



TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda

DATE: February 23, 2015

A. Minutes Approval of minutes from January 26, 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:

- **Nature Play Symposium** – Two-day event about nature play, that promotes daily contact with our natural environment and outdoor spaces.

The department looks forward to hosting a Nature Play Symposium with Robin Moore, Ph.D. and Louise Chawla, Ph.D. on June 10-11, 2015. Dr. Moore is a world-renowned nature play educator from North Carolina State University and Dr. Chawla is a professor at CU Boulder’s Environmental Design School and working with Growing Up Boulder (GUB). Drs Moore and Chawla will share their expertise on the importance of nature play opportunities in the urban setting. The two-day series will include a public lecture, staff workshop and a public workshop.

Design

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

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

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

Construction

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

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

Construction is underway with anticipated completion in spring 2015. Renovations and improvements include replacing the play area, turf and irrigation upgrades, various new site furnishings, and a 3' wide soft-surface looped-path throughout the park. Connectivity and accessibility will be improved with a 8' wide sidewalk connection to Tamarack Avenue to the west and a new sidewalk, curb and gutter along Sumac Avenue on the south side of the park.

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

Final flood damage repairs are underway. Repairs include some slope stabilization with rock rip rap and a new 36” storm pipe from the toe of the slope, under the multi-use path and out to the creek. Construction completion is anticipated by early March.

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

Construction is currently underway. Renovations and improvements include the repair or replacement of some of the fishing docks and bridges, enhancing water quality and fish habitat and addressing accessibility issues. In addition, the department is coordinating with Greenways to replace parts of the flood damaged path along the pond. The goal is to have the fishing ponds open prior to the annual fishing derby at the end of May, weather permitting.

- **Columbia Cemetery** – A historic and cultural resource with markers from many of the city’s founders and pioneers located at the intersection of 9th Street and College Avenue.

Renovation of the historic shed is currently underway. Renovation includes installation of a structural slab floor and reconstruction of the storage shed to historical standards. This process requires the need to lift the shed to pour the concrete slab. Construction completion is anticipated by early spring.

Urban Resources

The following initiatives are currently underway:

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

Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) is currently reviewing the post-relocation plan for monitoring protocols, next steps and restoration of the site during 2015 that is in alignment with the city’s ordinances and Urban Wildlife Management Plan Prairie Dog Component and OSMP’s Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan. The plan includes the process for future prairie dog removal.

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

The Urban Resources seasonal crew performs prairie dog barrier monitoring and maintenance at least monthly May through October. Scheduled repairs requiring contractors for December and January are complete and included:

- Repairing gates and replacing sections of vinyl with metal at the South Dam of the Boulder Reservoir
- Repairing gates at Valmont City Park disc golf area
- Installing a new section to maintain required buffer at North Dam of the Boulder Reservoir