



Board and Council Directed Expedited Prairie Dog Management Response Process Update II

1

Open Space Board of Trustees
August 14, 2019

Prairie dog levels on numerous OSMP irrigated agricultural properties have:

- ▶ highlighted conflicts with city's prairie dog management and viable agricultural operations,
- ▶ affected OSMP's ability to fully meet charter purposes and
- ▶ caused soil degradation and loss

It may be infeasible to address these problems only by non-lethal means in a timely or economical fashion.

Undertake an expedited public process that

- ▶ Looks at agricultural uses on the northern grasslands including factors affecting:

- ▶ the ecological conditions of the land,
- ▶ high soil health,
- ▶ healthy agricultural uses,
- ▶ wildlife health, and
- ▶ other conditions.

- ▶ Considers [existing and] new land management tools including:

- ▶ key-lining,
- ▶ soil amendments,
- ▶ lethal control
- ▶ and other measures

to achieve charter Open Space goals



4

June 12 Recommended Alternative

CONSIDERATION	RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE
Return to OSBT / Immediacy	May 2020 11 months
Public Engagement	Involve
Opportunity for strategy development and analysis	Good
Geographic scope	± Broader
Investment	500-650 hrs \$1K -\$15K
Disruption to 2019 accelerated efforts	Low

Goals

- Develop a shared understanding about the current situation.
- Collect initial ideas about improving the situation.

Approach

- Interactive Informational Panel (50%)
- Questions and Responses (25%) to ensure that we have fully described the situation.
- Open-ended input of strategies to improve the situation (25%)

- Online: Possible video recording available, online form for input

6

Engagement Window #2

BE HEARD
Boulder

Goals

- Gather input on ways to improve staff's draft recommendations.

Approach

- Post draft recommendations on-line and request feedback about how they can be improved via BE HEARD Boulder
- OSBT Study Session

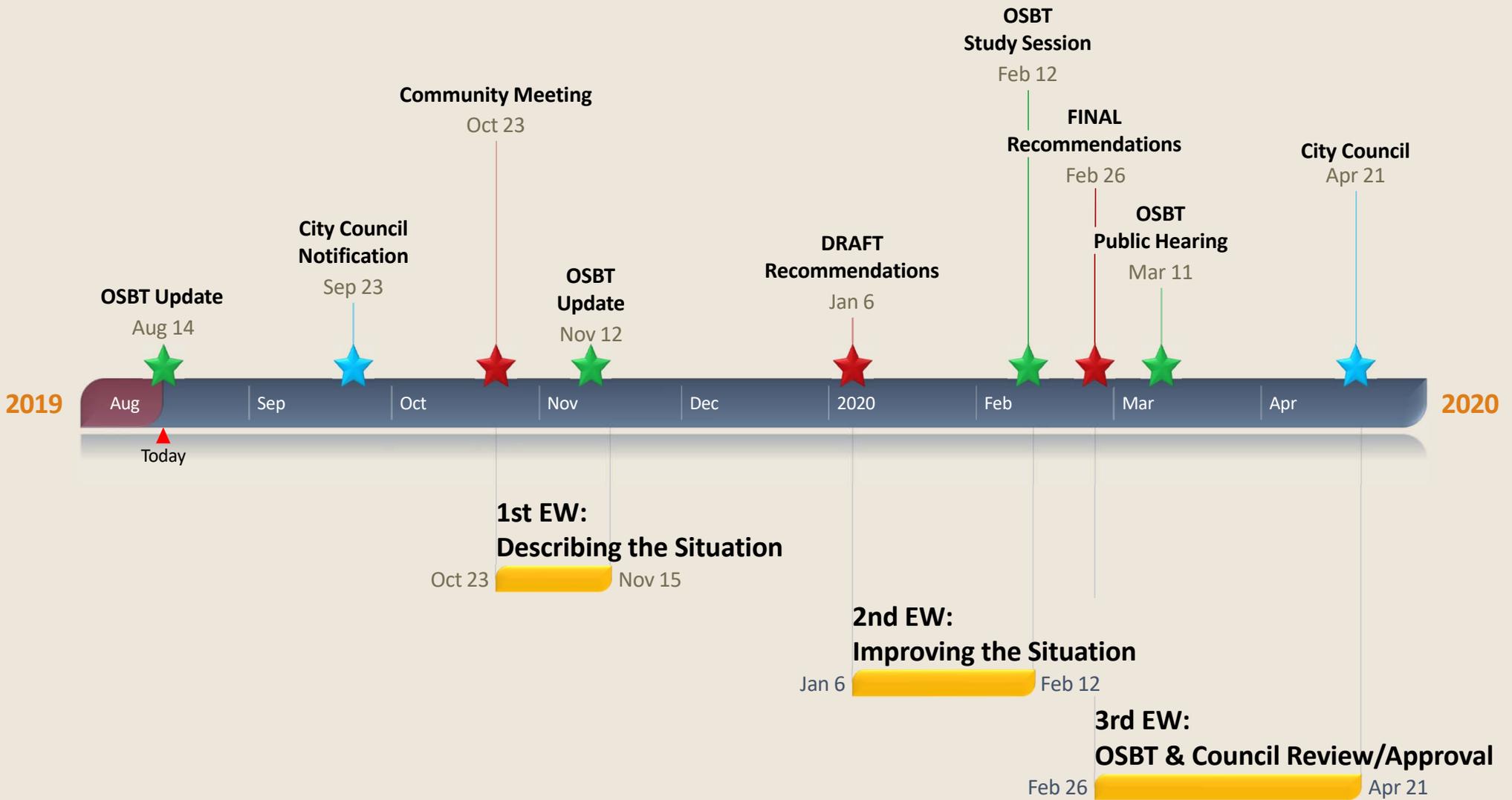
- Drop-in sessions to help people unfamiliar or uncomfortable with on-line engagement tools.

Goals

- Provide opportunity for direct community feedback to OSBT and potentially City Council
- Gather OSBT and potentially City Council recommendations/direction on revised recommendations

Approach

- Public hearing with OSBT and potentially City Council.



2019

2020



Timeline

**1st EW:
Describing the Situation**
Oct 23 - Nov 15

**2nd EW:
Improving the Situation**
Jan 6 - Feb 12

**3rd EW:
OSBT & Council Review/Approval**
Feb 26 - Apr 21



10

August 14 Revised Approach

CONSIDERATION	REVISED APPROACH
Return to OSBT / Immediacy	March 2020 9 months
Public Engagement	Inform/Consult
Opportunity for strategy development and analysis	Good
Geographic scope	± Broader
Investment	500-650 hrs \$1K -\$15K
Disruption to 2019 accelerated efforts	Low



OSMP Context Grassland
Ecosystem Health: Prairie Dogs,
Soil & Agriculture



Soil Formation, Health, and
Conservation



Irrigated Lands and Agricultural
Viability in the Boulder Valley

Engagement Window #1 Interactive Information Panel

11

Draft Topics

Question for Public Engagement

What actions should be recommended to the OSBT to support viable agricultural uses of OSMP, stop soil loss and sustainably manage prairie dogs?



Questions?