

Hogback Update and Meeting Notice

First, the Liability Issues Team has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, May 22nd at 2:00 PM here at City Hall. In addition to considering liability issues concerning the five scenarios that were presented at last week's Hogbacks Committee Meeting, the Team might also be discussing possible improvements that might become necessary in order to limit the city's risk and liability should the area be operated and maintained as a formal recreational area, especially if motor sports are allowed. The Team also might be asked to recommend a permitting process for users of the recreational area and the possible use of waivers of liability. A representative from the City's property/casualty provider will be on-hand to give input to the Team members. The meeting is open to the public.

Second, there was a Hogback Committee Meeting held on Thursday, May 1st. During the meeting, five scenarios were presented for discussion which will become the basis for consideration as the Committee drafts its proposal for the Hogback Area for City Council. A poll was taken of those in attendance. The results were as follows:

- A. No Action (almost) Option - 0
- B. Develop as Motorized Recreation Area - 1
- C. Develop as Open Space Area - 28
- D. Develop as Multi-Use Area (motorized and non-motorized) - 1
- E. Keep everyone off - 3

The Committee will now sequester itself, except for some Team meetings that may occur, and prepare a proposal that will be submitted to City Council for their consideration. That proposal, which will be offered at a public meeting, could come sometime in June, likely at a Special Meeting. If Council accepts the proposal, the Committee would then complete the planning document, along with the requisite ballot language for the November ballot, to submit to Council sometime in July or August.

Last, City staff has met with the owner of a large parcel of property in the Hogbacks Area who appears open to the transfer of their ownership to the City. However, negotiations remain confidential at this time. Staff has also been in communication with the GOCO folks in regard to available funding.

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