THE DIRT ON THE NORTH VALLEY BIKE PARK

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WHAT IS A BIKE PARK?

- ▶ IMBA's Managing Mountain Biking: "While there doesn't seem to be a set recipe, the ingredients usually include a variety of natural obstacles such as rocks and logs...along with pumps tracks and dirt jumps, all collected in a compact setting. Picture a skateboard park or snowboard park designed specifically for mountain bikes."
- NOT A BMX TRACK! (...but suitable for MTB and BMX)
- Open to the public
- All ages and skill levels
- Progressive skill development

LOCATION

- North Valley, Bernalillo County, New Mexico (Albuquerque Metro)
- ▶ 2.3-acres at the Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center (9800 4th St.)



HISTORY AND CONTEXT

- ▶ 1980s-2007: BMX track operated by Duke City BMX
- 2007: Duke City relocates to multi-million dollar covered facility
- ▶ 2007-2010: BCPR receives inquiries from a few citizens/organizations to operate a bike park. BCPR opts to construct bike park, but efforts stall.
- Summer 2010: Old BMX track closed by Risk Management, leading to rider/neighborhood efforts to preserve site for BMX/MTB riding.
- Fall 2010: BCPR re-starts efforts to plan, design and construct bike park.
- October 2011: North Valley Bike Park opens

BMXTRACK: HISTORIC PHOTOS





BMXTRACK: RISK CONCERNS





PRE-PLANNING

- Research, research, research
- ▶ Educate, educate, educate
- Risk Management Dept. buy-in
 - Insured Designer
 - Licensed and Insured Contractor
 - Not excluded use in County's insurance policy
- Purchasing Dept. buy-in
 - Identify planning/design/construction oversight consultant
 - Use on-call landscaping contractor to construct
- Timeline: Complete project from start to finish in 2011

PLANNING AND DESIGN (JAN.-JUNE)

- ► Hilride Progression Development Group
 - Conduct outreach
 - Prepare overall master plan and cross sections for all features to guide construction
 - Design signs
 - Draft risk management and maintenance recommendations
 - Lead maintenance training
 - Provide construction oversight
- Public Involvement
 - Initial site visits and public design meeting
 - Iterative dialogue on plan drafts through email list and bike shop visitors

INITIAL SITE VISITS









PLANNING MEETING

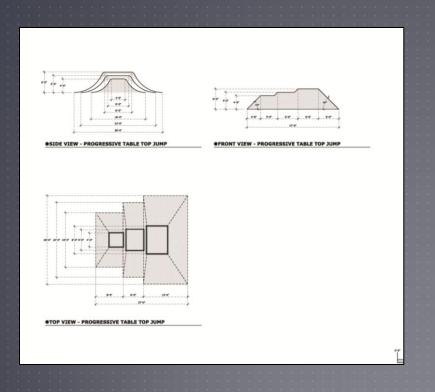


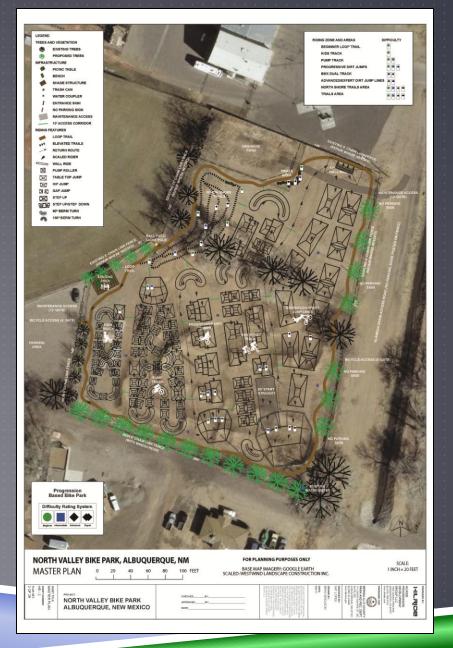






PLANS/DRAWINGS





CONSTRUCTION (JULY-OCT.)

- ► Total cost for design and construction: \$420,000
- Westwind Landscape Construction: Inexperienced with bike parks but quality contractor
- Hilride provided construction oversight
- Key local riders test rode during construction
- Demolition, grading, drainage, fencing, dirt, wood and rock features, benches, tables, shade shelter, trees and irrigation
- Finding the right dirt is key! High clay content is desired
- Trial and error: Not everything was perfect the first time
- Trespassing was an annoyance.



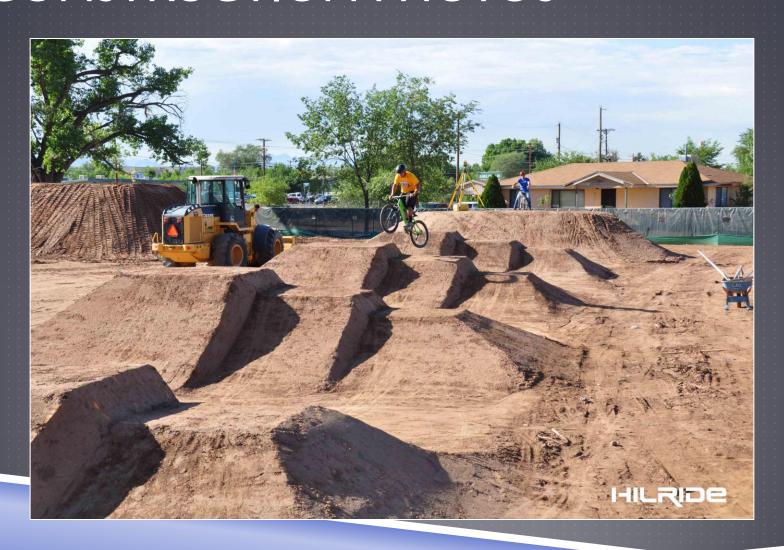








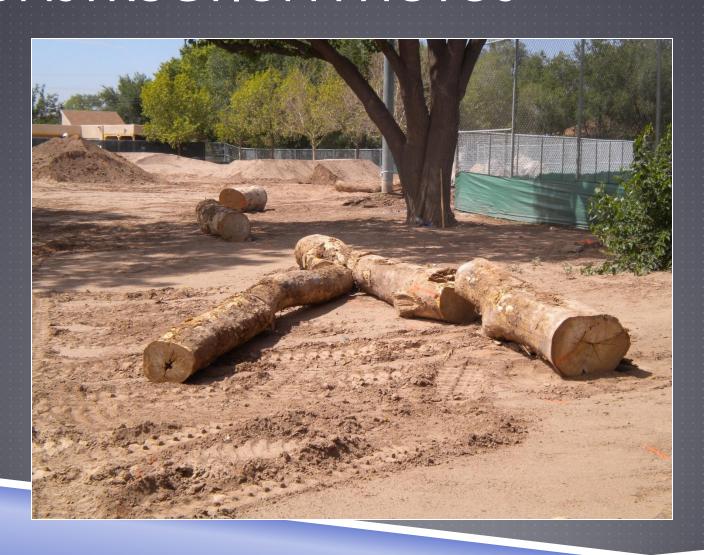










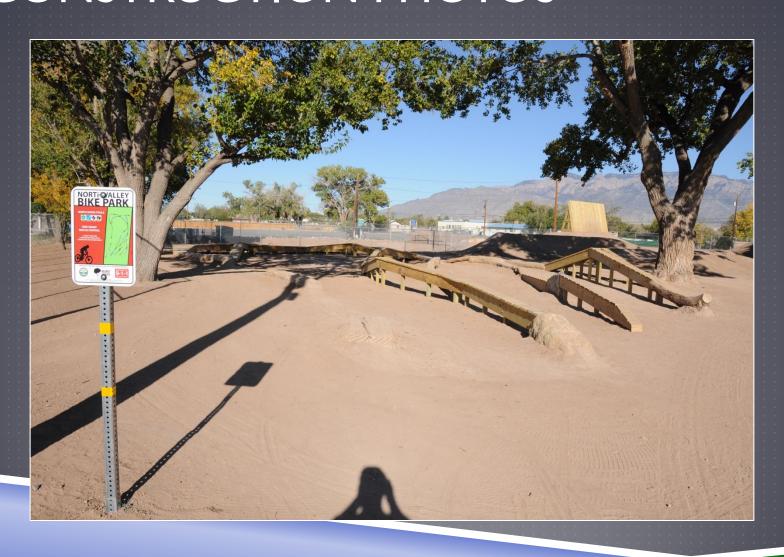


















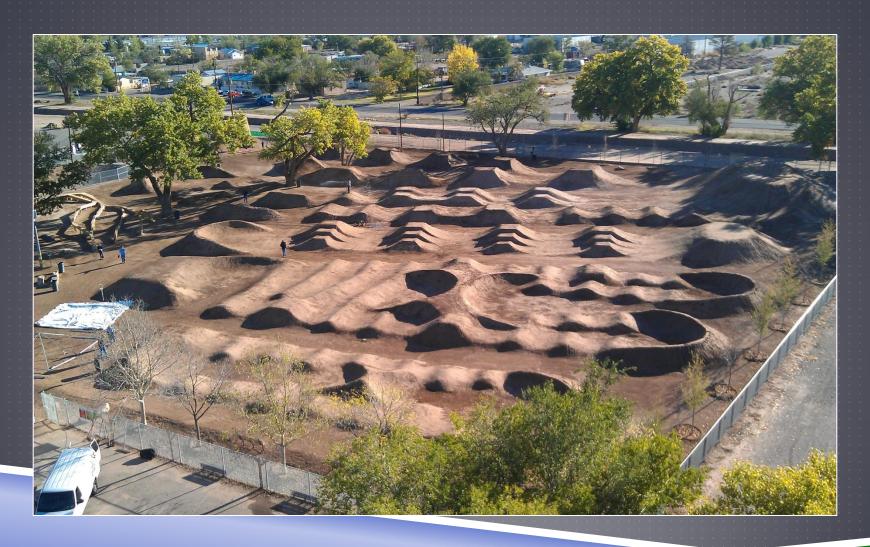


SIGNS



SIGNS























MAINTENANCE

- Access to water and surplus dirt
- Maintenance training for employees
- Recommended tool list
- BCPR provides basic maintenance services
- Rider efforts to assist with maintenance and fine tuning

QUESTIONS?

