



# Lake County Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan

## Steering Committee Meeting Summary

The Steering Committee for the Lake County Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan met for the first time on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Steering Committee will act as an advisory group throughout the planning process, meeting at key points in the project to provide guidance. The Steering Committee is composed of a representatives of agencies, advocacy groups, and the range of recreation interests and perspectives.

The following members attended the Steering Committee meeting, in addition to Brian Powers, Kati Galvani, and Lars Ewing from the County Public Services Department:

Dave Lowrie, Karen Sullivan, Tina Viramontes, Anthony Duncan, Greg Darmon, Barbara Clark, Laura McAndrews Sammel, Scott Barnett, Craig Wetherbee, Marina Deligiannis, Nick Walker, Mireya Turner, Tracy Cline, Grant Coleman, Carlos Torrez

In the first part of the meeting, the project team reviewed the purpose of the meeting and the reviewed planning process as a whole. The meeting then focused on Committee member discussion of strengths, challenges, needs, and opportunities for parks, recreation and trails, as detailed in the notes that follow.



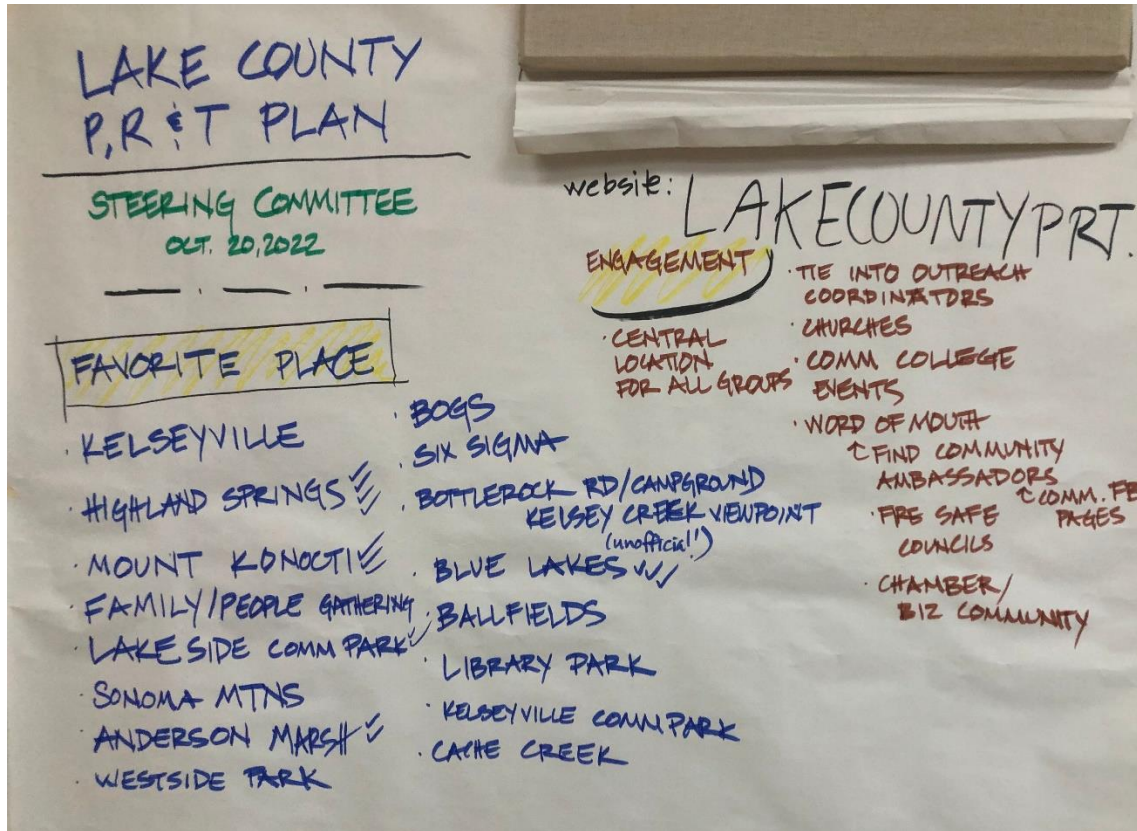
*Lake County PRT Master Plan Steering Committee Meeting 1*



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## Full Notes

Steering Committee feedback was recorded on a large sheet of paper, as shown in the photo on page 1. Steering Committee members introduced themselves and named their favorite place for recreation in Lake County, as shown in the image below.



Excerpt from Steering Committee Meeting 1 wallgraphic: favorite places

Steering Committee meeting feedback is organized in this section under the headings of strengths, needs, challenges, and opportunities.

### Strengths:

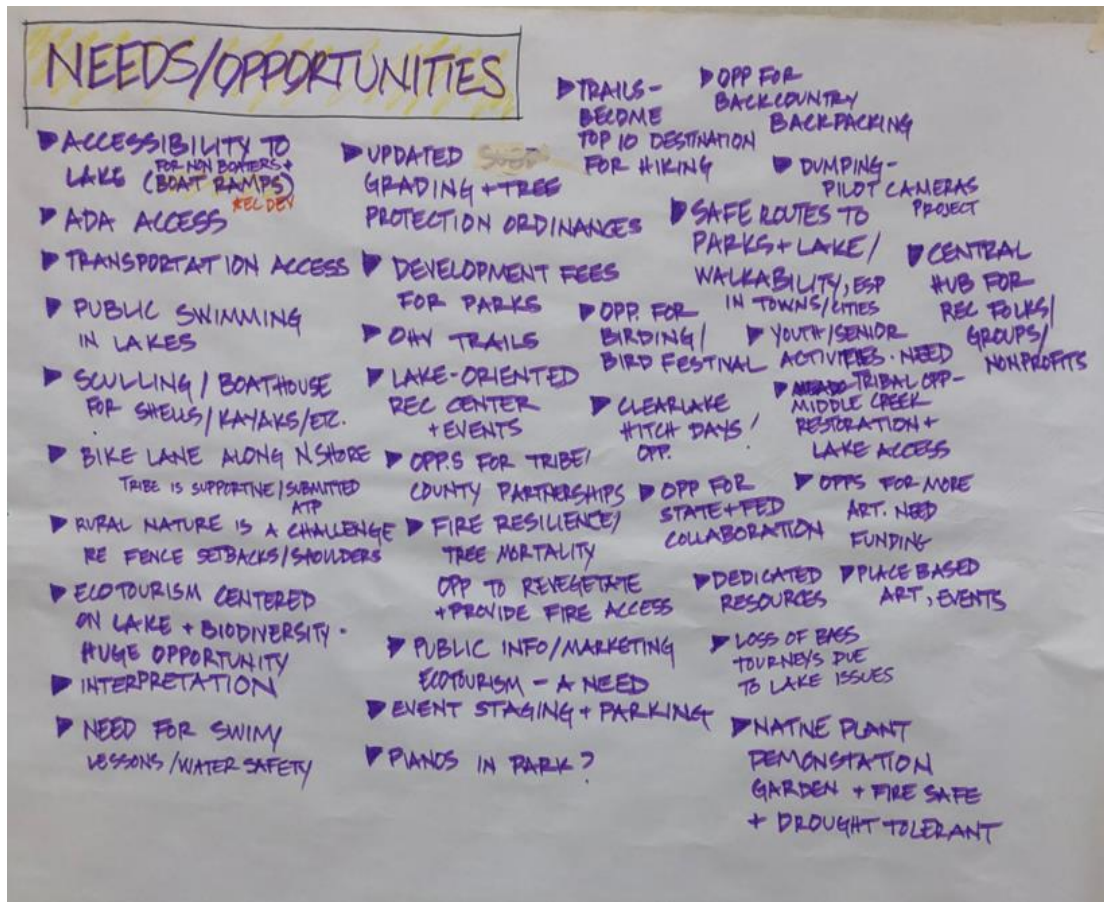
- Political support for parks, recreation, and trails from Board of Supervisors
- The County is beautiful, has many natural areas that are assets, both around and farther from lake
- There is a large amount of biodiversity in the County
- Unique geology
- Lots of places and opportunities for recreation
  - Also lots of federal land to utilize
  - Mountain biking
    - Boggs is a top destination for mountain biking (3 races per year are held there)



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- Fishing
  - Clear Lake is one of top 10 Bass fishing lakes
- Existing trails system is a strength
- Free access to parks
- The art in the County is a strength
  - Eco-art tour, murals, art trails, Lucerne Art Village
- People in Lake County are invested in the County
  - There are a lot of engaged volunteer groups and groups that can be rallied for volunteer projects (FFA, 4H, agricultural classes in schools, Horse Council, bike groups, etc.)
  - Tribal communities are engaged and interested in helping with conservation efforts and promoting eco-tourism opportunities

## Needs:



Excerpt from Steering Committee Meeting 1 wallgraphic: needs/opportunities

- Boat ramp extension analysis needed
- Clearlake scullers need a boathouse (would include kayaks, scullers, and other non-motorized vehicles)
- Areas around the lake need to be more accessible in general





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- There are currently not many areas for public swimming
- There should be a lake-oriented aquatic center that would allow for races where all boats take off at same time
- There are improvements needed to make active transportation better and safer
  - There are no dedicated bike lanes on north shore of the lake
    - The proposed project and ATP submitted by the Robinson Rancheria tribe would create 4200 feet of bike path
    - Robinson Rancheria has lots of transit, could assist in going after grants to promote active transportation on some roads
  - There is currently no consistency in fence setbacks along lake, which makes it a safety issue for kids to walk or bike
- Need for more dedicated resources for parks

### Challenges:

- Cyanobacteria prevents use of the lake, especially along the shoreline
- Trash dumping in parks is an issue, even though use of the County landfill is free

### Opportunities:

- Promote eco-tourism
  - The more people who can get onto lake (tours, access to boats), the better tourism will be
  - Recreation opportunities
  - Opportunities for back country backpacking
  - Opportunities for County to host larger events
    - Option for Bird Festival (Lake County is on the Pacific Flyway), which good for tourism
    - Hosting a Clear Lake Hitch Day for salmon could be an opportunity
- There is no marketing entity in the County whose central purpose is to market the lake (there used to be one but not anymore)
- Opportunities to improve and expand County Recreation facilities
  - Creek restoration
  - Opportunities for more demonstration native plant gardens in parks, and more drought tolerant, fire resistant landscapes
  - More pools for swim lessons
  - Promote informational signage at parks highlighting local plants and animals
- Increase funding for more art
  - More art in parks
  - Opportunity for art in signage
  - Pianos in the park program
- Promote better and safer biking and walking, including safe routes to recreation areas
  - Opportunity to connect vista points to downtown lakeport



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- Opportunity to connect trails with each other around the lake, esp. if federal partners are brought in
- Opportunity to increase resilience to fire
  - Fire resilience and tree mortality is an issue (such as on Mt. Konocti)
  - Crews can not always access areas for fire treatment, so there is an opportunity for more trails for fire crews and trucks which would allow for greater access to fight fires
  - PGE has ongoing fire clearing efforts
- Opportunity for Park Enforcement
  - Sheriff could establish someone to control strictly the parks
    - It is important that maintenance staff are still positive parts of parks