



## Verbatim Small Group Responses

1. *Our group believes the following issues are missing from the Preliminary Issues List and should be addressed:*

Group #1

- Build connector trails before de-commissioning trails
- More map signage/consistent, up-to-date maps
- Trails that parallel roads to separate cars and trail users
- Boundary signage/trail difficulty signage
- Building trails in under-utilized sections of Park, such as the Mt. Muscoco area

Group #2

- Chutes – downhill-only traffic
- More signage (Daniel's Pass)
- Trail etiquette signs
- Bike lanes (great idea). Stripes
- Confusion about where leash laws begin/end
- Enforcement: parking lot security

Group #3

- No more motorized – soils not stable
- More police presence – Gold Camp Road
- Chamberlain Trail – should go across the Mesa between North and South Cañons
- Using TOPS open space money – particularly if Stratton Open Space is limited to “connectivity” which already exists

Group #4

- Electric bikes – people starting to use on natural surface trails
- Drones
- Horse waste
- Sustainable trail design and standards
- Designate some trails for user groups, e.g. some hiker-only or bikes-only. Maybe Chutes downhill only; maybe Chutes bike-only, have parallel hiker-only trail
- Signage – more emphasis on good signage. Need map of entire area at Gold Camp 4-way parking lot. Gold Camp Road parking lot is the gateway to Forest Service trails. Coordinate signage with National Forest

Group #5

- Trail use: odd days up, even days down – like in Jefferson County
- Need for additional trails/connector trails
- Build out May Peak area for trails
- Enforce Park rules, especially after hours gun use and vandalism
- Local trail design and competent trail builders

#### Group #6

- Skateboarding/electric board sporting
- Trail etiquette (signage)
- Specific signage informing users of climbing area in order to avoid rocks being thrown on climbers
- After-hours use (campfires) – limit it! (gates)
- Better signage for route-finding

#### Group #7

- Close the Park at night
- Increase Park security/staffing
- Don't restrict access
- Need more signage at trailheads – what's allowed/what's not
- Trail etiquette

#### Group #8

- Signage: More signs at key areas conveying Park ordinances, i.e. "You are responsible for knowing..."
- Trails: Proactive, sustainable plan to address trail erosion
- Trails: Special consideration of no e-bike or drone use
- Access: Consider Lower Columbine being wheelchair-accessible
- Bathrooms/restrooms
- Seek partnerships

#### Group #9

- Striping needs to be done on the road up the Cañon – double yellow line up the whole way
- Geocaching – won't work in the Cañon
- Have Park resource (police) officer (like for the schools)
- Review permission for bikes on major hiking trails; prohibit bikes on Middle Columbine
- Prohibit walking on the Cañon road
- Need sign – bikers must follow speed limit for cars
- Install drive-through pullout where bench is on right-hand side of NCC road adjacent to entrance, with Park regulations and guidelines on posters
- Keep Starsmore a nature center, not a retail center
- Not more signage on the road. Put existing signs in more effective areas

*\*(This group submitted an additional list of issues which is included at the end of this document)*

## 2. On the Draft Guiding Principles, we believe the following points are missing:

#### Group #1

- Nothing. It's very thorough

#### Group #4

- Important principles – glad they are there: traffic, parking, signage
- New category: ecological preservation: noxious weeds, erosion control, fire mitigation, insect control, e.g. tussock moth, budworm, forest management
- Under Trails, change "uncrowded" to "adequate capacity" and add "sustainably designed."

Group #5

- People like to see progress! Not just talking about it – DO IT! Just do something. It's extremely overcrowded (i.e. build new trails to spread out use)

Group #8

- Draft of Guiding Principles effective. Chunk the key areas of importance. Great stuff: Focus on visitor experience, especially acknowledgement that road is narrow corridor and traffic management needs consideration. Focus on access and safety, seasonal heavy use.

*Our group would suggest amending the Draft Guiding Principles language in the following ways:*

Group #1

- It's very difficult for trail planning given the jurisdiction limitations, etc. Is there a way to engage USFA, etc.?

Group #5

- Remove idiots from the top of the Chutes smoking weed, throwing all their trash in the parking lot! Close the gates on the Park to keep people out and from throwing their trash all over! Keep the homeless out! It's not that hard?

Group #6

- Accessible and safe – implement a shuttle!

Group #7

- Close gate/access at night – would save money in the long run

\*Additional list of issues submitted by Group #9:

2. Complete necessary summer trail maintenance in a timely fashion.
  - a. Build a retaining wall at the top of Silver Cascade Trail, so that part of the south side of the trail, which now slopes down steeply, can be reconfigured, preventing visitors from sliding off the trail and then falling into Buffalo Creek.
3. Effective policing of parking lots
  - a. Solar-powered surveillance cameras might be an option.
  - b. Possibly one could be installed on the roof of HHF Visitor Center in a hard-to-reach, inconspicuous place.
4. Clear and effective signage
  - a. Look at locations of signs—we don't need *more* signs necessarily, but more effective signs in better locations.
  - b. Use backs of signs for interpretive signs.
  - c. The sign at the bottom of the canyon stating "No busses, trailers" etc. is in a bad place. *put a graphic grade sign on the*
  - d. We could use a pull-out with a bulletin board type display sign at the bottom of the canyon next to the "No busses, trailers" sign. This sign location should be east of the Stratton Open Space parking area, where there is space for busses and vehicles with trailers to turn around. *S.O.S. parking area could be enlarged*
  - e. Need a sign stating that cyclists must obey the speed limit.
  - f. List destinations such as Seven Bridges Trail, Pike National Forest, and Mt. Cutler-Mt. Muscoco Trailhead on a sign at bottom of canyon.
  - g. Put a sign at the start of the Chamberlain Trail on Lower Columbine Trail.
  - h. Put a sign for Silver Cascade Trail at the beginning of that trail, next to the visitor center.
5. Effective fencing for the entire length of Silver Cascade trail—the fencing itself doesn't have to be very expensive, just durable.
6. Enforce "no camping in park" rule; fix gate at bottom of the canyon so that it can be closed.
7. Stripe the road.
8. Remove trash and car parts on Upper Columbine Trail.

*This list was approved by the other volunteers sitting at our table 9/18/17 at CMHS.*