100-ACRE WOOD BIKE PARK

Frequently Asked Questions | FAQs

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LAND AND LOCATION

Where is 100-Acre Wood?

The 100-Acre Wood Bike Park is located at 2801 S. Alvernon Way near the entrance to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (DMAFB). The site is bounded on the west by Alvernon Way, on the south by Golf Links Road, on the east by Swan Road and on the north by the Roberts Neighborhood.

Who owns the property?

The (+/-) 100-acre site is owned by the United States of America and is managed by the United States Air Force. A right-of-way easement between the United States Air Force and the City of Tucson opened the site up for public use by allowing the City of Tucson to develop, operate and maintain the proposed community bike park.

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

Who made this project come true?

The 100-Acre Wood Bike Park represents 20+ years of dreaming, planning and collaboration among the City of Tucson, Pima County, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona State Parks and the bike community including: the Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists (SDMB), The Trek Foundation and countless community members who have invested in the vision of an accessible urban bike park that provides safe but challenging trails and features for riders of all ages and skill levels.

PROJECT HISTORY

What's the history of the project?

1990s-2010s: Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (now Pima County Parks and Recreation and Pima County Conservation Lands and Resources) and the City of Tucson incorporated the idea of an urban bike park into long-range planning documents and assessed site suitability.

2014: The City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department (with the support of Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, the United States Air Force, and the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department) began the master planning process for 100-Acre Wood. Local healthcare organizations contributed significantly to the effort with monetary grants that enabled the initiation of the planning and development effort. Grants were received from Banner/University of Arizona Medical Center, Carondelet Heath Network, and Tucson Medical Center contributed significantly to the effort.

2016: The United States Air Force and the Planning Department of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base worked with the City to execute a lease agreement recognizing the community benefits of the project.

2018: The 100-Acre Wood Community Bicycle Park Master Plan was adopted.

Early 2019: Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists and Hilride advanced additional planning followed by on the ground improvements in 2019.

Early 2020: The new trail enhancements and features quickly gained popularity but their growing use came to a halt in early-2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic hit. People were no longer out and about on site and the lack of activity combined with increasing numbers of people experiencing homelessness and settling at the site led to the eventual closure of the bike park.

Present Day: Recognizing the ongoing need to provide accessible opportunities for folks to recreate and get outside within the city, community partners have reinvested in the future of the bike park and in 2024, new grant funding and foundation support was secured to reactivate the site with new trails and features and reopen it for the community.

PROJECT FUNDING + TIMELINE

How much funding is available for the bike park?

~\$340,000 has been allocated for design and construction of trails and bike features at 100-Acre Wood. The project is supported through funding from an Arizona State Parks Heritage Grant, the Trek Foundation, Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists, Athletic Brewing as well as numerous community donors.

What is the timeline for the project?

The project is currently in the community engagement, design and decommissioning phase. Construction is anticipated to start in the fall of 2025.

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

What outreach has been done for 100-Acre Wood?

As part of the master planning process, seven (7) stakeholder meetings were held with representatives from Tucson Parks and Recreation, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation, Tucson Mayor's office, Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists, International Mountain Bike Association and Tucson Department of Transportation. A community meeting was held on July 20, 2017, and was attended by 39 people. Tucson Mayor and Council adopted the master plan in July 2018. The master plan was funded completely from private funding by the three major medical providers in Tucson: Banner Health Care, Carondelet Health Care and Tucson Medical Center. Since 2018 when SDMB began fundraising to help fund the trails, 53 individuals donated \$13,342.48 to build the trails. In addition, SDMB has received two other grants: \$1,000 from Long Cares (Long Realty) and \$20,000 from Athletic Brewing Company.

How did you distribute meeting flyers for the current phase of community engagement + design?

To notify the community about the first public meeting, Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) was used to deliver bilingual (English/ Spanish) flyers to neighboring zip codes, and the event was promoted via the Parks and Recreation Department's social medial channels, Nextdoor and on the project webpage. Flyers were also emailed to community-based organizations and neighborhood groups.

How do you distribute surveys?

Surveys are advertised in the bilingual flyers and signs posted in nearby parks, promoted during events and linked on the project webpage.

Have you hosted or participated in any stakeholder meetings for this phase of park design?

Parks and Recreation staff have met with representatives from Davis-Monthan Airforce Base, Pima County, internal City Departments and members of the biking community to help inform the project parameters and vision. The first public meeting was held virtually on January 30, 2025, via Teams Webinar. A recording of the meeting is

available on the project webpage for those who were unable to attend in person, and an online survey is circulating until February 20, 2025, to solicit feedback on the project.

PARK MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

When will the park be open?

The park will be open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. Parks may adjust hours in the summer to extend the riding time and make use of additional daylight.

Who can use the park?

Parks are for everyone, and 100-Acre Wood Bike Park is no exception. Features will be designed to match the priorities of residents of all ages, abilities and interests. Visitors are expected to adhere to park guidelines and City policies, which will be posted on signs throughout the park.

How will the bike park and features be maintained?

The bike park will be maintained through a unique partnership between the City of Tucson's Parks and Recreation Department and Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists (SDMB).

City maintenance duties at 100-Acre Wood will include site tidy-up, emptying trash, tree and shrub maintenance, debris removal, graffiti abatement, protection of natural and cultural resources and enforcement of all Parks and Recreation codes and policies.

SDMB will maintain all bike trails and associated features.

ACCESS + PARKING

How can I access 100-Acre Wood Bike Park?

Bicyclists and pedestrians can access the site from the Aviation Bike Path which extends along the southern boundary of the site. This pathway connects to existing walkways along Swan Road near the northeast corner of the site. The Aviation Bike Path also connects to "The Loop" multi-use path via the Palo Verde Greenway/ Tucson Diversion Channel Path to the Julian Wash Greenway segment of "The Loop."

Will on-site parking be provided?

On-site parking will not be provided at this time and is not permitted on Golf Links Road or Alvernon Way. Nearby parking options include the Veteran's Memorial Plaza to the west, or the Todd M. Harris Sports Complex and Freedom Park Center to the east which both connect to 100-Acre Wood via the Aviation Bike Path.

PARK AMENITIES

What amenities will be provided at 100-Acre Wood Bike Park?

Amenities for the park are to be determined through the design process but may include interpretive signage, benches, trash cans and portable restrooms for special events. Parking, water fountains and restrooms will be accessible at nearby Freedom Park Center and the Todd M. Harris Sports Complex.

HOUSING FIRST APPROACH

What is the Housing First model?

The City of Tucson uses the Housing First model, a client-centered, equitable, and collaborative approach to homelessness resolution. The focus is on providing permanent housing to individuals experiencing homelessness without preconditions such as sobriety or employment.

While Housing First is non-punitive, accountability can mean ensuring participants engage in voluntary services by fostering trust and motivation, not coercion. The focus remains on housing stability and supporting individuals in a dignified way, while holding systems, staff, and participants accountable to shared goals. Incorporating accountability ensures the program maintains effectiveness, fairness, and long-term sustainability.

How will you address encampments at 100-Acre Wood Bike Park?

The City developed an *Encampment Resolution Protocol* to provide overall guidance and vision for approaching and triaging resources for encampment resolutions. It was developed with various departments with input from the City of Tucson and Pima County. The protocol intends to put the work in the right hands when working with unsheltered persons, addresses the need of the community, and outlines the roles of the departments and community-based organizations.

The Encampment Resolution Protocol aims to address homelessness through a service-first approach. This means prioritizing engagement and offering housing options and support services before resolving an encampment site. Balancing the needs of the unsheltered population with community concerns regarding safety, property, and the environment is paramount.

At 100-Acre Wood, the City has been working on remediation and decommissioning of encampments in zones. When a zone is scheduled for decommissioning, representatives from Housing First collaborate with social service agencies to offer humanitarian aid and shelter services to those who will accept them. The City has been following this process to offer aid and services as part of our census gatherings on site.

What outreach has been completed at 100-Acre Wood Bike Park to date?

The City has been actively involved at 100-Acre Wood Bike Park for a total of approximately **1,785 hours** to date. The City team, including Encampment Protocol, CORE, TPD ODM and EGSD were out monthly in 2024 conducting census gathering, outreach (shelter, detox, social service help) and environmental service pick-up. Partner agencies (e.g. CBI, Primavera, Our Family Services, Pima County Health, CODAC, Hope Inc, Community Medical Services, El Rio, the VA and La Frontera) have complemented outreach with additional visits to provide social services (medical, shelter, substance use, etc).

What is the timeline for decommissioning encampments?

When the City is preparing to decommission a zone at 100-Acre Wood Bike Park we provide notice well in advance through on the ground-outreach. The exact timeline for decommissioning remaining zones will depend on the construction timeline. Once the project goes out to bid (anticipated in Summer 2025), Parks will coordinate carefully with Housing First to initiate the Encampment Resolution Protocol. Notice will be no less than 72 hours but could be up to 14 days to accommodate the size and scope of the park.

What organizations and agencies are involved in the Encampment Resolution Protocol?

The protocol is a collaborative effort involving various City of Tucson departments, Pima County departments, and community-based organizations, all working together to provide services and support to unsheltered individuals and resolve encampments effectively. Organizations working on this effort include: City of Tucson Manager's Office

Pima County Administrator's Office City of Tucson Mayor and Council **Pima County Board of Supervisors** Pima County Office of Housing Opportunities and Homeless Solutions City of Tucson Housing and Community Development Pima County Community Workforce Development Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness • Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) **Pima County Public Health Department** City of Tucson Police Department City of Tucson Parks Department **City of Tucson Fire Department** City of Tucson Environmental and General Services Department City of Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility City of Tucson Courts City of Tucson Attorney's Office City of Tucson Public Safety Communications Department City of Tucson Informational Technology Department **Pima County Justice Services Department Pima County Parks and Recreation** Pima County Flood Control Pima County Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Management for City of Tucson & Pima County Homeless outreach providers, including peer specialists **Emergency shelter providers** Transitional housing providers Permanent housing providers Public housing authorities

External Outreach Partners for substance misuse, behavioral health, mental health resources

What resources are provided to unsheltered persons?

Housing Navigation Emergency Shelter Medical service needs Mental Health support Justice Service help Food/Nutrition SNAP benefits SOAR applications for SSI/SSDI assistance

How can I report future encampments?

Constituents concerned about residents living in an encampment may report the location via the website www.reportencampments.tucsonaz.gov, by calling 311, or by scanning the QR code provided below.



How will the City ensure that new encampments don't develop on site?

The City will follow the Encampment Protocol discussed above and use a coordinated, interdepartmental response among Parks and Recreation, Housing First, Environmental Services and the Tucson Police Department to address new or developing encampments on site. Community members are encouraged to use the channels shared above to report potential encampment activity at 100-Acre Wood. In addition, Parks has a new dashboard that enables park supervisors to receive reports on encampments, address the concerns and if needed have outreach and clean-up remediation posted and completed in a more expedient time frame if the Director of Parks and Recreation determines that flagged activities demonstrate an improper use of the park.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

How will you ensure safety and security at the park?

Safety and security are top priorities for the City of Tucson and project partners. We strive to be a good neighbor, and we work closely with local law enforcement and emergency personnel. Safety guidelines and contact information will be posted on signs throughout the park and the City will maintain a presence on the site through regularly scheduled maintenance and partner programming. We'll coordinate closely with the Tucson Police Department throughout the design process to make sure the park facilitates future patrols, and once the park is open we encourage all park users to report concerns to park staff by calling 311 or using the mobile 311 app, contacting the <u>Tucson Police Department</u> and/or 911 in the case of an emergency.

CONTACT

How can I stay informed?

If you would like to receive e-mail updates about the project, please contact Capital Planning + Development Project Manager Stephanie Kopplin: <u>stephanie.kopplin@tucsonaz.gov</u>. Parks and Recreation will also post design concepts, survey links, survey results and timeline updates to the project webpage: <u>https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/100-Acre-Wood-Bike-Park</u>