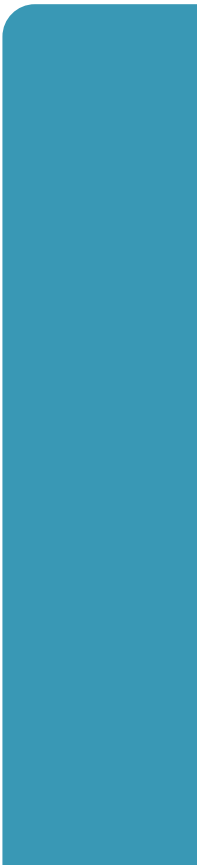


SLC Foothills Trailhead Improvements

PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT | Fall 2022



Public Lands
Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf





Project Background

In the Fall of 2022, Salt Lake City Public Lands conducted engagement to identify which new amenities to prioritize at five existing access trailhead locations: Victory Road, Bonneville Blvd (Salt Dome), 18th Ave (Hilltop Road), Popperton Park, and Emigration Trailhead.

The SLC Foothills Trailhead Improvement Project is funded separately from the 2020 Foothills Trail System Plan Project, and has undergone independent reviews, engaged in a separate consultation process, and conducted its own community engagement processes. The City has committed \$1.3M, which has been matched by a generous grant from the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation, toward infrastructure improvements at the five trailheads.

**18th Avenue will be postponed from this scope of work due to a public utilities project. The trailhead will be redesigned to align with the North Bench Pumphouse Reconstruction Project, and public engagement will follow.*

Why now?

Improvements to trailheads meet the 2020 Foothills Trail System Plan's goals of increased safety and accessibility for trail users. As Salt Lake City's population continues to grow, this project supports the greater demand for open space access, recreational opportunities, trail sustainability, and natural land conservation while also meeting goals identified in the SLC Public Lands Reimagine Nature Master Plan.



Trailhead Improvement Benefits

Increased Safety

- **Signage and Wayfinding:** Clear and informative signage helps users navigate the trail system, reducing the likelihood of getting lost and enhancing overall safety.
- **Emergency Services Access:** Well-planned trailheads facilitate easier access for emergency services in case of accidents or medical emergencies. Trailhead improvements are supported by SLC Fire, which responds to Foothills' rescue.

Improved Accessibility

- **Parking Facilities:** Adequate and well-designed parking areas make it easier for visitors to access the trailhead while reducing congestion at the trailhead and on-street parking in adjacent neighborhoods.

Meets Demand for Open Space

- **Population Growth:** Over the past 5-10 years, Public Lands has monitored trail usage at the five trailheads, revealing a consistent increase. As Salt Lake City grows, so will the demand for open space access.

Educational Opportunities

- **Educational signage:** Signage at the trailhead will inform visitors about the local ecosystem, wildlife, and how we can care for our trails and open spaces.



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Form of Engagement: Online Survey

Goal of Engagement

- Identify amenities that are most desired at the trailheads
- Use feedback to inform the designs

Participation

353 individuals completed the survey

Open Dates

September 7 – October 10, 2022

Stakeholders

- Greater Avenues Community Council
- Capitol Hill residents and Community Council
- East Bench Community Council
- Foothill Sunnyside Community Council



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Promotion of Survey and Project

General Outreach

- Positioned yard signs at trailheads and adjacent neighborhoods
- Presented at the Greater Avenues Community Council on Sept. 7 and Oct. 10, 2022
- Emailed project information to adjacent community councils by the Foothills

Public Lands Social Media

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Public Lands Newsletter

Information Booth

Set up an information table at the following locations and made surveys available with a tablet:

- Victory Road on Sept. 9 & 13, 2022
- Bonneville Blvd (Salt Dome) on Sept. 15 & 17, 2022
- 18th Avenue on Sept. 12 & 22, 2022
- Emigration Trailhead on Sept. 20 & 21, 2022
- Popperton Park on Sept. 23 & 26, 2023
- Avenues Street Fair on Sept. 10, 2022
- Yappy Hour on Sept. 8, 2022

Survey Findings

General Sentiments

- Trail users are interested in expanded parking to enhance visitor access.
- Trail users want to ensure new amenities meet the growing popularity of the trails.
- The community is supportive of infrastructure enhancements that prioritize sustainability and minimal environmental impact.
- Desire for additional safety measures and rule enforcement to maintain the trails' welcoming atmosphere.
- Suggestions include implementing traffic calming measures to improve safety for visitors around busy trailheads.

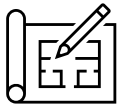
General Amenities Desired

Survey participants indicated they would like to see the following amenities at the trailheads:

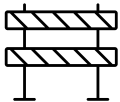
- Trash receptacles/ Dog waste bags
- Restrooms/portable restrooms
- Drinking fountains
- Trees to provide shade
- Improved signs to raise awareness about rules and pedestrian safety and offer trail maps



Project Next Steps



After the engagement was completed in 2022, the consultant utilized community feedback to develop the conceptual designs. Designs were finalized after agreements with state departments and Indigenous Organizations were reached.



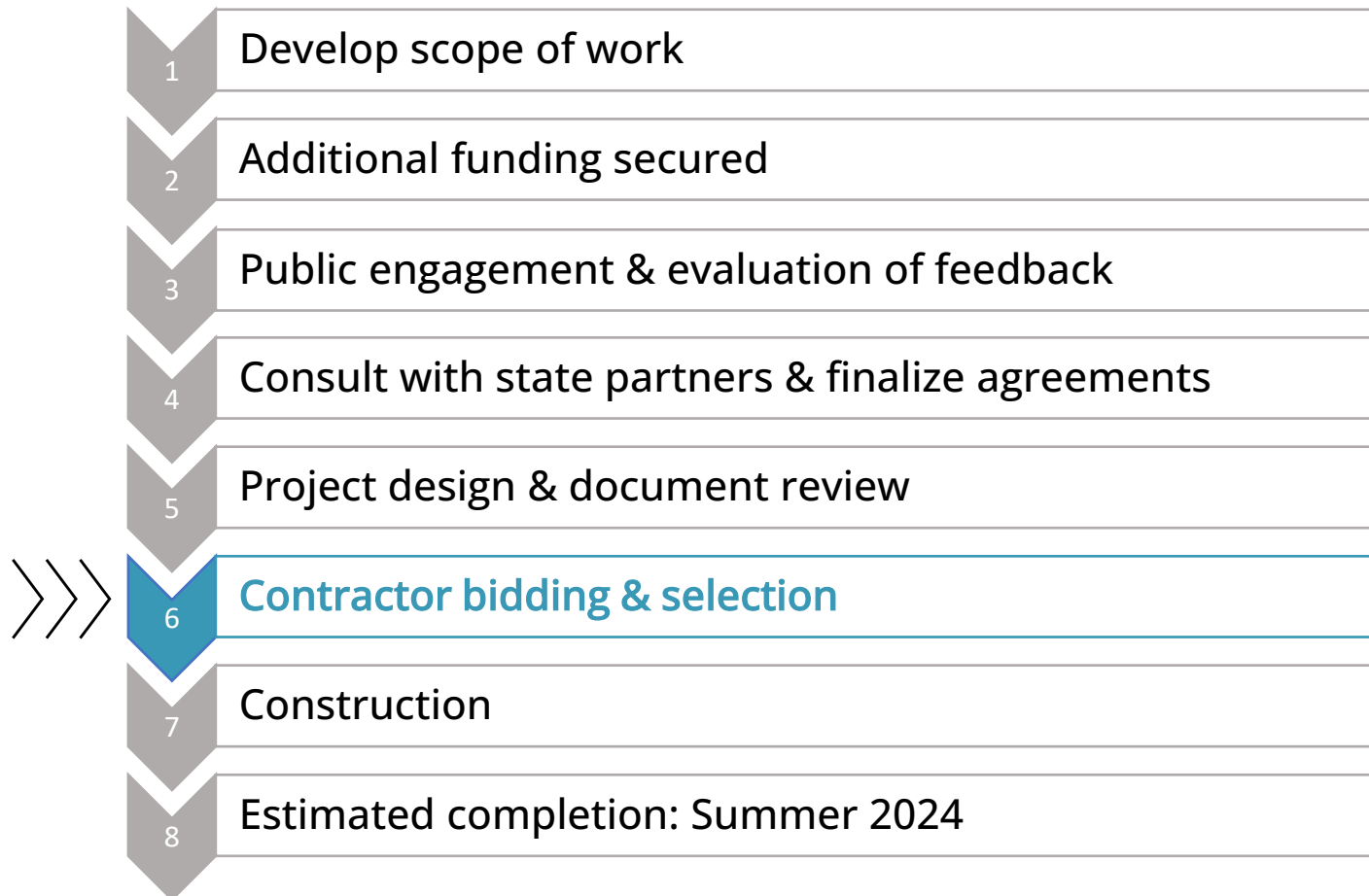
Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2024, with completion anticipated by summer 2024. The construction implementation process and timeline will be agreed upon by the City and the awarded contractor.

**18th Avenue Trailhead is expected to have new drawings and concepts created for public engagement and feedback by the fall of 2024 or 2025.*



Please be advised that during construction trailheads will have temporary closures to visitors with detours provided when possible.

Project Timeline



Learn more!



Have questions? Contact:

Troy Anderson for construction questions

Troy.Anderson4@slcgov.com

Tyler Fonarow project development questions

Tyler.Fonarow@slcgov.com



Visit the website:

https://slcparks.com/Trailheads_Foothills



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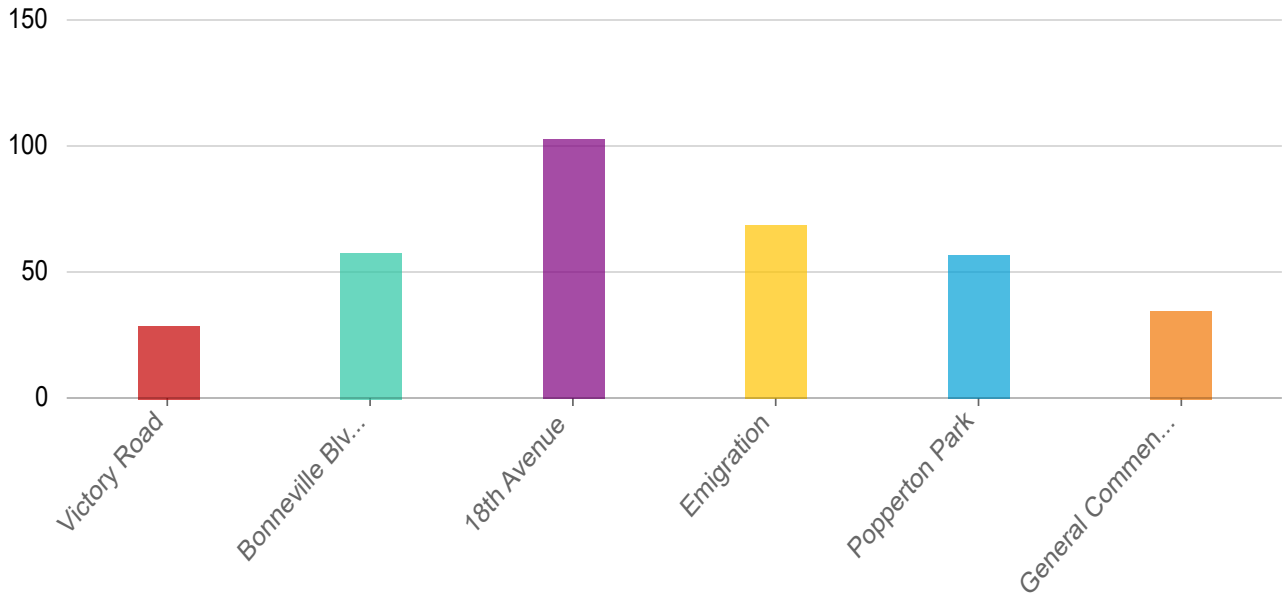
Appendix: Survey Results

Full survey results of the engagement completed in the Fall of 2022 are on the next page.



SLC Foothills Trailhead survey

Please select the trailhead for which you would like to provide feedback

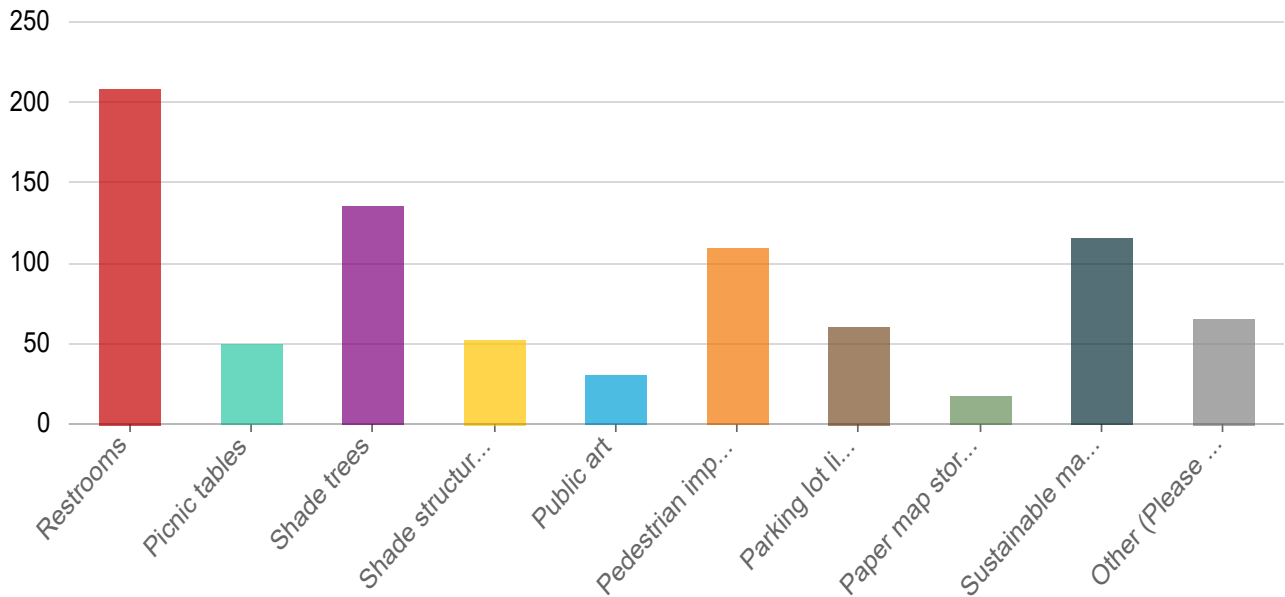


Answers	Count	Percentage
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Victory Road	29	8.22%
Bonneville Blvd	58	16.43%
18th Avenue	103	29.18%
Emigration	69	19.55%
Popperton Park	57	16.15%
General Comment	35	9.92%

Answered: 351 Skipped: 2

Please select the three amenities you would like prioritized at the trailhead

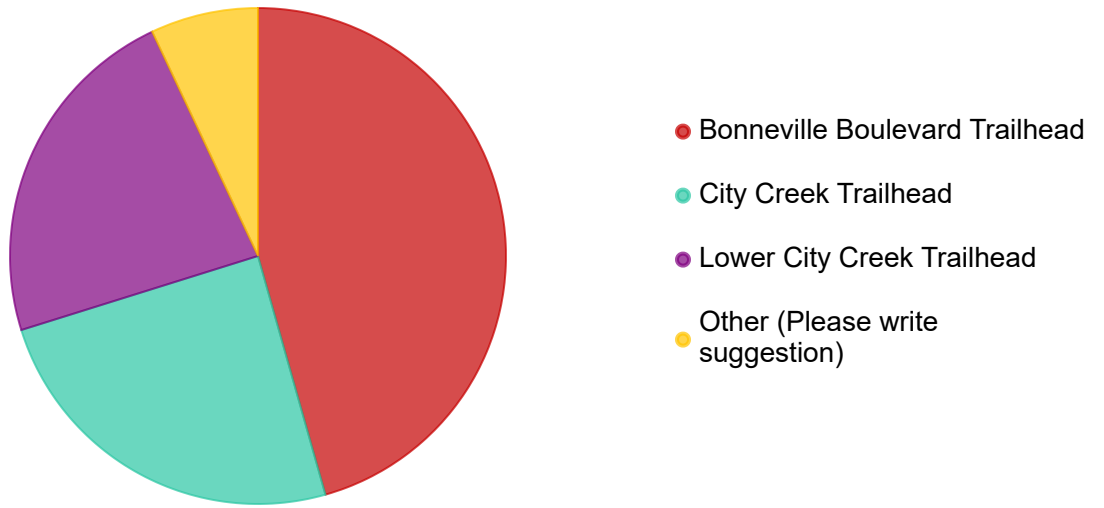


Answers **Count** **Percentage**

Answers	Count	Percentage
Restrooms	209	59.21%
Picnic tables	50	14.16%
Shade trees	136	38.53%
Shade structures	53	15.01%
Public art	31	8.78%
Pedestrian improvements adjacent to trailheads	110	31.16%
Parking lot lighting	61	17.28%
Paper map storage box	18	5.1%
Sustainable materials such as porous pavement	116	32.86%
Other (Please write your suggestions if you select other)	66	18.7%

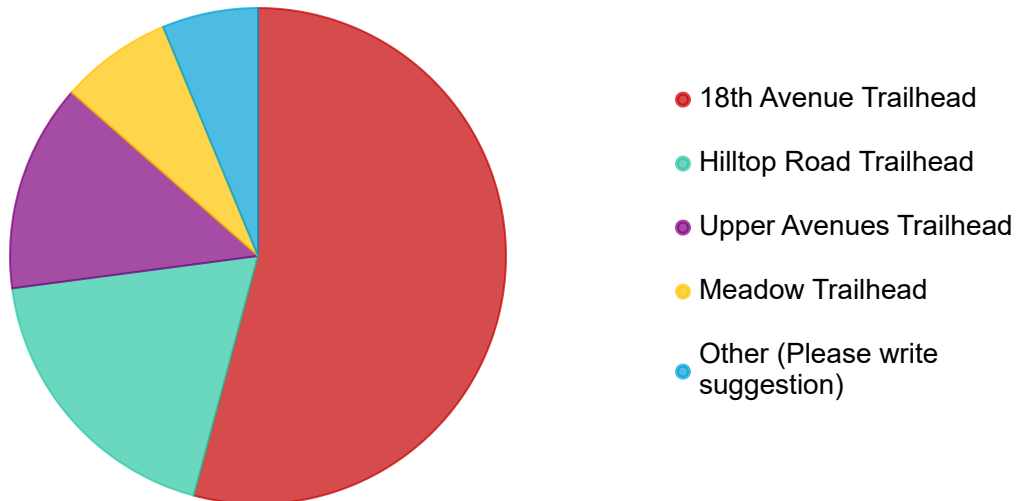
Answered: 308 Skipped: 45

Given the location of the Bonneville Boulevard trailhead, what name do you...



Answered: 57 Skipped: 296

Given the location of 18th Avenue trailhead, what name do you think would b...

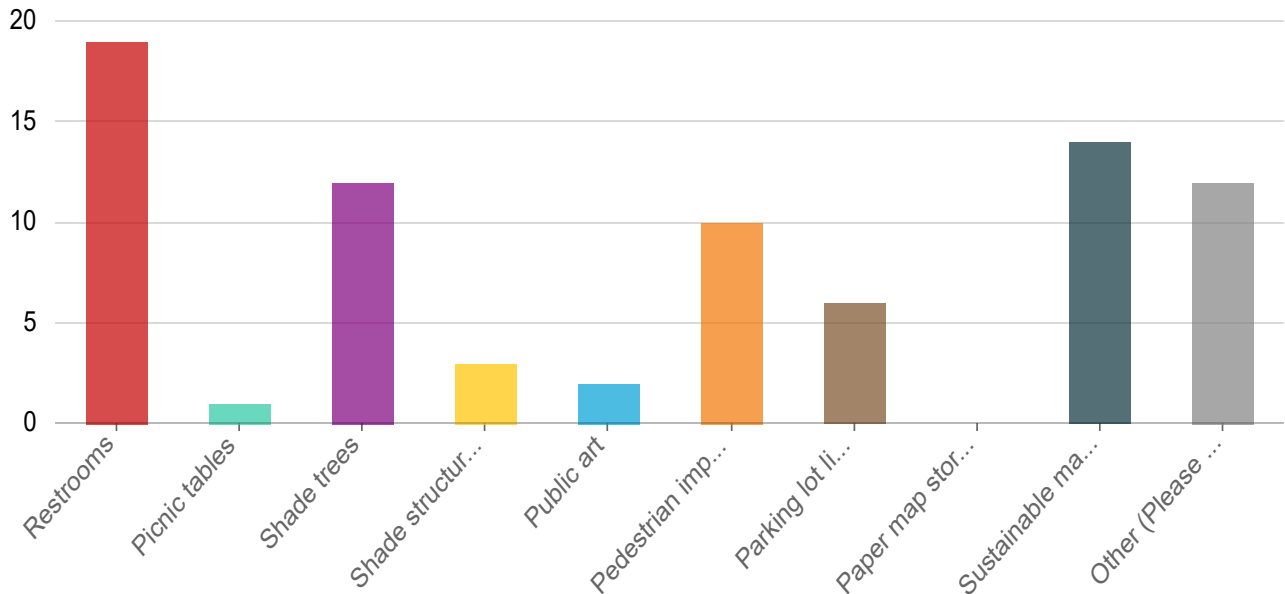


Answers **Count** **Percentage**

18th Avenue Trailhead	52	14.73%
Hilltop Road Trailhead	18	5.1%
Upper Avenues Trailhead	13	3.68%
Meadow Trailhead	7	1.98%
Other (Please write suggestion)	6	1.7%

Answered: 96 Skipped: 257

Please select the three amenities you would like prioritized at the trailheads



Answers **Count** **Percentage**

Restrooms	19	5.38%
Picnic tables	1	0.28%
Shade trees	12	3.4%
Shade structures	3	0.85%
Public art	2	0.57%

Would not like to see bathrooms there as I imagine it would increase the homeless traffic from the park and the old mine area.	1
Would be great to have some bike racks so I can bike to the trailhead instead of drive	1
why spend all that money on the parking lot instead of just turning it into a gravel parking area. the trails themselves need upkeep and people to pick up trash and bags of dog poop.	1
Why do we need new or altered trailheads? Please make sure you do not spend taxpayers money unnecessarily we do not need more hiking or biking trails unless you are willing to close driving on Bonneville both ways and provide extra parking not on 11th ave	1
What if... We didn't use the pavilion as salt storage.	1
We need traffic control that ensures cars go the correct way on Bonneville Blvd.	1
We have seen the trails widen and personal paths become more pronounced in just the last two years. Whatever can be done to manage the footprint of the "people places" would benefit all users.	1
We don't have any pump tracks in the area, it's a fantastic activity for kids and families, and everyone else!	1
We are concerned about bathrooms attracting homeless people	1
Water fill-up station	1
Water bottle filling station.	1
Victory Road needs an access route for pedestrians. Right now, the only pedestrians walking down the way are homeless. It would be safer for them and promote better access..	1
unleashed dogs @ trailhead are a nightmare	1
Twelve parking spaces is inadequate for busy weekends, unless street parking is still allowed on hilltop rd. and 18th ave.	1
try to limit noise and congestion	1
Trash service at the trailhead. Hopefully that will help a bit with dog waste 🐾 I know I hate having to carry the bags back home to throw them out.	1
Trash can	1
Traffic and speed limits in neighborhood	1

This would be a great spot for a large off leash area. It gets used that way anyways	1
This trailhead represents not just the Bonneville Shoreline, but also the 'gateway' to Emigration Canyon. So making it more than just a parking lot can impact more than just parking.	1
This trailhead is on a very busy road and there needs to be a safe way to walk to it or either enough parking space to access it	1
This trailhead definitely needs restrooms! We use that trailhead frequently and miss access to restrooms!	1
This project is creating terrible problems for our neighborhood. Traffic, speeding cars, rude bicyclists who create a danger to walkers, roadblocks on 18th Ave, etc. The parking proposal does not add adequate parking. The bike park is disruptive.	1
This is my favorite trailhead in the city and we bring our family here as often as 5x/week. Although this conceptual plan is great, we would love to see much more parking extending further east toward the cul-de-sac of the gated community east of the park.	1
This is in a residential neighborhood. Why is this being developed at all???	1
This is an extremely busy trailhead at all times of year, and there are problems with human defecation in the area. Why are there no plans for a restroom? If no sewage access is available, a pit toilet should be added.	1
There simply isn't enough parking here, and parking should be expanded as much as possible.	1
There is quite a bit of camping and homeless activity near this trailhead. I don't feel safe at night. I know I personally would love to prioritize lighting and safety changes.	1
There are too many place names with "city creek" that I think those names will get confusing.	1
There are frequently large encampments further down victory road. I'd be reticent about setting up certain amenities at this trailhead lest the encampment move into the trailhead. It'd be nice to have better pedestrian access from the capitol.	1
The trail that leads away from this trailhead has WAY too many switchbacks, and I actively avoid it for that reason. It's simply no fun to be on, and I'd rather start at the Ensign Peak, City Creek, or Wild Rose Trailheads that lead to the same place	1
The traffic coming downhill from the Federal Pointe subdivision must be controlled with traffic calming as cars often move downhill at excessive speeds through an often congested recreational area	1

The one thing that needs to be taken into account is the homeless camp a few feet away. Especially if you put restrooms at the trailhead.	1
The name should be "Hell Canyon Trailhead." In general, when a TH only supports one trail and a trail is only supported by one TH, the TH name should be the trail name, unless there's some other compelling landmark/POI.	1
The multiuse pathway to the beginning of Dry Creek needs a lot of help. Complete repavement, reduced gradient on the path going past the private neighborhood gate, and better entrance ramps.	1
The majority of the trees in the design are useless and not traffic calming. They are not native, require lots of water and are a tax payer funded give away to the gated community at the top. No one will sit under them, only have trees by picnic tables.	1
The current fields are really nice green space that is great for picnics and dogs. I wouldn't like it to become fields for sports when we already have so many in the city	1
The bike park nearby is doing great, no changes necessary there.	1
The biggest issue with this trailhead is pedestrian safety crossing Sunnyside blvd.	1
The access point to the east of the trailhead (between 2 houses) is very helpful for avoiding traffic. When I bike, hike or walk my dog I use that entrance for safer and faster access to the trails. I hope this access point stays given the limited parking	1
The 18th Ave dirt parking lot perfectly accommodates the visitors to the trails. Shade trees are needed but a paved parking lot with a disability spot to boot are not. The parking now accommodates more visitors than you could with oversized parking spots.	1
Thank you for giving off leash spaces!	1
Shade is super important at all trailheads with the Salt Lake Summers!	1
See above. Loud cars, motorcycles, and gun shots are a common issue	1
See above plus: Many days I have trouble accessing my driveway because there is so much traffic. I have people peeping in my yard and windows.	1
Salt Dome Trailhead	1
Safety feels like a concern. More kid and dog amenities would be awesome. We walk there with our kids every week.	1
Safe street crossing please!	1

Restrooms would be nice but not in my top 3	1
Restrooms should be present at all trail heads, even if they need to be pit toilets.	1
Restrooms needed!	1
Restrooms are located across the street at the Emigration creek. Other set of restrooms are at the dog park. I think no need to place more restrooms here. The picnic table is right at the entrance road. Place it into a less exposed location.	1
Reduce road speeds	1
QRcodes maps for all the trails	1
Poorly behaved off leash dogs are rampant at this location. Better enforcement of leash laws would be appreciated.	1
Please minimize infrastructure	1
Please make a loop trail so we can hike up from salt dome and loop down back to the road without having to backtrack.	1
Please include educational bulletins about trail etiquette and how to bike safely around others (stay in control and use a bell)	1
Please enhance safety of Bonneville Rd by ensuring traffic can't travel on pedestrian and bike only lane. It is very unsafe now and more traffic brought by the amenities will increase the danger.	1
Please don't make dry creek one way only with bikers getting the existing trail!!!!	1
Please don't pour a lot of money and "improvements" into a natural setting	1
Please do as many parking spots to keep cars off the side of the road.	1
Please consider adding a xeric garden with information on desert environments and creating xeric gardens. This could have a big impact on the city as well as making the "trailhead" a more beautiful place.	1
Parking should be the utmost priority for this trailhead. No other amenities really matter. Landscaping and picnic tables only take up space where there could be more parking.	1
Parking is the biggest issue followed by animal leash laws being completely disregarded.	1
Not a great place to hang out, picnic tables probably won't get used. More parking stalls.	1

Not a great place for a picnic due to the utilities adjacent to it. Please prioritize more parking stalls over picnic tables. Parking stalls are more valuable to citizens than tables.	1
No one should be using paper maps with smart phones. Add a QR code to the kiosk for a good pdf people can get. More importantly think about the entry and exit for this TH given that Sunnyside Ave can be busy and might be difficult to cross.	1
No	1
Nice trail but can be well used on weekends and homeless issue would concern me about restrooms	1
Needs speed humps and/or other speed reducing infrastructure to reduce speed and protect pedestrians.	1
Moving the dog poo trash cans or emptying them more frequently	1
Making this park more kid friendly would provide significant benefit to the surrounding community. The current structure is not functional and there is no local playground nearby for kids.	1
Make it official off leash dog area	1
Maintain a permanent map on site	1
Love what y'all do!	1
Love this trailhead; it provides such good access to tons of great trails. Off-leash dogs are a problem though, and I'd love to see more enforcement of leash laws	1
Love the bike repair station	1
Lots of break ins! Maybe cameras, lighting to deter theft	1
Like the proposed crosswalk across Sunnyside. I cross the street there all the time, and would love a real crosswalk.	1
less is more	1
LEAVE THEM ALONE!!! Stop industrializing nature and making it easier to abuse.	1
Keep the trail as close to as nature intended as possible. Prioritize conservative of natural structure and plants	1
Keep plenty of bags for dog feces at that one..	1
keep it noncommercial, except for a pub	1

Keep it as close to as nature intended as possible. Prioritize natural structure and plants	1
Jerry Garcia Amphitheatre with annual Grateful Dead festival please	1
its too crowded. don't do anything to encourage more people	1
It will be ESSENTIAL that there are excellent and easily signs indicating that Bonneville Blvd. is a one way street. This will also need to be indicated on ALL maps for the area, paper and online.	1
It should have as much parking as possible - nearby neighbors grouse about the numbers of cars parked on the street nearby.	1
Improved parking	1
I'm so excited for these! As a frequent user of these trails it will improve the space. Even more parking is always great	1
I use this on mountain bike to access the BST, it is a very awesome trail! Thank you! I like that there is a separate dedicated downhill	1
I think the Popperton trailhead seems like a great idea.	1
I think it's important to not over build the trailhead and interrupt the natural flow of the area. Minimal build up and amenities. It's a trailhead not a park per day.	1
I often use the trailhead at the hairpin turn instead since it avoids the half-mile road walk to the City Creek Trail. A connector trail below the road would be amazing.	1
I LOVE those trails	1
I love this trailhead! One thing that could be improved is that currently there is a large trash can at the trailhead and it always smells quite terrible, having that picked up more frequently would be great.	1
I love the idea of a crosswalk and traffic calming at that location.	1
I love it the way it is! Thank you for the new downhill biking only trails. Love the expansion. Please do not put a restroom. It's a great neighborhood trailhead.	1
I live near this trailhead - several of my neighbors have reported human waste in the Morris Meadow area. Restrooms should be prioritized. Enforcement of existing laws in regards to unleashed dogs and dog feces should be policed.	1
I like to keep things simple, but safe. too much infrastructure changes the character and may increase volume in a negative way.	1

I like the pedestrian crosswalk, the improved parking for more vehicles, the addition of benches, the restroom and shade trees and structure.	1
I have serious concerns with how the homeless population in the area may take advantage of this improvement and make it not worth while.	1
I have reached out to my city councilman expressing concern about pedestrian safety on bonneville blvd. Please consider speed suppression measures when making infrastructure improvements in this area.	1
I don't think this is a place people will use for picnics. It's a transitory area, not a destination. The park across the street is much better/safer.	1
I don't go often but it's an important starting point with some nice amenities already.	1
I count 11 parking spaces, not 12-20 ...	1
I am a resident on 17th Ave and visit the trail nearly every day. In the past 5-7 years the activity at the trailhead has increased exponentially. You have only allowed 255 characters here which will not address all my concerns about disruptive cars etc	1
I adore the idea about using the area for live artistic performance. Bike repair resources should be key for this trailhead given amount of cyclists. The central location and space makes it a fine site for picnic tables.	1
Honestly, I think money is better spent on the public projects. Its parking lot is rarely overrun no I don't envision people hanging out at the trail head, etc.	1
Great location for maps and restrooms... Emigration makes a fine starting and ending point	1
Given the views of downtown, this area would be used by picnickers and tourists if picnic tables, shade trees and structures, and benches were available. Be sure to think of this as a city park, not just a trail head.	1
FYI I got attacked by an off-leash dog at this location last week. So that problem still hasn't been solved. The signage needs to be less gentle---don't say "Leashed dogs are welcome", say "Dogs off-leash are forbidden."	1
Flush toilets would be great here, not pit toilets	1
Even more parking! There's already more cars than that most days.	1
Efforts to minimize overflow parking in surrounding neighborhood. Consider recreation trail passes in the future?	1

dog's leashes	1
Do we really have so much money in budget to afford something so frivolous?	1
Definitely needs better parking options	1
Crosswalk warning lights	1
Coy pond	1
Could use more parking	1
Continued maint. for seed, signs, etc.	1
Concrete is expensive, increase temperatures and that money should be spent on ev chargers to encourage more adoption to make more sustainable trail access. Don't put in bathrooms they won't be maintained and will increase OpX cost	1
Cars drive fast down bonneville Blvd and don't stop for crosswalks. Any improvements to crosswalk safety/visibility would be helpful.	1
Cars are reticent to give right of way to pedestrians on the existing crosswalk. Any improvements to safety would be appreciated.	1
Biking and pedestrian courtesy reminders of right of way. . A few other trash receptacles on trail to collect dog poop ! Some safety measures to deter car break ins.	1
Bike parking at this trailhead would be great; it's super easy to bike to but I have to drive right now.	1
Better signage and lose fencing to guide you to trail	1
Better parking and security	1
Bathrooms with cameras	1
At times this trailhead is very popular and parking space appears limited	1
As much parking as possible. There is room here to accommodate larger groups (MTB teams) and could be THE trailhead for larger groups.	1
Any trailhead improvement involving Popperton Park Way must include widening Popperton Park Way. The existing roadway is too narrow to support the proposed increased congestion.	1
Address the homeless camps nearby first, or trailhead improvements will be a waste of money.	1

Add charging spots for cars 1

(Dog) waste receptacle in parking lot to the East.. I can't tell if that's part of this design.. 1

Answered: 149 Skipped: 204

Do you have any feedback for the trailheads?

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
-----------------	--------------

wheelchair accessible restrooms and wheelchair accessible water fountains. FYI ,city creek has water spickets but they are not wheelchair accessible	1
--	---

These are great project. These trailheads aren't locations I'd imagine many people to hangout, but rather are starting points for a hike. So, I wouldn't spend much on infrastructure that is oriented around hanging out.	1
--	---

the trailhead above foothill blvd near 2100 south is in a gated community with no public access. This really rubs me wrong. Public money should not be spent for a private community.	1
---	---

Signs reminding dog owners that they need to have dogs on leash would be very useful	1
--	---

Signage at the front of the street leading to trailhead.	1
--	---

Security cameras, high visibility lots and adequate trail signage siting rules and regulations, trail info and educational info.	1
--	---

Please keep them clean.	1
-------------------------	---

please keep allowing shared use (dogs, especially). the dogs I've met up on this trail system are wonderful and so happy	1
--	---

Maximize the parking, allow for overflow parking. Do not put picnic tables which would create parking demand for a use other than using the trails.	1
---	---

Love access to dog bags and waste bins. Shade and eco friendly is a must!	1
---	---

Line to go to the living room trailhead you don't know where you're going so you just have to guess. Trail signs showing where to go and the length of the trail would be so awesome.	1
---	---