

Intertwine Alliance Regional Trails Advocacy Group Meeting Notes May 14, 2025

Meeting agenda:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aAB9Pc0xZ0XpxF-uZ3iTT4yhTkJQgSvh4DJLbGj_vS0/edit?tab=t.0

Advocacy notes from the group

- Federal level budget appropriations, Rails to Trails' agenda:
https://www.railstotrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Reauthorization-Agenda_FINAL-April-2025-1.pdf?utm_campaign=targeted_outreach&utm_medium=email&utm_source=05142025
- This happened DURING our meeting!
SB 179 Rec Immunity Bill just passed the House Judiciary Committee unanimously! Headed to House Floor next. Stay tuned for date, but don't hesitate to share your support with your house reps!
- Oregon Community Paths support letter you can crib from in sharing support with your Oregon state legislators for a transportation package that puts safety first and invests in trails:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1csqOR4F11-uA_DzgYrUcBZsnH5u2ImTqV-fL9rqDW7w/edit?usp=sharing
- Move Oregon Forward state transportation package priorities:
<https://www.moveoregonforward.org/>
- Trail User Focus Groups this May to inform the State Trails Plan:
<https://www.oregontrailscoalition.org/post/oregon-state-trails-plan-share-your-trail-user-experience-in-focus-groups-this-may>

Trail design & trail news from the group

- American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials - info on the new bikeway design guide here:
<https://tooledesign.com/insights/2024/12/the-new-aashto-bike-guide-is-here/>
- A short but sweet accessible hike in Vancouver made possible by their Nature Spaces program:
<https://www.wta.org/news/magazine/features/new-vancouver-trail-lowers-barriers-to-nature-trail-work>

Policymaker's Bike Rides

- The Clark County Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee is holding a Policymaker's Ride later this month!
- The Oregon Trails Coalition, with The Intertwine Alliance & others, has started planning our 2025 Policymaker's Bike Ride. It's set for Fri, Sept. 26. Location & route TBD.

Regional Trails Funding Task Force

We're starting a Regional Trails Funding Task Force — a subset of this group — to put more time and focus on specific funding solutions than quarterly meetings with a rotating cast will allow.

Concept:

1. Put all the big ideas for regional trails funding on the table, evaluate them, come to consensus on direction
2. Create strategies & timelines & campaigns to develop and champion legislation or whatever the solution is
3. Keep this larger group informed & mobilized to help, come to you for feedback on the Task Force's plans & recommendations.
4. Stay informed about and aligned with other efforts that may exist in the two states or region not represented in our Regional Trails Advocacy Group.

We'll meet monthly.

Task force members so far:

Tara Wilkinson, The Intertwine Alliance

Garlynn Woodsong, PLACE Initiative

Jim Sjulín, 40 Mile Loop

Steph Noll, Oregon Trails Coalition

Chelsea Taylor, Oregon Trails Coalition and Trailkeepers of Oregon

Interested in joining? Please email Tara@theintertwine.org asap. I'll send a Doodle Poll early next week to schedule a first meeting.

Equity Survey Results

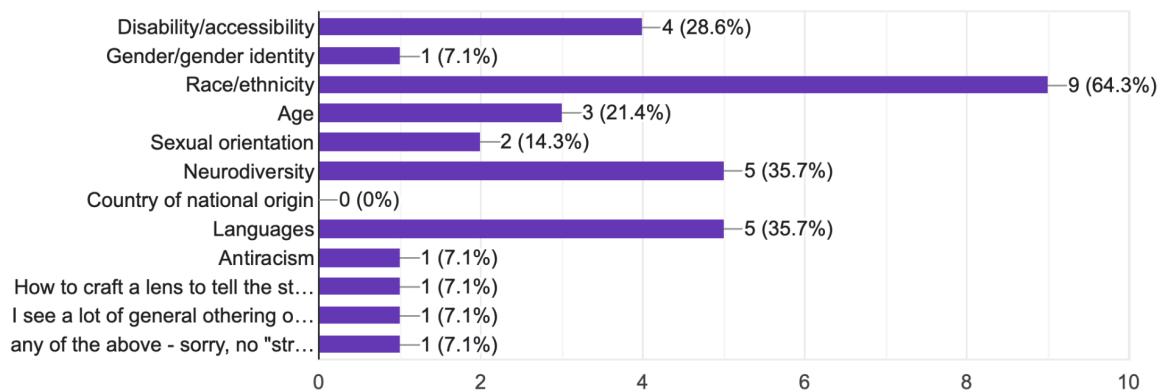
Results from Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Readiness Survey we asked all group members to take in February:

14 responses, which we reviewed

- Respondents were mix of nonprofit & govt
- Mix of administrative leadership, trails planners & other types
- Overall high to moderate level of familiarity and comfort with Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging definitions, discussions and are doing DEIB work in their own orgs.

What topics involving DEIB work do you have the strongest interest in learning more about, particularly through the lens of trails work?

14 responses



We will do some thinking on the above answer.

We're still planning a workshop, hopefully for the August session, in which take the universal definitions of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging — break into small groups – and rewrite them to apply specifically to trails work.

2020 Bi-State Regional Trails System Plan

Presentation slide deck:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18j8pp4UoGmk5H99jq6d6oW_P2GeRtPUZ/view

Group reflections:

- We need a consistent, measurable way to identify access gaps in our water trails.
- Trail desert in NE near Rocky Butte
- Let's think in terms of gaps. Identify, prioritize and highlight them.
 - Lack of I-84 bike path connection to I-205 bike pathway

- A future presentation on the upcoming Clark Co/SW WA trail updates would be a good follow up to this convo, to see future trail opportunities up there.
- Desire to include entire Coast to Gorge Trail
- There could be a somewhat "quick and easy" update to the 2010 plan - keeping those trails, adding a few key potential regional trails and discussing the challenges to creating these trails.
And maybe adding in Max's maps with discussion of what's been built.
- Feature difficult issues with railroads
- Budget & funding mechanisms so different in Oregon and Washington sides. Is reviving this plan helpful in the Interstate Bridge Replacement project strategy?