



TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

FROM: Jeff Dillon, Interim Director, Parks and Recreation
Yvette Bowden, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation
Jeff Haley, Parks Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda

DATE: January 26, 2015

- A. Minutes - Approval of minutes from December 15, 2014**
- B. Parks and Recreation Development Update**

Planning

The following projects are currently in the planning process that involves research, alternatives development, public involvement and development of planning documents to guide decision making and future capital improvements:

- **Valmont City Park (VCP) -** Development of an update to the 2008 concept plan for VCP focusing on the south side of Valmont Road.

A third public meeting was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014. Approximately 80 people attended the community meeting to review the draft concept plan. The draft concept plan includes all the amenities that have been requested and demonstrated as needs in Boulder's park system. Generally, attendees expressed satisfaction with the direction of the plan. During the meeting, the public identified a few refinements for consideration prior to acceptance of the final plan. These include the layout of the ball fields and the disc golf area. Staff is currently working on solutions to best address the concerns.

A revised concept plan will be displayed at the three Boulder recreation centers from January 21, 2015 through January 26, 2015. A staff member will be available at the recreation centers at the following times to receive comments from the public:

East Boulder Community Center, 5660 Sioux Dr.
5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 21

South Boulder Recreation Center, 1360 Gillaspie Dr.
4 to 5 p.m., Thursday, January 22

North Boulder Recreation Center, 3170 Broadway
10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, January 24

The concept plan will also be displayed with staff available at the Main Boulder Public Library - Children's Library area, 1001 Arapahoe Ave., from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21, after the library's story time.

Information on how to best provide feedback on the concept plan will be provided at the displays when staff is not available.

A final concept plan for Valmont City Park is tentatively planned to be brought before the PRAB at the February 23rd meeting.

- **Aquatics Feasibility Plan (AFP)** - Development of recommendations to provide innovative and vibrant aquatics facilities and management strategies for the community.

The community's input is a critical component to ensuring that any future enhancements, or the development of any new facilities, meet community needs. These community engagement efforts will continue throughout the AFP process, including a January 28, 2015 Open House where the community will have the opportunity to discuss the draft plan recommendations.

Design

The following projects are currently in the design phase involving the community in developing final plans for critical improvements to park amenities:

- **Knollwood Tennis Courts** – Two tennis courts located near Spruce St. and 4th St. in central Boulder.

The City is still in negotiations with FEMA on the court renovation. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2015 and be completed by mid Summer 2015.

Construction

The following projects were recently completed or are under construction and anticipated to be completed by late spring 2015:

- **Crestview Park** - A neighborhood park located adjacent to Crestview Elementary School between Upland Avenue and Sumac Avenue in north Boulder.

Construction has started with anticipated completion in the spring 2015. The plans are consistent with the approved concept plans presented to the neighborhood last summer and include replacing the play area, turf and irrigation upgrades, various new site furnishings, accessibility improvements and a looped-path throughout the park.

- **Eben G. Fine Park** – Boulder's westernmost park along Boulder Creek.

The last of the flood repairs has started and will include some slope stabilization with rock rip rap and a new 36" storm pipe from the toe of the slope, under the multi-use path and out to the creek. It is anticipated that construction will be complete by early March.

- **Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Ponds** – Boulder's only kids' fishing pond located adjacent to Boulder Creek.

Construction is expected to begin in January 2015 and be completed in the spring 2015. Renovations and improvements include the repair or replacement of damaged fishing docks and bridges, enhancing water quality and fish habitat and addressing accessibility issues.

Urban Resources

The following initiatives are currently underway:

- **Foothills Prairie Dog Relocation** – A joint Parks and Recreation and Open Space and Mountain Parks prairie dog relocation project.

Staff is currently finalizing a post-relocation plan for monitoring protocols, next steps and restoration of the site during 2015 that is in alignment with the city's ordinances and Urban Wildlife Management Plan Prairie Dog Component and OSMP's Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan. The plan will include the process for future prairie dog removal. On department managed land, burrows were assessed for activity of other animals such as rabbits and those found to be inactive were closed in December. Regular updates will continue to be provided until the project is completed.

- **Prairie Dog Barrier Monitoring and Maintenance** – An ongoing effort to maintain the integrity of existing prairie dog barriers on and around park land.

The Urban Resources seasonal crew performs prairie dog barrier monitoring and maintenance at least monthly May through October. Despite this, some repairs require hiring contractors. Contractors have been hired to install or repair prairie dog barrier at the following locations:

- Repair gates and replace section of vinyl with metal at the South Dam of the Boulder Reservoir – December 2015
- Repair gates at Valmont City Park disc golf area – January 2015
- Install a new section to maintain required buffer at North Dam of the Boulder Reservoir – January 2015

C. Parks and Recreation Operations Update

Flatirons Golf Course Rate Increases

- In response to higher labor and equipment costs, Flatirons Golf Course is proposing an increase to the standard daily fees for 9 and 18 hole play and the subsequent restructure of the daily discount fees and frequent player programs. The last daily fee increase was in 2012 while the frequent player programs last saw an increase in 2010.

For the 2015 season the standard daily rate is proposed to be \$39 for 18 holes and \$23 for 9 holes, the previous rates have been \$38 for 18 holes and \$22 for nine holes. The average frequent player program participant will also see a proposed \$1 increase per round from \$13.33 to \$14.33. The additional revenue for all proposed changes is projected at \$40,000 annually.

Parks and Recreation Guide Update

- Beginning this spring, the department's *Recreation Guide* will become the *Parks & Recreation Guide*, featuring 8-pages of new, full-color editorial content. The new quarterly *Parks & Recreation Guide* will continue to function as a comprehensive catalog for all recreation programs and recreation center facility use-options. Beginning in March, it will also contain engaging stories, announcements, images and events covering the full spectrum of activities and resources offered by the department.
- The new, more inclusive, *Guide* will also feature a newly-designed cover aimed at conveying the broader content and messaging found inside. A preview of the new cover design is attached). The new content, features and design elements were guided by the department's Master Plan vision and goals and developed by a department matrix team. The *Guide* reaches more than 40,000 Boulder-area homes via direct mail four times per year and is also available online a week prior to arriving in homes. The new, seasonally-oriented content will include information on how to support and interact with the Department (through PRAB, public meetings, the PLAY Foundation and volunteer opportunities); free and low-cost activities; park planning and development announcements; department news, events, history and more.



Boulder Parks & Recreation

spring | 2015

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- Begins March 3