

# Metro | Agenda

Meeting: Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee (SBAC)  
Date: Tuesday, January 27th, 2015  
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Metro Regional Center – Room 270  
600 NE Grand Ave, Portland Oregon 97232

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<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>5:35 p.m.</b>	<b>Approve September, 2014 meeting minutes</b>	<b>Troy Clark</b>
<b>5:40 p.m.</b>	<b>Trail updates: Saint Johns Prairie, Chimney Park and Columbia Blvd.</b>	<b>Mark Davison</b>
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Access Project Review and Prioritization</b>  <i>- Define the projects listed on page 59 of the Smith Bybee CNRP.</i> <i>- Prioritize the projects</i> <i>- Discuss strategies for implementing the projects and questions such as:</i>  <i>“Should Metro begin to plan and implement prioritized projects as quickly as possible with the Smith Bybee Fund” or “Should Metro work with the SBAC to more gradually implement the projects waiting for grant opportunities that might leverage the SB Fund?”, or a mix of both.</i>	<b>Mark Davison</b> <b>Dave Elkin</b>
<b>7:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Goals and next meeting agenda</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	

#### **Upcoming SBAC meetings:**

Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at Metro Regional Center

For agenda/schedule information, contact Ally Gregg-Zellars at 503.797.1545 or [ally.gregg-zellars@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:ally.gregg-zellars@oregonmetro.gov)

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## Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee

January 27, 2015

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### Committee members in attendance

Sara Henderson\* .....St. Johns Neighborhood Association  
Dan Moeller\* .....Metro, Sustainability Center  
Patt Opdyke \* .....North Portland Neighbors  
Troy Clark\* .....Audubon Society of Portland (Chair)  
Pam Arden\* .....40 Mile Loop Trust  
Dale Svart\* .....Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes  
Dave Helzer\* .....City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services  
Adele Rife\* .....Columbia Slough Watershed Council

### Others in attendance

Kristina Prosser .....Metro, Sustainability Center  
Mark Davison .....Metro, Sustainability Center  
Dave Elkin .....Metro, Sustainability Center  
Ally Gregg-Zellers .....Metro, Sustainability Center

### Committee members not in attendance

Carrie Butler\* .....Port of Portland (Vice Chair)  
Eric Tonsager \* .....Oregon Bass and Panfish Club  
Susan Barnes\* .....Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Bill Briggs\* .....ORRCO

\*Denotes voting Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee member.

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## WELCOME

Brief introductions were made – Adele Rife is now attending meetings on behalf of the Columbia Slough Watershed Council.

The September 23, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as written.

## TRAIL UPDATES – ST. JOHNS PRAIRIE, CHIMNEY PARK AND COLUMBIA BLVD.

Metro Parks and Natural Areas Planning Manager, Mark Davison, gave an update on the status of St. Johns Prairie trail and the bridge crossing from Chimney Park over Columbia Blvd.

### Trail

A general timeline of 4 years is projected to complete the project for connection to the slough. Available funding will allow a 6-8 foot compacted gravel trail on St Johns Prairie. The trail will likely utilize existing access roads, creating a loop on the site. This is one possible interim plan for the level of funding available at this time. See [Attachment 1](#) for interim trail access map.

Some members expressed concern around the interim loop trail location – the western part of the landfill had been identified for prairie habitat restoration and low access level. The proposed interim trail loop deviates from the trail system within the Smith and Bybee Comprehensive Natural Resource Plan (CNRP) and the interim plan would ideally take that into consideration to balance CNRP guidelines and the need for an interim trail solution. Mark noted that this is one possible interim trail option and Metro will consider variations on

this interim option and consider other alternatives. One committee member also suggested a possible interim trail loop leading from the water control structure.

### **Columbia Blvd. Bridge**

At some point, fiber glass was discussed as a possible material, but due to higher costs and potential risks, the bridge will likely be built of steel.

### **North Slough Bridge**

There is currently no funding for the bridge.

## **ACCESS PROJECT REVIEW AND PRIORITIZATION**

Mark facilitated the process of reviewing and prioritizing the access projects listed in the CNRP. The general process for prioritizing projects is as follows: (1) the Committee will come to a consensus on the initial project priorities list, (2) the Metro planning division will prepare a rough scope of work and cost estimates for each project, (3) the Committee will come to consensus on a finalized priorities list. Goals during this work session were to prioritize an initial list of projects and general timeline; funding questions and thoughts will be addressed at the next meeting. About \$4 million remains in the Smith and Bybee Fund. See [Attachment 1](#) for the list of projects identified within the CNRP.

### **Process**

The following general timeline was made for the Smith and Bybee access projects:

- A. Prioritize list, discuss projects (Jan. 27, 2015)
- B. Scope and funding (1 yr)
- C. Funding, schematic design (3-4 yrs)
- D. Design development (6-7 yrs)
- E. Construction/opening (10 yrs)

Regular updates on projects will be held within this larger project timeline.

**Projects** – each project was briefly reviewed.

### **Interlakes Trail extension**

- If intent is to extend beyond the blind, should consider the large amount of seasonal water inundation along the trail.
- Several social paths exist beyond the trail.
- Although mentioned in the CNRP, the trail extension is not required to be made of bark/mulch. A metal grating/boardwalk is also an option

### **Viewing platform renovation**

- The CNRP identifies removal of the siding from the Bybee Lake platform as one aspect of the project scope. Metro Natural Resource Specialist, Kristina Prosser, noted that this has been done.

### **North Slough/Bybee Lake portage**

- Bybee Lake would become more accessible with the completion of this project, but within larger planning contexts, Bybee Lake has been identified to have low access levels.

### **Seating**

- Is more seating needed to support educational opportunities? Is there a demand for this? May want to consult Metro naturalists for a perspective on seating need.

### **Improve access to Interlakes Trail**

- Parking improvements for access to the Port Trail will be included within the scope of the St Johns Prairie Trail project.
- “Improve the walk from the parking lot to the trailhead by separating the trail from the road” – the group was not clear on what was specifically being referring to. A site visit might help clarify this. Note: the Peninsula Crossing is part of the 40-mile Loop trail – should consider this when project is further developed.
- Access project will focus on improved bus parking and handicapped parking near the trailhead.

**Signage** (no special comments were made regarding this project)

### **Project Priorities**

Committee members each shared their priority list and rationale. The group agreed on the following as the initial priority list.

#### **HIGH:**

- Improve access to the Interlakes Trail – (#1) this project appears to make improvements for the larger visitor experience and provides a base for some of the other projects.
- Seating – (#2)

#### **MEDIUM:**

- Interlakes Trail extension
- Signs – this project should likely wait until others are completed, so no edits/replacements will need to be made if projects change.

#### **LOW:**

- North Slough/Bybee Lake portage
- Viewing platform renovation

Mark and the planning team will review the input provided by the Committee and plan to return in Fall 2015 to talk about next steps.

### **WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE UPDATE**

Dan Moeller provided a brief update on the status of the water control structure at the site. It is likely that the boards will not be put in this year – the Metro safety committee recently reviewed the land management team’s process for board installation/removal and discovered some safety concerns. Ducks Unlimited is presently looking at some engineering options to address the safety issues – solutions/improvements should be completed by next November.

Jeff Merrill of Metro will present the engineering design strategy to the Committee after conceptual designs are determined.

Dan will also connect with Katy Weil about providing a hydrology update at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 28, 2015.**

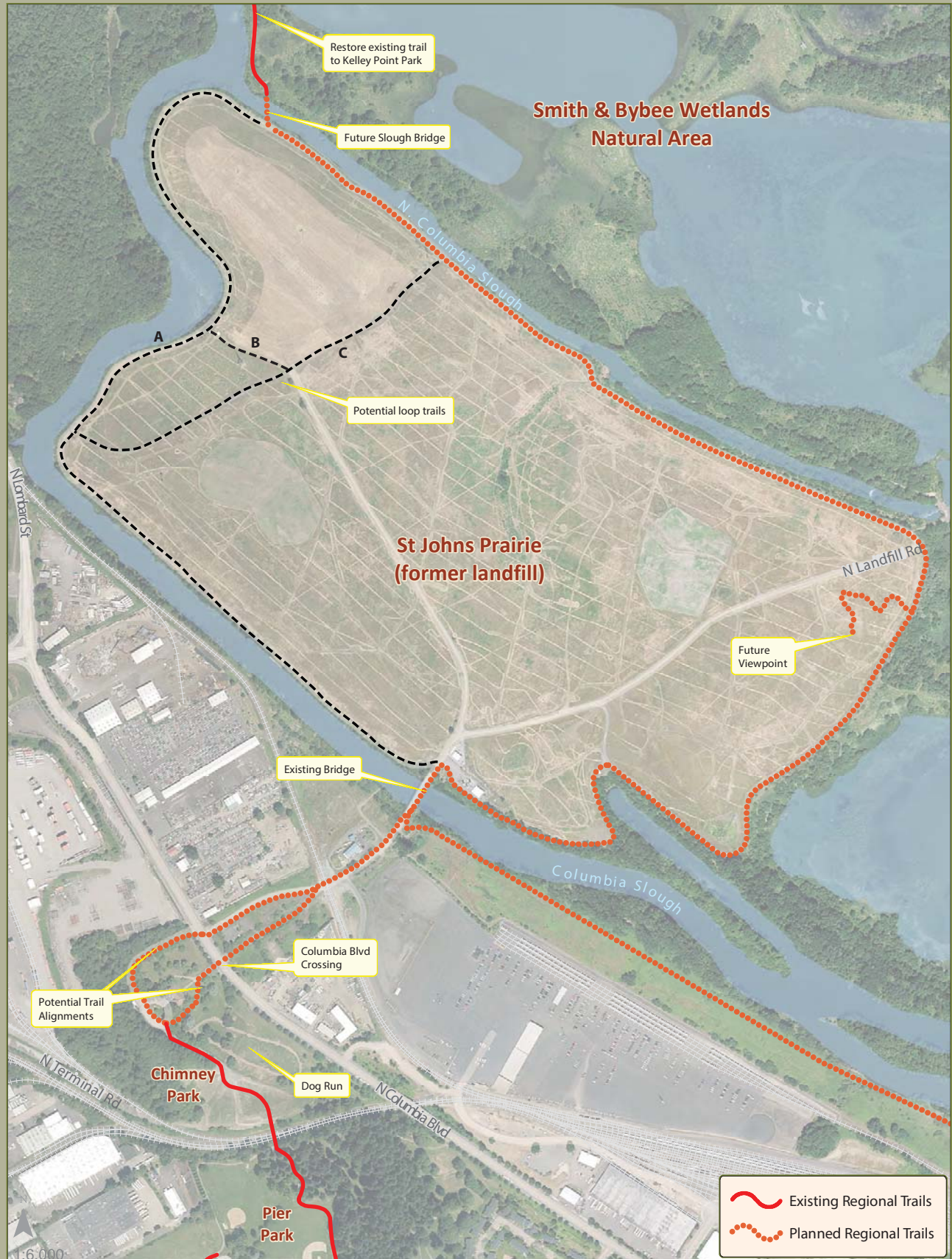
Minutes recorded by Ally Gregg-Zellars.



# North Willamette Greenway Trail

## Chimney Park to Kelley Point Park

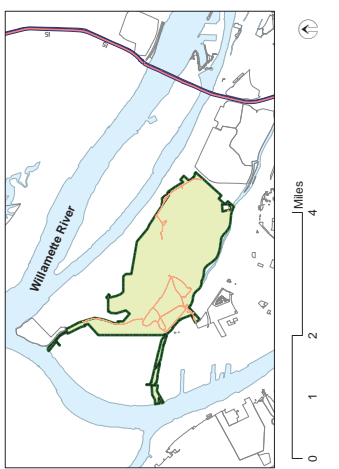
December 2014







Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area



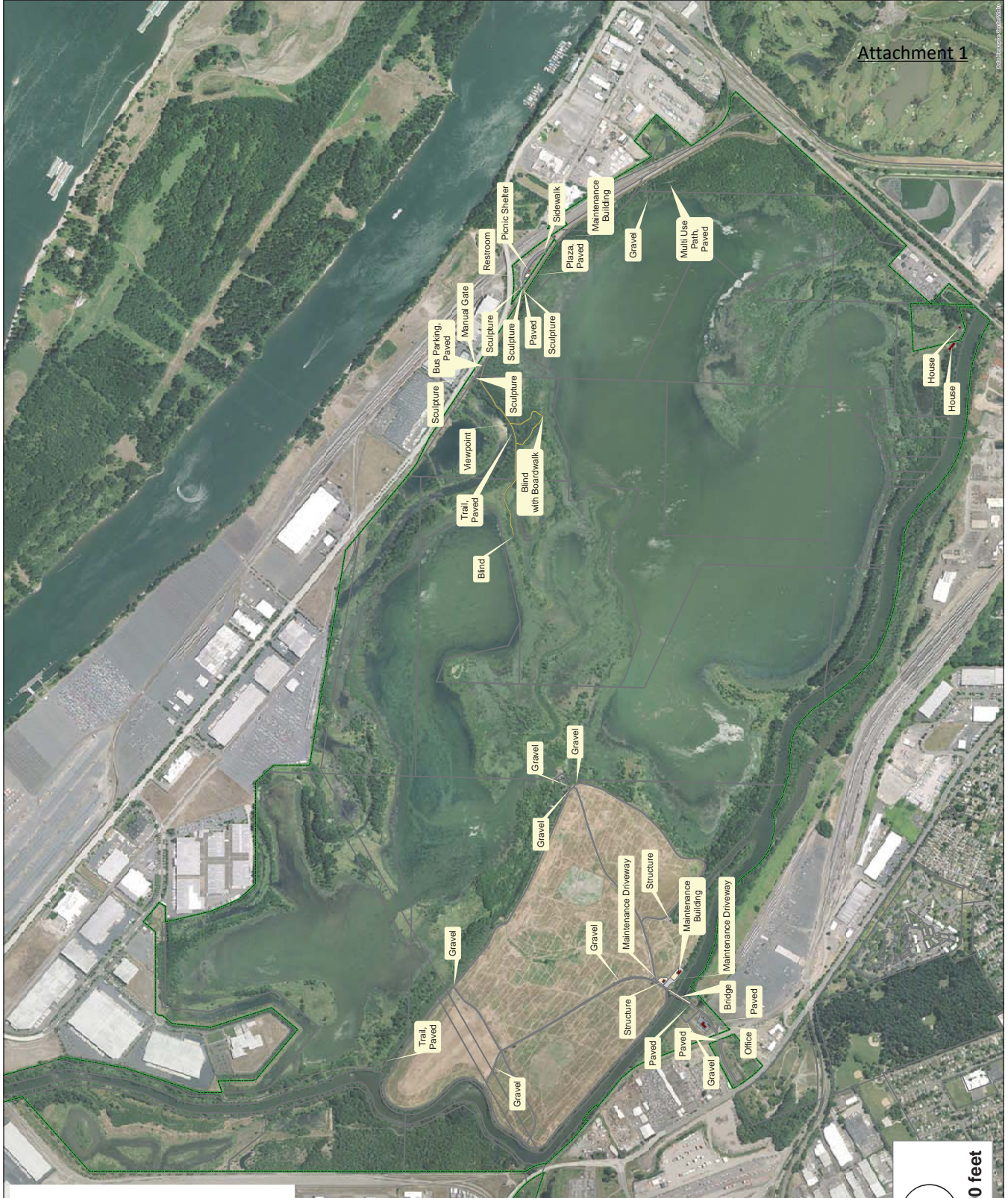
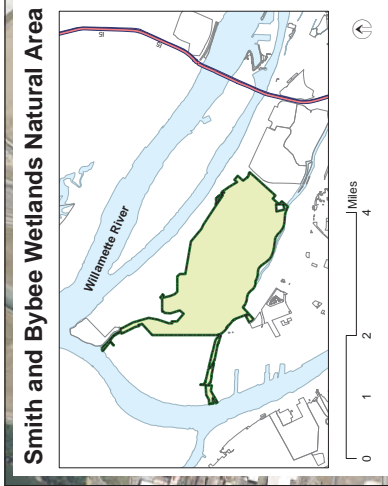
- Activity Zones**
- Activity Hub
  - Conservation
  - Limited Use
  - Nature Recreation
  - Operations
  - Restoration
  - Water Access
  - Water Recreation



Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area

Activity Zones 1 in = 650 feet





Smith and Bybee  
Wetlands Natural Area  
Facilities

1 in = 600 feet



The following tables describe the proposed improvements over the life of this plan.

Projects to provide access to visitors	Priority over 10 years	
	1	2
<b>St. Johns Landfill regional trail and bridge</b> Construct the trail in St. Johns Landfill, including a bridge over the North Slough, an overlook on St. Johns Landfill, two overlooks adjacent to the trail, and interpretive signage. Repair flood damaged section on Port property.	●	
<b>North Slough/Bybee Lake portage</b> Improve the portage between the North Slough and Bybee Lake.		●
<b>Improve access to Interlakes Trail</b> Facilitate access to the Interlakes Trail by adding bus parking and parking for people with disabilities at the trailhead. Improve the walk from the parking lot to the trailhead by separating the trail from the road.	●	
<b>Viewing platform renovation</b> Remove the siding on the Bybee Lake viewing platform. Add a second level to Bybee and Smith Lakes viewing platforms.	●	
<b>Interlakes Trail extension</b> Clarify the trail delineation at the end of the paved section of the Interlakes Trail. Validate the seasonal extension with signage and increase the path width to two feet, with bark mulch surface, boardwalk or metal grating.	●	
<b>Signage upgrade</b> Create consistent signage and upgrade regulatory signage and interpretive signage.	●	
<b>Seating</b> Provide seating at selected viewing areas, including the turtle-viewing area. Could include benches or walls.	●	

The table below represents proposed programming at Smith and Bybee Wetlands.

	Keep current level	Increase for landfill	Serve more schools/public	Support of bus fund
Environmental education program	●	◐	◐	●
General public boat trips program	●	Go to twice a month	Weekly	

Full support ●  
 Some support ◐