



**TO:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**FROM:** Yvette Bowden, Director, Parks and Recreation  
Therron Dieckmann, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation  
Jeff Haley, Parks Planning Manager

**SUBJECT:** Consent Agenda

**DATE:** August 24, 2015

**A. Approval of Minutes from July 27, 2015**

**B. Parks and Recreation Development Update**

**Planning**

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

- **Facility Strategic Plan (FSP):** The FSP will identify maintenance and repair needs and deficiencies and provide recommended costs and actions to address the deficiencies. It will also provide data and recommendations regarding how to effectively manage facilities in terms of regular improvements, on-going preventative maintenance, and major repairs based on conditions and life-cycle of assets.

The department is currently receiving Request for Proposal (RFP) responses from consultants to complete the work. Selection of a consultant is expected by the end of August with work anticipated to begin in September. The FSP will address facilities operated by both Parks and Recreation, Human Services and Facility and Asset Management facilities.

**Design**

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

- **University Hill School Play Yard Grant:** The department partnered with University Hill Elementary School on a \$100,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO). The grant will support play yard improvements benefitting both the school children and the local community. Due to the BVSD bond approval, the project has been delayed and an extension request was approved. Some play equipment was installed where it will not be disturbed by possible future bond improvements.

## Construction

The following projects were recently completed or are under construction and anticipated to be completed by late spring 2016:

- **Chautauqua Park:** The arbor in Chautauqua Park is being renovated. Wood timbers were removed due to age and natural wood deterioration. The wood timbers will be replaced and construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of August.
- **Crestview Park:** The Crestview Park Re-opening Celebration brought out over 120 neighbors to enjoy the new amenities and a few snacks. Youth Services Initiative (YSI) staff hosted active recreation games and activities.
- **Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Pond:** The Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Pond was heavily damaged in the 2013 flood. Working with both FEMA and city funding, the pond has been revitalized and was re-opened to the public on July 25. A grant was awarded to the city by the Boulder Flycasters to support additional fish habitat in the pond. Prior to reopening, over 500 trout were stocked in the pond by The Boulder Fish and Game Club.

The re-opening celebration for the Kids' Fishing Pond is scheduled for August 26. Several partners will join the celebration to provide youth activities, educational experiences and giveaways.

- **Harlow Platt Park Restroom and Shelters:** Construction is underway on two new picnic shelters, a playground shade cover and a restroom at this heavily used south Boulder park site. The new shelters will be located outside of the wetland buffers. The new restroom will provide a much needed asset near the picnic shelters and playground. Work is anticipated to be completed by late fall 2015.
- **Knollwood Tennis Courts:** The Knollwood Tennis Courts were heavily damaged in the 2013 flood. Working with both FEMA and city funding, the courts will be renovated to provide an improved drainage system that will help protect the adjacent neighbors. The renovation includes a post tension concrete slab court with new fencing and equipment supported by grants of \$25,000 from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and an additional \$5,000 from the Colorado Tennis Association and Intermountain Tennis Foundation. Improvements will include a new ADA accessible walkway ramp and stairs will be installed to improve court access. Construction on this project is anticipated to start in early September and be completed by spring 2016.

## Urban Resources

The following initiatives are currently underway:

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

Over the past few months staff has monitored the site and determined specific active burrows. A lethal control permit was issued by the City Manager's Office and on August

6th, control was performed with a Pressurized Exhaust Rodent Controller (PERC), a carbon monoxide delivery system. Current monitoring shows a few open burrows, but no prairie dogs have been seen. Follow-up treatment is tentatively scheduled for August 19.

- **Fishing Regulation Update** – A joint Parks and Recreation and Open Space and Mountain Parks Department effort to bring city fishing regulations up to date.

The proposed rule going to the city manager will adopt the current version of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regulations regarding fishing. It will also clean up current rules related to fishing on each department's properties.

- **Integrated Pest Management** – An annual effort to restore native areas, control noxious weeds and comply with regulations.

The Urban Resources group remains committed to complying with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act and providing quality natural habitat throughout the system. An integrated approach (biological, cultural, chemical and mechanical) is utilized to maximize effectiveness while working within the city's ordinances and programs. Staff is currently working with the Colorado Department of Agriculture to control state listed species that are summer/autumn bloomers such as purple loosestrife.

## C. Parks and Recreation Operations Updates

### **Recreation Facilities Annual Maintenance Closures**

Each year the department conducts annual closures to its recreation center in order to perform major maintenance on these valued community assets. These rolling closures ensure that important life cycle maintenance is undertaken and demonstrates the department's commitment to Take Care of What We Have. These maintenance closures, or "shutdowns", are planned for times when the facilities are least attended and programs are in recess. During shutdown, recreation pass holders and customers are encouraged to visit open recreation centers, outdoor pools and the Boulder Reservoir.

This year's North Boulder Recreation Center closure occurred August 15 through 23. Major maintenance efforts during the closure included resurfacing of the maple gymnasium and multi-purpose room floors, painting of all surfaces below 10 feet, preventative maintenance on all major electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems and general deep cleaning.

The East Boulder Community Center closure will take place August 29 through September 13. This two-week closure will allow for effective completion of several major projects including replastering the lap pool, installation of new carpet in both the recreation and senior wings, and sanding and resurfacing the maple gymnasium. Staff and contractors will also complete preventative maintenance to major electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems and general deep cleaning. In an effort to further accommodate East's two-week closure, Spruce Pool (which historically closes for the season on Labor Day) will operate a modified schedule will remain open for an additional week, closing on Sunday, September 13.