## Lisa Enourato

**From:** R Victor Bernstein <bernsteinrv@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 1:12 PM
**To:** Participate
**Subject:** Re: On the subject of Main Street
**Attachments:** Ketchum traffic flow.pdf

sure, here it is

On Wed, Dec 7, 2022 at 3:10 PM Participate <participate@ketchumidaho.org> wrote:

> Hi Mr. Bernstein and thank you for your email. I did not see an attachment. Could you please resend? Thanks!

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**From:** R Victor Bernstein <bernsteinrv@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 12:40 PM
**To:** Participate <participate@ketchumidaho.org>
**Subject:** Re: On the subject of Main Street

> While anything Russian is a sin for now--I will call your attention to the idea that I saw in Moscow:
>
> There are no left turns from the main streets. Rather traffic must make a right turn onto a side street from which two left turns are made in order to get on to the street for which the original left turn was desired. There would be no left turns at certain intersections.
>
> That is a simple solution, but to make it work better: to achieve desired flow is to have the subsequent left turns be made from a one way street, so that when making the left turn there is no oncoming traffic. Also a traffic light at the intersection of the second left turn would help the flow Some east west streets would become one way only; others, running east west would be one way on one or the other side of Main Street depending on whether they were east or west of Main Street.
>
> See attached.

If you see any value in this I'd be glad to discuss. 917-969-5936.  If not, so be it.

Victor Bernstein

260 Spur Lane

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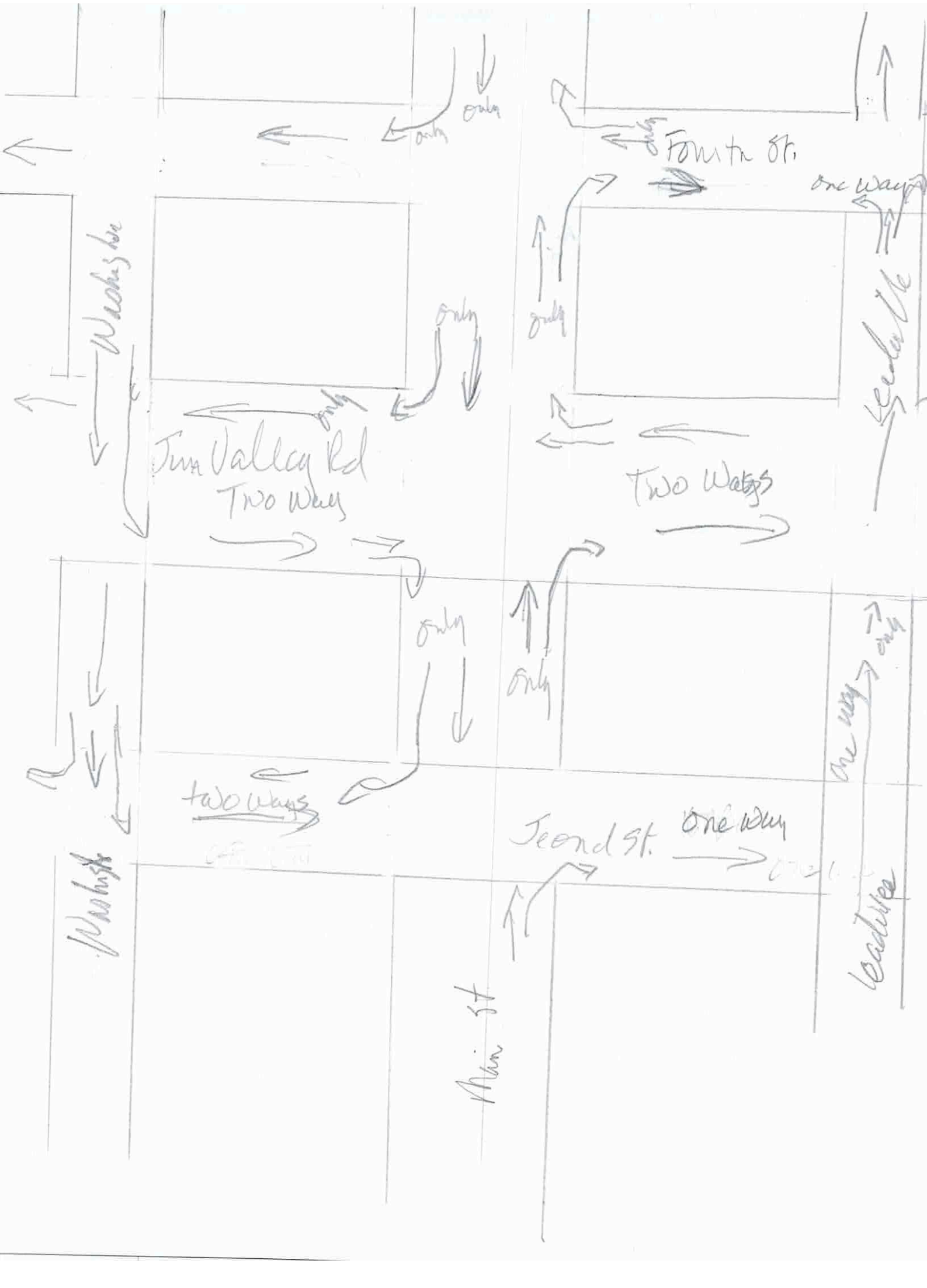
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Tina Valley Rd
Two Ways
Two Ways
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one way
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Walnut St
Second St.
One way
Main St
Leander Ave

## Lisa Enourato

**From:** Courtney Hamilton
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 8:38 PM
**To:** Participate
**Subject:** Fwd: Main street

**COURTNEY HAMILTON | CITY OF KETCHUM**
**City Council Member**
P.O. Box 2315 | 480 East Ave. N. | Ketchum, ID 83340
mobile: 208.481.1211
[chamilton@ketchumidaho.org]chamilton@ketchumidaho.org | www.ketchumidaho.org

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**From:** Joel Jarolimek <joelskisv@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:37:19 PM
**To:** Courtney Hamilton <CHamilton@ketchumidaho.org>
**Subject:** Main street

I agree with you about the proposed reconfiguration of Main Street to just two lanes to “improve the pedestrian experience”. Nothing like walking along a traffic congested street to ruin a pedestrian experience and giving a message that this town is an overcrowded mess. Solve the most important visual and overall problem, traffic, then work on pedestrian and landscape improvements. I think of Sisters, Oregon one of the most beautiful mountain towns in the west. Their Main St. highway 20 is a traffic nightmare. Beautiful town but the feeling is,”what a mess”, or “I bet this was nice before it was overrun by traffic”,due to constant bumper to bumper traffic. Again, the best start for pedestrian experience is smooth flowing traffic. Joel Jarolimek

Sent from my iPad

## Lisa Enourato

**From:** Susan Michael <susiemichael@cox.net>
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 3:26 PM
**To:** Participate
**Subject:** WSP feedback
**Attachments:** WSP Feedback 111522.pdf

As this process progresses areas of concern arise. There are so many obvious details, logistics and site specific elements that are ignored in the process thus far, making this 'Master Plan' a non workable plan. I offer detailed written feedback. I appreciate your time taken to read it. Please feel free to community with me.

Best, Susie

Susie Michael
208.720.6590
Ketchum

Notes in response to the open house & presentation given on 11/14 & 11/15 2022 by Superbloom & Rio ASE

There are so many obvious details, logistics and site specific elements that are ignored in the process thus far, making this 'Master Plan' a non workable plan without more 'experts' joining in to address these issues.

**Timeline—**

According to the task requirements we should be farther along with sketch options, plant zones, identify educational concepts, etc.
No vegetation mapping, No 'Lightly rendered plan with 2 alternatives', only two 'hand sketched vignettes', vague at best for 'mood boards for plant zones & educational concepts', 'high level budget updates' no figures available to the public. Task #3

We have paid nearly $100k for what remains a vague overall sketch lacking details necessary to carry out 'The Master Plan. Material options for 'soft surface' trails, buildings, picnic table & benches with their corresponding maintenance requirements are not mentioned. A Master plan for a preserve without a plant list is curious. Seemingly little design input from our landscape architects on actual design ideas, creativity. They are organizing feedback not creating a Master Plan.

**History of floodplain —**

It is a noble idea to want to restore the floodplain connectivity. Is it in the land's best interest, ecologically speaking, to attempt to restore the creek to *a* former natural state? Or is it in the best interest to accept as humans we have really made a mess of things and do what we can to remedy what lies before us? It will never be 100% native or pristine. We have passed that marker. We are not returning this creek to her natural state, but rather attempting to heal her wounds. However, the plan Rio proposes on 14 November 2022 is too large scale for the return it gives to the creek or the money it will cost. We need a far simpler and smaller scale plan that is more practical, one that serves as floodplain connectivity but not a 'water feature' as Rob coined the main little side stream that trickles through the lower tier. An attempt to drastically modify 1 mile of creek riparian zone to correct the egregious errors we have placed upon Warm Springs Creek all along her city's course may not be the most viable solution. There must be reasons for past intentions for creek restoration not to have been carried out. Another scaling back is necessary, if for no other reason to have an option to explore outcomes.

The plan does not use water for multiple purposes. The aesthetics of the main small stream/'water feature' dominates the function thus not creating a regenerative and self sustaining system. Appropriately placed swales (permaculture swales seem to different from the large open swales labeled in this rendering) will cost less to construct, displace less soil, causing less repair and revegetation due to alterations and less water needs for repair as well as provide for multiple function of water diversion.

The existing pond is a jurisdictional wetland; the only one in the upper acres. Take advantage of this by augmenting its efficacy, function and size. You could backfill it with some of the soil excavated to form the new pond. Place the new pond near and down stream from the existing pond still using the head gate with a channel to feed the new pond through the 'new' wetland old pond. On the downstream side of the new pond allow for an exit swale to provide seasonal additional irrigation to the riparian plantings at high water years.

It appears the plan is too large an area of 'floodplain connectivity' for the amount of water in Warm Springs Creek. She has flooded at record highs using far less land area than is proposed here in other locations along her course. She floods all along her course. It is unreasonable to believe we will mitigate behavior just at this site near the end of her run. Large scale natural events, avalanches, mud slides, pushing huge amounts of debris into her path have greatly altered her course upstream, altered the wetlands, redefined the floodplain. Again, it seems we are not looking at the entire picture. In this case how her course has altered in recent years along her full length. This has impact on what we do in this short stretch as she will continue to morph, always.

You have proposed two smaller side channels that more immediately return to the creek, perhaps this serves the purpose of flood mitigation better than the long one running through a large portion of the land. Or/and create a side channel closer to the bridge and one or two side channel access points downstream of the bridge. Then we can utilize the natural floodplain of that lower area to the left of the driveway as you enter- where proposed artificial beaver dams are situated- with far less earthworks as the banks are lower. Sheet folding is appropriate here and without much manipulation is achievable. These small side channels may better serve the fry not being situated in the line of traffic as they are designed now. These more in scale side streams may retain water perennially better serving aquatic species.

Create small flood cells in a few places along the creek both above and below the existing pond to accommodate high water run off which would create pools/eddies for fry, demanding less earthworks. It appears this idea is somewhat mentioned in the plan. Swales can be incorporated here for early season supplemental irrigation.

Use the gravel beds existing in stream. Redefine the channel through them where natural floodplain already exists as shown on FEMA map. And create, augment the 'benches' technique with logs perpendicular to the creek to catch sediment but allow a rise for high water to flow over. Especially at the ~16 ft steep bank near Cimino's property. (large spiral bound The Bigwood Restoration Book) It appears this idea is somewhat mentioned in the plan.

We can preserve the southern portion if we limit human engagement here. We must to respect the land, wildlife and nature's course and not interfere save for minimal creek braiding restoration. By developing greater access the dilemma we face at the upper acres will then be served upon the lower. Please take a moment to be intelligent and not continue to make the same mistakes. Perhaps diminish some of the proposed trail length and scope.

We continue to disregard and under value the necessity of the riparian zone all over the city and county. The new subdivision across the creek only has the 25' riparian setback for fairly large houses and many of the lots are in floodplain. All the older cottonwood trees where systematically removed from the riparian area at the onset of the subdivision development. New houses on Irene Street waterfront lots have been allowed to cut down very large mature cottonwood trees and other vegetation in the riparian area. Many/most of the yards of the houses along Irene and Bald Mountain Road manipulate the riparian and floodplain areas of the creek. In most cases this land is not their property to manipulate. Yet, we allow it by not enforcing riparian guidelines. It is contradictory to stage a 'full blown restoration' under the guise of doing the right thing whilst we have literally compromised the floodplain and riparian area on the opposite side of the creek as we simultaneously preach creek restoration. This land has been drastically altered and the creek has suffered the highest consequences. Let's mitigate reasonably what we can and become conscious of water course health giving it more value than individual, manmade, materialistic capitalist ventures.

Protect, respect and allow wild environment to exist in and amongst our built environment. We need to come to terms with the necessity of nature's intelligence to teach us rather than continually trying to dominate her. Creek and river health is intimately connected to the riparian zone and the upland ecology. All this creek work can easily be drastically damaged with a flood year anytime in the first 5 years after 'construction'. Heavy rainfall spring or autumn could carry soil from insufficiently vegetated uplands into the new creek restoration.

The larger view of what is presented to us with the opportunity of this persevere is getting lost in politics. We are missing the root causes that brought us to the land in such dire need of restoration. We are missing the vision this land offers on a grand scale that endures for generations not just the current administration.

**Feedback/thoughts**—

Use permaculture practices. Complimenting the vegetation placement in a layered scheme to provide habitat, conserve water, create water, enhance biodiversity all synergize promoting the health of the land. Consider the entire tract of land as one cohesive ecosystem; one ecology working in harmony with itself. That harmony involves leaving portions untouched by humans or minimal human impact -The Woods, Southern Floodplain. It involves a comprehensive meshing of vegetation; this is biodiversity. It involves an irrigation plan in conjunction with species selection and placement. Public comment is in favor of it being in a natural state but we focus on parking lots, restrooms and concrete and soft surface paths.

Every presentation spends considerable time reviewing desired goals and 'high level values', but far less actualization of implementation methods or actual logistics to achieve these goals. No ideas about areas to be planted beyond vague 'additional screening' along parking lot, 'wildflower meadow'. Taking 10 jpeg images off the internet of common intermountain west flora is not site specific nor a declaration of biodiversity. It also leaves a chasm between the 'concept' and manifestation in practice of how vegetation is placed in design.

A. The soil from earthworks being placed in topographical design is contrived. Dirt mounding, berms, is not seen anywhere in the natural Warm Springs drainage. This type of land sculpting, berms, is a landscape design 'tool' to create 'interest for the eye' or function as barriers for privacy or used when the soil is too compacted or dense to provide drainage for plant material to survive. Is saving money to haul soil away the ticket or is doing less earthworks the ticket? Is it worth the savings to compromise the landscape by creating more artificial manipulation that does not facilitate regeneration.

We do have options for earthworks to be rearranged to top dress the turf areas and reseed with ecological and site appropriate species. Can elaborate.

B. Micro climates- these topo features do not create a microclimate. If anything they create more square footage of drier land as the water in the mounded soil will evaporate and drain more quickly. They inhibit open space movement. The earth moved here will need rocks picked out and shaping causing soil compaction and another area of mess that can be avoided by not employing this idea. It will cause greater need for more extensive revegetation to restore the manipulation.

Definition of a microclimate:
In a nutshell, the specific characteristics of wind, water retention, aspect, sun exposure, elevation ( not in terms of 3' feet), specific plants growing naturally, soil type and composition.

Ryan WRLT explained to me that the excavated earth would likely be used to back fill the steep slopes between the upper and mid tiers to lessen the slope angle. So we are considering continued disruption of established, albeit not completely naturally existing, topography in order to serve yet another manmade manipulation. These slopes are at present one of the few areas, actual microclimates, that contain thriving native plant species communities. Although the entire land has been altered, these slopes have been less trod upon, less manipulated and these native populations have likely reestablished since the creation of the golf course 60+ years ago. Please don't decimate them. They deserve to remain, be respected for their tenacity of survival in spite of human intervention. If you are not aware of existing species and their location on the land you are not protecting existing eco systems! (an identified goal)

Furthermore, the middle tier is being presented as one area. It is clear that there are several different microclimates in this section. Sunlight, soil type and composition, elevation, tree cover etc is not consistent throughout this mid tier. This area is far more diverse than the attention it is receiving as a potential 'wildflower meadow'. Not all 'wildflowers' thrive in the same conditions or amongst all grass species. This demonstrates the lack of understanding for *this* land and what it has to offer. This demonstrates a lack of restoration ecology understanding.

The virtual pictorial rendering depicts uniformly height grasses speckled with wildflower color and a mowed path of solid sod grass flanked by berms which in no way is reflective of the surrounding native fields/meadows of the Warm Spring drainage. They have borrowed by my design idea down to my exact language of 'mow a path through grasses' and 'intending to mimic the design of native fields and meadows' without the understanding of this site, the local flora and their growing requirements, soil preference, local topography and species groupings making them unable to design a field 'to mimic the design of native fields and meadows' as it is beyond their level of expertise.

Map vegetation specific to smaller areas on the preserve where microclimates exists. There are many. In my design plan (in your info packet for the 13 Sept 22 meeting) I identify many such areas each with their own characteristics which provide for greater biodiversity, educational opportunities, interest for the people experiencing, multiple habitats and beauty. Can elaborate here.

Why does this matter? If they are responsible for a design they cannot elaborate into manifestation without specific design elements for the vision it is not a design but a vague idea.

A designer that does not understand/or is unable to envision the concepts they purport to design demonstrates it is not actually *their* design. Using verbiage without a foundation of the vision it embodies creates nothing, disconnection. A key concern is the fact most of the projects on Superbloom's website are only in virtual conceptual form as they have not been constructed in physical form on actual land.
We are shown a sketch rendering of a building that fails to provide mower, truck entry/exit, a line drawn to represent a loop trail, a dysfunctional and impractical parking lot configuration and one landscape element involving a 'meadow' idea that as I have explained demonstrates their fundamental misunderstanding of plant landscape design.

C. There is still no stewardship plan for the land. 02 Design for Success over Time —- Yet, no stewardship mention or plan, no practices that suggest long term regenerative qualities. No long term maintenance and care plan for the Preserve. Huge error in planning. The planning is intimately hinged upon the long term evolution, care, maintenance, and self sustaining qualities built into the plan from the beginning. How we plan will determine how it will be cared for and what care it will require. Native plants will need assistance reseeding for many years. It is unrealistic to plant plants or seeds and expect them to all grow or germinate 100% and need no further replanting. It will need management forever and that care may likely reach beyond the experience of our current parks staff.

D.To state, 'The existing upper Fairway is a unique and special landscape…..' is simply not an ecologically conscious statement. No options for the water consumptive Kentucky Bluegrass demonstrates a lack of creative initiative and does not align with the one of only three 'improvement areas' stated in RFP. Our valley is riddled with acres of water consumptive Kentucky Bluegrass. It appears that the two lower grass areas on either side the of the entry driveway are to be irrigate with no change to the species that exist there. USFS has dictated the need to restore native grasses in areas abutting USFS land. A mono crop provides little to

no habitat or ecological value to the ecosystem as a whole. 04 Demonstrate Leadership through Regeneration of Healthy Ecosystems for People, Plants & Animals. Yet we water golf course turf, only reclaim 'some' edges and parts here and there of the landscape. The focus is primarily on what people want over what is vital for the land to thrive. It will remain or revert to a dead zone if not designed in ecological terms over human desire terms. Replacing one mono crop with another, clover, is not the answer. A blend of grasses tolerant of foot traffic and low water needs would be the best option. Courtney offhandedly mentioned clover in the Sept 13 meeting and that 'solution' has been fixated upon since. I can share other strategies for this area.

E. No irrigation system design layout or irrigation schedule for the land. Without temporary irrigation intentionally installed any new plantings anywhere on site will take far longer to establish and be less successful in general. Native plants need water to establish. They may require watering once a season once established if it's particularly hot and dry so we don't loose our plantings. A seed can remain in the soil for decades waiting for sufficient water to germinate. Not all native plants are drought tolerant. Water rights allowed for the irrigation of the entire golf course. With judicious water usage and timing of use, timing of plantings in sections in phases, not the whole revegetation scope at the same time, we can achieve wonderful results that are self sustaining and regenerative. Bothering to install the correct system for our needs means less water usage, less failure of intentionally planted, restored, rewilded areas. Having a system in place does not mean we have to irrigate continually, but the option is there for best results. We live in high desert. It is very dry so water use is water conservation. It is not negotiable. This is a prime example of money spent upfront saves on the backend in perpetuity. Permaculture practices must be employed, not just for the plants and the growing but in the design - permanent culture, be it the culture of human or culture of the ecological environment. Evolving growth that follows natures' intelligence. One principle of permaculture; 'Each element performs multiple functions. Choose and place each element in a system to perform as many functions as possible. Increasing beneficial connections between diverse components creates a stable whole. Stack elements in both space and time.' Example, swales and paths direct water to irrigate.

F. There has been the concept that 'construction' will happen at X date and then we wait for fruition of plant materials and earthwork efficacy. This is in no stretch of the imagination a one time construction phase, planting phase and then completed. The noxious weed control alone will take at least 2 seasons to manage before restoration plantings can begin in earnest or we'll have a big mess costing more money and time jeopardizing the end result. This restoration, rewilding will take successive years. This fact has not been addressed. This is what design means and appears to be completely lost in the process we are now experiencing. This is a small part of the 'maintenance' discussion that has yet to be had.

G. No mention of the preserve being closed for a period of time while creek restoration or irrigation are installed or newly planted areas are establishing. Dogs will not be able to run at large with machinery on site. Dogs will jeopardize new plantings; we will require at least temporary fencing. It is quite possible the whole preserve will be closed for a growing season or two while rewilding happens. This is the time that the community engages with the preserve in another fashion, as volunteers in the reclamation as active students in the discovery of the natural world, in the manifestation of their preserve.

H.We build the soil rather than rely on bringing in 'soil amendments' as Superbloom stated would be looked into for the next presentation. Building soil creates fertility, soil microbes, zero waste of on site debris, debris from other Ketchum parks could be incorporated. Making compost and only importing compost until we have a sufficient quality for our purposes probably is necessary to get started in *certain* places, under *certain*

conditions to achieve a *certain* goal. Then we continue to make compost. Yet poor soil is ideal for many of our native plants and grasses. It must be understood what we are growing and what conditions are needed for them to thrive. This isn't a garden bed! We don't dive in a make all the soil ready as if we were planting vegetables.

I. Southern Floodplain: quote from Preliminary Environmental Report created for the WSRR 2008 "The south portion of the property currently has low human use and no permanent human presence and is used by big game for cover and by songbirds for nesting and feeding. An increase in human presence as well as the indirect affects of lighting, pets, and urban wildlife will affect how wildlife uses the area.' Nothing more than a small dirt path, no dogs allowed on or off leash." Pristine elements are destroyed quickly by the presence of people. With dogs the wildlife will largely disappear and/or create conflict. This is a stay on the path no romping through section. It appears this portion of the creek restoration is on point. Not the place to relocate and isolate disc golf and their community.

J. Restrooms: Are we drilling a well, creating a septic systems, having our 2 drain fields in wetland or floodplain? Or are we connecting to city sewer and water via under creek installation? Yet, in the same breath we claim to be conscious of creek health and costs. Completely contradictory. Restrooms on this site are not ecologically appropriate. From whose private property on the opposite side of the creek do we access city water and sewer? Is the tiny silver of land between the last Bald Mountain lot and the first upstream new subdivision lot sufficient size to run these lines? There was fairly unanimous consensus that cost was a driving factor in determining the 'success' of the project. Now we must also add more power_usage for heat and plumbing function, time and labor for cleaning which adds to the load not ecologically minded. The garage/storage section of the pencil rendering of the 'garage' allows for no entry/exit 'driveway' for mowers, gators, trailers or a truck. One or two vault toilets for 'emergencies' only. Restrooms make the preserve a venue. It is not! If the garage is attached to the restrooms the 'welcome' signature of the preserve is a utility building. Is that setting us up for a nature experience?

K. The paved very programmed parking lot connecting to a tangle of multiple walkways leading to building resembles a restroom exit on the highway not an entrance to a nature open space/preserve. Your focus is entirely on manmade structures not on nature which is why one comes to this place. The rendering suggests planting islands in and around the paved parking spaces configuration. That is a plowing nightmare, a water consumptive idea as the asphalt will increase heat and dry out the small planting areas. It is wholly impractical in snow country or high desert. Parking lot asphalt is a petroleum product that leaches into the ground water. The lots at upper and lower River Run, Hulen Meadows, Adams Gulch, Boundary Camp Ground, Lake Creek which are all high traffic areas functioning very well unpaved and have for decades.There are also no restroom at these sites. (save campground itself , which are vault)

L. Are we using any of work/design presented by Helios to City at Waterways Design Review? Perhaps therein is proposed another option? Again perhaps we have completed redundant design work costing unnecessary expenses. Please read the environmental reports. Although they were complied for a different end goal, they do indicate the dead zone we desperately need to rewild.

M. It sounds very much like C of K based their notions of this preserve based on The Preliminary Environmental Report created for the WSRR application for development dated February 4, 2008, Updated April 29, 2008. This report of course was for the purpose of developing the land and so did not consider the restoration of the entire piece of land as it was slated for development. Here in lies the main stumbling block as to the curiosity of not wishing to reclaim all the ecosystem/land. I believe this was an error in the overall scope of the WSP

from the onset and needs to remedied immediately. This was a  template used for a very different project with a very different end goal. WSP deserves its own template!!!

N. Before we pay twice for part of the education piece: 'The history and former physical layout of the Warm Springs Ranch has been compiled as part of the Warm Springs Cultural Resource Survey. Archival black- and-white photos were taken, historical information and photos gathered, and a short historical narrative of the ranch history compiled. Copies of this information were provided to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office in Boise. The information gathered during the survey will also be interpreted by the following:
• Writing a detailed Historic Context Narrative of the Warm Springs Ranch property, including copies of related historic photographs. This detailed Context Narrative will provide the basis for sharing information about the property's unique history. A copy of the Context Narrative will be provided to the Regional History Department of the Ketchum Community Library.
• Creating an interpretive brochure with map and historic photographs of the Warm Springs Ranch will be made available to WSRR guests.' Where is this information now ? This is an amazing opportunity for local students and/or community members to dive into.

O. The education piece is not confined to history which can easily be documented by conventional signage, etc. But eduction is in the relationship one begins to cultivate with nature with this land. The way one becomes calm and clear and resets in nature- psychology, mental health. The friendships and understandings one nurtures with plants, trees, animals and other humans while on the Preserve. The botany, eco restoration, bird watching, nature observing opportunities, community engagement in the rewilding process and much more that are endless in their inspiration. We learn what reciprocity means via first hand experience with nature. Being present. Arts and sciences draw from nature at their root. A valuable education for benefit of all earth's humans. It can be self sustaining in revenue through programs offered by the non profit that manages the preserve. I have extensive ideas on which to elaborate on this topic. Some can bring in money for maintenance of the preserve.

P. Success not determined by low cost, but rather, 'Specific performance goals for restored habitat will be defined by qualitative and quantitative characteristics using similar habitats in a nearby reference reach.' (EIR) Have we restored land to better function in terms of its ecological place than we found it? Better ecological function benefits human experience.

Q. Not a single mention of community engagement in the reclamation process itself. Community involvement in the rewilding, preparation for planting, planting and tending of the preserve. The coming together of community for a focused goal arrived at through compassion and reciprocity for the land and her many gifts. This is Ketchum's character.
10. Design goals;01 Create a Preserve that is Connected and Accessible to All  —only considering the people access connectivity not the ecosystem flowing as one supportive interwoven unit
04 Demonstrate Leadership through Regeneration of Healthy Ecosystems for People, Plants & Animals—yet we water golf course turf, only reclaim 'some' edges and parts here and there of the landscape and make no mention of connectivity between the relationship of people to plants or land.

R.Trails/paths. We must keep the built aspect of this project to a minimum and the more input there is the more manipulation is suggested which makes this an engineered site. ADA criteria can easily be met from the parking area  throughout the preserve. Once there is a planting plan those paths may be created to follow the landscape for the best nature immersion experience. Smaller trails can lead off from these ADA paths that are not necessarily ADA but the intention would be to commingle experiences. All viewing sites of the creek can have a flat surface- level soil perhaps with light gravel to accommodate ADA and nonADA. The more 'viewing platforms' such as those made from wood and the like  the more maintenance,

the more built environment, the greater expense and the more engineering of the natural space. Putting a product on the trail' soft surface' creates a huge amount of maintenance. This is why trails are made of dirt.

It is contraindicated to overly program people to experience a natural open area. Paths and trails serve the purpose of protecting the flora form being trampled and causing erosion. Placing a wide surfaced trails over the roots of our mature Douglas Fir will harm their health.

The trials will determine themselves once planting design is arrived at. A simple loop is proposed at present. Social paths will develop. Service roads already existing will in part dictate trial flow. Open space flow is not to be programed. Again, permaculture practices combine the service road, garage storage building access with the paths and trails so all are doing double duty thus we lessen the managed aspect of the preserve.

S. It is not true that we can just change 'that' out later. When a reclamation, rewinding of land is not well thought out there is disruption of areas already reclaimed, extra moneys necessary to 'fix' the problems and wasted growing time due to lack of foresight. The idea is to plan for evolution of the land, the human use of it in relationship to the natural elements that are not meant to be powered over, but worked with in partnership.

T. If Superbloom nor Rio actually implement their designs, then when do start to engage the process of manifestation? When do you intend to engage those with knowledge of planting site preparation, planting species selection, method or practices of preparation and planting, irrigation layout? Attending to this sooner in the process rather than later will save money, be much more efficient and result in a cohesive end result. All too often in my professional experience, the disconnect between the landscape architects rendering and the actual feasibility of the plan, in terms of scale, especially in terms of vegetation- trees, flowering plants, grasses- needs to be redesigned to function in a practical and workable way. We need a small team of landscape gardeners collaborating with a restoration ecologist for guidance and community members interested in participating to take it from here. Landscape architects build -paths, structure placement, parking lots, etc outside. The 'Master Plan' must include plant knowledge for ecology design and restoration and preservation of existing ecosystems.

U. I was told to trust the process by the Mayor and yet it seems like the outcome of the 'preserve' has already been established by the city and this process is far more about politics than true community engagement. The surveys are skewed to reflect positive feedback for what is presented, suggested and encourage agreement with our 'experts'.
All over the world preserves are created. We have the opportunity to establish a significant preserve. There are established ways of creating preserves. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. A preserve is defined no matter how many people choose to impose their own definitions. However, in the case of Warm Springs we need to carry out reclamation, restoration, rewilding on much of the site before we can preserve the site. Future thinking is about reestablishing a co creative relationship with nature. We have the opportunity to be innovators of community land restoration, increasing biodiversity and being part of the solution rather than contributing to the demise of our world. This is permaculture in practice.

**Various iterations on a definition:**

A nature reserve is a protected area of importance for flora, fauna, or features of geological or other special interest, which is reserved and managed for purposes of conservation and to provide special opportunities for study or research.

An area of land that is managed in order to conserve wildlife or plant habitat or other natural features.

Nature reserve, area set aside for the purpose of preserving certain animals, plants, or both. A nature reserve differs from a national park usually in being smaller and having as its sole purpose the protection of nature.

A bioreserve or sanctuary.

An area of land that is protected and managed in order to preserve a particular type of habitat and its flora and fauna which are often rare or endangered.

In our situation, with rapidly continued development, land in its natural state is the endangered species and all the inhabitants of nature also become endangered.

**Elements of a preserve include:**

A management plan drafted by the organization in charge of managing the reserve for X years, sets out the objectives and the resources to be deployed in the field to maintain or restore the relevant environments.

The protection of nature, including the conservatories of natural space.

Passionate knowledge people empowering other people with the significance of natural elements, plants, ecology, and the intelligence of nature that makes all life possible.

As a rewilded tract of disturbed land we have an opportunity to demonstrate how to correct egregious human intervention. Had the land not been altered by a golf course and houses built in the adjoining floodplain, it would have morphed and changed with the creek and the elements and the passage of time. We can not undo all that has occurred on this land, but we can allow nature the space for her intelligence to work its magic. The design we choose must always be in a state of flow to follow nature's lead not our singular short sighted 'gains'.

I offer this freely from a highly knowledgeable and experienced perspective. I see the vision of what is possible. I invite you to see that vision, this community space; community of people in relationship to land and nature as well as each other. I invite you to see the larger picture of the opportunity before us. Recreating habitats to reset ecological balance. To gain knowledge from beauty. Gathering sustenance from the nourishment of the elements. Finding courage freeing our spirit embraced by nature. The health of this land is a condition of beneficial dynamic balance which at present is out of balance. Its health is linked to our health. The possibilities and continuing benefit that will ripple for many more beyond our small community when we approach The Warm Springs Preserve with respect in reciprocity ensure abundance. The adoption of The Dark Sky ordinance will be supported in kind by a significant preserve.

Ok nice words, but show me. I would like very much to have the opportunity to show you! flack he what, why and how at the foundation of my words. And it will be cost effective, short term and long term. All these other benefits I speak of are free as a result of a comprehensively well thought out plan.

Thank you,
Susie Michael

## Lisa Enourato

**From:** Susan Michael <susiemichael@cox.net>
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 3:27 PM
**To:** Participate
**Subject:** feedback on WSP based on 11/14/2022 presentations

It is a noble idea to want to restore the floodplain connectivity. Is it in the lands best interest, ecologically speaking to attempt to restore the creek to a former natural state? Or is it in the best interest to accept as humans we have really made a mess of things & do what we can to remedy what lies before us? It will never be 100% native or pristine. We have passed that marker. However, the plan Rio proposes on 14 November 2022 is too large scale for the return it gives to the creek or the money it will cost. We need a far simpler and smaller scale plan that is more practical, one that serves as floodplain connectivity not just a 'water feature' as Rob coined the little side stream. An attempt to drastically modify 1 mile of creek riparian zone to correct the egregious errors we have placed upon Warm Springs Creek is not the solution. We can preserve the southern portion if we limit human engagement here. We ought to respect the land, wildlife & nature's course & not interfere. By developing greater access the dilemma we face at the upper acres will then be served upon the lower. Please take a moment to be intelligent & not continue to make the same mistakes.
We continue to disregard and under value the necessity of the riparian zone all over the city & county. The new subdivision across the creek only has the 25' riparian setback for fairly large houses and many of the lots are in floodplain. New houses on Irene Street waterfront lots have been allowed to cut down very large mature cottonwood trees in the riparian area. It is contradictory to stage a 'full blown restoration' under the guise of doing the right thing whilst we have literally compromised the floodplain & riparian area on the opposite side of the creek. This land has been drastically altered and the creek has suffered the highest consequences. Let's mitigate reasonably what we can and become conscious of water course health giving it more value than individual, manmade, materialistic capitalist ventures.
Protect, respect and allow wild environment to exist in and amongst our built environment. We need to come to terms with the necessity of nature's intelligence to teach us rather than continually trying to dominate her.
All this creek work can easily be decimated with a flood year anytime in the first 5 years after 'construction' .
Some ideas are lined out below Possible Solutions/Suggestions.

A. The soil from earthworks being placed in topographical design is contrived. Dirt mounding, berms, is not seen anywhere in the natural Warm Springs drainage. This type of land sculpting, berms, is a landscape design 'tool' to create 'interest for the eye' or function as barriers for privacy or used when the soil is too compacted or dense to provide drainage for plant material to survive.

B. Micro climates- these topo features do not create a microclimates. If anything they create more square footage of drier land as the water in the mounded soil will evaporate & drain more quickly.
Definition of a microclimate:
In a nutshell, the specific characteristics of wind, water retention, aspect, sun exposure, elevation ( not in terms of 3' feet), specific plants growing naturally, soil type & composition.
Ryan WRLT explained to me that the excavated earth would likely be used to back fill the steep slopes between the upper and mid tiers to lessen the slope. So we are considering continued disruption of established, albeit not naturally existing, topography in order to serve yet another manmade manipulation. These slopes are at present one of the few areas- actual microclimates, that contain thriving native plant species. Although the entire land has been altered, these slopes have been less trod upon and these native populations have likely reestablished since the creation of the golf course 60+ years ago. Please don't decimate them. They deserve to remain, be respected for their tenacity of survival in spite of human intervention.
Furthermore, the middle tier is being presented as one area. It is clear that there are several different microclimates in this section. Sunlight, soil type & composition, elevation, tree cover etc is not consistent at all. This area is far more diverse than the attention it is receiving as a potential 'wildflower meadow'. This demonstrates the lack of understanding for *this* land and what it has to offer.

C. There is still no stewardship plan for the land. 02 Design for Success over Time —-yet no stewardship mention or plan, not practices that suggest long term regenerative qualities. No long term maintenance and care plan for the Preserve. Huge error in planning. The planning is intimately hinged upon the long term evolution, care, maintenance, and self sustaining qualities built into the plan from the beginning. How we plan will determine how it will be cared for & what care it will require. It will need management forever & that care may likely reach beyond the experience of our current parks staff.

D.To state 'The existing upper Fairway is a unique and special landscape…..' is simply not an ecologically conscious statement. Our valley is riddled with acres of water consumptive Kentucky Bluegrass. A mono crop provides little to no habitat or ecological value to the ecosystem as a whole. 04 Demonstrate Leadership through Regeneration of Healthy Ecosystems for People, Plants & Animals. Yet we water golf course turf, only reclaim 'some' edges & parts here & there of the landscape

E. No irrigation design layout. Without temporary irrigation intentionally installed any new plantings anywhere on site will take FAR longer to establish & be less successful in general. Native plants need water to establish. Not all native plants are drought tolerant! Water rights allowed for the irrigation of the entire golf course. With judicious water usage & timing of use, timing of plantings in sections, not the whole revegetation scope at the same time, we can achieve wonderful results that are self sustaining & regenerative. Permaculture practices must be employed - not just for the plants & the growing but in the design - permanent culture. Evolving growth that follows natures' intelligence. One principles of permaculture; 'Each element performs multiple functions. Choose and place each element in a system to perform as many functions as possible. Increasing beneficial connections between diverse components creates a stable whole. Stack elements in both space and time.' Example, swales & paths direct water to irrigate.

F. There has been the concept that ‘construction’ will happen at X date and then we wait for fruition of plant materials & earthwork efficacy. This is in no stretch of the imagination a one time construction phase, planting phase and then completed. The noxious weed control alone will take at least 2 seasons to manage before restoration plantings can begin in earnest or we’ll have a big mess costing more money & time jeopardizing the end result. This restoration, rewilding will take successive years.

G. Every presentation spends considerable time reviewing the desired goals, but far less actualization of implementation methods to achieve these goals. For example: no vegetation mapping or species list, or grouping of species to be used in specific areas. Taking jpeg images off the internet of common intermountain west flora is not particularly site specific nor a declaration of biodiversity. It also leaves a chasm between the ‘concept’ & manifestation in practice of how vegetation is placed in design. This holds true for the creek revegetation too.

H. We have wasted time identifying ‘hi level values’ when the Ketchum Comprehensive Plan has several chapters pertaining to these goals; we have paid Superbloom to re-identify.

I. Southern Floodplain: quote from Preliminary Environmental Report created for the WSRR 2008 “The south portion of the property currently has low human use and no permanent human presence and is used by big game for cover and by songbirds for nesting and feeding. An increase in human presence as well as the indirect affects of lighting, pets, and urban wildlife will affect how wildlife uses the area.’ Nothing more than a small dirt path, no dogs allowed on or off leash.” Pristine elements are destroyed quickly by the presence of people. This is stay on the path no romping through section.

J. Restrooms: Are we drilling a well, creating a septic systems, having our 2 drain fields in wetland or floodplain, or are we connecting to city sewer & water via under creek installation? There was fairly unanimous consensus that cost was a driving factor in determining the ‘success’ of the project. Now we must also add power as well for heat & plumbing function, time & labor for cleaning. Plus construction of a larger building to accommodate restrooms with the storage garage. Vault toilets for ‘emergencies’ only.

K. Are we using any of work/design presented by Helios to City at Waterways Design Review? Again perhaps we have completed redundant design work costing necessary expenses.

L. It sounds very much like C of K based their notions of this preserve based on The Preliminary Environmental Report created for the WSRR application for development dated February 4, 2008, Updated April 29, 2008. This report of course was for the purpose of developing the land and so did not consider the restoration of the entire piece of land as it was slated for development. Here in lies the main stumbling block as to the curiosity of not wishing to reclaim all the ecosystem/land. I believe this was an error in the overall scope of the WSP from the onset and needs to remedied immediately. A template used for a very different project with a very different end goal. WSP deserves its own template!!! excerpt; 8.3.6 Pets
All pets on the property shall be managed in accordance with the Ketchum City Code Chapter 6.04 and shall be leashed at all times and not allowed to run at large. Packs of dogs do not coincide with effective, sustained reclamation.

M. Before we pay twice for part of the education piece: ‘The history and former physical layout of the Warm Springs Ranch has been compiled as part of the Warm Springs Cultural Resource Survey. Archival black- and-white photos were taken, historical information and photos gathered, and a short historical narrative of the ranch history compiled. Copies of this information were provided to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office in Boise. The information gathered during the survey will also be interpreted by the following:
• Writing a detailed Historic Context Narrative of the Warm Springs Ranch property, including copies of related historic photographs. This detailed Context Narrative will provide the basis for sharing information about the property’s unique history. A copy of the Context Narrative will be provided to the Regional History Department of the Ketchum Community Library.
• Creating an interpretive brochure with map and historic photographs of the Warm Springs Ranch will be made available to WSRR guests.
Where is this information now ?

N. The education piece is not confined to history which can easily be documented by conventional signage, etc. But eduction is in the relationship one begins to cultivate with nature with this land. The way one becomes calm and clear and resets in nature. The friendships one nurtures with plants, trees, animals and other humans while on the Preserve. The botany, eco restoration, bird watching, nature observing opportunities, community engagement in the rewilding process & much more that are endless in their inspiration. We learn what reciprocity means via first hand experience with nature. Being present.

O. Success not determined by low cost, but rather, ‘Specific performance goals for restored habitat will be defined by qualitative and quantitative characteristics using similar habitats in a nearby reference reach.’ (EIR)

P. Not a single mention of community engagement in the reclamation process itself. Community involvement in the rewilding, preparation for planting, planting and tending of the preserve. The coming together of community for a focused goal arrived at through compassion & reciprocity for the land and her many gifts.
10. Design goals;01 Create a Preserve that is Connected and Accessible to All —only considering the people access connectivity not the ecosystem flowing as one supportive unit
04 Demonstrate Leadership through Regeneration of Healthy Ecosystems for People, Plants & Animals—yet we water golf course turf, only reclaim ‘some’ edges & parts here & there of the landscape

Q. No we cannot just change ‘that’ out later. When a reclamation, rewinding of land is not well thought out there is disruption of areas already reclaimed, extra moneys necessary to ‘fix’ the problems and wasted due to lack of foresight. The idea is to plan for evolution of the land, the human use of it in relationship to the natural elements that are not meant to be powered over, but worked with in partnership.

<u>Possible Solutions/Suggestionsb</u>

Use permaculture practices. The plan does not use water for multiple purposes. The aesthetics are dominating the function thus not regenerative & self sustaining. Appropriately placed swales will cost less to construct, displace less soil, causing less repair & revegetation & less water needs for repair. Also provide for multiple function of water diversion.

We build the soil rather than bring in ‘soil amendments’. This creates fertility, zero waste of on site debris, debris from other Ketchum parks could be incorporated.

The existing pond is a jurisdictional wetland. Take advantage of this by augmenting its efficacy, function & size. You could backfill with some of the soil excavated to form the new pond. Place the new pond next to down & stream from the existing pond still using the head gate with a channel to feed the new pond through the ‘new’ wetland old pond. On the downstream side of the new pond allow for an exit swale to provide seasonal additional irrigation to the riparian plantings.

Create a side channel closer to the bridge & one or two side channel access points downstream of the bridge. Then we can utilize the natural floodplain of that lower area to the left of the driveway as you enter- where proposed artificial beaver dams are situated- with far less earthworks as the banks are lower. These small side channels may better serve the fry not being situated in the line of traffic as they are designed now.

Create small flood cells in a few places along the creek both above & below the existing pond to accommodate high water run off which creates pools/eddies for fry, demands less earthworks. Swales can be incorporated here for early season supplemental irrigation.

Use the gravel beds existing in stream. Redefine the channel through them where natural floodplain already exists. And create, augment the ‘benches’ technique with logs perpendicular to the creek to catch sediment but allow a rise for high water to flow over. (The Bigwood Atlas Book)

Thank you
Susie Michael