

OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Council Chambers, 1777 Broadway

MEETING AGENDA

(Please note that times are approximate.)

- 6:00 I.** Call to Order
- a) Oath of Office – Curt Brown
 - b) Election of Officers
- 6:15 II.** Approval of Minutes
- 6:20 III.** *Public Participation for Items Not Identified for Public Hearing
- 6:30 IV.** Matters from Staff
- a) Brief staff updates on projects/plans
 - b) Wildfire response simulation event in May
 - c) Flood repair on Mesa Trail/Skunk Creek Crossing
 - d) Update on Draft 2017 Work Plan and Budget
 - e) Staff update on exploratory talks for a Conservancy to provide private funding to support OSMP priority programs and projects
- 8:00 V.** Matters from the Board
- a) Board retreat discussion
 - b) May Board meeting schedule
- 8:15 VI.** *Summary of 2015 Open Space and Mountain Parks Volunteer Services Annual Report and Declaration to Honor Open Space and Mountain Parks Volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 10-16, 2016.
- 8:30 VII.** Adjournment

* Public hearing

OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Meeting Date March 9, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Shelley Dunbar Frances Hartogh Molly Davis Kevin Bracy Knight Tom Isaacson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Tracy Winfree Jim Reeder John Potter Mark Davison Mark Gershman
Bethany Collins Deryn Wagner Phil Yates Cecil Fenio Alycia Alexander
Juliet Bonnell Steve Armstead Leah Case Gabe Wilson Don Damico
Brian Anacker Luke McKay Heather Swanson Lynn Riedel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Proclamation

Frances Hartogh read a proclamation for Shelley Dunbar, the exiting Board Chair, acknowledging her years of service as an Open Space Board of Trustee.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Approval of the Minutes

Tom Isaacson asked that Tim Hogan’s public comment be summarized and the attachment be removed from the minutes. The Board agreed that for consistency, minutes will remain a summary and handouts and/or presentations from the public can be archived on the website. Frances Hartogh said on page 3, it should be noted that Kirk Cunningham spoke on behalf of the Sierra Club. On page 5, during Mike Barrow’s public comment, it should read, “. . . for the amount of time . . .” On the same page it should read, “Dan Brillon said recreation experience on the west side is far superior. . .” In the motion language on page 8, add the word “that” after “moved.”

Frances Hartogh moved that the Open Space Board of Trustees approve the minutes from Feb. 11, 2016 and Feb. 12, 2016 as amended. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda

None.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Matters from Staff

Jim Reeder highlighted several staff projects. Tracy Winfree introduced Mark Davison, the new Community Connections & Partnerships Division Manager for Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP). Staff reminded the Board about a joint Board meeting on April 27.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Matters from the Board

Molly Davis said the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) are tasked with a difficult job trying to balance interests. She said some interests are competitive in nature and proceedings need to be transparent; the Board needs to make sure Board actions take place during Board meetings. There needs to be a set foundation and effort to gain back the public trust.

Tom Isaacson noted that the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee (POSAC) voted five to two to not take a position on the North Trail Study Area (TSA) Draft Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Consideration of a motion to approve and recommend that City Council approves the conveyance of an easement to Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo) for ingress/egress along a portion of the Mesa Trail to provide access to the company’s 9205 Eldorado-NCAR electric transmission line. This is a disposal of Open Space land under City Charter Section 177.

Bethany Collins, Property Agent, presented this item.

Frances Hartogh asked if this easement would allow PSCo trucks to drive up this portion of the trail. Bethany said yes; however, staff would be given notice prior to any maintenance access. Shelley asked if this trail would be closed if they were doing maintenance work. Bethany said it may depend on the activity; if a closure were needed there would be plenty of notice provided.

Public Comment

None.

Return to the Board

No further comment.

Motion

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees approve and recommend that the City Council approves the disposal of an interest in Open Space lands pursuant to Boulder City Charter Section 177 through the conveyance of an easement to Public Service Company of Colorado for ingress/egress along a portion of the Mesa Trail to provide access to the company’s 9205 Eldorado-NCAR electric transmission line, as approved by OSMP and PSCo staff and the City Attorney’s Office. Molly Davis seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – *Consideration of a motion to approve and recommend that City Council approves the conveyance of a 10-foot wide nonexclusive easement to Public Service Company of Colorado for an underground electrical line across approximately 1,000 linear feet of the Dover-Blacker Open Space property for the purpose of providing electricity to the Shanahan Ridge neighborhood. This is a disposal of Open Space land under City Charter Section 177.

Bethany Collins, Property Agent, presented this item.

Public Comment

Karen Hollweg, Boulder, asked if there are stipulations in the contract that would require revegetation or salvaging of the area. Bethany said if there is surface impact then revegetation would be required.

Return to the Board

No further comment.

Motion

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees approve and recommend that the City Council approves the disposal of an interest in Open Space lands pursuant to Boulder City Charter section 177 through the conveyance of a 10-foot wide nonexclusive easement to Public Service Company of Colorado for an underground electrical line across approximately 1,000 linear feet of the Dover-Blacker Open Space property for the purpose of providing electricity to the Shanahan Ridge neighborhood for the consideration of \$12,500. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed four to zero; Frances Hartogh abstained.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Consideration of a motion recommending approval of the North Trail Study Area Plan and recommending the North Trail Study Area Plan to City Council for its acceptance.

Steve Armstead, Environmental Planner, presented this item.

Tom asked if the presence of bobolinks is among the reasons for properties in the north remaining closed. Steve said yes. Tom asked if the current level of use has had an impact on the bobolink population. Heather Swanson said bobolinks are ground nesters so they are fairly sensitive; she said nesting success has not been monitored. Tom asked if nesting season is May 1 through July 31; Heather said yes.

Molly Davis asked where staff is looking for alternate horse arena locations other than Boulder Valley Ranch (BVR). Steve said possibly the new Horseshoe or Lefthand Trailhead. Shelley asked how staff came up with trail/trailhead names. Steve said a staff team came up with them.

Public Comment

Marty Walter, Boulder, said he is in favor of keeping the northern properties closed. There needs to be support for the lessees who have their agricultural operations on that land; do not open these properties to general use. Open Space needs someone managing these fields otherwise they could become a fire hazard.

Jiang Joy Wu, Boulder, said the northern properties should remain open for traditional agricultural use only. These areas are not traditional horse boarding facilities. Open Space has plenty of options for recreational use; but there are fewer and fewer agricultural lands.

Mike Barrow, Boulder Mountainbike Alliance (BMA), said BMA supports the Open Boulder position on the draft plan. He thanked the Board and staff for staying on schedule. He asked that after completion of this plan, staff takes the time to evaluate this process and make it better moving forward. BMA would like to work with staff on the best management practices for the Joder Trail to accomplish access and manage user conflict.

Roger Auerenamer, Boulder, said the northern properties need to remain closed except to cattle as it always has been. There are already problems with Stratton even though it is closed; opening any of these areas is not a good idea.

Alex Hycle-Wright, Boulder, said he supports making the west trail connection open for both hiking and biking. He said having a complete connection from Boulder to Lyons is an exciting possibility.

Fred Stengel, Boulder, said the northern properties should remain as agricultural land. Opening these areas will cause parking issues as well as disrupt the current process. He asked for them to remain closed.

Raymond Bridge, Boulder County Audubon Society, said the draft plan has major deficiencies. It is stated that the number one criteria is compliance with sideboards, however the content does not reflect this. The North Boulder Valley Management Plan mandates these trails be located along the edge to avoid fragmentation. The proposed North Sky Trail cuts through habitat block and maximizes fragmentation. The sideboards have been ignored in final evaluations. The resource impacts along the west connector are greater than the east. He said this plan is not ready to be submitted to council.

Edie Stevens, Boulder, said preservation of Boulder's environment has always been the overriding purpose of its Open Space. Open Space emphasizes preservation and protection of the natural environment while fostering appreciation and use that sustain the natural values of the land. The mission statement makes it clear that passive recreation will sustain the natural values.

Sue Cass, Boulder County Nature Association (BCNA), said they oppose placing a trail on the West Beech Habitat Conservation Area (HCA). The Rocky Mountain Greenway process may present an

opportunity for cost sharing, clarification for the wetland permitting process, allow negotiations currently underway to remove Scenario B off of the HCA and onto the Conservation Easement (CE). Resolve these issues now and not later.

Pat Billig, PLAN-Boulder, supports the draft plan minus the proposed trail on the West Beech HCA. The foundation of the North TSA makes preservation of West Beech the strongest; a trail through this area will have significant impact. This trail runs counter to the OSMP mission and violates management for specified for an HCA. It makes no sense to damage sustainability when it can be built in a less impactful area.

Marianne Martin, Boulder, said she is against opening the arena at Boulder Valley Ranch (BVR) to the public. A lot of changes would need to be made in order to accommodate this. As it stands, this would be a big risk; not to mention the parking lot is in the lessee's front yard. She asked to maintain the current balance.

Catherine Corona, Boulder, said she has been accessing the northern properties for years and it has been wonderful to have that access. She asked for this area to remain as-is.

Patrick Brady, Boulder, said there are a number of parcels in the north that area closed to public. The public pays taxes to support local community operations and local land; not having access to these properties seems out of line. The land in question is leased to individuals for agricultural use; if decided that they are the only ones who can use that land they should pay full market value.

Catherine Harris, Friends of Boulder Open Space (FOBOS), said it seems that we are still carrying out the history of white settlers where humans will do what they will with no regard to the land. The trail on the west was described as environmentally unsustainable; having an interesting visitor experience evidently trumps the Open Space Charter. The proposed trail on the east side goes around the HCA as prescribed by the North Valley Management Plan.

James Mapes, Boulder, said he values how open this process has been. He said the one area that deserves more of a public process is specific to the northern properties; he suggested leaving this out of North TSA plan. He added that the recommendation going to council should include language about Scenario A.

Paula Shuler, Boulder, said she agrees with only having Johnson and Schooley open to the public. The rest of the northern properties are leased and actively used for agriculture. The lessees are working to produce a product. It would be hypocritical for any of these properties to be open to the public and not appropriate to allow people through these active fields.

Jackie Ramaley, Colorado Native Plant Society, said she supports Scenario A. The western foothills area is generally un-fragmented and home to many native species as well as countless wetland and riparian areas. We have the ability to protect this undisturbed habitat. The most recent draft speaks to mitigation measures with the West Beech Trail, but only provides approximate cost; this needs to be more definitive.

Linda Parks, Boulder, said kudos to those supporting the non-existence of a new trail. She said she is assuming that Open Space wants to preserve ranch operations; it would be a bad idea to allow general horse access to BVR. Who will be responsible for preventing conflict of use. Longhorn Road should not be used for additional vehicle access. Open space may be considering converting some of BVR into organic farm land which is not a good idea; it will limit hay production. Keep this area open to cattle only and for current horse boarding. It would be best to let the rancher determine the best access for this facility.

Adam Sher, BMA, said it is difficult trying to balance interests. BMA is generally supportive of the draft plan. Do not support the closure of the northern tier properties. This needs further study and should not be included in the plan. This new trail is a means of relieving ourselves of stress from work and life. It is a way for children to experience open space and it more than just fun.

Helen Braider, Boulder, said she is saddened by the choice of a connector on the west side and concerned about the effects on wildlife. She is also concerned about the access to BVR. A horse trailer parking lot would be a huge mistake; cannot accommodate that increased use. Please protect the integrity of the ranch. Arena open to public use would not be good.

Steve Watts, BMA, said a compromised plan comes from the will of the public and it is encouraging that staff received so much input; the draft plan is good. BMA will continue to be a partner in helping to provide better recreation activities and experiences within OSMP.

Suzanne Webel, Boulder County Horse Association (BCHA), said we are so close to having plan for the North TSA that we can all live with. Support staff working with lessees about access changes at BVR. Do not support the last minute closure of northern properties; closures need to have specific reasons. She asked the Board to adopt the original Scenario B.

Terry Stuart, Boulder, said he supports the farmers who want to keep their properties closed and was concerned about a trail on north side of the highway. That area is precious and would quickly become overused.

BethAnne Bane, Longmont, said there are already trails on the east side that go the same direction as the proposed western trail. The area west of Hwy 36 has critical wildlife habitat; a trail would alter Open Space resource. The plan says we need entire areas protected from recreation; closing a trail just during nesting does not prevent irreversible damage.

Richard Harris, Boulder, said he is concerned about the proposed trail on the west side of Hwy 36. This will encourage users from other connector trails and significantly increase use. The best place to put traffic is on the side where it is easy to maintain. Damage on the west side will be incalculable.

Jessie Goldfarb, Boulder, noted that the City Open Space website states that the department protects the environment and land that characterizes Boulder. It further states that OSMP fosters appreciation and use that sustain the natural values of the land for current and future generations. She asked the Board to reject this draft plan.

Jeffrey Dreyfuss, Boulder, asked to keep the northern properties closed to the public. There is no way to get from Hester to Campbell without crossing the stream. Fields have been historically used for grazing cattle; leave these as-is.

Lori Cameron, Boulder, said the Board should not vote in support of something that has ecological danger. Listen to environmental experts; once you build a trail it is too late to fix any damage. She asked for biking to be put somewhere else that does not compromise the mission.

Nickie Kelly, Boulder, said a trail on the east side would disperse traffic and parking over a wider area. There needs to be focus on minimizing environmental impacts; we are not entitled as a species to plunder this resource. She asked the Board to enforce bikers dismounting.

Karen Hollweg, Boulder, said the goal of the North TSA Plan is to provide a sustainable system for visitor access. The plan references the North Sky Trail using the mud closure program to improve trail

conditions and sustainability; there is no visible intention to construct a new trail that is sustainable. The Visitor Master Plan (VMP) says highly erodible soils are not suitable for sustainable trail construction and use. She would appreciate the promise to provide Scenario A to council in a minority report; to match standards of previous TSA plans, the presentation must include ways that both Scenario A and B meet goals and sideboards. Use education about invasive grasses; the language should be enhanced in plan.

Tim Dufficy, Marshville Ditch Company, said that lessees make Boulder look beautiful. The best way to control weeds is to irrigate, cut and bail hay. Do not open arena up to public; this is a safety issue. The best way to warm up your horse is to begin your ride.

Eileen Monyok, Friends Interested in Dog on Open Space (FIDOS), thanked the Board and staff for their work. There has been lots of compromise from user groups, as well as FIDOS. She asked that outside of the Papini Trail corridor, it should become on-leash to be consistent with the VMP.

Bobby Lover, Boulder, said he is the lessee at BVR. Opening up the arena to the public would be a liability and hard to operate. He would like to keep the relationship with OSMP and the City of Boulder.

Return to the Board

Molly said she is concerned about the lessee at BVR being able to operate his business effectively if this area were to be opened up to the general public. She noted that a compromise could be reached if parking could be pursued at Lefthand Trail where there is parking already. Frances agreed that a public arena does not seem like suitable use. Shelley said honoring equestrian use and its heritage needs to be included; however, offering an alternate option is a good idea. She noted that the current lease agreement does say it is open to the public currently. Tom said he would vote to preserve the status quo while looking for an alternative.

Frances asked if it is an option for someone to ask the lessees of the northern properties to grant them access permission. Steve said the leases allow for agricultural uses, but not for general access. Tom said he is in favor of maintaining current status.

Frances said the West Beech property is one of the last unfragmented areas. She said staff should do monitoring first and then have a plan to mediate any issues; do this first. Kevin said he disagrees that this area is totally unique. He said he agrees that monitoring should happen and that this area could be a test case of how monitoring should happen. It does not make sense to close trails unless there is a negative impact. Tom said the Board could include a statement encouraging staff to make monitoring this area a priority as staff sets out the program.

Motion

Shelley Dunbar moved the Open Space Board of Trustees recommend that staff continue to follow the terms of the lease regarding public access to the Boulder Valley Ranch (BVR) equestrian arena and will concurrently develop options for nearby horse trailer parking and/or seek to provide an equivalent and suitable corral option that will be determined in cooperation with stakeholders that will be vetted and approved in a future public process. The Board recommends that staff proactively address any conflict issues resulting from public access in future lease negotiations. Tom Isaacson seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Frances Hartogh moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to ask staff to endeavor to develop and bring back to the Board an ecological monitoring program for the North Sky Trail and the Joder Property in light of the important ecological qualities of these properties. Tom Isaacson seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees affirm the management area designations as shown on page 16 of the North Trail Study Area Draft Plan. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed three to two; Frances Hartogh and Molly Davis dissented.

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to support the current access status of the Northern Tier Properties as either open or closed be continued except that the Deluca, Hester, and Campbell Properties be closed May 1 – July 31 for protection of ground-nesting Bobolink. Shelley Dunbar seconded. This motion passed three to two; Frances Hartogh and Molly Davis dissented.

Shelley Dunbar moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to amend the language on page 102 of the North Trail Study Area (TSA) Draft Plan to add the word “important” in front of “note” and eliminate “designated” in the first sentence. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Frances Hartogh moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to have the following statement be added to the North Trail Study Area (TSA) Draft Plan on page 7: In fairness to the process, it should be acknowledged that three OSBT members voted for the scenario while two voted against. The main point of contention was whether a north-south connector trail should be constructed through the North Foothills HCA. Molly Davis seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Frances Hartogh moved the Open Space Board of Trustees modify the language on page 36 under primary goal to read: Increase connectivity among North TSA properties while minimizing natural resource impacts to every extent possible. Molly Davis seconded. This motion passed four to one; Kevin Bracy Knight dissented.

Shelley Dunbar moved the Open Space Board of Trustees designate areas surrounding the Wrangler Trail (the trail is designated as Voice and Sight on-corridor) be designated as dogs on-leash as similar management to Wonderland Lake. Tom Isaacson seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

Shelley Dunbar moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to approve the North Trail Study Area Plan as amended and recommend that the Boulder City Council approve the North Trail Study Area Plan as amended. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed three to two; Frances Hartogh and Molly Davis dissented.

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to make the following statement: If City Council does not support the North Sky Trail, the OSBT recommends that City Council direct staff to revise a plan based on Scenario A as modified by OSBT votes at the February and March Board meetings. Shelley Dunbar seconded. This motion passed three to two; Frances Hartogh and Kevin Bracy Knight dissented.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 11:31 p.m.

These draft minutes were prepared by Leah Case.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Open Space Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Winfree, Director, Open Space and Mountain Parks
Annie McFarland, Visitor Access Coordinator
Heather Swanson, Wildlife Biologist
Gabe Wilson, Trail Specialist

DATE: April 13, 2016

SUBJECT: Flood Repair on Mesa Trail/Skunk Creek Crossing

As Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) has continued to implement the West Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan in the era of flood recovery, it has been helpful to have the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) see and participate in various projects as they develop in the field – especially when the nature and condition of trails and resources has changed substantially since the 2013 and more recent deluge events. For example, a site visit helps the OSBT see, first hand, some of the specific challenges of each project and develop a deeper understanding of any revisions that may need to be made in light of the flood. However, scheduling site visits for all five Board members can be time intensive for staff and challenging for Board members to find time in their busy schedules. Also, unless the site visit is open to the public, members of the public cannot benefit from the conversation had during these visits.

In light of these challenges, OSMP is piloting an effort to provide OSBT members, and the public, a way to conduct individual self-guided tours on their own time. For example, the attached two-page handout is meant to provide a hands-on, independent tour of proposed improvements to the Mesa Trail where it crosses Skunk Canyon, northwest of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). Staff hopes that this format facilitates individual time for familiarizing Board and community members with on-site conditions prior to Board meetings, as well as the opportunity to formulate questions and feedback to be discussed at the OSBT meeting. Following this pilot exercise, staff welcomes feedback from OSBT members on how well the process worked and what improvements could be made in the future.

Specific to the proposed improvements to the Mesa Trail at Skunk Canyon, the attached two-page handout provides a brief history of, and introduction to, the project. It also shows important points to stop along the trail with accompanying information to note. The self-guided tour starts at the NCAR water tank which can be located by parking at NCAR and walking west along the NCAR Trail. At the Board meeting on April 13, staff will present an overview of the project and request feedback and input from the Board about the project including effectively preserving natural resources, fitting the project into the landscape, cost implications and other topics.

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Proposed Improvements to Mesa Trail at Skunk Canyon: A Self-Guided Tour

2011: The West Trail Study Area Plan



Mesa Trail in muddy conditions south of Skunk Creek, photo: OSMP.

The 2011 West Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan included a recommendation to reroute the Mesa Trail where it crosses Skunk Canyon. The proposal was developed and supported by a group of community volunteers representing a cross-section of community interests. The intention was to move trails to the west, minimize grades in and out of the drainage, install a short bridge if necessary and reroute the trail out of muddy areas on the south side of Skunk Creek.

Driving factors included:

- Decrease erosion into the drainage,
- Decrease trail widening, and
- Minimize the distance that the Mesa Trail spends in the Skunk Canyon drainage.

2013: The Flood



Flood damage along Skunk Creek, photo: OSMP.

In 2013, heavy flood waters scoured the banks of Skunk Creek and destroyed the small footbridge that once connected the trail across the creek. Slopes were substantially de-stabilized along the trail, including sections north of the creek that have since been rerouted to improve visitor safety.

This major flood event offered many lessons about trail impacts to riparian areas and the sustainability of trail infrastructure in drainages. For example, it brought to light the need to design and build bridges considering such events in the future. It also emphasized wisdom in the West TSA Plan's driving factors for improving the Mesa Trail in this area.

2017: Applying Lessons Learned



Conceptual rendering of proposed bridge looking north, photo: OSMP.

Having learned from the 2013 flood, staff is now proposing two revisions for this area that meet the intent of the West TSA Plan but increase permanence of trail and infrastructure improvements.

For example, to accommodate future flooding, the bridge proposed for the canyon crossing would span 50 to 60 feet, longer than the short bridge originally envisioned. In addition, the section of trail north of the creek would not be rerouted or restored, since staff previously addressed critical needs there immediately after the flood. As proposed for 2017, improvements would focus on the Mesa Trail and would not include major changes to the Mallory Cave or NCAR trails. Only minor improvements would be made where they each tie into the Mesa Trail.



Proposed Improvements to Mesa Trail at Skunk Canyon: A Self-Guided Tour

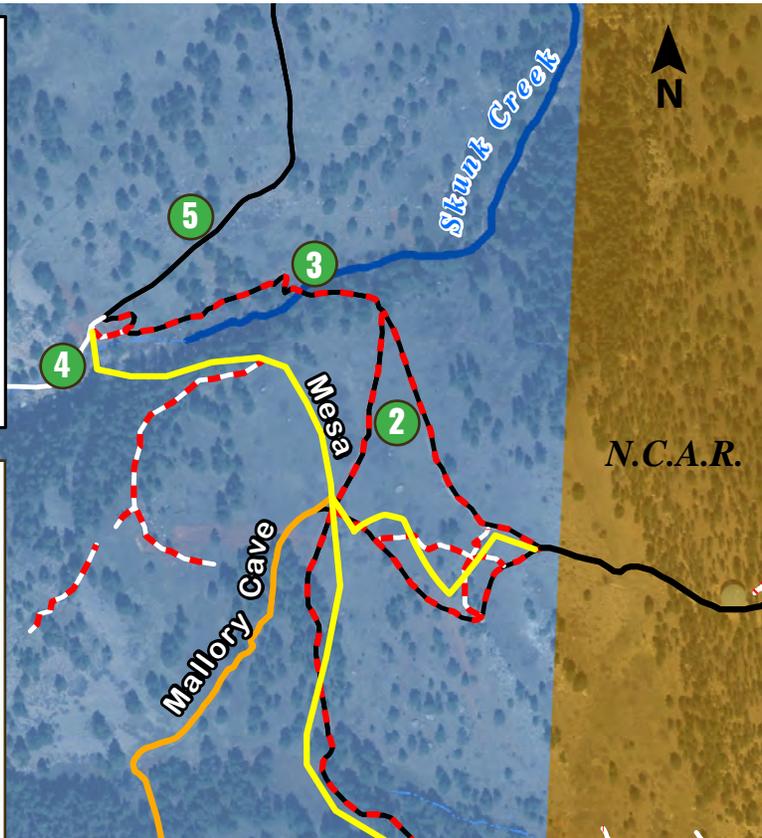
Proposed Improvements for 2017: Touring the Site

Trail Recommendations

Revised April 2016

(Trail Alignments are Conceptual)

- Re-route
- Repair
- Restore/Close Undesignated Trail
- Restore/Close Designated Trail
- No Recommendation (Undesignated)
- No Recommendation (Designated)



Was another option considered?

A multidisciplinary staff team explored the possibility of crossing Skunk Creek farther to the east, downstream from where the trail crosses now. This option would require a smaller, less expensive bridge. However, this reroute would not satisfy the intention of the West TSA Plan (see page 1). Muddy sections south of the creek would not be rerouted; the trail would remain in the drainage longer than intended; and erosion into the drainage would not improve substantially. In addition, impacts to healthy riparian vegetation and habitat would be noticeable as the new trail would have to be constructed in the drainage.

5 *Head northeast along the Mesa Trail for a view back into the canyon.*

The last stop of the tour, this section of trail that climbs to the northeast would not be rerouted or restored as the West TSA Plan recommended. Targeted trail reroutes were already made soon after the flood to address critical issues.

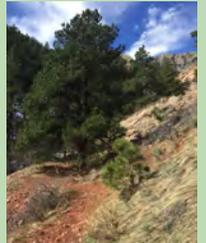
Natural resources in Skunk Canyon. This vegetated riparian area supports bears and shrub-nesting birds, and provides habitat suitable for the federally threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Upstream from the proposed bridge location, seasonal closures protect Golden Eagle nesting grounds. OSMP believes this project would support or enhance its ability to protect these species.

1 *Start at the water tank west of NCAR.*

2 *Head north along the Mesa Trail connector.*
Current use levels and trail location here create muddy, unsustainable conditions. Per the West TSA Plan, these trail sections south of the creek would be rerouted upslope to the west and restored. If you look closely, you can see flags marking the rerouted location uphill to the west. But be careful if you go exploring up there. Off-trail conditions may be hazardous.

3 *Be careful crossing Skunk Creek.*
This drainage was heavily impacted by the flood, and the previous footbridge was destroyed. Per the West TSA Plan, this trail section climbing northwest out of the drainage would be closed and restored to minimize erosion and other trail impacts to riparian vegetation and habitat.

4 *Look for proposed bridge location.*
Before the Mesa Trail switches back to climb northeast out of the canyon, look for a large ponderosa pine with a flat resting spot beneath (photo right, OSMP). About 50' up canyon is a rock pile - the rough location for siting a new bridge. Future design and engineering would specify a more exact location, materials and bridge span.



Conceptual rendering of proposed bridge looking east down Skunk Canyon, photo: OSMP.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Open Space Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Winfree, Director, Open Space and Mountain Parks
Abbie Poniatowski, Central Services Division Manager
Lauren Kilcoyne, Finance Manager

DATE: April 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Update on *Draft* 2017 Work Plan and Budget

Executive Summary

The purpose of this informational item is to share the preliminary 2017 Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Department Work Plan and provide the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) with an overview of the department priorities, budget guiding principles, citywide economic forecast, budget policy issues and operating and capital budget development processes. The OSBT will have an opportunity to ask questions to ensure the OSBT is prepared to review, approve and recommend the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department's 2017-2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and operating expenditures, including Lottery Fund.

This series of agenda items is three-fold. This month will include a staff briefing, information sharing and Q&A. In May, staff will present a draft CIP budget for discussion. In June, there will be a public hearing for the community to comment on the proposed 2017-2022 CIP. After considering public comment, the OSBT will make a recommendation. The public will also have an opportunity to comment during the Planning Board's CIP review in July and City Council's discussions and review of the 2017 recommended budget during future public hearings later this fall. The staff also has a goal of presenting the operating budget earlier in the budget process relative to previous years. Last year the Board made its recommendation at the August meeting and staff anticipates presenting the proposed operating budget for recommendation by the July meeting.

Background

Similar to 2016, the *Draft* 2017 Open Space and Mountain Parks Department Work Plan includes community initiatives as well as core service activities supporting the important work required to protect, maintain and support an open space system of over 45,000 acres. Projects and programs that are a part of the department's core mission include ongoing strategic property acquisitions; conservation easement compliance; day-to-day and major maintenance of trailheads and trails; agricultural lands management; visitor education, safety and enforcement; ecosystem monitoring, maintenance and restoration; strategic and resource planning; community outreach, education and events; providing media services, web-based information and social media; permitting and fees management; providing support for the OSBT; etc. The core services of any municipal department often can be invisible to its customers, yet are important to manage and maintain the valuable assets supported by the local community.

While core service delivery continues throughout the year, OSMP also is pursuing community initiatives in support of Board and City Council goals. OSMP staff teams collaboratively developed proposed departmental work program priorities for 2017. Many of the priorities are familiar to the

Board and council since they continue to follow through on community commitments. Those community initiatives translated into department priority projects are as follows:

Department Priority Projects for 2017

- 1. Complete Flood Recovery of Trails and Habitat** that are FEMA reimbursable and continue work on flood projects that are not reimbursable (includes county coordination);
- 2. Visitor Master Plan Update** to be slightly **Recast as Open Space Master Plan or OS(MP)²** – Continue plan, completing it in 2018 - establishes policy guidance, goals, objectives, priorities and measures of success across services and programs, and addresses overarching issues such as carrying capacity, night-time and temporal use and climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- 3. Implement Top Priorities of West TSA, North TSA, Agricultural Resource Management Plan, and reduce facility deficiencies and maintenance backlogs. Implement plans through the formation of cross-departmental implementation teams convened for each plan;**
- 4. Continue to Implement Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan and Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (FEMP)**, giving special attention/guidance to elements that need updating or refreshing, particularly the FEMP. The OS(MP)² may be a good opportunity for such guidance.
- 5. Continue to Improve the Visitor Experience** – Implement Community Ranger model; continue the development of the Community Connections division; focus on community and department relationships and interdepartmental coordination. Follow through on initiatives such as recycling/dog waste composting at trailheads and monitoring and reporting results on Voice & Sight program.
- 6. Develop Regional Trails** through strategic property acquisition, coordination with other agencies, and other avenues as needed (e.g., Eldorado to Walker Ranch, Joder and the Boulder Creek Path extension).
- 7. Focus on Continuous Improvement within the OSMP Department** - Such as to continue to assess and develop best practices related to OSMP's scientific approach, data stewardship, recreation planning and design, work plan and budget management, staff training and development, staff work space, equipment and facilities, communication and coordination internally and externally.

These department priority projects, in addition to supporting core services, are informing the draft 2016 operating and capital budgets. As staff plans for 2017, OSMP recognizes the need to remain flexible considering the community and City Council's interests, as well as a department that is experiencing organizational change with the implementation of a new structure and inclusion of new talent on the OSMP team. An example of maintaining flexibility includes the strong message from council at its January retreat to give the community a "breather" from significant public process on Open Space planning initiatives. Following the acceptance of the North TSA and the Agricultural

Resources Management Plan, the staff will bring a recommended scope and schedule to the OSBT for consideration, likely in the first half of 2017. The community process “breather” will be advantageous to updating the Visitor Master Plan/OSMP Master Plan since it allows time for data gathering, surveying and inventory work, which will inform the issues and scoping of the planning process.

Budget Commitment and Guiding Principles

While developing the above-listed priorities, staff also developed a set of Budget Guiding Principles, provided below, to support decisions regarding expenditures:

Open Space and Mountain Parks is committed to fiscal responsibility and sustainability.

- Judiciously generating and investing funds.
- Creating, optimizing and maintaining a budget which manages debt and plans for near- and long-term futures.
- Maintaining financial transparency.

These principles will guide the development and prioritization of the OSMP budget and work plan:

SAFETY FIRST

- OSMP will first address essential safety issues for visitors and staff.

PLAY BY THE RULES

- Comply with all (internal, local, state and federal) laws, regulations, policies, etc.

TAKE CARE OF WHAT WE HAVE

- As top priority, restore and maintain valuable ecological systems, agricultural operations, trails and trailheads.
- As additions are made to the system, address ongoing operation and maintenance needs.
- Continue to innovate and advance efficiency in the restoration, protection, operation, investments in and maintenance of the OSMP system. Specifically, efficiencies will be sought through:
 - Investments in regular maintenance (taking care of what we have to extend life cycle), and
 - Reductions in resource waste and use.

STICK TO THE PLAN

- Actions committed to in plans or agreements should be included in either short-, mid- or long-term budgets and work plans so staff can answer the question: “*When do you plan to take this action on this project?*”
- Strategically enhance visitor amenities, ecological systems, and agricultural operations, prioritizing projects that will best achieve resource and master plan objectives.

LEVERAGE OTHER FUNDING

- Leverage external funds, especially long-term funding, and capacity extending the ability of local dollars to implement OSMP plans.
- Continue to involve community members as volunteers to advance the departmental mission and management objectives.
- Work with partner agencies to accomplish shared goals.
- Take no actions which would compromise the city's bond rating or ability to leverage debt.

ADAPT AND LEARN

- Advance research and monitoring to increase the likelihood of success and better integrate principles of sustainability and resilience.

Citywide Economic Forecast

Important new information for the OSBT is that 2015 sales and use tax revenues for the City of Boulder came in lower than projected. The city's budget office will be developing revenue projections that are likely to be lower than previously projected. Furthermore, the city's Chief Financial Officer, Bob Eiche, is recommending that the 2017 Budget be more conservative overall. As part of the annual budget process, the City's Budget Office generates projections for taxes and conservation trust fund allocations at the end of April for next year's budget development. Hopefully, staff will have updated projections from the Budget Office prior to the May budget recommendation; however, if the final projections are not available in time, OSMP staff will be preparing a draft budget that is relatively conservative. The approved 2016-2021 CIP and the Operating Budget are included for reference (Attachments A and B).

Budget Policy Issues

The OSMP budget theme for 2017 is "Refine and Realign." The department continues to assess its ability to be quality stewards of the OSMP system whether through evaluating adequate space and facilities for operations and management, adequate investment in assets (trails, habitat, buildings, water infrastructure) in the system, or appropriate support for visitor services to meet the provisions of the Open Space charter. Recommendations from these analyses likely will influence multiple budget years, not just the 2017 proposed budget.

Following a 2015 departmental reorganization, OSMP is committed to understanding the staff resources needed to manage a land management operation that delivers services and programs to the Boulder community. In reviewing OSMP's organizational structure, staff has also been analyzing current staffing to help ensure we are staffed to support the charter and department priorities. Similar to other departments, staff is working with Human Resources to make sure that OSMP is consistent with the intent and compliant with the Affordable Care Act. It appears likely that budget adjustments will be recommended for health coverage for qualifying employees.

Operating and Capital Budget Development Processes

Key dates for the budget development processes are included below:

Milestone	Date
Citywide CIP Information Sharing Meeting	April 1
<i>OSBT Information Item (1st Touch)</i>	<i>April 12</i>
Budget Guidelines and Targets to Departments	April 18
1 st Draft CIP to Planning	April 29
Budget and Revenue Update to City Council	May 10
<i>OSBT Draft CIP Discussion Item (2nd Touch)</i>	<i>May 10</i>
Proposed Operating and CIP Budget Submittals Due to CMO	May 31
<i>OSBT CIP Public Hearing, Discussion and Recommendation (3rd Touch)</i>	<i>June 14</i>
Executive Budget Meeting with OSMP	June 30
<i>OSBT Operating Budget Public Hearing, Discussion and Recommendation</i>	<i>July 12</i>
Planning Board CIP Hearing	July 28
City Council CIP Study Session	August 9
City Council Budget Study Session	September 13
City Council Budget Consideration (1 st & 2 nd Readings)	October 4 & 18

ATTACHMENTS

A: 2016 – 2021 CIP

B: 2016 Operating Budget

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Table 12-1: 2016-2021 Funding Summary By Department

		Estimated Total Cost	2016 Approved	2017 Projected	2018 Projected	2019 Projected	2020 Projected	2021 Projected	Unfunded Amount
OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS	Department Total	\$ 49,060,930	\$ 11,900,930	\$ 7,945,000	\$ 7,455,000	\$ 7,080,000	\$ 7,390,000	\$ 7,290,000	\$ -
CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT	Subtotal	\$ 11,324,600	\$ 4,074,600	\$ 1,975,000	\$ 1,475,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,300,000	\$ -
	Boulder Crk Above 95th	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	ETSA - Plan and Implementation	\$ 650,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -
	Facility Modifications-Space	\$ 900,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	Flood Eng. Trails	\$ 572,600	\$ 572,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Goodhue Ditch Fish Passage	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	NTSA - Plan and Implementation	\$ 700,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -
	OSMP Innovations	\$ 550,000	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	OSMP Master Plan Update	\$ 852,000	\$ 252,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	S.Bldr Crk at E.Bldr Ditch Const	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	South Boulder Creek Instream	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	STSA - Plan and Implementation	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	Visitor Infrastructure System Wide	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
	WTSA Implementation	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -
CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE	Subtotal	\$ 3,036,330	\$ 1,626,330	\$ 270,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 290,000	\$ 290,000	\$ -
	Agriculture Facilities Projects	\$ 720,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000	\$ -
	Boulder & S Bldr Crk Flood Repair	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Cultural Resource/Facility Restorat	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	Farm Site Improvements	\$ 360,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ -
	Flood Trails	\$ 991,000	\$ 991,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Foothills Nature Center	\$ 205,330	\$ 205,330	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Hartnagle House Restoration	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	South Mesa Trailhead Bridge	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CIP-LAND ACQUISITION	Subtotal	\$ 34,200,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ -
	Mineral Rights Acquisition	\$ 600,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
	OSMP Real Estate Acquisition	\$ 32,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ -
	Water Rights Acquisition	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -
CIP-NEW FACILITY/INFRASTRUCTURE	Subtotal	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Boulder Creek Bikepath Extension	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -



Mapping

The mapping for CIP projects is now in a GIS-based electronic map [accessed here](#). All the map-able projects proposed for funding in the 2016–2021 are shown. If the icons are clicked, the project name, project number (referenced on the project sheets), department, funding source, and year with initial funding will be shown. For many projects the initial funding is currently showing as 2015 as projects have funding for planning and design before actual construction however, the construction timing may be in the future. Please consult the project sheets in each department section for project descriptions, phasing and funding information. Projects with funding earmarked for citywide or system improvements are not shown on the map. Ongoing refinement of the GIS-based map will result in greater clarity of project information.



Project Name: Agriculture Facilities Projects

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE
Project Number: 555AG15001
BVCP Area: SYSTEM-WIDE
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This item funds smaller capital maintenance projects for the repair, replacement or renovation of existing OSMP agricultural infrastructure. Typically this money is used for replacement or new installation of fences (approx. 8-10 fence projects per year at \$5k-\$10k per project) and agricultural irrigation items such as head gates, division boxes and irrigation ponds (approx. 4-6 irrigation projects per year at \$7k to \$12k). The projects are either identified in the Agricultural Resource Management Plan that is on track to be adopted in early 2016, the current OSMP fence inventory, or as opportunistic projects identified throughout the year.

Project Phasing

Construction Phase for smaller capital maintenance projects. Planning and Design: \$0
 Construction: \$110,000 in 2016, similar costs projected through 2021 (\$110,000 in 2017, \$120,000 in 2018 and 2019, \$130,000 in 2020 and 2021)

Public Process

The Agricultural Resource Management Plan will go through a public process and will identify some of the projects to be funded in this category. For the individual sites, the infrastructure is already present and these funds will generally be used to replace the existing infrastructure with facilities of similar design and function. Adjacent property owners will be consulted, as necessary.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

The city's Utilities staff may be involved with some water infrastructure projects as they are often shareholders in the same local ditch companies as OSMP.

Change From Past CIP

This is a new program to be funded annually in the OSMP CIP.

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$130,000	\$130,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$820,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:
 This maintenance work will reduce future O&M costs.



Project Name: Boulder Crk Above 95th Restoration

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555ES16002
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

Restore Boulder Creek between 75th Street and 95th Street to improve ecological functioning, restore flood damage and protect agricultural land and water rights

Project Phasing

1. Design \$80,000
2. Permitting \$70,000
3. Construction \$350,000

Public Process

The Boulder Creek Drainageway Masterplanning process includes multiple opportunities for public participation. Coordination will occur with UDFCD, Boulder County agricultural lessees, and affected landowners. Public input opportunities at OSBT public meeting, press release and notification via the permitting process.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Continue collaboration with Boulder Creek Drainageway Masterplan partners. Coordination with OSMP agricultural staff and OSMP Water Resources Coordinator. Coordination with and permitting through federal, state and county agencies.

Change From Past CIP

New

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$500,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Minimal post project monitoring and weed mgmt by staff.



Project Name: Boulder Creek Bikepath Extension

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-NEW FACILITY/INFRASTRUCTUR
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS **Subcommunity:** AREA III
Project Number: 555TA16001 **BVCP Area:** AREA III
CEAP Required: No **CEAP Status:** N/A

Project Description

County has been awarded a grant of about \$4.4M to extend the Boulder Creek Bike Path from its current end at Four Mile Canyon to Betasso. The limits of this proejct are outside of the Boulder city limits. The local match required for the project is about \$1.1M which the City and County will split. The city's OSMP department is providing \$500k and the city's transportation department will provide \$50k. The project will be lead by Boulder County Transportation. They will manage the design and construction of the project with input from OSMP staff. This project is federally funded so the county will follow the requirements for this type of funding including county, state and federal environemental review and permitting.

Project Phasing

Project being lead by Boulder County. Design planned for 2015 with construction anticipated in 2016. The city has entered into an MOU with Boulder County and the city's match money will be paid to Boulder County per this MOU.

Public Process

The County will lead the public process with city OSMP and Transportation input.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Process to be lead by Boulder County Transportation with input from OSMP, the city's Transportation Department, and CDOT.

Change From Past CIP

New Project

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$10,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$510,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: None **Funding Source for O&M:**

Additional Annual O&M Description:

County will manage the trail maintenance.



Project Name: Boulder & S Bldr Crk Flood Repair

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555ES15002
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

Project will restore riparian habitat in the Boulder Creek and South Boulder Creek confluence area. The September 2013 flood impacted the creeks through this area by eroding banks and depositing sediment in the channel. The work will entail restoring streambank and streambed structure, creating aquatic habitat and planting riparian trees and shrubs to create a sustainable riparian area.

Project Phasing

Construction - \$100k
 2016 funds are additional construction funds added to prior year design and construction funds.

Public Process

Public input opportunities at OSBT public meeting, press release, and notification via the permitting process.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

This project will be coordinated with the COB utilities workgroup and the existing city utilities in this area, the CDOT US36 Wetland Mitigation project, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division, affected landowners.

Change From Past CIP

Added 2016 funding.

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$250,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion \$0	
						Future Unfunded \$0	

Total Funding Plan: \$350,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Monitoring and weed control during establishment by staff.



Project Name: Cultural Resource/Facility Restorat

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS **Subcommunity:** SYSTEM-WIDE
Project Number: 555CR15001 **BVCP Area:** SYSTEM-WIDE
CEAP Required: No **CEAP Status:** N/A

Project Description

Improvement of the condition of historic structures, including but not limited to barns, hosues, sheds, and shelters, as well as planning and development of a cultural preservation assessment and prioritization plan that will inform the priorities for the future.

Project Phasing

Planning - \$20k. The early fundng will cover an assessment and prioritization of the OSMP cultural and historic resources. This effort will inform the future spending in coordination with the department master plan.
 Construction - \$80k. All remaining funds will be used for maintenance activities.

Public Process

Updates on work will be provided to the OSBT, as needed. Most work is maintenance to existing structures so public process is not anticipated.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Work will be coordinated with Boulder County Preservation staff and the State Historic Preservation office

Change From Past CIP

Added program to be funded annually to address on-going needs

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$60,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	
						Future Unfunded \$0	

Total Funding Plan: \$560,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: Unknown **Funding Source for O&M:**

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Improvements to facilities will likely reduce O&M needs



Project Name: ETSA - Plan and Implementation

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555ETSA001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

The East Trail Study Area (TSA) encompasses approximately 11,000 acres of OSMP including Sawhill Ponds, the East Boulder Trail, the Bobolink and Teller Farm trailheads. It extends general east of the City of Boulder, southeast of the Diagonal Highway and north of US 36. The East Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan seeks to improve visitor experiences and increase the sustainability of trails and trailheads while conserving the area's natural, cultural and agricultural resources. Outcomes may include:

- strategies to provide high-quality visitor experiences for a diversity of recreational opportunities,
- visitor infrastructure enhancements, such as trail connections, and trail and trailhead improvements,
- actions that sustain trails and surrounding landscapes. Such as:
 - projects to reduce trail erosion, the re-routing of trails around wildlife habitats,
 - the removal of redundant paths and
 - the restoration of disturbed areas.
- protection of sensitive ecological areas and the restoration of disturbed areas.

Project Phasing

Planning - 2018: \$200,000, 2019: 100,000 Followed by implementation in 2020 and beyond.

Public Process

There will be ample opportunity for community input. Staff is currently experimenting with a number of techniques to broaden community participation in the North TSA plan and will also learn from the OSMP masterplan effort. The results of these processes will inform staff's approach to public process in the East TSA.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

The East TSA plan includes opportunities to collaborate with other departments around issues such as ecological conservation, fitness and health, climate action, multi-modal linkages, etc. The level of collaboration with Boulder County, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and other agency partners will be commensurate with their interest and the benefit to the community.

Change From Past CIP

Shifted start date to 2018 after master plan and added 2018 funds

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$650,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: TBD
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Monitor, maintain, rehabilitate trails when needed.



Project Name: Facility Modifications-Space Needs

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE
Project Number: 555FA16001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

The department is undergoing a space needs analysis. It is intended to evaluate space alternatives including utilizing the current space spread across various locations either as it exists or reconfigured, or if there is a need to pursue additional space. The analysis will identify short, medium and long term preferred alternatives that may require remodeling existing spaces and/or reconstruction of some facilities, and/or evaluating new spaces.

Project Phasing

2016 funding will likely cover the short term alternatives identified in the space needs analysis. The medium to long term solutions will be identified and funded in out years of the CIP. Funding amounts will be modified in out years, if needed.

Public Process

N/A

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

This effort will be coordinated with FAM so they can serve as a technical resource to help direct and review any proposals and cost estimates. Furthermore, coordination with FAM allows for potential collaboration on current and future citywide solutions.

Change From Past CIP

New Project

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
					Funding to Completion \$0		
					Future Unfunded \$0		

Total Funding Plan: \$900,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: TBD
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Any additional O&M can't be quantified until the plan is developed.



Project Name: Farm Site Improvements

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE

Project Number: 555AG16001

BVCP Area: SYSTEM-WIDE

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This funding is for deferred maintenance to existing agricultural buildings and infrastructure. It is mainly for out-buildings and structures that are used for hay and equipment storage, livestock shelters and grain storage. The funding could also be used for maintenance on homes that exist on OSMP properties that are used for agricultural production. The improvements may be identified in the Agricultural Resource Management Plan that is expected to be approved in early 2016 or through other methods. The necessary work and funding level may be revised in future years as the needs and the work planning is completed.

Project Phasing

Construction Phase for maintenance to existing OSMP infrastructure. Planning and Design: \$0
Construction: \$60,000 in 2016 (same through 2021)

Public Process

The projects are maintenance to existing structures on OSMP properties so no process is anticipated.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Most of this maintenance work is on OSMP property and, if needed, will be coordinated with the adjacent property owners and the cultural resources staff in OSMP.

Change From Past CIP

This is a new program to be funded annually

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	
						Future Unfunded \$0	

Total Funding Plan: \$360,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

The maintenance will lessen O&M requirements.



Project Name: Flood Eng. Trails

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555BOULD33
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This CIP project titled Flood Engineered Trails is a group of repairs that are intended to correspond with the related FEMA project, or worksheet, for OSMP trail reconstruction when the trail is replaced at least partially outside of the existing trail alignment. Locations included in this project include the Lower Big Bluestem Trail repair, the South Mesa Trail repair and smaller trails that will be partially reconstructed outside of their current alignment.

Project Phasing

2016 Expected:
 Lower Big Bluestem Trail Repairs; Construction - \$155.3k
 South Mesa Trail Repair: Construction - \$317.3k
 Small Trail Repairs: Construction - \$100k

Public Process

Staff will provide updates to the Open Space Board and will hold public hearings for these discussions, if the trail realignments are significant.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

All work will be coordinated with OSMP Ecologists and Cultural Resources Staff. In addition OSMP will coordinate with city's central flood recovery group.

Change From Past CIP

Added 2016 flood recovery locations

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Lottery	\$0	\$155,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0
Open Space	\$497,650	\$417,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$1,070,250

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Trail reconstruction will reduce O&M cost



Project Name: Flood Trails

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: AREA III

Project Number: 555BOULD24

BVCP Area: AREA III

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This project is a grouping of flood recovery locations intended to correspond with the related FEMA project (worksheet) for OSMP trail reconstruction when the trail is replaced in the existing trail alignment. Specific projects that are continued or started in 2016 include: Chautauqua trail repairs, Shanahan trail repairs, and other smaller trail repairs.

Project Phasing

Chautauqua Trail Repairs: Construction - \$75k
 Shanahan Trail Repair: Design - \$30k, Construction - \$786k
 Small Trail Repairs: Construction - \$100k

Public Process

No public process is planned as the trail repair is occurring in the current location and considered maintenance to the existing system. Trail users will be notified through public outreach methods including press releases and the website.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Work will be coordinated with OSMP Ecologists and Cultural and Historical Staff. In addition OSMP will coordinate with city's central flood recovery group.

Change From Past CIP

Added 2016 funding for 2016 flood recovery locations.

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$1,432,550	\$991,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$2,423,550

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Trail reconstruction will reduce O&M cost from flood damage.



Project Name: Foothills Nature Center

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: NORTH BOULDER
Project Number: 555CR16001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

In 2015, a University of Colorado Denver group is embarking on a Design Review of the Foothills Nature Center, which consists of several historic buildings. Their assessment will examine the department's and community's needs and blend them with use of the current buildings. The 2016 CIP request will be used to carry out repair, renovation and rehabilitation of the complex. This will likely include rehabilitation of the current buildings, and revamping of the trailhead and parking area to make it more user friendly and welcoming.

Project Phasing

Management of project phasing and budget per phase will depend on the extent of the work, that is yet to be determined.

Public Process

This complex is within the North Trail Study Area, so needs of community will be addressed. We will also communicate with the immediate neighbors.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

None

Change From Past CIP

New

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Lottery	\$0	\$205,330	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$205,330

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:
 Unknown - but the improvements are likely to reduce O&M needs.



Project Name: Goodhue Ditch Fish Passage

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS **Subcommunity:** AREA III
Project Number: 555ES16001 **BVCP Area:** AREA III
CEAP Required: No **CEAP Status:** N/A

Project Description

Design and construct a fish passage structure on the Goodhue Ditch Diversion on South Boulder Creek to allow for the passage of native and sport fish and to connect upstream and downstream aquatic habitat

Project Phasing

1. Design \$25,000
2. Permitting \$20,000
3. Construction \$255,000

Public Process

Public input opportunities at OSBT public meeting, press release, and notification via the permitting process.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Collaborate with the ditch company and shareholders, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, local conservation groups and the affected public.

Change From Past CIP

New Project

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$300,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: No **Funding Source for O&M:**

Additional Annual O&M Description:



Project Name: Hartnagle House Restoration

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS **Subcommunity:** AREA III
Project Number: 555CR15002 **BVCP Area:** AREA III
CEAP Required: No **CEAP Status:** N/A

Project Description

The Hartnagle House was built in the early 1900's and was part of a homestead begun by early Boulder pioneers. It has been vacant for many years and will need major rehabilitation before it can be used as a residence for farmers who will use the outbuildings for their organic farm business.

Project Phasing

Construction - \$100k
 Improvements to the house with this funding will stabilize the structure and protect it from naturally caused damage. Future needs will be evaluated and additional construction funds programmed, as needed.

Public Process

Because this is minor maintenance, no public process is anticipated.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Because the repairs are isolated to a single property and is not substantive, no outside collaboration is needed.

Change From Past CIP

2016 funding added.

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$65,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$165,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0 **Funding Source for O&M:**

Additional Annual O&M Description:

This work will reduce future ops and maintenance needs.



Project Name: Mineral Rights Acquisition

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-LAND ACQUISITION

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE

Project Number: 555MRA001

BVCP Area: SYSTEM-WIDE

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This on-going program provides funding to purchase underlying mineral interests from private property owners as they become available on the real estate market. Many of these interests in minerals, gas, oil and aggregates were severed from the lands before properties were purchased by the city and could cause future management issues. The definition of a CIP project includes "the purchase of the physical assets of the community." By purchasing the rights to the mineral, the city is purchasing a physical asset. Funds also provide for research, mapping and analyzing potential acquisitions. This project is for ongoing funding program. In addition, should water rights or real property become available to purchase and funds allocated for that purpose are insufficient, mineral rights acquisition funds may be utilized to make up the deficiency.

Project Phasing

Funding is for mineral acquisitions and associated costs only.

Public Process

None

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Collaboration with other departments and agencies are generally not required for the acquisition of mineral rights.

Change From Past CIP

None

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$561,184	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$1,161,184

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Included in annual appropriation for operations



Project Name: NTSA - Plan and Implementation

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555NTSA001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

The NTSA encompasses approximately 9,500 acres and includes the North Foothills area north of Lee Hill Road and the Boulder Valley Ranch area extending east to SH 119/Diagonal Highway. The Plan will delineate some new trails and major maintenance for some designated trails and closure and reclamation of the other undesignated trails, trailhead improvements and upgraded and or additional regulatory, way-finding and interpretive signs. The Plan will be completed in 2015 with implementation beginning in 2016 taking up to ten years to complete.

Project Phasing

2015-2016 Funding - NTSA Planning
 2017-2021 - Implementation of plan elements

Public Process

The public process includes email, newsletters, public workshops, on trail and at trailhead outreach, engagement with the youth and outreach at local businesses. There are regular check-ins with the OSBT, updates to the city council and final review and acceptance with a public hearing by the OSBT and city council.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Coordination with the city Parks and Recreation Department for the Boulder Reservoir Master Plan, with Boulder County Parks and Open Space on neighboring properties and with CDOT on properties adjacent to their facilities, including US36.

Change From Past CIP

Funding added in 2018, 2019 and 2021 - \$200k total

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$800,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: TBD
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Monitor, maintain, rehabilitate trails when needed



Project Name: OSMP Innovations

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: AREA III

Project Number: 555CO16001

BVCP Area: AREA III

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

Explore and encourage the use of innovations on OSMP property, to evaluate different approaches to design and management of the OSMP system. For example, an initial biomimicry innovation project could utilize biological concepts to rethink road and trail design on the Bluebell Trail in Chautauqua.

The use of innovations will be explored further starting in 2016 and continuing with the first year of funding in 2017.

Project Phasing

Funding will be defined in 2016 and early 2017 to determine next steps likely starting with design and followed by construction in 2018 and beyond.

Public Process

The OSBT will be updated and involved as determined throughout the planning of what projects to explore with this funding.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration will be defined in 2016 and into early 2017 depending on the type and extent of the innovation projects. Specifically for biomimicry, the EPA consultant will continue to provide guidance throughout the process, as available.

Change From Past CIP

New

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$175,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
					Funding to Completion \$0		
					Future Unfunded \$0		

Total Funding Plan: \$550,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: TBD

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:



Project Name: OSMP Master Plan Update

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS **Subcommunity:** SYSTEM-WIDE
Project Number: 555OSMP001 **BVCP Area:** SYSTEM-WIDE
CEAP Required: No **CEAP Status:** N/A

Project Description

At their 2015 retreat, City Council requested that staff begin an update of the Visitor Master Plan and include addressing a set of previously identified "overarching issues". Since then, OSM has been undergoing assessments both internally and externally which have identified the need for an OSMP "Master Plan". Staff will recast the VMP update to develop an OSMP Master Plan, still addressing the overarching issues. The plan will also establish a set of policies and priorities and to align the department with shared goals, measureable objectives and metrics to implement the Open Space sections of the City Charter. An OSMP Master Plan will improve integration of departmental work group efforts and be clearly linked to the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan. As previously committed, the master planning process, including updates to the VMP components, would begin once the North TSA is completed, likely in mid-2016. The process is anticipated to take between 18 and 24 months to complete.

Project Phasing

Planning - 2016 and 2017
 Implementation - 2018 - 2021 - the amount to be refined or reallocated based on the outcome of the plan.

Public Process

There will be ample opportunity to community input. Staff is currently experimenting with a number of techniques to broaden community participation in the North TSA plan. The results of that effort will inform staffs approach to public process in for the OSMP master plan.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

The OSMP Master plan will link with the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan. This will provide a nexus for interdepartmental collaboration around issues such as ecological conservation, fitness and health, climate action, multi-modal linkages, etc. The level of collaboration with Boulder County, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and other agency partners will be commensurate with their interest and the benefit to the community.

Change From Past CIP

New Project

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$252,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$852,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: TBD **Funding Source for O&M:**

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Not known at this time.



Project Name: OSMP Real Estate Acquisition

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-LAND ACQUISITION

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE

Project Number: 555REA001

BVCP Area: SYSTEM-WIDE

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This project is the acquisition of additional acres of open space, subject to available funding within the Open Space and Mountain Parks acquisition plan area as approved by OSBT and the City Council.

Project Phasing

All of this funding is for property acquisition and associated costs including immediate deferred maintenance needs.

Public Process

Property acquisition is reviewed at an OSBT hearing and then by the city council with an associated public hearing.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Coordinate with internal OSMP staff including ecologists, cultural and historic, integrated pest management, agricultural management and water resources. Typically other department or outside agency coordination is not required.

Change From Past CIP

None

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$8,844,322	\$5,400,000	\$5,400,000	\$5,400,000	\$5,400,000	\$5,400,000	\$5,400,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$41,244,322

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: Minimal

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Incremental maintenance costs for new properties



Project Name: S.Bldr Crk at E.Bldr Ditch Const

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: EAST BOULDER
Project Number: 555ES16003
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

Improve existing ditch infrastructure to minimize impacts to OSMP land from ditch maintenance activities while ensuring delivery of water rights. Improvements will also allow fish passage at the existing diversion.

Project Phasing

1. Design \$50,000
2. Permitting \$60,000
3. Construction \$190,000

Public Process

Public input opportunities at OSBT public meeting, press release, and notification via the permitting process.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Collaborate with Ditch Company and shareholders, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, local conservation groups and the affected public.

Change From Past CIP

New

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$300,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

O&M costs for ditch maintenance are reduced by this project.



Project Name: South Boulder Creek Instream Flow

Project at a Glance

Project Type:	CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT		
Department:	OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS	Subcommunity:	AREA III
Project Number:	555SBIF001	BVCP Area:	AREA III
CEAP Required:	No	CEAP Status:	N/A

Project Description

2016: This project is ongoing through 2016 at which point Gross Reservoir is to be expanded and the City of Boulder's portion of the Gross Reservoir enlargement costs will be \$2,000,000. Total CIP project cost for this project is \$2,400,000.

History 2010-2015: This project is being lead by Denver Water and implements an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to establish and operate an environmental pool to store 5,000 acre-feet of water shared between the City of Boulder and the City of Lafayette to be released for instream flow purposes for the benefit of the water dependent environment of South Boulder Creek. The IGA parties include the City of Boulder, Denver Water and the City of Lafayette and was signed on February 24, 2010. The IGA outlines the responsibilities of the parties in the implementation of the "environmental pool" including financial and operational considerations. The IGA specifies that both the City of Boulder and the City of Lafayette's cost share of the environmental pool is \$2 million each or \$4 million combined. Denver Water is contributing approximately \$2.4 million towards the environmental pool.

In order to most effectively use the water in this environmental pool for instream flow, several modifications to ditch diversions structures need to be built on South Boulder Creek to allow for fish passage. These project components include the design and construction of diversion dam bypass structures to pass water down the creek and several stream gauges to administer in-stream flow rates. The City of Boulder's portion of the costs are estimated to be \$400,000 with \$150,000 set aside in 2013, \$100,000 in 2014 and \$150,000 in 2015. The project completion date is based on Denver Water's projection that will begin construction of the expanded reservoir in 2016.

Project Phasing

2016 - \$2Mil - Contractual commitment to be paid to Denver Water upon issuance of the U.S. Corps of Engineers 404 permit.

Public Process

The process is being lead by Denver Water for the Gross Reservoir expansion project. The Boulder City Council was involved in the review and approval process for this project that lead to the executed intergovernmental agreement to implement this project.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Denver Water is leading this effort in coordination with the City of Boulder, the City of Lafayette and the permitting agencies.

Change From Past CIP

None

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$396,177	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$2,396,177

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M:	0	Funding Source for O&M:
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Additional Annual O&M Description:



Project Name: South Mesa Trailhead Bridge Replace

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL MAINTENANCE
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555PM15001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

The South Mesa Bridge needs to be replaced to allow construction access for flood recovery efforts. The 2016 funding is for construction management of the project.

Project Phasing

The \$60k in 2016 is for construction management. Design, Bid and construction funds encumbered – 2015, Construction – 2016.

Public Process

None anticipated as this is the replacement of an existing structure in place.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Working with ecologist staff and cultural resources staff in the OSMP department. Permitting being acquired from the county, state and federal governments.

Change From Past CIP

Added 2016 funding

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$553,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						Funding to Completion	\$0
						Future Unfunded	\$0

Total Funding Plan: \$613,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Additional Annual O&M Description: Replacing existing structure - no added O&M
Funding Source for O&M:



Project Name: STSA - Plan and Implementation

Project at a Glance

Project Type:	CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT		
Department:	OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS	Subcommunity:	AREA III
Project Number:	555STSA001	BVCP Area:	AREA III
CEAP Required:	No	CEAP Status:	N/A

Project Description

The South Trail Study Area (TSA) encompasses approximately 10,000 acres of OSMP lands. This planning area includes both the Marshall Mesa/Southern Grasslands area and the Eldorado Mountain/Doudy Draw areas for which TSA plans were completed in 2005 and 2006 respectively. This plan will add the city-owned lands managed as open space in Jefferson County and city open space acquired since 2006. The TSA is located south of Colorado Highway 170 (Eldorado Springs Drive/Marshall Road). The South Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan seeks to improve visitor experiences and increase the sustainability of trails and trailheads while conserving the area's natural, cultural and agricultural resources. Outcomes may include:

- strategies to provide high-quality visitor experiences for a diversity of recreational opportunities,
- visitor infrastructure enhancements, such as trail connections, and trail and trailhead improvements,
- actions that sustain trails and surrounding landscapes. Such as:
 - projects to reduce trail erosion, the re-routing of trails around wildlife habitats,
 - the removal of redundant paths and
 - the restoration of disturbed areas.
- protection of sensitive ecological areas and the restoration of disturbed areas.

Project Phasing

Planning - 2020: \$200,000, 2021: 100,000

Public Process

There will be ample opportunity for community input. Staff is currently experimenting with a number of techniques to broaden community participation in the North TSA plan and will have learned from that and other planning processes. The results of these efforts will inform staff's approach to public process for the South TSA.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

The South TSA plan includes opportunities to collaborate with other departments around issues such as ecological conservation, fitness and health, climate action, multi-modal linkages, etc. The level of collaboration with Jefferson and Boulder Counties, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and other agency partners will be commensurate with their interest and the benefit to the community.

Change From Past CIP

New Project

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$100,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	
						Future Unfunded \$0	

Total Funding Plan: \$300,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M:	TBD	Funding Source for O&M:
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Additional Annual O&M Description:
Monitor, maintain, and rehabilitate trails as needed.



Project Name: Visitor Infrastructure System Wide

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT

Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS

Subcommunity: SYSTEM-WIDE

Project Number: 555VISW001

BVCP Area: AREA III

CEAP Required: No

CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This program provides funding on a system-wide basis for planning capital maintenance and new construction on existing trails and trailheads, other facilities that improve the visitor experience (e.g. safe roads crossings) and capital restoration of areas where visitor impacts are high. The project is for ongoing funding program. Projects are identified through the various trail study area plans or opportunistically as needs arise throughout the year.

Project Phasing

Construction - All funds are for planning and construction of capital maintenance and smaller new facilities, typically trails or trailheads.
 2016 Construction- \$100k
 2017-18 Construction- \$200k/year
 2019-21 Construction- \$500k/year

Public Process

Projects are approved by the OSBT. The public has input via email and public meetings in the trail study area planning process.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Where appropriate OSMP coordinates with City of Boulder Parks and Recreation, Boulder County and CDOT depending on the location of the projects.

Change From Past CIP

Funding lowered in 2016 because flood work is of greater priority.

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$0	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
					Funding to Completion \$0		
					Future Unfunded \$0		

Total Funding Plan: \$2,000,000

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0

Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Monitor, Maintain, rehabilitate trails when needed



Project Name: Water Rights Acquisition

Project at a Glance

Project Type:	CIP-LAND ACQUISITION		
Department:	OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS	Subcommunity:	SYSTEM-WIDE
Project Number:	555WRA001	BVCP Area:	SYSTEM-WIDE
CEAP Required:	No	CEAP Status:	N/A

Project Description

This on-going project provides funding to purchase additional water from private owners or others for use on Open Space and Mountain Parks for agricultural and environmental purposes. By purchasing the water rights, the city is purchasing a physical asset. Program funding includes water acquisitions in the Coal Creek, South Boulder, Boulder and Lefthand Creek watersheds. Funding will also be used for professional fees, legal and engineering fees, analysis and mapping necessary to manage and protect the water rights portfolio. Because of continuing wildlife and habitat concerns, the Open Space and Mountain Parks Resource Operations staff will continue to work with other city departments to assist in enhancing in-stream flow where possible. Senior water rights can exceed \$100,000 per share. Additionally, the department has annual expenditures for the attorney fees and engineering fees that are required, as noted in this project's description, to defend the departments water rights portfolio. This project is for an ongoing funding program. In addition, should mineral rights or real property become available to purchase and funds allocated for that purpose are insufficient, water rights acquisition funds may be utilized to make up the deficiency.

Project Phasing

All funds are for water rights acquisition and associated costs.

Public Process

None

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Coordinate with internal OSMP staff including ecologists, cultural and historic, integrated pest management, agricultural management and water resources. Typically other department or outside agency coordination is not required.

Change From Past CIP

None

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$529,115	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
						Funding to Completion \$0	Future Unfunded \$0

Total Funding Plan: \$1,729,115

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M:	Minimal	Funding Source for O&M:
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Additional Annual O&M Description:

Included in annual appropriations for operations



Project Name: WTSA Implementation

Project at a Glance

Project Type: CIP-CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT
Department: OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS
Subcommunity: AREA III
Project Number: 555WTSA001
BVCP Area: AREA III
CEAP Required: No
CEAP Status: N/A

Project Description

This funding is for implementation of trail projects that were identified in the West Trail Study Areas. The funds will allow for implementation of the following projects: Chautauqua Phase II (Ski Jump reroute, Chautauqua Trail repair, 6th street connector designation and repair), Flagstaff Trail reroute (as it drops down into Gregory Canyon Trailhead/Road), Royal Arch repairs, Long Canyon Reroute, Completion of Lion's Lair (Wittemyer), partial implementation of trail projects on NIST, the Dakota Ridge connector trails (in conjunction with the work occurring at Sanitas).

Project Phasing

Construction Phase: Chautauqua Trail repair and completion of Lion's Lair (Wittemyer)- \$45k
 Construction Phase: Chautauqua Phase II (Ski Jump reroute, 6th street connector repair, Flagstaff Trail reroute (as it drops down into Gregory Canyon Trailhead/Road), Royal Arch repairs, Long Canyon Reroute, partial implementation of trail projects on NIST, the Dakota Ridge connector trails (in conjunction with the work occurring at Sanitas)- \$305k.
 Future years- Construction (\$500k in 2017, \$400k in 2018, \$150k/year 2019-2021).

Public Process

All of the trail project were identified in the West Trail Study Area Plan, which went through a lengthy public involvement process. However, the Flagstaff Trail Reroute and next steps of the NIST project may require additional public process including outreach to interested community members and OSBT.

Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration

Depending on which alternative is pursued for the Flagstaff Trail project, additional collaboration with City Transportation may be needed.

Change From Past CIP

Funding/year has been changed from 2015 to account for flood recovery

Capital Funding Plan

Fund(s)	Revised 2015 Budget - Current Year	2016 Requested Funding	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Open Space	\$383,471	\$300,000	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
					Funding to Completion \$0		
						Future Unfunded \$0	

Total Funding Plan: \$2,033,471

Additional Annual Operating and Maintenance

Additional Annual O&M: 0
Funding Source for O&M:

Additional Annual O&M Description:

Trail repairs will reduce on-going O&M.

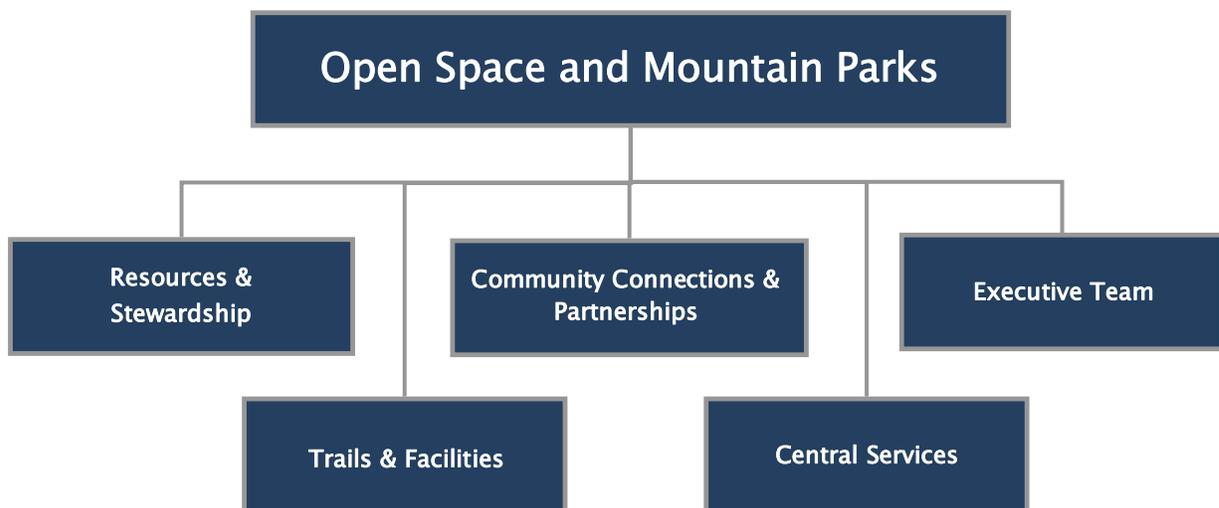
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City of Boulder
Open Space and Mountain Parks

2016 Annual Budget

\$35,828,657

The mission of the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) is to preserve and protect the natural environment and land resources that characterize Boulder. We foster appreciation and uses that sustain the natural values of the land for current and future generations.



Department Overview

Executive Team

- The OSMP Executive Team ensures strategic alignment of OSMP projects with the department's mission and priorities.
- This workgroup includes the Executive Director, Science Officer, Community Relations Officer, and the four Division Managers of the divisions outlined below.

Resources and Stewardship

- The Resources and Stewardship workgroup enhances Boulder's natural environment by protecting its agricultural, cultural, and water assets.
- This workgroup contains expertise in:
 - Preservation and restoration of agricultural, water, historical and cultural resources;
 - Tracking and monitoring of the variety of systems across OSMP; and
 - Ecological systems.



Department Overview (cont'd)

Trails and Facilities

- The Trails and Facilities workgroup supports the design, construction, and maintenance of OSMP's physical assets.
- This workgroup manages and maintains OSMP's:
 - Trails, trailheads and access points,
 - Acquired properties, and
 - Equipment and vehicle assets.

Community Connections and Partnerships

- The Community Connections and Partnerships workgroup engages community members around the mission and vision of OSMP.
- This workgroup coordinates activities and messaging around:
 - Environmental planning and sustainability;
 - Education and Outreach programs, including volunteer projects and services and the Junior Ranger Program; and
 - Ranger Services.

Central Services

- The Central Services workgroup provides support for the daily internal operations of the Department.
- This workgroup offers real estate, information resources, administrative, and financial services, including:
 - Acquisition of land interests and management of easement requests;
 - Data management, Geographic Information Systems, Web Site management, etc;
 - Support of the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT), front office, permitting and program support (such as Voice and Sight programs), and
 - Preparation and analysis of the OSMP budget and monitoring of the parking fee, cash management, and timesheet databases.



Table 8–40: Open Space and Mountain Parks Summary Budget

	2014 Actual	2015 Approved	2016 Approved
STAFFING			
Central Services	23.96	22.96	30.65
Community and Partnerships	26.63	29.63	34.50
Trails and Facilities	17.31	21.31	26.50
Resources and Stewardship	23.70	28.45	25.50
TOTAL STAFFING	91.60	102.35	117.15
EXPENDITURE			
Central Services	2,428,642	3,175,627	4,165,557
Community and Partnerships	2,716,691	3,646,782	3,826,613
Trails and Facilities	2,399,515	3,725,484	4,048,912
Resources and Stewardship	3,186,240	4,777,158	3,859,992
Capital Improvement Program, Cost Allocations and Debt Service	21,728,261	14,811,900	19,927,582
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 32,459,350	\$ 30,136,952	\$ 35,828,657
FUND			
General	\$ 152,346	\$ 148,889	\$ 154,334
Lottery	353,303	355,300	360,630
Open Space and Mountain Parks	31,953,701	29,632,763	35,313,693
TOTAL FUNDING	\$ 32,459,350	\$ 30,136,952	\$ 35,828,657

2015 Accomplishments

In 2015, the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department set forward six departmental priorities to guide its work. Accomplishments within these priority areas include:

- Ongoing flood recovery
 - Continued work with FEMA to secure funding for OSMP flood recovery projects including road, trail, and fence repair
 - Created plans to complete all flood recovery projects by 2017
 - Completed construction and habitat restoration on major projects including:
 - Gregory Canyon trailhead and access road
 - Sanitas Valley Trail
 - South Mesa/Shanahan Trail
 - Bear Canyon Road
- Draft North Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan
 - Completed undesignated trail inventory for North Trail Study Area
 - Completed Resource Inventories for the North Trail Study Area
 - Completed a draft TSA plan to finalize with Council next year
- Implement projects recommended in the West Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan
 - Completed a new trail in the West Sanitas/Wittemyer area
 - Began design on the Anemone Hill area with plans to complete this project by 2017



2015 Accomplishments (cont'd)

- Draft Agricultural Resource Management Plan
 - Continued agriculture infrastructure repair, including fence repair from flood damage
 - Began research into seeding project to reduce fertilizers and improve rotation. A pilot project will begin in 2016 based on findings
 - Continued work with real estate work group to integrate newly acquired properties and interests into the plan
 - Plan drafted by end of year for review in 2016
- Improve the visitor experience
 - Operated over 50 volunteer projects to engage more than 1,000 volunteers in over 5,000 hours of community service
 - In accordance with OSMP's Real Estate Acquisition Plan, purchased over 20 acres of land across the Schnell, Robert Oliver, and Coleman properties, valued over \$2,350,000
 - Continued major renovation of the Hartnagle House and farmstead outbuildings to make them usable for farm tenants
 - Continued assessment of the Viele House
 - At the time of reporting, engaged in ongoing negotiations to acquire properties and interests to meet the goals of the 2014 Open Space bond issue of \$10,000,000.
 - Completed analysis of the pilot Voice & Sight Tag Program and utilized findings to improve the program, launch new training, and update system.
- Develop regional trails
 - Completed a new trail in the West Sanitas/Wittemyer area
 - Continue noxious weed eradication, suppression and containment in accordance with city, county and state regulations
 - Continue ongoing ecological restoration projects
 - Continue grassland monitoring

Key Initiatives for 2016

The Open Space and Mountain Parks Department has set forward six departmental priorities to guide its work in 2016. These priority areas include:

- Ongoing flood recovery of trails and habitat
- Submit the final North Trail Study Area (TSA) Plan
- Begin Visitor Master Plan update to be recast as Open Space Master Plan
- Implement top priorities of West TSA, North TSA, Agricultural Resource Management, and Forest and Grassland Management Plans
- Continue to improve the visitor experience
- Continue to develop regional trails



Table 8-41: Open Space and Mountain Parks Significant Changes Between 2015 and 2016 Budget

	2015 Approved Budget	2016 Approved Budget	Total Change	2015 FTE	2016 FTE	FTE Change
OPEN SPACE FUND						
Agricultural Resources Management Plan Implementation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Climate Change Adaption	-	5,000	5,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Associate Planner	100,056	73,969	(26,087)	1.00	1.00	0.00
Cultural Resources Technician - Upgrade to 1.0 FTE and Extend Fixed-Term for Three Years	36,466	54,845	18,379	0.50	1.00	0.50
Maintenance III Trails Specialist	41,914	63,000	21,086	0.00	1.00	1.00
Trail Contract and Project Manager - Extend Fixed-Term for One Year	91,151	97,000	5,849	1.00	1.00	0.00
Water Resources Technician - Extend Fixed-Term for Three Years	61,385	52,400	(8,985)	1.00	1.00	0.00
Administrative Specialist III - Two-Year Fixed-Term	-	73,500	73,500	0.00	1.00	1.00
Ranger On-call/Standby	300,000	303,000	3,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seasonal Resource Information Staff	-	55,000	55,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seasonal Sign Group Increase	-	38,500	38,500	0.00	0.00	0.00
Addition of 25 Vehicles to Fleet - Shift from Lease to Ownership	-	900,000	900,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reduction in Lease Vehicle Costs	165,000	-	(165,000)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Junior Ranger Seasonal Funding	-	177,500	177,500	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shift Trails Seasonal Funding from CIP to Operating Budget (no net budget impact)	237,154	237,154	-	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Changes, Open Space and Mountain Parks			\$ 1,112,742			2.50



**Table 8-42: Open Space and Mountain Parks
Department Detail**

	2014 Actual		2015 Approved Budget		2016 Approved Budget		Variance - 2015 Approved to 2016 Approved	
	Standard		Standard		Standard		Standard	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
STAFFING AND EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM								
Central Services								
Department Administration	13.45	\$ 1,238,810	12.50	\$ 1,894,186	15.00	\$ 2,262,554	2.50	\$ 368,368
Dog Tag, Permit and Facility Leasing Programs	1.01	114,255	1.01	61,058	1.01	61,058	-	0
Resource Information Services	4.65	515,391	4.65	684,410	7.30	904,643	2.65	220,233
Conservation Easement Compliance	1.01	112,413	1.01	61,058	1.00	66,442	(0.01)	5,383
Real Estate Acquisition OSMP	1.26	140,238	1.26	157,278	1.00	96,758	(0.26)	(60,520)
Real Estate Services to OSMP	1.26	140,238	1.26	157,278	4.07	619,769	2.81	462,491
Real Estate Services to General Fund	1.32	167,297	1.27	160,359	1.27	154,334	-	(6,025)
Subtotal	23.96	\$ 2,428,642	22.96	\$ 3,175,627	30.65	\$ 4,165,557	7.69	\$ 989,930
Community and Partnerships								
Community Outreach	8.41	1,032,565	7.41	930,141	7.00	848,316	(0.41)	(81,825)
Public Relations	-	-	4.00	657,479	5.00	569,623	1.00	(87,856)
Ranger Naturalist Services	17.69	1,462,132	17.69	1,829,624	22.00	2,060,029	4.31	230,405
Junior Rangers	0.53	221,994	0.53	229,538	0.50	348,645	(0.03)	119,107
Subtotal	26.63	\$ 2,716,691	29.63	\$ 3,646,782	34.50	\$ 3,826,613	4.87	\$ 179,831
Trails and Facilities								
Facility Management	5.24	783,865	6.24	1,000,476	7.00	1,657,733	0.76	657,257
Rapid Response	1.04	134,553	1.04	87,725	1.00	87,725	(0.04)	-
Signs	2.10	314,145	2.10	267,173	2.00	235,375	(0.10)	(31,797)
Trail Maintenance and Construction	4.73	574,775	7.73	1,541,137	12.50	1,683,980	4.77	142,843
Trailhead Maintenance and Construction	4.20	592,177	4.20	828,973	4.00	384,099	(0.20)	(444,874)
Subtotal	17.31	\$ 2,399,515	21.31	\$ 3,725,484	26.50	\$ 4,048,912	5.19	\$ 323,428
Resources and Stewardship								
Agricultural Land Management	2.03	\$ 275,773	2.03	\$ 273,017	2.00	\$ 273,017	(0.03)	\$ (0)
Water Rights Administration	2.10	285,283	3.10	448,057	3.00	436,803	(0.10)	(11,253)
Cultural Resources Program	1.01	112,741	1.51	186,489	2.00	190,824	0.49	\$ 4,335
Ecological Restoration Program	1.53	248,792	1.53	311,255	1.50	311,255	(0.03)	\$ (0)
Forest Ecosystem Management Program	2.22	360,993	2.22	475,119	2.00	475,119	(0.22)	0
Grassland Ecosystem Management Program	0.91	147,975	0.91	209,362	1.00	209,362	0.09	0
Integrated Pest Management	2.01	326,845	2.26	498,868	2.50	498,868	0.24	(0)
Monitoring & Visitation Studies	3.13	257,610	3.13	333,808	2.00	441,003	(1.13)	107,195
Payments to Fire Districts	-	78,030	-	78,030	-	78,030	-	-
Regional, Master, and Related Planning and Plan Implementation Coordination	4.18	344,028	7.18	976,365	5.00	278,969	(2.18)	(697,396)
Wetland and Aquatic Management Program	1.22	198,383	1.22	271,718	1.50	271,718	0.28	(0)
Wildlife and Habitats	3.36	549,787	3.36	715,069	3.00	395,023	(0.36)	(320,046)
Subtotal	23.70	\$ 3,186,240	28.45	\$ 4,777,158	25.50	\$ 3,859,992	(2.95)	\$ (917,166)



**Table 8-42: Open Space and Mountain Parks
Department Detail (cont'd)**

	2014 Actual		2015 Approved Budget		2016 Approved Budget		Variance - 2015 Approved to 2016 Approved	
	Standard		Standard		Standard		Standard	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Capital Improvement Program, Cost Allocations and Debt Service								
Capital Improvement Program		\$ 11,966,192		\$ 7,964,000		\$ 12,295,300		\$ 4,331,300
Cost Allocation		1,066,954		1,348,701		1,577,657		228,956
Debt Service		8,695,115		5,499,199		6,054,625		555,426
Subtotal		\$ 21,728,261		\$ 14,811,900		\$ 19,927,582		\$ 5,115,682
Total	91.60	\$ 32,459,350	102.35	\$ 30,136,952	117.15	\$ 35,828,657	14.80	\$ 5,691,705
EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY								
Personnel		\$ 8,800,957		\$ 10,884,911		\$ 10,253,522		\$ (631,389)
Operating		1,044,226		3,601,928		4,546,328		944,400
Interdepartmental Charges		885,905		838,213		1,101,225		263,012
Capital		11,966,193		7,964,000		12,295,300		4,331,300
Debt Service		8,695,115		5,499,199		6,054,625		555,426
Cost Allocation		1,066,954		1,348,701		1,577,657		228,956
Total		\$ 32,459,350		\$ 30,136,952		\$ 35,828,657		\$ 5,691,705
STAFFING AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND								
General	1.32	\$ 152,346	1.27	\$ 148,889	1.27	\$ 154,334	-	\$ 5,445
Lottery	-	\$ 353,303	-	355,300	-	360,630	-	5,330
Open Space and Mountain Parks	90.28	\$ 31,953,701	101.08	29,632,763	115.88	35,313,693	14.80	5,680,930
Total	91.60	\$ 32,459,350	102.35	\$ 30,136,952	117.15	\$ 35,828,657	14.80	\$ 5,691,705

Note: Changes to the layout of the OSMP Department Detail Page and the addition of 12 FTE are the result of departmental reorganization.

Table 9–23: Open Space Fund, 2016 Fund Financial

OPEN SPACE AND MOUNTAIN PARKS

	2014 Actual	2015 Revised	2016 Approved	2017 Projected	2018 Projected	2019 Projected	2020 Projected	2021 Projected
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 17,032,351	\$ 30,300,718	\$ 15,995,892	\$ 13,485,867	\$ 15,598,477	\$ 19,154,258	\$ 21,552,840	\$ 19,081,072
Sources of Funds								
Net Sales Tax Revenue	\$ 28,425,675	\$ 29,286,214	\$ 30,572,783	\$ 31,216,301	\$ 32,331,488	\$ 29,301,107	\$ 24,436,628	\$ 25,310,661
FEMA Flood Reimbursement	89,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	95,131	101,247	104,000	107,120	110,334	113,644	117,053	120,565
Lease and Miscellaneous Revenue	712,242	439,109	822,978	681,932	702,389	723,461	745,165	767,520
Voice & Sight Tag Program Revenue	77,791	131,500	227,000	227,000	227,000	227,000	227,000	227,000
Bond Proceeds - 2014	10,135,898	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Fund Transfer	1,103,384	1,166,175	1,166,175	1,208,122	1,245,832	1,284,720	-	-
Grants	105,313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Sources of Funds	\$ 40,745,272	\$ 31,124,245	\$ 32,892,936	\$ 33,440,475	\$ 34,617,043	\$ 31,649,932	\$ 25,525,846	\$ 26,425,745
Uses of Funds								
General Operating Expenditures	\$ 10,731,098	\$ 15,262,996	\$ 15,157,879	\$ 16,277,781	\$ 16,635,893	\$ 17,001,882	\$ 17,375,924	\$ 17,758,194
Supplemental Operating	-	418,175	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carryover/ATB Operating	-	82,707	-	-	-	-	-	-
Increase to 2016 base - operating increases	-	-	1,067,500	-	-	-	-	-
Cost Allocation	1,066,954	1,446,908	1,577,657	1,656,540	1,739,367	1,826,335	1,917,652	2,013,535
CIP- Capital Enhancement								
Capital-Boulder Creek above 95th St. Flood Restoration	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-East TSA	-	-	-	-	200,000	50,000	200,000	200,000
Capital-OSMP Facility Mods (Space Needs)	14,597	-	200,000	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Capital- Flood Eng. Trails	570,940	-	417,300	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Goodhue Ditch Fish Passage	-	-	-	300,000	-	-	-	-
Capital-North TSA	50,000	50,000	100,000	200,000	200,000	100,000	50,000	50,000
Capital-Innovations	-	-	-	75,000	175,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Capital-OSMP Master Plan Update	-	-	252,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Capital-S. Boulder Creek at E. Boulder Ditch Headgate Reconfiguration Flood Repair	-	-	-	300,000	-	-	-	-
Capital-South Boulder Creek Instream Flow	101,912	150,000	2,000,000	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-South TSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000	100,000
Capital-Visitor Infrastructure CIP	350,000	-	100,000	200,000	200,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Capital-Visitor Infrastructure CIP Carryover	575,584	600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-West TSA	500,000	-	350,000	500,000	400,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Capital-West TSA Carryover	73,561	494,971	-	-	-	-	-	-
CIP- Capital Maintenance								
Capital-Agriculture Facilities	-	100,000	110,000	110,000	120,000	120,000	130,000	130,000
Capital-Boulder and S. Boulder Creek Area Flood Restoration	-	-	100,000	-	-	-	-	-

Table 9–23: Open Space Fund, 2016 Fund Financial (cont'd)

	2014 Actual	2015 Revised	2016 Approved	2017 Projected	2018 Projected	2019 Projected	2020 Projected	2021 Projected
Capital-Cultural Resources/Facility Restor.	-	60,000	-	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Capital-Farm Site Improvements	-	-	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Capital- Flood Trails	-	-	991,000	-	-	-	-	-
Capital- Foothills Nature Center	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Hartnagle House Restoration	-	65,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-South Mesa Trailhead Bridge	-	-	60,000	-	-	-	-	-
CIP- Capital Planning Studies								
Radio System Analysis	-	-	5,000	-	-	-	-	-
LIDAR/Aerial Imaging	34,406	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CIP- Land Acquisition								
Capital-Real Estate Acquisition	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	5,400,000
Capital-Real Estate Acquisition Carryover	273,867	3,444,322	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Real Estate Acquisition 2014 Bond	3,231,027	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Real Estate Acq 2014 Bond Carryover	-	6,888,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Water Rights Acquisition	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Capital-Water Rights Acquisition Carryover	129,115	329,115	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital-Mineral Rights Acquisition	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Capital-Mineral Rights Acquisition Carryover	361,184	461,184	-	-	-	-	-	-
CIP- New Facility/Infrastructure								
Capital-Boulder Crk Bikepath Extension	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service - BMPA	2,091,148	1,701,487	1,587,507	986,926	760,283	661,746	661,682	593,655
Debt Service - Bonds & Notes	6,603,967	4,380,006	4,467,118	4,461,618	4,470,719	2,681,387	652,356	653,456
Total Uses of Funds	\$ 32,459,360	\$ 45,429,071	\$ 35,402,961	\$ 31,327,865	\$ 31,061,261	\$ 29,251,350	\$ 27,997,614	\$ 28,308,839
Ending Fund Balance Before Reserves	\$ 30,300,718	\$ 15,995,892	\$ 13,485,867	\$ 15,598,477	\$ 19,154,258	\$ 21,552,840	\$ 19,081,072	\$ 17,197,978
Reserves								
OSBT Contingency Reserve	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 4,467,118	\$ 4,461,618	\$ 4,470,719	\$ 2,681,387	\$ 652,356	\$ 653,456
Pay Period 27 Reserve	50,000	146,000	242,000	338,000	434,000	530,000	626,000	722,000
Sick/Vacation/Bonus Reserve	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000	490,000
Property and Casualty Reserve	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
FEMA De-obligation Reserve	6,289	6,289	6,289	6,289	6,289	6,289	6,289	6,289
South Boulder Creek Flow Reserve	1,750,000	2,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
IBM Connector Trail	-	200,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle Acquisition Reserve	150,000	300,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Facility Maintenance Reserve	100,000	200,000	300,000	400,000	500,000	600,000	700,000	800,000
Total Reserves	\$ 6,446,289	\$ 6,242,289	\$ 5,905,407	\$ 6,095,907	\$ 6,301,008	\$ 4,707,676	\$ 2,874,645	\$ 3,071,745
Ending Fund Balance After Reserves	\$ 23,854,429	\$ 9,753,603	\$ 7,580,460	\$ 9,502,570	\$ 12,853,250	\$ 16,845,164	\$ 16,206,427	\$ 14,126,233

MEMORANDUM

TO: Open Space Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Winfree, Director, Open Space and Mountain Parks
Mark Davison, Community Connections and Partnerships Division Manager
Abbie Poniatowski, Central Services Division Manager
John Potter, Resources and Stewardship Division Manager

DATE: April 2, 2016

SUBJECT: **Staff update on exploratory talks for a Conservancy to provide private funding to support OSMP priority programs and projects**

Executive Summary

The purpose of this memo is to provide the City of Boulder's Open Space Board of Trustees with background information and seek input and guidance for exploring a concept for creating a Conservancy to support Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) with private funding.

This memo includes:

- Background information on why to explore a Conservancy to support OSMP;
- Framework to explore the Conservancy concept, project details such as who is involved, current status and next steps, and proposed timeline for input, review and approvals;
- Preliminary focus areas for a Conservancy; and
- Precedent cases (Appendix A).

Why explore a Conservancy to support OSMP?

To address critical needs and emerging trends, park and open space systems across the country are partnering with nonprofit, philanthropic organizations. These organizations are able to pick up where typical public funding leaves off, to help ensure bright futures for our communities' most special places. The role of the Conservancy and the associated board is not to act as an advocacy group, but to raise private funds that will support program areas not typically provided for by public funds. The board members' focus is to be able to raise funds through private, grant, and corporate avenues to support OSMP priority programs and projects.

The exploration of a Conservancy to support and supplement funding to better fulfill the charter and mission of OSMP is now on the table. Such a Conservancy has the potential to raise funds to make strategic investments that will yield significant impacts for protecting our land and the enjoyment of the citizens who own it.

OSMP has been approached with this concept by several private citizens who have asked if it is possible to partner and consider exploring the concept together. This forward-thinking

approach could reap benefits if coordinated well with OSMP direction, supporting projects and programs that add value to the system beyond what the city provides.

Framework to consider developing a Conservancy

A framework for exploring the concept is described below within a series of steps that would investigate feasibility, need, review precedents, complete outreach with interested parties, as well as seek board and council approval.

Step 1: Discuss concept with Conservancy proponent group

Meet with proponents to:

- Discuss overall concept,
- Develop an approach for exploring the concept,
- Identify Conservancy needs, opportunities, gaps, risks, stakeholders, and
- Consider the process, review stages and approvals needed to create the Conservancy.

Due Date: Spring 2016

Step 2: Preliminary discussion to understand viability and legal implications

Meet with city finance staff to discuss financial implications.

Meet with city attorney to discuss legal implications.

Conservancy proponents canvass potential supporters.

Discuss process for informing board and council as well as seeking approval to move forward.

Meet with Board of Trustees to discuss:

- Concept,
- Approach and benefits,
- Funding and risk, and
- Ask for approval to proceed to Memorandum of Intent (MOI) stage with council concurrence (Step 3).

Due Date: Summer 2016

Step 3: Develop MOI

Conservancy group in partnership with OSMP staff to conduct feasibility study to further test financial viability and provide proof of concept.

Further explore precedents to understand opportunities and risks for this concept including Boulder Library and Parks and Recreation Department.

Discuss with OSMP staff, stakeholders, board, city attorney, and council for input.

Conservancy proponents work with OSMP to develop:

- Approach to charter purpose including governance and articles of agreement,
- Partnership roles,
- Organizational structure and approvals,
- Potential OSMP prioritized programs and projects, and
- Funding mechanisms and strategies for private fund raising that will add value to existing public funding streams.

OSMP works with Conservancy proponents to consider input from public, staff and stakeholders on concept.

Meet with Board and Council:

- Ask for approval from board and council to proceed with developing Conservancy concept.

Due Date: Fall 2016

Step 4: Conservancy is created

Support Conservancy proponents within scope of MOI to:

- Develop charter and purpose with governance and articles of agreement (by-laws),
- Apply for 501c3 status,
- Provide prioritized list of programs and projects that will require Conservancy funding,
- Consider funding mechanisms and strategies for OSMP prioritized programs and projects,
- Launch Conservancy, and
- Draft preliminary Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from MOI.

Meet with Board and Council:

- Board and council recognize conservancy through a charter agreement that defines governance, articles of agreement and by-laws.

Due Date: Fall 2017

Step 5: Develop MOU from MOI

Discuss MOU with OSMP staff, stakeholders, board, and council for input.

Work with conservancy proponents to refine:

- Clearly define partnership roles,
- Formalize organizational structure and approvals,
- Finalize OSMP prioritized list of programs and projects that will require Conservancy funding, and
- Launch fund raising campaign for OSMP prioritized programs and projects.

Meet with Board and Council:

- Bring MOU to board and council for review and approval, and
- Define metrics to track progress and success.

Due Date: Spring 2018

Potential Conservancy Focus Areas for Discussion

Five focus concept areas have initially emerged with the aim to add value by sharing our decades-old legacy of innovative land management with others, affirming our connection with nature, encouraging youth to identify with nature, increasing community food connections, and ensuring there are inclusive opportunities for everyone in our community to conserve, connect with and enjoy OSMP lands. Below is a summary of the five focus areas concepts:

Concept Focus Area 1:

Regional Conservation and Nature Access Institute

Boulder is renowned for its clean water, fresh air, healthy wildlife habitat, and beauty. People live here for these reasons, and they can depend on OSMP to safeguard those qualities across the region from the Flatirons on the west to the grasslands on the east. A unique set of high-quality programs has been set up over time to address the use, protection, and management of open space lands. We can create an institute of learning to share this unique Boulder approach on a national stage with hundreds of students, professionals and other governments; while continuing our own local dialogue on the best practices for managing OSMP lands. The roles of planning and science have been employed for decades to consider long-term sustainable conservation and access approaches. The institute would continue this tradition and meet head on the challenges for our future by considering and sharing strategies for current and future generations to protect nature, agriculture and recreation and providing education as well as connections to these resources. It is also recognized that OSMP is not the only leader in our community and so the institute could consider the various areas where Boulder is a national leader. For instance, the nation looks to Boulder's transportation system and climate commitment as models, both of which could be incorporated into a broader institute concept, if desired.

Concept Focus Area 2:

New Headquarters and Community Center

A new headquarters is needed to house OMSP staff under a single roof where knowledge can be easily shared and the department can efficiently carry out operations to fulfill our mission. In addition, this project affords an opportunity to include a Community Center that offers quality, experiential environmental education programs and teaches outdoor recreation skills to youth and underrepresented and under participating groups. The center can promote environmental stewardship and outdoor recreation skills to thousands of people through collaborations with school districts and community-based organizations.

Concept Focus Area 3:

Connect with Nature through Volunteer and Service Programs

People depend on nature and a natural setting for peace, quiet, inspiration, renewal, exhilaration, and enjoyment. OSMP provides opportunities to immerse oneself in nature and give back by learning, volunteering, and connecting to the outdoors. This is accomplished through innovative programs such as Raptor Monitoring, Mountain Bike Patrols, Bat Monitoring, and many others. We can expand these programs to encourage a greater connection to nature for all of our citizens by teaching programs that foster a wider understanding of conservation, learning outdoor skills, and providing opportunities for activity groups, nonprofits, local businesses, and agency partners to work more closely with us to further fulfill our mission. These programs could be particularly impactful to underrepresented populations, and align with other city efforts to engage low-income and minority community members. With enhanced programs and projects we will be able to attract thousands of new Boulder volunteers every year, create a greater connection for Boulder community members with nature and provide more opportunities for local businesses to give back.

Concept Focus Area 4:

Youth Access to Nature

Nature supports healthy, active outdoor lifestyles. Whether you're picnicking at the first overlook off Flagstaff Road, strolling through a forest listening for birds along Shanahan Ridge or jogging on the South Boulder Creek Trail, you will continue a tradition that stretches back decades. Many of us take this for granted but know there is a need to create an environment where youth can see how very special and valuable these local outdoor opportunities are. To do this we can build confidence, teach skills and provide access opportunities so our children gain an appreciation for the outdoors by developing programs that focus on these areas. We can develop programs that teach children the outdoor skills they need to feel confident when they enter nature; we can develop youth ambassadors able to articulate the value of protecting lands. Youth emerging from an OSMP program will be able to find a trail on the map, identify an eagle, know the leave no trace ethic, appreciate how to hike safely, and learn camping and fishing skills. This passport to nature will attempt to ensure that youth at Boulder schools have junior ranger experience beginning at age six to twelve and advancing into their high school years by programs that provide outdoor areas to play and learn in nature, opportunities to develop outdoor skills expertise and eventually to become ambassadors to educate other youth about the importance of conserving nature. These programs can also create pathways to careers in environmental stewardship (again where our low-income and minority populations are underrepresented).

Concept Focus Area 5:

Community Connections to Food

Having farms nearby makes our community happier, healthier and resilient. By protecting farmland we create an agricultural backyard for people living in the urban area. Farming supports strong, resilient communities where people want to live and encourages investment

in the vitality of the local community. Future programs will enable families to know where their food comes from, know who produces it for them; learn about and be reminded of their local connections in local grocery stores; be able to learn how to tend a field and have access to land and resources to try it themselves; run a community plot outside the urban area and have the potential to stay overnight on it; and participate in events on local farms that bring the community together and are a fun way for children to learn about farms. Activities can be explored that will connect our community with food including farm events, education programs for schools, community allotments, food forests, farm markets, farm stands, demonstration farms, and farm camps. Connecting local families to farming and food is a legacy that ensures continued community vitality. These efforts are also connected to the city's local food initiative.

Concept Focus Area 6:

Opportunities for All Grant Program

Diverse communities should feel ownership, safe and welcome on OSMP lands. Working together, OSMP and partners can create opportunities for all of our residents to work at, play in and care for these special places to ensure everyone gains from the benefits of conserving nature, food production, and recreation activities. We need to further reach out and develop programs with underserved community partners to foster a love of nature, food production and recreation activities. Our goal is to work with culturally-specific, low-income communities, elderly, and persons experiencing disabilities in places where OSMP does not already have strong relationships. For example, Nature and Farm Connection Community Grants can be considered that could focus on culturally-specific, low-income communities, and persons experiencing disabilities. The grants can create opportunities to learn about, practice, and engage in nature and farming activities. We can also consider School in Nature and Farm Community Grants providing resources to enable connections with nature and farming that schools are unable to make. We can also build upon and partner with existing programs serving these communities, such as Parks and Recreation's EXPAND program for people with disabilities and Youth Services Initiative (YSI) program serving youth living in low-income housing. We can also consider grants for improved nature experiences and activities that meet expectations for universal access guidelines and develop more inclusive programs for persons experiencing disabilities.

Appendix A

Example A: Boulder Library Foundation

Purpose: The Boulder Library Foundation strategically invests in innovative programming and partnerships that enrich the Boulder Public Library and our community. The Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization led by a volunteer board of directors and supported by individual donors and community partners.

Board: We're delighted to provide leadership for the Boulder Library Foundation, including a bi-annual grant review and selection process, fundraising initiatives, and community outreach. We bring a variety of experience, expertise, and ideas to sustain the Foundation's mission, expand its reach, and support new initiatives.

Fund: Boulder Library Foundation-funded programs, events, and initiatives serve a diverse mix of people (from birth through senior citizenship) at the Boulder Public Library as well as outside its doors and throughout the community.

Example B: PLAY Boulder Foundation (Boulder Parks and Recreation Department)

Mission: The PLAY Boulder Foundation, in partnership with the Boulder Parks and Recreation Department, supports excellence in parks and recreation by mobilizing community support through education, philanthropy, and advocacy.

Purpose: By donating in support of your favorite program or facility, you can experience firsthand the results of your giving while providing improvements for all to enjoy. The opportunity and need for benefactors for our recreation programs and parks facilities has never been more acute. We hope you will join us in supporting community parks and recreation in Boulder.

History: The Boulder Parks and Recreation Foundation was established in 1976 as a non-profit organization, enabling tax-deductible gifts to ensure excellence in Boulder's parks and recreation systems. In 2005, the Foundation adopted new bylaws and a new mission to keep pace with the changing face of public/private partnerships. In 2009, the Foundation changed its name to PLAY (Parks and Leisure for Adults and Youth) Boulder Foundation to better reflect its new mission. It remains dedicated to working with the City of Boulder and the private sector to create the best possible environment in which to live, work, and play. Major program areas:

- **Critical Partnerships:** To have a healthy city, PLAY Boulder recognizes the importance of partnerships. Since its inception, PLAY Boulder (then Boulder Parks and Recreation Foundation) has fostered a tight relationship with the city and Boulder Parks and Recreation Department. Through this strategic partnership, we are able to work together to ensure the best quality programs.
- **Support the PLAY Boulder Foundation:** PLAY Boulder accepts online donations through Network for Good. Thank you for your interest in supporting PLAY Boulder.

For more information on donating an item, please contact PLAY at info@playboulder.org and we'll get back to you with the requested information. PLAY is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are 100% tax deductible.

- PLAY Supporters: PLAY is thrilled to be supported by a variety of individuals, corporations, and foundations. It is through your support that we are able to offer a variety of recreational programs for the community of Boulder.

Example C: Multnomah County Library Foundation

Purpose: this foundation enhances Multnomah County Library's leadership, innovation, and reach, helping the library address emerging community needs through private support.

- They don't support day-to-day operations but do underwrite staff positions in programs that go beyond core services.
- 501c3 charity and gifts are tax-deductible.
- Founded in 1995 "to build private support, enhance our library's impact and strengthen the public's commitment to a strong library system"
 - Work together to figure out "where private funds can be leveraged to have the greatest impact and at the same time not supplant public responsibility for supporting a strong library system."
- The foundation is the independent non-profit that library management has designated to receive bequests and planned gifts that benefit the library.
- The library director sits on the board of trustees.
- The foundation focuses support in three key areas: early literacy, school age success, and learning for life.
- While not advocating year-to-year for library budget or programs, the foundation did play a major role in advocating for tax levies over the years and ultimately a move to create an independently funded library district.
- Commitment to donor privacy (and the opposite when appropriate)
 - gifts of \$100+ recognized on bookplates in new library books
 - gifts of \$1000+ can be recognized publicly, if wished
 - gifts of \$25,000+ can establish a named endowment.

Example D: Oregon State Parks Foundation

Purpose: Dedicated to supporting Oregon's state parks, working to enrich the state park experience for generations to come.

- 501c3 charity and gifts are tax deductible
- iconic restoration and enhancement/construction projects not going to be funded publically
- establishment of interpretive and educational programs
- parks director ex officio on board and separate staff liaison
- membership model

- 12-month day-use parking pass for every membership level
- subscription to 1859 magazine at higher levels
- \$500+ includes behind the scenes field trip to one of the state parks
- \$1000+ exclusive events
- master agreement between state parks and foundation:
 - <http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/docs/foundation-master-agreement-2014.pdf>

Example E: Yosemite National Park Conservancy

Purpose: Provide grants to Yosemite National Park based on the highest-priority needs of the park. Has typically funded restoration of the trail to Lower Yosemite Fall, electronic bear-monitoring equipment to keep bears safe, youth programs, etc.

Mission: Providing for Yosemite’s future is our passion. We inspire people to support projects and programs that preserve and protect Yosemite National Park’s resources and enrich the visitor experience. The major goals of the conservancy focus on:

- Trails Restored
- Wildlife Protected
- Habitat Restored
- Historic Preservation
- Youth Stewardship
- Visitor Enrichment

Partners: Yosemite Conservancy has 90 years of experience helping to preserve and protect Yosemite National Park for current and future generations. We are proud to have strong working relationships with extraordinary partner organizations that share a similar passion for this magical place.

Funding: The most significant collaboration, and also the core of our fundraising, is direct donations to National Park Service (NPS). Each year, NPS identifies projects of greatest need that are aligned with the mission; these projects are then funded through donations. The Conservancy has provided more than \$100 million in grants to fund Yosemite’s highest-priority projects in recent years. Yosemite Conservancy funds projects and programs that are proposed and prioritized by NPS at Yosemite. Examples include:

- fund trail and habitat restoration projects,
- wildlife-protection programs,
- scientific research, and
- Youth in Yosemite Programs: these programs transform the lives of youth of all ages.

The Conservancy audience typically gives or benefits by:

- Making a monetary gift to the Yosemite Conservancy with a benefit of discounts on programs, accommodations and invitations to special events.
- Pay for an art workshop or a live theater performance about Yosemite’s history.

- Ways to volunteer with Yosemite Conservancy.
- Purchase items in the Conservancy bookstore or online store.

Visitor Services: Conservancy partners with NPS to work on restoration projects and visitor services, including issuing wilderness permits and bear-proof canisters.

- Conservancy partners with NPS, Delaware North Companies (DNC), the Ansel Adams Gallery and the LeConte Memorial Lodge to promote Art in Yosemite.
- Working with NPS and DNC, which provide accommodations throughout the park, the Conservancy created the guest donor program, allowing visitors to make donations to programs at DNC facilities.
- Working with NatureBridge, the Conservancy share resources such as housing and training. They also exchange resources such as books for libraries.

History: Yosemite Conservancy has over 90 years of experience preserving and protecting Yosemite National Park for current and future generations. The Conservancy established an early model for many of today's national park nonprofit partners.

- The first fundraising organization, 1923
- Cooperating association, 1923
- Developed museum, 1926
- Created a modern fundraising program, 1956
- There are more than 65 national park cooperating associations, serving the 392 areas of the national park system.



**CITY OF BOULDER
OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: April 13, 2016

AGENDA TITLE: Summary of 2015 Open Space and Mountain Parks Volunteer Services Annual Report and Declaration to Honor Open Space and Mountain Parks Volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 10-16, 2016.

PRESENTER/S:

Tracy Winfree, Director, Open Space and Mountain Parks
Mark Davison, Community Connections and Partnerships Division Manager
Lisa Dierauf, Community Education and Outreach Supervisor
Jennelle Freeston, Volunteer Services Supervisor
Kristin Weinberger, Coordinator of Group Volunteer Projects

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

National Volunteer Week is April 10-16, 2016. The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Department joins communities across the country and around the world in recognizing volunteers for their efforts and contributions.

Every year, hundreds of volunteers aid the OSMP department in carrying out its mission, goals and objectives. They help to inform the public, connect with the land through hands-on projects, and protect the resources that make OSMP lands a special place. In 2015, more than 1,760 dedicated volunteers contributed a grand total of over 20,000 hours. (See Attachment A).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Open Space and Mountain Parks Volunteer Services staff members request that the Open Space Board of Trustees join them in honoring these dedicated people during National Volunteer Week with a declaration:

The Open Space Board of Trustees joins the staff of the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department in recognizing all of our volunteers during National Volunteer Week 2016. We salute the more than 1,760 Open Space and Mountain Parks volunteers who contributed their talents and efforts in helping the department carry out its mission. These individuals are an inspiration as they help to protect the resources that make Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks so special.

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND IMPACTS

- **Environmental:** City of Boulder OSMP is a significant community-supported program that is recognized as a leader in preservation of open space lands, contributing to the environmental sustainability goal of Boulder's City Council. The department's volunteers act as stewards to help preserve and protect the values of these lands.
- **Economic:** OSMP contributes to the economic vitality goal of the city as it provides the context for the diverse and vibrant economic system that sustains services for residents.
- **Social:** Because the Open Space land system is accessible to the community, it helps support council's community sustainability goal - all residents who live in Boulder have the opportunity to feel a part of, and thrive in, this aspect of their community.

OTHER IMPACTS

- **Fiscal:** The work provided by OSMP project and program volunteers adds over a half a million dollars in value every year. In addition to this monetary value, this volunteer effort supports departmental priorities while also building a stronger sense of community. Engaged, educated, informed and participating citizens are an important component to the well-being of a community.
- **Staff time:** Working with volunteers requires staff time and planning. Two Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Volunteer Coordinators and 1.5 seasonal staff members are dedicated to directly manage both volunteer projects and programs, and over 40 other staff members work with volunteers as program leads and field supervisors.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND PROCESS

This item is being heard at this public meeting, advertised in the *Daily Camera* on April 10, 2016.

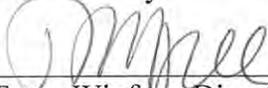
BACKGROUND

In the late 1800s, volunteers built the first trails in the newly-established Mountain Parks system. For more than 100 years, volunteers have been contributing time and effort to building trails, constructing some of the historic shelters, and caring for the land. OSMP's formal volunteer programs have been in place since the 1980s, providing residents a way to contribute and give back to the land through stewardship projects and programs. Volunteers greet visitors on trails, monitor wildlife, lead interpretive hikes, restore natural habitats, pull noxious weeds, build trails, staff the Flagstaff Summit Nature Center, monitor rare plants and much more. OSMP volunteers span in age from 8 to 80, and some have volunteered with OSMP for decades. The volunteer application process is competitive; most of the programs and projects fill to capacity each year.

In 2015, Volunteer Services staff created the *Dream it, Build it, Love it* campaign, which includes a new brand and a re-designed webpage, VolunteerOSMP.org. Volunteers continued to lend a hand assisting with eight flood restoration trail projects. Over 100 volunteer projects were planned, and 87 were completed. The majority of the 2015 projects focused on additional OSMP departmental needs and work plan priorities, with an emphasis on one-day community volunteer projects. Two milestones were marked this year with the 30th anniversary of the volunteer raptor monitoring program and the 20th anniversary of the bat monitoring program. As in years past, OSMP recruited for and trained additional program volunteers. Volunteer Services is honored to share National Volunteer Week with such a dedicated community of volunteers.

Staff is thankful for all of the volunteers who make both short and long term commitments. For more information on OSMP volunteer opportunities, please visit VolunteerOSMP.org.

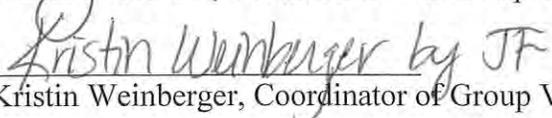
Submitted by:



Tracy Winfree, Director



Jennelle Freeston, Volunteer Services Supervisor



Kristin Weinberger, Coordinator of Group Volunteer Projects

ATTACHMENTS:

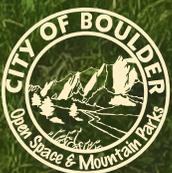
A. Volunteer Services Annual Report 2015

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Volunteer Services

Community Connections & Partnerships

Annual Report 2015



City of Boulder
Open Space & Mountain Parks

2015 Overview

“Volunteering with OSMP has made me realize how important it is to use open spaces wisely and participate in its future and its preservation.”

~ Teirnan Doyle, OSMP Volunteer

Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Volunteer Services engages the community through the land to inspire appreciation, connection and a legacy of stewardship. Volunteer Services serves departmental programs, projects, and events, as well as requests for customized projects from community members and organizations year-round. OSMP connects with the community through an outstanding volunteer program that offers a variety of opportunities for people to give back to the land in a meaningful way. Two major focus areas are ongoing volunteer programs and one-day projects. These help the department meet its mission and charter.

Volunteer Services has offered formal programs and projects since the 1980s with a growing response from the community. In 2015 Volunteer Services redirected their efforts towards recruitment for one-day community volunteer projects due to the loss of AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps assisting with out-of-state priorities and flood restoration projects coming to a close. Volunteer Services changed the focus to community volunteer projects developed from OSMP work priorities. Working closely with staff from forestry, agriculture, trails, integrated pest management, and water resources

A photograph showing three volunteers in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. They are wearing hats and backpacks, and appear to be engaged in a field activity, likely seed collection. The scene is outdoors with a clear sky.

Volunteers Collect
Native Seed for
Restoration

Photo: Kristin Weinberger

DREAM it. BUILD it. LOVE it.

2015 Overview

multiple community projects were planned. To fill these community volunteer projects, recruitment occurred through the new Dream it, Build it, Love it campaign which included the creation of a program brand, a newly designed webpage, and a formalized marketing plan. This comprehensive marketing plan contains templates for flyer and handout development, recruitment models, outreach opportunities, online advertisements, and much more. Volunteer Services' ability to sustain many volunteer projects in 2015 showcases the community interest and success of new marketing efforts.

In 2015 more than 1,765 volunteers contributed a grand total of over 20,000 hours. The work provided by OSMP project and program volunteers adds over half a million dollars in value every year!



Volunteer Naturalists Teach Students



Photo: OSMP Staff

DREAM it. BUILD it. LOVE it.

2015 Overview

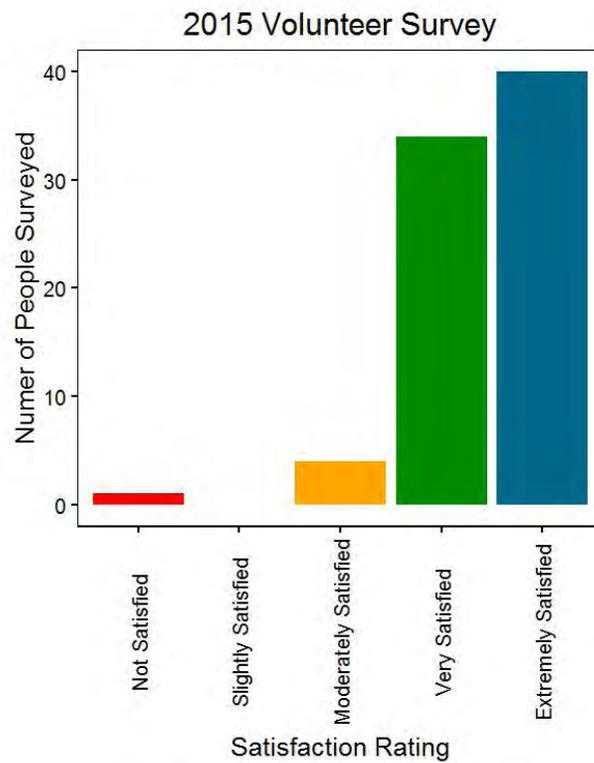
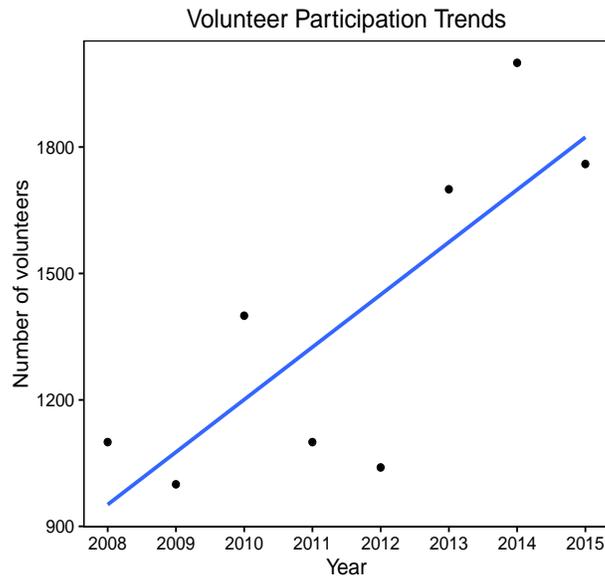




Photo: Beau Clark



Project Volunteers

“This curious world we inhabit is more wonderful than convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired and enjoyed than used.”

~ Henry David Thoreau

Open Space and Mountain Parks offered 87 volunteer projects to individuals and organizations out of over 100 that were planned. Project volunteers participated in a variety of one-day or multi-day, on-the-ground projects. Each volunteer project involves an overview of the project objectives, information about management methods from the specialists, safety briefings, and education from naturalists. Volunteers are thanked throughout the day and lunch is provided by OSMP.

Volunteers continued to lend a hand assisting with eight flood restoration trail projects needed after the historic 2013 floods. For the first time Volunteer Services collaborated with forestry staff to offer ten one-day community volunteer projects. These projects involve chipping ponderosa pines to improve forest ecosystem health and reduce threats of catastrophic wildfires.

Volunteer Services also supported a departmental goal to highlight OSMP's agricultural program and give community members of all ages opportunities to have a hands-on experience with their local food sources. Volunteer Services collaborated with staff to offer 15 youth and family friendly projects with several agricultural tenants. These volunteer projects assisted with planting and harvesting vegetables, fence repair, and structure demolition. Volunteers learned about the history of agriculture in the area, organic vegetable production on OSMP, and what it takes to grow vegetables in this region. For the first time restoration and agricultural staff offered a community volunteer project to create a bee pollinator garden at Teller Farms to support local bee habitat.

Volunteer Services also supports staff from restoration, trails, trailheads, and water resources workgroups with volunteer project planning and coordination. In 2015 an estimated 1,365 project volunteers contributed 7,750 hours. See page 7 for the breakout of the 2015 volunteer projects per workgroup.

Contracts: Volunteer Services manages two long-term work contracts; one with Bridge House Ready to Work, and the other with Mile High Youth Corps. Volunteer Services pairs up community volunteers with Bridge House Ready to Work crews on various projects to allow the opportunity for crew members to work side by side with volunteers.



Volunteers Plant Organic Vegetables on Agricultural Lands

Photo: Kristin Weinburger

2015 Volunteer Project Summary

Volunteer Project Summary 2015

Multiple Work Groups Served	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
Bridge House, Ready to Work	Multiple Projects	na	na
Mile High Youth Corps	Teller Lakes	na	na
Agriculture	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
SportsLab - Loafing Shed Demolition	Abbot	30	90
Community Project with INVST Community Studies & One Act a Day	Cure Organic Farm	24	82
Engineers Without Borders - Cattle Fence	Manchester	9	45
Community Project - 63rd St. Farm	63rd Street Farm	31	128.5
Colorado College Outdoor Education - Corral Demolition	North Teller/Manchester	40	320
Community Project - Barn Demolition	Berman Brothers	14	70
Navigant Consulting/North Face - Cattle Fence	Methvin	23	92
Dish - Cattle Fence	Andrus	7	39.5
Ecological Systems	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
Community Project with CU & Medtronic - Forestry	Flatirons Vista	85	392
New Vista High School - Forestry	Flatirons Vista	19	114
Community Project - Bee Garden	South Teller	15	40
Community Project - Planted Plugs	Dammyanovich	3	12
Whitewave - Seed Collection	South Boulder Creek	19	57
Community Project - Seed Collection	Doudy Draw	12	36
WRV Seed Collections	Multiple Properties	178	472
IPM	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
St. Olaf College - Cattle Fence for Tall Oat Grass	Shanahan Ridge	29	203
St. Olaf - Exotic Shrubs	Skunk Canyon	16	112
CU Geography/History - Cattle Fence for Tall Oat Grass	Shanahan Ridge	12	72
North Face - Cattle Fence for Tall Oat Grass	Shanahan Ridge	3	21
Boy Scouts - Moth Mullein	Flatirons Vista	12	36
Individual Volunteer - Mediterranean Sage	BLIP	2	7.5
WRV -Mediterranean Sage	Beech	26	123
Trailheads	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
Yale Day of Service - Native Gardens	Thorne/Sombrero Marsh	6	24
County Court Projects	Multiple Project Sites	55	416
Individual Community Service	Multiple Project Sites	57	1202
Eagle Scouts	Multiple Project Sites	130	923
Trailheads - Flood Restoration	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
County Court	Arnold Property	10	80

2015 Volunteer Project Summary

Trails	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
New Vista High School - Trail Construction	Chautauqua	17	119
Boulder Mountain Bike Alliance - Trail Repair	Marshall Valley/FIV/High Plains	46	222
Community Project - Trail Repair	Chautauqua Meadow	17	119
SolidFire - Trail Repair	Chautauqua	9	27
Adventure Forward - Trail Structures Built	Chautauqua	35	140
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado - Trail Construction	Long Canyon	21	168
Flatirons Climbing Council - Trail Repair	Flagstaff - Cloudshadow	19	152
Community Project for National Trails Day - Trail Construction	Joder	35	181
Bike Patrol - Trail Repair	Springbrook Loop Trail	10	30
Trails - Flood Restoration	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado - Trail Construction	Long Canyon	17	136
Individual Volunteer - Trail Repair	Royal Arch/Royal Arch	4	39
Front Range Climbing Stewards - Trail Repair	Royal Arch	11	64
Community Project - Trail Construction	Towhee	18	126
Boulder Mountain Bike Alliance - Trail Repair	High Plains Trail	35	103
Whitewave - Turnpike	Homestead Trail	15	90
Water Resources	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
St. Olaf - Irrigation Maintenance	North Toll Gate	36	227
Community Project with CU Leadership Class - Irrigation Maintenance	Silver Lake Ditch	33	225.5
CU Triathlon Team - Irrigation Maintenance	Silver Lake Ditch	11	66
Whole System Cleanup	Project/Location	Volunteer #	Hours
PUP Derby - Clean Up	Dry Creek	3	9
New Vista High School - Fence Demolition and Repair	Cottonwood	19	114
Flatirons Climbing Council - Graffiti Clean Up	2nd Flatiron	3	15
Flatirons Climbing Council for the Trash Bash - Trash Clean up	Flagstaff Summit	70	140
Summit Middle School - Trash Clean Up	Sawhill Ponds	14	28
The independent sector in Colorado estimates a hourly rate of \$25.68 for volunteer work, totaling a value of \$199,020 for this program.			
		2015 Total	
		Volunteer #	Hours
		1,365	7,750

Volunteers Monitor
Locally Nesting
Raptors



Photo: Volunteer Staff



Program Volunteers

“Volunteering on behalf of OSMP for the past number of years has been awesome. I have probably gained the knowledge equivalent of a master’s degree in natural history. Each of the OSMP programs are meaningful and have a significant impact.” ~ Joel Koenig, OSMP Volunteer

Volunteer Services offers over 17 longer-term program assignments to assist OSMP in carrying out its mission and goals. In 2015, 354 individual program volunteers committed to assignments which included greeting visitors on the trails and monitoring wildlife and plants. Program volunteers also assisted at outreach events, answered questions at the Chautauqua Ranger Cottage and led interpretive hikes for youth and more. (see page 11)

Two milestones were marked this year with the 30th anniversary of the volunteer raptor monitoring program and the 20th anniversary of the bat monitoring program. Over the last 30 years, OSMP volunteers have monitored the fledging of 207 golden eagles, 31 bald eagles, 395 prairie falcons, 151 peregrine falcons, and 66 osprey. Raptor volunteers provide weekly information to OSMP staff about the status of nesting pairs and also report any closure violations.

In 1995 agencies within Boulder County began an on-going bat survey to determine numbers and species of bats in the area. Bat volunteers have gathered years of data for maternal roost sites and watering holes on OSMP properties. These citizen science monitoring programs are national models which demonstrate the

successful partnerships between local community members, conservation groups, recreational groups, and land management agencies.

Based on a renewed staff need, herbarium volunteers reconvened once a week from March through June. These volunteers have been collecting and pressing plants found on our properties for over 20 years building a library-like collection that helps us better understand and manage our biologically diverse ecosystems.

“It is so life giving for me to be part of this volunteer program and feel like I can be helpful to the preservation of the natural world.” ~ Betsy Heppner, OSMP Volunteer

Volunteer Services staff recruited and trained additional mountain bike patrollers and trail guide/park patrollers who serve as extra eyes for the department and assist with communicating regulations, trail conditions, and natural history information to visitors. The Boulder Mountain Bike Patrol is a multi-agency program with the OSMP, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, U.S. Forest Service, City of Boulder Parks and Recreation, and Boulder Mountainbike Alliance. Patrollers ride trails assisting and educating mountain bikers and other park users. The goal is to promote a positive recreational experience on the trails. Over 75 mountain bike volunteers patrolled over 600 times covering more than 8,000 miles on OSMP trails. A particular focus this year included outreach in the Marshall Mesa area to educate about bike etiquette and to reduce user conflict. Similarly, trail guide/park patrollers hiked on all OSMP trails with extra time spent in the North Trail Study Area (NTSA) to provide information to visitors as well as assisting with Royal Arch closures and other departmental needs.

The Volunteer Naturalist program trained nine new volunteers who, along with 50 other volunteer naturalists, provided 259 guided interpretive hikes and programs to 4,233 school-age children from the surrounding area school districts. Youth served were mainly from the Boulder Valley School District as well as at least six other school districts across the Front Range. In response to growing demand, classroom wildlife programs which are scheduled and taught by volunteer naturalists, were expanded beyond bear and mountain lion curriculum to include coyote education.

Volunteer Naturalists Teach Students



Photo: OSMP Staff

2015 Volunteer Program Summary

Volunteer Program Summary 2015

Program	Workgroups Served	Volunteer #	Site Visits/Events	Hours
Bat Monitors	Wildlife & Rangers	50	110	1330
Bear Care & Coyote Care Team	Wildlife, Rangers & CPW	13	5	33
Bee Monitors	Wildlife	3	20	16
Hayfield Monitors	Agriculture, Wildlife & Rangers	6	26	40
Herbarium	Ecological Systems	7	5	25
Hosts: Flagstaff Nature Center	Community Outreach	18	116	479
Host: Event Help (Meadow Music & Voice & Sight Events)	Community Outreach	12	15	193
Host: Ranger Cottage	Community Outreach	5	20	150
Mountain Bike Patrollers	Community Outreach & Rangers	75	609	1590
Native Garden Team	Community Outreach	12	10	292
Naturalists (including bear, mountain lion & coyote classroom programs)	Community Outreach	43	259	900
Open Space Board of Trustees	All	5	12	1000
Raptor Monitors	Wildlife & Rangers	50	525	2300
Resource Restoration Stewards	Ecological Systems	6	5	15
Undesignated Trail Study	Planning	1	4	50
Staff Assistants: Admin, Interns, Vegetation Studies	All	5	5	461
Trail Guide/Park Patrollers	Community Outreach & Rangers	89	1091	3407
The independent sector estimates a hourly rate in Colorado of \$25.68 for volunteer work, totaling a value of \$315,376 for this program. In 2015 there were 354 individual program volunteers, 46 of these volunteers are involved with multiple programs.				

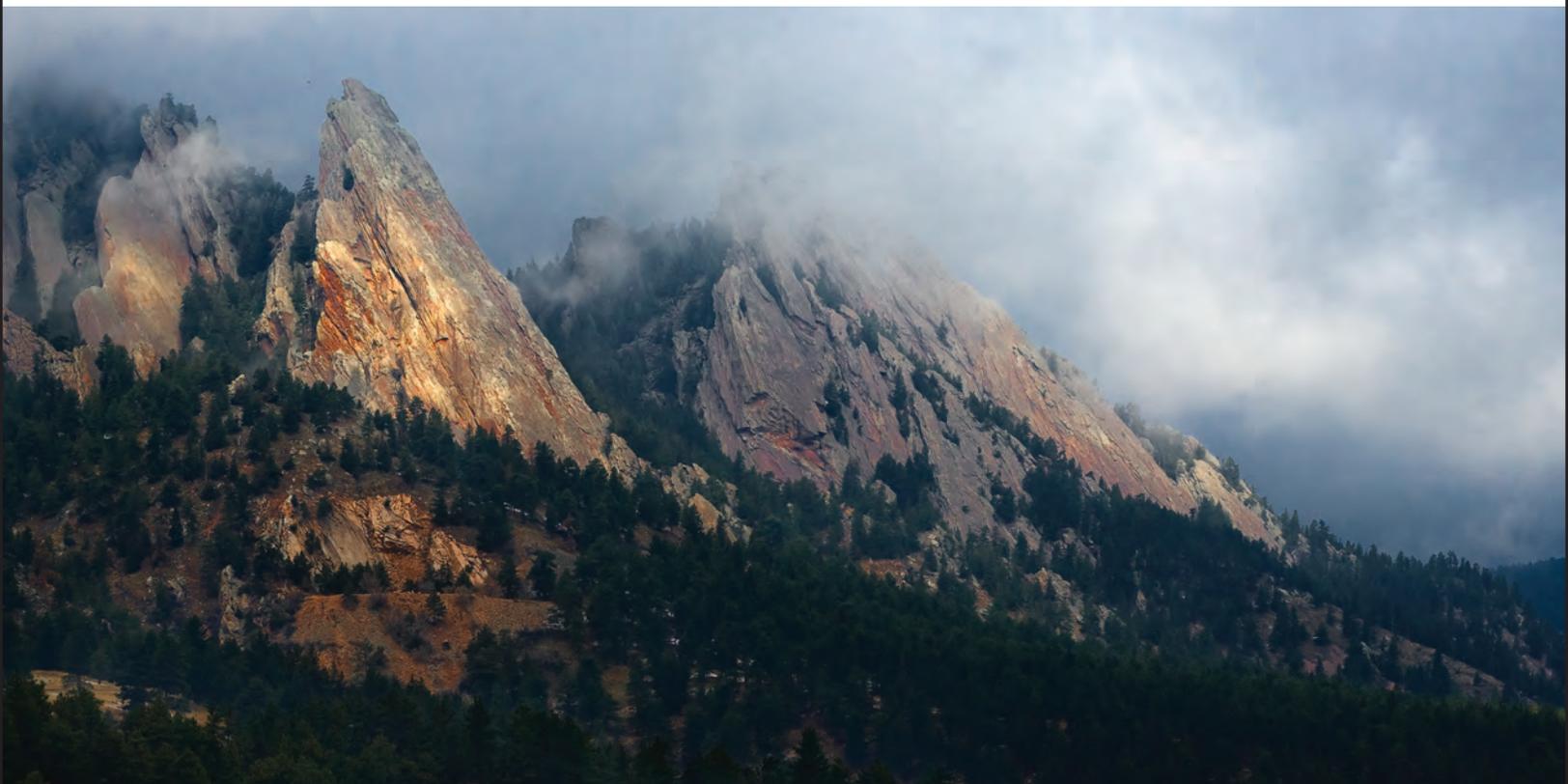
Grand Total 2015			
Training Provided by Staff	Volunteer #	Site Visits/Events	Hours
1,485 hrs	400	2,837	12,281

Photo: Volunteer Staff

Plans for 2016

In addition to continuing to offer projects and programs, Volunteer Services will focus on new initiatives in 2016. Staff will begin developing a five year strategic plan to look more closely at capacity, recruitment, and targeting key audiences. In an effort to enhance our communication style with volunteers, Volunteer Services will market projects and programs using Emma software. In addition, from the 2015 marketing plan, Volunteer Services learned lessons about how many volunteer projects to offer, the best timing, and when volunteers are most likely to participate. Volunteer Services will continue to offer one-day community projects as well as placing a new emphasis on targeted marketing to local companies who offer their employee's time to volunteer. This involves making face-to-face contacts to develop long-lasting relationships with identified businesses and organizations in our community. There will also be a focus on offering additional agriculturally-based projects as well as a pollinator meadow restoration project geared towards youth, families, and underserved communities.

Finally, Volunteer Services will continue to offer opportunities for long-term volunteer assignments. Recruitment and trainings will be offered for the programs that are requested by community members and/ or need additional volunteer support such as Mountain Bike Patrol, Trail Guide/Park Patrollers, and Bat Monitors. In 2016 a plant phenology program will be piloted to monitor plant phases in order to track trends over time. Phenology can be an early indicator of climate change especially for plants. Volunteers will make field observations over the course of a growing season using protocols and standards designed by the National Phenology Network.



Thank you!

With the support of the Open Space Board of Trustees, the OSMP Executive Team, staff, partner agencies, and our committed outdoor community, Volunteer Services continues to grow relationships that connect people to the land. Volunteer Services is grateful for these partnerships and dedication to the volunteer program. We tip our hats to the OSMP volunteers' accomplishments and look forward to the year ahead. Visit VolunteerOSMP.org for upcoming volunteer projects and programs.

Interested in Volunteering with Open Space & Mountain Parks?
Visit our website at VolunteerOSMP.org or contact:

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