

On The Trail

The Newsletter of the Friends of Folsom Parkways
February 2022

Don't Top Your Tree!

We are currently in what we call "tree topping" season, which is a pruning practice that is extremely damaging to trees. Folsom has beautiful parkways and topping trees in the neighborhoods detracts from the beauty. In addition the topping limits the places for beneficial insects, birds and animals to live. Included below are a few photos as examples of topping (aka **what NOT TO DO!**).

Don't Top Your Tree!

Winter is the time of year where deciduous trees lose their leaves, exposing their branching structure and offering a perfect opportunity for a much-needed haircut. Unfortunately, many folks unknowingly make the mistake of giving their trees a bad haircut using a practice known as 'topping'. Also known as 'heading', 'tipping', and 'rounding over', tree topping is the indiscriminate cutting of trunks and branches back to stubs, resulting in



a reduction of 50% or more of the canopy and leaving no secondary branches to take over. This practice is often 'sold' by unknowledgeable contractors as a less expensive way to reduce the size and risk of large trees. However, the reality is topping actually **increases** long term risks, jeopardizes tree health, and results in higher maintenance needs in the future!

In Folsom, topping protected trees (which includes all residential trees within 12.5 feet of a sidewalk or street) is a violation of the municipal code and can result in fines and corrective action. You can learn more about Folsom tree permits and guidelines here: <https://www.folsom.ca.us/government/community-development/arborist-services/tree-permits-and-guidelines>

Homeowners can ensure their trees stay healthy by hiring a certified International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) arborist. Professional, ISA certified arborists know how to properly maintain trees for both health of the tree and public safety. Help keep Folsom's urban forest healthy and thriving by practicing proper pruning techniques and avoiding a bad haircut! For more tips on proper pruning, visit <https://sactree.org/tree-care-tips/how-to-prune-young-trees/>."



THE NEXT MEETING...

The next regular Friends of Folsom Parkways meeting will be held on February 10th at 7:00 p.m. in The Parkway at Folsom Owners' Association Building, 1455 Willow Bend Road, Folsom. Due to COVID it may be online.

To get to this meeting take Blue Ravine east, past Oak Avenue Parkway to Parkway Drive. Make a right turn on to Parkway Drive. Go one block and turn left on to Willow Bend Road. The club house is immediately on the right.

Our Vision

Our vision is to promote the usage, preservation and development of parkways within the City of Folsom.

Our Mission

Our mission is to make the citizens of Folsom aware of the parkways, raise funds for parkway development, work to educate the community on parkway issues, work to influence development proposals to the benefit of the parkways, and work to identify areas of Folsom worthy of inclusion in the parkway system.

Look for us on Facebook, on Meetup, and at our web site

<http://www.enjoyfolsomtrails.org/>

Volume XXXI Number 2

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Parkways South of 50
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Trails
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NEWS BITS

Gifts That Give Back

Commemorative Johnny Cash Trail items make great gifts, whether you're looking to top off a special gift or wow the recipient with a one-of-a-kind item – or treat yourself! Johnny Cash Trail branded items for sale include mouse pads and medals, marble coasters, tote bags, shirts, cycling jerseys and shorts.

A limited-edition "JCASH50" California legacy license plate is also available, beautifully framed with a photo of Johnny Cash standing in front of Folsom Prison's east gate in 1968 – the year of his famed live performance for an inmate audience – and an engraved silver plate of commemoration. Only 100 of these special license plates were made in honor of the 50th anniversary of Cash's performance at Folsom State Prison.

Find samples and purchase any of these unique items at the Folsom Senior and Art Center, 48 Natoma Street; open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The framed license plates may also be purchased online; find details and more information about the trail at www.FolsomCashArtTrail.com.

All proceeds from these items benefit the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience, and are specifically earmarked for "Cash's Pick" – two 7-foot-tall bronze guitar picks that will anchor each end of the trail.



Friends of Folsom Parkways Meeting Minutes: January 13, 2022

OPENING

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Lyn LePage at 7:05. Due to the COVID pandemic the meeting was held online.

PRESENT

Jim Kirstein, Lynn LePage, James Ramstad, Carol Ramstad, Eric and Mary James, Jan O'Brien, Jay O'Brien, Brett Bollinger, Kimmie Boyle, and Aimee Nunez and YK Chalamcherla, .Maynard Johnston

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Ramstad made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as they were printed in the newsletter. Maynard Johnston seconded the motion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There is a vacancy for the President of our organization. Jim Kirstein stepped down as our President. But will still be a board member and still work on our newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jim Ramstad provided a printed report to those present and discussed it

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt a Creek & Trail:

Nothing to report

Folsom Urban Forestry:

They're working on the residual storm damage work like down trees and branches. PGE reduced their work scope from 200 trees to 40 trees involving only 6 oak trees. They are working on a map of mitigation for future projects south of 50. This is Tree Topping Season and people are unknowingly damaging their trees. PGE gave the City of Folsom a tree bank. Want to educate the public on tree topping. Kimmie announced there will be a tree planting of 30 trees at Elvi Perrazo Briggs Park on February 19, 9-12.

Grant Research:

Nothing to report

Membership:

Eric states we have a new member for 2022.

Parkways South of 50:

Jim Kirstein and Robert Goss went to the Public Works Department to discuss priorities to the highway's onramps and offramps. The City is looking at a road called Rowberry between Oak Avenue Parkway and Bidwell to go into the community. It would go into the commercial area of Folsom Ranch which would provide a link to Folsom Ranch Commercial area. The new overcrossing should be wide enough to provide a protected bike lane.

Publicity:

Nothing to report

Trails:

The overcrossing is something we're going to keep our eye on. Brett stated the overcrossing should be wide enough to provide buffered bike lanes. Cal Trans-ATP grant is coming up and is due In June. The priority is the Folsom Placerville Trail. There is a Regional Trails grant that could complete our trail connections that is due in March.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

February 8th City Council meeting on the Budget. Hoping to get a part time Parks and Recreation volunteer coordinator. Old corporation would be a perfect spot for a park and visitor center. Something our group can work on.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

No comments

CALENDAR

Next meeting is February 10, 2022.
Due to COVID it may be online.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by:
Carol Ramstad, Secretary

City of Folsom Trail Planning Division Monthly Report

Brett Bollinger, Senior Trails Planner

Progress on Key Projects

Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

Project Description: The new Active Transportation Master Plan (ATP) for the City will combine the master plans for both the pedestrian and bicycle facilities citywide. The ATP will guide the planning, development, and maintenance of existing and future bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the city, including recommended citywide active transportation network improvements and Safe Routes to School.

Request for Proposal (RFP): January 2020

Consultant Award: February 2020

Start ATP Process: August 2020

ATP Completion: March 2022

December - January Activity: The consultant and staff held an ATP Stakeholder and Public Outreach meetings in December. The Draft ATP is expected to be published for public comment in early to mid-March. Staff will present the Draft ATP for public comment at the following meetings: Traffic Safety Committee (3/24), Parks Commission (4/5), and City Council (4/12).

November Activity: The consultant and staff held two ATP pop-up events on Saturday November 13th near Castle Park along the Humbug Willow Creek Trail and at the Folsom Historic District Farmers Market to discuss the draft recommendations. We had over 150 people stop and ask about the Folsom ATP. A Stakeholder Meeting is scheduled for December 8th and a Public Outreach meeting is scheduled for December 16th to discuss the draft recommendations. The interactive public comment map with draft recommendations is live and accepting public comments.

Trail Connections

Project Description: The three trail connection projects, which are part of the City Bikeway Master Plan, would fill important gaps in the city-wide trail network. Two of the connections being proposed are along the Oak Parkway Trail and the third is along the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail at the East Bidwell Street undercrossing.

Oak Parkway Trail - Willow Creek Drive Connection – Complete the Class I Oak Parkway Trail connection to Willow Creek Drive. When this Oak Parkway trail segment was constructed, funding was limited and the trail came 900-feet short of connecting to Willow Creek Drive. Cyclists and pedestrians currently share

a 4-foot-wide sidewalk through BT Collins Park, which creates unnecessary conflicts. The project would be to complete the remaining 900 feet of trail to connect with the Willow Creek Drive crosswalk.

HBWC Trail - East Bidwell Street Connection - Provide a much-needed Class I trail connection from the Humbug-Willow Creek trail undercrossing to East Bidwell Street Class II bike lanes.

Oak Parkway Trail - McFarland Drive Connection - Provide a 100-foot long Class I connection from the Oak Parkway Trail to McFarland Drive for the neighborhood south of the trail corridor. Currently pedestrians and cyclists use an unpaved access to the trail.

Request for Proposal (RFP): August 2020

Consultant Award: November 2020

Start Design Process: January 2021

December-January Activity: Staff is seeking funding either through grant opportunities and/or FY 22/23 budget.

TRAILS GRANT APPLICATIONS

California Natural Resources Agency Prop 68 Per Capita Program: On May 28, 2019, the City submitted a Per Capita Allocation Questionnaire that opted the City into the Per Capita Allocation grant program. On June 24, 2020, OGALS announced that the Per Capita allocation for the City of Folsom was \$177,952. In addition to the allocation, the City also received \$47,963 in Urban County Per Capita funds. The total Per Capita Allocation for the City is \$225,915. With the required 20% match of \$45,183 the City will have \$271,098 to utilize on eligible capital outlay project(s). Staff held a Planning and Development Subcommittee meeting on September 30, 2020 to recommend project(s) to the full commission. The subcommittee recommended using the grant funding on renovation and new amenities at Ed Mitchell Park. At the October 6, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, commissioners voted in favor of using the grant funding money on Ed Mitchell Park renovation and new amenities. Next step in the process is for staff to submit an application for the selected project(s) to OGALS for approval.

Staff submitted the Per Capita Grant Application in December 2021 to receive authorization to move forward with the proposed improvements to Ed Mitchell Park.

Trail Etiquette

Always show courtesy to other trail users.
Respect the environment and the rights of property owners.
Keep dogs on a leash at all times and remove pet feces.

Bicyclists:

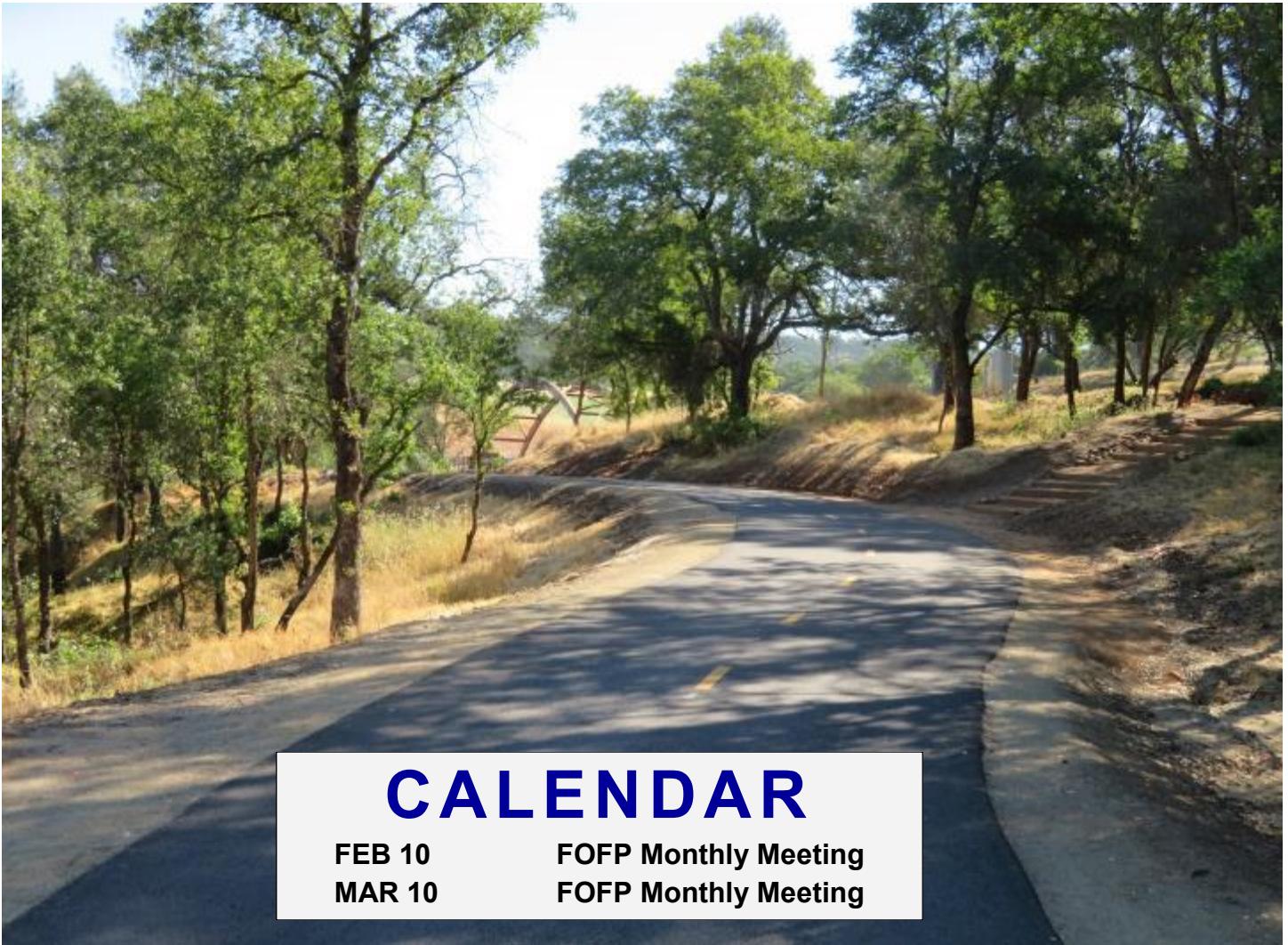
- Keep to the right side of the trail.
- Yield to pedestrians.
- Call out when approaching other trail users.
- Pass on the left side of oncoming pedestrians/joggers.
- Ride at a safe speed.
- Ride single file in congested conditions or in areas with reduced visibility.

Pedestrians & Runners:

- Keep to the left side of the trail facing oncoming cyclists.
- Watch for other trail users.
- Call out when approaching other trail users.
- Maintain single file in congested conditions and in areas with reduced visibility.
- Keep dogs on a leash and on the left side of the trail with their owner.



Spring is just around the corner.



CALENDAR

FEB 10

FOFP Monthly Meeting

MAR 10

FOFP Monthly Meeting

Membership Form

I would like to become a new member of Friends of Folsom Parkways or renew my membership for 2022. My yearly membership fee of \$15.00 individual / \$20.00 family is enclosed made out to: **Friends of Folsom Parkways**. Send to Friends of Folsom Parkways, P. O. Box 1501, Folsom, CA 95763-1501 or go to <http://www.enjoyfolsomtrails.org/> to join.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Day Telephone: _____ Evening Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Circle the activities you are interested in helping with:

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------|
| TRAIL WALKS | TREE PLANTING | ADOPT-A-CREEK/TRAIL | PROJECT REVIEW |
| TRAILS | FUND RAISING | MEMBERSHIP | WILDLIFE HABITAT |
| FUN RUN | TRAIL DAY | BIKE PATHS | FINDING SPONSORS |