

**PLEASE NOTE:** These remain draft until the minutes are approved May 8.

### **OSBT Motions**

- Dave Kuntz moved that the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) supports the protection and preservation of high quality, ecologically viable native grassland ecosystems using management and restoration to achieve the long-term health and biodiversity of the natural communities that characterize the Boulder Valley. To achieve this end, we focus on the varied and complex components of the natural communities rather than management of single species. Further, OSBT supports protecting and wisely using the City's historic water rights on Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) lands to preserve water resources and agricultural production as defined in the City Charter.

OSBT supports the OSMP staff recommendations in the April 10, 2019, Memo to the OSBT, "Prairie Dog Working Group (PDWG) Phase II Recommendation Update with Staff Analysis, Phasing and Preliminary Implications of Implementation", and recommends to City Council the following:

- Phased implementation of the PDWG Phase II recommendations including modifying the scale and timing of specific recommendations and deferring selected Phase II recommendations.
  - The schedule for a comprehensive review and update of the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan will be detailed through the implementation of the OSMP Master Plan. Karen Hollweg seconded. This motion passed unanimously.
- Karen Hollweg moved that the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) recommends to City Council in order to meet City Charter purposes on lands designated for agricultural production, the following amendment to the priorities for relocating black-tailed prairie dogs proposed in the 2017 Prairie Dog Working Group Phase I report presented to and accepted by the City Manager in 2018:
    - The city's first and highest priority will be the relocation of prairie dogs from any Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) irrigated agricultural lease-holdings on which prairie dog occupancy exceeds 35% to OSMP receiving sites identified in the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan.
    - When 35% occupancy on irrigated agricultural lease-holdings is no longer exceeded and ecological conditions and relocation requirements as defined in the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan are met and determined to be feasible by OSMP, relocations from OSMP lands causing conflicts with adjoining private lands, and from other City properties or privately-owned lands, will be considered.

Relocation is contingent upon the evaluation of the capacity of identified sites on OSMP lands to receive additional prairie dogs. When OSMP determines that identified receiving sites are "full" or at capacity no additional prairie dog relocations will be

accepted in order to maintain the ecological condition of the land and the health of the prairie dog colonies. Andria Bilich seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

- Tom Isaacson moved that the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) make the following statement to City Council: prairie dog levels on numerous Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) irrigated agricultural properties have created a conflict between the city prairie dog and agricultural policies, and prevent OSMP from fully meeting Charter purposes. It is infeasible to address these problems only by non-lethal means in a timely fashion. Accordingly, we recommend commencing an expedited OSMP-led process, with appropriate outreach, to evaluate whether, where, and how to use lethal control to address these problems. Curt Brown seconded. This motion passed unanimously.
- Curt Brown moved that Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) recommends to City Council that addressing the prairie dog crisis in an expedited fashion requires a request for a supplemental budget allocation to Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) for the next 3-4 years, and that a sufficient program requires the hiring of an additional FTE to coordinate all OSMP prairie dog management and conservation activities. Karen Hollweg seconded. This motion passed unanimously.