

4.2. those trails included on the final MERA Non-Motorized Trail Map shall be named and/or numbered and otherwise signed in accordance with the MERA Sign plan.

5. New Trail Proposal Procedure

5.1 Submission of New Trail Proposal Any person or user group may submit a proposal for a new trail to the Committee. The proposal shall be a detailed written document containing, at a minimum, the intended uses, the allowed uses, sustainability compliance, the specific location, trail features, need for the trail, how the trail complements existing trails, funding, timeline, aerial photos, and contour maps. The Proposal shall be submitted electronically to the MERA Coordinator for distribution to the Committee.

5.2 Review of New Trail Proposal New trail proposals shall be presented to the Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting by the Proponent, who will be available to answer questions. The Committee will assess the Proposal for thoroughness, compliance to applicable standards, demonstrated need, suitability, and whether it complements the existing trail system.

5.2.a. The Committee will take action at the end of the Proposal presentation and discussion to either accept, deny, or table the Proposal.

5.3 Walk-thru of New Trail. Once the trail proposal has been reviewed and approved by the Committee, a walk-thru will be scheduled. At a minimum, the the walk-thru will be performed by the Coordinator, the trail Proponent, and a Committee representative of at least one user group which is different than the Proponent's. The walk-thru will be open to all Committee members for participation. The purpose of the walk-thru is so the Coordinator and Committee members can see the actual proposed trail laid out on the ground and have an opportunity to ask questions, identify issues, and discuss related responsibilities. A yes or no recommendation to proceed will be made by the Coordinator at the conclusion of the walk-thru.

5.3.a. Any conflicts or issues unable to be resolved during the walk-thru which result in a negative recommendation to proceed will be taken up by the Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

5.3.b. Prior to the walk-thru, the Proponent will flag, stake, or otherwise mark the intended trail route in such a fashion that the trail flow, features, MMTFs, etc., will be generally recognizable. Contour maps and/or aerial photos showing the trail route and features will also be provided by the Proponent for the walk-thru.

5.4 Approval of New Trail Construction. Upon receipt of a notice to proceed from the Coordinator, the Proponent will notify the Coordinator of estimated construction dates and timelines and be allowed to begin construction if there are no conflicts with other MERA activities in that time period.

5.5 Final Walk-thru of New Trail. The trail Proponent shall notify the Coordinator when construction is complete. The Coordinator, Proponent, and Committee user group representative(s) from the initial walk-thru, shall do a final walk-thru to assure that the trail complies with the proposal and meets the construction and maintenance standards of (3.1). If problems are found to exist, the trail Proponent shall make the necessary modifications for approval. Problems, if any, and possible solutions, will be addressed during the walk-thru and a yes or no notice of acceptance given at the conclusion of the walk-thru.

5.5.a. Any conflicts or issues unable to be resolved during the final walk-thru which result in a negative notice of acceptance will be taken up by the Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

5.6 Adoption of New Trail. When a trail has received a notice of acceptance after the final walk-thru, the Committee will review the trail and make final approval and adoption of the new trail into the MERA trail system. Upon final approval and adoption, the trail will be GPS'ed and added to the system map. MMTF's will be GPS'ed, photographed, and kept on record at the Coordinator's office.

6. Trail Numbering, Naming, Signing, Ratings

6.1. All signs on trails and at trailheads will conform to the standards set forth in the MERA Sign Plan.

6.2.

7. Trail Management

7.1. Multi-use

7.2. Conflicts

7.3. Monitoring

7.4. Information & Signing

7.5. Closures

8. Trail Adoption/Maintenance Agreements

8.1. Organizations may adopt trails or enter into a trail maintenance agreement with the County in accordance with the MERA Volunteer Plan administered by the MERA Coordinator.

8.2. All maintenance shall be performed to the sustainable standards set forth in (3.1) available at the coordinator's office.