

MOTION NO. 5358

1
2 A MOTION approving an interim map
3 to guide trail development in the
4 East Sammamish Communities Plan area
5 until the East Sammamish Community Plan
6 is adopted by the King County Council.

7 WHEREAS, the East Sammamish Community Planning area is
8 undergoing rapid development change, and

9 WHEREAS, approximately 80 miles of off-road trails,
10 15 stables, 1000 horses, and numerous horse and riding clubs exist
11 in the area, and

12 WHEREAS, the progress of development is encroaching on the
13 existing system of natural trails, and

14 WHEREAS, a trail element proposal has been presented to and
15 discussed by the King County Council Panel considering the East
16 Sammamish Community Plan, trail users, and property owners, and

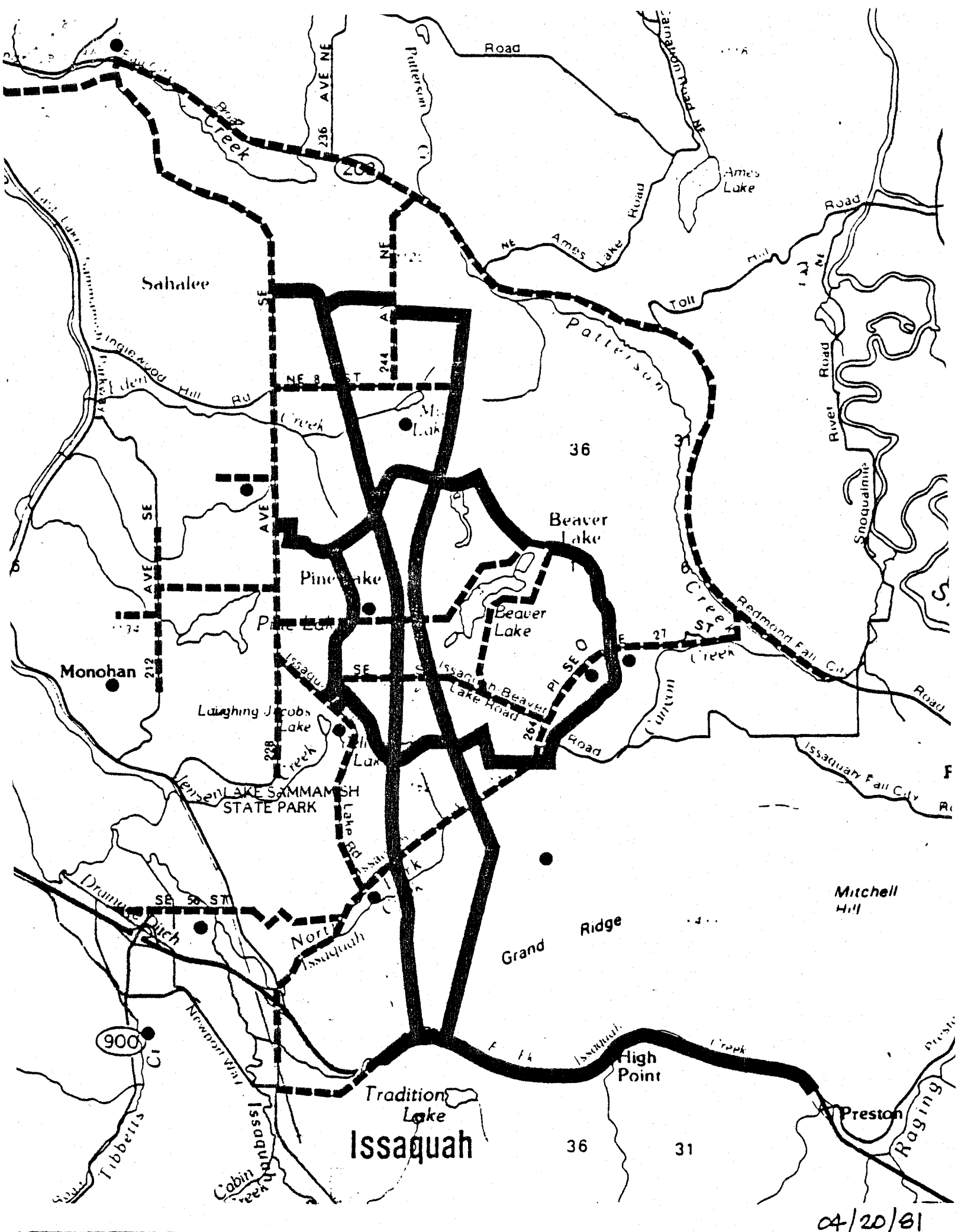
17 WHEREAS, the trail element consists of regional trails and
18 road shoulders which would be the responsibility of King County
19 and local trails which would be the sole responsibility of
20 private property owners and trail users, and

21 WHEREAS, the Department of Planning and Community Development
22 is in the process of completing a draft supplemental environmental
23 impact statement on the East Sammamish Communities Plan, to
24 include trails, and

25 WHEREAS, no plan or map currently exists which sets forth
26 a detailed description of trails in the area, and

27 WHEREAS, trails recognized on such an interim map would serve
28 to implement and further county comprehensive plan open space
29 goals and policies in the consideration of development
30 proposals prior to the adoption of the East Sammamish
31 Community Plan;

32 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
33



04/20/81

Figure 3
EAST SAMMAMISH TRAIL ELEMENT
 ("LOCAL" TRAILS NOT SHOWN)

- REGIONAL TRAILS
- - - - -** ROAD SHOULDERS
- STABLES

8
5358

EAST SAMMAMISH COMMUNITIES PLAN

TRAIL ELEMENT

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I. NEED FOR TRAILS

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I. TRAIL NEED IN EAST SAMMAMISH COMMUNITIES

A. Overall Trail Goal

To encourage the development of a system of pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trails for recreational and travel use.

B. Needs

1. Community interest - latest population and housing counts indicate there are 11,800 people and 4200 housing units in the East Sammamish Communities. Of this population, there are:
 - a. about 1,000 horses owned or stabled,
 - b. 15 public and private stables exist, and
 - c. two 4-H horse clubs and other riding clubs
 - d. A petition with 80 signatures favoring the preservation of trails has been received by the Panel.
 - e. Developers have indicated a willingness to provide trails.
2. Environment
 - a. The area is largely rural in character and undeveloped.
 - b. A natural trail system of about 80 miles in length currently exists.
 - c. The trails are used and maintained by residents of the area.
3. Functional - trails would serve as a:
 - a. Density buffer (open space).
 - b. Natural amenity to tone down compacts of growth.
 - c. Separation of non-motorized travel (walking/horseback riding from auto traffic).
 - d. Recreational element.
 - e. Low energy intensive form of travel.
4. Opportunity exists to preserve existing trail system.

C. Current Trail Problem

There is no clear process or plan for establishing a detailed system of trails.

The current process is done on a piece-meal basis and is poorly defined.

II. TRAILS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS

The three areas closest to the East Sammamish Communities- Redmond, Issaquah, and Bellevue, are all examining the need for and development of trail systems.

A. Redmond

1. What they are doing?

- a. A bikeway and equestrian trail plan has been adopted by the City (Nov., 1978), focusing around the outer perimeter of the developed areas
- b. Trails include the use of Puget Power's powerline, road shoulders, and some off-road trails
- c. Problems relating to trails include lack of money for acquisition and weak implementation tools
- d. Most trail acquisition is done via the development process
- e. Need for establishing stronger trail acquisition/development policies and implementation

2. Relation to East Sammamish trails

- a. Trail through Marymoor Park connecting to remainder of Redmond
- b. Trail along 196th Ave. NE. and Evans Creek to connect north

B. Issaquah

1. What they are doing?

- a. The City has just begun to develop a trail system plan for bicyclists and equestrians
- b. Indicated a willingness to work with the County in tying in trails

2. Relation to East Sammamish trails

- a. Trail connection along I-90 (hiking, bicycling, equestrian)
- b. Trail connection along East Lake Sammamish Pkwy. and Front St. into downtown Issaquah
- c. Trail connection to Lake Sammamish State Park

c. Bellevue

III. PROPOSED TRAIL ELEMENT

A. 1978 Communities Plan Trails (~~SEE MAP 1~~)

The 1978 Plan includes a trail element for pedestrians, bicyclists, and horseback riders.

1. Pedestrians - focus on connecting residential areas with major activity centers, primarily using walkways along roads. Also includes major regional trails along the Pipeline, Powerline, I-90, and the Renton-Patterson Creek trail.
2. Bicycles - trails follow the shoulder along major roads, including East Lake Sammamish Parkway Redmond-Fall City Road, Sahalee Way/228th/S.E. 43rd, Inglewood Hill Road, and Issaquah-Pine Lake/Vaughn Hill Road.
3. Equestrians - uses would occur along the shoulders of roads and on five off road trails:
 - a. Northwest Gas Pipeline,
 - b. Puget Power Powerline,
 - c. I-90 (Issaquah to High Point),
 - d. the Grand Ridge Park area, and
 - e. the Renton - Patterson Creek corridor.

B. Urban Trails Plan, 1981 (see attached map) ~~MAP 2~~

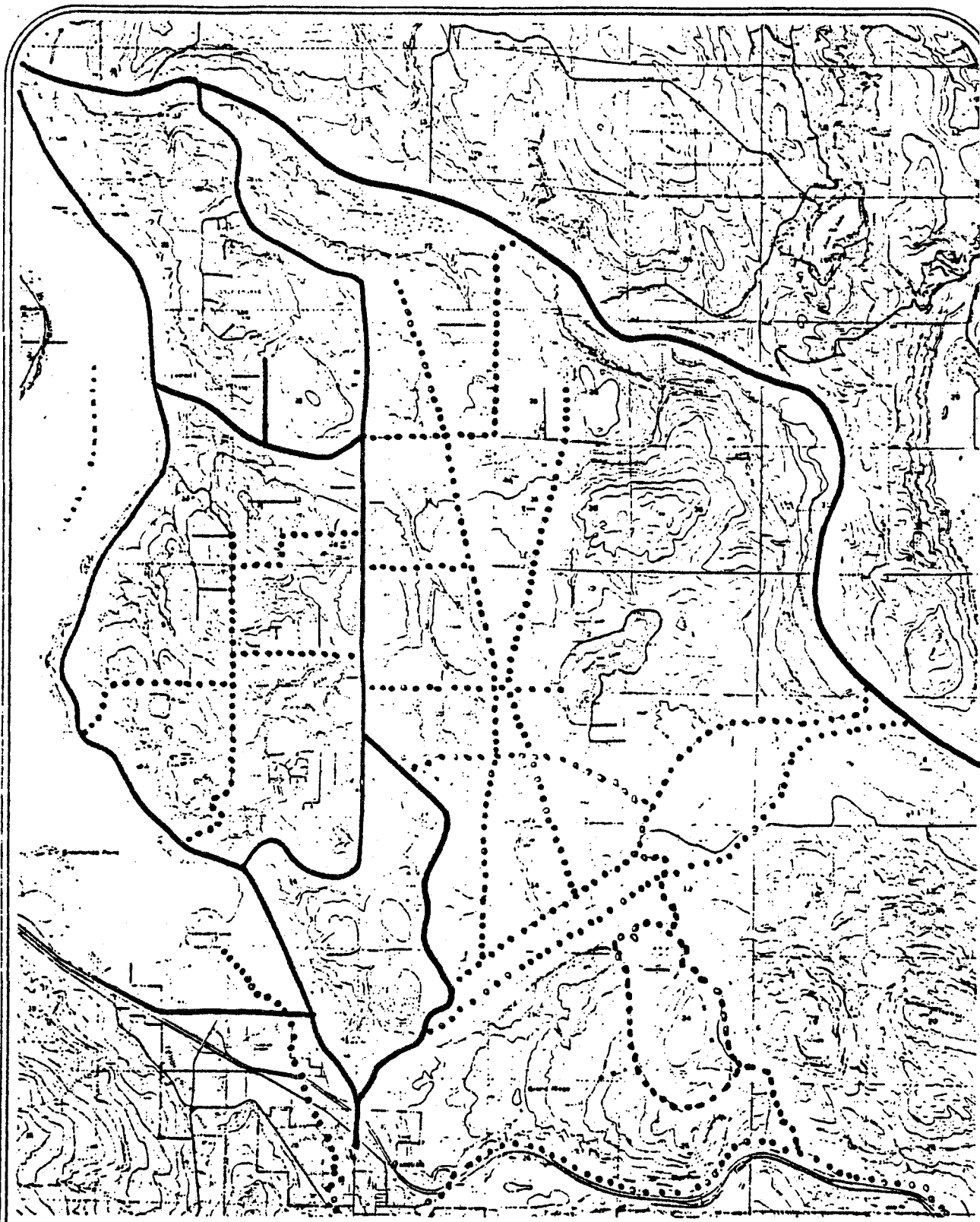
The Urban Trails Plan (UTP) was developed to provide a general idea of the location of trail corridors. In developing the 1978 Communities Plan, the UTP was incorporated in developing recommendations. Four trails in the UTP are located in the East Sammamish communities:

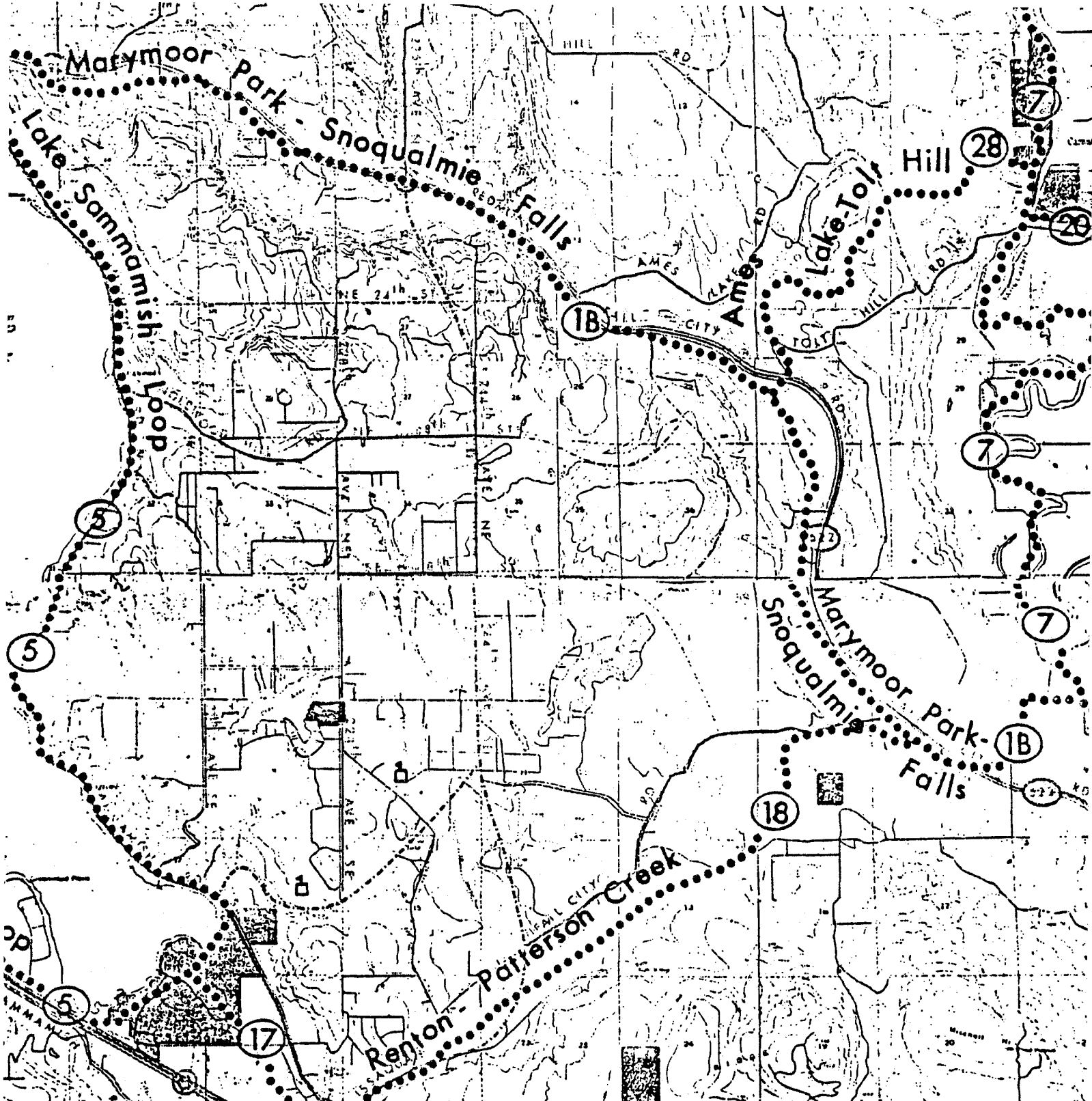
1. Lake Sammamish Loop - foot and bicycle use
2. Marymoor - Snoqualmie Falls - foot, bicycle, and horse use
3. Issaquah Valley - foot, bicycle, and horse use
4. Renton - Patterson Creek - foot and horse use

C. Need for Revising the 1978 Communities Plan Trail Element

A number of new factors have developed since the 1978 Communities Plan was completed. These include:

1. A change in land use and densities in some areas,
2. A greater community interest in establishing and preserving an off-road trail system,
3. An increase in equestrian trail use,





Marymoor Park

Snoqualmie Falls

Hill 28

Lake Sammamish Loop 5

Lake Tolp 7

Marymoor Park - Snoqualmie Falls 18

Renton - Patterson Creek 17

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4. The development of new and better information on actual trail location,
5. An increasing encroachment of development on trails,
6. An interest by some developers and landowners in preserving existing trails, and
7. The need for a better tool to handle the implementations of trails.

D. Revised Trail Element

This paper presents background information and detail on the need to revise the trail element of the 1978 Communities Plan. The paper includes policy statements and recommendations to establish the trail system (see IV. RECOMMENDATIONS). Changes to the 1978 Communities Plan would relate primarily to establishing a system of existing, off-road trails.

1978 Communities Plan revision:

1. Bicycle element - remain as shown in the Plan
2. Pedestrian element - remain as shown in the Plan but would be expanded to include more off-road trails
3. Equestrian element - retains Plan elements (minor change in Renton-Patterson Creek trail) and includes more off-road trails

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Policies/Guidelines

1. To encourage the development of a system of pedestrian/hiker, bicyclist, and equestrian trails for recreational and travel use. The system should include safe and protected shoulders along roads, utility and abandoned railroad corridors, and off-road trails.
2. The corridors shown on the Recommended Trail map should be preserved in establishing a trail system in the East Sammamish Communities.
3. Implementation of the off-road trail system

As development occurs, property owners should be encouraged to preserve existing trails and to retain a natural setting in and near trail corridors.

B. Trails Map (Figure 3)

The recommended system consists of a hierarchy of trails:

1. Regional Trails - provide use within the community and connections to areas outside East Sammamish. In this category are north-south trails following the Pipeline and Powerline and east-west trails along Redmond-Fall City Road and I-90 and Beaver Lake.
25 miles of trail |
2. Local Trails - provide intra-community travel and connections to regional trails. Links residential areas to activity centers. Should include a right-of-way dedication or public easement of a minimum 50 feet in width. In the Recommended Plan, five off-road trail loops are identified; a) Pine Lake, b) North loop, c) Perimeter loop, and d) Grand Ridge.
31 miles of trail |
3. Road Shoulders - provide travel corridor along the shoulders of roads to reach off-road trails. Improvements of shoulders should be included. Trail use on road shoulders should be physically separated from vehicle traffic by curbing, ditches, embankments, tree plantings, or other improvements. Such improvements would be done as part of road improvements or the development of adjacent properties.
37 miles of trail |

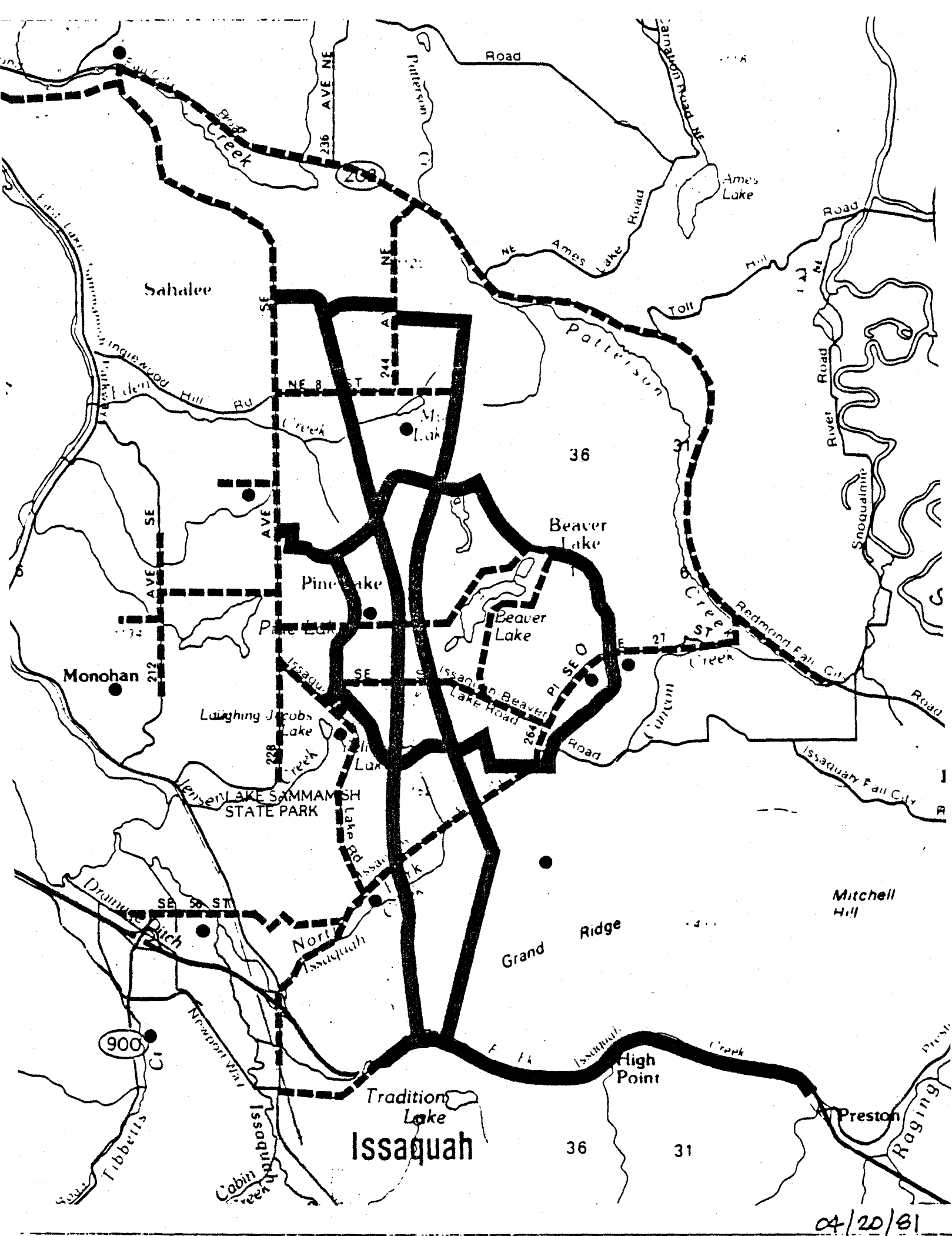





Figure 3

EAST SAMMAMISH TRAIL ELEMENT

("LOCAL" TRAILS NOT SHOWN)

-  REGIONAL TRAILS
-  ROAD SHOULDERS
-  STABLES

V. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Regional Trails

King County Parks Division would be responsible for trails. King County would secure trail corridors through dedication or permanent public easement. Maintenance and liability would be a County responsibility. The regional trail system would be established through the Division of Building and Land Development as property develops and by working with utilities and other property owners.

B. Road Shoulders

King County Department of Public Works would be responsible for these improvements since they lie within road rights-of-way. Shoulder improvements would be made as part of the regular road maintenance and improvement program.

C. Local Trails

Private land owners and trail user groups would work together to establish trail property covenants and user responsibilities. This could include property covenants which establish permanent trail usage to specific groups if certain conditions are met. These conditions (applying to the trail user group) could include maintenance of the trail and the release of liability to the property owner.

