

Public Meeting #1 Summary

The workshop, entitled “Hopes, Dreams and Fears,” was attended by 6 citizens. The purpose of the first workshop was to solicit comments regarding people’s overall vision for the property, and their specific concerns.

The meeting began with the consultant describing the existing conditions at the site, and summarizing the planning process and the project schedule.

Next, the discussion was opened up, with the participants being asked to share their hopes, dreams and fears related to the project.

During the “Hopes and Dreams” segment of the meeting, a number of general desires were expressed. They included wanting to see educational opportunities, an emphasis on preservation, controlled access, achieving a balanced plan, and considering carrying capacity in developing the plan for the preserve.

The attendees also expressed fears related to the preserve. These included overdevelopment of the property, allowing equestrian and mountain bike use, unsanctioned uses, attractive nuisances, noise and lights impacting neighbors, trespassing along adjacent properties, and the lack of a safe vehicular access to the preserve from the adjacent state highway.

After attendees had a chance to express their hopes, dreams and fears, they were asked to discuss some specific desires for the preserve. Their responses included: hiking trails, restrooms, parking, covered pavilion, interpretive signage, a bird blind, connection to other area trails, trail riding opportunities, outdoor classroom opportunities, a covered gathering space, interpretive opportunities and picnicking areas.