

ONE TRUCKEE RIVER

FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

One Truckee River works to ensure a healthy, thriving, sustainable river connected to the hearts and minds of its community.

2018 SNAPSHOTS

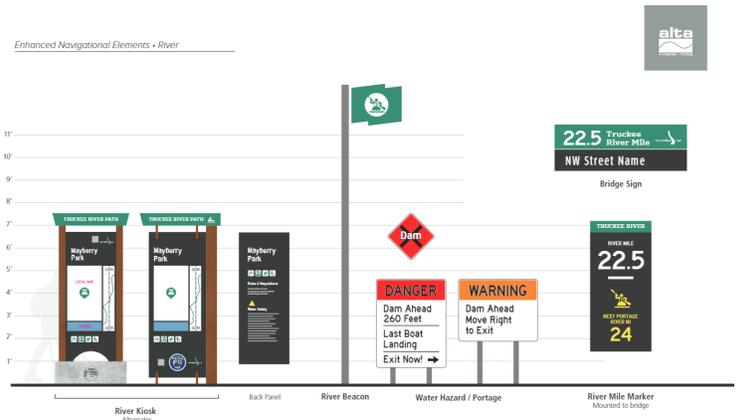
In 2018, the One Truckee River partnership is focused on four areas to ensure a healthy river connected to the Truckee Meadows community. Those areas are listed below, along with notable progress points in each group. Each group continues to meet regularly.

1. SIGNAGE PLAN & RIVER SAFETY

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 2.2.b, 2.3.f, 3.1.b, 3.4.g, 3.5.b)

Members of this group underwent a three-day design charrette at the end of September with consultant Alta Planning + Design to come up with a theme for the Truckee River Master Signage Plan. This uniform plan will ultimately extend up and down the Truckee River. For phase one, Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County staff all participated in the design charrette.

The master plan is expected to be completed by end of 2018/first thing 2019. See a sneak peek below of one of the alternatives proposed during the charrette. Comments have been submitted regarding all alternatives proposed, and the adjacent graphic does not represent the final product or design. *All information is preliminary and subject to change.*



2. FUNDING, METRICS FOR SUCCESS & STRUCTURE

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 4.1.a, 4.1.d, 4.1.e)

Multiple improvements are underway within this working group, including:

- *Proposal writing team.* This team will assist in the research and creation of proposals for grants appropriate for action items in the One Truckee River Management Plan.
- *Updated stakeholder roles.* An improved tiered system of stakeholder involvement will allow interested One Truckee River parties to fulfill roles most suitable to them.
- *Feasibility study.* OTR core staff is inviting local jurisdictions to participate in a study to determine the feasibility of a new park district that features a linear Truckee River park at its core.



WELCOME, SOPHIE & CARRIE

Our 2018-19 AmeriCorps are here! Meet Sophie and Carrie, the next generation of AmeriCorps members who are here to support One Truckee River. Sophie and Carrie will spend the next 11 months assisting with Washoe County's ArTrail along the Truckee river; putting on One Truckee River Month; and teaching classrooms about the local watershed. Plus a ton more! We're excited to have them :)

3. HOUSING & SANITATION

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 1.3.c, 2.1.e)

In the OTR Management Plan, one action item reads as follows: 1.3.c Ensure adequate public restrooms along the Truckee River. Initiate a pilot study of temporary restroom facilities in priority areas along the river corridor. Identify key locations along the river with high user activity and implement a pilot program with addition of public restrooms.

OTR's Partnership Council identified Action Item 1.3.c as a priority for 2018 because human feces is a pervasive problem along the banks of the Truckee River. A 3.5-mile stretch along the river between Barbara Bennett Park in Reno and Rock Park in Sparks lacks any public restrooms. In April of 2018, with funding secured from the Truckee River Fund and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, OTR hired its first part-time Partnership Coordinator and promoted its Outreach Coordinator to support the implementation of OTR action items. OTR's Housing and Sanitation 2018 Working Group picked up momentum and began researching options and opportunities to add more restrooms along the river.

After extensive study, the majority of the Housing and Sanitation group agreed that the Portland Loo restroom is a viable option for use along the river. Interviews with other city staff where Portland Loos are established were conducted, summarized, and shared with engaged OTR stakeholders. Proposed time lines, marketing tools, and design plans were created or collected from the City of Portland. Over the course of six months, OTR core staff had multiple conversations, group meetings, and field trips with City of Reno and City of Sparks staff and elected officials to examine restroom needs and issues. General support for the project was given by the City of Reno Downtown Business Improvement District and financial support is being explored. The Truckee River Fund is open to reviewing a proposal for funding this effort.

For multiple reasons, staff from both cities felt it was not the right time to install more restrooms along the river. The City of Reno explored investing in one new restroom, but the long-term cost to maintain the facilities was of concern. More planning efforts were discussed. Currently, OTR's Partnership Coordinator is leading the exploration of other potential avenues to install and maintain a Portland Loo.



4. STORM WATER, VEGETATION MANAGEMENT, & WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

(OTR Management Plan Action Items 1.2.a, 1.3.d)

On October 1, One Truckee River received a new grant award from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection's 319(h) funds to continue work on the Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan with contractor Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI).

Thanks to 319(h) funds received in 2017, OTR's Partnership Coordinator has met with members from the Truckee Meadows Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, City of Reno, Western Regional Water Commission, NCE (Engineering & Environmental Services), and RCI in an effort to leverage the expertise and commitment of each stakeholder increase communication and collaboration between these agencies/organizations regarding the Truckee River Watershed Management Plan. OTR's work ties back to several strategies and action items for Goal 1 of the OTR Phase 1 Management Plan: "ensure and protect water quality and ecosystem health in the Truckee River."

The Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee, comprised of representatives from Reno, Sparks and Washoe County, (and hosted/housed by the City of Reno) voted to hire NCE (consultant) to create the management plan for major tributaries feeding the Truckee River. This will in turn be incorporated into the broader Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan, which is expected to be completed two years from now.

RECENT SUCCESSES

One Truckee River received the California-Nevada Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society's 2018 Merit Award for its successful 2018 One Truckee River Month. Thank you for the nomination! We're looking forward to an even more successful 2019 OTR Month!

