

NYE COUNTY AGENDA INFORMATION FORM

Action
 Presentation
 Presentation & Action

Department: Town of Pahrump		Agenda Date:
Category: Regular Agenda Item		July 16, 2019
Contact: Arlette Ledbetter	Phone: 775-727-2812	Continued from meeting of:
Return to:	Location: Pahrump	Phone:
Action requested: (Include what, with whom, when, where, why, how much (\$) and terms)		
Discussion and deliberation to provide a letter of support for the Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail.		
Complete description of requested action: (Include, if applicable, background, impact, long-term commitment, existing county policy, future goals, obtained by competitive bid, accountability measures)		
Ross Williams from Williams Development is working on a project called the Las Vegas Loop Trail Route. The maps identify the area circling Las Vegas. The route will have an arm extending to Pahrump for fuel, supplies and overnight stays.		
Any information provided after the agenda is published or during the meeting of the Commissioners will require you to provide 10 copies: one for each Commissioner, one for the Clerk, one for the District Attorney, one for the Public and two for the County Manager. Contracts or documents requiring signature must be submitted with three original copies.		
Expenditure Impact by FY(s): (Provide detail on Financial Form)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No financial impact		

Routing & Approval (Sign & Date)

1. Dept	Date	6.	Date
2.	Date	7. HR	Date
3.	Date	8. Legal	Date
4.	Date	9. Finance	Date
5.	Date	10. County Manager	Date

Place on Agenda

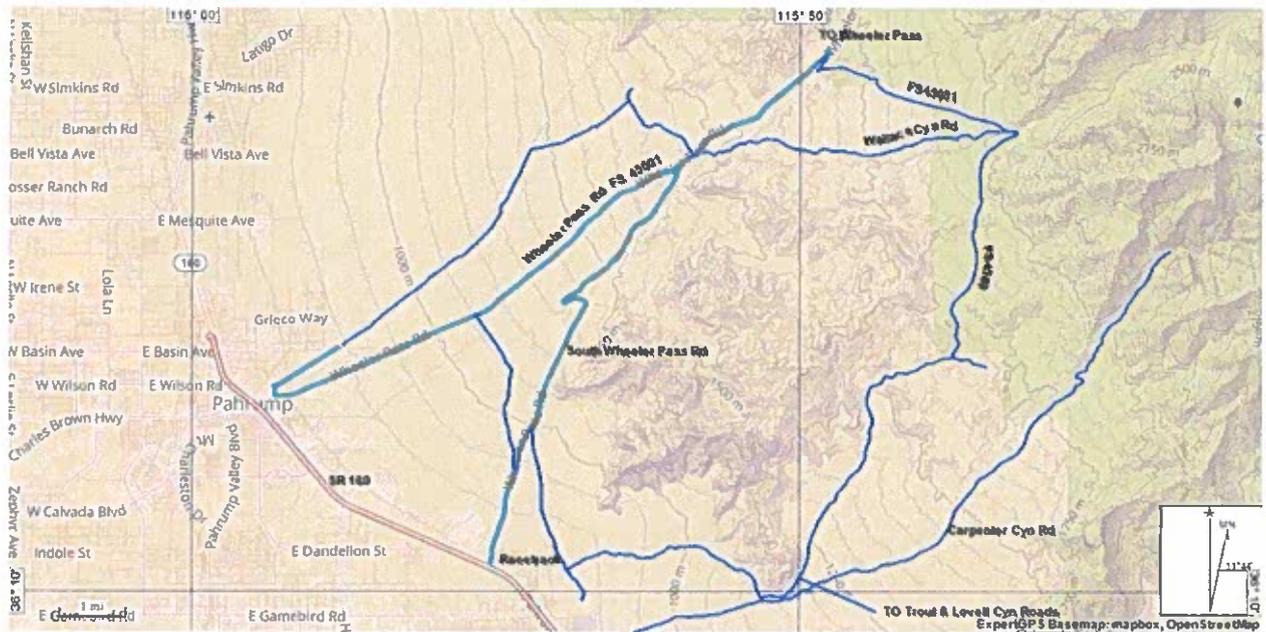
ITEM # 27

The Las Vegas Loop Trail connects to Pahrump from Lovell Canyon and Wheeler Pass.

There's several route options.

Options are good because they separate vehicle types and rider levels.

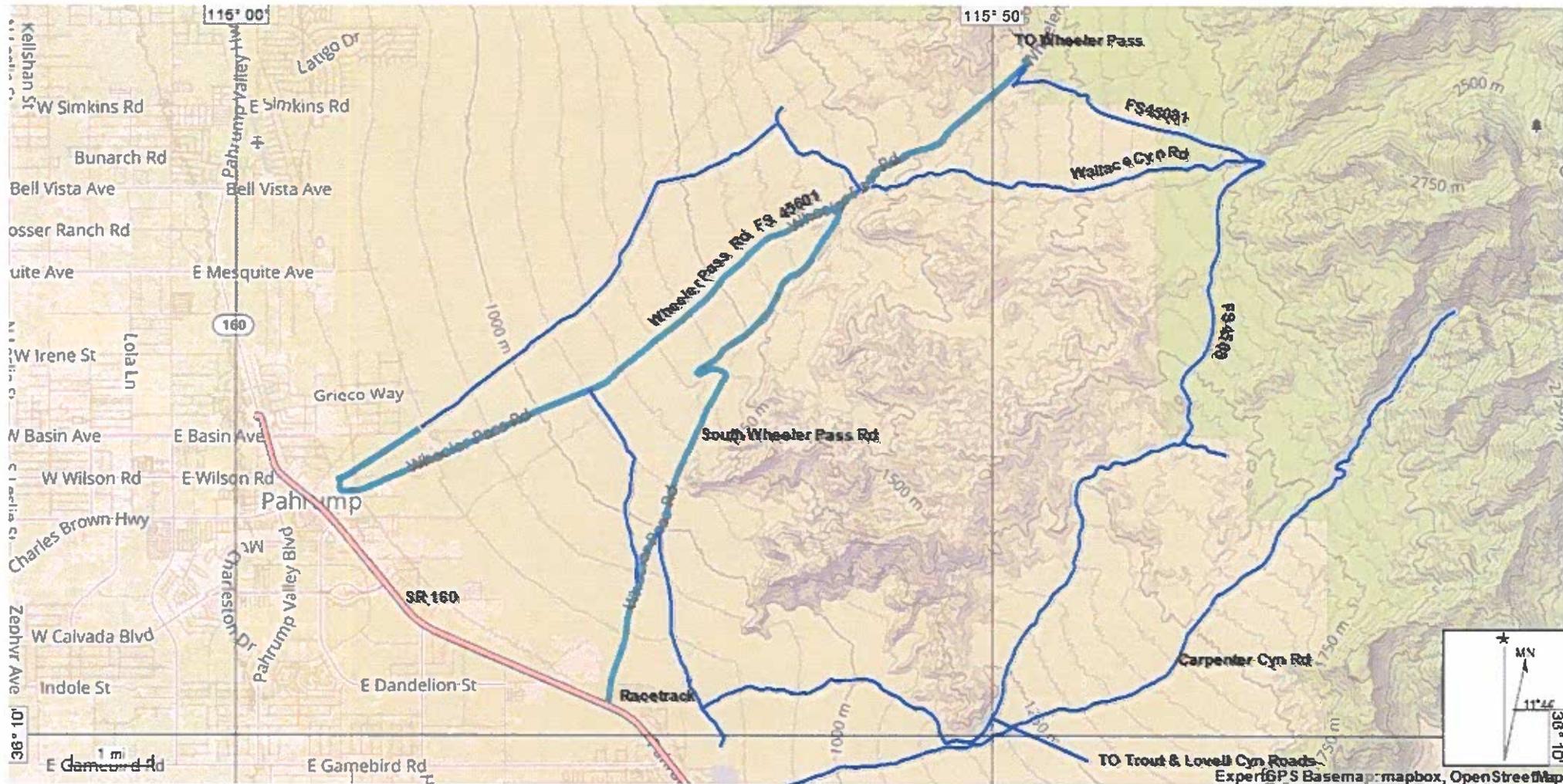
All options come in and out of Pahrump on Wheeler Pass Rd or parallel route.



BLUE is 2 track jeep trails

TEAL is maintained graded roads

PINK is highway.



ExperGPS Basemap: mapbox, OpenStreetMap

DRAFT

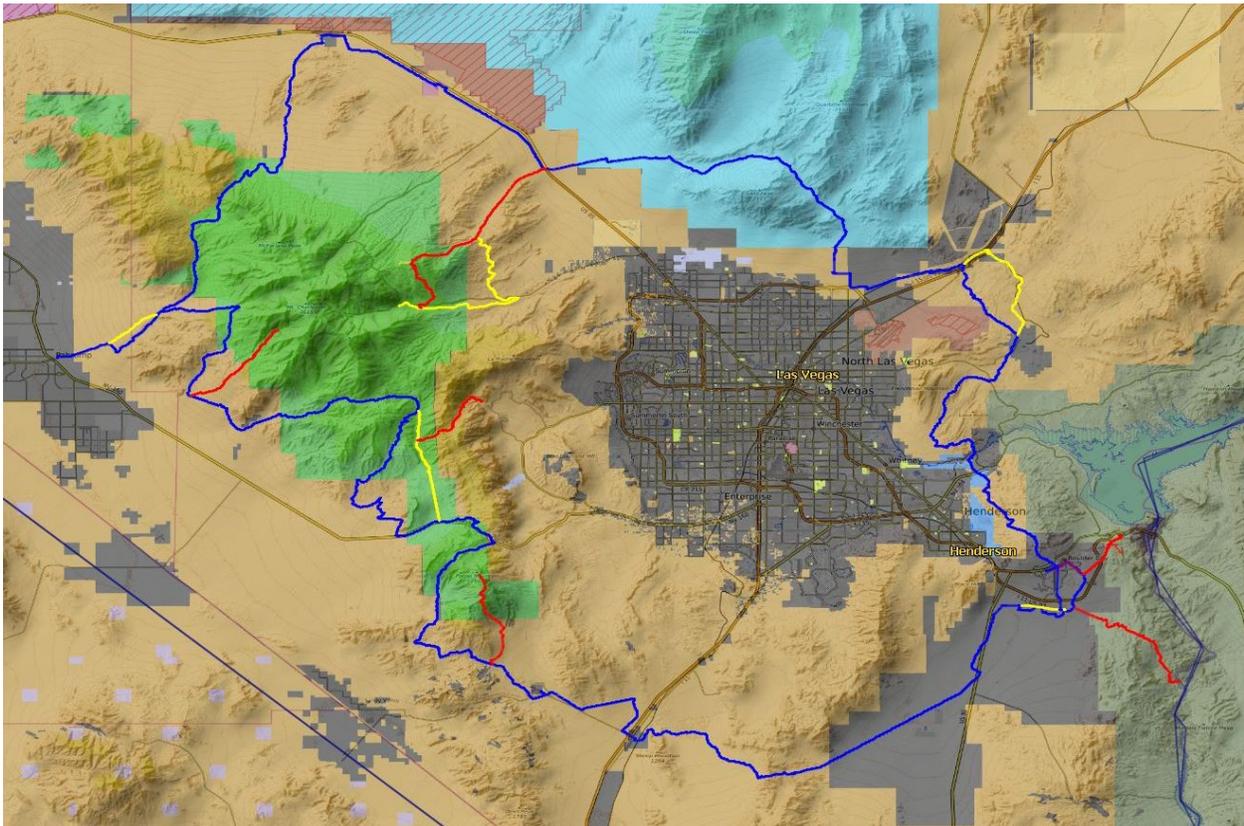
LAS VEGAS VALLEY LOOP TRAIL

PHASE I FEASIBILITY STUDY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Overview

The Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail (LVVLT or The Loop) project is a proposed two-track off-highway vehicle (OHV)¹ trail that circumnavigates the Las Vegas Valley:



The vast majority of the trail will utilize currently existing motorized routes. The LVVLT will accommodate all types of OHVs. The main loop is approximately 280 miles long. Six spur trails add 62

¹ For the purposes of this report, the term OHV will be used to describe the group of vehicles commonly thought of as off-road recreational vehicles including 4x4s, UTVs, side-by-sides, ATVs, adventure bikes, dual sport motorcycles, and dirt bikes, whether street legal or not. While some governmental agencies use a different acronym, for simplicity and clarity the term OHV will be used throughout this report.

miles and five bypass routes add an additional 44 miles. It is projected that direct spending on food, fuel, lodging, and incidentals from users of the LVVLT will exceed \$60 million annually.² The LVVLT has an incredible amount of scenic variety and would be the only long distance OHV loop that surrounds a major metropolitan area and tourist destination.

Understanding of Community Need

The US Forest Service estimates that 28.1% of the population in the western U.S. and 23.9% of the population in Nevada participates in OHV recreation.³ Currently, OHVs in southern Nevada can use any existing road, trail, or wash on most public lands where OHV use is allowed. New regulations, however, are crowding out OHV recreation and placing restrictions on areas where they are used. A federal lands bill proposed by Clark County would expand the SNPLMA Disposal Boundary⁴ and add new Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) and wilderness, all of which would restrict OHV recreation in southern Nevada. Combined with regulations already in place (but in many cases not yet fully implemented or enforced), these new regulations will end OHV recreation in southern Nevada as it currently exists. For the most part, the public is unaware of these changes and the negative impact to the southern Nevada OHV lifestyle. In light of this new reality, it is the goal of the LVVLT project to create a permanent designated OHV route which would be easily accessible from nearly any point in the Las Vegas valley, provide back country access to many of the scenic amenities in southern Nevada, and provide OHV connectivity in every outward direction from the Las Vegas valley.

Approved Trail Route

The routes depicted in this report were first determined by plotting on Google Earth, and then creating actual GPS tracks in the field via truck or motorcycle. There were many cases in which the routes were adjusted to eliminate conflict areas, avoid obstacles, or enhance the user experience. The GPS tracks were then forwarded to the various land management agencies for vetting. Each agency is on its own schedule on the development timeline with respect to this project as discussed below.

Severability

The LVVLT requires the cooperation of approximately 19 state and federal agencies and local jurisdictions. Each has its own criteria for designation of the LVVLT and some are more challenging and will take longer to deal with than others. Therefore, the approach of this project is to treat each entity as

² Utilizing the 2017 Paiute Trail, UT volume of 162,000 users at a calculated amount of \$403 of direct spending per user for food, fuel, lodging, and incidentals to ride the entire LVVLT. The Paiute Trail is a seasonal trail, operating only about 6 months per year. The LVVLT will be useable year-round.

³ US Forest Service Survey, 2008.

⁴ The development area in the Las Vegas valley authorized by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998 outside of which public land cannot be disposed of by the BLM for development.

independent and severable from the rest, i.e., the project is not an all-or-nothing proposition. This is especially important with regard to the BLM and Forest Service lands, which collectively account for 79.2% of the total trail mileage. It is anticipated that designation from the BLM and Forest Service will come first and the other, shorter, sections will be added later.

Opinion of Probable Cost

Relative to most public works projects, the cost to implement the LVVLT would be minimal as the project consists mainly of designating existing motorized routes. The need for new construction is very limited. Additionally, OHV users don't require grooming of their trails and oftentimes prefer a rougher or more natural surface to ride on, so maintenance costs would be nominal. After designation, the trail could be implemented with signs on the ground and a website with downloadable GPS tracks. Later on, infrastructure such as trail head parking lots, restrooms, and campgrounds could be added if desired, which would entail significant cost.

Implementation and Next Steps

To be continued. . . .

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Nye County, Nevada**

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July 16, 2019

Subject: Support for Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail

To Whom It May Concern:

We would like to take this opportunity to show our support for the Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail. This project offers a beautiful opportunity for Pahrump to enhance tourism, community and outdoor adventure in our destination and the State of Nevada.

Ross Williams has shown the benefits of using existing trails to connect a loop around Las Vegas. We welcome the proposed spur trail that would include Pahrump and look forward to the economic impact generated by this outdoor activity. We believe this will provide a safer motorized recreation space for many residents of Southern Nevada.

If you would like to contact me directly regarding additional information about tourism and the support of the Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail please feel free.

Sincerely,

John Koenig,
Chairman