



Del Rey Oaks Community Outreach Event On FORTAG Route Alternatives

April 13, 2019

INTRODUCTION

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), in partnership with the City of Del Rey Oaks, hosted an outdoor public outreach event on April 13, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to present the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) concept and alternatives to the nearby community, including residents of Angelus Way. This outreach event was the second opportunity where TAMC solicited feedback on the Angelus Way alignment following a public workshop on February 5, 2019.

The outdoor public workshop was held at Del Rey Oaks Park near the end of Angelus Way. There were approximately 25 people in attendance, including the City Manager Dino Pick, Police Chief Jeff Hoyne, City Council Member Pat Lintell, Stefania Castillo and Rich Deal from TAMC, FORTAG Co-founder Scott Waltz, Alta Planning + Design staff and residents of Angelus Way and Carlton Drive. The meeting was publicized through Del Rey Oaks email lists and on various social media platforms.



Figure 1: Residents reviewed and provided feedback on the proposed FORTAG alignment and design concepts

The event began at 10:00 AM with an open-house style booth that included five poster boards, comment cards, and an opportunity to sign in to continue to receive FORTAG updates. Additionally, the project team was on site to discuss project information, project updates, alternative routes, and lead walking tours with Angelus Way residents. Each poster board contained the following information:

- **Poster 1: Project Goals & Overview.** Discuss the history, vision, and benefits of a continuous FORTAG system with one of its founders.
- **Poster 2: Carlton Drive & Frog Pond.** Review alignment, design options, and provide input on Highway 218 crossing and pocket park opportunity.
- **Poster 3: Angelus Way.** Discuss the trail concept plan update specific to Angelus Way. Including changes to the concept from the separated bike lane to shared bike lane.
- **Poster 4: Alternative Consideration to Angelus Way.** This poster provided brief descriptions on all four possible routes, including benefits and constraints.

Police Chief Hoyne was present at the event to address comments on homelessness activity and safety for residents along the FORTAG Route. Furthermore, Jeff Knowles from Alta Planning + Design was able to provide personal walk tours to six local Angelus residents about specific concern associated with the project and take pictures of creek issues.

Attendees were encouraged to submit comments cards to provide additional feedback on recent changes and overall feedback. Comments cards can be viewed in Appendix A. This document serves to summarize oral and written public comments received by the project team during the Community Outreach event. The primary goals include:

- Document the major categories of comments identifying key community needs, priorities, and concerns regarding the FORTAG alignment, alternatives routes, and design.
- Outline the project's next steps and future opportunities for public engagement.
- Include scanned comment cards and feedback heard at the Del Rey Oaks Community Outreach event.



Figure 2: Local residents were able to meet with Police Chief Hoyne at Del Rey Oaks Park to discuss patrol and enforcement along the proposed trail corridor

PUBLIC INPUT

Key themes heard at the event and through written comment cards include:

- **Concern of Highway 218 Underpass Concept.** A number of residents are concerned that the proposed underpass connecting Del Rey Oaks Park with Frog Pond would present flooding and safety issues, and may be used by people experiencing homelessness. Some residents proposed alternatives such as an improved at-grade crossing or overpass over 218. Many thought the underpass is too expensive and that an improved at-grade crossing might be more efficient and less expensive.
- **Excitement for Trail's Recreational Use.** Many residents were excited for the recreational benefits the trail would bring to the area. One resident noted that she was an avid runner, and the trail through Del Rey Oaks Park and Frog Pond would give her new running opportunities.
- **Impact to Frog Pond.** Some people were concerned that the alignment through the Frog Pond Preserve and the presence of bicyclists riding through this area would change the quiet and peaceful character of the area and potentially impact wildlife. One resident suggested that bike traffic be routed on 218 next to Frog Pond and routed back to the trail at a roundabout at Jim Moore.
- **Reflect Previously Heard Public Input.** Residents stated that information presented on the poster board was not a complete reflection of comments that came from the first public workshop. For example, the benefits and constraints shown on the Alternatives Board did not fully summarize public feedback.
- **Provide a Detailed Safety Strategy.** Local residents were interested in hearing how the Del Rey Oaks Police Department would address safety on the trail. One resident was interested in having the department develop a written safety strategy regarding the FORTAG trail that could be publicly available.
- **Provide Creek Stabilization and Safety Benefits.** Project staff walked with some residents of Angelus Way along the proposed on-street alignment. Residents voiced concerns of current creek destabilization next to Angelus, and were concerned that trail users (especially children) may hurt themselves on residents' driveway bridges. Residents were interested to see any improvements related to the trail include creek stabilization efforts and the possible installation of a split-rail fence along Angelus Way.

NEXT STEPS

TAMC and Alta will present project updates at Del Rey Oaks City Council meetings as the project progresses. Additional outreach will be conducted throughout the project area, through Fall 2019. Locations for further outreach will include CSU Monterey Bay, the Monterey Peninsula Recreational Trail, and the City of Marina.

APPENDIX A

Comment cards and written feedback



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

+ Can we put gates on either side of the newly proposed trail tunnel.

Beth



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

+ Want the pro/cons to better reflect what was heard @ last meeting for Angelus

+ Can police write down & display their strategy for dealing w/ safety concerns near the trail. More transparency on this process



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

I'm so happy about this trail I look forward to running this trail: my kids will love riding their bikes. Thank you for providing us with so much input & opportunity to speak. I appreciate your alternatives but still favor your original plan. I'm curious about the tunnel: overpass: would favor the safest path that impacted the already habitat the least.



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)
COMMENT CARD

Love the idea of coming through
DRO part park. Still curious about
options for crossing 218, overpass vs tunnel.

Gary Kreeger



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)
COMMENT CARD

CLEAN OUT ALL "greenbelts"
in park along creek

Scott Morgan



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)
COMMENT CARD

Great Ideas and I'm very excited about the whole plan. Would like to see alternatives for the expensive tunnel examined, such as signaled crosswalk at 218 & Carlton. Would be very helpful as crosswalk and also to allow left turns from Carlton onto 218. This can be a dangerous and stressful turn much of the rush hour times. Thanks for all your hard work!!!



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)
COMMENT CARD

gates at start of parking lot
to open/close at dusk/dawn



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

THUMBS UP

I am enthused about this project.

→ PLUMAS TRAIL

• CHELTON / 218 CONCEPTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY TUNNEL - LOCATION, SAFETY PLANS... CHIEF HOYNE'S IDEAS ARE EXCELLENT INFO SHOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED... • A PAMPHLET w/ CONCEPT PHOTOS ETC.

GOOD WORK... INTERESTED IN WHAT THE FINAL PLAN WILL LOOK LIKE... WAY DOWN THE ROAD OF COURSE... OR I SHOULD SAY "TRAIL."



Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

Don Gruber - All interesting & possible 95
proposed EXCEPT bicyclass through the Frog Pond.
That part is not acceptable, as it materially
alters the core attributes of the place. The bikers,
not necessarily the hikers, must be routed
around the F.P. PLEASE put them on 218. A
roundabout at Jim Moore would get the bikers back
to the right side of the road.



4/13/19

Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG)

COMMENT CARD

I feel this would be a terrible
deal - disruptive to neighbors on
Angels - disruptive to natural habitat -
sucks and birds who come yearly
we would be impacted - No on this
idea -