

CAR-LESS California – December 8, 2011 Meeting Notes

Attendees: Don Brubaker, Anita Bueno, Trinidad Juarez, Emilyn Sheffield, Nina Roberts, Ramiro Villalvazo, Don Rodriguez, Ben Rasmussen, Tamara Wilton, Jaime Eidswick, Peg Henderson, Mark Conley, Cathi Bailey

Introductions

Trinidad Juarez

TRIP Project History, Goals and Scope

Trinidad Juarez

- CAR-LESS – California Alternative transportation for Recreation – Leisure for Everyone that is Seamless and Sustainable
- Federal Register Notice – DOT Federal Transit Administration – (handout)
- Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks (TRIP) program overview (PPT slides)
- Jeff Marsolais (USFS) submitted CA-wide grant proposal - approved for \$250,000 for Phase I : Central CA
 - Project phasing by committee was not recorded in writing
- Submitted a Phase II: Southern CA grant for FY2011 - \$296,500. Awaiting news on funding.

Action Items:

- Anita - check the project agreement for what feedback we did get on original grant application and what was actually funded
- Jaime - check the evaluation team notes and make available to team

Draft Project Vision & Guiding Principles

Trinidad Juarez

Overcome the challenges of public transit

Extending Transit in Parks Opportunities to Underserved Communities

Advancing Seamless Service

Adopting a planning & Implementation horizon that supports sustainability

Engaging Strategic Partners

Orchestrating the Convergence of Program offerings

Convergence of relevant programs (Scenic Byways, Geotourism, Kids in the Woods, etc.)

Pursuing Meaningful Outdoor Experiences

Nurturing the Promise of the Next Generation of Recreation/Public Lands Professionals

Vision statement draft

- Nina's comment - "Access" needs to be in the vision statement

Draft Team Organizational Structure & Budget

Trinidad Juarez

Tamara Wilton

Trini – Review of the project organization – Phases/Tiers

- CA diversity (population, terrain, size, attitudes, transportation) makes project potential model for the rest of the country

Action Items:

- Look at other long range transportation plans
 - Golden Gate
 - Alaska Interagency
- Tamara and Anita working on budget and agreements with CSU and MOU with FLMA's.

Draft Overall Project Organization

Trinidad Juarez

- Include LA/Transit person from NPS
- Include Federal Lands Highways person
- Include Tribal representative-
 - CSU link with Native American populations
- Leverage TRIP funding with agency contribution- use model of the CA Roundtable, acquisition opportunities, land exchanges, leverage program convergence
- Identify partners with fleets

Action Items:

- Jaime will forward examples of MOUs – YARTS, Moab, Cape Cod, etc.
- Anita – contact Merv George for tribal contact suggestions
- Jaime will provide contact info. for Federal Lands contact suggestions: Roxanne Bash, Susan Law
- Emilyn - Check into CESU agreement with CSU's – overarching or umbrella agreement to be renegotiated in June

Draft Project Goals and Objectives

Anita Bueno

- Group brainstorm and comments collected

Action Items:

- Anita- comments will be incorporated into documents and available before next meeting

Introduction to Presentations

Trinidad Juarez

(PPT of presentations are available if interested – contact Anita or Jaime)

Recreation Attitudes and Opinions Presentations

Nina Roberts

Emilyn Sheffield

Ethnic and Minority Visitor/Non-Visitor Use (Latino, African American, Asian) – Nina

Opportunities:

- Recognition of health benefits
- High nature appreciation
- Strong values towards natural environment
- Organize for families/children

Constraints:

- Time: family, long hours worked, ESL
- Discrimination: perceived or real
- Access: “proper” clothing, equipment, complexity, preferences for modernity

Barriers:

- Cost
- Poor links between services
- Lack of vehicle or appropriate vehicle
- Lack of knowledge

Ideas proposed from study:

- Announce park info on Spanish radio
- Fewer transfers to get to destination

Ideas from meeting:

- Connect TRIP with GGNRA
- Focus on specific transportation services to specific communities
- Need to facilitate 1st experience - students likely to be guides for their families
- Spontaneity of outdoor recreation vs. purposeful/organized public transit

Opinions & Attitudes/ Patterns & Preferences - Emilyn

- SCORP - 5 year survey
- Data available on walking, developed camping, biking on pavement, trail hiking – for fun, scenery or relaxation
- Currently forming questions for 2012-13 survey
- Bill Hendricks is contact – San Luis Obispo

Action Items:

- Emilyn – ask the State of CA to include questions in the SCORP for baseline figures.
 - Have you ever taken public transportation to visit public lands?
 - Would you be willing to take public transportation to participate in outdoor education?

Overview of Volpe

Ben Rasmussen

Region-wide long range alternative transportation planning for F&W using census data & GIS overlays

- Region 8 – California
- Minneapolis, MN (example) study looked at:
 - transportation infrastructure- bus & bike
 - median income – national poverty line & 80% of local median income
 - vehicles per household
 - non-white population
 - Jenks optimization
- Transit and trails survey done for F&W Service
 - Rated destinations with strong existing/potential transit connections looking at:
 - Existing trails systems, transit systems, quality (frequency, # days of service, type of service, etc)
 - Potential systems- looked at how close does public transit get, etc.
 - Trails – level of maintenance, paved vs. unpaved, expansion potential, etc.

Phil – suggested approach: pinpoint neighborhoods then focus on those public lands areas that are 60 min of those destinations

Adventure Cycling Presentation

Ginny Sullivan

Vision – Create a system of cross-country bike trails/routes

Task Force Methodology:

1. Collect, Compile, Review: mapped what they knew then asked for data state by state, minimum length kept at 50 miles to get broad sense (later knit into system), data from DOTs, stakeholders, providers
2. Develop Recommended Corridors: Corridors are not bike routes ... they are logical locations for a possible bike route
 - a. Sub-committee developed corridor criteria – drives consistency and ranks possible routes (3-2-1), serves as baseline for states to develop routes on their own, developed primary and secondary considerations
3. Map Routes, Map Corridors: added National Parks and cities – map is very dense
4. Prioritize Corridors: developed numbering system for corridors and official signage
5. Gain AASHTO Approval for National Bike Corridor Plan
6. Next Steps: review corridor plan, identify stakeholders, roles, responsibilities, determine implementation model, develop and document the route, outreach & ...

Key – be able to describe project clearly & succinctly to public and partners

Develop one page Action Plan/Fact Sheets –show accomplishments as well items being worked on

Hand outs at meetings with stakeholders

Next Steps/ Calendar Coordination

Next Meeting: March 1, 2012

Agenda for next meeting, call for items in Jan

Possible learning sessions:

- Community connections – Don Rodriguez
- GG Trans system presentation

Transportation scholar update

Team roster and documents made available to all participants

Look at discretionary grant programs for Phase III- Northern CA