CITY OF NORTH BONNEVILLE
RESOLUTION NO. 459

A resolution of the City Council of the City of North Bonneville amending and reestablishing the Heritage Trails Plan as the Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan.

WHEREAS, the City of North Bonneville passed Ordinance 1021 amending the Comprehensive Land Use Plan on March 26, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the amended Comprehensive Land Use Plan no longer includes the Heritage Trails Plan as an attachment; and

WHEREAS, the North Bonneville Planning commission, after careful consideration and study, has determined that updating and evolving the trails plan is necessary; and

WHEREAS, the North Bonneville Planning commission held numerous meetings open to the public reviewing and amending the plan, conducted a public survey and held a public open house on the proposed plan May 7, 2013;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of North Bonneville does hereby adopt the attached North Bonneville Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan.

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of North Bonneville during the meeting held at North Bonneville City Hall on June 11, 2013.

_____
Mayor

Attest:

_____
City Clerk

North Bonneville

Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan

BIGFOOT

Discovery Trails

The Bigfoot Discovery Trails

Project Goal

To complete a community interpretive trails system branching out from a central loop including a first of its kind underlying imaginative Bigfoot theme.

Table of Contents

Plan Purpose ..... **Page 2**

- **Project Overview**
- **Rationale**
- **The Bigfoot Theme**
- **Relevance**

Project Concept History ..... **Pages 3-4**

Official Storyline ..... **Pages 4-5**

Project Components ..... **Pages 5-10**

- **Community Entrance Area** — **p.5-7**
- **The Discovery Loop** — **p.8-10**
- **Bigfoot Trail Routes** — **p. 10-12**
- **Towns To Trails Tie-In** — **p. 12**

Bigfoot Biography Plan ..... **Page 13**

Funding/Volunteer Opportunities ..... **Page 14**

Attachment 1: Interactive Features Proposal ..... **Pages 14-15**

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this document is to provide the official description of the various components and processes envisioned to carry out the existing Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan (BDTP). As the project has and will continue to evolve, this plan should be viewed as a living document that can be modified as necessary.

Project Overview

The Bigfoot Discovery Trails concept serves as the tool to create a unique interpretive experience for users of portions of North Bonneville's city pathway system. The basis of the project will be the creation of three official interpretive trail routes with an underlying Bigfoot theme; all of which will originate from an interactive Discovery Loop in the central city park area. The trails will ultimately be fitted with signs, maps, distance markers, and other features that will serve to provide users with an educational and interpretive experience.

Rationale

When complete, the idea of the BDTP will be to assist a number of city goals including but not limited to:

1) Creating a permanent tourist feature for the community that is relatively low impact to residents.
2) Sparking revitalization of the Central Business District (CBD) and city's central park area.
3) Attracting visitors and providing ongoing educational opportunities for all participants.
4) Providing a city project that encourages public input and involvement.
5) Preserving the city's small town character and natural setting.

The Bigfoot Theme

The Bigfoot theme will be developed for the purpose of creating a unique imaginative spirit supplementing the interpretive features.Through the use of an "official" underlying story, the Bigfoot theme will be carried out through various means to include:

1) A wood carved Bigfoot welcoming family in the city park
2) Children Bigfoots (Littlefeet) in the trees and rocks
3) A larger Bigfoot at the city entrance called Great Elder
4) Interpretive and informative descriptions on the trail signs

Relevance of the Bigfoot Theme

North Bonneville is located within Skamania County which, due to its vast forests and rural nature, is one of the world's leading hot spots for "sightings" and other Bigfoot activities. Bigfoot's relevance in this area led the county to pass an ordinance that made it a felony for the "willful and wanton slaying of such creature".

Project History

The origins of the Bigfoot Discovery Trails can be traced back to 2004. Below is a timeline that summarizes the events that took place that have led to the development of this plan:

2004: Due to irresolution of planning issues relating to CBD development and city owned properties, the planning commission embarked on a community visioning process. After a yearlong progression of gathering input from various stakeholders, Outlook 2005 was published with the intent of creating a living document that focused on the future vision of the city.

Late 2005: As part of the visioning process, an official city survey was conducted which showed the city's pathway system consistently getting high rankings as a valuable asset to the community.

2006: As part of visioning discussions and due to results of the city survey, the idea of a community interpretive trail system was proposed and accepted by the City Council. As the idea was spawned within the Planning Commission through the visioning process, the project (to become known as the Heritage Trails) was kept as a Planning Commission task. An official Heritage Trails plan was developed and added to the city's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

2007-2011: Heritage Trails planning and development took place with the goal of creating a series of interpretive trail routes through various parts of the community. Signs and markings were placed on two of the proposed four trails and trail related events were held during each year's Gorge Days weekend. Funding for the project came from an annual allotment from Hotel/Motel Funds, with a specific proposal and approval process occurring each year.

Summer 2011: After public feedback from the 2011 Gorge Days to create a children's addition to the Heritage Trails plan, the idea was embarked upon to create a family themed interpretive trail through the city's central park area called the Children's Discovery Loop.

Late 2011: As part of the Children's Discovery Loop planning development, a plan was proposed to and accepted by the Planning Commission to develop a Bigfoot Theme to accompany the concept. The idea called for an entire wood carved Bigfoot family to be placed around the trail with accompanying children oriented interpretive signage. After considering several proposals and cost estimates, a wood carver from Washougal was commissioned to develop the Bigfoot family and the sign infrastructure.

2012: Work progressed on the initial development of the Bigfoot theme for the Children's trail to include:

- Evaluate and decide on the appearance of the Bigfoot carvings
- Development and placement of a wood carved Bigfoot family along with eight Littlefeet around the Children's Discovery Loop
- Five accompanying Bigfoot Signs and footprint markings along the loop
- An accompanying underlying story to explain the arrival of the Bigfoots
- Development of a "Great Elder" Bigfoot placed near the City entrance
- Development of an official Bigfoot Trail Logo
- Gorge Days events to include an official unveiling ceremony of Great Elder and storytelling Bigfoot Saturday

Project History Continued...

Late 2012

- In order to tie both the Heritage Trail idea and Bigfoot concept together an idea was proposed to add Bigfoot elements within the original Heritage Trail routes and change the name from Heritage Trails to Bigfoot Discovery Trails
- An official Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan was proposed to supersede the original Heritage Trails plan in order to create one cohesive concept that merges the two ideas together

Official Storyline

The project is based on an imaginative storyline that adds to the children's spirit of the project as well as serving the purpose of explaining why the Bigfoots, also known as Sasquatch, are here. The storyline also will have the opportunity to expand and evolve through the use of the Bigfoot Biography concept described later in this plan.

Storyline taken from several sources including... Pioneer article/question answer sheet/ meeting discussions/Littlefeet and Great Elder signage/personal notes:

Who are they...

A family of Bigfoots including mom/dad, several children.

Where did they come from...

Long ago many Sasquatch clans roamed throughout the Pacific Northwest. This clan lived in the dense forests of Skamania County.

Reason why they are here...

The Bigfoot Children ... "Littlefeet"

For thousands of seasons the Sasquatch lived within the great forests,but recent times have brought great challenges. Their hiding places have changed. Instinctively, many withdrew further into the woods hoping to live like olden times, but their children, the Littlefeet, imagined doing the opposite. They envisioned living amongst people.

Littlefeet are not as timid as the older Sasquatches and have been eager to learn more about other living things, especially humans. This curiosity has led to many generations of Littlefeet trying to convince their elders to reveal themselves to people.

The reason for choosing North Bonneville...

Setting and its people

All the positive things that make North Bonneville so unique are the things that convinced these Bigfoots to take a chance living here:The layout of the community, the park setting, the forests and mountains bordering the city, and the other living creatures thriving here to name a few. Most of all they were attracted to the warmth and generosity of the people of North Bonneville

Why in the Park...

It's where they are most comfortable

The oak savannah in the city park drew them to the area. As they sleep in the trees, these sprawling branches are favored by the Bigfoots.

Official Storyline Continued...

The Entrance Bigfoot...

The Great Elder

This Great Elder was so inspired by the courageous attempt of the family moving here that he wanted to come as well and join the family in the community. The Great Elder is one of many wise teachers of the Sasquatch. The teachers pass down wisdom from earlier stories/legends to the younger so they can adapt to this world.

Why at the entrance...

The Great Elder was so taken by the community's generosity to the family that he stands at the entrance to serve as a beacon of welcome and togetherness to all that pass.

The plaque next to him...

The plaque reflects the words of the Great Elder the night he was unveiled.

What do they hope to gain from being here...

To learn new ways and adapt to a changing world. Sasquatch believe there are many different ways of living in this world.

Project Components

Below is a list of structural components that together will complete the initial concept of the Bigfoot Discovery Trails of North Bonneville. They are grouped within the three primary locations sites for this plan:

- **Community Entrance Area**
- **The Discovery Loop**
- **Three Trail Routes**

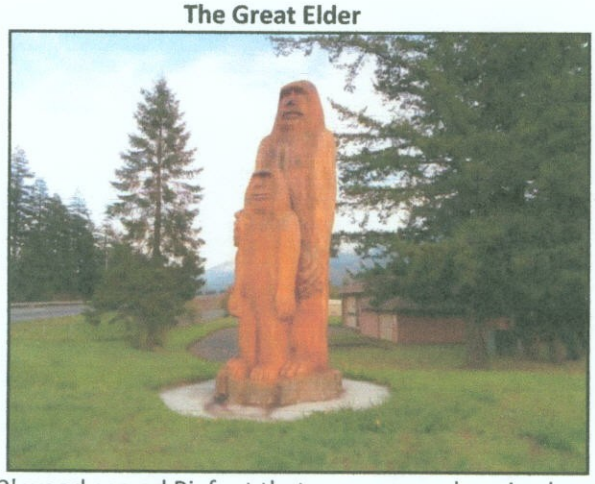
Community Entrance Area Components

The entrance area's east side grass knoll will serve for the placement of three key components to the plan: Great Elder, Log Round Plaque and Welcome Sign. Placement of these components at this location will not only allow for fulfillment of the concept idea and underlying storyline but also draw travelers from State Route 14 into the community.

Community Entrance Area Continued...

Completed

The Great Elder



13' wood carved Bigfoot that serves as welcoming beacon for the concept and for the community itself. Illumination lights placed below (planned).

Completed

Log Round Plaque

This plaque, placed near the Great Elder, reflects the imaginative words from the Elder marking his arrival at Gorge Days 2012. (Told in first Person from Great Elder's perspective)

Planned

Access Path

A short path leading from the adjacent parking area up to the Great Elder while passing the log round plaque. This will allow visitors a safe and designated way to view the Great Elder while not impeding traffic entering the city. Maintenance and ADA requirements will need to be considered when developing this path.

Planned

Power box camouflage or burial:

While not directly interfering with any of the features of this area, there is currently a WSDOT power box in close proximity to the Great Elder that takes away from the aesthetic nature of the setting. The plan calls for one of two options to be looked into: Burial of box or camouflaging it in some way.

Community Entrance Area Continued...

Planned (Option 1)

The Bigfoots Welcome You (by city entrance)

-Placed on slope immediately below Great Elder
-Bigfoots on each side of sign and waving towards entrance
- Low maintenance rock/wood planted landscape below sign.
-Illumination lights placed below sign

Planned (Option 2)

The Bigfoots Welcome You (by Bigfoot Family)

-Placed on large parking lot island adjacent to Bigfoot Family.
-Bigfoots on each side of sign and waving towards lot entrance.
- Low maintenance rock/wood planted landscape below sign.

The Discovery Loop Components

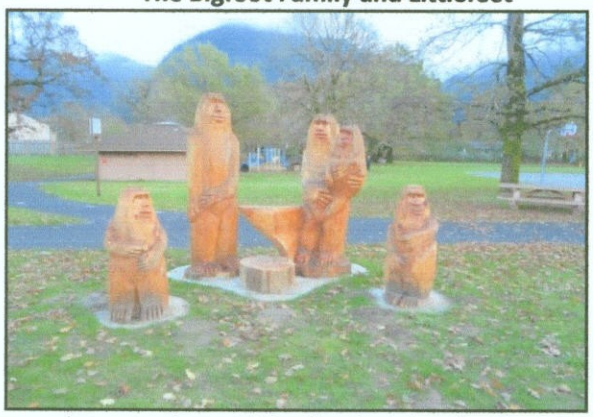
The Discovery Loop is a designated 1/4 mile trail that circles the perimeter of the city's central park area. This loop serves as the core of the entire concept and a hub point for each trail presenting the Bigfoot Family. With foreseen input from various stakeholders, this area becomes the focus of creating a community interpretive center in which various interactive promotional features will be placed.

The Loop will contain three main components:

- The Bigfoot Family and Littlefeet
- Interactive features
- Trailhead signage for each Bigfoot Trail Route

Completed

The Bigfoot Family and Littlefeet



A complete wood carved family placed at the designated beginning of the loop. They include a mother holding a baby, a father and two Littlefeet.

Completed

Log Round Introduction Sign

A small sign next to the family that introduces them and explains why they settled here.(In first person by Mother Bigfoot)

Completed

Littlefeet in Park

Numerous Littlefoot carvings placed in trees and rocks for people to search for as they walk the Discovery Loop. All Littlefeet are to be placed close to path for relatively easy sighting.

Discovery Loop Components Continued...

Completed

Accompanying Littlefeet Interpretive Signage

In addition to the Littlefeet children's oriented signs are placed around the loop. These signs describe the things the Littlefeet enjoy about the area and are written in first person from Littlefeet perspective. Sign~~s~~-bases are carved in the shape of Bigfoot feet for added effect.

Completed

Footprint Directional Markings

A series of painted Bigfoot "footprints" around the Discovery Loop serve to designate the exact route of the loop.

Planned

- **Interactive features** (See Interactive features attachment for more details)

  A set of three planned interactive features placed along the Trail Loop will provide a rich interpretive experience and further enhance this core area of the concept. The interactive features planned include:

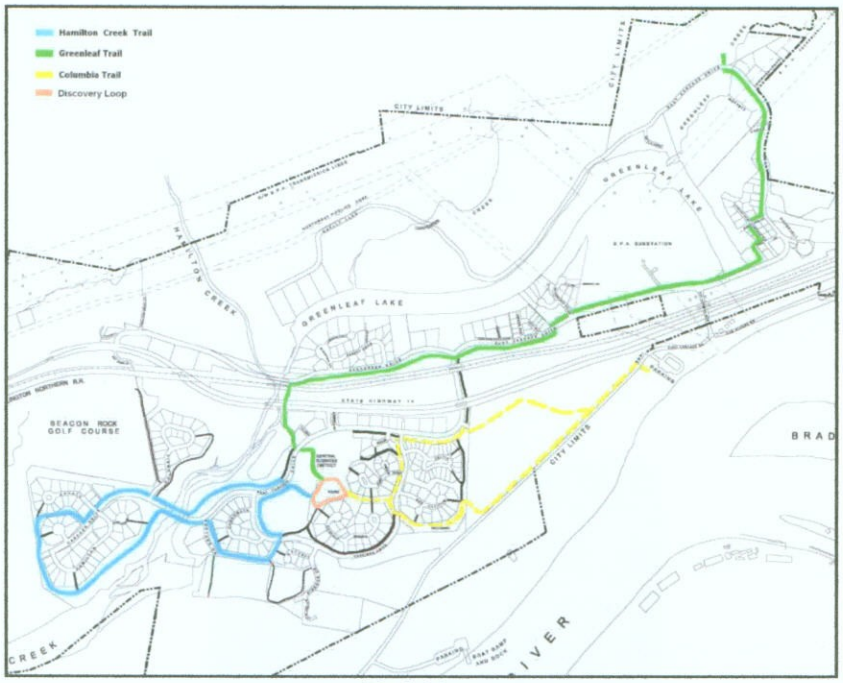
  1) The Strides: A set of painted prints from various animals including Bigfoot showing the length of their stride.
  2) Updating playground area/Bigfoot Climbing Tree
  3) Hiding Places
  4) Picture Wall

- **Trailhead Signage**

  As each Bigfoot Trail route will originate at the Discovery Loop, a trail introduction sign is placed at each branch off point for that designated route. The signage will include a brief description of the trail and its highlights as well as a map depicting its route.

Bigfoot Discovery Trail Routes

The designated Bigfoot Trails will consist of three specific routes branching off from the Discovery Loop. Each trail will lead through a different part of the community and will form an interpretive connection between the city's downtown area and the Bonneville Hot Springs Resort, The Columbia River/Bonneville Dam, and to the border of the Pierce Wildlife Refuge. A series of interpretive signs will be placed along each route to describe historical, environmental and viewpoint features along the pathway.



Trail Map

Bigfoot Interpretation Signs

Staying consistent with the Bigfoot first person theme in the Discovery Loop, signs along each of the trail routes will be told in first person form from the perspective of the Bigfoots. While the content of the signs will remain focused on the feature at that specific point, the Bigfoots will be describing it as a virtual trail guide to users of the trail. This will provide a first of its kind feature to an interpretive trail system while staying consistent with the Bigfoot theme in the Discovery Loop.

Bigfoot Trail Features

In addition to signage, other woodcarvings of Bigfoots are proposed to be located at various locations along the trail, near the signs. The Bigfoots will be designed and placed in ways that play into the feature being described at that location (looking at the view, catching a fish, etc.)

Trail Route Specifics

Each of the three trails will be given a name that relates to the geographical area in which the trail passes. In addition, a color will be assigned making it easier to identify each trail on maps and while following it. Color coding will also be used on signs and directional makers.

Although the plan currently calls for three trail routes, future routes and updates should be considered as this concept and the community itself evolve.

- **Hamilton Creek Trail**
  Color: Light blue
  Approximate Length: 1.25 miles
  The Hamilton Creek Bigfoot Trail extends to the west end of town leading over the Hamilton Creek Bridge and looping its way around the city's western neighborhoods. Features the trail passes by include views of Hamilton Mountain, Beacon Rock Golf Course, Pierce Wildlife Refuge, and Hamilton Creek
  Trail Signage:
  Birds, Hamilton Creek, Hamilton Mountain, Ice Age Floods, Pierce Wildlife Refuge, Ripiaran Area, Man/Nature
  Directional Markings: Bigfoot prints at all intersections to aid in route depiction.
  Other Features: To Be Determined.

- **Greenleaf Trail**
  Color: Green
  Approximate Length (one way): 1.75 miles
  The Greenleaf Trail serves to connect the north side of town and the Hot Springs Resort into the Bigfoot Trail System. The Trail passes under SR 14 along Cascade Drive and extends out to the northeast corner of the community. Features the trail passes include, the Pioneer Cemetery, Greenleaf Lake, and views of Aldrich Butte and Table Mountain. This trail will serve as a valuable asset as it will promote ease of access to the city's trail system and Central Business District by resort guests.
  Trail Signage:
  Stream Restoration, Aldrich Butte, Railroad History, Open Space Corridors, Cemetery, Power Transfer site, Greenleaf Lake, Moffett Creek.
  Directional Markings: Bigfoot prints at all intersections to aid in route depiction.
  Other Features: To be determined.

- **Columbia Trail**
  Color: Yellow
  Approximate Length (one way): 2.5 miles
  The Columbia Trail will extend out to the east of the community and to the Columbia River itself as it passes by the eastern neighborhoods and through a newly created trail in Parcel 2 and Fort Cascades Historic Site. At the eastern limit, the trail will offer views of the Bonneville Dam and access to the Columbia River. A cooperative effort between the city and the Army Corp of Engineers will be required as a specific trail route has yet to be determined. The Corp has expressed interest in providing a formal link between the city path system and their trails.
  Trail Signage: To be determined
  Directional Markings: Bigfoot prints at all intersections to aid in route depiction.
  Other Features: To be determined.

Towns to Trails Plan Tie-In

When the Heritage Trails Plan (now Bigfoot Discovery Trails Plan) was first developed, one of its long-term goals was to create specific trail linkages from the North Bonneville trail system to many of the unique features that surround it. The intent was for the community to become a "regional trail hub" for accessing these areas.

The Towns to Trails plan is a vision being developed by Friends of the Columbia Gorge that would work to potentially provide an avenue to accomplish a regional trails hub goal. The idea of Towns to Trails is to develop a comprehensive area wide trail system. The goal is to link communities with recreation and tourism while highlighting the beauty and wonder of the area.

North Bonneville is one of the communities envisioned to tie into this trails project. This necessitates a need for planning to take place that will tie this project into the local BDTP. Both project visions share similar goals. The connection strategies between the two plans will be entailed in this section to include:

- Direct communication between coordinators of the two projects.
- Develop joint strategy efforts.
- Plan a formal and specific linkage point between the Discovery Loop (hub point of Bigfoot Trails) and the Towns to Trails route.
- Ensure proper signage and markings are placed that provide ease of interpretation for accessing the Discovery Loop from the Towns to Trails route and vice-versa.

Bigfoots Biography Plan

Much of the potential success of the entire concept lies with the unique underlying idea of publicizing who these Bigfoots are and why they are here. The Bigfoot Biography plan serves as a plan for this goal as it will enhance the story and develop lifelike traits for the community Bigfoots. It will also serve in further development of the characteristics, enhanced storylines, happenings, and promotion of the Bigfoots.

Bigfoot Biography Plan Continued...

These are the steps needed to enact the biography plan:

- Adoption of the official storyline
- Naming of the Bigfoots
  - Conduct a community process (contest at schools, etc.).
- Development of Facebook Page
  - The Facebook page would allow an official reference site to be created for the purpose of making known the storyline, characteristics, and happenings of the Bigfoots.
- Development and installation of Bio Plaques to be placed near each Bigfoot.
  - There will be a link to the Bigfoot Facebook page.

Possible Plaque Design Example

Funding/Volunteer Opportunities

Currently funding for this project comes exclusively from lodge tax funds requested for each year by the city's trails committee. As the project develops the goal will be to diversify the sources from which funding is obtained: These ideas include:

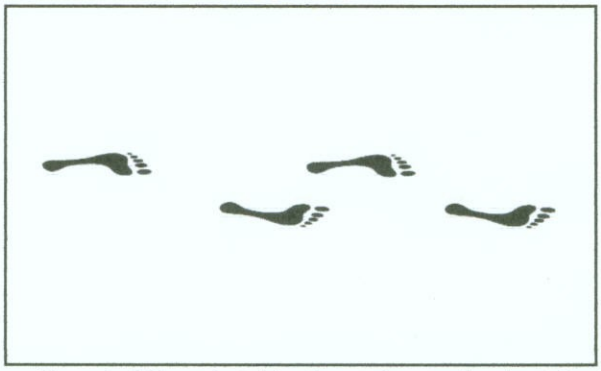
- Developing sponsorship opportunities for various components of the concept to possibly include:
  - -Trail Footprints and directional markings
  - -Individual Bigfoots
  - -Benches
  - -Bio Plaques
- Developing a Bigfoot Founders Club for official volunteer group for caretaking of the trails.

Attachment 1

Bigfoot Loop Interactive Features Proposal

To create a series of children oriented interactive features to accompany the Bigfoot theme around the downtown loop. This will create a "hands-on" experience to the Bigfoot loop concept in the park leading to increased interest for the overall idea.

Interactive Feature 1 **The Strides**



Painted footprints will mark different strides for various animals at the beginning of each trail with an affixed sign. They will be included in an overall upgrade of footprint markings around trail. A striding Bigfoot will be positioned next to the stride markings.

Interactive Feature 2 **Hiding Places**

Log tunnel(s) with rock features and hidden Littlefeet.

Interactive Feature 3: **Upgrade to Playground...**

The Bigfoot Play Area/Climbing Tree

Learn all about the various features of trees as you climb towards Bigfoot at top before sliding down.

Interactive Feature 4:

Bigfoot Picture Wall

A feature that would contain an artistic rendition of a Bigfoot Family with cutouts in face area for people to place their own faces.