

MEMO

DATE: August 11, 2009
TO: Mariel Platt, Hailey Planner
FROM: Becki Keefer, Parks Project Coordinator
RE: **BCRD Bicycle Pump Track CUP Application**

The Hailey Parks & Lands Board did not have the opportunity to review this application at a regularly-scheduled Board meeting, but members were given the opportunity to review and comment on the proposal via email.

The pump track will be constructed from on-site material and with fill brought from other sources. The track will be constructed to the north of the barn and adjacent to Fox Acres Road (Site #1), and may be a temporary asset, depending on BCRD future plans for the property. The track and its use will be managed and maintained by BCRD. Helmets will be strongly encouraged, but not required; all users will be responsible for their own safety, as is the case with the Hailey Skatepark.

To a person, the Board liked the concept of the pump track, as it will appeal to a diverse range of users, it will provide another opportunity for kids to be active and outdoors, and it will be located adjacent to and near existing community assets at the Aquatic Center, Community Campus, and Wood River High School.

Based on earlier Parks & Lands Board discussions on other proposed community assets, the following comments are typical of what the Board usually considers.

- a. **Will be harmonious with and in accordance with the general objectives or any specific objective of the Comprehensive Plan and requirements of the Ordinance.**

4.3 Recreation: Maximize recreation opportunities and minimize tax dollars.

4.3.1.a. Work with the Blaine County Recreation District to provide community recreation assets that support and enable the District's recreation programs.

- b. **Will be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to be harmonious and appropriate in appearance with the existing character of the same area.**

The site is a rolling parcel with variations in grade. The channel for Quigley Creek bisects the parcel. Portions of the site have remained in its natural state with lots of native grass and minimal weeds, while another portion has been developed with turf and shrubs.

The track, with its rolling characteristics, should blend into the variations in grade on the parcel. If disturbance is kept to a minimum during construction, retention of native grasses and vegetation will assist in weed control.

The site, although currently undeveloped, is used as a pedestrian and bicycles access between Fox Acres Road and Sunrise Drive. The track should not interfere with existing non-motorized connectivity between Fox Acres Road and neighborhoods to the south.

c. Will not be hazardous or disturbing to existing or future neighboring uses.

City of Hailey parks hours of operation are dawn to dusk, and the track is proposed to have the same hours. It is not expected that track use will be overly noisy, as there are no motors involved. Spectator noise will not be any louder than the adjacent noise from the swimming pool, and which has approximately the same hours of use. As neighboring uses are residential to the south and buffered by the rest of the site, and community assets are to the north, use of the track should not disturb existing neighboring uses.

No lights are planned at the track.

d. Will not involve uses, activities, processes, materials, equipment, or conditions of operation that will be detrimental to any persons, property, or the general welfare by reason of excessive production of traffic, noise, smoke, fumes, glare, dust, odors, vibration, water or air pollution, or safety hazards.

Use of the track is voluntary and open to the public. Rules of use, including hours of operation, will be posted on site, and should include language similar to that used on Hailey Skatepark signs that advise the user that use of the facility may be hazardous.

e. Will have vehicular approaches to the property which shall be designed so as not to create an interference with traffic on surrounding public thoroughfares.

Parking is available at the Community Campus or across Fox Acres Road at the school district's overflow parking lot, and is connected to the site of the track by crosswalks. Parking is not provided elsewhere, and public parking at the city's well, the old barn, and at the south end on Sunrise Drive should be discouraged.

f. Will not result in the destruction, loss, or damage of a natural, scenic, or historic feature.

The site is mostly an undisturbed native landscape with minimal weeds. Every effort should be made to minimize soil disturbance in order to preserve the native grasses and contain weeds.