



TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

FROM: Jeff Dillon, Director, Parks and Recreation
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SUBJECT: Consent Agenda

DATE: November 24, 2014

A. 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:

- **Boulder Reservoir Site Management Plan (SMP)** – Development of a site plan and comprehensive management plan for the Boulder Reservoir.

Feedback from the public meetings has been collected, organized and reviewed. Data from the short meeting exercise is being charted for information to guide the site plan. The review period for the [draft management actions](#) is open online until November 26, 2014. In addition, all consultant work from the last 2.5 years is being reviewed to distill and synthesize major themes and outcomes. A discussion item will be presented to PRAB in December to further review current work and next steps in the process.

- **Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB)** - YOAB promotes the youth voice in the community, provides opportunities for city youth, and advises the municipal government on youth-related policies and issues.

YOAB members have performed their first youth outreach initiative with great enthusiasm. They completed a photo survey of park and recreation amenities and activities to Boulder High School, Fairview High School and within YOAB. The students are compiling the data and planning the next steps of outreach.

Design

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

- **Harlow Platts Community Park** – A community park located on Gillaspie Drive in south Boulder.

This project is in the final design phase to develop construction documents for bidding and construction beginning this fall. The current plan, approved by the community and presented to the PRAB includes a new shelter and plaza area near the existing warming hut, new permanent restroom near the parking lot and two smaller shelters near the existing play area. The project is expected to be completed in late spring 2015.

Construction

The following projects are currently recently completed or under construction and anticipated to be completed by late fall 2014:

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

Bids for the Crestview Park renovation project were received on November 17th. Construction is expected to begin in late December or early January 2015.

The plans are consistent with the approved concept plans presented to the neighborhood earlier this summer and include replacing the play area, turf and irrigation upgrades, various new site furnishings, accessibility improvements and a looped-path throughout the park. Construction is expected to be completed in spring 2015.

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

Bids for the Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Pond renovation project were received on November 17th. Construction is expected to begin in late December or early January of 2015.

Renovations and improvements include the repair or replacement of damaged fishing docks and bridges, enhancing water quality and fish habitat, addressing accessibility issues, and providing educational and interpretative signage.

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.

The Foothills area joint Parks and Recreation and Open Space and Mountain Parks prairie dog relocation project is still in progress. As of November 10, 2014 there have been a total of 647 prairie dogs trapped from the Foothills area and relocated to the OSMP Waneka release site. Volunteer efforts to remove remaining prairie dogs will

continue through November 24th, but are weather dependent. There is estimated to be approximately 1% of the colony remaining. As the numbers reduce, trapping can become more challenging. In an effort to complete the project and increase trapping success and decrease the potential for lethal control of the remaining prairie dogs, a closure was enacted for surrounding areas as per the [News Brief](#). Regular updates will continue to be provided until project completion.

Integrated Pest Management - A program to coordinate the long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems (including weeds) on city lands while minimizing impacts to human health, the environment and non-target organisms.

The department's seasonal Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Conservation Crew ended last week rather than continuing through the end of December as the remaining seasonal crew members found other employment sooner than the term end date. In an effort to continue control of various state-listed weed species, contractors will be hired to perform Russian Olive (RO) removal at various locations in accordance with our Three-Year Management and RO removal plans.

- **Boulder Reservoir** - A 700-acre, multi-use recreation and water-storage facility surrounded by natural habitat.

2014 Nature Adventures – Water Camp

The partnership between the Boulder County Audubon Society (BCAS) and the department for the kids Nature Adventures section of the summer water camp was a success. This opportunity allowed children to explore nature around the Reservoir and provide the department with species information. [Click here for a summary of the BCAS events and observed species list.](#)

Bald Eagles

A pair of bald eagles has been observed near the osprey platform at the southwest side of the Reservoir. This particular nest platform has a camera. This nest platform has hosted geese for the last couple years. As eagles will defend their nests 12 months of the year, a nesting attempt by the eagles may be attempted in 2015.