Key trail elements

Trail design: Trails will be designed using best practices to maintain good drainage, protect streams and drainages, maintain visibility, control speed of cyclists, and provide passing areas and resting places. Directional signs will be included at all intersections.

Proposed trails shown in plans are conceptual alignments and will be adjusted in the field at time of construction based on site conditions.

Trail connectivity: The proposed trail network provides trail connections between the parking lot, Saddle Trail, and existing trails on Gabbert Butte.

Habitat restoration: In a concurrent effort, Metro will be conducting a forest health assessment, and will implement recommendations as appropriate.

Habitat protection: The plan supports the site conservation plan for the East Buttes by providing meaningful access to nature to ~150 acres north of Butler Road, while minimizing access and habitat fragmentation on over 400 acres of protected natural area south of Butler Road.

Trail experiences:

The trail network provides a variety of trails, and the ability to experience different features of Gabbert Butte.

Trail A
- 2/3 - 1 mile; natural soil surface; gentle to moderate grade (avg. 5% - 10%)
- Connects water line trail (G) and Saddle Trail on west side of butte
- Creates trail connection that is less steep and completely on public land
- Through upland forest with minor stream crossings

Trail B
- 1/4 - 1/2 mile, natural soil surface; moderate grade (avg. 10% - 12%)
- Connects between accessible trail (C) and Saddle Tr. on east side of butte
- With Trail A completes a loop that is about 3 miles long
- Through upland riparian forest, with several stream crossings

Trail C
- ~ 1/3 mile; crushed rock surface; accessible trail with gentle grade (5%); additional 400 ft section of trail (dashed) with steeper grade (avg. 10%) provides a loop for most visitors. Steep section does not meet accessibility guidelines.
- Makes experience of Gabbert Butte’s forest accessible to wheel chairs, strollers, and families
- Provides opportunity to experience Johnson Creek’s headwaters

Trail D
- ~1/4 mile; crushed rock surface; accessible trail; gentle grade (5%)
- Creates trail experience of Gabbert Butte’s more deciduous forest that is accessible for wheel chairs, strollers, and families
- Provides opportunity to visit a quiet spot for wildlife viewing

Trail E
- ~ 1/3 mile; natural soil surface; moderate grade (avg. 10% - 12%)
- Creates connection to Saddle Trail’s existing trail head at SE Meadow Ct.
- Next to a stream in a narrow riparian corridor behind residences

Trail F
- ~900 feet; natural soil surface; moderate grade (avg. 10% - 12%)
- Connects to existing sidewalk on Regner Road

Trail G
- ~1/3 – 2/3 mile; natural soil surface; gentle to moderate grade (avg. 5% - 10%)
- Connects parking lot and existing trails on Gabbert Butte
- Through upland forest with one stream crossing

Trail H (reroute)
- <1/4 mile; natural soil surface with boardwalk in wet areas; moderate grade (avg. 5% - 10%)
- Existing trail rerouted away from fence and property line

Trail I (existing)
- ~1/2 mile; natural soil surface, gentle grade (avg. 5%)
- Existing trail improved to address improper drainage causing erosion

Trail J (reroute)
- 3/4 – 1 mile; natural soil surface; gentle to moderate grade (avg. 5% - 10%)
- Reroutes existing trail which is very steep and slippery when raining. Existing trail tread will be decommissioned with low vegetation.
- Trail experience is through upland forest with no stream crossings.
- Benches proposed at the top of the butte