

CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
COLORADO

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Village Center
Telephone 303-789-2541
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City Council Agenda
Tuesday, April 1, 2014

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Members
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Reports from Members of City Boards and Commissions
5. Audience Participation Period (limit 5 minutes per speaker)
6. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes – March 18, 2014
7. Items Removed From Consent Agenda
8. Unfinished Business
 - a. Discussion of Art Display Policy
 - b. Council Bill 2, Series 2014; Amending Section 18-10-80 of the Municipal Code Concerning Pre-Application Neighborhood Input Meeting Procedures (*second and final reading*)
 - c. Continued Discussion on Open Space Policy
9. New Business
10. Reports
 - a. Mayor
 - b. Members of City Council
 - c. City Manager and Staff
 - (i) Community Development Department Annual Report
 - d. City Attorney
11. Adjournment

Notice: Agenda is subject to change.
If you will need special assistance in order to attend any of the City's public meetings, please notify the City of Cherry Hills Village at 303-789-2541, 48 hours in advance.

Minutes of the
City Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
At the Village Center

Mayor Doug Tisdale called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Doug Tisdale, Councilors Mark Griffin, Alex Brown, Scott Roswell, and Katy Brown were present on silent roll call. Also present were City Manager John Patterson, City Attorney Linda Michow, Deputy City Manager and Public Works Director Jay Goldie, Finance Director Karen Proctor, Community Development Director Rob Zuccaro, Police Chief Michelle Tovrea, Human Resource Analyst Kathryn Barlow, Parks, Trails & Recreation Administrator Ryan Berninzoni, Public Works Project and Right-of-Way Manager Ralph Mason, and City Clerk Laura Smith.

Absent: Councilors Russell Stewart and Klasina VanderWerf

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lucas Ferguson, Kimber Spelts, Minci Puskas, Judith Lee, Emma Seneshen, and Kate Seneshen, candidates for Mayor and Judge of Ameritowne at St. Mary's Academy, led the Council in the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS OF CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no reports.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Roswell moved, seconded by Councilor Griffin to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes – March 4, 2014

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**Public Forum on Open Space Policy**

Mayor Tisdale presented his memo proposing an open space strategies task force. He opened the public forum at 6:38 p.m. and invited former Mayor Welborn to share his thoughts.

Mayor Welborn, 4901 S. Fairfax Street, indicated that he had attended the meeting in order to listen to Council's discussion, but that he did want to emphasize that any task force would benefit from definitional context from City Council. He explained that Council had to consider both the type of land and the use of the land in a definition of open space – parks versus view corridors versus undeveloped private land and active versus passive recreation. He noted that this discussion may also involve the City's zoning and consideration of open space in a residential zone versus an O-1 zone. He suggested this topic may be appropriate for the Council retreat.

Hearing no other comments the Mayor closed the public forum at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor Tisdale noted that formal action was not the goal of tonight's discussion.

Councilor A. Brown indicated that he believed there was merit in forming a task force and that the topics outlined in the Mayor's memo were worth investigating along with others, but there may be a better way to organize how the topics are researched, studied and developed. He noted that the need for an open space task force was different than the need for the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee (QFVC) had been because it was unknown what kind of public space Quincy Farm would end up being, and also Parks, Trails and Recreation (PTRC) did not have a mechanism set up to answer those questions. He indicated that an open space task force would start from a different place. He noted that it would take a task force 18-24 months to address all the issues identified by the Mayor, and that some of these issues would be better addressed by Council, PTRC and staff rather than a task force. He suggested developing the program for study by the task force in collaboration with PTRC. He indicated that the issue of open space acquisition opportunities would be best addressed by Council, and the issue of financing and forming of ballot questions would be best addressed by staff and expert advisors. He noted that he was not comfortable asking for public funds without identifying a specific property for the voters, and so suggested that two types of ballot questions should be considered: a ballot question for a specific property at a known cost, or a ballot question for a contingent tax authority for parameters-based open space acquisition.

Mayor Tisdale noted that Councilor A. Brown's proposal was well set forth and noted that PTRC was already working on some of the issues such as the inventory of existing City-owned properties.

Councilor K. Brown indicated that she had similar thoughts to Councilor A. Brown. She noted that she was sensitive to PTRC and believed that many of the open space issues outlined were already charged to PTRC by the Municipal Code. She agreed that Council should collaborate with PTRC on the development of the task force. She noted that more representation on the task force would increase the value of the end product. She noted that prioritization of open space acquisition had been done and redone and it would not be the best use of the task force's time to revisit this issue. She indicated that the study of open space utilization was critical and that Mayor Welborn's comments were important to consider in this context. She noted that it was likely impossible to find total agreement on the definition of open space but that the lack of definition was crippling. She indicated this was the single biggest thing that Council could do to help the PTRC be productive. She warned against creating another group that would deal with the same issues as PTRC. She expressed concern that without that definition any new group would encounter the same obstacles that PTRC has struggled with.

Councilor Roswell applauded Councilor A. Brown's efforts. He indicated that any additional public involvement was good but that the open space topic required leadership from the Council to define scope. He noted that from there Council could work with PTRC to determine if PTRC needed assistance from a larger task force. He indicated that this was PTRC's charge but that there was a lack of direction from Council. He asked that no action be taken at the next meeting as he and Councilor K. Brown would be absent. He noted that input from Mayor Pro Tem Stewart and Councilor VanderWerf should be solicited at the next meeting.

Councilor Griffin agreed with all that had been said, noted more collaboration with PTRC was needed as well as more leadership from Council, and deferred more discussion until Mayor Pro Tem Stewart and Councilor VanderWerf were available.

Mayor Tisdale noted that the intention of his memo had been to start the discussion and advised that the discussion would continue at the April 1st meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Bill 2, Series 2014; A Bill for an Ordinance

Director Zuccaro presented Council Bill 2, Series 2014 on first reading. He explained that the proposed ordinance would simplify the pre-application neighborhood input meeting procedures by automatically scheduling an input meeting for all proposals with a single notice being sent for the meeting instead of the current two notice system; and requiring that review documents be submitted up front. He noted that since the program's inception in 2012, 30 applications had been submitted resulting in 14 requests for meetings. He indicated that the meetings had been very positive. He stated that the proposed changes were in part due to an issue with one application where plans provided to property owners differed from plans submitted for the building permit. He noted that several parties had indicated to staff that the current two-step notification

Councilor K. Brown expressed support for the changes but asked for clarification of staff's procedure if building plans were to change significantly between the input meeting and the permit application.

Director Zuccaro replied that the proposed ordinance added a requirement that the plans submitted with the permit application must "substantially conform" to the review documents submitted for the input meeting. He indicated that if the plans did not substantially conform that the input meeting process would have to be redone with the new plans.

Councilor Griffin asked about HOA covenants.

Director Zuccaro explained that when this program was begun in 2012 staff sent notices to all HOAs in the City asking them to register, and that registered HOAs are included in meeting notice mailings to adjacent property owners. He added that the City has no official role in evaluating or enforcing HOA covenants.

Councilor Roswell noted that he was glad the input meetings so far had been positive. He indicated that he did not want to mandate meetings but understood that in this case it would help streamline the process and avoid confusion.

Councilor A. Brown noted that the current ordinance doesn't require a meeting but does require the opportunity for a meeting. He indicated he was glad to hear the meetings have been positive, especially since the builders and architects had been concerned about the ordinance when it was first passed.

Councilor Griffin moved, seconded by Councilor K. Brown to approve Council Bill 02, Series 2014 on first reading; a bill for an ordinance amending Section 18-10-80 of the Cherry Hills Village Municipal Code concerning pre-application neighborhood input meeting procedures, as provided in Exhibit A to the March 18, 2014 staff memorandum.

The following votes were recorded:

Katy Brown	yes
Mark Griffin	yes
Scott Roswell	yes
Alex Brown	yes

Vote on the Council Bill 2-2014: 4 ayes. 0 nays. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Members of City Council

Councilor K. Brown had no report.

Councilor Griffin had no report.

Councilor Roswell noted he would be absent from the April 1st meeting.

Councilor A. Brown had no report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tisdale reported that he had attended the World Denver International Women's Day Luncheon at the Denver Art Museum. He attended the National League of Cities' Congressional Cities Conference in Washington D.C. where he participated in the National Airport Noise Roundtable meeting, led the discussion for the First Tier Suburbs Council and met with many representatives and officials. He attended the Cherry Creek Schools Foundation Annual Luncheon. He attended a flash mob in support of Cherry Hills Village Elementary (CHVE) third grader Ryan Dunne, who has a challenging form of muscular dystrophy. He explained that CHVE and Ryan's parents were encouraging everyone to add their electronic signatures to a petition for accelerated approval by the FDA of the medication Ryan needs by going to www.helpryanandunne.com. He would attend the Metro Mayors Caucus Water Committee meeting and the DRCOG meeting tomorrow. He and City Manager Patterson would attend the Arapahoe County Commissioners, Mayors and Managers breakfast on Friday. He reported that he had appointed Councilor K. Brown as the City's representative on the Centennial Airport Noise Roundtable, with himself as the alternate unless another Council member wished to volunteer. He presented a letter of cooperation from Denver Water CEO Jim Lochhead to investigate the opportunity for the City to locate the Public Works facility at Denver Water's Hillcrest site at Quincy and Happy Canyon, with a possible deployment date of 2019. He reminded Council that the Council Retreat was scheduled for May 31st with an alternate date of June 7th.

City Manager & Staff

City Manager Patterson reported that the City's auditors had completed their audit of the 2013 books and would present their report to Council in April or May. He noted that department monthly reports and unaudited financial statements were included in Council packets. He reported that BMW Golf Tournament officials had resubmitted their major event permit application but staff was concerned about several missing items including the traffic and parking studies. He noted that the major event permit application would go before the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) on April 8th. He reported that Xcel Energy was replacing gas lines on the east side of the City. He indicated that staff would give department annual reports in the Council meetings leading up to the Council Retreat. He reported that Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie had dealt with a water main break at Cherry Hills Country Club. He noted that the City had received over 100 applications for the new accounting clerk position. He indicated that he and Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie had met with Diana Real of Norris Design and hoped to bring the Public Works facility

review final report to Council in May. He reported that the City's annual Spring Clean Up would be May 17th-25th, with shred day, electronics and paint recycling on Saturday May 17th. He noted that Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie had saved the City \$2,000-\$4,000 by working with Goodwill who would recycle the electronics for free rather than pay to have them recycled with a private company. He reported that Community Development and Court revenues were up in 2014 while crime was down.

Councilor Griffin asked about the construction going on in the undeveloped property off of Quincy near Cherry Hills Country Club.

Community Development Director Zuccaro explained that it was a bank stabilization project that they planned to complete before the BMW Golf Tournament starts.

City Manager Patterson reported that staff had received a check from the BMW for excise tax for February 2013 to mid-February 2014 for approximately \$139,000.

City Clerk Smith reported that openings on the Board of Adjustment and Appeals and the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission had been posted for members who would complete their second or third term in May. She asked for Council direction on the reappointment of members who would complete their first terms in May.

Council agreed to reappoint those members.

City Attorney

City Attorney Michow had no report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Douglas M. Tisdale, Mayor

Laura Smith, City Clerk



WIDNER MICHOW & COX^{LLP}

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

TO: Honorable Mayor Tisdale and Members of City Council

FROM: Linda Michow, City Attorney

CC: John Patterson, City Manager
Karen Proctor, Finance Director

DATE: March 21, 2014

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 8a: Discussion of Art Display Policy

At the March 4, 2014 meeting, City Council directed the City Attorney's Office to draft a policy similar to Centennial's policy on the display of art work in public buildings. The attached policy is submitted to City Council for discussion and policy guidance. As previously noted, final adoption of such a policy must also be approved by the South Metro Fire Rescue Authority as joint owner of the Joint Public Safety Facility.

**CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
JOINT PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY ART DISPLAY POLICY**

I. AUTHORITY: The City of Cherry Hills Village ("Village") and the South Metro Fire Rescue Authority ("SMFRA") share and jointly own, as tenants in common, the public building known as the Joint Public Safety Facility ("JPSF"). Through an intergovernmental agreement between the Village and SMFRA dated September 6, 2011, the Village is designated as the administrator of the JPSF, authorized to perform tasks reasonably necessary or desirable for the administration or operation of the common areas of the JPSF.

II. PURPOSE OF POLICY: The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding the selection and responsibilities for art placed in the common area known as the community room ("Community Room") within the JPSF.

III. SCOPE: This policy governs (a) the selection of art for display in the JPSF, designated as a nonpublic forum, (b) responsibility for loss or damage to such works of art, and (c) obligations on display and removal.

IV. POLICY:

a. The City Council recognizes the JPSF as a workplace for essential emergency personnel and thus designates the JPSF as a non-public forum. The use of the Community Room is primarily assigned for Village and SMFRA related business including personnel training and meeting space. On a limited basis, as set forth in this policy, the Community Room is available for display of art work.

b. The Cherry Hills Village Public Art Commission ("PAC"), in coordination with Village staff, as may be assigned by the City Manager, are charged with the responsibility for selecting, arranging and displaying artwork in the JPSF.

c. **The Village is a participant in an intergovernmental risk sharing insurance pool and does NOT insure the art work displayed in the JPSF.**

d. **Any owner who loans art work for display in the JPSF Buildings bears the risk of loss from damage, destruction, or theft of the art work while it is in the care of the City. Although reasonable efforts are made by the Village, its employees, and officials to protect art work loaned for display in the JPSF, the City CANNOT assume any liability or responsibility for loss, damage or theft of the art work.**

e. In selecting art for display, the PAC and assigned Village staff shall comply with the laws and policies of the Village. The Village prohibits unlawful discrimination and disruption of the workplace. In the interest of promoting effective and essential governmental services to its citizens, the Village desires to retain its impartiality and the associated public trust and therefore will not accept works of art for display that are aesthetically displeasing, politically oriented, or offensive to segments of its citizenry. The Village may make acceptance distinctions on the basis of subject matter of the art work but will not base such display decisions on the basis of the potential displayer's viewpoint.

f. The PAC, in coordination with assigned Village staff, have the responsibility to preview and accept or reject every piece of art before it is displayed and such decision is final.

Comment [11]: Council should consider whether this policy should include the Village Center administration building, or any "public building" owned by the Village.

g. Each work of art may be identified with a title, the name of the artist, and contact information, which may include a quick response (QR) code with additional information from the artist. No commercial sales of art work shall be permitted, except that sales of art work for which at least 50% of the proceeds are donated to the Village for the acquisition and promotion of public art may be allowed in the discretion of the PAC or City Manager.

h. The Village and the artist shall enter into an Art Display Agreement in a form approved by the City Attorney.

V. POLICY REVIEW:

The City Council may review, revise or revoke this policy on an as-needed basis in its sole discretion.

Made effective this ___ day of _____, 2014.

Douglas M. Tisdale, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura Smith, City Clerk

(SEAL)

Comment [12]: This exception, based on the Peter Roosevelt-type exhibit, is open for Council policy discussion. The inclusion of a Quick Response Code allows for smartphone access to additional artist information. Council may also wish to consider the 50% threshold of donated proceeds. The designation of donated proceeds for the "acquisition and promotion of public art" is consistent with PAC's intent.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Art Exhibits and Commercial use of the Joint Public Safety Facility Community Room

City Attorney Michow explained that staff was seeking direction from Council on several issues related to art shows in the Community Room of the Joint Public Safety Facility (JPSF), including sale versus display of art, requirement of a display agreement, and a selection process for the artwork.

Mayor Tisdale indicated that Mayor Pro Tem Stewart had some thoughts related to these issues.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that he was impressed with the City of Centennial's Public Buildings Art Display Directive and Display Agreement that were included in Council packets. He suggested that it could be adjusted to fit the City's needs and that it was a good starting place.

City Attorney Michow advised that a Cherry Hills Village directive should identify the JPSF as a non-public forum rather than a limited forum as it was primarily an emergency response and public safety building and not as accessible to the public as Centennial's building.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that he did not necessarily support the sale of art from the Community Room.

City Attorney Michow noted that Centennial's policy stated that the artist's contact information would be available upon request, but that in reality a sign with the artist's name, email address and website was displayed with the artwork.

Mayor Tisdale suggested that any City policy should include a "Peter Roosevelt" clause which would allow the sale of artwork when the proceeds were donated to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart replied that he did not think the Community Room was the best location for such an event. He suggested something like the Barn Tour may be more appropriate for art sales because of the number of people who attend and would see the art. He noted that such events where proceeds were donated to the City would be rare.

Councilor VanderWerf replied that the Public Art Commission (PAC) was intending to hold one such event every year. She noted that in some cases the artist may donate less than 100% of the proceeds to the City. She explained that at the Barn Tour art sale the artist set the minimum bid and anything paid over that amount went to the Cherry Hills Village Land Preserve.

Mayor Tisdale asked City Attorney Michow to present some alternate language for Council to consider at a future meeting.

Councilor VanderWerf reported that the PAC members who had reviewed the Centennial policy liked the Cherry Hills Village wording better than Centennial's.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that he preferred the Centennial language for many reasons. He asked what specific sections the PAC members were comparing.

Councilor VanderWerf replied that the comment had been general but that she would ask the PAC for specific sections.

Mayor Tisdale asked City Attorney Michow to provide documents addressing Council's concerns at the next meeting that Council could then discuss further. He noted that because Councilor VanderWerf would be absent from the March 18th meeting that this topic would come back to Council at the April 1st meeting.

Councilor Roswell asked about the art show currently in the Community Room. He asked if South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR) had approved.

Chief Tovrea explained that she had discussed the issue with the station Chief and he would allow Chief Tovrea to evaluate the art being displayed at the JPSF.

City Attorney Michow added that the IGA between the City and SMFR for the JPSF identified the City as the administrator of the JPSF.

Councilor VanderWerf explained that she had presented information about the art shows for February through May during her report to Council on February 4th, including artist biographies and examples of their work. She noted that this information was also in the Village Crier.

Councilor Roswell indicated that Council had to distinguish between art sales and art display.

Councilor A. Brown asked if the art shows were exclusive to one artist at a time for two months each.

Councilor VanderWerf replied that most artists who approached the PAC for art shows had enough work to fill the space available in the Community Room, but that sometimes a group of artists would hold a show together.

Councilor K. Brown indicated she did not have an issue with the sale of art from the Community Room and that approval of artists should reside with the PAC rather than Council.

Councilor A. Brown expressed concern that the current practice would limit the space to six artists or groups a year.

PAC Commissioner Doug Smooke replied that the PAC has never established an official policy to only work with a single artist at a time.

Councilor VanderWerf added that the PAC was not turning artists away.

Councilor A. Brown noted that the Community Room did not receive much public traffic.

Commissioner Smooke replied that the PAC was working on developing signage to encourage more traffic for art shows.

Councilor VanderWerf added that one artist had decided not to hold a show in the Community Room because of the lack of traffic.

Councilor Griffin indicated that the PAC was doing a wonderful job and worked hard. He agreed with Councilor K. Brown that Council should not be the ones approving artists for art shows, but asked that Council be advised of the artists and show dates on a regular basis.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart asked if the Community Room was used for activities other than art.

Mayor Tisdale and Councilor K. Brown replied that the Community Room was frequently used as a meeting space for HOAs, non-profits, state representative town halls, Metro Mayors Caucus, etc. and that each one signed the license agreement to use the facility.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart suggested that Council may consider changing the form of the agreement for those types of uses.

Mayor Tisdale and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart discussed license agreements versus use agreements and permits for public property

Mayor Tisdale asked Council if they were comfortable maintaining the status quo for art shows already running and scheduled until the Council made any decisions at the April 1st meeting.

Council agreed.

Mayor Tisdale directed City Attorney Michow to present options for a revised agreement and procedures for the JPSF based on tonight's discussion.

City Attorney Michow noted that Council may want to have a broader discussion regarding the use of City facilities.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart replied that the discussion of uses other than art displays could be reserved for a later time. City Attorney Michow added that she had not yet found the City of Greenwood Village's agreement but noted that they had a permit process for art shows and posted rules on their website.

REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tisdale reported that he had attended the DRCOG meeting and had been elected Treasurer as well as Vice-Chair of the Metro Vision Issues Committee. The Metro Mayors Caucus Executive Board had met in the Community Room and Mayor Tisdale thanked Chief Tovrea for providing challenge coins for the other mayors. He had lunch with Arapahoe County Sheriff Walcher who had complimented Chief Tovrea. He asked residents to advise him of any concerns about potholes on state highways so that he could communicate them CDOT Transportation Development Division Director Debra Perkins-Smith. He attended the Rocky Mountain City Summit. He noted that party caucuses would be held tonight at West Middle School and St. Mary's Academy. He reported the International Women's Day Conference would be held March 7th. He would leave Saturday to attend the National League of Cities Congressional Meeting in Washington D.C. and reminded Council to notify him of any issues they would like him to discuss with their federal representatives. He noted that Chevy would provide Volt vehicles for the Exotic Car Show. He directed Council to consider staff's memo regarding Board and Commission member terms. He noted that Council would continue their public forum on open space policy at the March 18th meeting. He asked Council to check their schedules for the City Council Mini Retreat on either May 31st or June 7th.

Members of City Council

Councilor A. Brown had no report.

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ITEM: 8b

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR TISDALE AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: ROBERT A. ZUCCARO, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: COUNCIL BILL 02, SERIES 2014; A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 18-10-80 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING PRE-APPLICATION NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT MEETING PROCEDURES (*SECOND AND FINAL READING*).

DATE: APRIL 1, 2014

ISSUE:

Should the City Council approve Council Bill 02, Series 2014 on second and final reading, amending the preapplication neighborhood input meeting procedures for new homes, major additions and second-story additions to existing homes (see Exhibit A)? The Council Bill was approved on first reading at the March 18, 2014 meeting and no changes have been made to the proposal since that time. The amendment is intended to achieve two primary objectives:

1. The first objective is to eliminate the two-step notice process. Currently, an applicant must provide notice of intent to submit a building permit to adjacent property owners and HOAs. Only if a meeting is requested by an adjacent property owner or HOA is the meeting scheduled and a second notice must then be sent with the time and date of the meeting. Council Bill 02, Series 2014 amends to code so that a preapplication neighborhood meeting is automatically scheduled for all proposals with a single notice being sent for the meeting. By eliminating the two-step notice process, the objective is to eliminate any confusion caused by multiple notices being sent and to reduce the burden on the applicant, adjacent property owners and HOA in responding to two certified mailings.
2. The second objective is to require that review documents be submitted upfront with all neighborhood input meeting applications and to clarify that the building permit plans need to substantially conform to the review documents provided for the neighborhood input meeting. Currently, plans only need to be submitted if an adjacent property owner or HOA requests a meeting. By requiring the review documents to be submitted with every

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application, the objective is to eliminate any confusion on what may have been presented to a neighbor or HOA compared to the final building plans submitted to the City.

DISCUSSION:

The City Council adopted the preapplication neighborhood input meeting requirement in June of 2012 (see Exhibits B and C for May 15, 2012 and June 5, 2012 meeting minutes respectively). The proposed ordinance was intended to implement the Residential Development Standards Committee (RDSC) recommendation for a contextual design review process:

***Contextual Design Review Process** – Review of a conceptual site plan and building massing for residential development or redevelopment should be required prior to application for a building permit in order to encourage excellence in design standards specific to the character of the neighborhood. (September 30, 2009 RDSC Final Report, Section D.8)*

Based on public input received during the original ordinance review, and the discussions during first reading, the application process was amended to include a two-step notification procedure before a meeting is held. The first notice is sent out to adjacent property owners and HOAs and provides them the opportunity to request a meeting within a specified time frame. If a meeting is then requested, a second notice is sent to adjacent property owners and the HOA with the time and date of the meeting. Both sets of notices are required to be sent by certified mail, with return receipt requested. In addition, the ordinance only requires that the applicant submit the review documentation (site plan, staging, bulk plane drawing, and construction schedule) if a meeting is requested. The purpose of adopting the two-step process and deferred submittal of review materials was to lessen the burden on the developer if no one was interested in having a meeting.

Since adoption of the ordinance, 30 applications have been submitted resulting in 14 requests for meetings. Feedback on the program has been mostly positive, especially from neighboring property owners. In almost all instances the meetings have not been contentious and fostered positive dialogue between adjacent property owners, HOAs and the developers.

With one application, an issue arose when plans were provided to adjacent property owners directly by the developer outside of the City process, and based on these plans, no meeting request was made. The developer later amended the plans without further review by the adjacent property owners and a building permit was issued. The developer had not violated any of the City's requirements by doing this, but several issues arose between the developer and the neighbors based on the miscommunication.

Staff has consulted with the developer and several of the adjacent property owners on this case, and both parties have agreed that submitting the review documents up front in all cases would be a better process to ensure that everyone understood which set of plans were to move forward to the building permit stage. In addition, feedback from this case and others is that that the two-step notification process with certified mailings is burdensome for both the developer and adjacent property owners and may cause some confusion. A more efficient and straightforward process may be to schedule a neighborhood input meeting, require one notice to be sent, and require that the review documents be submitted for all applications.

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RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance as drafted.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

“I move to approve Council Bill 02, Series 2014 on second and final reading; a bill for an ordinance amending Section 18-10-80 of the Cherry Hills Village Municipal Code concerning pre-application neighborhood input meeting procedures, as provided in Exhibit A to the April 1, 2014 staff memorandum.”

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A: Council Bill 02, Series 2014

Exhibit B: May 15, 2012 City Council Meeting Minutes

Exhibit C: June 5, 2012 City Council Meeting Minutes

COUNCIL BILL 02
SERIES OF 2014

INTRODUCED BY: _____
SECONDED BY: _____

**A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE
OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
AMENDING SECTION 18-10-80 OF THE
CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE MUNICIPAL CODE
CONCERNING PRE-APPLICATION
NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, the City of Cherry Hills Village is a home rule municipal corporation organized in accordance with Article XX of the Colorado Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cherry Hills Village is authorized to regulate property and construction within the boundaries of the City to further the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Cherry Hills Village; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 18 of the Cherry Hills Village Municipal Code governs building regulations for construction of homes in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cherry Hills Village has determined that preapplication neighborhood input meetings should be required prior to submitting building permit applications for new homes and certain additions to homes in order to foster dialogue among neighbors about construction projects before they commence; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cherry Hills Village intends to streamline the process for neighborhood input meetings and clarify that building permits submitted after a neighborhood input meeting is completed must conform to the site plan and building height and bulk plane drawings provided for the neighborhood input meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, COLORADO, ORDAINS:

Section 1. Section 18-10-80 of the Cherry Hills Village Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 18-10-80. Preapplication neighborhood input meeting.

(a) A preapplication neighborhood input meeting (*neighborhood meeting*) shall be held prior to submitting an application for a permit to construct a new single-family dwelling, commercial, community or institutional structure, or an addition to any such structure that increases the square footage by fifty percent (50%) or more or adds a second story to an existing one-story structure if requested by an affected property owner or homeowners' association. An

affected property owner shall mean the owner of property contiguous to or across any street from any portions of the applicant's property. A *homeowners' association* shall mean a homeowners' association registered with the City with jurisdiction over covering the applicant's property. The applicant and City are entitled to rely on the registration information provided by the homeowners' associations to the City for purposes of preparing any notices or otherwise contacting homeowners' associations.

~~(b) An applicant shall be required to send notice to all affected property owners and any homeowners' associations by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating: (1) their intent to submit an application for a building permit and generally describing the scope of the project; and (2) that a neighborhood meeting will be made available upon written request to the City. Such notice language shall be furnished to the applicant by the City.~~

~~(c) If an affected property owner or homeowners' association makes a written request for a neighborhood meeting within fifteen (15) days after the mailing of the notice required in Subsection (b) above, the meeting shall be scheduled by the City Manager within thirty (30) days of such request. If a written request is not received within the fifteen-day timeframe stated above, an applicant may submit an application for a building permit; provided, however, that, if a building permit application is not submitted within the one hundred eighty (180) days of the mailing notice required in Subsection (b) above, all procedures regarding neighborhood meetings described herein must again be met prior to submitting an application for a building permit.~~

(b) The purpose of a neighborhood meeting is to inform affected property owners and homeowners' associations about proposed development and to seek input and comments about its design and potential impacts on the neighborhood which could reasonably be mitigated. A neighborhood meeting is not required to generate complete consensus on all aspects of the proposed development, nor to supplant or add to the applicable standards or requirements of this Code.

(dc) Procedures for neighborhood meetings. Upon receipt of a complete application, the City shall set a time, date and place for the meeting during the City's normal business hours. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the neighborhood meeting date, the applicant shall be required to send written notice of the neighborhood meeting to all affected property owners and homeowners' associations by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating: (1) the purpose of the meeting and generally describing the scope of the project; and (2) the time and place of the meeting. Such notice language shall be furnished to the applicant by the City. Neighborhood meetings shall be held during the City's normal business hours and shall be attended by the City Manager. At least seven (7) days prior to the neighborhood meeting date, the applicant shall submit to the City the following documents that are required to be available at the meeting:

(1) A schedule detailing the anticipated dates of construction, including the major phases of construction, such as excavation and grading, foundation work, framing, exterior finish work, interior finish work and landscaping.

(2) A preliminary construction staging plan meeting the requirements of Section 18-10-40 of this Article.

(3) A preliminary site plan, drawn to scale and in accordance with an accurate survey, including the following information:

a. The size and location of any proposed structures and existing structures;

b. The setback distances from lot lines to any proposed structures in accordance with the parcel's zoning; and

c. Existing contours in one-foot intervals in USGS datum.

(4) Building height and bulk plane drawings demonstrating the height and three-dimensional extent of the proposed structures in accordance with the parcel's zoning. The design elements of the building, including the architectural style, colors and materials, are not required.

~~(ed) The applicant, or applicant's representative, shall be required to attend the meeting to present ~~review~~ the documents submitted in accordance with this Section. ~~The purpose of the meeting shall be for the applicant, or applicant's representative, to hear comments from the neighbors in response to the documents submitted in accordance with Subsection (d) above. Comments provided during the neighborhood meeting are to be considered advisory to the applicant and shall not create any binding obligations.~~ Copies of any written comments submitted to the City prior to the neighborhood meeting shall be provided to the applicant, or applicant's representative, at or before the meeting. ~~Summary minutes of the meeting shall be kept by the City. Upon completion of the meeting, the applicant may submit an application for a building permit in accordance with Subsection (e) above.~~~~

(e) Compliance with the neighborhood meeting procedures in this Section 18-10-80 is a condition precedent to submitting a building permit application. A building permit application must substantially conform to the site plan and building height and bulk plane drawings submitted under Subsection (c)(3) and (4) above. If a building permit application is not submitted within one hundred eighty (180) days of the neighborhood meeting date, or the site plan and building height and bulk plane drawings do not substantially conform to those submitted for the neighborhood meeting, an applicant shall be required to conduct an additional neighborhood meeting in accordance with this Section prior to submitting an application for a building permit.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance should be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid portion, provided that such remaining portions or applications of this ordinance are not determined by the court to be inoperable. The City Council declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, despite the fact that any one or more section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion would be declared invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication on second reading in accordance with Section 4.5 of the Charter for the City of Cherry Hills Village.

Adopted as Ordinance No. ____ Series 2014, by the City Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado this __ day of _____, 2014.

Douglas M. Tisdale, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to form:

Laura Smith, City Clerk

Linda C. Michow, City Attorney

Published in the Villager
Published Two Times: _____
Legal # _____

Published in *The Villager*
Published: _____
Legal #: _____

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**Council Bill 8, Series 2012; A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code Establishing Pre-Application Neighborhood Input Meetings**

Community Development Director Rob Zuccaro presented Council Bill 8, Series 2012 on first reading. He explained that the proposed bill would establish a pre-application neighborhood input meeting, where the applicant would present the building plans to adjacent property owners for discussion. He noted that this was a recommendation from the Residential Standards Development Committee (RDSC) as part of their contextual design review process recommendation. He emphasized that the design elements of the buildings, such as colors and materials, would not be included in the review. The purpose of the meeting would be to foster dialogue between the applicant and neighbors. Comments made during the meeting would be advisory only and nonbinding to the applicant. Director Zuccaro and Councilor Brown had held two input meetings, one for Home Owners Associations (HOAs) and one for builders and architects. He noted that the HOA representatives had been generally supportive of the idea, while the builders had been generally unsupportive. The builders worried that the meetings would create unnecessary animosity. Director Zuccaro noted that pros and cons and analysis were outlined in the staff memo. He added that if the proposed bill was approved it might lead to the need for hiring additional staff in order to ensure that there is timely implementation of the regulations and that high quality customer service continues to be provided to residents and builders.

Councilor VanderWerf asked what the definition of adjacent was as used in the proposed bill.

Director Zuccaro replied that it included all property owners who shared a property boundary or a right-of-way, such as a road or a canal, with the applicant.

Councilor LaMair indicated that she appreciated staff's analysis and the outline of pros and cons in the staff memo. She suggested that the staff and Council time saved by initial mitigation of neighbors' concerns also be taken into consideration when staff does an analysis of the additional staff time that implementation of the proposed bill will require.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart clarified that the wording in the proposed bill was "contiguous", which did not include those property owners that shared a road right-of-way, and so in the proposed bill the language specified that notice be given to all property owners "contiguous to, including across any street from, ...the applicant's property". He indicated his support of the proposed bill and its ability to mitigate issues between neighbors related to large construction projects, but asked if the costs associated with Section 18-10-80(2)(c)(3) through (5) were necessary as part of the neighborhood meeting.

Director Zuccaro replied that all of those items are required as part of the building permit application. He explained that the contours required by item (3) were most significant as they were necessary to determine the height of a structure.

Mayor Tisdale indicated that he understood the builders' concerns that having a neighborhood meeting would invite conflict, but also agreed with Councilor LaMair that the meetings would hopefully mitigate conflict. He noted that the City was not

considering any review of design elements. He asked if the meeting would be required even if there was no response from the noticed neighbors.

Director Zuccaro replied that the builders who had attended the input meeting had been supportive of requiring a meeting only if there was a response from the neighbors after the notice letters were sent.

Mayor Tisdale suggested that be considered.

Councilor LaMair agreed and noted that there should be some burden on the neighbors to become involved in order to save the City unnecessary expenditure of time and money.

Director Zuccaro noted that the City had established a similar system with the wireless communications ordinance, where "affected" property owners could request a public hearing. He asked if this would be the case for the neighborhood input meeting or if anyone would be able to trigger the meeting.

Mayor Tisdale indicated that it should be restricted to affected property owners.

Councilor Griffin indicated that the proactive approach of the proposed bill was positive. He asked if the proposed bill gave HOAs or neighbors the ability to halt the process of a new building project.

Director Zuccaro replied that it did not.

Mayor Tisdale noted that the City's practice is not to enforce HOA covenant. He referred to the language in Section 18-10-80(5) stated that neighbor comments made during the meeting are not binding. He suggested that the language might be made more obvious.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that the notice should utilize technology as much as possible through email and the website.

Mayor Tisdale replied that posting notices on the website was a good thought.

Councilor LaMair moved, seconded by Councilor Griffin to approve Council Bill 8, Series 2012 on first reading; a bill for an ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code by the addition of Section 18-10-80 establishing pre-application neighborhood input meetings, as outlined in Exhibit A to the May 15, 2012 staff memorandum with the recommendations that have been discussed by the Council.

The following votes were recorded:

Mark Griffin	yes
Harriet LaMair	yes
Russell Stewart	yes
Klasina VanderWerf	yes

Vote on the Council Bill 8-2012: 4 ayes. 0 nays. The motion carried.

Resolution 12, Series 2012: Application for a Transfer of Ownership for a Retail Liquor Store License at 1400 E. Hampden Ave. Suite 130

City Clerk Laura Smith presented Resolution 12, Series 2012 for Council's consideration. She explained that the proposed resolution would approve a transfer of ownership application for the retail liquor store license for the wine shop at 1400 E.

Mr. Rick Watkins of 15 Vista Road explained that he lived in the City and had been a home builder in the City for 25 years. He opposed the pre-application neighborhood input meeting proposed by Council Bill 8, Series 2012. He believes that the proposed bill would create disagreements and animosity between neighbors and that it would blur the lines between opinions and rules. He also warned that the new building rules imposed by Council resulted in significant additional costs to homeowners. He warned against adding new rules before the City had time to evaluate the effectiveness of those rules recently passed. He noted that the City of Denver had been through a similar process and had settled on sending letters to neighbors to notify them of new construction, but did not invite opinions from neighbors or HOAs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart moved, seconded by Councilor VanderWerf to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes – May 15, 2012

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Bill 8, Series 2012: A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code Establishing Pre-Application Neighborhood Input Meetings

Community Development Director Rob Zuccaro presented Council Bill 8, Series 2012 for second and final reading. He explained that the proposed bill would provide the opportunity for adjacent property owners to request a pre-application review meeting for new homes, major additions, and second-story additions. If the meeting were requested the applicant would need to hold a meeting to review construction staging and scheduling, building setbacks, footprints, bulk plane and height. The design elements of the building, such as colors and materials, would not be included in the review. The purpose of the meeting would be to foster dialogue between the applicant and neighbors. Comments made during the meeting would be advisory only and nonbinding to the applicant. Director Zuccaro noted that several changes had been made to the bill since first reading on May 15, 2012. The bill had been changed so that a meeting is not required unless requested by an affected property owner or HOA. If requested, the applicant would then need to provide the review materials and send out a second notice for the actual meeting. The term "affected property owner" had been clarified to include property owners contiguous to the applicant's property and across the street from any portions of the applicant's property. The site plan submittal requirements to show the location of easements and encumbrances and the location of 100-year floodplain boundaries had been deleted. The building permit application must be submitted within 180 days of the input meeting date or within 180 days of completing the notice requirements if no meeting is required. Director Zuccaro added that a pro of the amended bill might be that applicants may be proactive and inform their neighbors of construction projects in an attempt to avoid a meeting. He noted that a con of the amended bill might be that some affected property owners may be hesitant to request a meeting.

Councilor Brown commented that the bill was initiated by a recommendation from the Residential Standards Development Committee (RDSC), and that the original

recommendation had been more aggressive than the bill. The original recommendation had included a professional mediator at a mandatory meeting. He indicated that the bill was a response to community and staff input, and although there were those who might feel it unnecessary, the intent was to address a problem in the community by facilitating communication and giving neighbors the ability to know what to expect. He noted that the bill would institute a process that was mainly informative, but would provide the information prior to any construction to reduce the instances of reactive conflict. He noted that the meeting would not require any information or data from the applicant that would not otherwise be required for the permit application. He emphasized that the intent of the bill was to facilitate the flow of information, and while it would take some getting used to, it was well designed and not overly onerous on homeowners.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that the RDSC had examined several examples of conflict between homeowners that may have benefitted from pre-construction communication. He added that the bill was addressing this problem with discussions instead of additional regulations. He noted that neighbors still may have disagreements but that the bill would likely prevent or help solve many problems. He indicated his support of the bill.

Councilor VanderWerf indicated her support of the bill. She noted that there was a case in her neighborhood that would have benefited from a pre-application meeting in order to inform neighbors of what to expect during construction. She added that neighbors may have good suggestions for applicants.

Councilor Griffin indicated his agreement, and noted that the bill had been well vetted and was proactive instead of reactive. He added that any comments made by neighbors to the applicant during the meeting were non-binding, and indicated that he was in favor of the bill.

Councilor Brown moved, seconded by Councilor VanderWerf to approve Council Bill 8, Series 2012 on second reading; a bill for an ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code by the addition of Section 18-10-80 establishing pre-application neighborhood input meetings, as outlined in Exhibit A to the June 5, 2012 staff memorandum.

The following votes were recorded:

Russell Stewart	yes
Klasina VanderWerf	yes
Alex Brown	yes
Mark Griffin	yes

Vote on the Council Bill 8-2012: 4 ayes. 0 nays. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tisdale reported that Planning & Zoning Commission Chair Ira Plotkin had passed away after a long struggle with illness, and that he had attended the memorial service along with City Manager John Patterson, Community Development Director Rob

**CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
COLORADO**

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ITEM: 8C

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR TISDALE AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JOHN H. PATTERSON, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON OPEN SPACE

DATE: APRIL 1, 2014

ISSUE

How should Council best proceed going forward in dealing with Open Space in the Village?

Should Staff structure a process to move forward in a collaborative manner on the many issues surrounding Parks, Trails and Open Space?

DISCUSSION

Following the Public Forum on Open Space discussion at the Council meeting on March 18, 2014, Mayor Tisdale instructed me to form a Working Group consisting of the Mayor, Councilor Klasina VanderWerf, Mr. Bill Lucas (PTRC Chair), Mr. Goldie, Mr. Berninizoni, Mr. Zuccaro and myself to come up with a process of how to present relevant information to Council on Open Space. The focus of the Working Group will be on process and will take into account those points raised during recent Council meetings. The creation of a comprehensive action plan regarding parks, trails, recreation and open space is the ultimate goal of this process. Staff feels that a document such as this is necessary to guide the community in a more definitive and positive fashion. This effort will also give more specific guidance to the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission.

Staff's understanding from Council's feedback to date is that Council would like to have a "Parks, Trails, Recreation and Open Space Master Development Plan" created for the Village. The purpose of the plan would be to go beyond the more general Village Master Plan "Goals and Objectives" and Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations to create a guiding plan on how to operate and develop the Village's parks, trails, recreation and open space system. The Master Development Plan could also include a concrete strategy for acquiring additional parks, trails, recreation and open spaces.

We have attached a copy of Silverthorne's Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan for your review. We like their approach, which contains thorough design guideline details. Staff has obtained Parks Master Plans from several other cities around Colorado and peer cities from around the country, which are available for your review. These plans also provide some examples of what items may be covered in a Parks Master Development Plan. Great Outdoors Colorado grants are available to assist localities in the "master planning" process (grant applications for the fall cycle are typically due in August with decisions made in December).

Items that could be included in a Parks, Trails, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan:

- General locations and history of all parks, trails and open space in the Village.
- Current conditions of each park, trail and open space in the Village.
- Identify current improvements within all parks, trails and open space.
- Demographic report and evaluation of current and future needs of residents.
- Opportunities for intergovernmental partnerships.
- Definitions for types of parks, trails and open spaces.
- Specific development and programming plans for each park.
- Design specifications for parks.
- Design specifications for off-street trails.
- Design specifications for roads that would include on-street trails and bicycle lanes.
- Trail connection plan.
- View corridor protection plan.
- Strategies for funding parks, trails and open space purchases.
-?

Staff recommends that consideration be given to hiring a consultant to create the Master Development Plan. The consultant would work closely with the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission and possibly a citizens' advisory committee on development of the plan. Staff would coordinate and facilitate the project and specific guidance on the content of the Master Development Plan can be provided by the Council at the beginning of the process. The Master Development Plan would likely take 12 to 18 months to complete and would need to include significant public outreach. Staff also recommends that a city-wide statistically valid survey be conducted in conjunction with the Master Development Plan process so that additional insights into the demand and desire for different types of parks, trails and open space can be obtained. The survey would also help tap into the voices of those who may not be likely to attend public meetings. Staff could plan and budget for the project this year, and "kick-off" the effort in early 2015.

ATTACHMENTS

- Exhibit A - Silverthorne Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan
- Exhibit B - Mayor's Open Space Memo dated March 18, 2014
- Exhibit C - Councilor Alex Brown's Open Space Memo dated March 18, 2014
- Exhibit D - January 7, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes
- Exhibit E - February 18, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes
- Exhibit F - Draft March 18, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes

Silverthorne

Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan



Silverthorne Department of Recreation and Culture

U r b a n E d g e s
D H M D e s i g n C o r p o r a t i o n

January 2001



“...To provide a year-round family community with economic, recreation and social opportunities for all citizens to have a mountain quality of life...”

--Mission Statement of the Department of Recreation and Culture

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Acknowledgements

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- ❖ Karl Johnson
- ❖ Mike Kurth
- ❖ Marty Richardson
- ❖ John Taylor
- ❖ Pat Taylor

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- ❖ Dave Koop
- ❖ Traci McGeehan
- ❖ Fran Penner-Ray
- ❖ Steve Swanson
- ❖ Thim Theis

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- ❖ Dwight Coccovinis
- ❖ Peggy Long
- ❖ Stuart Richardson
- ❖ Keith Schaefer

With Assistance of Town of Silverthorne Staff

- ❖ Kevin Batchelder, Town Manager
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Planning Consultants

Urban Edges and DHM Design Corporation

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- ❖ William Neumann, ASLA Project Landscape Architect
- ❖ Mark Wilcox, Landscape Architect

This plan was made possible by a grant from

The Great Outdoors Colorado Trust



Introduction



Introduction

Just over a decade ago, Silverthorne set out to reinvent itself. Building on its spectacular natural attributes, Silverthorne has been undergoing an impressive transformation. Today, thanks to the commitment and vision of its citizenry, Silverthorne is a first-class mountain community. Site-appropriate architecture, new, quality residential development, a superb recreation center, a river trail and new pavilion are helping to shape that identity. Indeed “mountain community” is the operative word as Silverthorne strives to keep this special and distinct character in the face of pressures to urbanize.

A Vision For Silverthorne’s Future

This plan sets out to continue the vision of Silverthorne as a distinct mountain community over the next decade, by creating a town defined by a walking scale, a network of easily accessible trails, preservation of scenic vistas, community gathering spaces, places of cultural and artistic expression, places of spiritual renewal and a high quality park and recreation system sufficient to meet the needs of the town’s residents. As in the past, Silverthorne aims to achieve this vision through hands-on participation and dedication of its citizenry.



The Purpose of This Plan

This plan was produced in pursuit of Silverthorne’s stated mission:

...to provide a year-round family community with economic, recreational and social opportunities for all citizens to have a mountain quality of life ...

It strives to do this by recommending recreational amenities and the protection and enhancement of Silverthorne’s environmental and cultural resources. The purpose of this plan is to realize this vision through well thought-out definitions, guiding criteria, a physical layout and roster of projects. This plan is also intended to guide cooperative efforts among citizens, businesses, visitors, surrounding communities and partnering agencies. The goal is to realize an outstanding system that is affordable to create and maintain.

The Planning Process

This plan grew out of the joint efforts of Town staff and citizens. The *Town of Silverthorne Recreation and Culture Department* produced it, guided by the *Silverthorne Parks and Outdoor Recreation Taskforce (SPORT)* citizen’s committee. A consulting team led by Urban Edges, Inc. and DHM Design Corporation facilitated the effort. The plan was funded by a grant from the *Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund*, with cost sharing by the Town of Silverthorne.

The planning effort began in March of 2000 and was completed with a final draft plan in November 2000. The process included a series of technical reviews by key Town departments including *Public Works, Community Development* and the *Town Manager’s Office* and three participatory public forums. The *SPORT Committee* played a key role at both the technical review sessions and the public meetings. The Town Board adopted the plan on January 10, 2001.

Guiding Principals Open Space, Trails And Parks

The following principals set the benchmark for Silverthorne's open space, trails and parks planning. It is the Town's intent that these principles are adhered to in all land use and amenity development decisions.

OPEN SPACE

1. Open space shall be naturalistic, undeveloped and set aside in addition to active park and recreation facilities. Open space may be privately or publicly owned, provided open space guiding principles are met.
2. An inter-connected system of open space shall be conserved including Silverthorne and surrounding Denver Water, Forest Service, Summit County and other jurisdictional lands.
3. Open Space corridors shall be continuous, of adequate width, and inter-connected to accommodate the movement of wildlife and create a sense of separation from adjacent urban uses.
4. Special open space areas and corridors such as the Blue River, creeks, ponds and wetlands shall have a vegetated buffer strip (within the designated open space) on each side of sufficient width to protect visual, water quality and wildlife integrity.
5. Mountain and rangeland vistas shall be preserved when viewed from roadways, trails, parks and other vantage points.
6. Adequate open space shall be set aside along drainageways to naturally contain the 100-year flood.
7. Open space shall be used as a way to store and convey stormwater as an alternative to channelization and hard structures.
8. Open space shall not create nuisances, adversely impact or be adversely impacted by homes, places of business, roads, parks and other land uses.
9. Open spaces shall be safe and affordable to set aside and maintain.



TRAILS

1. There shall be an integrated network of multi-use trails readily accessible from neighborhoods, schools, businesses, activity centers, and transportation systems, regardless of income, age, physical ability, or location in the town.
2. All trails shall meet state-of-the-art design standards appropriate to the types of trail uses, with attractive fixtures and furnishings and an integrated information/ interpretive system.
3. Trails shall run through pleasant settings offering a variety of experiences as well as connecting to places of interest such as historic sites, parks, waterways, forest service lands and wildlife areas.
4. There shall be a variety of trail lengths, including both short and long trail loops that provide a range of trail experiences from a 20-minute work out to a daylong outing.
5. Wherever feasible, trails should be grade-separated from street traffic using safe underpasses and overpasses traversing Highway 9 and other high traffic routes.
6. No home shall be more than ½-mile from a multi-use trail with safe on-street bicycle and sidewalk connections to trails.
7. The trail network system shall tie into the town center and regional trails.
8. There shall be an on-street bikeway and sidewalk system that ties to the trail network.

9. Trails and trail facilities shall not adversely impact or be adversely impacted by homes, places of business, roads or the natural environment. Wherever feasible, sustainable, low-water-consumption techniques should be used.
10. Where appropriate, trails may serve multiple objectives such as drainageway maintenance roads and non-motorized transportation.
11. The trail system shall be properly designed and adequate to avoid user conflict and overcrowding;
12. Trails shall be safe and affordable to build and maintain.

PARKS

1. Park acreage shall meet the needs of current and future populations and recreational demands, regardless of income, age, or physical ability.
2. Parks shall be carefully integrated with the trails and open space network and readily accessible from homes and places of employment, via trails and walkways.
3. Park and recreational facilities shall integrate with, and enhance the quality of neighborhoods.
4. Park and recreational facilities shall not adversely impact homes, places of business or the natural environment.
5. Wherever feasible natural, sustainable, low water consuming landscapes should predominate park settings.
6. Park sites shall be located to take advantage of existing topography, views, vehicular access, interpretive opportunities and school facilities.
7. Park and recreational facilities shall be safe and affordable to build and maintain.



1. Needs and Aspirations



1. Needs and Aspirations

Summary of Key Points

- *Silverthorne's current population is 3,492 with 12 acres of developed parkland.*
- *By 2010, the service area population is anticipated to be 10,000.*
- *Silverthorne is currently deficient in developed park acreage compared to several other communities and national standards.*
- *If the plan recommendations are implemented, Silverthorne will compare favorably to other communities and national standards*
- *More importantly, this plan responds to what residents said they desired.*

With its unmatched scenery, nearby recreational amenities, and easy access to the Front Range metropolitan areas, Silverthorne has been experiencing explosive growth. Given current subdivision filings and growth that can be accommodated by current zoning regulations and available building space, Silverthorne's population is expected to increase substantially.

Community Growth Trends

With a population of 3,492 (within the current town limits), Silverthorne is Summit County's largest population center. Taking the surrounding unincorporated areas and nearby Dillon into account, there are over 7,500 permanent residents and as many as 21,000 second home residents potentially impacting Silverthorne's open space, trail and park facilities. It is also noteworthy that Summit County has 20,000 permanent residents with a peak population of over 117,000 when totaling residents, second homeowners and visitors.

According to Summit County Planning Department figures, over the next decade, the residential population of the Silverthorne/Dillon area will climb to over 10,000 with as many as 30,000 second home residents. Given current growth projections, the incorporated portion of Silverthorne can anticipate growth to over 6,000 by the year 2010. If the adjacent areas not currently part of the town are annexed, we can

anticipate a population of 8,000 to 12,000 or more using Silverthorne facilities.

Community Needs and Level of Service Standards

Because Silverthorne is both a residential and tourist/second home community, population projections and user demand on recreational facilities are difficult to define. It is also noteworthy that a number of the developed areas in and around Silverthorne are self-contained or gated enclaves with internal golf and trail facilities. Nonetheless, it is anticipated that many part-time residents and people in the self-contained residential areas will use Silverthorne's park and recreational facilities. In addition to recreational-oriented residents, there is also a growing population of business people, laborers and service employees residing in the area. For planning purposes this study will rely on the current population figure of 3,492 and assume a Year 2010 projected resident population of 10,000.

Levels of Service Compared

Tables 1.1a and 1.1b below illustrate a comparison of existing and planned facilities and levels of service for parks and recreation for Silverthorne and three other communities. The service level is also compared to National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) standards. It should be born in mind, however, that NRPA has more recently moved toward considering each community's distinct population characteristics and needs. Therefore, NRPA standards should be

considered only as a general benchmark. Other factors such as popularity of certain types of recreational activities, demographics, and other factors such as organized sports participation may significantly impact an appropriate level of service for any given community. Park planning, therefore, must take into account local information such as input by citizens and park and recreation staff.

Table 1.1: Comparison of Levels of Service In Selected Communities (Year 2000)

A. Current Levels of Service (numbers in brackets reflect regional park)

Community (Population)	Developed Parkland Pocket, Neighborhood & Community Parks (Regional Parks)	Developed Playfields (Regional)	Recreation Center	Developed Park Acres Ratio per 1,000 pop.
Silverthorne ¹ (3,500)	12 (34)	5 (4)	1	3.4 (4.5) ²
Carbondale (7,000)	26 (0)	12	0	4 (0)
Aspen (10,500)	73 (0)	9	0	7 (0)
Ken Caryl Ranch (15,000)	92 (0)	12	2	6 (0)
Average	NA	NA	NA	5.1 (NA)
NRPA	NA	NA	1/50,000	6 (5)

B. Projected Levels of Service 2010

Community (Population)	Developed Parkland Pocket, Neighborhood & Community Parks (Regional Parks)	Developed Playfields (Regional)	Recreation Center	Developed Park Acres Ratio per 1,000 pop.
Silverthorne ³ (10,000)	75.9 (46)	9 (6)	1	7.6 (4.6)
Carbondale (12,500)	84	24	1	7
Aspen (12,500)	88 (63)	11	1	7
Ken Caryl Ranch (15,000)	90	13	3	6
Average	NA	NA	NA	6.9
NRPA	NA	NA	1/50,000	6 (5)

1. Population living within the current town limits.

2. Regional Park ratio is calculated using greater Silverthorne/Dillon Population of 7600 that use the regional park.

3. Population of town and adjoining neighborhoods adjusted for seasonal usage residences.

Sources: Master Plans and phone conversations with subject towns. National Recreation and Park Association reports 1983 and 1995. Note that the later NRPA report all but abandons the fixed numerical standards for a local needs assessment approach based on participation surveys and other local factors.

Overall (excluding Blue River Park which serves a regional population), Silverthorne lags behind both the comparison communities and the NRPA benchmark of 6 acres of developed parkland per 1000 population. The deficiency is even greater if we consider the adjoining unincorporated areas which could almost double the service population. Based on this, we can project a need for 60 acres (net 48 additional acres) by 2010 when the service area population is estimated to be 10,000. Five years out (year 2005) we may see a need for 42 acres (net 30 acres) of developed parks based on a population of 7,000. Note that if the proposed parks and parkland acquisitions proposed in this plan are implemented, Silverthorne will compare favorably to both other communities and NRPA standards.

Needs by Neighborhood

It is also noteworthy, that Silverthorne's neighborhoods have different characteristics and recreational objectives that make park and recreation planning somewhat different from ordinary urban communities. For example a number of communities are golf course-oriented and may appeal to older adults or function as second homes. This makes park planning for Silverthorne more neighborhood-specific. Park acreages requirements may also vary from ordinary urban communities and national standards for similar reasons.

What The Community Wants

In community forums, staff reviews, discussions with individuals and input from the consultant a number of specific desires were identified. These are summarized and listed below. While this list is by no means all-inclusive, it does provide a core working guide and checklist for shaping the master plan. This list will no-doubt grow and evolve over the years as the plan is implemented. The plan should be flexible to incorporate this change while remaining true to its overall vision.

Open Space

- Integrate of open space into the town fabric.
- Preserve scenic vistas including the river and hillsides.
- Preserve surrounding wilderness values.
- Have places for spiritual renewal and contemplation.
- Preserve a "beltway" open space surrounding the town.
- Buffer between land uses.

- Protect resources such as water and air quality.
- Reduce sprawl.
- Encourage volunteer community participation—community spirit.
- Develop a nature center.
- Protect Westside wetlands.
- Preserve open lands along Route 9 with setbacks.

Trails

- Create an interconnected multi-use trail network in town with links to Dillon.
- Link to the countywide trail system.
- Access National Forest and Lake Dillon with trail links and trailheads.
- Create a trail loop following the ridgelines around the town.
- Provide trails for biking, mountain biking, walking, hiking, skiing, and horseback use.
- Develop extreme sport trail facilities.
- Provide trail rest areas, overlooks and places for spiritual renewal.
- Provide interpretive/educational facilities including history (settlers/Ute Tribe).
- Provide non-motorized circulation around town.
- Create context-appropriate trailheads (avoids adverse neighborhood impact).
- Provide opportunities for volunteer community participation—community spirit.
- Canoe, raft and kayak trail along Blue River with boat chutes
- Provide more fishing access facilities along the Blue River.
- Provide trail underpasses beneath major highways.
- Create a signage/way-finding system.

Parks and Recreation

- Provide adequate facilities for field sports both organized/informal and youth/adult
- Provide adequate facilities for court games such as basketball and tennis.
- Develop water recreation park/wading pool.
- Create cross-country ski courses.
- Provide fishing ponds.
- Provide dog play areas
- Develop ski-teaching/practice facilities including jumping and extreme skiing.
- Develop bike recreation facilities including BMX and extreme biking.
- Create places for yoga, Ti Chi, meditation.
- Develop a fitness track.
- Public golf facilities such as 9-hole, par 3, executive golf, *Frisbee* golf

- Provide miniature golf facilities.
- Develop in-line skating facilities.
- Provide outdoor cultural facilities such as amphitheater at 4th St. and festival/exhibit areas.
- Create a community garden including possible “bio-sphere” for year round growing.
- Provide covered over skate-park.
- Provide access to covered hockey facility.
- Maintain quality recreation center.
- Provide batting cages and driving ranges.
- Create public/youth gathering spaces.
- Provide a climbing wall.
- Create a sledding hill/toboggan run.
- Create public art and sculpture.
- Provide indoor soccer facilities.

Inventory of Existing Facilities

Table 1.2 below lists currently existing facilities. Generally, Silverthorne’s physical facilities are in good condition and readily accessible to most neighborhoods though the level of service may not be optimal for current and future populations.



Soccer Practice at Elementary School

Facility	Location	Size (acres/Miles)	Cultural	Tot Lot	Playfield	Soccer/Football	Baseball/Softball	Tennis	Basketball/Volleyball	Picnic Shelter	Swimming	Fitness/Aerobics	Boating	Skating	Fishing	Skateboard	Golf	Nordic Trail	Toilet	Parking	Trailhead	Trail	
Community Parks																							
Cottonwood	NE	17U					U								❖							U	
Trent	NW	3.8		1			1	2	1						❖				1	12			
Rainbow	EC	7	❖	2		1		2	1b	3		❖				❖			2	18		❖	
Sub-Total:		27.9		3		1	1	4	1b	4		1			2	1		3	30			1	
Pocket/Neighborhood Parks																							
Artic Placer	WC	1		1						1										2			
El. School	WC	4.5	❖	1	1		2		1b											150		❖	
Sub-Total:		5.5	1	2	1		2		1b	1										152		1	
Regional Parks																							
Blue River Pk.	S	34	❖			2	4		3						❖					200	1	❖	
Greenways																							
Blue River	C	1.5											❖		❖					200		❖	
Urban Trails																							
Blue River	C	1.5													❖					200	❖	1.5	
Rt. 9	C	2.5																				2.5	
Willowbrook	WC	0.7																				0.7	
Eagle's Nest	NW	0.8																❖				0.8	
Sub-Total:		5.5																1			1	5.5	
Forest Trails																							
USFS Trails	ALL	20+																				❖	20+
Recreation/Cultural																							
Rec. Center	EC	1							1v	❖									❖	220			

Table 1.2: Inventory of Existing Facilities Year 2000



2. Definitions and Standards



2. Definitions and Standards

Summary of Key Points

- *These standards are intended to guide the planning of open space, trails and parks.*
- *As a mountain town with unique characteristics, Silverthorne's park standards will vary from other communities.*

This chapter presents basic definitions and standards for desired open space, trails, parks and way-finding amenities serving Silverthorne. The standards are based on commentary at community meetings, planning by the *Recreation and Culture Department*, input by Town staff and guidance by the consultants. Interested parties from the surrounding jurisdictions were consulted and materials were used from the *National Recreation and Park Association* and other nationally recognized and accepted sources. It is important to note that because of Silverthorne's special characteristics as a mountain/resort area community some of the definitions will vary from those found in more conventional urban areas such as the Colorado Front Range. It is the intent of Silverthorne that both public and private sector projects adhere to these standards as closely as possible as the town and the surrounding areas continue to develop.

Definitions, Planning and Management Standards

In discussing open space lands it is important to first define the functions of open space. For purposes of this plan nine different functions are identified. Functions 3-9 are derived from the Summit County Open Space site selection criteria. These functions include:

Infrastructure—serves a specific community safety or welfare purpose such as conveyance and storage of storm water runoff, aquifer recharge, steep slopes, unsuitable soils for building, wetlands, ponds and other necessary natural functions. These are sometimes referred to as *primary conservation areas* or as *de-facto* open space in that they are lands not suitable for development for public safety or health reasons.

Infrastructure open space may also include canals, utility rights-of-way, and noise attenuating buffering zones along major highways. Infrastructure open space may be publicly or privately owned property.

Core Reserves—protects significant natural habitat, agricultural lands, visual or historic values. They are generally deep rather than narrow and linear. They are large enough to sustain and support diverse plant and animal populations, including large mammals such as deer, elk, bear and lynx. Note that core reserves exist within existing *National Forest* and *Wilderness* lands that virtually surround Silverthorne.

Access—provides access to trails, trailheads, and other public recreation areas on National Forest and other significant properties.

Agricultural/Cultural—contributes significantly to Silverthorne and Summit County’s past and may include agricultural lands with irrigated meadows or open cropland, ranching areas and historical sites. The historic, cultural or social aspects of these lands should contribute or have the potential to contribute to the community’s identity and well being. These lands might be publicly or privately owned with a preference for private ownership.



Buffers—natural and undeveloped lands that separate and reduce the impacts of development. They also define the boundaries of urbanized areas, preventing urban sprawl and strip development, and contribute to the rural mountain quality of the local landscape. They occur along the margin of greenways, rivers, core reserves, trail routes agricultural lands and other open spaces. Buffers help protect natural resources, water quality, and wildlife habitat. They also help avoid land use conflicts and protect privacy and security of properties adjacent to open spaces. Buffers may also serve to separate various land uses such as residential areas and roadways. Buffer lands may be publicly or privately owned property.

Open Space Extension—lands adjacent to publicly held (or in some cases privately-held) property that meets open space criteria and that can be combined with other open space properties to enlarge and/or connect existing open space parcels.

Recreational—offers significant recreational value particularly passive uses not requiring

intensive maintenance or management. Generally, recreational open space will be publicly owned.

Unique Lands—possess unique values such as outstanding scenic quality, rare flora, riparian quality, wetlands, critical wildlife habitat, fragile alpine areas or unusual geologic of topographical formations. These may be publicly or privately owned.

View Corridor—offers high aesthetic appeal and variety within major view corridors. They may protect or enhance the visual integrity of a scenic backdrop. These lands are generally visible, apparent, and appreciated by residents as well as visitors and whose preservation is important to maintaining the rural mountain character and appearance of Silverthorne and Summit County. These lands may be publicly or privately owned.

OPEN SPACE

This plan defines two basic types of open space:

1. Greenways
2. Resource Conservancy Areas

1. GREENWAYS

Definition and Purpose

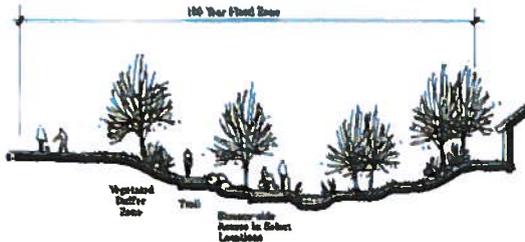
Greenways are linear parks and open space corridors that serve recreational and conservation purposes. Recreational uses include multi-use trails, trailheads, paddle craft routes, fishing and possibly other attractions such as parks, playgrounds and interpretive facilities. Conservation and infrastructure objectives of greenways include preserving wildlife habitat and routes of wildlife circulation, protection of water, air, and scenic qualities, protection of historic and cultural values and public safety from floods. Many greenways serve both conservation and recreational purposes. Greenway land may be on both public and private property.

Example: Blue River Corridor, Silverthorne, Mary Carter Greenway, Littleton

Minimum Standards

1. Adequate width and buffer zones to protect desired recreational, aesthetic or wildlife benefits—generally 200’ to 400’ or more on each side of the water course or sensitive area (such as a wetland) measured from the top of the channel bank or edge of the sensitive area in outlying areas depending on

wildlife and aesthetic functions to be protected, and 50' to 150' on each side of the water course or sensitive area measured from the top of the channel bank or sensitive area edge in town core areas. Note that widths may vary depending on site-specific wildlife or aesthetic objectives. A wildlife expert should be consulted.



Greenway Cross Section Concept

2. There are adequate buffer zones and vegetative screening of trails and other routes of public access to project privacy and security of adjacent properties.
3. There is minimum intrusion into sensitive areas by trails and other human activities. Active park areas may encroach to within 150' of the stream bank.
4. Avoid windowless walls, unscreened outdoor storage, loading docks, trash receptacles and other incompatible uses along the edge.



5. Avoid continuous, solid screen fences, walls, or non-coated chain link fencing along the edges.
6. There is attractive interface (including landscape buffering) with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines

1. Maintain trails and other recreational improvements (see trails above).
2. Prevent encroachment, filling or dumping, including yard wastes.
3. Control invasive, noxious weeds and feral animals (such as loose dogs and cats).
4. Control erosion and dust.
5. Patrol where necessary and appropriate.
6. Maintain infrastructure such as firebreaks, erosion control devices, check dams, etc.



Greenway Interface with Adjacent Development

2. RESOURCE CONSERVANCY AREAS

Definition and Purpose

Resource conservancy areas are places with unique scenic quality, sensitive lands including wildlife habitat, breeding areas and routes of movement and migration, or other visual or cultural significance protected through cooperative public/ private efforts. They may be publicly (in fee or through conservation easements) or privately owned and protected through cooperative agreements or as part of subdivision land dedication.

Development, while limited, may be integrated where compatible with the character of the resources. These areas are not generally accessible by the public and trails are limited or non-existent though there may be opportunities for guided visits and tours in some instances where appropriate and approved by the landowner. In some instances trails and

greenways may cross a Conservancy Area or there may be private trails open to homeowners and local residents only. Other private recreational uses may occur such as a golf course—ideally designed to preserve and enhance scenic and conservation values. A non-profit land conservancy or trust offering certain tax benefits to the landowners or developers might hold the land or easement.

Example: Ken Caryl Valley Open Space, Jefferson County, CO (6000 acres of privately held forest and prairie lands owned and maintained by the Homeowners Association)

Minimum Standards

1. Adequate width and buffer zones to protect desired wildlife and scenic benefits—generally 200’ to 1000’ or more in width depending on site characteristics, landowner approval and management objectives. A wildlife expert should be consulted in designating these areas.



2. There are adequate buffer zones and vegetative screening of any trails and other routes of public access to protect privacy and security of adjacent properties.
3. There is minimum intrusion into sensitive areas by trails and other human activities. Active recreational areas such as a golf course should be buffered from streams, wetlands and other waterways.
4. Avoid continuous, solid screen fences, walls, or non-coated chain link fencing along the edges.

5. There is attractive interface including landscape buffering with adjacent development.



Management Guidelines

1. Landowner, conservation trust or other appropriate entity provides maintenance.
2. Prevent encroachment, filling or dumping including yard wastes.
3. Control invasive, noxious weeds and feral animals (such as loose dogs and cats).
4. Control erosion and dust.
5. Patrol where necessary and appropriate.
6. Maintain infrastructure such as firebreaks, erosion control devices, check dams, etc.

TRAILS

Twelve classes of trails are addressed:

1. *Multi-Use Trails (Paved and "Soft" Surface)*
2. *All-Terrain Trails (hiking/mountain bike, equestrian)*
3. *Wilderness Trails (bikes excluded)*
4. *Roadside Multi-Use*
5. *On-Street Routes*
6. *Local Service & Link Trails*
7. *Sidewalks*
8. *Loop Trails*
9. *Fishing Trails*
10. *Nordic Trails*

11. Paddleway Trails
12. Extreme Trails

1. MULTI-USE TRAILS

Definition and Purpose:

Multi-use trails form an interconnected off-street recreational and transportation right of way system serving a variety of non-motorized uses including biking, hiking, jogging, horseback riding, and cross country skiing. Multi-use trails may be paved or non-paved. Paved regional trails accommodate *street* (narrow tire) bicycles, as well as *all-track* bikes and in-line skates. Multi-use trails link to regional trail systems and other communities, ultimately forming a countywide and even statewide network. They may have a crusher-fine (granular stone), asphalt, concrete or other suitable surface depending on anticipated use (i.e. paved for skates).

Example: Blue River Trail, Silverthorne

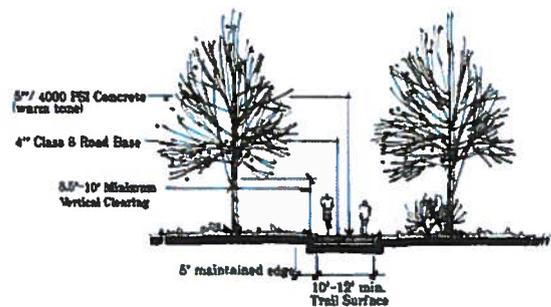
Minimum Standards

1. Built on a compacted, properly graded surface meeting state and national design standards. (Refer to American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials *AASHTO* guidelines).



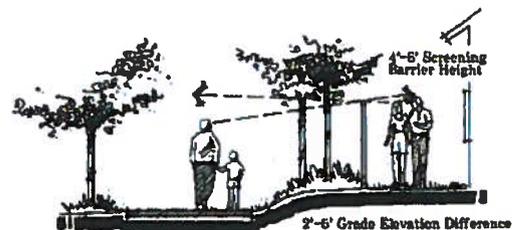
2. Trail tread adequate width (minimum 10' wide, upgradeable to 12' wide) with 2.5' to 5' wide shoulders and headroom (8.5' to 10' with horse use) to accommodate multiple uses.
3. One to fifty or more miles in length built in logical segments with no dead ends or dangerous barriers such as busy highways.
4. Grade-separated and buffered from street traffic.

5. Located in attractive corridors such as linear parks, greenways, stream corridors, canals, and ridgelines.
6. Easy to find with attractive, highly visible trailheads, rest areas, benches, water fountains, toilets, interpretive signs, published mapping and public information, and other amenities.
7. Signage is provided at entry points informing users of trail distances, level of difficulty, accessibility information and user responsibilities and laws. Signs also identify street crossings and mile marks.



Paved Trail Concept (Asphalt or Concrete May be Used)

8. Readily accessible to area users including meeting standards under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.
9. Meander sensitively through the landscape with adequate buffer zones provided between trail and environmentally vulnerable areas and sensitive land uses such as residences, to ensure preservation of environmental integrity and privacy.

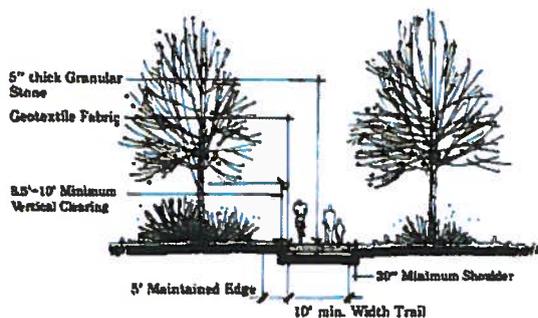


Trail with Privacy Screening Concept

10. Connect to local service trails, parks, and other attractions.
11. Maximum 5-minute drive or 10-minute bike trip to a multi-use trail.
12. Extended grades in excess of 5% are avoided.
13. Constructed to be durable and easy to maintain.
14. Attractive interface including landscape buffering with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines:

1. Managed by local or regional park agencies.
2. Kept in good repair, free of litter and debris and groomed.
3. Adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security as well as privacy of adjacent properties.
4. Have mile markers for easy reporting of maintenance problems.
5. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.
6. Provide safe detours at disruption points.



Granular Stone Trail Concept

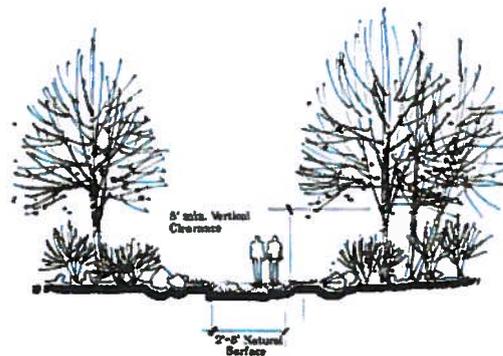
2. ALL TERRAIN TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

All Terrain Trails are natural, soft surface trails designed primarily to accommodate hikers and all-track/mountain bikers, although equestrians and cross-country skiers may use these trails as well.

Example: Peaks Trail, Frisco/Breckenridge
Minimum Standards

1. Built on a compacted, properly graded earthen surface.
2. Avoids conflicts with sensitive wildlife or private property areas.
3. Adequate width (2' to 8' wide) and vegetation is trimmed to a prism of 8' to 14' wide and 8' high—depending on trail tread width.
4. They are 1 mile to 10 miles or more in length.
5. They are grade-separated and buffered from street traffic.
6. They are readily accessible to local users including, wherever feasible, meeting "challenge" standards under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.



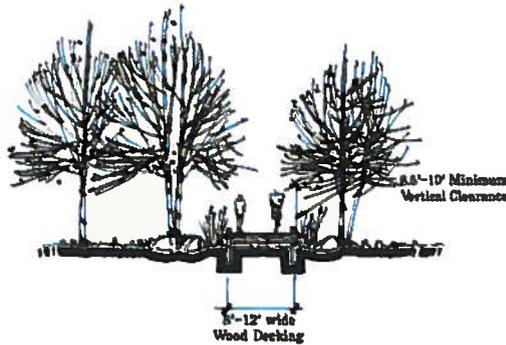
All Terrain Trail Concept

7. Signage is provided at entry points informing users that trail is primitive and may not meet AASHTO standards for certain uses. Trail map, accessibility, user responsibility and interpretive signage may also be provided.
8. There is an attractive interface including landscape buffering, with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed by public agency or homeowners association.
2. Kept in good repair, free of erosion, washouts, litter and debris, with vegetation grooming.

- Trails are adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
- Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.



Trail on Decking

3. WILDERNESS TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Wilderness Trails are natural, soft surface trails designed to accommodate hikers, equestrians (where permitted) and cross-country skiers. They access National Forest designated Wilderness lands and other sensitive lands or open spaces where a wilderness character is desired.

Example: Ptarmigan Wilderness Trail, Silverthorne

Minimum Standards

- Built on a compacted, properly graded earthen surface.
- Avoids conflicts with sensitive wildlife or private property areas.
- Adequate width (1.5' to 5' wide) with vegetation trimmed to a prism of 4' to 8' wide and 8' to 10' high—depending on trail uses (i.e. wider and higher dimensions are for equestrian use).
- Where feasible they are accessible meeting “challenge” standards under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.
- Signage is provided at entry points informing users they are entering a designated wilderness area and that uses are

restricted. Trail map, accessibility, user responsibility and interpretive signage may also be provided.

Management Guidelines

- Managed by public agency with assistance of volunteers.
- Kept in good repair, free of erosion, washouts, litter and debris, with minimal vegetation grooming.
- Hand tools are used for all maintenance and repair to minimize noise disturbance.
- Records are kept of maintenance, security and resource damage problems.



4. ROADSIDE MULTI-USE PATHWAYS

Definition and Purpose

Roadside pathways facilitate bicycle and pedestrian transportation along highways, principle and minor arterial streets and collector streets where traffic speeds and volumes make it unsafe or unpleasant for bicycle or pedestrian traffic. Wherever feasible, they are separated from auto traffic by a landscaped median or a painted bike lane delineator.

Example: Route 9 bicycle trail, Silverthorne

Minimum Standards

- Built on a compacted, properly graded surface meeting state and national design standards. (Refer to AASHTO guidelines).

2. Durable, 10' to 12'-wide paved surface with 8.5' to 10' of headroom depending on level of use with no dead ends or dangerous barriers such as highways.
3. Separate from, and in addition to, sidewalks.
4. Off-street option is generally located on the north sides of east-west streets to facilitate snow melt.
5. Signage is provided at entry points informing users of trail distances, level of difficulty, accessibility information and user responsibilities and laws. Signs also identify street crossings and mile marks.
6. Minimal driveway cuts intersect multi-use roadside path.
7. Ramps provided at street crossings.
8. Separated from street by a 6'-12' wide landscaped median where feasible.
9. Avoid extended grades in excess of 5%.
10. Provided on at least one side of all arterial streets unless bike lane option offered.
11. Attractive interface including landscape buffering, with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed and maintained by public agency.
2. Kept in good repair, free of litter, debris, ice and snow.
3. Potholes, bumps and cracks are quickly remedied.
4. Provide safe detours at disruption points.
5. Monitor conflict and safety problems.

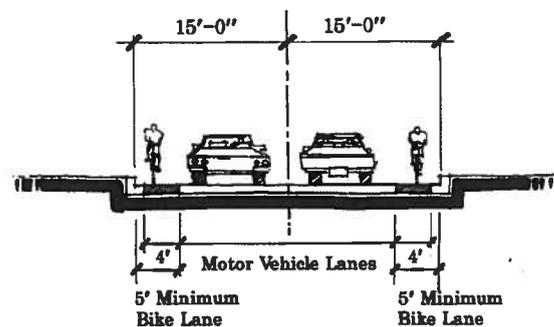
5. ON-STREET ROUTES

Definition and Purpose

On-street routes include local streets, collector streets, and arterials suitable for bicycle use. They are used for bicycle transportation and may link regional and local trails and trail segments together. On-street routes may have defined bike lanes or "bike route" designation. **Note that design requirements for on-street bicycle usage will vary depending on traffic speed**

and volumes, grades, parking and other factors. Planners and engineers should consult *Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities* and *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets*, both published by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

Example: Boulder's and Denver's on-street bicycle system



On-Street Concept (See Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, AASHTO, 1999)

Minimum Standards

1. Designs conform to current AASHTO and other applicable standards.
2. Except on very low speed, low volume local streets, provide a 15'-wide traffic lane (width totals 14' plus 1' curb pan) where parking is not permitted. In some instances such as very low volume local and unpaved street lane width might be narrower where bikes and autos share the full land width—consult a traffic engineer with bicycle expertise.
3. Has minimum 12'-wide parking/bicycle travel lane where parking is permitted with an additional 1'-2' where parking volume and turnover is high (refer to AASHTO guidelines).
4. "Share the Road" yellow diamond-shaped signs with bicycle icon and green "bicycle route" signs are posted along on-street routes at appropriate locations.

5. On-street routes are identified with signage and guide maps.
6. Drain inlet grates are designed so they do not catch bicycle wheels.

Management Guidelines

1. Maintained by town Public Works Department.
2. Streets and street shoulders are kept in good repair, free of litter, snow, ice and debris.
3. Potholes, bumps and cracks are quickly remedied.

6. LOCAL SERVICE AND LINK TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Local service and link trails meet local circulation needs, linking neighborhoods, schools, shopping, parks and other community destinations. They also connect to and feed into multi-use trail systems. They may be paved or unpaved depending on local preference.

Example: Aspen/Snowmass Trail System, Ken Caryl Ranch Trail System

Minimum Standards

1. Built on a compacted, properly graded surface meeting state and national design standards. (Refer to AASHTO guidelines).
2. Trail tread adequate width (minimum 8' wide, upgradeable to 12' wide), 2.5' to 5' wide shoulders to accommodate multiple uses.
3. Length varies with no dead ends or dangerous barriers such as busy highways.
4. Grade-separated and buffered from street traffic.
5. Located in attractive corridors such as parks, greenbelts, and stream corridors.
6. Is readily accessible to local users including meeting standards under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.
7. Meander sensitively within a 50' to 150' landscaped corridor with adequate buffer zones provided between trail and environmentally sensitive areas and land

uses, such as residences to ensure preservation of environmental integrity and privacy (optimal width is 150' to accommodate a double row of trees on either side).

8. Signage is provided at entry points informing users of trail distances, level of difficulty, accessibility information and user responsibilities and laws. Signs also identify mile marks.
9. Connect to regional trails, parks, schools and other neighborhoods.
10. Avoid extended grades in excess of 5%.
11. Constructed to be durable and easy to maintain.
12. Has attractive interface (including landscape buffering) with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed by local community or homeowners association.
2. Kept in good repair, free of litter and debris and groomed.
3. Adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
4. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.

7. SIDEWALKS

Definition and Purpose

Sidewalks are paved pathways located along the edge of streets. They are for pedestrian use only. Ideally, they are separated from the street by a landscaped median.

Example: Sidewalk on 4th Street next to Recreation Center

Minimum Standards

1. Durable paved surface— 4 ½'-wide (local street), 5'-wide (collector) 6'-wide (arterial) paved surface.
2. There are ramps at street crossings for wheelchairs.

- Where feasible, separated from street by a 5.5' to 12'-wide landscaped median.

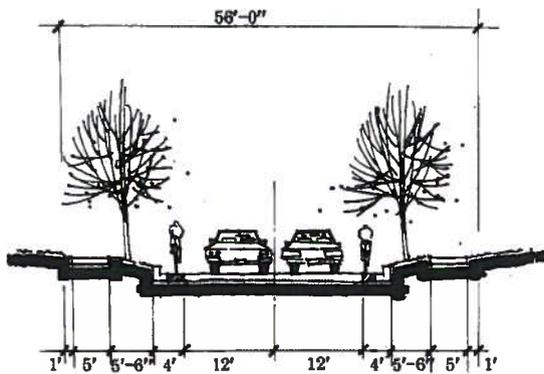


Sidewalk Near Recreation Center

- Provided on both sides of collector and arterial streets.

Management Guidelines

- Managed by Town Public Works Department or homeowners association..
- Sidewalks and medians are kept in good repair, free of litter and debris and groomed.
- Provide safe detours at disruption points.



Collector Street with Sidewalk Concept

8. LOOP TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

The trail is entirely contained within a single park, subdivision, or other limited area. They are generally circuitous. They may accommodate hikers, bicyclists, in-line skaters, equestrians, cross country skiers, and interpretive programs.

Example: Crown Hill Open Space Park, Jefferson County

Minimum Standards

- Built on a compacted, properly graded surface meeting state and national design standards. (Refer to AASHTO guidelines).
- Adequate width—minimum 8'-wide, upgradeable to 10'-wide—with 2.5' to 5' wide shoulders to accommodate multiple uses.
- They are ¼-mile to three miles in length.
- They are grade-separated and buffered from street traffic.
- They are readily accessible to local users including meeting standards under the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.
- Signage is provided at entry points informing users of trail distances, level of difficulty, accessibility information and user responsibilities and laws. Signs also identify mile marks.
- Wherever feasible, they are provided in neighborhood, community and regional parks.
- Avoid extended grades in excess of 5%.
- Have rest areas, toilet facilities and drinking water facilities for trails of two miles or longer.
- Constructed to be durable and easy to maintain.
- There is an attractive interface, including landscape buffering, with adjacent development as described previously.

Management Guidelines

1. Parks agency or homeowners association manages trail.
2. Trails are kept in good repair, free of litter and debris and groomed.
3. Trails are adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
4. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.

9. FISHING TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Fishing trails are natural, soft surface trails designed to accommodate anglers moving along the edges of popular fishing areas along river, stream and pond banks. In some cases they may accommodate kayakers moving up and down a popular whitewater area although this may present conflicts of use.

Example: Blue River, Silverthorne

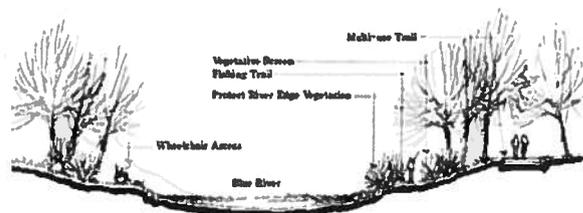
Minimum Standards

1. Built on a compacted, properly graded earthen surface.
2. Separated from multi-use paths but may share use in linking a series of fishing trail together.
3. Set back from stream edge to avoid damage to aquatic habitat and conflicts with sensitive wildlife
4. Avoids conflict with private property areas with vegetative screening where appropriate.
5. They are of minimal width (1.5' to 3' wide) with minimal vegetation trimming.
6. They are 100' to several hundred feet in length.
7. They are readily accessible to local users. Wherever feasible there are fishing pads that meet standards of the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*.

8. Signage is provided at entry points informing users of the sensitivity of fishing habitat as well as angler rules, courtesies and responsibilities.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed by public agency or homeowners association.
2. Kept in good repair, free of litter, debris, and erosion problems, with vegetation grooming to avoid conflict with users.
3. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.



Fishing Trail Cross Section

10. NORDIC TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Nordic trails are loop trails designed exclusively for cross-county skiing and ski "skating". Generally, they are temporary ski tracks identified by signage and/or maps located on golf courses or other open areas during the winter season. Ideally, there is a pre-set track in the snow and there may even be a number of parallel tracks serving different levels of speed and ability.

Example: Raven Trail, Silverthorne

Minimum Standards

1. Has a groomed set track for different skiing abilities and speeds.
2. Avoids conflict with sensitive wildlife or private property areas.
3. Adequate width (2' to 8'-wide) with vegetation trimmed to a prism of 8' to 14' wide and 8' high—depending on trail tread width.

4. They are 1 to 5 miles or more in length.
5. Signage is provided at entry points, informing users of rules, responsibilities and courtesies. Trail maps, accessibility, and interpretive signage may also be provided.
6. There may be a ski rental, warming hut and other supporting winter amenities.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed by public agency or homeowners association.
2. Kept groomed, free of litter and debris.
3. Trails are adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
4. Laid out and managed to avoid damage to underlying uses such as golf course greens and fairways.
5. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.



11. PADDLEWAY TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Paddleway trails are waterways made suitable for canoeing, kayaking, and rafting. Improvements include removal or modification of hazardous obstacles such as diversion structures to promote safe water recreation. Boat launch and landing facilities with parking and support facilities are also provided. Other

improvements may include white water kayak courses, slalom competition facilities and challenge rocks placed strategically in the river. Designed properly, boating improvements such as dam modifications can benefit aquatic life and fishing by improving water quality and habitat, although boating and fishing may conflict.

Example: Upper Arkansas River, Salida, Confluence Park, Denver

Minimum Standards

1. Need to maintain adequate flows for boating use—minimum 9” of flow depth.
2. Remove, modify, or provide well-marked portages around all hazardous structures such as dams.
3. Provide marking of difficult or potentially hazardous areas or objects.
4. Assure adequate clearances under bridges during ordinary and seasonal high flows.
5. Provide well marked put-ins and landings with support facilities such as information signage, boat and raft unloading areas, toilets and parking.
6. Avoids conflicts with anglers especially in popular fishing areas.
7. Avoids conflicts with sensitive wildlife or private property areas.
8. Provide “boater trails” (a way to carry your kayak or tube back up to the top of a popular white water run or practice area).
9. Make facilities readily accessible to local users including, wherever feasible, meeting standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
10. Signage is provided at entry points with “trail” map, accessibility, user responsibility, safety and interpretive information.



Management Guidelines

1. Managed by public agency or possibly boating association or commercial interests.
2. Have policies in place to maintain optimal flows for boating without adversely impacting fishing.
3. Structures are kept in good repair and waterway free of litter and debris.
4. The corridor is adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
5. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.



12. EXTREME SPORTS TRAILS

Definition and Purpose

Extreme Sports trails are natural, soft surface trails through rough and challenging terrain. The corridor may have rubble, rocks, roots, steep grades and other challenges. The corridor designed primarily to accommodate appropriately engineered mountain bikes, joggers, hikers and others wanting a challenging

course. Generally, this is a single-track course although it may be wider especially if heavily used or if competitions are held. The trail may be linear or configured in a loop or series of loops.

Example: Vail and Winter Park Mountain Bike Trails

Minimum Standards

1. Built on a compacted, properly graded earthen surface.
2. Avoids conflict with sensitive wildlife or private property areas.
3. Adequate width (2' to 8'-wide) and vegetation is trimmed to a prism of 8' to 14'-wide and 8' high—depending on trail tread width.
4. They are 1 to 10-miles or more in length.
5. They are readily accessible to local users including, wherever feasible, meeting standards for specially designed athletic wheelchairs under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
6. Signage is provided at entry points informing users that trail is primitive and does not meet AASHTO standards. Trail map, accessibility and user responsibility signage may also be provided.
7. There is an attractive interface (including landscape buffering) with adjacent development.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed by public agency or possibly commercial interest.
2. Kept in good repair, free of litter and debris with vegetation grooming as appropriate.
3. Trails are adequately patrolled to ensure user safety and security and privacy of adjacent properties.
4. Records are kept of maintenance, safety and security problems.



PARKS

Five classes of parks are addressed:

1. *Pocket/ Neighborhood*
2. *Community*
3. *Regional*
4. *Specialty*
5. *Golf Courses*

Note that park sizes and definitions vary somewhat from national standards for urban parks, due to a number of factors including smaller population centers, varied development densities, and the presence of many second and seasonal dwellings.

1. POCKET/NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Definition and Purpose

Pocket and Neighborhood parks range in size from less than 1/2 acre to 20-acres and serve the surrounding neighborhood within an approximate radius of 1/2 mile. Pocket parks may provide small turf areas for informal play, attractive landscaping, walking paths, benches, picnic tables, a volleyball court and a tot lot. The definition of pocket parks also includes civic plazas and gathering places in the central areas of town.

Neighborhood Parks include facilities for field and court games, playgrounds, picnicking and walking/jogging paths. These parks should be a focal point of the neighborhood or activity center. A neighborhood park may be integrated

with a school, overlapping uses where appropriate. Pocket and Neighborhood parks are generally not appropriate sites for organized sports events, except team practices, unless it can be demonstrated that such events can be accommodated without adversely impacting adjacent areas.

Example: Trent Park, Artic Placer Park Silverthorne

Level of Service Standard: 2.5 acres per 1000 population

Minimum Standards:

1. Pocket Parks are 3 acres or less. Neighborhood Parks are large enough to accommodate at least one playfield and range in size from 4 to 12 acres (size may include some overlap if combined with a school site).
2. They are located in residential areas or in activity centers, approximately one per every square mile and, where feasible and appropriate, adjacent to an elementary or middle school.
3. They are within walking distance of users and have good pedestrian/bicycle access with service by low volume local streets.
4. Sites must be suitable for year-round use with suitable topography and soils for quality play fields and facilities.
5. Developed portions of the park (irrigated turf, playfields, playgrounds, parking, hard courts, shelters) must be built above the 10-year floodplain and at least 150-feet from the bank of any creek. All park development must conform to Silverthorne's floodplain and setback ordinances.
6. Parking should be provided for 5 to 20 cars with spaces accessible for people with disabilities and at least 4 bike spaces with

Neighborhood Park Active Uses

- Soccer field
- Softball field
- Informal football field
- Volleyball court
- Horseshoe, shuffleboard court
- Free play improved turf areas
- Tennis court
- Fitness trail

Neighborhood Park Passive Uses

- Picnic tables and benches
- Open turf free play areas
- Natural areas and native landscape areas
- Riparian and wildlife areas
- Jogging, bike and in-line skate trails
- Buffer zone around perimeter

lock-up posts. For larger lots, the number of bike spaces and posts must equal 5% of the number of auto spaces provided. School and park parking facilities may overlap and be shared.



7. If appropriate and dictated by site uses, there may be adequate low-level lighting for evening activities and safety of users, but the lighting must not adversely impact neighbors.
8. Landscaping should provide a balance of screening, shade, color, and texture that creates year-round visual interest and a strong park identity.
9. Park facilities and activities such as picnic areas, spectator facilities, play equipment, surfacing, court games, walking/jogging paths, drinking fountains and restrooms should be accessible by people with disabilities (ADA compliant).
10. There should be a balance between active and passive activities based on the need and desire of the neighborhood with active recreation being informal and unstructured, with the exception of some youth teams.
11. There should be an attractive interface with adjacent development including a landscaped park edge buffer with trees and

shrubs along the perimeter of the park with a jogging trail.

Management Guidelines

1. Neighborhood parks are managed and maintained by the Town or by homeowner associations.
2. They are well maintained free of litter, debris, weeds and unkempt vegetation, although managed natural vegetation is encouraged where appropriate.
3. Play equipment, sports facilities, portable toilet enclosures, parking lots, roadways, and other infrastructure are kept in excellent condition.
4. They are adequately patrolled and there are appropriate rules and regulations to ensure visitor safety, protection of park facilities and privacy of adjacent properties.
5. Detailed records are kept of maintenance, safety and security conditions and remedies.

2. COMMUNITY PARKS

Definition and Purpose

Community Parks serve multiple neighborhoods with a greater variety of recreational opportunities than neighborhood parks. They serve large community events and may preserve larger areas of open space. Community parks may include organized sport and regulation athletic fields, court game facilities, walking paths, preserved natural areas and may incorporate natural features such as wetlands, ponds, rivers or creeks. A community park may be adjacent to a school site with some overlap of uses where appropriate. Community parks should be buffered from surrounding neighborhoods and have adequate internal parking to accommodate users, including organized sports events.

<u>Community Park Active Uses</u>	<u>Community Park Passive Uses</u>
Informal and/or regulation softball fields	Water features such as ponds, rivers
Youth and Little League baseball fields	Open turf free play areas
Adult baseball fields	Natural areas and native landscape areas
Soccer and/or football fields	Informal and group picnic facilities
Court play facilities (i.e. tennis, basketball)	Amphitheaters
Special event areas	Riparian and wildlife areas
Skating rink and boating ponds	Jogging, bike and in-line skate trails
Internal (off-street) parking facilities	Buffer zone around perimeter
Skate park, BMX course, climbing wall	

Examples: Rainbow Park, Silverthorne, Kingdom Park, Breckenridge

Level of Service Standard: 3.5 acres per 1000 population

Minimum Standards:

1. Community parks should be of adequate size to accommodate playfields and internal parking including spaces for people with disabilities and bike spaces with lock racks equal to 5% of the number of auto spaces provided. Parking should accommodate organized sports, team practices and special events internally on the park site, without adversely impacting adjacent residential areas.
2. They should be sited to serve several neighborhoods with a service radius of approximately one mile, preferably adjacent to water features or other natural resources.
3. Community parks should have good vehicular access from adjacent arterial and/or collector streets. The park should be easily accessible by interconnecting trails, greenways and sidewalks.
4. Approximately 50% of the site should be reasonably flat with suitable topography and soils to accommodate field sports such as soccer, baseball and football.
5. Sites should be suitable for year-round use with suitable topography and soils for quality athletic facilities and not prone to erosion.
6. Developed portions of the park (irrigated turf, playfields playgrounds, parking, hard courts, shelters) must be built above the 10-year floodplain and at least 150 feet from the bank of any creek. All park development must conform to floodplain and setback ordinances.
7. If night use takes place, there should be lighting for parking and to accommodate uses such as tennis, baseball and football, to ensure the safety and comfort of park users. Lighting must not adversely impact adjacent homes, businesses, wildlife or thoroughfares.

8. Landscaping should provide a balance of screening, shade, color, and texture that creates year round visual interest and a strong park identity.
9. The park should include loop trails accessing at least 75% of the site and connect to adjacent trails, greenways, and sidewalks.
10. There should be an attractive interface with adjacent development, ideally a landscaped park edge buffer with trees and shrubs along the perimeter of the park with a jogging trail.

Management Guidelines

1. Community parks are managed and maintained by local or regional park agencies.
2. They are well maintained free of litter, debris, weeds and unkempt vegetation, although managed natural vegetation is encouraged where appropriate.
3. Play equipment, sports facilities, restrooms, parking lots, roadways, concession facilities and other infrastructure are kept in excellent condition.
4. They are adequately patrolled and have appropriate rules and regulations to ensure visitor safety, protection of park facilities and privacy of adjacent properties.
5. Detailed records are kept of maintenance, safety and security conditions and remedies.

3. REGIONAL PARKS

Definition and Purpose

Regional parks range in size from 50 to 200 or more acres and serve several communities. They provide a full spectrum of recreational activities and generally are contiguous to, or encompass a significant natural resource such as a river, lake, or forest. A regional park accommodates more heavily programmed athletic fields for organized sports and a wider variety of activities.

Example: Blue River Park, Silverthorne Clement Park, Jefferson County

Level of Service Standard: 5 acres per 1000 population

Minimum Standards:

1. Regional parks are strategically sited to serve populations within a reasonable driving distance, easily accessible from major highways and thoroughfares.
2. Unless there is careful impact planning and buffering, they are not located adjacent to residential areas and avoid access through residential areas.
3. They are programmed to accommodate league play and other organized sports events with quality play fields, facilities and adequate parking for participants and spectators.
4. Sites should be suitable for year-round use with suitable topography and soils for quality athletic facilities and not prone to erosion or frequent flooding.
5. The park should have lighting to accommodate organized evening programs such as tennis and softball and provide enough light to ensure safety and comfort to park users. Lighting should not adversely impact adjacent homes, businesses or thoroughfares.
6. Landscaping should provide a balance of screening, shade, color and texture to create year-round visual interest and a strong park identity.

spaces with lock-up posts equal to 5% of the number of auto spaces provided. All parking needs should be accommodated internally and not impact adjacent areas.

9. The park should include loop trails accessing at least 75% of the site and connect to adjacent trails, greenways, and sidewalks.
10. There should be an attractive interface with adjacent development as described above.

Management Guidelines

1. Regional parks are managed and maintained by local or regional park agencies;
2. They are well maintained free of litter, debris, weeds and unkempt vegetation although managed natural vegetation is encouraged where appropriate.
3. Play equipment, sports facilities, restrooms, parking lots, roadways, concession facilities and other infrastructure are kept in excellent condition.
4. They are adequately patrolled with appropriate rules and regulations to ensure visitor safety, protection of park facilities and privacy of adjacent properties.
5. Detailed records are kept of maintenance, safety and security conditions and remedies.

<u>Regional Park Active Uses</u>	<u>Regional Park Passive Uses</u>
Regulation Softball fields	Water features such as ponds, rivers
Youth and Little League baseball fields	Open turf free play areas
Adult baseball fields/complexes	Natural areas and native landscape areas
Soccer and/or football field complexes	Informal and group picnic facilities
Court play facilities (i.e. tennis, Racquetball)	Amphitheaters
Special event areas	Riparian and wildlife areas
Skating rink and boating ponds	Jogging, bike and in-line skate trails
Internal (off-street) parking facilities	Buffer zone around perimeter
Skate park, BMX course, climbing wall	Sculpture garden

7. Park facilities such as picnic areas, spectator facilities, play equipment, surfacing, court games, walking/jogging paths, drinking fountains and restrooms should be accessible by people with disabilities (ADA compliant).
8. There should be adequate on-site parking for the specific program elements including spaces for people with disabilities and bike

4. SPECIALTY PARK

Definition and Purpose:

A specialty park provides special facilities or takes advantage of unique natural, historic, interpretive or scenic attributes and accommodates special recreational activities such as extreme mountain biking, ski jumping,

sculpture garden, performing arts or cultural events. A specialty park may serve the entire community, region or even visitors from outside the region. Size varies depending on the character and use of the park ranging from a ½ acre public square to a recreational forest park of hundreds of acres.

Examples: Confluence Park and Kayak Course, Denver, Hudson Gardens, Littleton

3. The specialty park should have good vehicular access from adjacent arterial and/or collector streets. The park should be easily accessible by interconnecting trails, greenways and sidewalks.
4. There should be an attractive interface with adjacent development with buffering to avoid conflicts between parklands and adjacent development.

<u><i>Specialty Park Active Uses</i></u>	<u><i>Specialty Park Passive Uses</i></u>
Hiking/jogging trails	Wildlife viewing
Fishing	Natural areas and native landscape areas
Mountain bike trails	Informal picnic facilities
Multi-use trails	
Extreme sports facilities	
Climbing walls	
Freestyle and ski jumping	

Recommended Level of Service: No standard identified.

Minimum Standards

1. Where applicable, park development should be compatible with, and carefully protect and enhance existing natural, scenic, historic or cultural values of the site.
2. Visitor parking should be accommodated without adversely impacting adjacent properties including spaces for people with disabilities and bike spaces with lock racks equal to 5% of the number of auto spaces provided.



Management Guidelines

1. Managed and maintained by local or regional park agencies.
2. They are well maintained free of litter, debris and noxious weeds. Special care is taken to preserve unique natural, scenic, historic or cultural attributes.
3. Trails, equipment, sports facilities, restrooms, parking lots, roadways, and other infrastructure are kept in excellent condition.
4. They are adequately patrolled and there are appropriate rules and regulations to ensure visitor safety, protection of park facilities and privacy of adjacent properties.
5. Detailed records are kept of maintenance, safety and security conditions and remedies.

5. Golf Courses

Definition and Purpose

Public golf course facility may be 18-hole or 9-hole upgradeable to 18 holes or larger. May require 100 to 200 acres or more. Course may be executive with par 3 and 4 holes or full size. The facility should also include a driving range, putting green, and pro shop. Ideally there is a clubhouse with snack bar or restaurant.

Examples: Aspen Municipal Golf Course, Aspen, Buffalo Run Golf Course, Commerce City

Level of Service Standard: 9 holes per 25,000 population

Minimum Standards:

1. Golf course should be strategically sited to serve populations within a reasonable driving distance, easily accessible from major highways and thoroughfares.
2. May be located adjacent to a residential area and be a main feature of a residential development.
3. There is adequate street access to avoid adverse impacts on residential areas.
4. Site should be suitable for year-round use with suitable topography and soils for quality fairways and greens not prone to erosion or frequent flooding.
5. Landscaping should provide a balance of screening, shade, color and texture to create year-round visual interest and appropriate screening of adjacent uses to avoid distraction to golfers.
6. Park facilities such as fairways, greens, spectator facilities, drinking fountains and restrooms should be accessible by people with disabilities (ADA compliant).
7. There should be adequate on-site parking for the specific program elements including spaces for people with disabilities and bike spaces with lock-up posts equal to 5% of the number of auto spaces provided. All parking needs should be accommodated internally and not impact adjacent areas.
8. Natural, sustainable (low chemical use) and wildlife-friendly landscaping is preferred wherever feasible including fairways and rough areas.

Management Guidelines

1. Green fees are affordable for low and moderate-income families.
2. Municipal golf course is managed and maintained by local or regional park agencies or by a private concessionaire.
3. The golf course is well maintained free of litter, debris, weeds and unkempt vegetation although managed natural vegetation is encouraged where appropriate.
4. Clubhouse, pro shop, restrooms, parking lots, roadways, concession facilities and other infrastructure are kept in excellent condition.
5. The golf course is adequately patrolled with appropriate rules and regulations to ensure visitor safety, protection of facilities and privacy of adjacent properties.

SILVERTHORNE WAY-FINDING SYSTEM

Definition and Purpose

The way finding system is an attractive, distinct, uniform system of signs, displays and possibly artistic elements that guides and informs both local and out of town users with respect to greenways, trails and park facilities. The system is comprehensive and town-wide. The system includes: entry monuments, gateway information signs with maps where appropriate directional signs, traffic and safety signage, mile markers, interpretive signs, displays, artistic/sculptural elements and artifacts.

Example: Keystone Resort, Keystone Colorado, Lockheed Martin Discovery Pavilion, Littleton, CO

<u>Golf Course Active Uses</u>	<u>Golf Course Passive Uses</u>
Recreational golf and lessons	Nordic ski in winter w/ rental/warming hut
Golf competition and tournaments	Water features such as ponds, creeks
Driving practice on driving range	Natural areas and native landscape areas
Putting practice on putting green	Riparian and wildlife areas
	Buffer zone around perimeter



4. Detailed records are kept of maintenance, safety and security conditions and remedies.

Minimum Standards

1. A consistent style and information system is provided for all greenways, trails and parks throughout the community.
2. Key gateway signs are provided at major entry points that include: a map of the system, accessibility information, estimated travel time, user safety guidelines, emergency contact and user feedback telephone numbers, *leave no trace* information; code of conduct and other pertinent information.
3. Structures are designed for easy repair and maintenance.
4. Bicycle and traffic signage conforms to the Federal Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) guidelines.
5. Signs and other structures are set back from the trail at least 30" to avoid hazards to trail users.
6. Mile markers are provided every ¼ mile for user guidance, maintenance and emergency reporting.

Management Guidelines

1. Managed and maintained by local or regional park agencies and/or tourist business interests.
2. Signs, displays, mileposts, and artifacts are kept in excellent condition.
3. Text and content is kept current and updated.



3. Plan Recommendations



3. Plan Recommendations

Summary of Key Points

- *The plan identifies 38 projects including seven greenways, ten conservation areas, eight trail projects, and ten park projects.*
- *A graphic way-finding system for Silverthorne is also recommended including trail signage, interpretive signs and guides to important community features and destinations.*
- *New open space, trail and park amenities will require a maintenance commitment. Silverthorne should keep these potential costs in mind when planning new facilities.*

This chapter recommends specific proposed open space, greenways, trails and parks for Silverthorne with suggested locations. The preservation areas and improvements are depicted on the plan map and in the roster of projects that follow. It is a policy of Silverthorne to either achieve the layouts shown in this plan or to work with partnering agencies, landowners and developers to provide alternative schemes that meet the same criteria and objectives depicted in the guiding principles, standards and master plan map.

Open Space, Trail and Park Site Selection Criteria

In developing this plan, specific criteria were used in selecting sites for parks, routes for trails and recommending open space areas for preservation. The criteria were derived from the *vision statement, guiding principles and standards* presented above, from previous plans and advice from citizens, staff and the planning consultant.

- **OPEN SPACE SELECTION CRITERIA**
- Protects floodplains, floodways and other areas unsuitable for development
- Attractive sites with attractive views

- Highly visible sites to help preserve a sense of mountain wilderness, historic ranch land and mountain character
- Adequate size and shape to support natural vegetation, wildlife movement and habitat
- Preserves sites with distinguishing topographic, high elevation points, historic, ecological or cultural features
- Helps create an interconnected system linking wildlife habitat areas, parks, trails and open space

- Areas that buffer sensitive places such as wildlife habitat, wetlands, and drainageways
- Supports current open space planning such as the Forest Service, Dillon, Summit County, adjacent developers, etc.



TRAIL ROUTE SELECTION CRITERIA

- Attractive corridors with attractive views
- Corridors with distinguishing topographic, historic, ecological or cultural features
- Ability to link neighborhoods, civic areas, schools, shopping and other important destinations
- Ability to link parks, trails and open space with interconnected networks
- Grade-separated corridors creating minimal conflict with automobile traffic such as streets or driveway cuts



- Available rights-of-way such as the Blue River, major road corridors, open space and creeks
- Opportunities for multi-objective benefits such as drainageway and utility maintenance roads serving as trails

- Opportunities to cross barriers such as using existing or proposed highway underpasses or crossings
- Avoids adverse impacts on sensitive wildlife areas, agricultural activities and private property
- Avoids steep grades, crossing hazardous barriers such as existing or proposed highways or arterials, noisy or unpleasant settings
- Avoids close proximity to sensitive stream bank areas

PARK SELECTION CRITERIA

- Availability of affordable land.
- Attractive sites with attractive views
- Sites with distinguishing topographic, historic, ecological or cultural features not adversely impacting wildlife areas
- Good existing (or future) road, sidewalk and trail access
- Level, well-drained sites suitable for park development
- Parcel size and shape suitable for park uses and recreational facility development
- Neighborhood/Pocket Park sites located on an approximate one-mile spacing grid
- Sites not prone to erosion or frequent flooding (above the 10-year storm event)
- Soils suitable for park development
- Potential for park site to enhance and complement future residential or commercial development
- Compatibility of park use with existing or future adjacent land uses
- Ability to share sites with schools
- Ability to link parks, trails, open spaces and neighborhoods with interconnected networks

Roster of Projects

OPEN SPACE

GREENWAYS

1. Blue River Way

Location:

Along Blue River from Dillon Dam to Maryland Creek (parallel and east of Highway 9)

Rational:

Forms a central recreational and open space spine to the community.

Size/Length:

30,000 ft (5.6 miles) long, 250' to 1000' wide, 350 acres

Description:

River greenway with continuous hike/bike path (paved through central portion of town/ crusher fine surface north of Hamilton Road). The system also includes a loop on along Bobo Ditch. Includes fishing access, boating from 6th Street north, boat landings, a kayak slalom course located in Blue River Park rest areas, natural landscape buffer areas, resource protection and enhancements.

Estimated Cost: \$ 3,000,000 *Priority:* 1st



2. Silverthorne “Loop” Trail

Location:

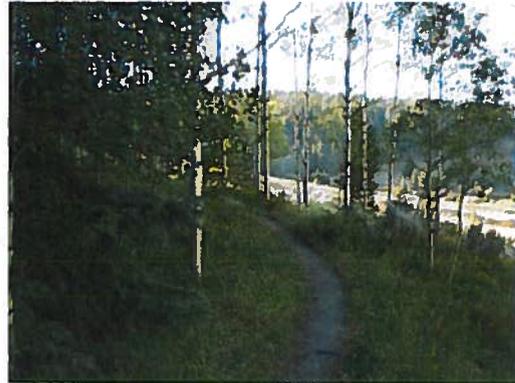
Runs along the hillsides above town through and adjacent to Arapahoe National Forest lands on the east and west sides.

Rational:

Provides access to National Forest and Wilderness Areas, defines town edge.

Size/Length:

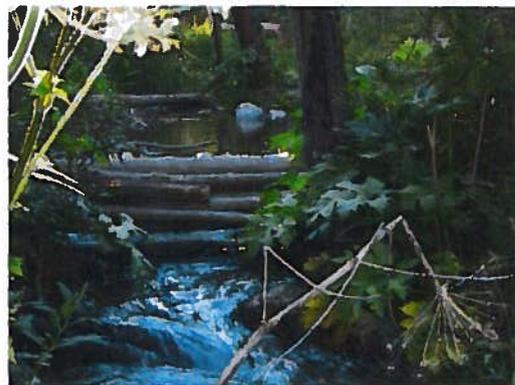
80,000 ft (15.6 miles) long, view and access to thousands of acres of wilderness



Description:

Natural surface (primitive) walking/hiking trail running through wooded and attractive hillside environments. Portions of the pathway follow existing Gore Range and Ptarmigan Wilderness trails. Includes overlooks, rest areas and meditation/storm shelter structures. Trail forms a continuous loop around Silverthorne. Key trailhead access points with maps, parking and trail information area provided at Wildernest Road and the Blue River, Maryland Creek, and existing Ptarmigan Trail head above Ptarmigan Ranch subdivision. There are also informal and local access points (parking not provided) from several neighborhoods. Portions of the trail follow the Maryland and Blue River Greenways. The loop trail also passes through Rainbow Park and accesses the Recreation Center.

Estimated Cost: Volunteers *Priority:* On-going



3. Maryland Creek Greenway

Location:

At north end of town west of Route 9, approximately 5 miles north of I-70.

Rational:

Defines north edge of town and completes trail loop.

Size/Length:

14,000' (2.7 miles), 600' to 1000' wide, approximately. Approximately 60% of the corridor is in Arapahoe National Forest.

Description:

Hiking trail corridor along Maryland Creek with a trail extending from the Blue River up into the Gore Wilderness. The trail has dirt surface and forms part of the Silverthorne "Loop" Trail connecting to the Gore Range Trail.

Estimated Cost: Volunteers/In-Kind

Priority: On-going

4. Park-to-Park Greenway

Location:

West side of town running from Willowbrook to Wilderness Road.

Rational:

Preserves wet meadows and provides trail circulation on west side.

Size/Length:

11,000' (2 miles), 50' to 500' wide, approximately 25 acres.

Description:

Runs along the west edge of town at the base of the hills from Trent Park through five existing and proposed parks and also adjacent to the National Forest wetlands near 10th Street. Joins Blue River Trail at Wildernest Road and at Willow Creek forming a loop with both the Route 9 and Blue River Trails.

Estimated Cost: \$ 500,000 *Priority:* On-going

5. Heitt Ranch Greenway

Location:

East side of Blue River near Hamilton Road

Rational:

Protects open space and views on east side and provides trail access between Heitt Ranch and town.

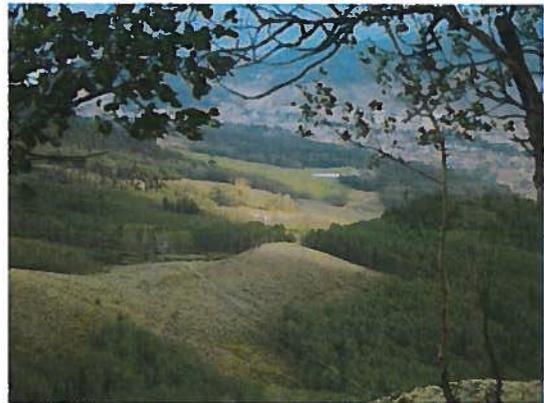
Size/Length:

Trail segment is 11,000' (2-miles). Open Space corridor is 500' to 1000' wide.

Description:

Open space/trail loop corridor with dirt all-terrain trail ascending from the Blue River Trail and forming a loop through Heitt Ranch open space areas.

Estimated Cost: \$ 250,000 *Priority:* On-going



6. High Meadow Greenway

Location:

Heitt Ranch

Rational:

Protects open space and view on east side and provides trail access to National Forest.

Size/Length:

3000' (.6 miles), Width varies

Description:

Crusher fine trail winding through open space corridor on proposed Heitt Ranch development accessing the Ptarmigan Wilderness. Follows open space and golf course areas through attractive meadow and aspen groves. Forms a portion of the "Silverthorne Loop". Connects to Rainbow Park and Recreation Center via Heitt Ranch Greenway.

Estimated Cost: \$100,000 *Priority:* On-going

7. Mesa Cortina Greenway

Location:

Mesa Cortina/Wildernest Neighborhood

Rational:

Provides trail access to Mesa Cortina and National Forest

Size/Length:

8000' (1.5 miles) 500 to 1000' wide, approximately 110 acres

Description:

Dirt all-terrain trail follows drainage and open space corridor through Mesa Cortina and Wilderness neighborhoods. Grade is fairly steep, but could serve as walking, equestrian and mountain bike trail. There is potential to link to Lily Pad Trail in the National Forest.

Estimated Cost: Volunteers/In-Kind

Priority: On-going

RESOURCE CONSERVANCY AREAS

8. Chain of Ponds

Location:

North central area of town between Willow Way and County Rd 1900 (Hamilton Creek Drive)

Rational:

Preserves important natural and open space feature in the heart of town.

Size/Length:

5500' x 1600' (approximately 200 Acres)



Description:

Unique mountain wetland and pond area. Lands are preserved as open space and wildlife habitat. Recreational opportunities include canoeing, bird and wildlife viewing, river and pond fishing, interpretive activities. Trail access is along Blue River and via a loop trail around the two

northerly-most ponds. Potential site for a nature center or outdoor classroom for a future adjacent school. Protect and buffer private properties adjacent to the Chain of Ponds. Town may want to explore options for public access to the ponds for recreation, such as fishing and canoeing (enhanced by linking the ponds together).

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

9. Maryland Creek

Location:

At north end of town west of Route 9 approximately 5 miles north of I-70.

Rational:

Defines north edge of town and protects habitat/wildlife movement area.

Size/Length:

14,000' (2.7 miles), 600' to 1000' wide, approximately 60% of the corridor is in Arapahoe National Forest.

Description:

Corridor along Maryland Creek extending from the Blue River up into the Eagle's Nest Wilderness. A trail and greenway (see "Greenways" above) runs along the edge of the corridor. This area forms part of the "Silverthorne Loop". This area includes Elk habitat.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

10. Eagle's Nest

Location:

Northern part of town west of Highway 9 between Willow Creek and the north end of Three Peaks development

Rational: Helps protect wildlife areas and provides visual break in developed landscape.

Size/Length:

8000' x 1200' (Approximately 200 acres)

Description:

Includes an interconnected system of open space, wooded areas, fens, drainages and golf course fairways. The goal is to preserve an integrated system of open lands providing for wildlife movement and visual relief. The area is not generally accessible by public trails, although there is access by golfers and cross county skiers.

Area is property of golf course and homeowner associations.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

11. Willow Creek

Location:

West central portion of town, north of Ruby Ranch Road, primarily west of Highway 9 (plus the portion east of Highway 9 connecting to the Blue River). A stub ties into wooded areas on Ruby Ranch to the south.

Rational: Protects important wildlife area and a visual break in the urban landscape between Willowbrook and Silver Mountain Ranch developed areas.

Size/Length:

4100' x 200' (approximately 19 acres)

Description:

Narrow but richly vegetated stream corridor with associated wetlands and fens. Area has significant scenic value with the Gore Range in the background. It also acts as an open space buffer between Silver Mountain Village and Willowbrook. Except for the portion between Highway 9 and the Blue River and a trail crossing upstream, this area will not be accessible by trails and will remain in private ownership. A multi-use trail is recommended along the bank of the creek forming a link from Trent Park to the Blue River with a safe pedestrian and wildlife underpass beneath Highway 9 along the Creek.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

12. Ruby Ranch

Location

North central part of town, west of Highway 9 and just South of Ruby Ranch Road.

Rational:

Protects drainages and wetland network on west side of town.

Size/Length:

150 acres plus

Description:

Includes wooded drainage areas running the central and the south portions of Ruby Ranch development. System also includes wet meadows and drainages in the "West Side Swale".

Corridors link to the Park-to-Park Greenway. Corridors would offer visual and wildlife benefits and would be privately owned with no public access.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going



13. Bushee Creek

Location:

North end of town east of Highway 9 (TyL Ranch)

Rational:

Defines the northern edge of the town and protects historic ranch, visual and wildlife values.

Size/Length:

8000' x 2000' (approximately 370 acres)

Description:

Primarily the Ty-L Ranch property. The area includes Bushee Creek watershed, rangelands, pasturelands and open hillsides surrounded by National Forest. An existing dirt road accesses the property and a mine site in the National Forest above. There is potential for a trail link to the Ptarmigan Wilderness Trail and Silverthorne "Loop" Trail through, or adjacent to, this property. In conjunction with the Maryland Creek Corridor, this property forms an important "green gateway" and defines a visual boundary to the north side of town. Recommend working cooperatively with the property owner to either preserve historic ranch use or conserve visually sensitive areas should the site develop.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

14. Hamilton Creek

Location:

Northeast area east of the Blue River at County Road 1900 (Hamilton Creek Road). Includes portions of the Eagle's Nest East development.

Rational:

Protects drainage corridor for water quality, visual and wildlife benefits.

Size/Length:

3700' x 2500' (approximately 212 acres)

Description:

Includes creek corridor, open rangeland, steep open and wooded slopes. Goal is to preserve the open land and visual character of this area, including visually vulnerable steep slopes and wildlife habitat. Area not to be accessible by public trails and would remain in private ownership.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

15. High Meadows Conservancy

Location:

In the proposed Heitt Ranch Development

Rational:

Protects important scenic and wildlife values.

Size/Length:

100 acres plus

Description:

Includes an integrated network of open areas and golf course space weaving through Heitt Ranch and linking through the National Forest to the Ptarmigan Wilderness. Land is privately held and maintained by property owners association. Does not have trail or public access.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

16. Straight Creek Wetlands

Location:

South of I-70 at Route 9

Rational:

Preserve an existing wetland and open space break in highly developed landscape

Size/Length:

3000' x 500' (approximately 34 acres)

Description

Existing Wetland and beaver pond area formed by Straight Creek. Preserve area and provide an interpretive overlook.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority* 1st

VIEW PRESERVATION AREAS

17. View Preservation Areas

Location:

Hillsides surrounding town

Rational:

Protects scenic mountain character of town.

Description:

These areas are primarily hillsides above 8900', where slopes are 15%-25% or more. Areas include west side hills, east side hills and Lake Hill south of I-70. These areas should be protected from visual intrusion including residences, other buildings, utility structures, advertising signs and lights. Any necessary structures should have subdued colors and architecture and stay off tops of ridges to blend with backdrop

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going



TRAILS

The trails listed below include trail corridors that are not within a Greenway. That is, they may follow roadways or other corridors with the purpose of linking destinations. Note that each of the greenways described above includes a trail. For purposes of this study, trails may be multi-use (paved or crushed stone); all-terrain

(dirt surface hike/bike); wilderness (dirt surface with bikes restricted); Roadside multi-use (paved surface, sidewalks (bikes restricted) and on-street bicycle routes. Refer to chapter 2 for more detailed definitions.

18. Route 9 Trail

Location:
West side of Route 9 from Summit Place Shopping Center to Maryland Creek

Rational:
Provides a major non-motorized transportation route through town.

Size/Length:
25,000 ft or 4.8 miles

Description:
Forms the primary north/south non-motorized transportation. Runs adjacent to Route 9. Suggest upgrading the corridor with landscaping along its length where space permits. Provide a similar trail/walkway along the east side of Route 9 where space permits.

Estimated Cost: \$900,000 *Priority:* On-going

19. Eagle's Nest Trail System

Location:
Eagle's Nest along edge of Golden Eagle Road (existing)

Rational:
Provides non-motorized circulation through residential area.

Size/Length:
12,000' (approximately 2.2 miles)

Description:
Paved and non-paved trail/sidewalk system provides non-motorized access to the Eagle's Nest development. This system also connects to trail stubs and links, tying into other developments, National Forest/Silverthorne Loop.

Estimated Cost: Others *Priority:* On-going

20. Village Trails

Location:
South Eagle's Nest, Willow Creek Heights, Silver Mountain Village

Rational:
Links neighborhoods

Size/Length:
6000' (approximately 1.1 miles)

Description:
Paved multi-use trails that link the upper portions of Eagle's Nest, Willowbrook and Silver Mountain Village with ties to Trent Park, Silver Mountain Village Park and the Park-to-Park Greenway. Includes an access to National Forest at "Filing 7" location

Estimated Cost: Others/Volunteers
Priority: 1st

21. Willowbrook Trail

Location:
West side of Highway 9 at Willowbrook Road

Rational:
Non-motorized circulation and access.

Size/Length:
4000' (approximately .8 miles)

Description:
Paved multi-use roadside trail along edge of road serving Willowbrook and Willow Creek High Lands—existing. Provide a link under Route 9 connecting trail to the Blue River Greenway

Estimated Cost: \$800,000 *Priority:* On-going

22. Frisco Trail

Location:
South of I-70 parallel to Old Dillon Dam Road

Rational:
Provides a vital link to Summit County Trail System and to Frisco/Breckenridge/Vail.

Size/Length:
13,000' (approximately 2.5 miles)

Description:
Crushed stone multi-use path provides access to Lake Dillon Trail and Summit County Trail System. Trail links the Blue River Trail to Frisco via the Lake Dillon Trail. The trail follows utility easements through the National Forest with access to Old Dillon Reservoir and the Heaton Lake Camp Ground and Day Use Area. The trail is accessible to people in wheelchairs.

Estimated Cost: \$600,000
Priority: 1st(planning)

23. Lake Dillon Link Trail

Location:
South of I-70, east of Blue River

Rational:
Provides a direct link to Summit County Trail system and to Dillon.

Size/Length:
3,000' (approximately 0.6 miles)

Description:
Paved multi-use path provides access to Summit Place Shopping Center, Lake Dillon Trail/Summit County Trail System and Dillon. This path also links Blue River Trail to Dillon and Frisco via the Lake Dillon Trail. The trail follows dedicated right-of-way on private ownerships and on Denver Water property. An interim connection to Summit Place Shopping Center is proposed pending acquisition of the remainder of the rights of way.

Estimated Cost: \$900,000 *Priority:* 1st

24. East Side Trail

Location:
Runs along Rainbow Drive from 4th Street to County Road 2016 then loops northward to Cottonwood Park.

Rational:
Provides a non-motorized circulation system on the east side of town.

Size/Length:
11,000' (approximately 2 miles)

Description:
On-street route and multi-use trail linking center of town and Recreation Center to the Heitt Ranch and Blue River Greenways. Trail is on-street from the Recreation Center to County Road 2016. Then the trail is a paved or crusher fine multi-use path looping to join the Blue River Trail at the south end of Cottonwood Park.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going

25. Adams Street Trail

Location:
Runs along Adams Street and other local streets, providing a non-motorized circulation system on the west side.

Rational:
Provides a non-motorized circulation system on the west side of town with less noise and traffic than the Route 9 bike path.

Size/Length:
7,000' (approximately 1.5 miles)

Description:
Primarily on-street bike and sidewalk route running along Adams Street and adjacent streets from Wildernest Road to Ruby Ranch Road, completed as west side street system is built.

Estimated Cost: Cooperative *Priority:* On-going



PARKS

Pocket/Neighborhood Parks

26. Trent Park

Location:
West side of Highway 9 at Willowbrook Road

Rational:
Important park serving north end neighborhoods

Size/Length:
1000' x 800' (approximately 12 acres as expanded)

Description:
Includes ball fields, soccer playfield, picnic shelter, pond, tennis, pond, natural area along bank of Willow Creek and walking paths. The park is to be expanded to the south side of Willowbrook Road. Trail to link this park with new playfields park proposed in Buffalo Mountain Village development plan.

Estimated Cost: \$750,000 *Priority:* 1st (planning)

27. Silver Mountain Park

Location:

West of Highway 9 along Ruby Ranch Road in proposed Silver Mountain Village.

Rational:

Will serve new populations created by development.

Size/Length:

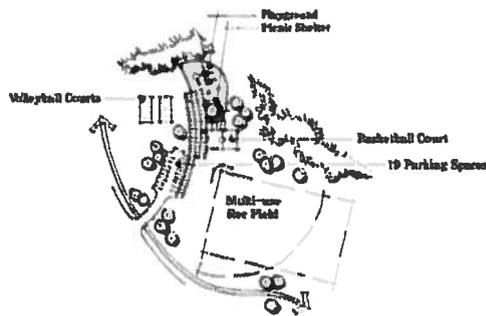
800' x 700' (approximately 12 acres)

Description:

Includes ball fields, soccer playfield, picnic shelter and walking paths. Path links to Trent Park, Willowbrook neighborhood and parks and neighborhoods to south

Estimated Cost: \$1,200,000

Priority: 1st (planning)



Neighborhood Park Concept

28. West Side Park

Location:

West central area in vicinity of Villa Sierra Apartments (West 11th Street)

Rational:

Serves higher density residences on west side.

Size/Length:

Approximately 1 acre

Description:

Informal turf areas, tot lot, and shelter with walking path. Path links to Silver Mountain, Trent and Artic Placer Park

Estimated Cost: \$400,000 *Priority:* On-going

29. Artic Placer Park

Location:

West Central, end of 4th Street

Rational:

Serves west side neighborhoods

Size/Length:

Less than ½ acre, possible tie to school playfields.

Description:

Pocket park with tot lot, picnic shelter, trailhead. Possible cooperative use of playfields and interpretive area on adjacent school site. Suggest upgrade to school fields if cooperative arrangement can be made.

Estimated Cost: \$250,000 (field upgrade)

Priority: On-going



30. Blue River Pocket Parks

Location:

South and central parts of town along Blue River

Rational:

Provides access to Blue River and community cultural centers.

Size/Length:

Totals approximately 4 acres

Description:

Includes a series of smaller parks along the banks of the Blue River. These sites include trailheads with parking, fishing access, feature areas, amphitheaters, picnic shelters and other amenities. The pocket parks are linked together by the Blue River Trail. The pocket park at Silverthorne Pavilion includes turf areas, water features, rock climbing, wetland interpretive

areas and outdoor performance areas. The pocket park at Wilderest Road includes a trailhead to the Silverthorne Loop and the Eagle's Nest Wilderness with parking and trail information for trail users. Panhandle segment of this park follows a swale behind Formby Ford.

Estimated Cost: \$ 750,000 *Priority:* On-going

COMMUNITY PARKS

31. Rainbow Park

Location:

East central part of town at 4th Street next to Recreation Center

Rational:

Major centrally located park

Size/Length:

600 x 750 plus 200' x 1800' "panhandle (approximately 18 acres)

Description:

Major community park with soccer field, skate park, picnic shelter, court games and walking paths. Priority to relocate basketball courts, build volleyball courts and create an outdoor skating/roller sports rink that could have a cover and ice making capability in the future. Could expand into panhandle area to north with additional play fields.

Estimated Cost: \$690,000 *Priority:* 1st



32. Cottonwood Park

Location:

North end of Town east of Highway 9

Rational:

Will serve growing population and needed playfields.

Size/Length:

4000' by 200' to 600' wide (approximately 23 acres—wraps around some development)

Description:

Major community park with baseball fields, soccer fields, picnic shelter, walking paths and adjacent nature preserve/interpretive area. Could extend park to south to include Hamilton Lake fishing area and ice skating. Joint use of playfields with school possible.

Estimated Cost: \$2,550,000 *Priority:* 1st
Community Park Concept

33. Future Park Site

Location:

North end of Town west of Highway 9

Rational:

Will serve growing population and needed playfields.

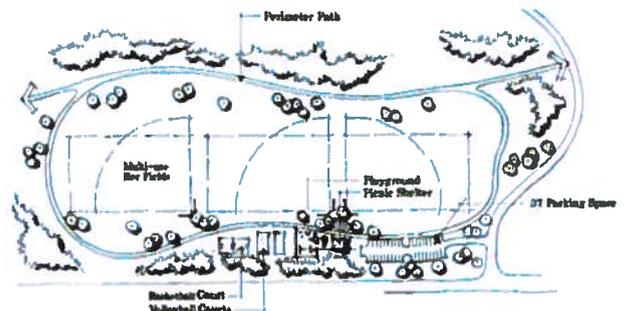
Size/Length:

20 acres

Description:

Land bank area along west side of Highway 9 for future park development. Would be a major community park with baseball fields, soccer fields, picnic shelter, and walking.

Estimated Cost: In-Kind *Priority:* 1st



Community Park Concept

REGIONAL PARKS

34. Blue River Park

Location:

Along Blue River south of I-70 below dam

Rational:

Meets regional organized sports needs and river recreation access.

Size/Length

1500' x 1500' as expanded (approximately 51.6 acres)



Description:

Existing 4-plex regulation baseball complex with, shelter, trails walking paths and river access for fishing. Also includes an events area with rodeo grounds. Suggest expanding along west bank of river wrapping around development (CDOT relocated) to add opportunities for soccer fields, expanding fishing amenities, trails, and picnic shelters. This would also be the gateway to the Frisco Trail and Lake Dillon Commons Park.

Estimated Cost: \$1,800,000 *Priority:* 3rd

SPECIALTY PARKS

35. Lake Hill Commons

Location:

North Shore of Lake Dillon from Blue River to Frisco south of I-70

Rational:

Provides a major open space and recreational opportunity for a range of outdoor sports desired by Silverthorne.

Size/Length:

1700' x 10,000' triangular (195 acres)

Description:

Accessible forest recreation park with multi-use trails, challenge/extreme trails, fishing in Old Dillon Reservoir, ski touring, picnicking, and camping (at Heaton Bay). Includes a major trailhead at the east end in conjunction with redevelopment of private properties there. Could also be a site for extreme sports, ski jumping, sledding, tobogganing and other specialized outdoor recreation. Emphasis on making this an accessible park for recreationalists in wheelchairs.

Estimated Cost: \$800,000 *Priority:* 2nd

36. Cross Country Ski Tracks

Location: Golf Courses and other appropriate sites.

Rational:

Provides venue for popular winter recreation and fitness.

Description:

Winter use for cross county ski—set track and possible temporary rental warming hut. Suggested locations include the Raven (Eagle's Nest) and proposed Heitt Ranch golf courses. A challenge course could also be provided in the Dillon Lakes Commons Park.

Estimated Cost: In-kind *Priority:* 1st

37. Golf Course

Location: To be determined.

Rational:

Provides affordable golf facility for local players.

Description:

Develop 9-hole golf course, upgradeable to 18 holes with pro shop, clubhouse, driving range and putting green. Suggest a joint venture with other communities and Summit County.

Estimated Cost: \$ 3-\$6 Million

Note: This is a very long term concept that would most likely be developed in partnership with other towns—not included in planning budget.

WAY-FINDING SYSTEM

38. Way-finding System

Description:

A system of directional signage, sculptural elements and public art that helps provide direction and unify Silverthorne's greenways, trails, parks and other attractions.

Rational:

Silverthorne should also have a graphic way-finding system helping residents and visitors to find, interpret and understand parks, trails, and greenways.

Estimated Cost: \$75,000

Priority: 1st

Operations and Maintenance Considerations

New open space, trail and park amenities will require a maintenance commitment. Silverthorne should keep these potential costs in mind when planning new facilities. A quality system calls for a quality maintenance program. Following are some typical unit costs for maintenance that can be applied as a rough guideline in anticipating maintenance expenses. Note that volunteers can perform some maintenance functions, especially on all-terrain and wilderness trails.

Facility	Annual Maintenance
■ Multi use trail— (mow, trim, debris removal, sweep, repair, patrol)	\$ 2,000 to \$4,000/mi .
■ All Terrain/Wilderness Trails/ (groom, erosion control, trim, patrol)	Nominal to \$1,500/mi.
■ Natural stream channel (debris removal, erosion control, vegetation)	\$500 to \$1,000/mi.
■ Natural Open Space	Nominal to \$ 150/ac.
■ Active park maintenance	\$3,500 to \$4,500/ac.

Table 3.1 Projected Annual Maintenance Costs

Sources: Urban Edges, Inc; DHM Design Corporation; Greenways, Inc; Denver Urban Drainage and Flood Control District; South Suburban Park and Recreation District; Denver Parks; Boulder Parks and Recreation; and East Bay Regional Park District, CA— adjusted for inflation .

Facility	Location/Description	Est. Cost*	Priority
Greenways			
1. Blue River Way	Center of town/river corridor preservation, continuous trail, fishing, boating, parks and feature areas. (5.5 Miles Long, 270 +- Acres, 4 Miles of Trail To Build)	\$ 3,000,000	1st
2. Silverthorne Loop	Hills above town/highlands hiking trail surrounding the town and accessing National Forests and Wilderness areas (19 Miles Long, 10 Miles to Build)	Volunteers/In-kind	On-going
3. Maryland Creek Greenway	North end of town/hiking. Open space preservation and trail access. (150 Acres)	Volunteers/In-kind	On-going
4. Park to Park Greenway	Westside/multi-use trail linking Trent Park to Blue River Trail at Wilderrest Road. (1.5 Miles Long, 55 Acres +-)	\$ 500,000	On-going
5. Heitt Ranch Greenway	Northeast area/all terrain trail and open space loop (2.5 Miles, 100 Acres +-)	\$ 250,000	On-going
6. High Meadow Greenway	East central area/all terrain trail link to Ptarmigan Trail (1 Mile, 60 Acres +-)	\$ 100,000	On-going
7. Mesa Cortina Greenway	Southwest area/all terrain trail accessing National Forest via Mesa Cortina/Wilderrest area 1.6 miles 115 Acres +-	Volunteers/In-kind	On-going
Resource Conservancy Areas			
8. Chain of Ponds	North central area/cluster of ponds, river, riparian areas and wetlands (90 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
9. Maryland Creek	Northwest area/open space corridor along Maryland Creek (160 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
10. Eagle's Nest	Northwest area/interconnected fens, wooded areas and golf course lands on Eagle's Nest Development (200 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
11. Willow Creek	West central area/preserved riparian corridor, fens and wetlands (140 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
12. Ruby Ranch	Westside/wooded drainage corridors (100 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
13. Bushee Creek	Northeast area/open space corridor along Bushee Creek (400 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
14. Hamilton Creek	Northeast area/open space corridor along Hamilton Creek (130 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
15. High Meadows	East side area/interconnected meadows, wooded areas and open lands on Heitt Ranch and National Forest properties (110 Acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
16. Straight Creek	South of I-70/existing wetland preserve along Straight Creek (34 acres +-)	Cooperative	On-going
17. View Preservation Areas	Preserve quality of views on hillside above 8900' surrounding the town	Cooperative	On-going
Trails			
18. Route 9 Trail	Central area/multi-use trail along Rt. 9 through town. (5.5 Miles Long, 3 Miles to Build)	\$ 900,000	On-going
19. Eagle's Nest Trails	Northwest area/system of sidewalks, paved and soft surface trails linking neighborhoods (2.7 Miles Total)	Others	On-going
20. Village Trail	Westside/multi-use trails linking Eagle's Nest, Willowbrook and proposed Silver Mountain Village and access to National Forest at "Filing 7"(1 Miles Total)	Others/volunteers	1 st
21. Willowbrook Trail	Westside/trail serving Willowbrook and Willow Creek Heights, link to Blue River (.8 Miles)	\$ 800,000 (link)	On-going
22. Frisco Trail	South of I-70/multi-use trail link to Lake Dillon Trail and Frisco (2 Miles to Build)	\$ 600,000	On-going

Table 3.2 Roster of Projects Summarized

23. Dillon Link Trail	South of I-70/multi use link to Summit Place, Dillon and Lake Dillon Trail (.5 Miles)	\$ 900,000	1 st
24. East Side Trail	East central area/on street and multi-use trail loop from Rec. Ctr. to Cottonwood Park (2.2 Miles, .7 Miles On-Street)	\$ 750,000	On-going
25. Adams Street Trail	West central area/on-street (1.5 Miles, signage only)	\$ 2,000	On-going
Parks			
Pocket/Neighborhood Parks			
26. Trent Park	West central area/neighborhood park with playfields, picnic, tennis, pond, paths (Total 8.8 Acres, 5 to build)	\$ 750,000	Planning 1 st
27. Silver Mountain Park	West central area/neighborhood park with playfields, picnic, paths (8 To Build)	\$ 1,200,000	Planning 1 st
28. West Side Park	West central area/ pocket park with turf, shelter, tot lot, paths (1 Acre, Acq. Land)	\$ 400,000	On-going
29. Artic Placer Park	West side/ pocket park with turf, shelter, tot lot, paths, possible shared playfield with school. (Total 4.5 Acres—1 Acre Pocket Park plus 3.5 Acres School Site Upgrade)	\$ 250,000	On-going
30. Blue River Pocket Parks	South central area/series of 4-5 parks/feature areas along the Blue River (5 Acres Total)	\$ 750,000	On-going
Community Parks			
31. Rainbow Park	West central/major park with playfields, picnic, court games, skate board. Includes relocation of basketball, volleyball and pad for skating and upgrade with cooling and cover at a later date. (11.6 Acres Total, 4.6 to Build)	\$ 690,000	1 st
32. Cottonwood Park	North central area/major park with play fields, fishing pond, picnic, natural areas (17 Acres Total and to Build)	\$ 2,550,000	Planning 1 st
33. Future Park Site	Northwest Area (Maryland Creek). Site for Future Community Park (20 acres)	Future/Land Bank	On-going
Regional Parks			
34. Blue River Park	South of I-70/Major park with playfields, fishing, events area, picnic (Total 46 Acres, 12 Acres to Build)	\$ 1,800,000	Planning 1 st
Specialty Parks			
35. Lake Hill Commons	South of I-70/Forest recreation area with trails, extreme sports areas, natural areas, fishing. (400 Acres +-)	\$ 800,000	Planning 1 st
36. Cross Country Ski Tracks	Ski tracks at several locations.	Cooperative/in-kind	1 st
37. 9-hole Golf Course	Site not determined. Likely a shared facility with Frisco and Dillon, Expand to 18 in Future.	\$3-\$6 Million	Very Long-term
Way-finding System			
38. Way-finding System	Uniform information and signage system all around town	\$ 75,000	1 st

* Approximate costs to acquire and develop in year 2000 dollars

Table 3.2 Roster of Projects Summarized (Continued)



4. Implementation



4. Implementation

Summary of Key Points

- *Estimated cost of the recommended parks, trails and open space is \$15-\$20 million with implementation extending over the next 10-15 years. This is an ambitious but realizable target if there is a committed effort.*
- *Silverthorne should move forward immediately to secure critical open space and trail rights-of-way, and build partnerships to protect conservancy areas.*
- *Silverthorne has identified 8 immediate action projects lead by linking the Blue River Trail to Dillon and planning for Blue River Regional Park*
- *Silverthorne and the surrounding communities should pursue the formation of citizen and staff task forces to adopt, champion and implement the projects identified in this plan.*
- *Silverthorne should review its development regulation ordinances, including subdivision, storm drainage, and utility policies to assure conformance with the plan.*

This plan strives to be visionary and it is ambitious. Like any plan, however, it will mean little if not implemented. Realization of a plan calls for addressing several important factors including:

- Organizing and sustaining staff and community leadership to champion the plan.
- Understanding the cost implications of the plan—both capital and maintenance.
- Securing necessary land and rights of way for future open space, trails and parks.
- Identifying specific funding sources and partners.
- Having a phasing scheme with a schedule of projects to be implemented.
- Building and maintaining strong long-term community support for the plan.

Cost Estimates and Implications

Overview of Costs

This plan calls for the creation or expansion of 10 parks (including expansion of Blue River Park), 47 miles of trails and roadside pathways, amenities and almost 2,500 acres of preserved open space. Estimated dollar cost to implement

all of the recommended improvements is estimated at \$12 to \$20 Million. This breaks down approximately as follows:

Table 4.1 Overview of Costs

Greenways	\$ 3-\$4 Million
Conservancies:	Cooperative
Trails:	\$2-\$4 Million
Parks:	<u>\$7-\$12 Million</u>
Total:	\$12-\$20 Million

Silverthorne and its partners will clearly need both time and ingenuity to garner the resources necessary for implementation.

**Potential Funding Sources and Partners
(Please See Detailed Listing of Sources at the
End of This Chapter)**

Assuming a 10 to 15-year implementation program and the potential funding sources listed in table 4.2 below, we can project the availability of as much as \$900,000 annually, with a total of close to \$15 Million available over the next 15 years. In addition, there may be potential for user fees, development impact fees, funds from general revenues, public/private partnerships and other sources not shown in the table. Note that these are not guaranteed amounts, but rather a planning benchmark showing the potential scale of funds that could be raised under an optimistic scenario.



They suggest that many of the proposed projects are realizable. Long-term commitment and partnering with both private and public sector stakeholders will be essential.

Table 4.2 Potential Funding Sources

<u>Potential Funding Sources</u>	<u>Annual Amount</u>	<u>15-yr Amount</u>
Lodging/Conservation Fund	100,000	\$ 1,500,000
Regional Partners	40,000	600,000
County Open Space	50,000	750,000
GOCO Trails	75,000	1,125,000
GOCO Parks/Open Space	25,000	375,000
GOCO Legacy	200,000	3,000,000
Philanthropic	50,000	750,000
Volunteers	50,000	750,000
Bonds	<u>400,000</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>
Totals:	\$ 990,000	\$14,850,000

Project Phasing

To assure realization of the plan's vision and that future resident needs are met on a timely schedule, Silverthorne should have a strategic phasing plan to bring projects on-line so that facilities are available to new residents, and open space and trail right-of-way opportunities are not lost. Based on this and other factors, several important criteria to guide project phasing can be identified:

- Meets an identified community shortfall or need
- Availability of funds, resources or regulatory tools to complete the project
- Critical properties, natural resources and rights of way that might be lost
- High visibility, usable projects, with broad community benefit
- Project demonstrates the plan's vision
- Trail or open space corridor forms a vital link or spine of a larger system or network
- Project takes advantage of special funding, acquisition or partnering opportunities

Using these criteria and input by staff, elected officials and the SPORT Committee, a number of projects were also identified for immediate action as listed in Table 3.3 below:

Project	Strategy
1. Complete preliminary engineering for Blue River trail from Dillon to the Sewage Plant	Pursue GOCO planning funds
2. Prepare Blue River Plan/Feasibility Study for lease renewal (urgent).	Pursue funds from GOCO, Denver Water, Dillon, County
3. Complete Rainbow Park planned improvements including basketball relocation, volleyball, and covered roller/ice rink.	Phased effort with upgrades as funds become available
4. Pursue rights of way for Blue River Trail and other trail routes.	Refine Blue River plan, initiate negotiations with landowners
5. Prepare Master Plans for Trent and Cottonwood Parks	Pursue GOCO funding and Rockies funds for Little League.
6. Develop way-finding system	Pursue private and Energy Impact funds.
7. Improve Willowbrook (Filing 7) forest access and trail links.	Create citizens task force and recruit volunteers
8. Initiate planning and permitting process on Frisco Trail Link/Lake Hill Commons Park.	Commit staff and citizen task force effort. Partner with Frisco, County and Forest Service.

Table 4.3: Early Action Projects

Organizational Leadership to Champion the Plan

Long Term Committed Leadership

The *commitment factor* will be vital to the success of this plan. This means sustained leadership by staff, elected officials and especially the community. This requires an effective and enduring organizational structure and process. Key functional areas include:

- **Citizen Advocacy to Champion the Plan**— The SPORT Committee needs to move forward as the champion of this plan. Sub-committees chaired by dedicated individuals should also be created to work with staff to oversee and promote the implementation of the various identified priority projects. At some point, if private sector funds are raised, this group might incorporate as a non-profit under *Sec. 501(c)(3)* of the *Internal Revenue Code*.
- **Staff Advocacy and Oversight**—To accomplish this, Silverthorne should designate a project manager assigned to oversee this effort addressing such issues as land acquisition, volunteer projects, fundraising, design, construction, and maintenance of facilities. This person should also enjoy the continued participation and support of the SPORT Committee and project sub-committees in realizing this vision.

- **Build and Maintain Effective Partnerships Among Agencies, Jurisdictions and Stakeholders**—This will help optimize funds and resources, strengthening the position of all the partners in securing grants, and promoting policies and programs that support the plan. Coordination will also help promote an integrated system of trails, parks and open space corridors that transcend jurisdictional lines.
- **Garner Resources and Funds**—This includes grant writing, financial strategizing and partnership building.
- **Assure Policy Consistency**—Silverthorne should review its development regulation ordinances including subdivision, storm drainage, and utility policies to assure they are in conformance with the plan.

Building and Maintaining Community Support

Solid community support for the project is critical. Citizens must not only be inspired by the plan, but also embrace it over the long term. Clearly, Silverthorne residents, property owners and business people need to be kept informed, involved and realize a direct benefit to them and

their neighborhoods. This can be accomplished by:

- **Having an Effective Public Information Program** including clear, easy-to-read reports, brochures, web site updates, posters, and progress presentations. A prominently located “status board” is also recommended to post the plan map and key objectives. The board should be regularly updated to show progress and need for additional support or funds.
- **Prioritizing Projects** that will benefit all town residents and provide linkage to the larger Summit County recreation system.
- **Immediately Moving Forward with Pilot Projects** that demonstrate the plan’s vision as well as completing and dedicating additional projects or project elements year by year.
- **Having a Quality Management and Maintenance Program** that includes an effective citizen/user feedback mechanism to provide a responsive ear for each user concern.

Funding and Policy Resources

Following is a list of potential funding sources and policy measures that can benefit implementation of the plan. This list should not be interpreted as all-inclusive since new programs appear while others are reduced or phased out.

Local Funds

Bond Issue—Currently Silverthorne has two bond-funded projects—the Recreation Center and the Pavilion—totaling \$11.4 million. The town pays approximately \$ 1 million per year toward retiring these two project costs from sales tax. Currently (Year 2000), the town is at full bonding capacity for the foreseeable future. This, however, does not preclude a property tax based bond perhaps through the formation of a metropolitan park district or fundraising through other mechanisms such as the sale of certificates of participation tied to future revenues. **Contact Barbara Monseu, Hanifen Imhoff Company 303-296-2300 for additional information on bonds and other forms of public financing.**

Sales Tax—Sales tax is currently at 7.5% with 4% going to the town. This suggests little capacity for additional sale taxes.

Lodging Tax—Currently brings in \$ 95,000 to \$110,000 annually, of which 85% is available to the town for park and recreation purposes (This includes revenue from the Conservation Trust Fund approximately \$25,000/yr).

User Fees and Joint Ventures—facilities such as golf courses, group picnic facilities, fields, batting cages and even trails can generate revenue. Silverthorne could also joint venture with developers and other private interests in such projects. **Contact Bob Kelly or Al Cunningham at Redstone Group 303-623-3466 for information on golf course development costs and net revenues.**

Property Taxes—Silverthorne residents do not pay a town property tax although they do pay property tax for fire protection and other services. Elections to impose a property tax in Silverthorne in the past have not been successful.

Development Impact Fees and Excise Taxes—These are fees or taxes assessed on new commercial and residential property. Impact Fees reflect the need for facilities created by new development. By example, the City of Arvada assesses \$ 1,000 for a single-family residence and \$ 840 for a multi-family unit.

County and Regional Funds

County Open Space Program—Summit County funds this by property tax mill levy. The County has raised \$7 million with a 2nd mill levy poised to raise \$3 million per year 2000 through 2009. Of this funding, 85% goes to open space acquisition. Non-paved paths on open space properties can be funded, but not bike paths. All funds are spent at County level. County will partner with towns for projects in towns if criteria are met. **Contact the Open Space Advisory Council. Todd Robertson (970-668-4061)**

Creation of a North Shore Park and Recreation Metro District—There has been some discussion of a consolidated park and recreation program among Dillon, Frisco, Silverthorne and the unincorporated portions of the County on the North Shore of Lake Dillon. Creation of such an entity might benefit Silverthorne as well as the other partners by reducing duplication of services and facilities, providing a better funding base for capital projects, programs, operations and maintenance, and providing additional bonding capacity for

projects. A public golf course, completion of the Lake Dillon Trail with links to Silverthorne, creation of the Lake Dillon Commons Park (Lake Hill Area), and local management and enhancement of Blue River Regional Park might fall under the purview of a special district effort.

This approach however, might have to compete for funds with other interests such as schools and open space and might imply Silverthorne giving up some autonomy over its park and recreation facilities.

Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT)—This is a tax assessed on the sale or transfers of real estate dedicated to open space, park and trail benefits. The Town of Vail generates \$1.3 to \$2 million or more annual, with a 1% tax on transfers. Under current State requirements this program is limited to newly annexed areas and subdivisions where there is voluntary approval.

State Funds

GO Colorado—The Great Outdoors Colorado program has several funding sources available including grants for trails, open space, parks, planning and small projects. Individual grants typically range from \$10,000 to \$200,000 with grants of several millions of dollars under the *Legacy* Program for projects of statewide interest. **Contact the State Trails Program at 303-866-3203 or GO Colorado at 303-863-7522**

Fishing is Fun—Sponsored by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, this program provides matching funds on a 75% CDOW share/25% local share matching basis for habitat improvements, barrier free fishing access, parking, signage and other improvements supportive of fishing. **Contact Mr. Tom Kroening, District Wildlife Manager 970-468-5848**

Energy Impact Funds—Primarily allocated to communities with a large energy impact fund. Annual amount of \$15 Million is available statewide. Maximum grant amount runs about \$300,000. Park, greenway and trail projects and planning may be eligible. **Contact Kathy Shipley, Colorado Office of Local Affairs 970-468-2183**

Federal Funds

Tea 21 Transportation Enhancement Program—This program runs through 2003 and

funds bicycle transportation and pedestrian projects under several categories, including: *Recreational Trails Program*; *Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways*; and *Surface Transportation Program (STP)*. Funds are available to develop and maintain recreational trails and trailside facilities for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users. Local match of at least 20% is required. "Soft-match" (credit for donations of funds, materials, services, or new right-of-way) is also permitted. **Contact Cecelia Joy, CDOT Region 1 Planning and Environmental Manager 303-757-9112 or Gay Page CDOT Statewide Bicycle Coordinator at 303-757-9982.**

National Scenic Byways Program—grants to states for scenic byway programs and related projects (recreational trails have been funded through this program) along roads designated as National Scenic Byways, All-American Roads, or as State Scenic Byways. **Contact Gay Page CDOT Statewide Bicycle Coordinator at 303-757-9982.**

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): Permanent funding for LWCF is pending passage of the *Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (CARA)* that would provide an estimated \$12 to \$20 million annually for Colorado to support the creation of national and community parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and open space to guarantee outdoor recreation opportunities and a clean environment. **Contact Colorado Division of Parks and Recreation 303-866-3437.**

Forest Service (USDA) Many recreational facilities in National Forests are created through public-private partnerships with the Forest Service. Through special use permits, fees and concessionaires, the Forest Service is able to meet some of the rising demand for recreational services. Collaboration with the Santa Fe National Forest office on joint venture trail related projects should be explored. The Forest Service may be able to assist through the following programs:

Cost Share Program: The Cost Share program can provide cash and in-kind resources to projects that expand trails and recreation amenities through National Forests. Bringing the Forest Service in as a partner in the early stages

of planning is important in order to gain their support.

Right-of-way (Grants and Acquisitions): The Forest Service can provide access across National Forest System lands to intermingled and adjacent lands, and acquire public access across private land to National Forest land. **To coordinate activities with the National Forest, contacts include: Angela Glenn Recreational Forester, 970-468-5400 Paul Zimmer, Land Planner 970-262-3448,**

Federal Lands Highways (FLH)—funding for projects on certain federal lands including National Forests that has funded trails on public lands.

Federal Lands-to-Parks Program—Periodically, the General Services Administration identifies properties the federal government no longer needs and initiates a formal process to dispose of them. The National Park Service and General Services Administration notify States and local governments when properties become available in their area. The program enables States and local governments to establish park and recreation areas and adapt historic buildings for public uses. Applicants must agree to manage the property in the public interest and for public park and recreational use. **Contact Bill Huie, Federal Lands to Parks Program, National Park Service, Atlanta Support Office 404-562-3175 ext. 511**

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program: The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program is a community resource that works with local citizen groups to revitalize nearby rivers, preserve valuable open spaces, and develop local trail and greenway networks. The program does not provide funding; rather it offers expertise to local groups trying to get their project off the ground. **Contact Duane Holmes, Denver Office National Park Service 303-969-2855.**

Volunteer and Youth Programs
Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado. Organizes trail and land stewardship projects on public lands in Colorado. **Contact Kate Boland, Director, 303-715-1010**

U.S.F.S Volunteer Program Organizes volunteer projects on federal lands. Contact

Angela Glenn, Recreational Forester, White River National Forest 970-468-5400

Local Wilderness Groups—Including Friends of Eagle's Nest Wilderness and About Wilderness, Inc. **Contact Maryanne Gaug megaug@csn.net**

Mountain Bike Organizations—Including the International Mountain Bicycling Association and the Fat Tire Society—**Contact IMBA 303-545-9011**

Youth Programs—Including programs under the Job Performance Training Act (JPTA) Program for at risk youth. **Contact "Shape our Summit" Jennifer Pratt-Miles 970-513-8340 Also contact NCCC/Americorps 303-844-7439**

In-kind Resources—use of town, county, or donated labor and equipment to build projects.

Military/Corrections Labor—This is the use of military or corrections institution labor and equipment to build projects. **Contact military bases or Colorado National Guard**

Settlement of Environmental Lawsuits—Proceeds from settlements on lawsuits based on violations of federal laws, often through the Sierra Club, Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund or similar organization. **Contact EJDF at 303-871-6996**

Private Sector Grants

Philanthropic Funds—grants from local and national private foundations. In some cases wealthy individuals may contribute to a project. **Contact Community Resources Center 303-623-1540 or www.crcamerica.org**

Corporate Contributions—These are grants of funds or in-kind materials or services by businesses. Companies generally will expect a promotional or advertising benefit commensurate with the grant amount.

Entrepreneurial Partnerships—include special projects such as wetland banks and water storage reservoirs where a business interest has a financial incentive to fund an open space project.

Joint Ventures Around Lake Dillon Summit Leadership Forum—Council of elected officials and managers from the jurisdictions of Summit County.

Dillon Recreation Resource Coordinating Committee (DRRCC). Includes White River National Forest Denver Water, National Forest, Summit County, Dillon, Frisco, Silverthorne.

Policies and Regulatory Measures Local Provisions

Following are policies and regulatory measures that may be applicable. Some of these are already enforced in Silverthorne. Others would require further investigation and action.

Subdivision Regulations—requires developers to submit plans for review and approval. The plans must meet certain engineering criteria as stipulated in the Town zoning ordinance and municipal codes. The Town can require that land unsuitable for development due to flooding, improper drainage, steep slopes, unsuitable soil conditions, utility rights of way and other conditions that may be harmful to public safety, health and general welfare may not be developed unless adequate methods are formulated and approved. Furthermore, the town may withhold approval of the subdivision if it is determined that increased stormwater runoff may overload existing downstream drainage facilities. In addition, developers are required to dedicate land for parks, open space and recreational facilities or make cash-in-lieu-of-land dedication and pay fees for park and recreation facilities. The developer is also required to make certain street and sidewalk improvements. (See subdivision code).

Floodplain Ordinances—requires that all structures or land modifications in the designated floodway and floodplain comply with certain requirements. Specifically, a permit is required before any construction can take place in the floodplain. Any encroachment in the floodway is prohibited unless a licensed professional engineer or architect can demonstrate that encroachment will not increase the flood level of the 100-year flood by more than one foot in the floodway fringe and result in no flood level increase in the floodway.

Buffer Zones— requires the developer to dedicate open space and/or setbacks along the edges of stream corridors, wetlands, and other places where potentially incompatible land use may abut. The goals may include preserving water quality, protecting groundwater discharge, attenuating stormwater runoff and other general health, safety and welfare benefits.

Conservation Subdivision Techniques— encourage the developer to plan the property with an emphasis on preserving the natural and cultural resources of the site. The developer is also given the flexibility to “cluster lots” on land more suitable for building in order to set aside more sensitive areas such as floodplains and floodplain buffer areas for open space. The open space might be held by a non-profit land trust controlled by the homeowners affording certain tax benefits. Under such a program the town may provide technical assistance as well as certain incentives such as reduced application fees, increased density bonuses, and speedy application review.

Watershed Protection and Storm Drainage Impact Fees—provides for an impact fee based on the square footage of impervious surfaces such as those created by roads or rooftops. The funds are earmarked for storm drainage facilities including acquisition of open space (including stream corridors, wetlands and ponds) for stormwater storage and conveyance.

Dedication/Density Transfers—allow the dedication of greenway corridors or open space by the transfer of density to other portions of the property or to contiguous land that is part of a common development plan. The greenway or open space may be deeded to the Town or owned and maintained by a property owners association. While the overall density of the development remains the same, development may be clustered onto smaller lots. Some communities also allow the transfer or sale of density bonuses to other developers or locations.

Conservation Tax Credit Program—In 1999, the Colorado Legislature passed a bill permitting landowners, who forgo development and gift to a land trust or public agency, the development rights on their property, the right to receive up to a \$100,000 tax credit. The credit can be spread over a period of up to 20 years.

Colorado Natural Areas Program (CNAP)— Through the Colorado Division of Wildlife, this program helps private landowners and public land agencies identify and protect land with special wildlife habitat values. Protection is through voluntary cooperative agreements. Small grants are sometimes available. The Division of Wildlife can also acquire wildlife conservation easements.

Federal Policies and Regulations

Clean Water Act—Section 404—probably the most powerful and effective non-local regulatory tool. Permits are required when a project will disturb wetlands defined as *jurisdictional waters of the U.S.* Related programs such as the *Wetlands Reserve Program* and *Conservation Reserve Program* promote the preservation of wetlands on agricultural properties.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)—The Federal government will provide for flood hazard insurance to property owners in communities that meet guidelines set by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This provides a strong incentive for communities to write and enforce floodplain protection ordinances. FEMA has also created a *community rating system* that provides an insurance premium reduction if communities go beyond the minimum requirements.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA)—The ESA is designed to protect the wrongful killing or injury of wildlife. Court decisions have also broadened this interpretation to include the protection of wildlife habitat and movement routes under certain conditions, including potential impact on federally listed threatened or endangered species. If the presence or potential of listed species is indicated, private and public land developers are obliged to prepare critical habitat and recovery plans for any identified listed species. If the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service accept plans, a permit may be issued to alter habitat and possibly impact some listed wildlife. If no permit is issued, then penalties may be imposed or legal action by citizens upheld in court with substantial damage settlements.

Land and Right of Way Acquisition Techniques

Note: Colorado has a Recreational Use Statute (RUS) (Sec.33-41-101 thru -105, C.R.S.) meaning that the liability of property owners and adjacent property owners who grant right of way for recreational purposes is limited. An attorney, however, should be consulted to determine current status of the law.

Fee Simple Purchase--includes the entire "bundle" of rights in perpetuity—usually the most costly acquisition

Easements—a conveyance of certain, but not all, rights associated with a property. Several types of easements may be applicable here including: *public access* (i.e. for trails); *conservation* (to protect natural resources, floodplain or water quality values); and *preservation easements* (to protect historic integrity or values of a property) or combinations thereof. Many easements may allow the owner to continue his use of the property for compatible purposes such as farming and some easements may allow the owner to restrict public access. In some cases, the town may simply purchase the development rights.

Donation/Bargain Sale./Tax Incentives

A willing property owner conveys the property or interest in property as a charitable contribution or at a less than fair market value price (bargain sale). The donor may be eligible for federal, state and local tax deductions and may be able to avoid inheritance taxes, capital gains or recurring property taxes. In some cases, the owner may donate a future interest in the land or retain a life tenancy allowing the donor to remain on the property, use the property, or take income from the property for the remainder of their life or lives.

Option, Lease-Option or First Right of Refusal—This is an agreement with the owner to secure the right to acquire the property in the future. This protects the land in the short term until funds are found to make the purchase. Variations on this might include transaction through a third party such as a land conservancy or The Trust for Public Lands, where the third party buys and holds the land on the town's behalf. The city might make rent payments or installment payments on the property over an extended period of time.

License or Revocable Permit--A property owner grants the right to use the property (usually a trail right-of-way) for a period of years (usually 25 yrs. or more). In the case of a revocable permit, the grantor may terminate the right of use or access under certain conditions. Examples include the right for a trail to pass through a State Highway right-of-way or through a property where the owner is hesitant to grant permanent access.

Cooperative Partnership Land Management—Certain public agencies may choose to cooperate and partner in the pursuit of

mutual land management benefits. Under this scenario, public land managers agree to manage the land for multiple objectives such as conservation, land treatment of wastewater, wetland banking, joint use recreational/ maintenance trails and water quality benefits. These might be implemented through short and long term intergovernmental agreements.

Condemnation—Under certain circumstances, the Town may need to take property through its powers of eminent domain. This may be a forceful taking or a “friendly condemnation” where eminent domain may resolve difficult legal problems for both sides. It should seldom be used with an unwilling property owner and only when the need for the property is critical and all reasonable efforts to negotiate a settlement with the owner have been exhausted.



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Item: 8a

MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY COUNCIL AND STAFF

FROM: MAYOR DOUG TISDALE

SUBJECT: OPEN SPACE – NEXT STEPS – AN OPEN SPACE STRATEGIES TASK FORCE

DATE: MARCH 18, 2014

The City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 18, represents the third time in three months that we will address the issue of open space in Cherry Hills Village. Our first two sessions gave us the clear picture that open space remains a significant issue for all Villagers, and one where our residents want the Council to exercise leadership. Tonight I propose that we begin to spell out an articulated action plan for Council to provide that leadership.

The observations made at these public discussions ratify and reaffirm the conclusions of the Blue Ribbon Panel Report, the Citizens Committee on the City Center Report and the Master Plan (which was shaped and informed by those two prior Reports): We want more open space where possible. We want to preserve and protect the open space that we already have. We want to encourage citizen commitment to open space. We want to partner with owners of large tracts to create opportunities for enhanced open space acquisition and preservation. We are mixed on how much of open space should be left in its natural state, cultivated gently, or become dedicated to active recreational usage. We want to be strategic in our consideration of open space acquisitions, while remaining opportunistic so as to be able to act when the occasion arises.

The vehicle that our City Code provides for issues of open space consideration is the Parks Trails and Recreation Commission. PTRC has been carefully designed to provide for geographic representation by Council District so as to ensure that all regions receive equal attention and resources. In the first instance, PTRC should be our shepherd for open space.

But PTRC needs—and wants—direction from Council. Nothing is gained by establishing PTRC as our lead on this issue and then subverting their mission by taking that task upon ourselves. Similarly, we should be appropriately guided by and respectful of the work of PTRC. Their recommendations are deserving of great weight and should not be overturned absent a specific policy- or Code-based difference noted by Council.

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We understood and respected this function when we established the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee. We charged PTRC with the duty to establish the QFVC, to staff it and to direct it. The upcoming QFVC Report will go through PTRC review before it is presented to Council. I submit that we should follow the same procedure regarding the important question of next steps for open space strategies in the Village.

PTRC's duties under the Code include the following: To make recommendations with the purpose of improving and maintaining the City's park and open space system; to evaluate and make recommendations concerning the acquisition of pocket parks, wildlife refuge areas, protected view areas, open space parks and recreational parks; to make recommendations with the purpose of protecting and maintaining the streams and water features that exist in the City; to recommend budget priorities for capital projects related to parks, trails, open space and recreation; and to recommend long-range financing plans for open space acquisition. Code, Sec. 2-8-10.

Consistent with this mission, I propose that we instruct PTRC to develop an Open Space Strategies Task Force, charged with the responsibility for providing an articulated process addressing open space strategies going forward. The OSS Task Force would be responsible for presenting to Council, through PTRC, a detailed roadmap for the following areas, **all of which shall be subject in all respects to the constraints of applicable law and to reasonable and responsible real estate negotiation practices and strategies**, and in compliance with specific intentions mentioned in the Master Plan:

1. **Open Space Strategic Acquisitions:** Identify specific parcels in the Village that are desirable and suitable for open space acquisition and then prioritize these parcels according to a scoring system to be suggested by the OSS Task Force.
2. **Open Space Preservation:** Articulate guidelines suitable to protect existing City-owned properties within the Village from future development and to preserve the same as open space where not inconsistent with other previously expressed development plans.
3. **Open Space Acquisition Opportunities:** Propose an efficient and effective mechanic for monitoring large privately-owned properties where owners are considering either the possibility of sale or sale with a conservation easement or donation to the City or other conservation-minded entity.
4. **Open Space Acquisition Financing:** Draft and prioritize a specific listing of long-range financing tools available to the City for financing acquisition of open space properties, specifically taking into account the effect of satisfying long-term debt obligations to South Suburban after 2019.
5. **Open Space Utilization:** Catalogue open space properties, whether existing or new, as being properties that (a) should be maintained in a natural and "untouched" state; (b) should be subject to gentle or modest improvement suitable for passive recreation

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- opportunities; and (c) should be considered for active recreation opportunities, including a detailing of the nature of such recreation opportunities.
6. Open Space Citizen Engagement and Support: Consider and make recommendations concerning the viability, timing, process and wording for one or more ballot questions to be presented to the voters in connection with financing open space acquisitions.
 7. Open Space Dedication Requirement Review: Review the existing open space dedication requirement of Code Sec. 17-3-30 for 7.5% dedication requirement in order to consider increasing that requirement.

If this general outline is agreeable to the Council, I suggest that we task our Staff with responsibility for presenting us with a form of Resolution for consideration at our April 1 Council meeting. That path and that timing will afford a reasonable opportunity for the Council – and our City Attorney – to consider the seven strategic initiatives I have outline above, revising, adding or subtracting as our collective consideration dictates.

As we did with the QFVC, I propose that PTRC be responsible for naming fourteen (14) members to the OSS Task Force – two representatives from each Council District and two (2) members to be appointed at large, together with one (1) Council member appointed by the Mayor, who would serve as the Chair of the OSS Task Force. I suggest that PTRC include some of the residents who have been active on this issue in the past, but that it also reach out so that a significant portion of the OSS Task Force include new voices.

In this way we will be able to demonstrate that we are committed to the proposition that we should be bold when it comes to open space.

Existing Structure and Guidance for Open Space Planning, Acquisition, Development

1. Vision Statement- set forth in the City's Comprehensive Plan. Establishes general goals and objectives for the community as a whole.
 - It's perfect
2. Planning and Policy Review with Recommendations to Council- conducted by PTRC by examining current inventory, long-term needs and more immediate opportunities. Specific nature, use and activities for each park or parcel.

Analysis of tasks below conducted directly by PTRC or citizens committee as determined jointly with Council.

 - Task 1- calling for open space study (see below)
 - Task 2- review public vote requirement for Park sale. Identify other City owned property suggested for Park designation.
 - Task 5- change in utilization of existing Parks.
 - Task 7- changes to subdivision dedication requirement.
3. Property specific targeting of acquisition opportunities- not clearly defined by policy or practice at present. Typically occurs today in response to an opportunity.
 - Task 3- Council directed analysis and plan developed with CHLP
4. Financial feasibility, sources of funding and acquisition approval- managed by Council and carried out through staff and outside advisors.
 - Task 4- bond counsel and financial advisor
 - Task 6- Ballot questions can be: (1) specific property at a known cost or (2) contingent tax authority for parameters based open space acquisition.

Suggested Topics for PTRC Study

1. 3. Open Space Planning Categories for Future Acquisition and/or Development- Needs and Opportunities

Conduct a review of:

- Existing open space resources,
- Identify areas of City lacking open space amenities or trail connections,
- potential land additions

Report based on following categories:

1. Major tracts of land which may be more than one parcel and separate ownership. No specific minimum size but expected to be over 2.5 acres.
2. Neighborhood open space- smaller parcels that complement trails, create openness in neighborhoods or may serve as a buffer.
3. Trails- development of existing easements, connection issues and analysis in subdivision process.
4. Streams and wetlands- health and condition, relationship to trails and parks.
5. View preservation.

2. Park Designation and Use of Existing Properties

1. Should any existing City owned land be given "Park" designation.
2. Additional actions to protect open space.

3. Subdivision Dedication Requirements

1. Review for changes to current code.

There were no reports.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

David Jackson of South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR) presented an update to the Council. He explained that in 2013 SMFR had dealt with reduced or flat revenue, launched the Advanced Rescue Medical Unit pilot program, completed debt payments, and maintained their accreditation. He indicated that in 2014 SMFR would transition to a new fire chief as Chief Qualman was planning to retire. They would also work to equalize mill levies between cities and continue consolidation discussions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart moved, seconded by Councilor Griffin to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2013
- b. Resolution 1, Series 2014; Designating a Public Place for Posting Notices of Regular and Special Meetings
- c. Highway User Tax Funds (HUTF) Mileage Certification
- d. Authorization of Full and Final Release and Settlement Agreement by Jody Sansing

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing – Open Space Policy

Mayor Tisdale explained that this discussion had been requested by a number of Council members and this was an opportunity for the public to share their opinions on the City's open space policy. He identified issues to discuss such as a strategic approach versus an opportunistic approach to acquisitions; funding; the possibility of a ballot issue for the 2014 November election; prioritizing of view corridors and scenic views; and prioritization of acquisition versus protection. He explained that acquisition referred to properties that the City would own, whereas protection referred to private properties protected through a mechanism such as a conservation easement. He clarified that these were just some of the issues to be discussed and welcomed input on other related topics as well.

Mayor Tisdale opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

Lucinda Green, 2855 Cherryridge Road, indicated that she had lived in the City for 14 years for the schools and beauty. She noted that she was grateful to live in the low density environment and where her family could enjoy recreation and wildlife locally. She stated that the City's continuing attention to acquiring and maintaining open space in the City contributed to this unique opportunity, especially within the larger metropolitan area. She explained that she was an equestrian and used the parks and

trails regularly on horse, foot and skis. She stated that the vistas and view corridors were an important component to her enjoyment. She indicated that the City does an excellent job of appropriately meeting the needs for basic community services and amenities, despite any recent economic challenges. She noted that the City currently had \$1.5 million designated for open space activities and projects. She indicated that she could see no better use for the funds that would become available after the South Suburban financial obligation is complete than preserving the quality of life for Village residents through continued acquisition and maintenance of open space.

Stephanie Bluher, 101 Glenmoor Lane, explained that she was co-president of the Cherry Hills Land Preserve (CHLP) along with Karen Barsch. She thanked the Council for beginning the year with such an important topic, and noted that there was still a lot of work to be done to accomplish the goals and directives outlined in the Master Plan. She noted that the guiding principal of every Master Plan since 1970 has been the preservation of open space. She noted that many residents take for granted that the remaining undeveloped lots in the Village are open space, which is not the case. She noted that the current funds budgeted for open space might not be enough. She explained that the CHLP was formed in 2004, the Blue Ribbon Panel completed their report in 2005, the Master Plan was revised 2007-2008, and the Cat Anderson Fund was established in 2009. She noted that the CHLP was involved in the Master Plan revision and they were pleased and thankful that all of their recommendations were recognized and incorporated. She indicated that the citizen survey in Appendix C of the Master Plan showed that open space was the number one funding priority for Villagers. She added that the extension of the Arapahoe County Open Space tax was the only tax measure that passed in the 2011 election, and the CHLP was recognized as providing critical support for its passage. She explained that the CHLP developed relationships with interested land owners to position properties to be acquired or protected. She added that CHLP had relationships with Arapahoe County Open Space, Great Outdoors Colorado, the Trust for Public Lands and others. She expressed concern that a ballot measure would have the unintended consequence of derailing important open space efforts.

Harriet LaMair, 16 Cherry Lane Drive, explained that the CHLP did not notify their entire membership about tonight's meeting. She noted that CHLP felt that the community had already spoken on the question of prioritization of open space. She indicated that a ballot measure would have to be carefully considered, including consideration of future funding and tying future Councils to that funding. She noted that the City had a healthy budget and that it was the Council's role as elected officials to make the decision of what to do with extra funds, and not defer to the citizens. She explained that the CHLP, Council, and PTRC formed a three-legged stool as a framework for open space efforts in the City and reviewed the roles of each, including Council's role in funding, PTRC's role in planning and recommendations, and CHLP's role as a flexible and confidential resource for land owners. She thanked Council for taking the time to have this meeting and stated that CHLP looked forward to continuing to working with Council on open space issues.

Karen Barsch, 4999 S. Birch Street, explained that she had lived in the City for 20 years and served on the PTRC as well as participating in the CHLP. She noted that both entities had independently developed almost identical lists of criteria to evaluate acquisition opportunities. She explained that in 2010 the PTRC used these criteria to evaluate and prioritize properties in the Village, which was then presented to Council. She expressed shock that the Council thought a vote was needed. She indicated that she did not see PTRC as taking an active role in open space acquisition because it moved too slowly and was not confidential. She continued that PTRC was more suited to complete inventories and prioritize possible open space parcels, and that the Council needed to make this clear to PTRC. She added that preserving view corridors should

also be discussed and that planting of new trees in parks should be done with views in mind.

Mike Gallagher, 4440 S. Clarkson Street, explained that he had grown up in the City and had lived here as an adult for 25 years. He noted the pressure of the metro area on the City, including parking and infrastructure. He added that he thought the City was managing the edges of the City well and protecting the City from outside pressures, but that there was further need for maintaining cleanliness on the High Line Canal.

Lindsey Miller, Arapahoe County Open Space Grant Program Administrator, reported that the upcoming funding cycle deadline was February 7th for four categories of grants: Large (up to \$500,000), Standard (up to \$250,000), Small (up to \$50,000), and Planning (up to \$25,000). She explained that applications for the Large Grant would not count towards the three proposal limit or the total grant funding cap of \$500,000 per entity per year. She noted that grants were awarded in June.

Councilor VanderWerf indicated that the City's Special Project Coordinator was a grant writer. She noted that the open space grants were separate from the High Line Canal Working Group grants. She added that municipalities can apply to Arapahoe County Open Space for High Line Canal Working Group grants at any time throughout the year to help with projects or to purchase open space along the Canal.

Mayor Tisdale indicated that the City appreciated its partnership with Arapahoe County Open Space.

Bill Lucas, PTRC Chair, 42 Sedgwick Drive, explained that PTRC was working with the Master Plan to help define their role. He noted that PTRC was not only focused on open space but also on trails, connectivity and the community's ability to move through the City by foot, bike, and horse. He indicated that the High Line Canal was the City's most valuable asset and ensuring its connectivity to the City's parks and trails was a priority for the PTRC. He noted that open space was not in PTRC's name and that they had no fiscal responsibility and did not give direction on the spending of City funds. He indicated that the PTRC would like to be more involved. He explained that the PTRC hasn't seen a strong strategy from Council as to how to acquire open space and obtain funding. He stated that both funding and a proactive approach were needed. He suggested that a strategic planning of tree placement and park connectivity like that accomplished in Denver might be helpful. He encouraged further dialogue with Council regarding connecting and activating parks, Little Dry Creek, the High Line Canal, and how to establish a structure to take more effective advantage of the PTRC's abilities.

Jeff Ferrell, PTRC Vice Chair, 3955 S. Cherry Street, noted that John Meade Park and the outcome of the Village Center campus was a top priority for PTRC. He commented that Director Zuccaro had been very helpful with a recent subdivision application in considering view corridors. He reported that the PTRC Trails Subcommittee was exploring ways to increase the connectivity of Little Dry Creek.

Robert Eber, 3 Middle Road, indicated that he was on PTRC and had grown up in the City. He explained that when he was growing up there were not as many gates and there was more personal interaction between neighbors. He advocated community relations, formalized public spaces, and a more formalized and lasting commitment to open space.

Mayor Tisdale noted that documents entered into the public record as part of the public hearing included the Master Plan with Appendices, Blue Ribbon Panel Report, Citizen's City Center Committee Report, PTRC section of the Code and Land Acquisition Statement, CHLP Biannual Report and December 2013 letter, Resolution 13 Series

2006, Harriet LaMair's three legged stool diagram, and Laura Christman's letter dated January 7, 2014. He thanked the Villager Newspaper for the article regarding tonight's public hearing.

Hearing no further comments Mayor Tisdale closed the Public Hearing at 7:56 p.m.

Councilor K. Brown indicated that she agreed with Karen Barsch that open space is clearly the City's number one priority. She recognized that the City had other priorities as well but had always understood open space protection and acquisition as a directive from the community. She stated that Council needed to consider the balance between maintaining versus acquiring new open space. She indicated that another consideration was to question if all open space is created equal, and focusing on priority properties versus treating any and all open space as beneficial. She questioned the value of tiny pocket parks compared to large properties of open space, and if cash in lieu of the 7.5% land dedication for subdivisions might be unpopular but would allow the City to take advantage of an opportunity on the City's priority list. She indicated that she was not necessarily opposed to a ballot measure for additional open space funding, but that would not relieve Council of its obligation to fulfill residents' desire for more open space.

Councilor VanderWerf noted that the Blue Ribbon Panel had taken a 20,000 foot view of the City to identify opportunities to create trail connections, preserve wildlife habitat, and create an ideal community without identifying particular properties. She indicated that if Council had a plan they could put forth a ballot question. She agreed with Councilor K. Brown that not all open space is created equal and that the City could be more thoughtful with subdivisions and trail connections. She noted that while every Council member had been elected on an open space platform, Council had not yet adequately addressed this issue.

Councilor A. Brown indicated that if Council were to put an issue on the ballot it would need to be specific and clear in identifying why the City wants funding. He noted that it was impossible to look ahead to 2019 to know what the financial position of the City will be when the South Suburban payments are completed and what those funds will be most needed for. He stated that a ballot issue might address open space funding for 2014-2019, but noted that having an end date created other issues that had to be thought through. He indicated that Council should discuss not only raising funds but also finding other sources such as grants through Arapahoe County Open Space and Great Outdoors Colorado. He noted that he was not opposed to a ballot issue if these issues were discussed and decided by Council because these were issues that the silent majority would question.

Councilor Griffin noted that the City was blessed to have a group like the CHLP present here tonight and appreciated their well thought out comments. He indicated that his natural inclination would be for a ballot issue, but was swayed by the comments tonight that this was perhaps not the right course. He stated that since there was only a finite amount of desirable open space available in the City it was important to think about what would happen once there was no more open space to acquire.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated that he agreed with Laura Christman's written comments that there are few open space parcels left, and that the City could not wait until South Suburban payments were complete in 2019 because those parcels may no longer be available. He suggested that a ballot issue should be specific to a property once the City has worked with the property owners, as opposed to a yes or no vote for open space in general. He noted that the City did not have sufficient funds to acquire all the properties at the top of the priority list, so the City would have to be aggressive about presenting the voters with a concrete proposal and researching possible matching

funds. He indicated that Council should discuss this now in order to have time to think it through thoroughly and take advantage of the election in November.

Councilor Roswell indicated he agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Stewart. He noted that Council had grappled with being reactive, but did not have the funds to be proactive, and warned that opportunities would pass by if the funding was not planned for. He added that open space was not just about acquisition but also about maintenance and improvement. He indicated that the City could not plan to have a ballot issue in time to take advantage of every opportunity for a high priority parcel. He noted that other issues to consider included connecting the east side of the city with the west side; traffic; and access. He indicated that Council should continue the discussion and involve more of the public. He noted that Council had not heard from residents who do not value acquisition and needed to hear from that side of the issue as well as the members of the CHLP and PTRC that had attended tonight's meeting.

Mayor Tisdale thanked the participants and the attendants of the public hearing. He agreed with Councilor Roswell that many residents only speak via the ballot. He noted that having a specific list of projects when asking for money and having a sunset provision were important aspects of successful ballot measures. He agreed with Harriet LaMair that the Council was the elected body and could not hand off this responsibility. He indicated that the Council would strive to improve communication with CHLP and PTRC. He noted that PTRC was not designed for searching for acquisitions but serves an important role. He commented that PTRC hadn't yet been called upon by Council to plan long range financing for open space as was identified as one of its purposes in the Municipal Code. He indicated that this discussion was just the beginning and that Council would continue and expand this dialogue.

Councilor Roswell asked that a continuation of this discussion be put on a meeting agenda in the near future.

Councilor A. Brown suggested that it be a standing item on every meeting agenda.

Councilor Roswell noted that some of Council's meetings went long.

Mayor Tisdale suggested continuing the discussion at the second meeting in February.

Alice Abrams asked how much open space the City has.

Mayor Tisdale replied that the City currently has approximately 50 acres of open space.

Councilor K. Brown asked if the discussion on February 18th would be another public hearing or if interested parties would give their comments during audience participation.

Mayor Tisdale replied that the Council would discuss that before the meeting.

Councilor Roswell suggested a study session.

Resolution 2, Series 2014; Concerning the Establishment of the Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee

Councilor A. Brown indicated that he had developed the proposed resolution with Mayor Pro Tem Stewart and presented three issues for Council discussion. First was the inclusion of two Council advisory members on the proposed committee. Second was the selection and appointment of committee members, which was not addressed in the resolution. Third was the final report deadline.

Mayor Tisdale suggested that the number of committee members be raised to six, plus the two Council advisors, in order to have one representative from each Council district. He asked each Council member to nominate a member of the committee.

Councilor Roswell indicated that it might be difficult to accomplish one member per district, and that Council should appoint the minimum number of members to allow the committee to complete their report by May or June. He added that two Council advisors would be helpful to the committee.

Councilor K. Brown indicated that given the short time frame committee member expertise was more important than geographical representation. She added that she was in favor of up to six members but did not want to require six as a larger committee would have a harder time coordinating schedules. She noted that two Council advisors was fine, but again expressed concern with schedule coordination.

Councilor Roswell indicated that Council should stay consistent with the recruitment process for boards and commissions and advertise this committee as they would any other opening.

Mayor Tisdale indicated that he would still like to receive a nomination from each Councilor. He suggested appointing Councilor A. Brown and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart as the Council advisors to the committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart advised staff to advertise the committee widely and agreed with Councilor K. Brown that the expertise of the members was important.

Mayor Tisdale suggested June 1st as the deadline for the committee final report.

Councilor Roswell, seconded by Councilor K. Brown moved to approve Resolution 2, Series 2014 with amendments as discussed.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tisdale reported that the City Tree Lighting Event had been successful and thanked Administrator Berninzoni. He noted that he had attended the December 19th Tri County Health Department briefing. He noted that the reviews for Municipal Court Judge Turre and Prosecuting Attorney Ausmus would be next week. He reported that Councilor K. Brown would be on Comcast Newsmakers in March.

Members of City Council

Councilor K. Brown had no report.

Councilor Griffin had no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart reported that City Manager Patterson's review would be held on Friday at 4 p.m.

Councilor Roswell had no report.



He added that the terms of the warrant would have required that the City prove that no fuel with more than 10% ethanol was ever used in the tank. He indicated that for both these reasons staff believes the City is unable to make a warranty claim for the ruptured tank. He noted that staff had contacted CIRSA and had learned that coverage cost was approximately \$56.00 more for an underground tank than for an above ground tank. He added that in order to receive this information staff was required to bid out the cost for an underground tank, the installation of which would be more than double the installation cost of an above ground tank. He stated that staff had discussed federal regulations with the state and had learned that the state conducts all oversight and enforcement for the Environmental Protection Agency. He asked Council to amend the recommended motion included in the staff memo to \$37,100.00 instead of \$37,095.43.

Councilor Roswell moved, seconded by Councilor VanderWerf to approve on first reading Council Bill 1, Series 2014 for a Supplemental Appropriation in the amount of \$37,100.00 for the purchase of an above ground fuel tank and all related installation costs.

The following votes were recorded:

Katy Brown	yes
Mark Griffin	yes
Russell Stewart	yes
Scott Roswell	yes
Klasina VanderWerf	yes
Alex Brown	yes

Vote on the Council Bill 1-2014: 6 ayes. 0 nays. The motion carried.

Public Forum on Open Space Policy

Mayor Tisdale explained that the Council wished to continue the discussion regarding the City's open space policy that began at the January 7, 2014 meeting. He explained that while the discussion on January 7th had been a public hearing including the required published notice, the discussion tonight was an open public forum, and that the goal was to receive as much participation as possible from the Village in this dialogue. He noted that Council was pleased with the January 7th discussion and wanted to expand the discussion and participation. He assured all Villagers that this critical and vital discussion about open space would be maintained as a continuing dialogue on a periodic basis for the rest of the year. He indicated that the City would face important decisions over the coming months and years regarding open space issues including acquisition, management planning of Quincy Farm, the City's open space dedication requirement for subdivision development, and active versus passive uses of parks and open space. He explained that Council was seeking input on those and other issues. He noted that he and staff had received a number of emails from residents unable to attend tonight's meeting and those would be included in the permanent record of the meeting.

Councilor VanderWerf thanked everyone for attending.

Mayor Tisdale thanked Councilor VanderWerf for providing Duffeyrolls and coffee to the attendees.

Ryan Cunningham, 3981 Nassau Circle West, indicated that his family had lived in the Village for 15 years. He stated that he often walked along the trails, High Line Canal, and Kent Denver. He noted that the large undeveloped area near Dahlia and Quincy was in the process of being developed and while he understood that new homes were

necessary the development of this large area reminded him that the City needed to be pro-active in identifying and pursuing the preservation of key sites.

Virginia Nardell, 1 Walden Lane, explained that her family had lived in the Village for 18 years and her home bordered several trails and streets. She indicated that she had met many neighbors on the trails walking and riding horses and couldn't imagine the area being any different.

Former Mayor and PTRC member and current Quincy Farm Visioning Committee member Jeff Welborn, 4901 South Fairfax Street, noted that he had lived in the Village his whole life and the Village gave him the same feeling now as when he was growing up. He explained that he had participated in the Master Plan process as a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel (BRP). He noted that the BRP had held two large public meetings, sent out public questionnaires, taken public comments, and made videos of their meetings, and that the comments were taken into account when forming the Master Plan. He indicated that he had gone into the Master Plan process with an open mind. He stated that the Village trends were the same now as they had been then. He directed the Council to the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) Resolution 1, Series 2008 passed August 26, 2008 which approved the Master Plan and submitted it to City Council for final approval and adoption. He read select passages from the Master Plan. He explained that the City's zoning was protective, which promoted increased property values, and resulted in more development within the confines of the zones. He noted that this was a good opportunity for Council to review the Master Plan and focus on open space.

Kevin Kearney, 14 Lynn Road, stated that his family had lived in the Village for 13 years. He indicated that he supported open space and noted the importance of open space to property values.

Jim Bolt, 4219 S. Bellaire Circle, stated that his family had lived in the Village for 12 years. He indicated that he would support any open space agenda and that it was critical to the character and community of the Village.

Connie Michalik, 2 Walden Lane, stated that her family had lived in the Village for 9 years. She explained that she enjoyed walking along the trails in the Village and the feeling of being in the country. She asked the Council to preserve the Village's open space and noted that when it is gone, it is gone.

Gordon Rockafellow, 4200 E. Quincy Avenue, noted that his family's home was fortunate to be adjacent to Quincy Farm. He encouraged the City to provide open space throughout the Village so that other residents could enjoy the same fortune. He warned that the Village's wildlife would be lost if open space could not be protected.

Tracy James, 4949 S. Albion Street, stated that her family had lived in the Village for 32 years and that she had been familiar with the area as a teenager as well. She explained that they had decided to move to the City after visiting it and experiencing the tranquility and serenity that set it apart from other communities. She warned that not preserving the Village's open space would erode the special quality of the community and its semi-rural character. She noted that all the City's Master Plans, commissions and panels characterized the Village as open views, open space and semi-rural. She urged the Council to act now to preserve the City's open space for the future.

Caroline Bliss-Kandel, 1700 E. Stanford Avenue, explained that her family had lived in their home in Old Cherry Hills for 25 years and it had been very rural when they moved in. She noted that she appreciated the City's efforts to expand the City's open space and trails system, but stated that the streets in her neighborhood were busy with

construction and there was a lot of pressure from real estate agents. She noted that she and her husband often went to Englewood to ride their bikes. She indicated that she appreciated the open space in the Village now more than ever and asked Council to continue to preserve open space and trails in the City.

Former Parks and Trails Committee member Phillip Seawalt, 4751 S. University Boulevard, indicated that he supported open space and was a member of the Cherry Hills Village Land Preserve (CHLP). He noted that the CHLP was the single largest organized citizen group in the Village because there are a lot of people who feel strongly about open space. He reviewed the history of open space in the City, including exclusion from South Suburban, Blackmer Commons, and Three Pond Park, and noted that the City had a history of obtaining open space. He indicated that open space was the single most important factor in the community and he fully supported more acquisition.

Fred Abrams, 105 Meade Lane, echoed what others had said and noted that his family was fortunate to be surrounded by open space including John Meade Park, the area in which that the Parks Department had created a nursery, and the Alan Hutto Memorial Commons. He indicated that he supported continuing the process of acquiring open space.

Mark Johnson, 16 Vista Road, explained that he had a personal passion for land conservation and along with his brother had donated the conservation easements on their ranch near Colorado Springs and was involved in the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust. He indicated that in addition to the aesthetic benefits, open space also had economic benefits as it increased nearby property values by 30-100%, thereby enhancing City finances.

Planning and Zoning Commission Chair Laura Christman, 18 Cherry Lane Drive, indicated that she had lived in the Village for over 25 years and agreed with Mr. Johnson. She noted that home values are an important focus for the P&Z. She explained that all the marketing brochures for homes in the Village promoted open space, trails, restrictive planning and the rural community. She indicated that the City was in a unique position now to preserve open space for the long term, for both the Village and as a unique space for all of the South Metro area. She warned that in 15-20 years it will be very difficult to find open space that is not a formal park.

Nina Itin, 4685 S. Ogden Street, stated that she had moved to the Village five years ago. She explained that although she had not lived in the Village as long as many of the other residents present tonight, she agreed that open space was important to property values and was a special gift in the community. She indicated that she had worked on land conservation issues and agreed with Mr. Johnson that property values increased exponentially when nearby open space was preserved. She encouraged the Council to act boldly and move forward with the mission set forth in the Master Plan.

Cherry Hills Village Land Preserve Co-President Stephanie Bluher, 101 Glenmoor Lane, noted that while the Master Plan and Blue Ribbon Panel had identified many intangible benefits of open space, there were also many tangible benefits. She explained that more than 160 studies over the last 10 years had conducted empirically-based, statistically-based, and quantifiable studies that showed that open space increased land values in rural areas and even more so in urban areas. She noted that while open space cost more to purchase in an area like Cherry Hills Village, there was also a bigger return on investment. She explained that more open space resulted in higher property values, which resulted in higher taxes and more government revenues. She described other benefits of open space to the municipality, including a walkable neighborhood and less obese residents, fewer infrastructure costs for public amenities, and higher home

prices and faster sales. She noted that real estate taxes were the greatest source of revenue for the City and therefore investment in open space that would sustain those property values for Villagers was fiscally responsible and probably the best way to deliver a cost benefit to Villagers. She asked that the CHLP's article in the August/September 2013 issue of Colorado Expression be included in the record.

Tom Barsch, 4999 S. Birch Street, indicated that he had lived in the Village for 20 years. He stated that open space was the City's prime natural resource that sets the City apart from other areas. He encouraged Council to follow the vision to protect open space and acquire as much as possible when they had the opportunity.

Ann Carpenter, 9 Random Road, indicated that she supported the comments expressed tonight and believed it was wise for the City to invest in open space.

Kelly Pickett, 3 Carriage Brook Road, explained that her family had lived in the Village for two years and had moved entirely for the trails and open space. She indicated that the City could do better with trail connectivity and with expanding trails and open space.

Bill Vitek, 4850 S. Lafayette Lane, stated his family had lived in the Village for more than 18 years. He explained that he was a land planner and landscape architect who designed communities across the country and noted that other communities would love to have the open space that the Village residents enjoyed. He indicated it was incumbent upon the Council as the City's elected officials to carry forward the legacy of environmental stewardship to protect and enhance those resources moving forward.

Mayor Welborn noted that the definition of open space includes trails and access and encouraged Council to take a broad view.

Former Councilor and current Quincy Farm Visioning Committee member Harriett LaMair, 16 Cherry Lane Drive, reiterated that the CHLP was available and committed to partner with the City Council and the PTRC to work hard together in order to have additional success. She reminded Council of the handouts the CHLP had provided at the January 7th meeting outlining ways in which the partnership between these three entities could be improved for further success.

Alice Douthit, 4124 S. Dahlia Street, encouraged Council to continue expanding the City's trails and open space.

Graham Hollis, 4225 S. Bellaire Circle, explained that his family had lived in the Village for three years. He noted that one of the main reasons his family had moved to the Village was because of the open space. He thanked Council and the CHLP for their past and future work. He noted that open space opportunities were limited and when they were gone, they were gone. He stated that the neighborhoods in the Village were formed by the trails and open space, rather than the roads.

Ann Clark, 4625 S. Ogden Street, noted that the Master Plan process had included a large amount of community involvement and input and asked why Council was asking for more input now.

Mayor Tisdale replied that Council wished to give residents the opportunity to express their feelings about open space, particularly those issues which he had articulated at the beginning of the forum, including different types of protection and strategic versus opportunistic acquisition. He explained that Council sought to identify a strategy and specific tactics to achieve the common goal of open space protection and acquisition. He asked Director Zuccaro to present his research on open space requirements for subdivision development.

Director Zuccaro explained that in 1973 the City adopted a 10% dedication requirement for lot subdivisions. He noted that the dedication was for open space, parks and recreation, or cultural amenities. He added that in 1996 the requirement was changed to 0.06 acres per lot; in 2004 it was amended to 7.5%; and in 2009 Council considered returning to 10% but no action was taken. He noted that the City consisted of six square miles, or a little over 4,000 acres of total land. 162 of those acres were public owned parks and open space. This was 4% of the total area and 4.5% of the residential area, excluding roads and commercial areas. Another 456 acres were privately owned open space. The total of both public and private land was 619 acres of open space, or 15% of the total area and 17% of the residential area.

Mr. Vitek noted that the largest portion of private open space were Cherry Hills Country Club and Glenmoor Country Club, which were not accessible to the public and should not be counted as open space.

Ms. LaMair commented that it was also important to consider the acreage of land that was privately owned but not developed as it was possible open space.

PTRC Chair Bill Lucas noted that the definition of open space was ambiguous for the PTRC and an issue that should be looked at moving forward. He agreed with Councilor K. Brown's comment from the January 7th meeting that not all open space was equal, and issues such as view corridors and connectivity had to be taken into account. He emphasized that open space for the sake of open space was not the goal.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Tisdale closed the public forum at 7:47 p.m.

Councilor VanderWerf thanked everyone for their wonderful comments and good ideas. She indicated that Council needed to be more proactive in their open space strategy, although this shouldn't preclude them from being opportunistic when applicable. She echoed Councilor A. Brown's idea about an open space working group. She encouraged Council to take more advantage of the partnerships with PTRC and CHLP. She indicated that there were creative ways for the City to pursue key properties despite high land values, but noted that there were individuals who could pay higher prices for these properties than the City could offer.

Councilor A. Brown thanked everyone for attending and indicated that Council appreciated their input. He noted that he was pleasantly surprised that 30% of the City's public open space is composed of trails. He commented that the values and perspective of the community had not changed dramatically since the revision of the Master Plan, and that Council had to now decide on the mechanism and process that would be used to acquire and preserve open space. He noted that Council had been largely in a reactionary mode and needed to institute processes within the City to collaborate with other organizations and generate ideas beyond the current opportunistic strategy.

Councilor Roswell indicated that it was nice to see everyone, both familiar and unfamiliar faces, and noted that all comments were in support of open space acquisition and preservation except for one email. He commented that the City did not have the budget to be bold and the South Suburban payments would not stop until 2019. He warned that the undeveloped properties in the Village were available now, but the City did not have a cash budget to purchase them. He indicated that everyone wanted to acquire open space and the Council should be bolder in their strategy and increase cooperation with different organizations and property owners and make the City's wishes for undeveloped properties known. He emphasized that Council could not wait until the South Suburban payments stopped because by then it would be too late.

Councilor K. Brown agreed with Councilor Roswell and indicated that it was refreshing to hear so many positive comments on an issue. She indicated that while the City was in a positive financial position they did not have the funds to purchase all the desired undeveloped land in the City. She agreed that the manicured open space of the country clubs were not what people referred to as open space, but that much of the private undeveloped land in the City was taken for granted as open space when it was not. She indicated that the conversation now needed to evolve to answer how and where to find the funds for open space acquisition and protection.

Councilor Griffin agreed with the other Councilors' comments. He encouraged the new residents present tonight to get involved. He noted that there was obviously a great sentiment for open space. He commented that the City had been fiscally conservative during the recession and while Council and staff worked diligently to maintain a balanced budget they still had two years until revaluation of property values would likely increase revenues. He indicated that the question was how to fund open space acquisition, be it cash, a tax increase, bonds, or other sources.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart indicated his appreciation for Mayor Welborn's comments on the Master Plan. He noted that undergrounding utility lines was an important aspect of the Master Plan and maintaining and enhancing view corridors. He indicated that the direction of the Master Plan was clear and that the Council needed to look at new ways to acquire and protect open space. He noted that one of the Charter amendments passed in the April 2012 election added an additional level of protection for parks. He noted that the City had enjoyed several successful public-private partnerships, notably Quincy Farm and the Alan Hutto Memorial Commons. He suggested that Council should appeal to residents and talk to investors. He noted that Kent Denver was a wonderful example of private open space. He indicated that Council would continue discussions on this important topic.

Mayor Tisdale thanked everyone for their positive energy and heartfelt contribution to this important issue. He noted that Council would continue to focus on one of Mayor Welborn's priorities of connecting "orphan trails", as well as public-private partnerships for open space acquisition and protection. He noted that John Meade Park, Quincy Farm and Alan Hutto Memorial Commons were all the result of the beneficence of Village residents. He indicated that Council had to incentivize, motivate and collaborate with residents for more public-private partnerships. He noted that Council had to be bold in their strategies and not just opportunistic. He commented that the City was restricted by law as to how much it could pay for private land. He added that the sellers were City residents, neighbors and friends. He indicated that Council would proceed with a strategic plan, prioritized properties, and begin dialogues. He advised that Council would continue this discussion at another meeting in March.

Councilor A. Brown noted that while funding was always a challenge the burden was not entirely on the City and reminded Council of partnerships with the County and State that the City not only could but should be taking advantage of.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart agreed that Council should focus on public-public partnerships as well as public-private partnerships.

Mayor Tisdale noted that the City appreciated its positive relationships with Arapahoe County Open Space and Great Outdoors Colorado.

NEW BUSINESS

None

REPORTS

Members of City Council

Councilor K. Brown reported that she had abstained from the latest PTRC meeting because they were considering a quasi-judicial matter.

Councilor Griffin reported that the Board of Adjustment and Appeals had approved a variance at East Quincy Avenue and South Lafayette Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart reported that the Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee would meet on Thursday at 9am in the Village Center.

Councilor A. Brown asked staff to report on the Emerald Ash Borer.

Administrator Berninzoni explained that the Emerald Ash Borer was a major pest that had stricken the Midwest where over two million trees had been killed. He indicated that the Emerald Ash Borer had been identified in Boulder and that staff was working with Colorado State Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture to ensure they did everything possible to prevent ash tree death in the City.

Mayor Tisdale noted that there had been a presentation on the Emerald Ash Borer at the Metro Mayor's Caucus and reported that the Emerald Ash Borer was currently limited to Boulder County but that Cherry Hills Village was the most forested city in the Front Range with most trees per capita.

Councilor Griffin asked how many ash trees were in the City.

Administrator Berninzoni replied that there were 65 City-owned ash trees but staff did not know how many privately owned ash trees were in the City.

Councilor Griffin asked the size of the ash trees.

Administrator Berninzoni replied that they were 30-40 foot trees.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart asked if staff was warning residents about the Emerald Ash Borer.

Administrator Berninzoni replied that since the pest had not yet made its way down to this part of the state there was no true concern as of yet.

Councilor Griffin asked what the treatment or preventative measures were.

Administrator Berninzoni replied that a ground level soak with pesticide was used to prevent the Emerald Ash Borer.

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie added that the City had budgeted for pre-treating the City ash trees and that this method was required twice a year, every year, to prevent the pest. He noted that this treatment was expensive and there was no guarantee that it would prevent infestation or save an infected tree. He added that information on the Emerald Ash Borer would be added to the City website.

Councilor A. Brown asked staff to ensure that their treatment of ash trees did not include the chemical component linked to bee colony collapse.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart asked how effective the pesticide soak method was.

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie replied that, as with the pine beetle, there were different theories about what was most effective to prevent and treat the Emerald Ash Borer.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart suggested following Colorado State University's recommendation.

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie agreed and noted that CSU recommended this pesticide soak. He added that CSU warned against planting monocultures for this very reason. He indicated that the City had diversified its tree population in the last several years.

Councilor Roswell asked about the Japanese beetle.

Administrator Berninzoni replied that staff continued their work to contain the Japanese beetle and that information was available on the City website for residents.

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Goldie added that the state has been studying Cherry Hills Village for years. He noted that the City lost almost every creeper planted at the Joint Public Safety Facility because of the Japanese beetle, and noted that the treatment for the pest was expensive. He indicated that staff would continue to work to get all information to City residents.

Councilor VanderWerf noted that she had spoken with Phyllis Hayutin who had sent the email against open space acquisition and noted that the resident's objection was not strictly against open space but was more nuanced involving City finances, recreation, and property rights.

Councilor Roswell thanked Sergeant Reynolds for helping with coyote issues in his neighborhood.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tisdale reported that he attended the Metro Mayors Caucus on February 4th where topics of discussion included housing diversity, the Republican National Convention bid, and Canada-Colorado relations. He attended the Denver South EcoDevo Partnership on February 5th and met many business owners and executives whose business are outside of Cherry Hill Village but who live in the City. He attended the Comcast NBC Universal Opening Ceremonies on February 7th. On February 10th he joined members of DRCOG in meeting four women from Iraq in the United States on a US Department of State-sponsored trip to meet with government leaders. He attended the public meeting held on February 11th in the Community Room concerning speed bump installations on Albion Street. On February 12th he sent a formal letter of support to the Chairman of the Republican National Committee on the Denver Region's bid to host the 2016 Convention. He attended the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Open House for their new wing on February 12th. He attended the CML Legislative Workshop and Legislative Reception on February 13th. He noted that at this meeting he met with the Governor and secured his pledge to sign House Bill 14-1164, a bill promoted by all city clerks in the state, as soon as he received it. On February 14th he chaired the CML Policy Committee meeting. He would attend the DRCOG meeting tomorrow night. The Metro Mayors Caucus Executive Committee would meet in the Community Room on Thursday morning at 10am. Mayor Tisdale would attend lunch with the new Arapahoe County Sheriff David Walcher on Thursday. He would attend the Rocky Mountain City Summit on March 3rd and 4th. He would attend the National

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS**Public Forum on Open Space Policy**

Mayor Tisdale presented his memo proposing an open space strategies task force. He opened the public forum at 6:38 p.m. and invited former Mayor Welborn to share his thoughts.

Mayor Welborn, 4901 S. Fairfax Street, indicated that he had attended the meeting in order to listen to Council's discussion, but that he did want to emphasize that any task force would benefit from definitional context from City Council. He explained that Council had to consider both the type of land and the use of the land in a definition of open space – parks versus view corridors versus undeveloped private land and active versus passive recreation. He noted that this discussion may also involve the City's zoning and consideration of open space in a residential zone versus an O-1 zone. He suggested this topic may be appropriate for the Council retreat.

Hearing no other comments the Mayor closed the public forum at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor Tisdale noted that formal action was not the goal of tonight's discussion.

Councilor A. Brown indicated that he believed there was merit in forming a task force and that the topics outlined in the Mayor's memo were worth investigating along with others, but there may be a better way to organize how the topics are researched, studied and developed. He noted that the need for an open space task force was different than the need for the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee (QFVC) had been because it was unknown what kind of public space Quincy Farm would end up being, and also Parks, Trails and Recreation (PTRC) did not have a mechanism set up to answer those questions. He indicated that an open space task force would start from a different place. He noted that it would take a task force 18-24 months to address all the issues identified by the Mayor, and that some of these issues would be better addressed by Council, PTRC and staff rather than a task force. He suggested developing the program for study by the task force in collaboration with PTRC. He indicated that the issue of open space acquisition opportunities would be best addressed by Council, and the issue of financing and forming of ballot questions would be best addressed by staff and expert advisors. He noted that he was not comfortable asking for public funds without identifying a specific property for the voters, and so suggested that two types of ballot questions should be considered: a ballot question for a specific property at a known cost, or a ballot question for a contingent tax authority for parameters-based open space acquisition.

Mayor Tisdale noted that Councilor A. Brown's proposal was well set forth and noted that PTRC was already working on some of the issues such as the inventory of existing City-owned properties.

Councilor K. Brown indicated that she had similar thoughts to Councilor A. Brown. She noted that she was sensitive to PTRC and believed that many of the open space issues outlined were already charged to PTRC by the Municipal Code. She agreed that Council should collaborate with PTRC on the development of the task force. She noted that more representation on the task force would increase the value of the end product. She noted that prioritization of open space acquisition had been done and redone and it would not be the best use of the task force's time to revisit this issue. She indicated that the study of open space utilization was critical and that Mayor Welborn's comments were important to consider in this context. She noted that it was likely impossible to find total agreement on the definition of open space but that the lack of definition was crippling. She indicated this was the single biggest thing that Council could do to help the PTRC be productive. She warned against creating another group that would deal with the same issues as PTRC. She expressed concern that without that definition any new group would encounter the same obstacles that PTRC has struggled with.

Councilor Roswell applauded Councilor A. Brown's efforts. He indicated that any additional public involvement was good but that the open space topic required leadership from the Council to define scope. He noted that from there Council could work with PTRC to determine if PTRC needed assistance from a larger task force. He indicated that this was PTRC's charge but that there was a lack of direction from Council. He asked that no action be taken at the next meeting as he and Councilor K. Brown would be absent. He noted that input from Mayor Pro Tem Stewart and Councilor VanderWerf should be solicited at the next meeting.

Councilor Griffin agreed with all that had been said, noted more collaboration with PTRC was needed as well as more leadership from Council, and deferred more discussion until Mayor Pro Tem Stewart and Councilor VanderWerf were available.

Mayor Tisdale noted that the intention of his memo had been to start the discussion and advised that the discussion would continue at the April 1st meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Bill 2, Series 2014; A Bill for an Ordinance

Director Zuccaro presented Council Bill 2, Series 2014 on first reading. He explained that the proposed ordinance would simplify the pre-application neighborhood input meeting procedures by automatically scheduling an input meeting for all proposals with a single notice being sent for the meeting instead of the current two notice system; and requiring that review documents be submitted up front. He noted that since the program's inception in 2012, 30 applications had been submitted resulting in 14 requests for meetings. He indicated that the meetings had been very positive. He stated that the proposed changes were in part due to an issue with one application where plans provided to property owners differed from plans submitted for the building permit. He noted that several parties had indicated to staff that the current two-step notification