

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Planning Department – Land Management Division

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kelly Cooper, Assembly President
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor *CP*
Max Best, Planning Director *MB*
Marcus Mueller, Land Management Officer *MM*

FROM: Bryan Taylor, Land Management Agent *BT*

DATE: March 2, 2020

RE: Ordinance 2020-06, Authorizing a Community Trail Management Agreement with Shimai Toshi Garden Trails, Inc. – Modified Trail Plan

Following the public hearing for the above ordinance on February 25, the applicant requested a modification of the trail management plan associated with the agreement. The plan was revised to remove any interpretive elements regarding the Kenai Peninsula Borough’s sister city, Akita, Japan. A copy of the revised plan is attached here.

Interpretive elements that will be included in phase one of the development authorized under the Community Trail Management Agreement will be limited to honoring WWII veterans and identification of plants within the garden.

The plaque to be placed beneath the 6-foot tall crane sculpture will read as follows:

Shimai Toshi Garden Trails are a symbol of peace, hope, and survivorship in remembrance of WWII. We hope this garden becomes a healing space for all veterans, and a place to foster harmony, peace, well-being, and education for all who visit.

100% of your donation supports future developments and maintenance of this space.

These modifications to the trail management plan do not require an amendment to the ordinance.



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Planning Department • Land Management Division

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**CTMA 2020-01
TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR PUBLIC TRAILS ON BOROUGH LAND
KPB 17.10.185**

TRAIL MANAGER:

Shimai Toshi Garden Trails, Inc.
PO Box 771
Soldotna, AK 99669

**Trail Management Plan for
“Shimai Toshi Garden Trails” on Marydale Avenue**

SUMMARY OF TRAIL MANAGEMENT

SEASONS OF TRAIL MANAGEMENT

Year Round

TRAIL WIDTH (Typical)

5 to 8 feet

TRAIL MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

Periodic Brushing/Clearing

Snow Removal

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Gravel Trails

Signs

Interpretive/Heritage Sites

GARDEN AND VEGETATION

Screening Vegetation

Trailside Vegetation

Entrance Garden (approx. 8,000sf)

TRAIL ADMINISTRATION

Scheduled Events

Grants

Entrance Gate and Signage

TRAIL ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED

Hiking

Walking/Running

OTHER FACILITIES

Rotunda Interpretive Area

Sculpture

Landscaping Boulders

USE REGULATIONS

Non-motorized (except authorized
maintenance vehicles)

No Pets

GARDEN TRAILS CONCEPT AND INTEPRETATION

The primary objectives of the garden are to provide a peaceful and contemplative community space and an indoor space for community educational events. Interpretive signs will encourage visitors to understand the garden trails as a symbol of peace, hope, and survival in remembrance of those who persevered following World War II. The site name, which will be displayed at the entrance, will be “Shimai Toshi Garden Trails.”

GARDEN TRAILS CONSTRUCTION METHODS & TIMING

STGT proposes development of the garden trails in three phases. This trail management plan includes authorization only for phase one elements of the proposed garden as provided in detail below and represented on the attached site plan (Attachment A).

Phase One Development

Phase one elements of Shimai Toshi Garden Trails include an entrance gate with unlocked doors and signage, approximately 2,700 linear feet of gravel trail system, installation of a rotunda that includes a 6-foot sculpture with an interpretive plaque, installation of an outdoor garden plot and trailside plantings, and installation of a landscaped rock hill and dry creek bed as shown on Attachment A. The landscaped rock feature will be approximately 20 feet in diameter and have water pipes installed to be utilized during phase two. Interpretive elements will be limited to plant identification throughout the garden and honoring WWII veterans.

Trail construction will involve removing existing vegetation only within the trail width corridor and proposed garden plots as shown on Attachment A. Vegetation removal, stripping and grading will be accomplished using hand tools, excavator, skid steer, and/or mulcher as necessary. The trail alignment will be field-fit based on terrain and soils to achieve a durable surface, with positive drainage, resistant to erosion. All disturbed areas will be replanted with native vegetation where needed to protect soil surface. The trail will have a typical width of 5 feet and a maximum width of 8 feet. Vegetation debris will be stockpiled and removed for firewood or burned during low fire danger conditions or incorporated into low side casting rows with incorporated topsoil.

The rotunda will be approximately 30 feet in diameter and have benches and pergola benches installed on the perimeter. The rotunda will be self-supporting and not involve subgrade foundation materials.

Phase Two Development

Phase two elements of the proposed project would include the addition of a paved parking lot and access drives providing ingress and egress from Marydale Avenue and River Watch Drive. An approximately 4,500 square-foot shallow pond situated near the parking lot adjacent to the area where a walled garden is to be constructed in

phase three. A decked walkway would be installed along the northern border of the pond. The pond would have two streams running into it, each fed by water pumped from the pond. The streams would originate at the landscaped rock hill constructed in phase one. A bridge and two culverts would be installed for stream crossings where the trails intersect the streams. A small tea house would sit along the trail near the pond.

Phase Three Development

Phase three elements of the proposed project would include an approximately 0.46-acre (20,200 square-foot) gated access area with surrounding walls. Inside the walled area would be a courtyard containing sand/rock gardens, a storage area, a multipurpose building, and restrooms. The multipurpose building would be approximately 3,200 square-feet and would function as an educational space and could be utilized for community activities. In addition to landscaping and garden areas throughout the site, several covered seating areas and sculptures would be installed.

No authorization is provided here for phase two or phase three elements of the project. Phase two elements will require additional authorization through the KPB Assembly.

Timing of Construction: Construction of phase one elements, including trails, planting of garden areas, and installation of rotunda and entrance gate will occur within the first 2-years of the agreement.

PUBLISHED RULES & REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations will be posted by sign at trail access points:

General Trail Rules and Etiquette

- Trails are closed to motorized vehicles
- No littering
- No pets on trails
- Signs requesting donations and a collection box
- Please respect private property

FEES

There are no fees proposed at this time. Donation boxes will be placed on site.

ANNUAL REPORT

The following measurements will guide annual reports submitted by April 15th each year, summarizing trail management from the period of April 1 to March 31st.

TRAIL FACILITIES- DEVELOPMENT INVENTORY:

- Linear feet of trail constructed
- Square footage of garden plots developed
- List of species of plants included within garden areas
- Scaled drawing showing property lines and improvements

USE:

- Number of School Events
- Number of Community Events
- Summer Estimated Users per Day
- Winter Estimated Users per Day
- Estimated Total Users per Year

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES:

- Number of Trail Maintenance Events or Hours
- Vegetation Treatment or Other Work Days
- Trash Removals

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:

- Grant Funds Used
- Grant Funds Applied For
- Number of Signs

CURRENT CONTACTS:

- Trail Management Plan Administrator

APPROVAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE: Original TMP Approved and Effective on Date of CTMA.