenway Project Components & Initiatives

- Acquisition of land tenure via purchase, easements, leases, MOUs, etc., on a willing landowner basis.
- Inclusion of un-built city "paper" streets and alleys, most notably within wetland areas.
- Restoration of streams/meadows, including conversion of some ditches and "culverted" drainages to streams.
- Consideration of a wetland mitigation bank and one or more large urban storm water mitigation areas.
- Negotiation with Water Board to adopt Greenway MP as watershed plan required for City's MS4 compliance.
- Installation of paved multi-use trails, unpaved spur trails, boardwalks/bridges, benches, picnic tables, signs.

Principle Greenway Project Components & Initiatives

- Incorporation of existing and planned trails/boardwalks at Spring Hill, Sisson Meadow, Mercy Medical Center, Lake Street to name a few.
- Tie-ins/improvements to City Park, Shastice Park, Mill Pond Park (Roseburg Mill Site), and Lake Siskiyou.
- Consideration of emergency road access, railroad under-crossings, and other safety improvements.
- Inclusion of local schools in Greenway planning and build-out.
- Development of interpretive and marketing materials to promote Greenway for educational/tourism benefits.
- Inclusion of a long-term operations and maintenance plan.
- Mount Shasta City Park sewer expansion requirements.

Next Steps

- Firm-up partnerships in terms of participating members, leadership, and organization structure. This includes periodic MS Council updates and collaboration with MS management, planning and alternative transportation.
- Prepare and adopt conceptual master plan for entire project (including community involvement).
- Seek grant funding to flesh-out master plan and complete Project-wide CEQA compliance.
- Begin design and implementing project in phases based on priority, land tenure, and availability of grant funding.

Concluding Comments

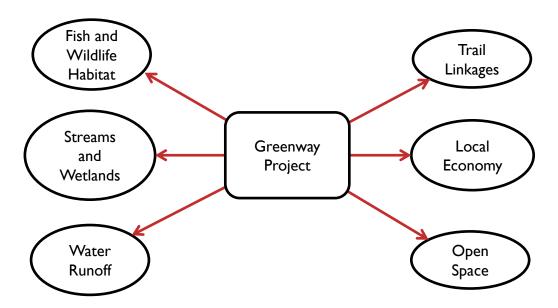
The overall MS Greenway is still largely conceptual at this point, whereas design of selected components such as the Downtown-to-City-Park Trail Project has evolved considerably further. For this reason, the Greenway MP will be launched as one project to flesh-out the concept, and the Downtown-to-Park Project will be launched as a separate project to build-out this specific component. CEQA for the latter will be limited to that build-out project, since the overall Greenway is still very conceptual. Both projects will evolve simultaneously but as separate projects.

Concluding Comments

The Greenway concept is far more than a trail project. It is a network of connections that involve trails, streams, wetlands, urban runoff mitigation areas, and open spaces, and these connections will link to existing and proposed parks and other larger open spaces. The map showing the geographic scope of the Greenway shows these existing and proposed components but not the connections between them. It is the intent of the MP to figure out those connections. This will be a very large and complex undertaking, but will greatly benefit our community in terms of quality of life, environmental benefits, and economic prosperity.

Concluding Comments

The components of the Greenway Project will intersect with various city functions: Operations, Planning, Maintenance and Alternative Transportation. All Phases of the project will require collaboration and coordination with each function.



We foresee that in the new organization that is being formed to manage and oversee the Greenway project, key city functions will be asked to participate in an advisory capacity.