

Los Altos Hills Pathways Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 27, 2025

1. Meeting called to order at 6:34pm

In attendance in person: Nick Ernst, Mike, Richard Partridge, Marc Gurwith (quorum present).
Mike Henshaw was absent.

John Lewis as a visitor in person and potential committee member.

2. Agenda Review

Agenda was reviewed and no suggestions were made.

3. September 2025 Notes

Discussion was had. Agreement to push this agenda item to November 2025 meeting.

4. Ex Parte Communications

Nick had some *ex parte* with Bob Elson. Nick discussed New Year's event with Bob, asking if Bob had some information on past years. Bob gave Nick past 3 or 4 years of hikes. Nick also talked with Sue Welch, who had a vast database of properties for pathway development. Sue shared the spreadsheet with Nick. Nick also had a meeting with WooJae, John Chao, and Mike Schloetter as to how/when to get the next plan online. Nick also spoke with Marco; is there some way to query where project development is happening more than 900sf? This would help us identify germane property development for pathways.

5. Staff Update on pathways

- a. Summerhill Pathway. WooJae says that the Town plans on going ahead of development even without homeowner assent because we have an easement. The Town is just waiting on the county for the encroachment permit. WooJae said that the county should provide weekly updates. Some context on the pathway so far was given; the last construction was three years ago, before Mike Schloetter came on board. WooJae confirmed that once encroachment permits are settled, bidding will begin and a contractor. Nick confirmed that additional surveying wouldn't be required
- b. Magdalena. WooJae indicated that the staking and right of way is done. Michael S. walked for feasibility, but there are two sections missing right of way. Astha is working on this issue and seeing if there can be additional easements where these rights of way are missing. Progress is being made. Michael S. said that most of it is easily buildable, but the missing ROW is tricky. It is good to go from Camino Hermoso up to the top, but there are two properties missing the full five feet of ROW.
 - i. Richard asked if there could be a feature in GIS to point out where ROW is missing, which would save us time.
 - ii. Nick brought up the query to WooJae about better information for development over 900sf; the committee would like to know this.
- c. Altamont/Moody to Corbetta Lane. Mike S. had his crew up there this week to re-grade what was existing and to clean up some of the pathways and re-graded up Altamont towards the barn. There is a new project possibly that would connect Moody to the Altamont plunge. Mike showed and discussed the details of this new project and some of the decision points about

developing Altamont, particularly the pros/cons of native pathways vs. 2B. Mike S. showed the Google Maps of this particular stretch which incurred further conversations.

- d. Maple Leaf Ct to Middle Fork. WooJae said the town is working with the property owner to perform an environmental study. He said that next week WooJae will get in touch with the attorney of the property owner, who requires their attorney to be present. Richard noted that the owner has a fence outside property encroaching on the easement. WooJae said the Town is working on a code compliance letter to send to the property owner. Nick asked about timeframe for marking out the property; WooJae said that this might be as soon as next week.
- e. Old Page Mill Road to Christopher Ln. Caltrans said that they are going to do this; Bob got them out to see this. Nick said that Bob will continue to liaison with Caltrans to check on update.
- f. Benches Update. Emina is driving this. It's currently on hold; benches can't be put on pathways, but on city land.
- g. Maintenance Update. Nick commented that the refreshing and grading seems to be going well. Mike S. said that he has some of his guys doing some re-grading, but winter weather may interfere with some of his work.
 - i. Nick pointed out that Mike might do some work around erosion control engineering.
 - ii. Mike also pointed out that the Town has a form on their website to report pathways maintenance issues.

6. Property Review

WooJae indicated that the Town is still working on getting the information for all properties having > 900 sq ft additions/development passed on to the pathways committee.

7. Old Business

- a. Bikes on pathways. Nick indicated that the Town has signs for yielding/trail courtesy on order. Mike and WooJae would ask for a formal recommendation of signs. Mike S. asked for a list of locations/pathway segments that might need signs.
 - i. Elena to Natoma
 - ii. Elena to Taafe
 - iii. La Paloma to Robleda
 - iv. Natoma Oaks to Stegner

Nick made a motion to adopt the yellow sign (CA state parks). Richard seconded this motion. Unanimous vote to purchase yellow yield signs.

8. New Business

- a. NYD Hikes. Mike S. asked for a list of NYD pathways that will be walked so he can re-grade the relevant pathways.
 - i. Nick shared Bob's 2019 hikes that started at Westwind Barn
 - ii. Suggestion to get this to Mike S. by Thanksgiving. This could be at the next Pathways committee meeting.
 - iii. Short (1 mile) walk: Remain in Byrne Preserve (Richard)
 - iv. Intermediate (2.5 mile) walk: (Nick)
 - v. Long (5 mile) walk: Incorporate Ginzton and Packard Pathways (Mike)Action Item: Nick will mark these three routes and circulate it among committee members.
- b. Adding Pathways Loops to GIS

- i. Nick suggested this
- c. Recruit New Pathways Members
 - i. John Lewis was at the meeting. He was recruited by Mike. John lives on Central and went through a recent building process. He recently retired and is taking a little break from work for parenting and volunteering.

9. Presentations from the floor

None.

10. Goals for Next Work Plan (2024 edition)

- a. Nick reviewed the Jan 2024 pathways committee report. There was some discussion around the issues brought up by this.
- b. Michael brought up that it's generally 20-40% cheaper if we can do construction in house, but it is more complex and nuanced depending on specifics.
- c. Nick commented that the 2026 \$400K budget will be tied up in completing the Magdalena and Summerhill projects.
 - i. Summerhill ASAP
 - ii. Magdalena
- d. Pathways Committee should come up with three segments in lieu of these projects.
 - i. Ursula Lane connection
 - ii. Lower Altamont near El Monte was mentioned by Mike S.

11. Pathways Promotions

New Year's Day Walk – Nick will liaison with Emina based on our proposals for pathway walks.

12. Next Pathways Meeting

There was a proposal by Nick to have the next meeting on Nov 17. Seconded by Mike O; all in favor.

Next meeting agenda topic: 2025 report and 2026 proposal.

13. Motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm. All in favor.