



MEETING NOTES

Presentation of three wayfinding options:

Option 1 Design:

Neutral color pallet with concrete and metal materials

Design gives opportunity for local art/patterns to be stamped on concrete materials

Not a color coded theme, based on identity of trail through trail names

All signage uses a transition material (like metal) before going into ground (for protection against decay)

Neighborhood icons are a separate layer in Option 1; they can be layered in to the design on banners, stamped concrete, etc.

Option 2 Design:

Incorporates native heritage and language into signage

Uses color from Anchorage Trails logo (blue) and color codes the trail systems with their own color

Signage shows trail name in English and Dena'ina language, and shows neighborhood name

Uses stone and wood as primary materials

Option 3 Design:

Incorporates neighborhood icons more heavily than other two options

Uses native languages

Trails are color coded

The project team will be collecting feedback for the next 3 weeks in the form of a survey and comments emailed to Trails@AnchorageParkFoundaion.org. Project staff encourages attendees to forward survey to list serves for maximum exposure of plan alternatives and to expand reach of feedback.

Timeline: A more definitive design will be nailed down in April; construction drawings will be produced in May; pilot project implemented in summer 2016.

In respect to vandalism, there are three measures of deterrent:

1. height moves taggable material out of reach
2. texture like rock or stone discourage tagging (not a smooth surface)
3. have to be committed to cleaning up quickly which has been shown to reduce frequency

There will be a next, intermediate step in the wayfinding process. Will bring "Option 4" to the Trails Initiative group for feedback. Opportunity to put foam core mock ups of signage on trail before actual implementation.

The object of the pilot project is to learn what works, what doesn't for moving forward.

Public input of the wayfinding plan allows the public to feel a sense of ownership of the project.

Keep in mind that signage usually looks smaller in the outdoors.

Business sponsorship is not in the current hierarchy presented, but could be strategically incorporated on certain sign types. This could present problems if business changes logo, drops sponsorship.

Could tie businesses to the wayfinding plan through Live. Work. Play. Atlanta Beltline (MERJE wayfinding project) does this on milemarker signs

Would want the corporate sponsorship signs to be discreet and tasteful. Could be bite sized investments rather than entire trails. Not something to solve right now, but should be considered. Will need to be cognizant of too many layers of signage.

Nordic Ski Association has a good method of sponsorship on signage.

There will also be sponsorship opportunities on maps and apps, too.

Once public feedback has been received, MOA Parks & Recreation will work with project team to identify cost effective materials and fabrication processes (want to do most in house). Then the plan will be presented to the Parks & Recreation Commission, which will also be open to the public for comment.

Community councils will be contacted when wayfinding implementation time comes for neighborhoods.

There will be a later conversation about kiosk programming/content development (for example, description of nearby amenities). Not within wayfinding plan scope, but something to be developed later.

Could be a good idea for trailhead signs to say "Next trash can 3 miles" as a way to reduce trash on trails.

In regards to signing the pilot project, MOA Project Management & Engineering doesn't have standards right now for bike path/street interface. They do have design standards, but nothing like the ones presented here. This information can be given to PM&E.

Existing design manual doesn't consider non-motorized transportation.

It would make sense that the proposed Trails Coordinator position encompasses and is an advocate for trails and bike efforts (Anchorage Trails, Bike Anchorage, Vision Zero, etc.).

Trails Initiative group will still need to be trails advocates at community council meetings.