

Lindsey Ozbolt

From: Tom Sanko <tom.sanko@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2017 9:03 AM
To: Lindsey Ozbolt
Subject: East Lake Sammamish Trail - South Sammamish B Segment

I'm a Redmond resident and frequent user of local trails, including the East Lake Sammamish Trail.

I strongly urge Sammamish government to permit King County to maintain a consistent trail width for the entire trail.

Rationale:

1. A sudden constriction to a trail can be unsafe. People are moved from the trail edge further inward, causing potential conflict with people coming behind them and possibly resulting in collisions.
2. The ELST is part of the Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC), which is being built to the same standards as the ELST: 12 feet wide, 2 foot gravel shoulders on either side, and a 1 foot buffer on either side for a total width of 18 feet. That's a small portion of the typical 100 foot right of way established by the railroads.
3. The trails in Redmond that will connect directly to the ELST, Redmond Central connector and the Bear Creek Trail, already meet the 12 foot width standard.
4. The completed ELST is projected to attract 5000-7000 trail users per day, probably more on sunny summer weekends. A trail that is consistently sized to national standards is going to enable those people to travel the length of the trail smoothly and safely.
5. The Sammamish River Trail and Burke Gilman Trails are older and constructed to the 10 foot width standard. There are daily conflicts and frequent accidents among trail users. These trails are much used and much loved but would be safer and more pleasant to use if they were just two feet wider.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tom Sanko
Tom.Sanko@gmail.com
Office (206) 414-8453
Mobile (206) 910-1916