



Memorandum

To: RULES COMMITTEE

From: Councilmember Nancy Pyle

Subject: Improving conditions on city trails

Date: November 10, 2009

Approved:

Date:

11/10/09

RECOMMENDATION

Add a review of the Los Alamos Creek Trail community meeting held on October 28th at the Almaden Community Center to the Parks and Recreation Commission work plan. In addition, the PRC should provide the opportunity for city-wide discussion and consideration of further action.

Common areas of concern for the Los Alamos Creek Trail presented at the October 28th meeting were:

- Improved Signage
- Appropriate trail marking
- Leash limits
- Yield protocols
- Education program

BACKGROUND

In mid September there was a tragic fatal accident on the Los Alamos Creek trail involving a walker who became entangled with the leash of a dog running along side a bicycle. The conditions that caused the accident resulted in a large number of public responses to council offices and on blog sites. A community meeting was held on October 28th at the Almaden Community Center to provide the opportunity for residents to ask questions of staff and provide their insight to trail usage and identify areas where improvements could be made.

Our trail system is designed for a multitude of uses that include slow-paced walkers, children learning to ride bicycles, joggers, dog walkers, skateboarders, rollerbladers and commuters on bicycles. The variety of speed on the trails requires users to be constantly aware of their surroundings and courteous to the other users. The areas of concern were those raised at the meeting and presented to the Council Office via phone call and email.