

CHTAC Bob and Crystal Rilee Park Trails Managed Use Recommendations

Recommended by the Chehalem Heritage Trails Advisory Committee on 1/18/2023
Adopted by the Chehalem Park and Recreation District Board of Directors on 1/26/2023

Overview

Recognizing it is difficult to develop and implement trail signage recommendations, it is important to first determine the managed use of trails at Bob and Crystal Rilee Park. This motivation coincides with recurring public comment from Bob and Crystal Rilee Park trail users concerning undesired interactions between equestrians and cyclists. As such, the Chehalem Heritage Trails Advisory Committee (CHTAC) has the opportunity to address these concerns by recommending short-term trail managed use parameters for Bob and Crystal Rilee Park. Allen Holstein has proposed the following recommendation to address these concerns and provide all users (hikers, equestrians, and cyclists) with clear and equitable trail access at Bob and Crystal Rilee Park.

Specifically, to resolve undesired interactions between equestrians and cyclists, these two user groups should have access to separate trails. Parrett Mountain Road provides for a natural division of the park property while maintaining equitable recreation opportunities for both user groups.

The park property west of Parrett Mountain Road includes different trail grades and treads that produce varied hiking and equestrian experiences. Additionally, the west side of the park is easily accessible from the existing trailhead parking lot, which is particularly accessible to horse trailers given its large oval shape and loop configuration.

The park property east of Parrett Mountain Road provides primarily well-developed, forested trails that are most accessible to hikers and cyclists. There are also existing bike-specific trails located on the east side of the park. The heritage farm parking lot and adjacent trailhead, not being particularly accessible to horse trailers, lends itself to be well-suited to hikers and cyclists.

parameters also incentivize Chehalem Park and Recreation District (CPRD) staff to develop new trails with these user groups in mind. All this being said, these parameters are to be a short-term solution allowing for CPRD staff to appropriately install much-needed trail signage and prevent undesired trail user interactions. Adjusted long-term trail managed use parameters are to come out of CPRD’s Bob and Crystal Rilee Park Master Plan process, expected to be completed in 2024.

Recommendation

The CHTAC recommends the following trail managed use parameters for Bob and Crystal Rilee Park to the CPRD Board of Directors for adoption.

1. All trails west of Parrett Mountain Road be managed as pedestrian and horse trails. No bikes allowed.
2. All trails east of Parrett Mountain Road be managed as pedestrian and bike trails. No horses allowed.

3. Some trails can be managed as single-user (Pedestrian-only, Horse-only, or Bike-only) trails as conditions and connections allow. These trails will be clearly marked.



Map Depicting Proposed Trail Managed Use Parameters at Bob and Crystal Rilee Park