



February 14, 2008

Comments on Draft P&R Master Plan

MLTPA appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan. We find the plan supportive of the trails and connectivity objectives of MLTPA and look forward to its adoption.

MLTPA has the following comments and suggestions:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

1. **TERMINOLOGY:** The term “facilities” could benefit from a definition, and a subsequent consistent application of the term within the proposed plan. This is especially true with regards to trails – are they a facility? Would dirt trails and access points be considered facilities as well?
2. **LOS FOR TRAILS:** Should LOS recommendations for the trails system as a whole, not just the paved surfaces within the UGB, be addressed as part of the Trails Master Plan?
3. **EXHIBITS AND DATA REPRESENTATION:** Most of the trail data represented throughout the exhibits is inaccurate and out of date. The trails CAMP process has generated a significant amount of current and verified GIS data that should be reflected in the exhibits. This is true for both winter and summer use. It would be better to represent no data at all than to represent out of date or inaccurate data.
4. **WINTER/SUMMER ARTICULATIONS:** It is important to establish and emphasize the necessity for winter and summer articulations for all park and recreation facilities and uses and the need to address seasonal uses as essentially discrete systems.
5. **WINTER PORTALS:** Significant data development and system identification as part of the CAMP: Winter public outreach effort identified a “system of portals” for access to winter recreation activities. Should these winter portals be identified as facilities in this Parks and Recreation plan or is it better to cover this in the upcoming Trails Master Plan? The term “portal” needs definition (see #1, above).
6. **RECREATION ACTIVITIES INVENTORY:** It would be helpful if there were an inclusive list of all the identified recreation activities available in the Mammoth Lakes area. A reader of the plan is never sure whether lists of activities are designed to be referential or inclusive.

COMMENTS WITH PAGE REFERENCE:

1. COVER PAGE: The photographs on the cover of the proposed plan should reflect a wider variety of the recreation opportunities available in Mammoth Lakes.
2. PAGE 4 + 5: MLTPA supports the “Values, Vision, and Goals” vision statement and identified goals and supports its retention in the final plan.
3. PAGE 5: “Actions” list. This section should expand the children’s winter play area to a snow-play area. MLTPA has consistently heard the identification of a full spectrum snowplay within the town limit as being a consistently desired recreation facility.
4. PAGE 5: “Actions” list. The updating or revisiting of the Town’s snow management policy to more specifically address parks and recreation facilities. This needs to be a prioritized item on the actions list.
5. PAGE 9: MLTPA concurs with the statement in paragraph 1 that much work remains to be done on the trails network and looks forward to working with the Town to achieve completion of a year-round system.
6. PAGE 12: MLTPA supports the ideas and conclusions on page 12, and specifically supports the wording of the sixth bullet.
7. PAGE 17: There is no legend key for the black squares (UGB?) and there is inconsistent terminology “Existing Class 1 Bike Path (Open Year Round)” is not referred to elsewhere in the document. Perhaps “Open Year Round” should be described in the context of Snow Management policies, i.e. “Snow Removed during Winter Months”.
8. PAGE 19: Should the Winter Recreation Portals as identified during the CAMP:Winter process be represented on this exhibit?
9. PAGE 21: The second paragraph on the page, starting with “Numerous paved trails...” contains a number of technical inaccuracies and jurisdictional misrepresentations. If text can be provided to MLTPA in MS Word format, we would be happy to provide specific comment and clarification.
10. PAGE 26: Could back up or source data be provided for the statement estimating visitor numbers to Mammoth Lakes (middle paragraph)?
11. PAGE 26: MLTPA supports the third paragraph on the page.
12. PAGE 32: Under the proposed policies for Goal 1, clarify that Parks and Recreation facilities include trails. Also include a separate policy to develop a snow management plan (clearing, grooming) for trails and the Winter Recreation Portals.
13. PAGES 34 and 37: MLTPA supports the proposed policies under Goals 3 and 5.
14. PAGE 45: “Town-Owned and Federal Public Lands” – the system of Winter Recreation Portals should be included
15. PAGE 48: A snowplay area should be identified and included in the listing of “New Facilities”
16. PAGE 51: Add “and organizations” to the first administrative recommendation. Add trails to the fourth administrative recommendation.

17. PAGE 51: Should Winter Recreation Portals be addressed in this plan or is that better addressed in the pending Trails Plan?
18. PAGE 83: The “Opportunities and Constraints” matrix that was developed during prior efforts appears to contain numerous inaccuracies and misstatements – perhaps from formatting errors?