

MINUTES

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 12, 2015
1401 Recreation Way, CSC 80905

Board Members Present: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella

Absent: Alex Johnson

Alternates Present: Jason Rupinski

Alternates Absent: Bob Lally

CALL TO ORDER

Opening: Chair Hilaire called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

CITIZEN DISCUSSION

Pickleball Update: Jeff Norton, Vice President of the Pikes Peak Pickleball Association, provided a brief update which included the following: a Pickleball program with the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and having a branch office at the USAFA; approved funding from Lodgers and Automobile Rental Tax (LART) for 2015; and their intent to apply for additional funding from LART to repair pickleball courts; a post tension concrete upgrade project; and hosting the Regional Pickleball Tournament at Monument Valley Park in 2015.

Trails and Open Space Update: Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), said that information regarding the Crew Leader Training, which is scheduled for April 17th through 19th, and the Mayoral and City Council Candidate Forums are available on the TOSC's website.

Dog Issues: Wade Gardner, a citizen, addressed various dog-related issues in the park system (i.e. off-leash dogs; dog bites; dogs using the park system all the time, etc.) and requested help to do something about it.

Board member Maynard said that the Friends of the Incline will approach the City of Colorado Springs and the City of Manitou Springs to conduct a study regarding enforcement issues, including dog-related issues, which will be a part of the study and suggested to put Mr. Gardner in touch with the Friends group.

City Auditorium: Tom Webb, a member of the Friends of the Historic City Auditorium, asked the status of the architect's contract; the restroom renovation; replacement/remodeling of the seating in the Lon Chaney Theater; and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Friends group. Kim King, Manager of Recreation and Administration, provided responses to all questions. Architect contract signed; restroom scheduled for summer; no new program for seating in Lon Chaney; and staff will provide a better MOU representation for the City Auditorium Friends to work from.

Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center Update: Linda Carter, from the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center, thanked staff and the Board for a recent event which took place to recognize Lyda Hill. Ms. Carter also mentioned that this year is the 20th anniversary of the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center and the Garden of the Gods Foundation supporting the Parks Department. The Visitor and Nature Center will be celebrating by hosting a community event on May 16th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charles Castle made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2015 Board meeting. Motion seconded by John Maynard and carried by a 7 to 0 vote. Board member Liebert abstained from voting since she was absent at the February meeting.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson
Abstained: Mina Liebert

NOTE: There was a change in the order of the Agenda to present the “Staff Report” at this time.

STAFF REPORT

- John Venezia Park Groundbreaking: April 16th at 10:00 a.m.
- Joint City/County Parks Board Meeting: March 12th at 11:30 a.m.
- Request for Proposal for the Tennis Center: Contractor will be selected in the next couple of months.
- Media Information

CEREMONIAL ITEM (8:00 a.m. Time Certain)

- **Recognition of Mayor Steve Bach**
Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, thanked and recognized Mayor Bach for his leadership and his support for the Parks Department during his mayoralship. A PowerPoint presentation, which included pictures of the Mayor participating in a number of projects, was shown.

Ms. Palus presented a framed picture which stated “In Appreciation for your Leadership and Dedication to the Importance of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in our Community” to the Mayor.

Mayor Bach said that a book titled, “*Building a Better Tomorrow*,” will be released on March 13th. The book documents the City’s progress in the first four years of its new Council-Mayor (“Strong Mayor”) form of government.

Mayor Bach said that building a great team was his biggest accomplishment. He said that it is amazing what the Park Department has accomplished since his coming into office.

ACTION ITEMS

NOTE: Due to a conflict of interest, Board member Maynard recused himself from Action Item #1.

1. Request on Behalf of Classic Communities to Approve the Proposed Lizard Leap Neighborhood Park Master Plan Located Within the Flying Horse Master Plan

Connie Perry, Landscape Architect, said that this is a request from Classic Communities to approve the proposed Lizard Leap (10.0 Acre) Neighborhood Park master plan. This park is located southwest of Hwy 83 and Flying Horse Club Drive and will sit just west of the planned Powers Boulevard extension. The Flying Horse Master Plan includes a private golf course (197 acres), five neighborhood parks (28 acres), and one planned community park (25 acres) with 80 acres of open space.

Ron Bevens, with NES (Consultant), provided a PowerPoint presentation. (See presentation)

There was no public comment on this item.

Charles Castle made a motion to approve the Lizard Leap Neighborhood Park Master Plan, to be platted, zoned (PK), and built by the developer, with maintenance by the Flying Horse Metropolitan District. Motion seconded by Mina Liebert and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, ~~John Maynard~~,
Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson
Abstained: John Maynard

NOTE: Board member Maynard returned to the meeting.

2. Approval of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan

Sarah Bryarly, Landscape Architect, provided a brief PowerPoint presentation reviewing what was presented at the last Board meeting. (See presentation)

Website to the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan: <http://parks.coloradosprings.gov/explore-play/explore/parks/ute-valley-master-plan-0>

Public Input

- Dave Woods, President of the Friends of Ute Valley Park, and Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, spoke in favor of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan
- Dave Ward, a citizen, said that he was an off-leash dog supporter. Mr. Ward said that a designated off-leash dog area/trail is needed as well as designated times.

Charles Castle made a motion to adopt of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan as presented. Motion seconded by Scot Hume and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard,
Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

NOTE: There was a change in the order of the Agenda to present Action Item #4 at this time.

4. Minor Master Plan Amendment to North Cheyenne Cañon Park – South Cañon Trail Extension and Improvements

David Deitemeyer, Park Planner, said that this is a minor Master Plan amendment in North Cheyenne Cañon Park to include an extension of the South Cañon Trail in the South Cañon area. The trail will provide a necessary segment of trail to complete a one-mile trail loop from the Starsmore Discovery Center, increase park user safety, enhance the recreational experience and provide a needed east-west trail connection through the South Cañon portion of North Cheyenne Cañon Park. (See presentation)

Public Input

- Terry McHale from the Broadmoor Hotel, asked to show what the trail will look like and staff explained on a map.
- Bob Falcone, President of the Friends of North Cheyenne Cañon, said that the Friends group's comments were positive on this item and that they are supportive of the project.

- Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, spoke in favor of the project.

Scot Hume made a motion to approve the minor Master Plan amendment to North Cheyenne Cañon Park to include the new extension of the South Cañon Trail, including lighting, as presented. Motion seconded by Charles Castle and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

3. Acquisition of Approximately 7.022 Acres of Real Property for the Rock Island Trail Corridor

Chris Lieber, Manager of Planning and Development, said that the Parks Department, through the City's Trails, Open Space and Parks Program (TOPS) is recommending the acquisition of approximately 7.022 acres of real property currently owned by the Union Pacific Railroad ("Seller") located between the Pikes Peak Greenway and Templeton Gap Road for a 1.25 mile extension of the Rock Island Trail and key connection for the Legacy Loop. ([See presentation](#))

Public Input

- Bill Koerner with the Trails and Open Space Coalition spoke in favor of the acquisition.

Mina Liebert made a motion to approve the acquisition of approximately 7.022 acres of property, from the Union Pacific Railroad, in the amount of \$749,400 with TOPS Trails funds for the advancement of the Rock Island Trail and the Legacy Loop Project. Motion seconded by Charles Castle and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

BOARD BUSINESS

➤ **Board/Committee Reports and Concerns**

Lodgers and Automobile Rental Tax (LART) Committee: Board member Lieber said that a meeting is scheduled this afternoon.

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services said that a Resolution/Ordinance revision will be forwarded to City Council. The resolution identifies Heritage events that will continue to receive City sponsorship.

Community Center Funding: Board member Castle requested to receive email copies regarding funding for the City's community Centers.

Homeless Information: Board member Castle thanked staff for the information regarding homeless issues.

Fountain Creek Corridor: Board member Castle asked if KCSB cleans the Fountain Creek corridor. He asked if homeless people can be hired to do that.

Ms. Palus said that court-ordered people are used but she has not heard about homeless involvement.

I-25/Cimarron Exchange: In response to Board member Castle's question regarding the I-25/Cimarron exchange, Kurt Schroeder, Manager of Park Operations and Development, said that staff will provide an update at the next Board meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

- Follow up on "Safety of Parks", including Bancroft Park.
- Chair Hilaire requested a presentation regarding the "Park Ambassador" program.

Park Master Plan – Action Plan: In response to Board member Maynard's question regarding the Park Master Plan having a follow up on Action Plan, Ms. Palus said that staff continues to look at that and will bring a consultant to work on that. Staff will provide information to the Board.

Rampart Park Disc Golf Course: In reference to the Board approving the Rampart Park Disc Golf Course, Board member Scarangella expressed his concern regarding maintenance. He said that adding more expenses and programs is adding burden to the Parks Department's operating costs.

Board member Scarangella said that the Board needs to discuss the maintenance issue.

Park Sustainability: Chair Hilaire said that the Board needs more discussions/options regarding park sustainability. This should be an off-site topic.

Old 168: Ms. Palus said that the Council approved the Old 168 with a lease agreement. This is now moving forward with a National Historic Registration.

Staff Resignation: Ms. Palus announced that Will DeBoer, Cemetery Supervisor will be retiring at the end of March.

➤ **Dogs Off Leash Rules**

Ron Ilgen and Hank Scarangella volunteer to participate in on subcommittee

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
March 12, 2015





At a Spruce Up the Springs Event

(2)

Staff and Volunteers at a Spruce Up the Springs event





Red Rock Canyon 10th Anniversary

Memorial Park Tennis Center Ribbon Cutting





New turf fields at Skyview Sports Complex

Spruce Up The Springs event in Bonforte Park





Spruce Up The Springs event in Bonforte Park

Mountain Shadows Park playground dedication





Mountain Shadows Park playground dedication

John Venezia Community Park press conference





John Venezia Community Park press conference

The Mayor's Cup golf tournament to benefit First Tee



2013 Spirit of the Springs Summer Rally





2013 Spirit of the Springs Summer Rally



Ribbon cutting at new Pikes Peak Highway toll gate

Ribbon cutting at new Pikes Peak Highway toll gate





Getting to
know some
young
volunteers

After presenting a Spirit of the Springs Award





Spruce Up event in Palmer Park

Welcoming the Switchbacks Soccer Team





Waldo Canyon Fire Anniversary Concert

36 years in a row of being named a Tree City U.S.A.





Arbor Day event at Mountain Shadows Park

Speaking at a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting





With Board Members at a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting



Rock Island Trail/Legacy Loop

UPRR Corridor Acquisition

Parks, Recreation, Trails, Open Space & Cultural Services
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, March 12, 2015



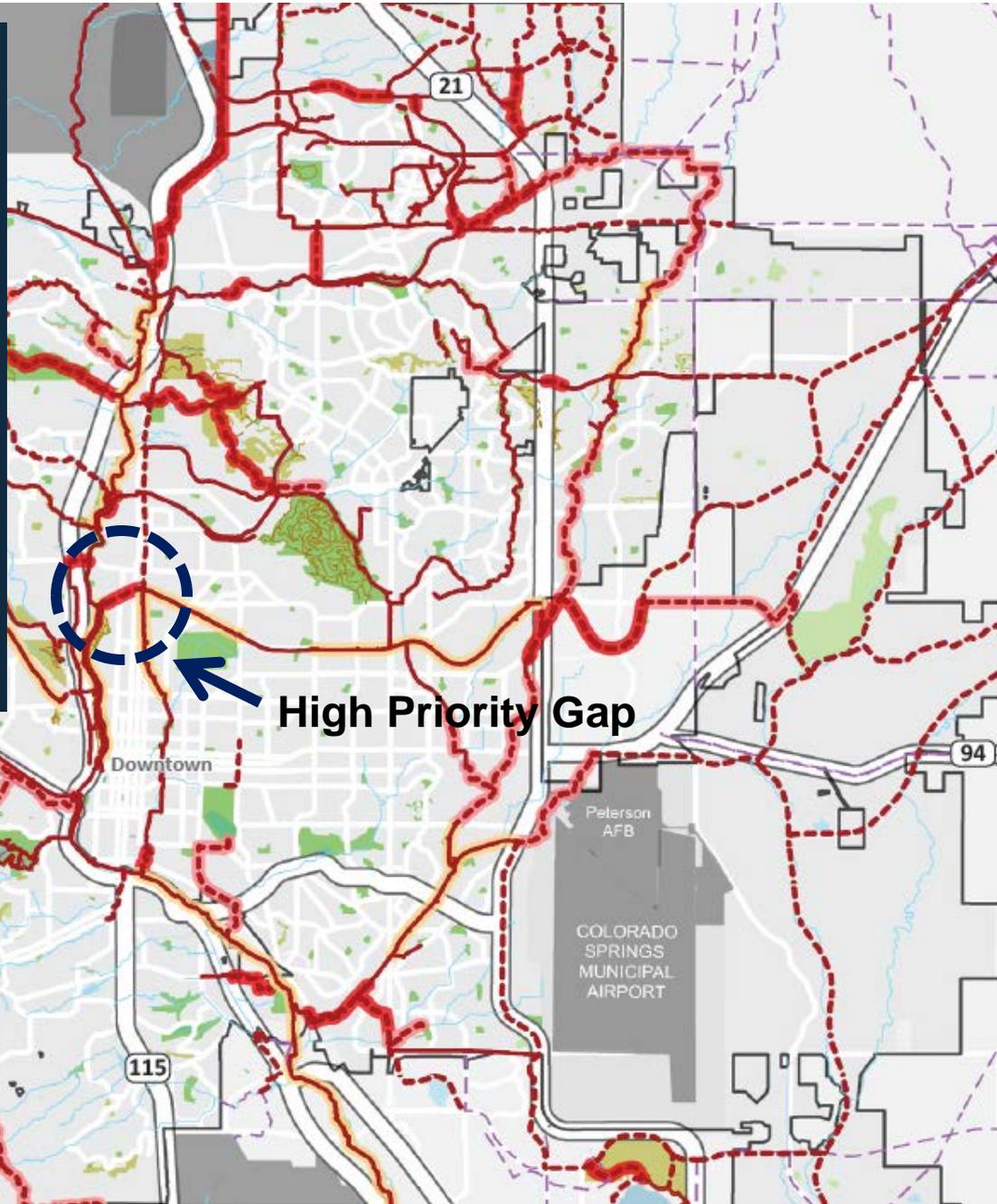
City of Colorado Springs
Park System Master Plan



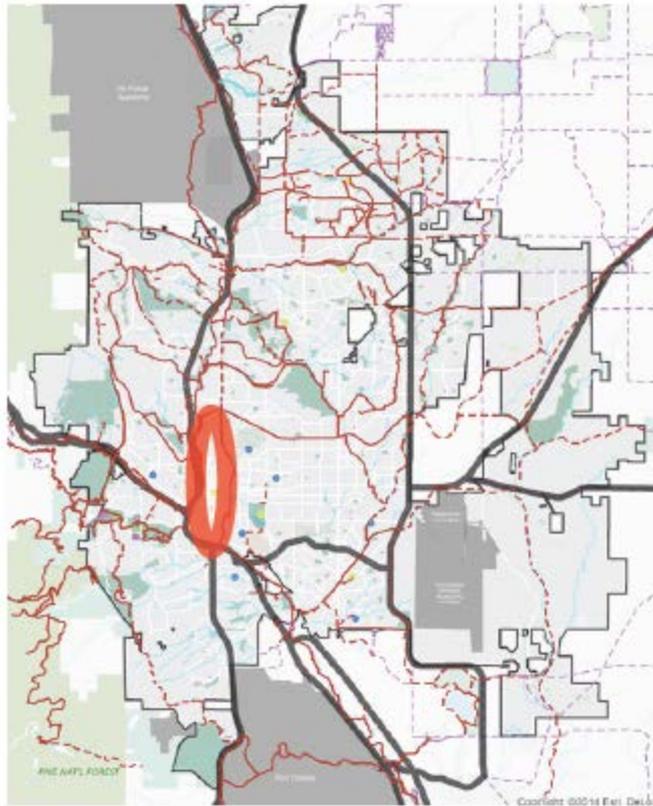
Parks, Recreation, Trails,
Open Space & Cultural Services



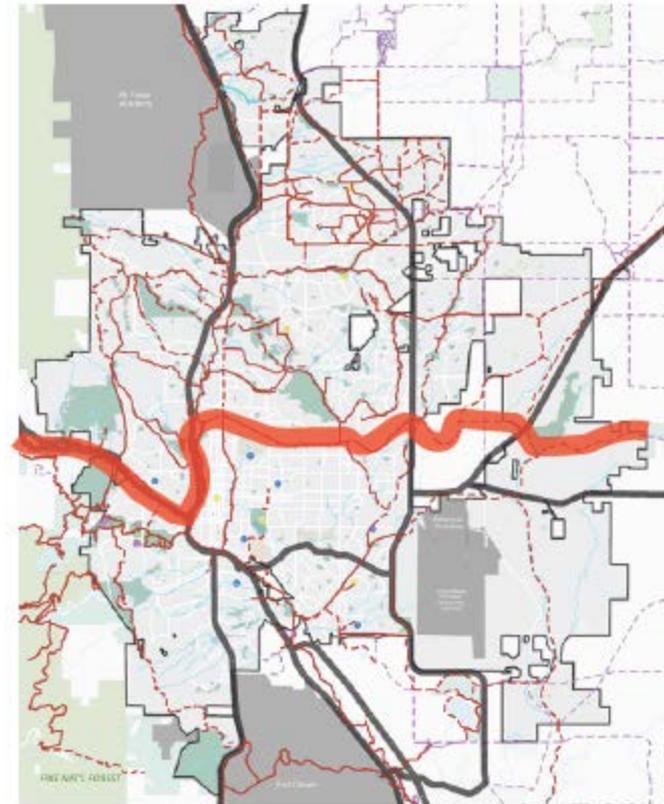
September 23, 2014



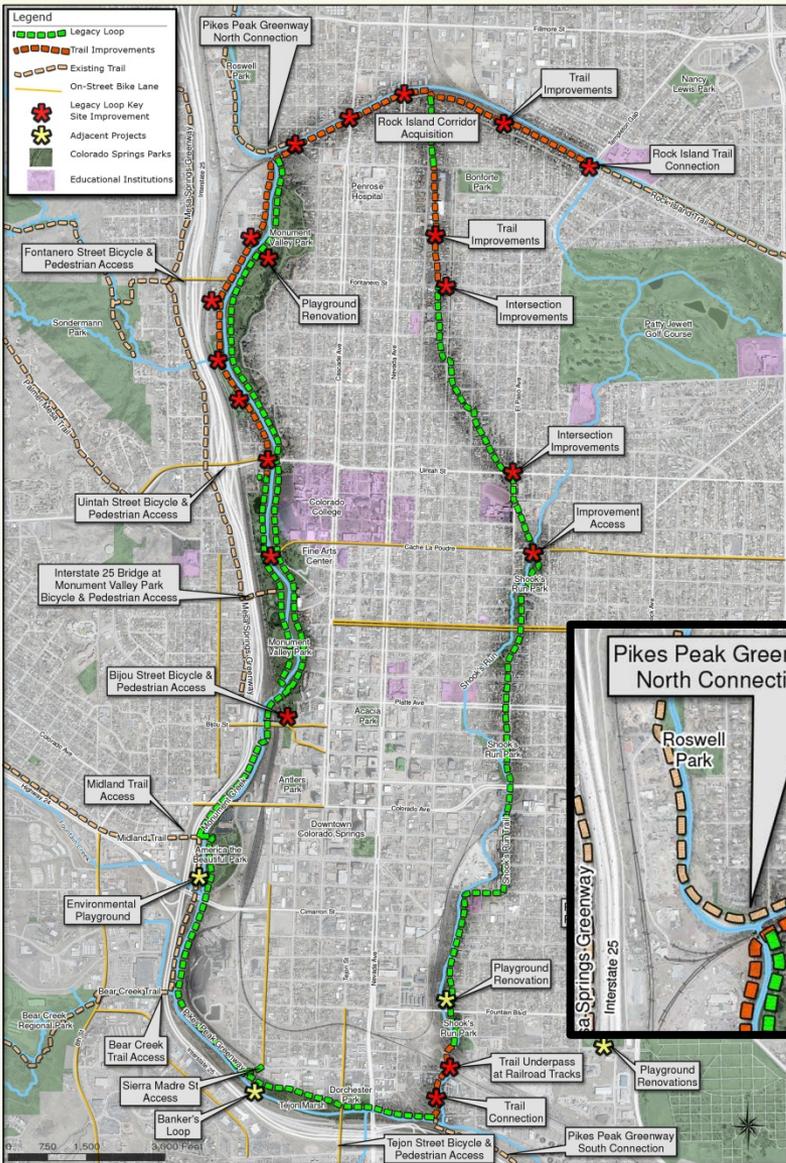
Addressing Multiple Objectives and Priorities



Legacy Loop

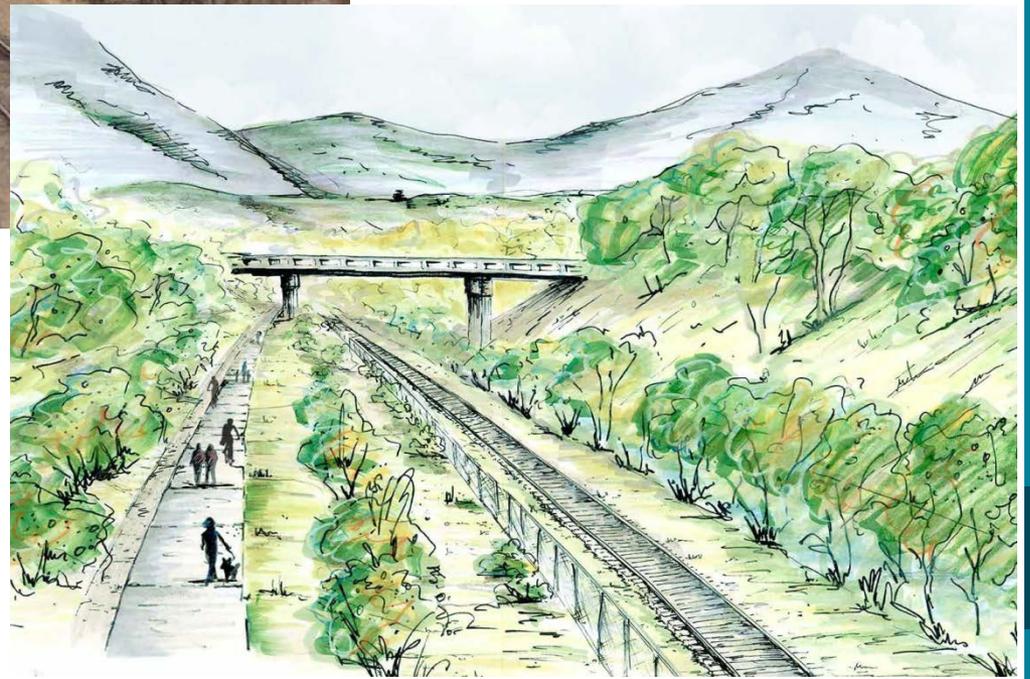
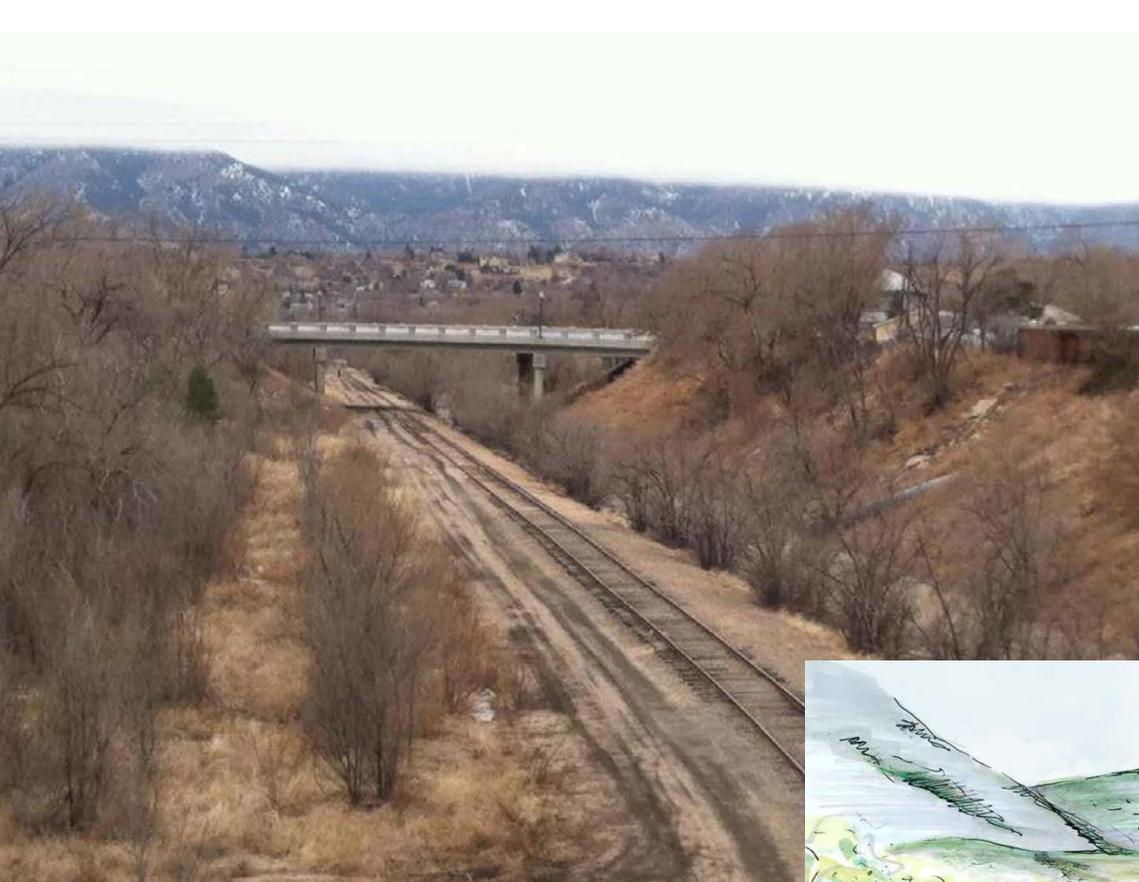


East-West Connector Trail



COLORADO SPRINGS
LEGACY LOOP
 CONTEXT MAP





Proposed Acquisition

Owner: Union Pacific Railroad
Acres: 7.022
Distance: Approx. 1.25 miles
Purchase Price: \$749,400 or \$2.45 SF

Terms:

- 90-Day Feasibility Review Period
- \$25,000 Earnest Funds
- Restrictive Covenant (Residential and Educational Facilities)
- Installation of Fencing and Gates
- Access Easement (20' Wide)

Additional Considerations:

- Constitution Avenue Extension – Acquisition does not preclude or advance
- Additional Acquisition along the corridor is required
- Capital Construction Costs:
 - \$170,000 Fencing (2015 TOPS Budget)
 - \$850,000 Trail Construction (2015 TOPS Budget and GOCO)
- GOCO Paths to Parks Grant Application for Capital Projects
- Operational Expenses - \$7,500 Annually
- Opportunity for Trail Adoption Program
- Connections to Schools (Mann and Stratton)
- Broad Community Support
- TOPS Working Committee: Unanimous Support (3-4-2015)

Recommendation:

- Staff recommends approval of the acquisition of the Property, from the Rock Island Railroad, in the amount of \$749,400 with TOPS Trails Funds for the advancement of the Rock Island Trail and Legacy Loop Project.



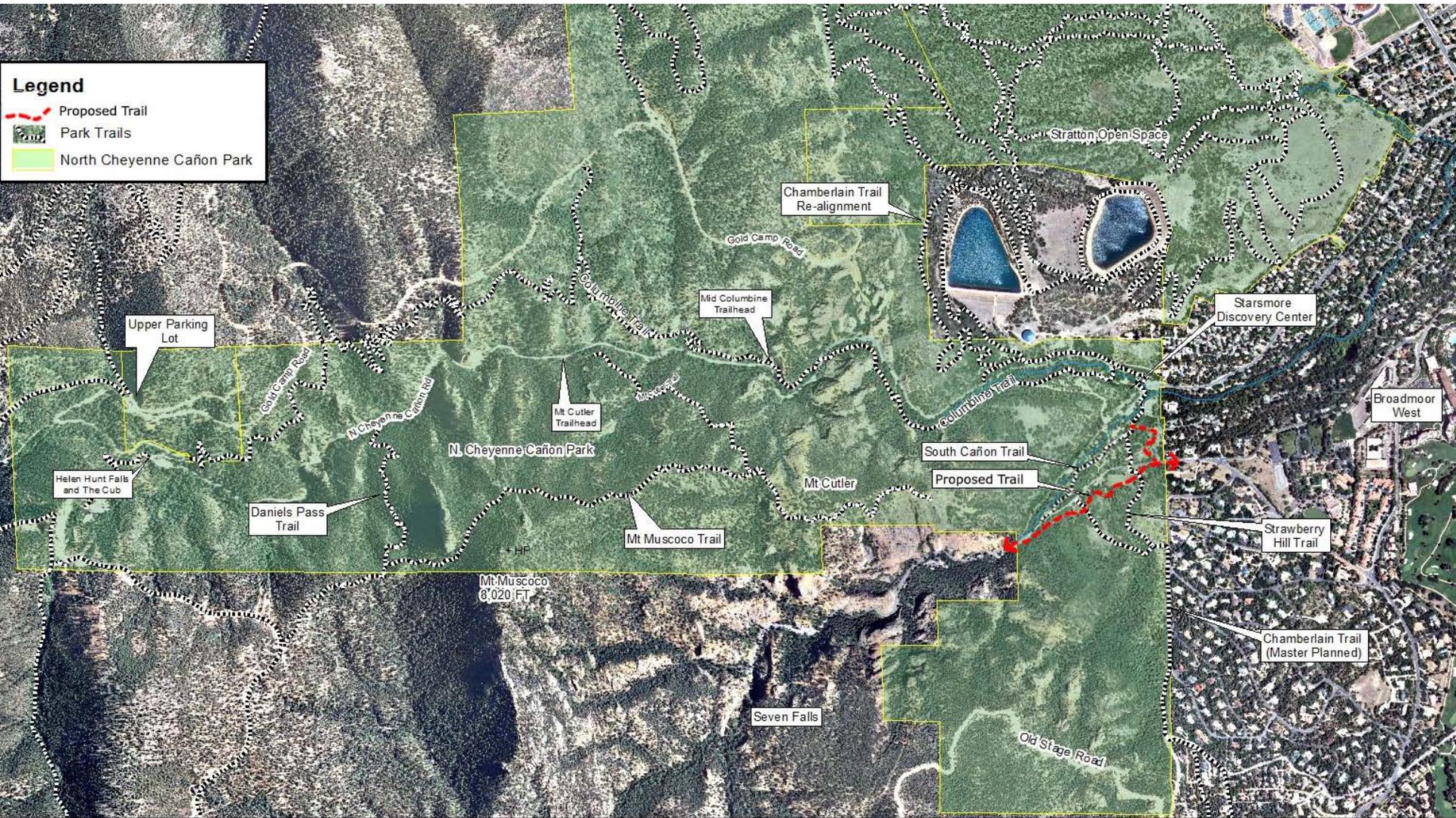
NORTH CHEYENNE CAÑON
PARK MINOR MASTER PLAN
SOUTH CAÑON TRAIL EXTENSION

Parks Board | March 12th, 2015

N. Cheyenne Cañon Park Master Plan



Minor Master Plan Amendment



South Cañon Area Background

□ Recreation

- Mesa Reservation Area
- Popular Picnic Areas (old gravel road loops)
- Starsmore Center, Parking Lots & Restrooms
- South Cañon Trail
- Chamberlain Trail Extension Master Planned

□ Natural Features

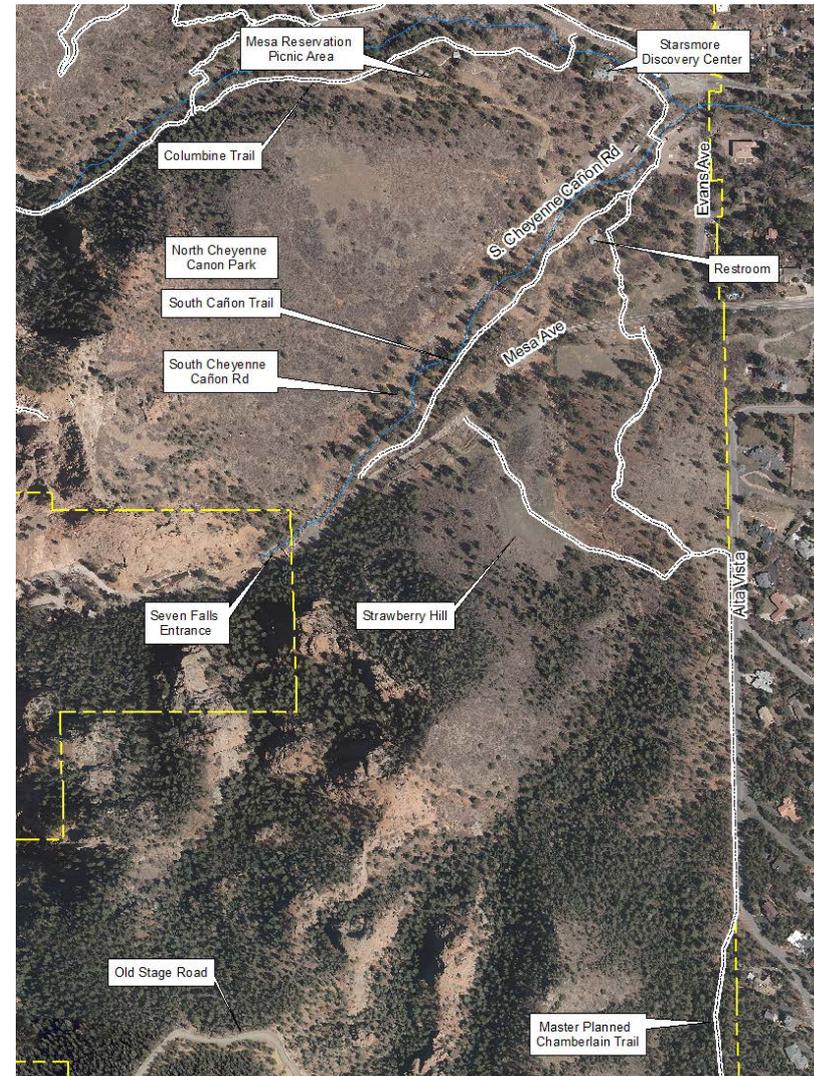
- South Cheyenne Creek
- Strawberry Hill

□ Tourist Attractions

- Starr Kempf Sculptures
- Seven Falls Access

□ Other Items of Interest

- 2014/2015 Forest Management Plan
- Dixon Ditch (abandoned)



Dixon Ditch

□ Irrigation of 300 acres of land

- Dug in Fall of 1865 (Filed by A.E.V Strettell, W.F. Dixon, and D.M. Rose)
- South Cheyenne Creek
- 3.1 CFS

□ Dixon Ranch (Present day Julie Penrose House)

- Apple Orchard - “El Pomar”
- Cattle ranch
- Tavern House



□ Water Right Decreed 1892 (9th priority on Cheyenne Creek)

- Myron Stratton Home - Early 1900's
- South Suburban Water Company - 1953
- City of Colorado Springs - 1965
- Water surplus for Myron Stratton Home

Need for Trail

□ Park User Safety

- Narrow Roadway
- Tourist Summer Season
- Reopening of Seven Falls
- More people in the Area

□ Recreational Experience

- 1 Mile trail loop from Starsmore Center
- Natural setting – Wilderness Experience
- Interpretative Signage with Dixon Ditch

□ Trail Connectivity

- Strawberry Hill Trail
- Future Chamberlain Trail
- Starsmore Center
- Seven Falls and Broadmoor Hotel



**North
Cheyenne
Cañon Park**

**Starsmore
Center**

[1.2 Miles to Hotel]

**Broadmoor
Hotel**

**Seven
Falls**

[2.1 Miles to Hotel]

**North
Cheyenne
Cañon Park**

Oldstage Rd

N. Cheyenne Cañon Rd

S. Cheyenne Cañon Rd

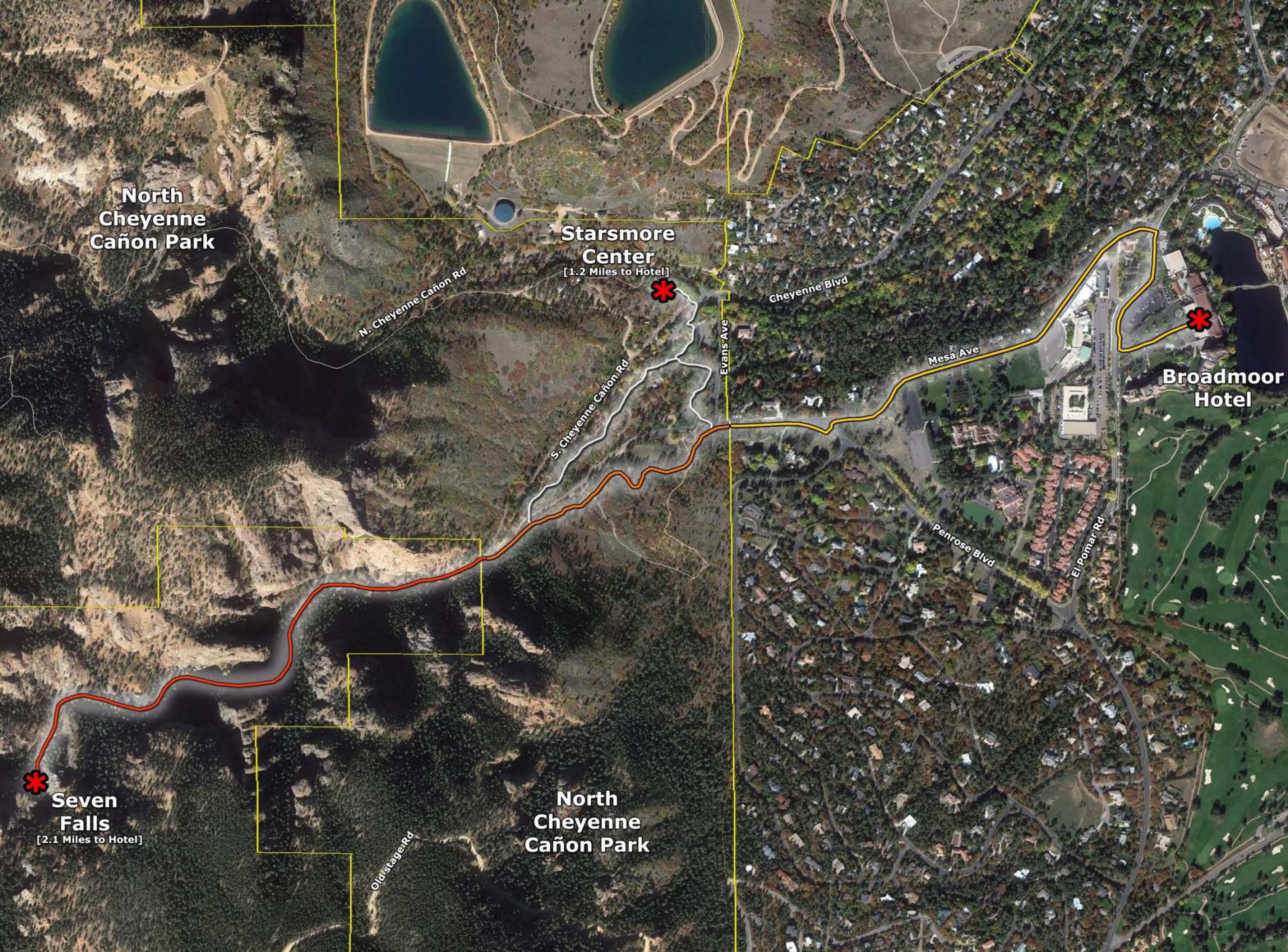
Evans Ave

Cheyenne Blvd

Mesa Ave

Penrose Blvd

El Pomar Rd





6. View to Southwest to South Cheyenne Cañon



5. View to Southwest



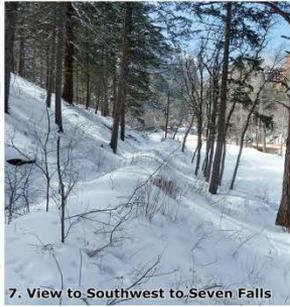
4. View to Northeast



3. View to Southwest at Drainage



2. View to Southwest



7. View to Southwest to Seven Falls



8. View to East at Trail Entrance



LEGEND

- Photo Point
- Dixon Ditch
- Proposed Trail (2,130LF)
- Trail Connections to Existing Trails

0 25 50 100
SCALE: 1" = 50'
Note Contour Interval at 2'

NORTH



Proposed 36" Wide Natural Surface Trail
Razally constructed Chamberlain Trail is shown in blue



1. View to West on Mesa Ave at Trail Entrance











**S. Cheyenne Creek Improvements
Seven Falls**



07/31/2014

S. Cheyenne Creek Improvements
Seven Falls



07/30/2014

Proposed Trail

- Tier 3, Primitive Back Country Trail
- 36-48" Natural Surface Trail



Proposed Bollard Lights



Additional Details

- Funding
 - ▣ Private donation by the Broadmoor Hotel
- Trail and Bollard Lights Maintenance
 - ▣ Agreement with Broadmoor
- Project Timeline
 - ▣ March – Parks Board Approval
 - ▣ March – Detailed drawings and resource survey
 - ▣ April – Construction
 - ▣ May - Project Completion

Recommendation

- Approve the *Minor Master Plan Amendment to North Cheyenne Cañon Park* to include the extension of the *South Cañon Trail*, including lighting, as presented.



6. View to Southwest to South Cheyenne Cañon



5. View to Southwest



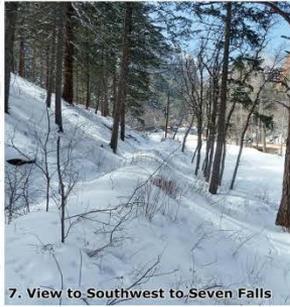
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LEGEND

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0 25 50 100
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NORTH



Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan



Givens Set Parameters

- **The City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is legally responsible for design, maintenance, operations and management of all resources for Ute Valley Park.**
- **The newly-acquired portion of the Park is subject to the requirements and restrictions of the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) Ordinance. All elements of the Master and Management Plan must conform to the Colorado Springs Parks Rules and Regulations Ordinances.**
- **The planning process will respect the terms and conditions of existing utility easements, sign easements, and the conservation easement. The conservation easement currently applies only to the portions acquired through the TOPS program.**
- **In accordance with the Plat and Development Plan, the City is responsible for road improvements along Ute Valley Road, including construction of a round-about southwest of Rockrimmon Boulevard.**
- **There will be a new Ute Valley trail which will connect to the regional trail system in accordance with the 2010 and 2014 Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan.**
- **Implementation of the Master Plan will occur as funding allows.**
- **Many groups and individuals are interested in and encouraged to help develop the best possible Master and Management Plan; all voices will be equal in the decision-making process.**
- **The recommended Master and Management Plan will be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for approval.**



Players in the Plan



- Community: identified issues, hopes; “lived experience”
- Resource Advisory Group: advice on resource conditions; reviewed and advised on possible approaches
- Planning Team: project oversight; identified “givens”; assessment of Park property; development of possible approaches

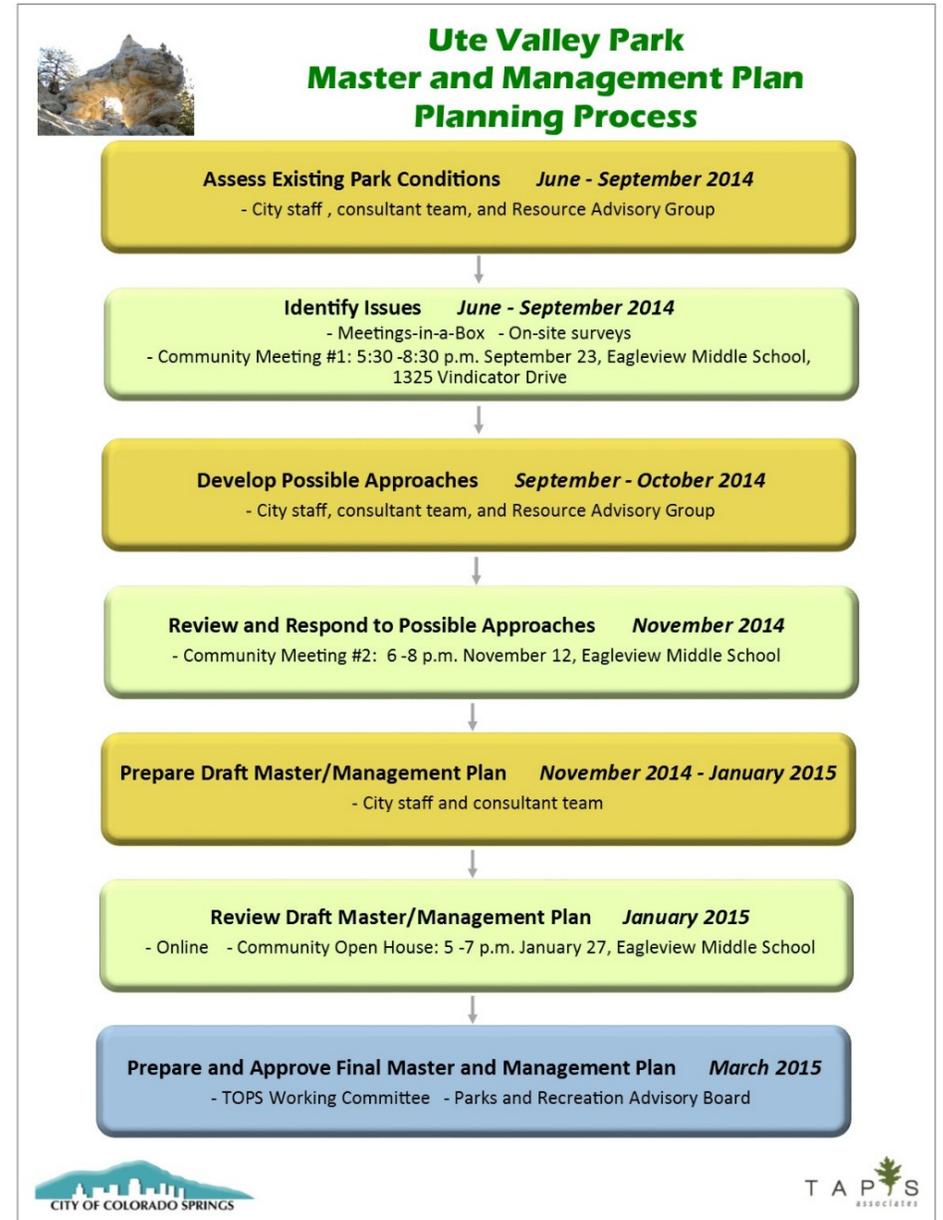
Special thanks to Friends of Ute Valley Park: signage; intercept and parking surveys; Meeting-in-a-Box host recruitment; active process participants



Public Involvement Process

Goals

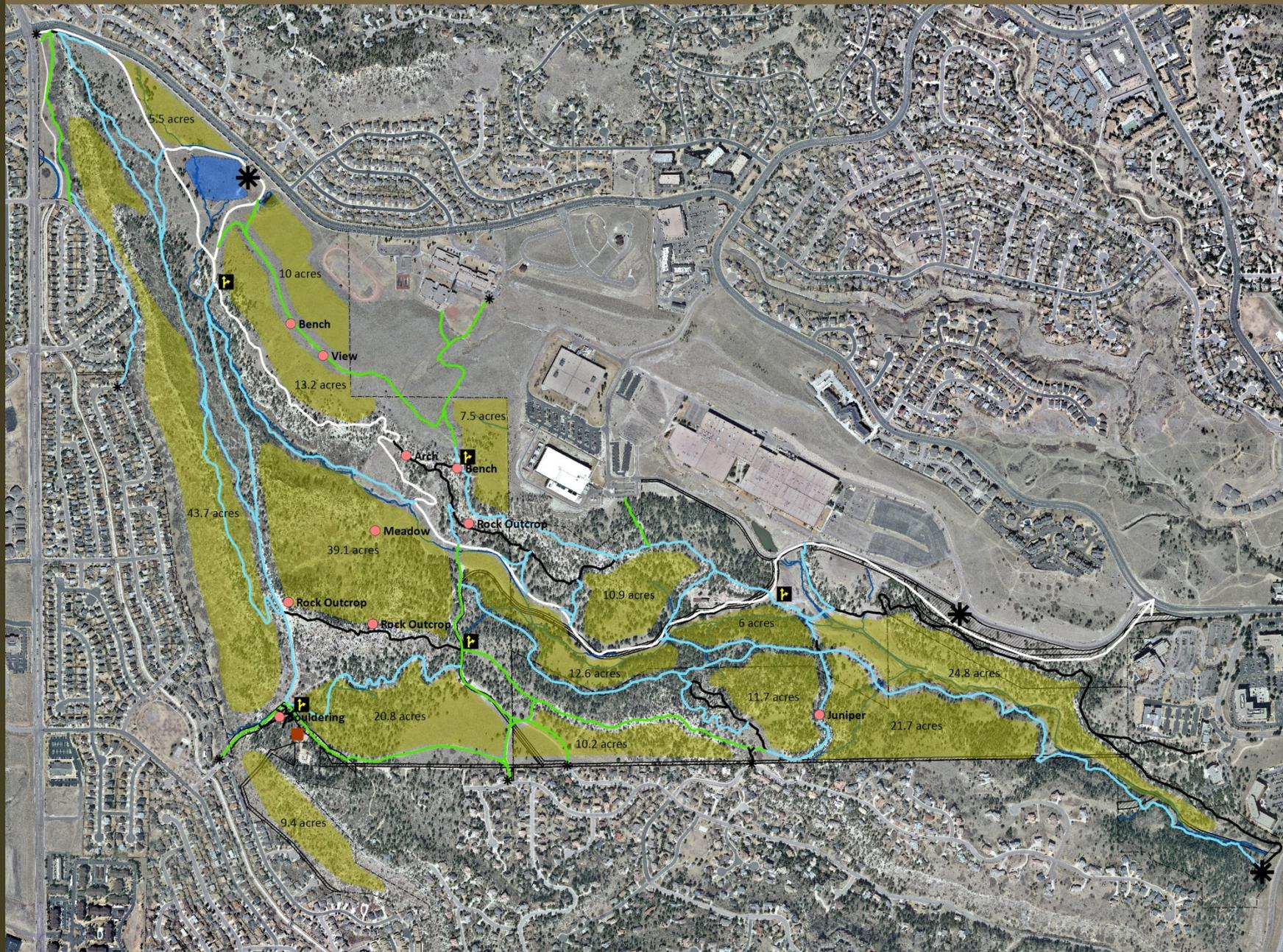
- Surface and resolve conflicts
- Conduct transparent, open process
- Provide range of participation options
- Develop a plan that reflects “lived” experience and technical expertise
- Assist in development of public judgment
- Produce a Master and Management Plan that is responsible and responsive



Master Plan

Legend

- Destinations
- P Wayfinding Nodes
- ✱ Neighborhood Connection
- ✱ Trailhead
- Accessible Connector Trail
- Easy Trail
- Intermediate Trail
- Difficult Trail
- Possible Stormwater Detention Area
- Undisturbed Resource Area 247 Acres
- Maintenance
- Ute Valley Boundary
- Hydrology
- Utility Easements



Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan

Public Involvement Process

What we heard from the Board:

- Allow the Plan to be flexible to accommodate future recommendations or modifications to City Code, as it pertains to dogs and leashes.
- Incorporate additional information about work completed regarding Forest Health and Wildfire Mitigation.
- Clarification of Park Designation (Regional Park vs. Open Space)
- Clarification of how trails can be widened.

What we heard from the Public:

- Continue to explore off-leash dog opportunities, community wide.
- Support for the proposed downhill bike trails and rehabilitation of existing downhill area.
- Greater understanding of the proposed alignment of the Regional Trail.
- Support for the effort to reclaim and restore larger areas for wildlife and vegetation; a restoration of existing rogue trails.



Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan





Lizard Leap Park

at Flying Horse

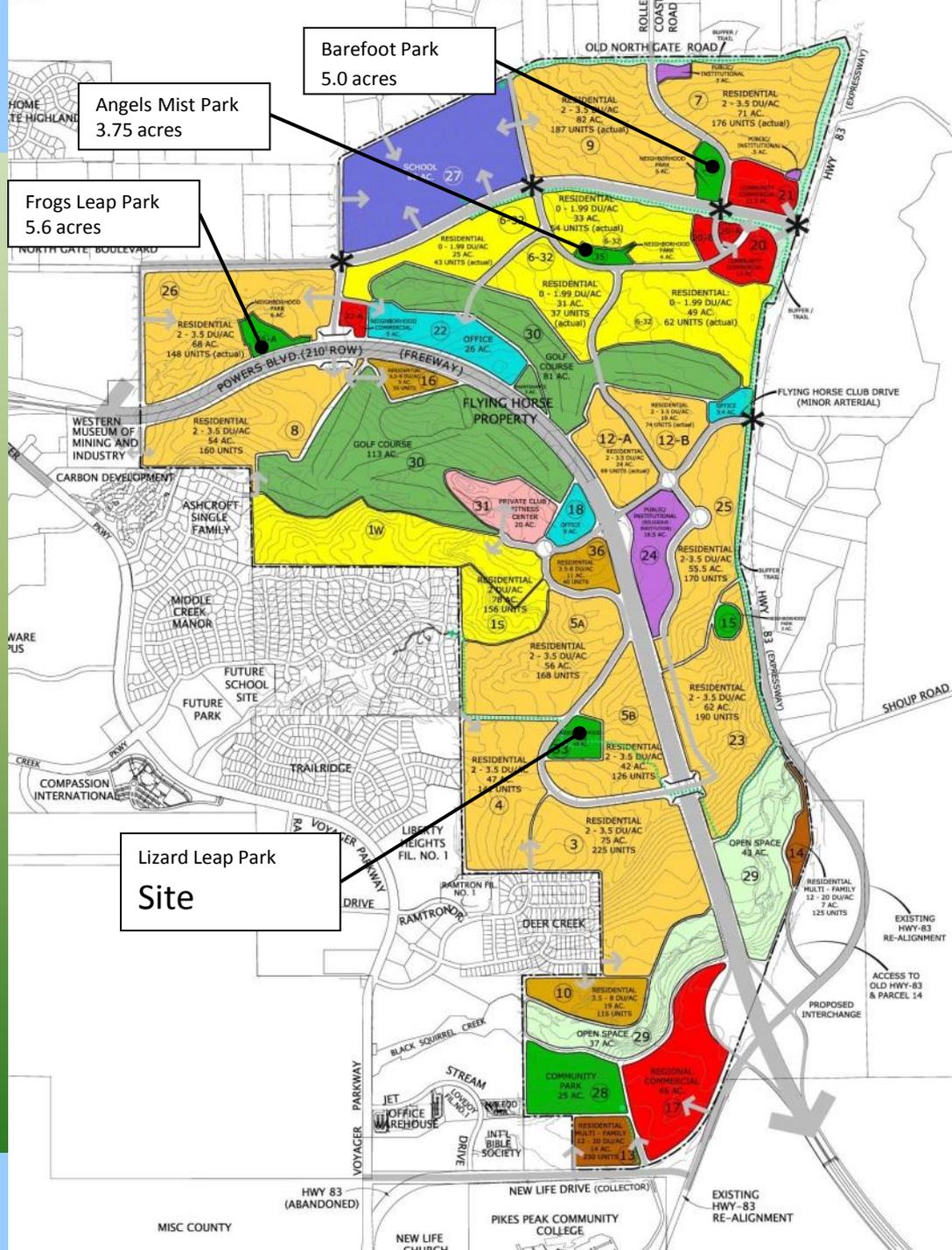
Park Master Plan
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 12, 2015



Development Data

Park Site:	10 acres
Construction:	Flying Horse/Classic Communities
Ownership and Maintenance:	Flying Horse Metropolitan District
Timing:	TBD

Regional Context

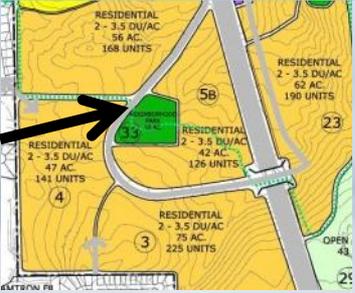


Lizard Leap Park

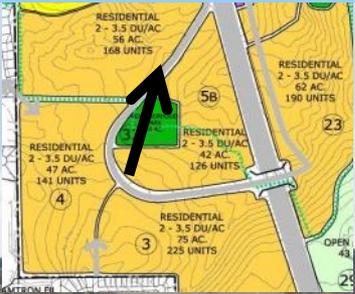
Site



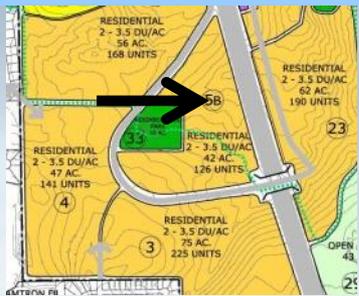
Site



Site



Site



Site



Master Plan



- Multipurpose Ball Field
- Baseball Field
 - Soccer Field
 - Informal Recreation



Master Plan



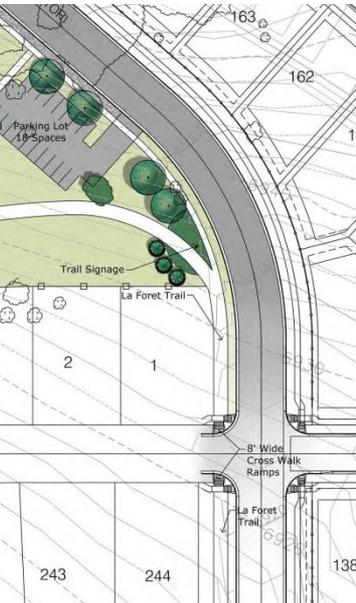
Shade Structure
- Picnic Area
- Barbeque



Master Plan



- Play Area**
- Play Structure Ages 2-5
 - Spring Riders
 - Play Structure Ages 5-12
 - Spiral Spinners
 - Swing Set
 - Embankment Slide



Master Plan

- Terraced Seating
- Hillside Views
- Gathering Space



Master Plan

Overlook
- Hilltop Views
- Picnic Tables



Master Plan

- Fitness Stations
- Workout Equipment
- Educational Signage



Master Plan

Open Lawn
- Passive Recreation
- Practice Field



Master Plan

- Trail System
- La Foret Trail
- Biking, Walking Trails



Master Plan



Basketball Court
- Surface for Events
- Bench Seating



Master Plan



Multipurpose Ball Field
 - Baseball Field
 - Soccer Field
 - Informal Recreation



Note: All Bluegrass sod areas, including the multipurpose ball field and the open lawn, are to be spray irrigated. Areas disturbed through grading operations are to be revegetated with native seed and irrigated for establishment.



Shade Structure
 - Picnic Area
 - Barbeque

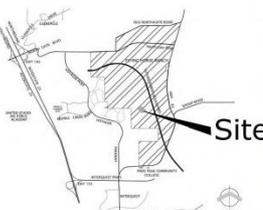


Play Area
 - Play Structure Ages 2-5
 - Spring Riders
 - Play Structure Ages 5-12
 - Spiral Spinners
 - Swing Set
 - Embankment Slide



Basketball Court
 - Surface for Events
 - Bench Seating

Lizard Leap Park
 - Neighborhood Park
 (Per Flying Horse Master Plan)
 - Site Area: 10 Acres



Vicinity Map
 Not Scale

Trail System
 - La Foret Trail
 - Biking, Walking Trails



Open Lawn
 - Passive Recreation
 - Practice Field



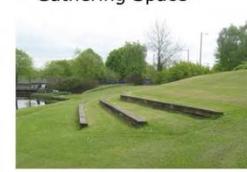
Fitness Stations
 - Workout Equipment
 - Educational Signage



Overlook
 - Hilltop Views
 - Picnic Tables



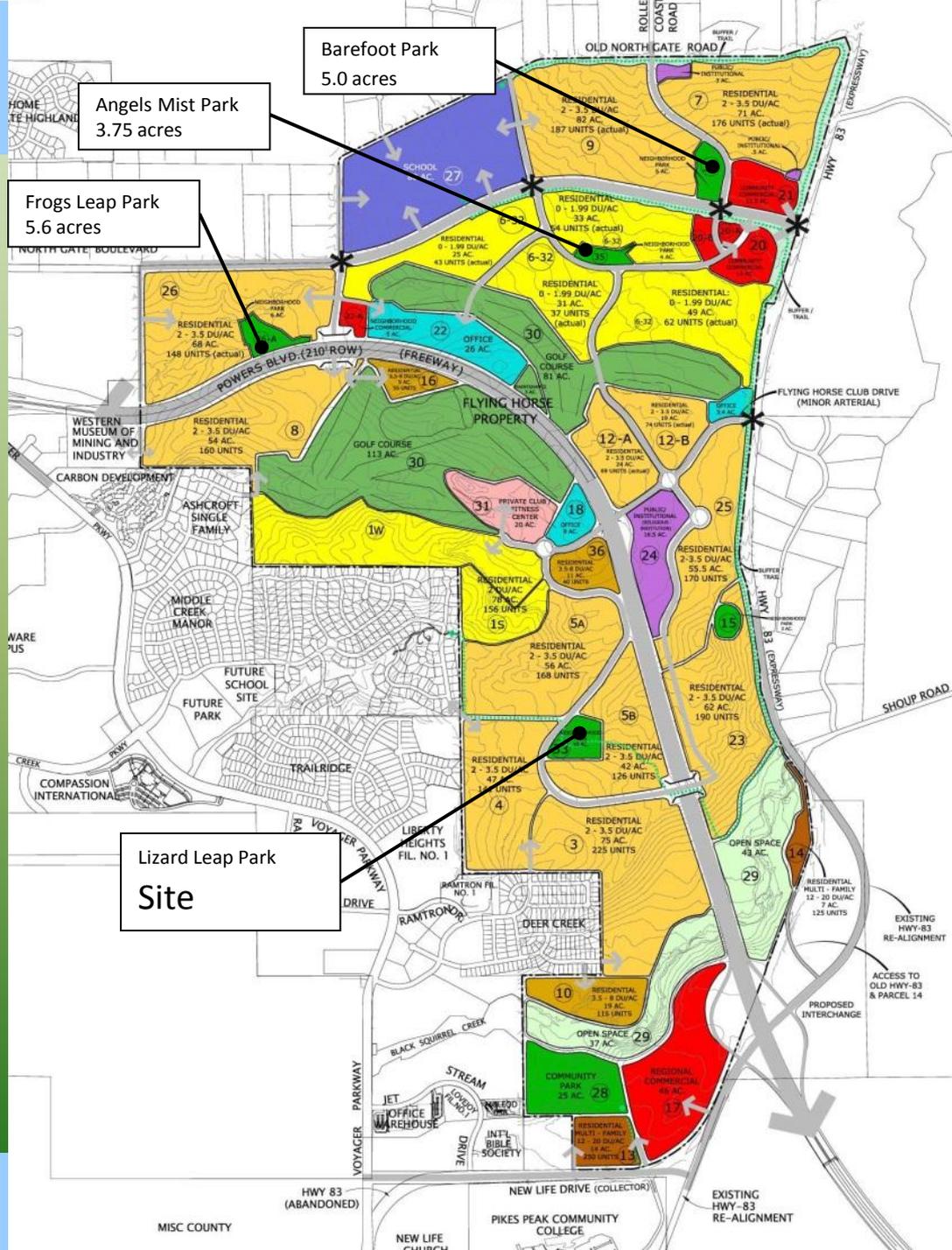
Terraced Seating
 - Hillside Views
 - Gathering Space



Development Data

Park Site:	10 acres
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Ownership and Maintenance:	Flying Horse Metropolitan District
Timing:	TBD

Development Data



Lizard Leap Park



Lizard Leap Park

at Flying Horse

Park Master Plan
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 12, 2015

