



approximately 45 percent of the preserve property is fenced. Clearly designated property boundary lines are needed in those areas lacking fencing to prevent encroachments onto preserve property and protect private property from trespass. Where fencing is not needed or desired, natural barriers such as plantings and signage may be implemented. Fencing types include 4-foot-high split-rail fence and 5-foot-high wood post and rail fence with black vinyl-coated mesh.

### Replant and Restore Vegetation

To improve vegetation conditions and habitat quality within Wasatch Hollow Preserve, it will be necessary to restore native vegetation areas damaged by over use and human-induced landscape alterations. This effort involves reestablishment of native plants in existing disturbed areas, areas that currently lack shrub or understory cover, and areas where invasive plants have been removed. Revegetation will be implemented in conjunction with other projects, such as access control or bank stabilization, to ensure that the underlying cause of disturbance (e.g., uncontrolled foot traffic) has been addressed. Steps involved in revegetation projects include: adding or preparing topsoil; planting native vegetation using seeds, containerized plants, and/or live stakes; and protecting the area with mulch or biodegradable erosion-control blanket.

### Eliminate Unauthorized Footpaths

Uncontrolled access within Wasatch Hollow Preserve has allowed for development of user-created trails throughout the property and subsequent vegetation damage and soil erosion. There are approximately 3,200 feet (0.6 mile) of redundant secondary and user-created trails

within the preserve property. This project involves the closure and landscape rehabilitation of unauthorized and duplicate footpaths throughout the preserve property. Closure would include implementing the necessary pedestrian traffic controls to prevent reuse, such as rock, brush piles, signage, and fencing (if necessary). Rehabilitating the landscape includes grading, drainage, seeding, planting, and mulching activities.

### Create Nature Play Area(s)

This project includes the development of a nature play area near the 1700 East Street access location. The proposed nature play area— an area for active play with natural materials—would be delineated with a natural wood fence. Nature play components could include tree-stump rounds, lean-to structures, tree branches and logs, boulders and rocks, and a possible steel shade structure.

### Your Input is Important

- Provide input on priority improvement projects.
- Give us your feedback on conceptual access designs.
- Suggest user amenities you would like to see.
- Ask project staff questions.

### Ways to Comment

- Workshop Response Form
- SLC PPL Website: <http://www.slcparks.com>
- SLC PPL Project Contact: Lewis Kogan 801-972-7828 / [lewis.kogan@slcgov.com](mailto:lewis.kogan@slcgov.com)

**PLEASE JOIN US  
FOR PUBLIC WORKSHOP NO. 3**

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**Wednesday, July 2, 2014  
Anderson-Foothill Library  
6:00–8:00 p.m.**

# Wasatch Hollow Preserve Riparian Restoration Project

## SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION, PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS DIVISION



Public Workshop No. 2  
May 20, 2014  
6:00–8:00 PM

Anderson-Foothill Library  
1135 S 2100 E  
Salt Lake City

### WELCOME!

Welcome to the Wasatch Hollow Preserve Riparian Restoration Project Public Workshop. We are glad you could attend and look forward to receiving your input on this important effort. This is the second in a series of four public workshops that will be held during the 6-month planning process to design and implement substantial elements from the 2011 Comprehensive Restoration, Use, and Management Plan approved by Salt Lake City (City). The plan describes a series of implementation projects for improvements to this 10-acre natural preserve. You can download a copy of the plan and other project information by going to the City’s website and the Parks and Public Lands webpage at: <http://www.slcparks.com>. Simply click on the Wasatch Hollow Preserve link for more information.

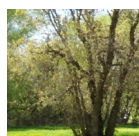
This workshop is designed to facilitate your input, which will guide the design of specific improvement solutions. We have prepared a series of poster boards that identify (1) priority improvement areas as found in the management and improvement plans, (2) study area resources and other existing conditions, and (3) potential improvement options being considered. During this workshop, you will have the opportunity to ask questions of staff and provide us with your comments and suggestions.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the information included in this handout and on the poster boards. Most importantly, let us know which access locations are important to you and which user amenity options you prefer by filling out the Workshop Response Form included in this handout. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask members of the Project Team; we are here to listen to and answer your questions. Thanks again for participating!

### Fundamental Objectives

The Comprehensive Restoration, Use, and Management Plan that was finalized in 2011 identified five “fundamental objectives” for design and management of the Wasatch Hollow Preserve. These five objectives include the following:

- Restore and protect the Emigration Creek riparian corridor and adjacent open space area.
- Establish clearly defined boundaries to prevent encroachment and foster respect for public and private lands.
- Provide controlled public access that is informed primarily by ecological goals.
- Increase safety by reducing risks on both public and private lands.
- Foster cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders in stewardship of the Wasatch Hollow Preserve to ensure sustainable long-term management.



## Proposed Improvement Projects

The 2011 Wasatch Hollow Preserve Comprehensive Restoration, Use, and Management Plan was developed over several years with significant public input. The City has secured over \$600,000 in funding to begin project implementation and seeks to incorporate substantial improvements in 2014 and 2015. Areas of focus for the site-specific design plans are described in the following sections.

See specific poster boards for proposed locations and representative photos of proposed improvement projects. And remember to give us your feedback on the design plans presented today!

### Develop Access Locations

There are four access locations identified in the Final Use Plan for both pedestrian and maintenance vehicle use. Currently, the quality of access is poor and visitors do not know when they have entered preserve property. Defined and controlled access is important to guide visitors to appropriate locations to enter the Wasatch Hollow Preserve property. This will help prevent trespass onto neighboring properties and protect sensitive vegetation and wildlife habitats. Development of an access location may include the following amenities, depending on specific location:

- way finding information,
- benches,
- interpretive signs,
- garbage receptacles,
- doggie bag dispensers,
- regulatory signage, and
- fencing and gates.

For safety and security, fencing to guide visitors to the appropriate access location will be installed. In most instances, a split-rail wood fence is recommended. Decorative wrought iron fencing may be appropriate adjacent to residential areas such as at the Kensington Avenue access location. Pedestrian gates and entry features will also be

included at appropriate locations to emphasize entry and arrival to the preserve.

### Reestablish Riparian Floodplain

Human-induced alterations, such as fill placement, channel straightening, and erosive flows associated with urbanization have contributed to the entrenched shape of the Emigration Creek stream channel. High amounts of stream bank erosion are evident within the lower portion of the Wasatch Hollow Preserve property. This project involves the removal of artificial fill material and stream bank regrading to establish a wider active floodplain along Emigration Creek through the lower half of the preserve. This would enhance vegetation and habitat diversity, improve water quality by creating areas of natural sediment deposition, and restore more dynamic channel processes. In addition, more area for flood-control storage could be provided.

### Remove and Control Invasive Species

The habitat value of existing vegetation within the Wasatch Hollow Preserve property is reduced due to the high proportion of invasive species present. In addition, stream bank understory vegetation has been compromised due to heavy foot traffic and the dense shade condition caused by invasive canopy species along Emigration Creek. This improvement measure involves phased control and removal of invasive plant species within the preserve property using the City's integrated weed-control strategy. Initial work at the preserve will focus on removal of overstory and canopy species such as Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*), Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and other nonnative trees. These species tend to grow in clumps at areas of previous landscape disturbance.

### Reconnect Wasatch Hollow Spring

In the early 1900s, an underground pipeline was constructed from springs in Wasatch Hollow to the Utah State Penitentiary. Unfortunately, the springs were covered by fill imported into the Central Area at Wasatch Hollow Preserve for potential

residential development. This project entails removing fill material in the vicinity of Wasatch Hollow Spring in order to locate the natural spring outflow point. Assuming the spring outflow can be found and that water rights are not encumbered, additional steps would involve ensuring that the abandoned pipeline is completely capped and restoring a tributary channel between the natural spring outflow point and Emigration Creek. The restored tributary channel would be planted with native vegetation appropriate for seep/spring wetland areas that would enhance overall habitat diversity within the preserve.

### Develop New Access Footpaths

Properly constructed footpaths are essential in controlling access and minimizing impacts throughout the preserve. Many of the proposed footpaths follow existing user-created trails that were not properly constructed. Two types of footpaths are being proposed: primary and secondary. A primary footpath may handle most of the foot traffic through the preserve property with a recommended 8 to 10-foot-wide tread. Primary footpaths would have a limestone crusher-fine tread surface and provide access for maintenance and utility vehicles. Secondary footpaths would provide safe opportunities for visitors to explore the preserve with a recommended 2 to 3-foot-wide native soil or crusher-fine surface.

### Install Restoration Area Fencing

To protect proposed upland, riparian, and wetland restoration area investments, fencing is needed to prevent plant damage, soil disturbances, and

subsequent erosion from uncontrolled access. During active restoration projects, it will be necessary to prohibit public access in these areas while vegetation is becoming established (minimum 2–5 years). Constructed in key areas, the fence will limit access to sensitive areas and help control access at trail heads. Proposed restoration area fencing includes a 5-foot-high wood post and rail fence with black vinyl-coated mesh along the backside.

### Install New Bridge and Elevated Boardwalk

To protect riparian, wetland, and stream channel conditions within Wasatch Hollow Preserve, it will be necessary to facilitate safe and appropriate pedestrian access through these areas. This can be achieved with the installation of bridges and elevated boardwalks where necessary. One single-span footbridge is proposed for the crossing of Emigration Creek to connect footpaths from the South Area to footpaths in the Central and North Areas. Elevated boardwalks may be needed in the Central Area where floodplain and spring restoration activities will occur to provide visitor access to these habitat types. Both the bridge and elevated boardwalks will be 8–10 feet wide with steel structural elements and wood tread surfaces.

### Establish Clear Property Boundary Lines

One of the primary concerns for the City and adjacent property owners is both intentional and inadvertent trespassing onto private and preserve properties. This is not only a safety concern but also a habitat quality concern. Currently,

