

The Columbia County Crown Zellerbach Trail
Draft Mission and Goal Statement
April 27, 2006

Vision

The Crown Zellerbach trail embodies the spirit of Columbia County's past, present and future. It enriches people's lives by fostering appreciation, pride and respect for the region's natural resources and cultural heritage. The trail spurs the local economy and cultivates a sense of place and community that is genuine and unique.

The trail and support facilities:

- Provide for a wide range of non-motorized activities such as walking, bicycling, and horseback riding
- Are designed for safety, accessibility, and sustainability
- Conserve, protect, and educate people about the region's natural, historic, and cultural resources
- Connects communities and neighborhoods to other residential areas, business and employment centers, schools, and other regional parks, public spaces, and cultural centers
- Are sensitive in design and management to potential impacts on adjacent landowners, residents, and neighbors
- Are the result of many partnerships, coordinated management, and citizen involvement

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Design an attractive, safe, accessible and sustainable trail that meets the recreation and transportation needs of bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian users.

Objectives:

- Design the trail to be visually attractive and aesthetically pleasing.
- Incorporate safety design features that consider mixed trail use, line-of-sight, road and driveway crossings, bridges, railings, fences, and other safety features.
- Design the trail to meet ADA accessibility requirements.
- Design the trail with long-lasting, natural materials that are compatible with the environment and require minimal maintenance.
- Design the trail for functional transportation linkage to nearby destinations, particularly for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Design the trail to serve as a premier regional linear park and greenway serving a wide range of non-motorized recreation interests.

Goal 2: Develop a public/private 'Trail Management Partnership' to coordinate various stakeholder interests in the day to day management and operation of the trail.

Objectives:

- Establish a 'management presence' by committing appropriate resources (staff and funds) to support daily operations that keep the trail clean, well maintained, and managed.

- Develop an inter-local trail management agreement between Columbia County, the cities of Scappoose and Vernonia, and the Oregon State Parks Department to cooperate in the management and operation of the trail.
- Develop meaningful, respectful, and cooperative ‘good neighbor’ relationships with adjacent public and/or private landowners to address and mitigate land use issues and concerns that impact either management of the trail or adjacent property.
- Encourage and assist the formation and operation of a voluntary ‘Friends of the Trail’ organization to allow citizens a voice in trail management and operations.

Goal 3: Create a linear centerpiece that is a principal feature in defining Columbia County as a healthy, family oriented region located near Portland but with its own unique identity.

Objectives:

- Create a scenic ‘greenway’ corridor that is inviting, fun, and adventurous for walkers, bicyclists, and equestrian users.
- Develop the trail as a regional destination and as a central, defining feature for the future growth of Columbia County.
- Make the trail as ‘user friendly’ as possible by providing basic user needs (i.e., parking, restrooms, directional signage, easy access, bike racks, hitching posts, etc).
- Promote healthy/active lifestyles.
- Market development of the trail as an investment in the future.

Goal 4. Provide opportunities for people to learn about the natural and cultural resources in the area.

Objectives:

- Plan and develop interpretive opportunities on the natural environment of the region (e.g., wildlife, habitat, geology, etc.).
- Plan and develop interpretive opportunities on the human history of the area (e.g., Native Americans, European settlement, the railroad and forestry industries, Columbia River shipping, recreation, and other economic activity in the area).
- Utilize a variety of methods and techniques to deliver educational and interpretive information (e.g., signs, brochures, website, guided walks, guest lectures, etc)

Goal 5. Promote and market the benefits of the trail.

Objectives:

- Promote the trail as an economic asset to the region (e.g., heritage tourism; sustainable and non-consumptive; increased property values; attracts businesses and employers to the region; etc.).
- Promote the health benefits of the trail (physical, emotional, and spiritual)
- Promote the transportation benefits of the trail (e.g., multi-modal; alternative to cars; reduction of energy consumption; etc.).
- Promote the trail as a local and regional recreation amenity and destination.
- Promote the environmental and aesthetic benefits of the trail (e.g., protects resources; provides natural beauty; preserves railroad history and the heritage of the area).

Goal 6. Steward the natural and cultural resources in and along the trail corridor.

Objectives:

- Protect, conserve, and enhance natural and cultural resources within the corridor.
- Develop programs designed to promote cooperative conservation with public and private landowners along the corridor.
- Establish a volunteer program for trail management and maintenance to encourage community ownership and support for the trail.

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