

Henningsen Lotus Park Concept Plan

Summary of Comments from August 27, 2013 Open House

Trails

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of Trails, such as:

Existing Paved Path

- Add a workout circuit to loop.
- I agree (pointing to comment: Add a workout circuit to loop.)

New Trail Connections

- Yes! Connect to State Park!
- Agree (pointing to comment: Yes! Connect to State Park!)
- Trail to 49 Bridge project and State Park.
- That would be desirable.
- Complete the natural trail from HLP to SR49 by Sierra Nevada House
- Agree (pointing to comment: Complete the natural trail from HLP to SR49 by Sierra Nevada House)
- Extend riverside trails
- Agree (pointing to comment: Complete the natural trail from HLP to SR49 by Sierra Nevada House)
- Paved trail from paved trail around field to paved trail upstream of upper parking lot along river and to upper parking lot
- Trail to Hwy 49 and Monroe Ridge Trail.
- Trail to Lotus Road from Booth area.
- Paved trail to Lotus Road from paved trail upstream of upper parking lot.
- Connect HLP to Monroe Ridge Trail.

Condition of Trails

- Better riverside trail.
- Interpretive trails = good.
- Complete river trail to SR49.

Trail User Safety

- *No comments*

Circulation

- *No comments*

Anything Else?

- I love the "nature trail" and think we could make a nature loop on the downstream part of the parcel.
- Good place for well behaved dogs.
- As opportunity presents itself, purchase more property across the river and expand the park.
- Bike lanes on Lotus Road from SR49 to Bassi Road.

- Private property – trespassing adjacent to HLP don't expand park across river please.
- Purchase more property to expand park on both sides of river.

Play Area and Sports Fields

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of Play Area and Sports Fields, such as:

Availability

- *No comments*

Condition

- Right field of softball field needs better drainage!
- Bury power lines.
- Bury the power lines!

Location

- A BMX track located, in the dirt upstream of the lawn, would be a great asset for our community. Maybe even incorporate a skateboard park. If run properly it would invite a good caliber of people to use and visit the park. I would enhance our park options for our community children.
- I am in support of bicycle terrain features to promote fitness and positive activity among all ages of community members and our out of town guests.
- Skateboard park – yes. BMX – no.
- BMX pump track would be great.
- Skate park.

Accessibility/ ADA

- Trail along river.

Other Facilities Needed

- Disc golf course would bring a great aspect to park.
- Disc golf.
- Disc golf.
- Paragliding landing (official ok ok LZ)
- Disc golf is inexpensive, and everyone can do it a course would be great.
- Disc golf and a work out circuit included with the trail system.
- Paragliding landing zone.
- Basketball court.
- Tennis court.
- Paddle tennis court.
- Bocce ball court.
- Tot lot playground.
- Spray park for kids.
- Tennis courts with lights!
- Paragliding landing and bury power lines.
- Bathroom up stream of main field.
- Paragliding landing and bury power lines.

- Workout circuit – yes!
- Kids play – splash park.
- Volleyball.
- Disk golf.

Anything Else?

- There is puncture weed by the upstream field that needs to be removed.
- Tennis courts would be a great addition to the park.
- Don't favor new facilities.
- Purchase additional property on S side of Lotus Road.
- Tennis courts!
- You don't have to pay someone to collect – just use the honor system.
- Power lines are hazard for multiple users.

River Access

Tell your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of River Access, such as:

Put-in/ Take-out

- Specific locations would help protect beached people.
- Move put-in/T.O.s (take-outs)

Beach Conditions

- A few more big sycamores closer to the river (main beach).

Safety

- Alcohol use (tubers).
- Alcohol use ban please.
- Alcohol ban – no glass for starters.
- Glass ban 100' to the river.
- No smoking at main beach area and playground and a few other locations.
- Too much alcohol drinking on weekends especially.
- Tubers need to be allowed as long as they follow safety rules: have life jackets, shoes, and containers to hold their litter!

Bank Protection/ Erosion

- Restoration and protection of our shoreline I feel should be a concern in any riverfront improvements. Cost and sustainability of these efforts are a concern of mine.
- Improvement.
- More access points for park users.
- More river viewing locations and non boating river access.
- Erosion is an important issue.

Beach Locations

- More access to locations along the river.
- More trails down to the river.

Anything Else?

- Want no blaring music = AMEN!
- Education.
- Nature interpretation in nature area/trails.

Park Operations

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of Park Operations, such as:

Fees

- Local fees less than out of area fees.
- Annual passes for rafts and kayaks.
- Annual pass for rafts and kayaks!
- Keep fees affordable for all users.
- Annual pass.
- Annual pass available at HLP.
- Annual pass for rafts and kayaks.
- Annual pass for put-in/ take-out.
- Annual pass should include kayak in one pass.
- Increase fees.
- Make everyone pay – dirt lots, etc.
- Discount on passes for local residents.
- Annual pass (combined park and boating).
- Coordinate with other agencies/NGOs to create single pass for Chili Bar, HLP, Skunk Hollow, North Beach boating/park access.

Hours of Operation

- *No comments*

Special Event Coordination

- Must be improved.
- Park is excellent as is. Do not screw up what you have.
- Code enforcement in quiet zone.
- Suggest buying dirt lot across Lotus Road so that County owns it and more special events can take place (music, kayaking) in our community.
- Encourage adult team sports.

Parking and Traffic

- Bike parking facilities (racks).
- Need better pedestrian street safety.
- Need plan for increased population of users.
- More pedestrian signs on roadway maybe turtle bumps for noise to increase driver awareness.
- Regulate ALL parking i.e. road lots to get rid of non paying people
- Speed bumps to slow passing traffic on main road.
- Bike lanes on Lotus Road from SR49 to Bassi Road or base of Lotus grade.
- Maybe specific fundraisers to create a pedestrian bridge across park road-Lotus Road is busy.

- If we bring more people to HLP we will need wider roads to handle the traffic – BAD IDEA.
- Lower speed limit to 35 MPH on Lotus Road.
- Bike Lanes
- Like the idea of a pedestrian bridge.
- I agree with creating bike lanes!

Maintenance

- More puncture vine eradication.
- Clear brush to allow more beach access.
- Get rid of goats head weed and scotch broom.

Anything Else?

- Add security cameras to park for after hours.
- Me too (pointing to comment: Add security cameras to park for after hours.)
- No alcohol!
- There is too much alcohol drinking on the weekend.
- Security to combat alcohol use in summer and evening hours.
- Have more park aids get out of booth to educate users.
- There is a lot of broken glass in the beach area. Maybe not letting people to drink in glass – such as glass beer bottles. . .
- I think we need more staff here to collect fees and supervise.

River Use

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of River Use, such as:

Swimming/ Tubing

- Education for out of town/1st time tubers.
- Yes (arrow pointing to: Education for out of town/1st time tubers); especially in regards to wearing PFDs and clear guidelines regarding interface with private property.
- They can cause numerous problems – drinking, safety, noise.
- Laws against tubing and drinking, just like laws against boating and drinking.
- Banning alcohol use on the river may be an answer. Definitely education to make tubers safe needs to happen.
- Make tubers safe needs to happen.
- Floating dock.
- Enforce alcohol/tubing/boating laws.

Kayaking

- Minimally visually invasive whitewater features I feel would greatly improve the parks reputation as an outdoor recreation destination. Any feature I would hope will be well suited to variable water flows and changing conditions.
- Perfect sport for this location.
- Interested in more discussion of a w.w. (whitewater) park.
- Ability to put slalom gates up (permanent anchor points.)

Rafting

- Love it.
- Add additional raft put-in.

Adding Whitewater Features

- Do not diminish what you have.
- Put Coloma/Lotus on map as a whitewater friendly destination.
- Discourage alteration of other parts of the river.
- Great idea, we could have an incredible whitewater festival that would rival others in the Country.
- There are already plenty of play places on the river – keep C-L a simple easy stretch for beginners and those of us who want a leisure float – there are already too many people on this stretch.
- Yes! Add a playpark! HLP has the facilities to support it. Provides year round economic benefit.
- No.

Mineral Extraction/Dredging

- No dredging- incompatible with HLP.
- Absolutely not.
- Permanently ban please.
- Check out giant mining holes downstream of main beach.
- Rec gold panning only no sluicing off tools other than pan.
- The ban on dredging is great keep it.
- No please.
- Not here! But what about an area for amateur gold panners.
- No!
- No motorized dredging – hands and pans ok but designate area. Don't allow undermining of vegetation/trees.

Anything Else?

- Taking old bridge remains out of river – any plans?
- Good trail connector to Monroe Ridge/Marshal Park.
- Remove power lines for kite flyers.
- Fishing.
- Alcohol ban please!
- Alcohol ban would be great. I know several women who will no longer use the trails due to the big drinking groups. It would also cut down on broken glass and garbage.
- Code/law enforcement needed = quiet zone!!!
- Agree (referring to: Code/law enforcement needed = quiet zone!!!)
- Alcohol ban – no glass.
- Underground utilities bisecting the park, PG&E has funding for it.

Facilities

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any aspect of Facilities, such as:

Restrooms/ Pavilion

- Proper men and women signs on both sides of doors.

- Resurface floor under men's urinals so water flows out instead of standing under urinals.
- Rodent eradication in attic.
- Inadequate: ↑ bacteria in AM(?) before water comes up
- Either post permanent sign on table occupancy rules at riverside pavilion or stop enforcing rule.
- Restrooms to be open during all regular park hours.
- Men's bathroom on river side need urinal for kids.
- Pavilion should have a sink and ceiling fans.
- Shade structure over picnic tables/ BBQs at pavilion.

Landscaping

- More shade.
- More shade trees.
- More shade please and more trees!
- Underground utilities crossing the park – use PG&E funding that is available for that purpose.

Picnic Shelter

- I'd like to see more.
- More shade somehow would be great.
- More shade would be great.
- Additional rentable pavilions would be good.
- Additional pavilions – perhaps smaller in size.
- More along river, etc.

Picnic Tables and Barbecues

- Add barbeque stands in picnic area at upper parking lot.
- Add BBQ to upstream side of big shade structure by river.

Trash Cans, Benches, Drinking Fountains

- Double up existing trash and recycling.
- Cigarette butts.

Anything Else?

- Simplify and reduce signage at entrance station.
- Add permanent signs "Fee Tickets" on ticket boxes and "Deposit Here" on tubes at fee stations at ball fields and upper paved lots.
- Signs at dirt parking lots
 1. Remove old faded signs and replace with standard park rules signs as needed
 2. Add "no overnight parking" signs to each lot.
 3. Add "fees due" sign to east trailhead parking area.
 4. Add standard park rules sign on trail from Hwy 49 bridge at park boundary
- Add standard park rules sign to upper parking lot trailhead.
- Dog park – open run area.
- Plans for more parking?
- Enforce parking restriction – must pay or have pass.
- Alcohol ban.
- Dog poop bag dispensers with poop bags.

- Permanent stage at upstream side of main field (covered).

White Water Facilities

Put a sticker in the box with the statement that best matches your views about white water facilities at HLP.

Statement	Responses
I don't want any changes made to the river or park to encourage more white water activity (but changes to the park would be okay)	9
I could support some simple in-river features but no changes to the park itself	4
I could support some simple in-river features with changes to the park to support viewing areas for special events.	13
I could support major features added to the river but no changes to the park itself.	0
I could support major features added to the river and the park to support white water events.	23
I don't know how I feel about this.	3

Everything Else

Tell us your thoughts and ideas about any other aspect of HLP:

- I am concerned about drawing even more people to a park that is already over-crowded on summer weekends.
- Buy VanNoord property (behind ball fields)
- Buy in-holding next to playground.
- Buy easement for trail to Hwy 49.
- Buy easement/land on river right for whitewater/slalom course management.
- Put power lines underground.
- Buy property that is on river adjacent to park.
- Expand the park by purchasing neighboring property.
- Add Class II bike lines on Lotus Road from SR49 to Bassi Road.
- Complete the natural hiking trail from HLP to SR49.
- Get grant funding to construct pedestrian bridge over river from HLP to BLM parcel.
- Is there any way to give local residents priority, as opposed to out of area groups?
- Need a pump track for kids of all ages.
- Bike racks.
- I have concern that the infrastructure of parking, restrooms, etc. support added activities and that there be coordinator scheduling different activities.
- I have heard vocal frustration from rafting guests and residents in relation to the "party" presence on the upstream river-left portion of the park. Some greater oversight of people's activities in lesser developed areas of HLP may make safe and comfortable access for all the users more feasible.

- If park is expanded = trigger EIR and more \$ - work with what you have in terms of infrastructure.
- Bike lanes on Louts Road.
- I would like to have the power lines buried.
- Create a CSD for area.

Comment Cards

- Bike lanes on Lotus Road from SR49 to Bassi Road.
- Complete the natural trail from HLP to SR49 (Sierra Nevada House).
- Whitewater park.
- Purchase more land – expand park.
- Buy Tom VanNoord’s; across river Dave Thomas.
- I’d like to see shore enhancements that make for better river access along the bank, but minimal in-stream changes.
- I’m sad to see that the questions on the board were all slanted one way.
- Please enforce parking in all lots.
- Ban alcohol.
- Ban bottles.
- Not in favor of altering the nature of park visually – clean up river bank etc., but nothing major.
- Parking is an issue.
- No purchase of land across river = opens up access/trespass etc., issues and \$\$ if SMUD \$ is used – think about coordinating with Chili Bar.
- C.B. (Chili Bar) is better w.w. (whitewater) park/bike park area in terms of noise, visual, etc.
- In terms of economic impact for the county I think that some whitewater play features would be a huge draw. I know at other play parks people come from miles away to enjoy. Also as a father I believe it would be a great way to introduce youth to whitewater/outdoors.
- More covered picnic areas.
- I like to see a donation box for people who don’t see an attendant. A donation box that is secured by a lock “honor system.”