

# RELATED PLANNING DOCUMENTS

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## Summary Report

### Status

	Notes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research Methodology Approved	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Research and Analysis Complete	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data Gaps Identified and Remaining Research Assigned	1) Need a full-text copy of Urban Wildlife Plan. 2) Agreement as to what other plans should be included, and plans that are underway (TMP?)
<input type="checkbox"/> All Data Obtained	
<input type="checkbox"/> Analysis Complete	
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical (TAG) Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Department Leadership Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan Integration Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board (PRAB) Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> City Council Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Draft Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Draft Review	

### Summary

#### **Blue Ribbon Commission I (2007) and II (2010) Summaries**

The Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) was appointed to study the revenue policy issues confronting the city. BRC Phase I examined revenue stability and the history of Boulder sales tax initiatives and evaluated the political receptiveness of future tax initiatives. BRC I made recommendations for a long-term, balanced and stable revenue stream for the City of Boulder that accomplishes public priorities while allowing flexibility to meet the varied and dynamic needs of the municipal corporation in the next 20 years. Shortly after, it was determined that a second phase of work should emphasize and refine the revenue stabilization recommendations of BRC Phase I and continue the implementation of the principles and policies proposed by the first BRC. The group also reviewed of city expenditures to ensure that public funds are being used effectively and efficiently. Findings are included in these summaries.

#### **Boulder Convention and Visitors Bureau Mission and Program of Work 2010 Year-End Report, 2010**

This year-end report provides a general summary and various numeric totals for Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) initiatives throughout 2010. The CVB reports an increase in total estimated economic impact stemming from meetings and conferences in Boulder. Visitor services data is provided, including visitor center traffic, brochure distribution results, website analytics, and social media traffic reports. Local, national, and international marketing efforts are noted as

well as involvement in community projects and events. As a year-end report, this document does not outline goals or strategic initiatives for the future.

### **Boulder Greenways Program Summary (Section 14 of 2005 Major Update to the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan), 2005**

In 2005, major updates were made to the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan including the addition of information on the Greenways Program. The Greenways Program Summary (Section 14) provides an overview of the program as well as updates on the status of the initiative. Created in 1984, the goal of this program is to protect and enhance riparian corridors for animal habitat, recreation, and cultural resource protection while enhancing storm drainage and floodplain management. In 2001, a Master Plan update unveiled new guidelines for project review and approval and the establishment of a Greenways Advisory Committee consisting of one representative from six boards: 1) Water and Resource Advisory Board; 2) Transportation Advisory Board; 3) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; 4) Open Space Board of Trustees; 5) Environmental Advisory Board; and 6) Planning Board.

### **Boulder Junction Area Plan (formerly called Transit Village Area Plan, 2010)**

The Transit Village Area Plan specifically addresses the development of the 160-acre area of centrally located transportation corridors and greenways in Boulder. The plan's goals and objectives include creating a successful pedestrian mixed-use area, supporting diversity through land use and travel options, enhancing the economic vitality of the area, connecting to the natural and built environment, maximizing the benefits of investing in transit, and building a plan that will adapt and serve Boulder for the long-term future. The plan also outlines how goals will be met for specific objectives within the following categories: land use, urban design, transportation connections, alternative modes, and sustainability.

### **Boulder Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 2006**

The 2006 Boulder Parks and Recreation Master Plan presents a vision for Boulder recreation spaces over the following 10 years. The plan identifies goals, demographic trends, and major challenges while presenting recommendations with plans at three different levels of funding. Strategies for financial success include leveraging resources, increasing efficiency, and evaluating alternative management of land and other assets.

### **Boulder Reservoir Master Plan, 2012**

The 2012 Boulder Reservoir Master Plan was the first plan update since 1983. The plan establishes management objectives and suggestions to guide investment strategies to sustain and protect the recreation and wildlife associated with the reservoir. The plan defines specific management areas, access conditions and issues, water quality and habitat information, and stewardship opportunities. An implementation plan outlines opportunities for stewardship and plans for adaptive resource management.

### **Boulder Sustainable Tourism Plan, 2011**

The 2011 Boulder Sustainable Tourism plan set out to develop a framework to enhance the quality of life for Boulder residents while increasing revenue from tourism activities. Goals include economic efforts such as developing off-season tourism; quality of life improvements including integrating technology and developing events and welcome centers; infrastructure updates such as major facilities projects and parks and recreation improvements (e.g., renovate and upgrade Boulder Reservoir, new clubhouse facility at Flatirons Golf Course, renovate and

upgrade community parks and municipal complex parks, etc.); transportation initiatives; and increased signage and streetscape improvements. Action items address methods to meet these goals. This plan also included a tourism analysis and return-on-investment analysis.

### **Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, 2010**

The 2010 Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan outlines core values and a framework to achieve sustainability, intergovernmental cooperation, organized urban development, expansion of utilities services, and other initiatives. The plan consists of multiple frameworks to achieve its stated core values, three of which are sustainability, intergovernmental cooperation, and growth management. The sustainability framework focuses on principles of environmental, economic, and social sustainability along with an emphasis on community engagement. Intergovernmental cooperation focuses on regional and state cooperation, policy assessment, collaboration in service delivery, and compliance with land-use regulations. Growth management focuses on the city's role in managing growth and development, including growth projections, growth requirements, and adapting to limits on physical expansion. This planning document outlines procedures for amendments and implementation as well as review processes.

### **Chautauqua Collaborative Stewardship Framework, 2012**

The Chautauqua Collaborative Stewardship Framework, which is still in draft form, was created by the City of Boulder and the Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA) to develop a plan for the long-term management of Chautauqua Park. The framework includes a management structure, a process for consideration of proposed changes, and a plan for responding to the ever-changing resources and needs of the park. Evaluations of Chautauqua parking, transportation, and overall use are also given.

### **City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Visitor Master Plan, 2005**

The 2005 Open Space and Mountain Parks Visitor Master Plan was created to direct the development, policies, and management of Boulder's open space and mountain parks for the next 10 years. The four goals of the plan include enhancing the experience of visitors, improving access, protecting and ensuring visitor enjoyment of the resource, and developing partnerships with the community to strengthen stewardship and decision making. The plan outlines the current status of the resources in question, future plans, strategies for implementation and monitoring, and a financial plan.

### **City of Boulder Recreation Programs and Facilities Plan, 2010**

The Recreation Programs and Facilities Plan (RFPF) draws from responses to the 2009 Recreation Plan Survey, open houses, feedback, community values, and recommendations from the City Manager's Work Group on Recreation Financing to put forth a plan to guide decisions concerning program offerings, facility management, and the use of financial resources. Key recommendations are listed in the report, including pursuing partnerships to reduce expenses and increase revenues, consistent program evaluation, development of a marketing and business plan, and a plan to update the RFPF every five years.

### **City Manager's Work Group on Recreation Financing (Report to the City Manager), 2008**

The 2008 Report to the City Manager from the Work Group on Recreation Financing made suggestions regarding the pricing and funding structure for recreation programs in Boulder. The

suggestions are based on the findings of two studies completed by outside experts commissioned to assist the group. The group found the current practices concerning recreation revenues and expenses, cost-recovery model, and Recreation Activity Fund (RAF) to be sound but recognized a need for increased transparency and clear explanations of policies to the public. The group provided a revised cost-recovery model and eight suggestions for improved transparency within the recreation department.

### **Colorado Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), 2008**

The 2008 Colorado SCORP is a collaborative product of the work of 33 steering committee members representing the private sector, state and federal agencies, local governments, and non-profit partners. It sets the framework and seeks to establish the overall direction and tone for statewide outdoor recreation planning through 2013. The plan recognizes that effective policies, programs, and sustainable partnerships must be pursued to further strengthen the relationships of key groups that oversee and manage outdoor recreation, tourism, public health, and environmental stewardship elements.

### **Facilities and Asset Management (FAM) Master Plan, 2005**

The 2005 FAM Master Plan update set out to utilize the management experience gained and technological advances made in the eight years since the previous master plan to better manage the existing and recently acquired assets of Boulder. Updates in this plan include new goals for 2014 including promoting efficient use of existing space, promoting sustainability and energy-saving improvements, increased coordination with other departments, and better management of current assets. The plan also outlines funding strategies and an action plan for achieving a sustainable level of maintenance.

### **Greenways Master Plan, 2011**

The purpose of the Greenways Program is to extend the stewardship of the City of Boulder to the important riparian areas along the tributaries of Boulder Creek. The Greenways Program manages these areas so as to integrate six objectives: 1) to protect and restore riparian, floodplain, and wetland habitat; 2) to enhance water quality; 3) to facilitate storm drainage and mitigate floods; 4) to provide alternative transportation routes or trails for pedestrians and bicyclists; 5) to provide recreation opportunities; and 6) to protect cultural resources. The Greenways Master Plan provides a framework to implement the program through coordinating planning, construction, maintenance activities, and funding sources of multiple city departments and outside agencies.

### **Metro Vision 2035 Plan, 2011**

In 2011, the Metro Vision 2035 plan, which outlines directions for policy and planning decisions in the Denver metro area, was released. The plan defines goals and identifies measurable outcomes for reducing urban sprawl, energy conservation, natural-area preservation, and transportation initiatives in the cities and counties making up the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). The Metro Vision 2040 plan is currently underway.

### **Transportation Master Plan (TMP), City of Boulder, Colorado, 2008**

The most recent Transportation Master Plan for the City of Boulder was drafted and approved in 2008. The plan defines transportation policies and puts forth recommendations and plans for strategic actions, funding, proposed projects, and an overall vision for the city's transportation

system in addition to goals and objectives through the year 2025. This plan is currently being updated.

### **Urban Wildlife Plan**

\*\*Full copy of plan unavailable

### Analysis

In recent years, the City of Boulder and surrounding areas have produced many plans that pertain to recreation programming, financial stability, and numerous resource management strategies. In fact, several plans have been completed in the last three years. A holistic view of the plans shows that management and financial responsibility have been two particularly prevalent overarching themes. Some of the plans directly allude to, and some indirectly allude to, achieving better alignment with other city departments. The City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Master Plan update will need to examine previous goals, approaches, and strategies to determine the appropriate direction for the City of Boulder.

### Discussion

There have been many plans produced since 2005 that pertain to the current Master Plan update, and many will need to be taken into consideration. The Master Plan update will address all previous plans; however, there is a need to heavily incorporate at least eight particular plans spanning finance, resource/facility management, and overall planning: 1) Boulder 2006 Master Plan; 2) Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan; 3) City Managers Work Group on Recreation Financing; 4) Recreation Programs and Facilities Plan (RPPF); 5) Facility Asset Management; 6) Sustainable Tourism Plan; 7) Boulder Greenways Program summary and 8) Open Space & Mountain Parks Visitor Master Plan.

The 2006 Master Plan and the 2010 Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plans will be the foundation on which the current Master Plan update will build. It is imperative to examine the previous plans' goals, objectives, and related research. Efforts have already been made to incorporate similar civic engagement techniques that have been used in the past, such as a community survey and public-engagement meetings. Through these processes, the planning team will be able to identify gaps and necessary next steps for the City of Boulder.

Financial stability and cost recovery have been growing concerns with the City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD). The Blue Ribbon Commission (2006) and RPPF (2010) are seminal documents for addressing this growing concern. Extensive analysis of these plans and the current financial management approaches taken by BPRD will be the basis for determining appropriate future considerations.

Facility Asset Management (FAM), Open Space and Mountain Parks, and the Sustainable Tourism Plan are important documents regarding the latest alignment goals/strategies and facility/resource management approaches. Updated management techniques and approaches will interweave with financial cost recovery and policy so that analyses will take into consideration a multi-faceted approach to overall facility, resource, and life-cycle management.

Finally, the integration of all the various plans that are part of the City of Boulder's efforts to develop a shared future vision of the community is a demanding task that the City continues to struggle with. The development of a database and integration of planning goals are likely outcomes of such an effort that must also include stakeholders from the many plans and departments. While this Master Plan Update will be able to integrate major themes among the various planning documents, a more thorough effort will be required to realize full integration.