



ForeverGreen Trails

Connecting Pierce County Communities with Trails

2025 FGT Annual Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Location: Puyallup Activity Center

Note: A [video recording of the meeting and all presentation slides](#) are available online.

President John Palmer called the Annual Meeting to order at 4:00 PM

Welcome

- John thanked our sponsors, reviewed the agenda and introduced WSDOT staff.

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[As this presentation was not part of our official business, no minutes for it are provided, however the entire slide presentation is available on our website and audience questions were included in the meeting recording (see above link).]

Board Elections

- Larry Leveen, Executive Director, reviewed the requirements and rules about membership and voting
- A slate of candidates was presented to attendees (below)
- Additional nominations were solicited from the floor, but none were offered
- Nominees were asked to speak about their relevant interest/experience

Fred Johnston made a motion to elect the slate of candidates (below).
Cody Geddes seconded the motion.

The attendees unanimously elected the slate of candidates as follows:

Candidate	Member Type	Notes
Henry Smith	Jurisdiction	Parks Tacoma, former RCO Grant Manager
Bob Myrick	Nonprofit	Returning Board Member - Tacoma WA Bicycle Club
	Nonprofit	
Bry Osmonson	Business/Individual	Advocate, WA State Parks Scenic Bikeways Program
Ryan Moriarty	Business/Individual	Advocate, former Tacoma Farmer's Market board member

ForeverGreen Vision Statement:

All of Pierce County's communities are connected by a system of trails, sidewalks, bike lanes, and local pathways that provides for safe, convenient, non-motorized travel and recreation for all ages and abilities. Residents and visitors use, value, and care for this network because it contributes to their health, wellbeing, livability, and local economies.

ForeverGreen Mission Statement:

ForeverGreen Trails supports a system of trails throughout Pierce County, WA, via education, advocacy, promotion, collaboration, and stewardship.

The vacant Nonprofit member position was noted and staff asked for input on groups to solicit to get involved in FGT's board.

Draft Work Plan

- The 2025 Work Plan was presented to the attendees. Feedback or comment on the Long-Term Goals and Objectives was solicited to inform next year's plan, however there was no feedback. There was one comment about how these relate to the organization's Mission and Vision (see footer on first page). Staff answered that these provide a pathway to achieve those statements and are progressively more granular. They are detailed further in the final staff and committee work plan with actions, though that content is being left to the board.

Advocacy Updates

- The **Draft Pierce County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan** is out for public comment with a December 5, 2025, deadline. This plan is updated every six years and one chapter of it contains the Regional Trails Plan, which lays out the planned investments over the next 10+ years. FGT will provide detailed comments on this to County Parks staff and will be involved throughout the rest of the process through Council adoption, anticipated in either Q1 or early Q2, 2026. The online open house, public comment, and a signup for notification updates regarding the plan are at: <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/PROS>.
- **WA Legislature:** Staff noted that they expect a bill dealing with electric motorcycles (e-motos) to come up. They are in touch with bike advocacy groups to make sure that any bill does not adversely affect e-bikes. Staff was unsure if the Safe Systems Approach bill will resurface. It was mostly a very good bill that clarified many things related to trails and active mobility. One provision regarding an exemption from Complete Streets on state facilities was of concern due to potential impact on less able people. FGT staff will be meeting with WSDOT staff to discuss this bill. Staff expect a bill to lower WA's blood alcohol limit for drivers to come back.
- **Bike Lobby Day and Parks and Great Outdoors Lobby Day and Legislative Reception:** Dates and signup information for these events and their importance to support good policy and funding for active recreation and mobility were shared.
- **HR 4924 — "Rails To Trails Landowner Rights Act":** This is a very bad bill that will prevent future railbanking of disused railroad corridors and likely destroy all existing railbanked corridors, resulting in the loss of hundreds of miles of trails throughout the country that have been developed over decades at great expense. Attendees were urged to contact Rep. Emily Randall's (WA-06) office to urge her to oppose this bill since she is a member of the House Natural Resources Committee where the bill will be heard. The main Congressional switchboard phone # is (202) 224-3121.

Project Updates

- **Scott Pierson-Cushman Trail Connection:** Larry provided slides and a description of preliminary improvements to 24th Street NW between these trails made by WSDOT. The agency plans to come back and add signage and some

vertical elements to better denote the crossing. FGT staff was unsure if any hard curbing for the pedestrian crossing islands will be included.

- **Yelm Prairie Line Trail Phase 2B:** Yelm is currently constructing Phase 2B of the trail, which will extend it across the Nisqually River into Pierce County. They expect to be done in December of 2025. FGT staff are meeting with BNSF about the need to acquire the final mile of corridor needed.
- **Puyallup Riverwalk Trail Fund Drive:** Staff updated the group about this important fund drive. It is currently at \$10,000 of its \$15,000 goal. Its location and connection and importance to the regional trail system was also shared. Online donation resources were provided to the groups.

Other Member Questions or Feedback

- **Can we do more events to activate trails?** Yes, with more trails and more connections it makes it easier to organize events that can even generate revenue in addition to energy and political support.
- **It would be great to extend the Foothills Trail to be long enough for a marathon qualifier event:** FGT and Foothills are coordinating on the extension of the trail NE of Enumclaw as well as pedestrian crossing improvements to make it easier and safer to access the trail.
- **Some Trails in Idaho have advanced sensing technology to detect trail users and automatically signal drivers at road crossings.**
- **Foothills Trail crossings in Orting need improvement:** FGT (and others) are participating in Orting's Safe Streets for All plan and can highlight these.
- **The Foothills Trail crossing at Pioneer is dangerous:** Pierce County Parks staff said that a crossing improvement project there is imminent though they needed to check on what is causing a delay in its implementation.

The 2025 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM