

The background of the slide is a photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there are several yellow wildflowers in bloom. The background shows a vast, open desert with some distant mountains under a clear sky. A large, thick orange arc is superimposed over the top half of the image, framing the text below.

City of **HENDERSON**
OPEN SPACE
& TRAILS PLAN

Adopted | December 3, 2024



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Henderson enjoys a trail network that connects the community to beautiful desert landscapes. As the City grows and changes, the environment shifts, and opportunities to connect and conserve open space throughout the City may decrease. At the same time, investment is needed to continue to connect underserved communities. The 2024 Open Space & Trails Plan (OST Plan) directs the City in balancing user amenities and recreation demands with open space quality and conservation for all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. These are all important aspects of continuing the City's quality of life.

This OST Plan was driven by robust community and stakeholder engagement utilizing focus group interviews, surveys, pop-up events that targeted youth and seniors, community meetings, Council conversations, and outreach in Spanish.

Building on the 2005 Open Space & Trails Plan and integrating many recent local and regional planning efforts including the Henderson Strong Comprehensive Plan and the City of Henderson Strategic Plan, the 2024 OST Plan provides strategic direction for the future of development and open space with natural

washes, green infrastructure, sensitive lands, and trail connections as the focus. The Plan's guidance has been closely coordinated with Federal land management and regional flood control planning to protect and enhance natural washes, Desert Edges, and wildlife conservation ahead of development.

The core of this OST Plan is not just policies and standards, but detailed and implementable Catalyst Projects and non-site specific projects that will guide work plans for the next 10 years. The OST Plan outlines an Action Plan to implement key priority projects, specifically:

- Defining a Future Land Use Category specifically for Open Space
- Identifying natural wash corridors for protection in West Henderson and Eldorado Valley
- Identifying wildlife corridors
- Developing passive recreation opportunities for existing and future nature preserves and natural areas
- Connecting local and regional trail opportunities
- Expanding the Sensitive Lands and Hillside Overlay Zones and Ordinances

RESUMEN EJECUTIVO

La ciudad de Henderson disfruta de una red de senderos que conectan la comunidad con bellos paisajes desérticos. A medida que la ciudad crece y evoluciona, su entorno ambiental también cambia. A consecuencia de estos cambios, las oportunidades de conservación y de conexión de espacios abiertos naturales corren el riesgo de disminuir. Así mismo, existe la necesidad de invertir en las conexiones con comunidades marginadas. El Plan de Senderos y Espacios Abiertos (OSTP por sus siglas en inglés) del 2024 orienta a la ciudad de Henderson a balancear los establecimientos y la demanda de instalaciones recreativas de calidad, así como también sobre la conservación de espacios abiertos naturales para todo tipo de usuario independientemente de su edad, origen y capacidades físicas y mentales. Estos aspectos son muy importantes para mantener una buena calidad de vida en la ciudad.

Este Plan ha sido impulsado por una sólida participación ciudadana y de grupos comunitarios interesados por medio de entrevistas, encuestas, eventos comunitarios de jóvenes y adultos mayores, reuniones, y conversaciones con miembros del Consejo con información divulgada en español. Igualmente, este Plan fue organizado tomando en cuenta el plan original de Senderos y Espacios Abiertos del 2005 y recientes esfuerzos de planificación tanto local como regional. Estos planes incluyen el Plan Integral de Henderson (Henderson Strong Comprehensive Plan en inglés) y el Plan Estratégico de la Ciudad de Henderson (City of Henderson Strategic Plan en inglés).

El nuevo Plan de Senderos y Espacios Abiertos del 2024 proporciona una guía estratégica hacia las mejoras futuras de los espacios abiertos enfocado en los cauces naturales de agua, infraestructura ecológica, terrenos sensibles y conexiones entre senderos. La dirección de este Plan se ha coordinado estrechamente con instituciones a cargo de la administración de tierras federales y de la planificación regional del control de inundaciones, con el fin de proteger y optimizar los cauces naturales de agua, los bordes del desierto y la conservación de la vida silvestre en anticipación al desarrollo urbano.

Este Plan, además de abordar normas y criterios, también abarca detalles de proyectos catalizadores y programas factibles e implementables a corto, mediano y a largo plazo que servirán como guía de planes de trabajo en los próximos 10 años. El Plan de Senderos y Espacios Abiertos del 2024 representa un plan de acción de prioridades clave, incluyendo:

- Determinación de una categoría de uso de suelo futuro específicamente para espacios abiertos
- Identificación y protección de una red de cauces naturales de agua en las áreas del Oeste de Henderson y Valle de Eldorado
- Identificación de corredores de vida silvestre
- Desarrollo de oportunidades de recreación pasiva en reservas y áreas naturales existentes y futuras
- Oportunidades de conexión entre la red de senderos locales y regionales
- Ampliación de las áreas de zonificación designadas como Terrenos Sensibles y de Laderas

HENDERSONTM



A Place To Call Home

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Mayor and Council

Mayor Michelle Romero
Ward I – Jim Seebock
Ward II – Dan Shaw
Ward III – Carrie Cox
Ward IV – Dan H. Stewart

Planning Commission

Bill Bokelmann, Chair
Jennifer Lewis, Vice-Chair
Dave Beason, Commissioner
Rebecca Grismanauskas, Commissioner
Eric Humes, Commissioner
Steve Rice, Commissioner
Michael Brunson, Commissioner

Parks and Recreation Board

Michelle Nelson, Chair
Jordan Luedke, Member
John Holman, Member
Eldon Thomson, Member
Kurt Opsahl, Member
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KEY PROJECT PARTNERS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Clark County Regional Flood Control District (RFCD), Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), Clark County Desert Conservation Program (DCP), and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABAAS	Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards	MSHCP	Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	NAOS	Natural Area Open Space
ACS	American Community Survey	NDOT	Nevada Department of Transportation
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	OES	Office of Environmental Services
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan	OHV	Off-highway vehicle
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease	OST	Open Space and Trails
CPTED	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design	PS	Public/Semi-public
DCP	Clark County Desert Conservation Program	PW	City of Henderson Public Works Department
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
EHDES	East Henderson Desert Edge Study	RFCD	Regional Flood Control District
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	ROST	Regional Open Space and Trails
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	RTCSN	Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
GSI	Green Stormwater Infrastructure	SCORP	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
IMAs	Intensively Managed Areas	SNPLMA	Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act
ITCN	Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada	SNWA	Southern Nevada Water Authority
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design	TYCP	Ten-Year Construction Program
LID	Low-Impact Design	VVRT	Vegas Valley Rim Trail
LIMAs	Less Intensively Managed Areas		
LF	Linear Feet		
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization		