

Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision - Map Key

The Ridgeline Open Space Vision has been developed to serve as a conceptual framework for future open space and recreation planning purposes for the ridgeline area. The locations of the elements shown on the map are conceptual, are subject to voluntary land owner participation, and do not change the underlying plan designation/zoning or imply regulatory restriction. Vision map elements include:

Trail/Habitat Corridor

The dashed green lines indicate the approximate location of the proposed ridgeline trail corridor. The trail corridor would be accommodated through a combination of land acquisition and purchase of access easements from willing sellers. In addition to accommodating the trail, this corridor would also serve to provide connectivity between key habitat areas.

Multi-Use Path

These are hard surfaced trails similar to the existing Fern Ridge Path and accommodate multiple non-motorized modes including pedestrians and bicycles.

Shared-Use Trail

These are soft surfaced trails similar to the existing ridgeline and headwaters trails. In addition to accommodating hikers and trail runners, many of these trails will be built to a standard that would also accommodate mountain bikes where appropriate and feasible. Trail design and siting will be done in a way that maximizes user enjoyment and safety, while minimizing impacts to adjacent properties and important habitats.

Equestrian Trail

These are trails designated primarily for equestrian use. The primary equestrian trail identified in the ridgeline vision is located along the Amazon Diversion Channel, with additional facilities likely to be sited on nearby private or public lands in the future.

Bicycle Touring Route

These are roads within the ridgeline area that are commonly used for bicycle touring and are indicated on the vision map with a yellow line (dashed or solid). The dashed line indicates those roads where improvements are needed in order to better accommodate bicycles such as wider shoulders, more frequent sweeping of the road surface, and improved signage.

Trailhead Parking

These are designated parking lots at major trailhead locations. New parking lots would be sited and designed in a way that maximizes safety and security and minimizes visual impact to adjacent properties.

Key Habitat Areas

These are areas where large blocks of high value native habitat are known to exist and include a mix of rare or declining habitat types such as prairie, oak-pine savanna; oak woodland; riparian and headwater forests; and older coniferous forests. Because much of this land will remain in private ownership over the long-term, financial incentives, information, and other technical assistance will be offered as a way to help assist private property owners conserve and enhance these valuable habitats on a voluntary basis.

Key Waterways

Numerous waterways exist within the ridgeline area and provide an important water quality and habitat function. Enhancement efforts along these waterways will maintain and improve their function.

Community Gateways

These are major points of entry into the community where the open space system can be utilized to form scenic gateways. Gateways may include amenities such as trailhead parking, visitor information, trail guides, interpretive signage, and outdoor art.