



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK
P.O. BOX 129
GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA 86023-0129

January 9, 2008

D18 (GRCA 8217)

Subject: Review of Environmental Assessment for Greenway V Trail – Pipe Creek Vista to South Kaibab Trailhead

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction of phase V (Greenway V) of the Grand Canyon Greenway. The National Park Service proposes to construct a one-mile section of trail between Pipe Creek Vista and the South Kaibab Trailhead, located on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The purpose of the project is to continue implementation of a greenway trail system as envisioned in Grand Canyon National Park's 1995 General Management Plan (GMP). The GMP outlined a system of multi-use, accessible trails throughout the park that, once constructed, would encourage non-motorized modes of travel and would provide a greater opportunity for visitors to experience the resources of the park. The construction of the proposed Greenway V trail would allow for a continuous trail connection from other, already completed, phases of the Grand Canyon Greenway to the South Kaibab Trailhead.

The EA evaluates three alternatives, including a No Action alternative. The Preferred alternative (Alternative B) includes construction of a one-mile long accessible trail between Pipe Creek Vista and the South Kaibab Trailhead; redesign of Pipe Creek Vista parking to provide for pedestrian and vehicular safety; improvements to the South Kaibab Trailhead area; and designation of a one-mile long connector trail, south of Desert View Drive, for multi-modal access to Grand Canyon Village, Canyon View Information Plaza, and the Greenway III trail coming into the park from Tusayan. This connector trail would be designated as part of the Arizona Trail. The primary difference between the two action alternatives, Alternative B and Alternative C, is the parking configuration at Pipe Creek Vista. Both alternatives propose to construct additional parking in the area between the two overlooks. Alternative B proposes to designate parallel parking at each overlook whereas Alternative C would eliminate all parking in these areas.

The initiation of this planning effort was included in a June 2006 public scoping letter soliciting issues and concerns on a preliminary project proposal. Responses to these scoping efforts were used during the preparation of the enclosed EA. The National Park Service encourages your review and comment on the EA which is available online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grca> by clicking on the project name, and then scrolling to "Open for Public Comments." If you wish to submit comments on the EA we encourage you to do so online at the same web address. Comments may also be mailed to Steve Martin, Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, Attention: Greenway V, P.O. Box 129 (1 Village Loop for express mail), Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023. Comments will be accepted January 9 through February 9, 2008.

Before including your address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please call Michael Terzich, Project Manager at (928) 774-3402 or Rachel Stanton, Project Planning Leader at (928) 774-9612.

Sincerely,

/s/ Steve Martin

Steve Martin
Superintendent

Enclosure