



**CITY OF BOULDER
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: Jan. 21, 2014

AGENDA TITLE

Direction on Options to Secure Trash and Curbside Compost from Bears

PRESENTERS

Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager

Paul J. Fetherston, Deputy City Manager

Tom Carr, City Attorney

David Driskell, Department of Community Planning & Sustainability (CP&S), Executive Director

Susan Richstone, CP&S, Deputy Director

Lesli Ellis, CP&S, Comprehensive Planning Manager

Val Matheson, CP&S, Urban Wildlife Conservation Coordinator

Mark Beckner, Police Department (PD), Police Chief

Tom Trujillo, PD, Police Commander

Jennifer Riley, PD, Code Enforcement Supervisor

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to get direction from City Council on options to secure trash and curbside compost from bears. The direction will help staff prepare an ordinance for council consideration in March in anticipation of the spring of the 2014 bear season.

The goal of securing trash and compost is to protect bears, improve human/wildlife co-existence and increase sanitation and cleanliness of the city. Bears that spend time eating human-generated food sources, including trash, get used to being around people, lose their natural fear of people and spend more time in town. These habituated bears have a higher mortality rate than bears that live in natural areas. Boulder bears are killed by cars and by wildlife officers tasked with managing wildlife for public safety. In 2013 alone, three bears were killed by cars, and four bears were killed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers due to public safety concerns. Though

black bears tend to avoid humans, the potential for interaction with community members is a threat to human safety.

The most effective way to prevent bears from learning to live off trash is to secure it. By developing effective strategies to secure trash and improving community awareness on how to co-exist with bears, the city and the community will increase the safety of residents while protecting local wildlife. Options are being explored so that the city can improve the way trash is secured prior to the height of the 2014 bear season. Bears are active in town from approximately March 15 through Nov. 15; however, urban activity seems to peak from late July through October.

Staff developed options based on: public input, lessons learned through Boulder programs and programs that have been implemented in other areas, and an evaluation of the feasibility of implementing a strategy in Boulder. The options, which should be considered as a “menu” and not mutually exclusive, are grouped into three categories: (1) designated location, (2) trash and compost storage requirements, and (3) enforcement. Public, stakeholder and board feedback on options contributed to the staff recommendation. Please see the Analysis section of the memo for additional information on the options.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that City Council consider an ordinance that would accomplish the following:

- Require bear-resistant containers in Zone One (south of Wonderland Lake, west of Broadway and north of Greenbriar; see map in *Attachment A* for zone areas) and a city manager rule to allow expansion into additional areas as necessary;
- Phased implementation within Zone One beginning first with alleys west of Broadway in spring of 2014;
- Expand the liability for trash violations to include property owners; and
- Establish a minimum fine of \$250 for a first offense.

In addition to the proposed ordinance changes, staff is recommending:

- Establishing a fund to provide financial assistance for low-income household that will be required to obtain carts; and
- Enhancing Code Enforcement staffing by adding two additional full-time positions (one officer and one administrative support).

Staff is making these recommendations for the following reasons:

- This series of recommendations reflects a more pro-active approach to trash storage requirements in areas that are easily accessible by bears than current ordinances. The combined recommendation will support the health and survival of bears, which is consistent with Boulder community values and feedback received during public engagement.
- The focus on Zone One is most likely to succeed at reducing bear conflicts. Bears are smart and adaptable creatures that will tolerate humans for easily accessible food. If the city defines too limited an area for requiring secured trash (e.g., just to the western urban interface that has experienced high bear activity in recent years), bears are likely to shift

the area of the city they frequent and therefore displace the conflicts to other properties that have not experienced conflicts in the past. Securing trash and compost in this zone was supported by 79 percent of respondents who completed the Bears and Trash online survey and by most people who attended the December meeting.

- Phased implementation of bear-resistant container requirements initiating with alleys west of Broadway in spring of 2014 will allow waste container retrofit securing devices to be further explored prior to investing in manufactured bear-resistant containers for all of Zone One.
- The community comments have supported increased law enforcement of trash regulations.
- Though the preliminary options drafted by staff allowed for trash and curbside compost to be put out in regular (non-bear resistant) containers and unsecured after 5:00 a.m. the morning of trash collection, having unsecured trash on streets and right-of-ways the morning of trash collection is considered a substantial attractant that would continue to attract bears. A 5:00 a.m. cutoff is also more challenging and takes more staff resources to enforce.
- The city aims to define a solution that disperses costs and benefits and does not disproportionately affect one area of the city, stakeholder group or organization.

Additional rationale is presented in the Analysis section.

Suggested Motion Language:

Staff requests council consideration of this matter and action in the form of the following motion:

Motion to direct staff to prepare an ordinance that would:

- (1) Require trash to be secured at all times in containers that are approved as wildlife resistant in the area defined as Zone One and providing the city manager with the authority to expand as necessary. This would be implemented in alleys in spring of 2014.
- (2) Make property owners responsible for obtaining wildlife resistant containers and establish a minimum fine amount of \$250 for failure to do so.

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND IMPACTS

- **Economic:** Proper storage of trash and preventing trash from being strewn by animals supports the aesthetic character and economic vitality of Boulder. The staff-recommended options for securing trash will have some economic impact on the city and the community in western Boulder including landowners, renters and business responsible for trash service (trash hauling companies) and the city. New costs include trash containers and increased fees for trash service.
- **Environmental:** Securing trash and food waste has broad benefits to native wildlife and the community beyond bear protection. A trash container that is initially knocked over by a bear is often visited by other animals, including rodents such as mice and rats. Unsecured trash allows many urban wildlife species that contribute to human-animal conflicts such as racoons, skunks, and coyotes to flourish, and their populations to

increase. City ordinances and policy encourage non-lethal control of wildlife, however inflated populations of certain urban tolerant species, particularly skunks and racoons, results in increased conflicts with people and pets. The primary non-lethal way to mitigate conflicts with these animals is to remove food and potential shelter from areas that experience conflicts. Securing trash and limiting urban food sources is consistent with best practices to minimize conflicts with wildlife.

- **Social:** Though there have been no attacks on humans by black bears in the City of Boulder, the presence of these large predators in the urban area poses a safety threat to the community. Bear activity has been reported near areas where children congregate and along streets and alleys where children walk to school. In addition, bears that access trash often drag and spread household waste on streets, lawns and alleys, compromising basic neighborhood sanitation and aesthetics. Euthanizing bears compromises our community value of living in harmony with our natural surroundings.

OTHER IMPACTS

- **Fiscal:** Increasing Code Enforcement (CE) staffing with two full-time permanent positions (one administrative and one officer) would require approximately \$96,829.00 in 2014.
- **Staff time:** Impacts to existing staff time would be minimal with the addition of new staff. CE staff will prioritize enforcement efforts on trash regulations that support bear protection by having officers check for violations at each address in Bear Zone Two (High Bear Activity Area) twice per week during four months of the bear season, which extends from March 15 through Nov. 1. The addition of administrative support and an officer would allow CE officers to remain in the field making this type of proactive inspection process before and during peak bear activity while maintaining the same level of service to the community for other quality of life issues.

BOARD AND COMMISSION FEEDBACK

Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

On Dec. 4, 2013, staff requested feedback from the EAB on options to secure trash from bears. Three board members supported enforcement option C (offering people an alternative to a summons fine by allowing them to obtaining a bear resistant container instead of paying the fine). One board member expressed the desire to see the city take action immediately. One board member suggested using Western Disposal to impose fees for strewn trash and expressed concern for the potential costs and affecting change in too small an area, since the bears might shift their focus to other areas of the city. (See *Attachment B* for draft of board meeting minutes.)

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

Public input on options was gathered through:

1. a public meeting on Dec. 9, 2013,
2. an online survey of options, and
3. email and the city's website.

As a result of this process, an additional trash storage option was included in the Analysis section, and has been incorporated into the staff recommendation, specifically extending the time waste containers are required to be secured from 5:00 a.m. the morning of pick up, to when the trash hauler empties the carts (supported by Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Boulder County Nature Association and some public comment). See *Attachment C* for the options presented to the public in the online survey and the complete set of feedback received. See *Attachment D* for the letter of support for the staff recommendation from Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

BACKGROUND

Urban Wildlife Management Plan

On Oct.18, 2011, the City Council adopted the Bear and Mountain Lion component of the city's Urban Wildlife Management Plan (UWMP) (available at www.boulderwildlifeplan.net). The Bear and Mountain Lion component includes strategies to minimize human/wildlife conflicts and increase public awareness on how to better coexist with these animals. The plan objectives are as follows:

1. Develop strategies to reduce bear attractants in the urban area.
2. Increase public awareness of how to minimize conflicts with black bear and mountain lion.
3. Identify costs and prioritize actions for plan implementation.
4. Identify and clarify the role of the city in black bear and mountain lion management.

Black Bear and Mountain Lion Component

The Black Bear and Mountain Lion Component of the UWMP identifies an adaptive management approach to reducing the accessibility of trash to bears in Boulder. The approach includes a three-year monitoring and evaluation cycle and involves the following three steps:

Step 1: Monitor the issue and build community education and awareness (2012 & 2013)

On May 21, 2013, council was presented with an Information Packet (IP) with the results of 2012 UWMP adaptive management implementation efforts and plan for 2013 (IP available at: <https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/123034/Electronic.aspx>)

Step 2: Evaluate results and success (2014)

Visit www.boulderwildlifeplan.net for the Black Bear Education and Enforcement Pilot Report for results of 2012 & 2013 UWMP implementation efforts

Step 3: Make changes to approach based on evaluation results (2014)

Based on the adaptive management approach, staff was planning to return to council during the second quarter of 2014 for direction on strategies to secure trash and compost from bears. However, in 2013, four bears were killed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers to protect public safety, and council and the community expressed the need to expedite a solution prior to the 2014 bear season (see Oct. 15, 2013, City Council agenda item titled: Status Report on Urban Wildlife Issues: <https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/123877/Electronic.aspx>)

ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

Staff developed and evaluated the following options based on public and stakeholder input, lessons learned through Boulder programs, and programs that have been implemented in other areas. The overall strategy has three elements, and public and board feedback was requested for the three specific (but not mutually exclusive) components: designated location; trash and compost storage requirements; and enforcement.

Public input on policy options was gathered in an online, non-statistical survey (302 respondents), during a public meeting on Dec. 9, 2013 (29 attendees), and through the city's website. (See *Attachment C*).

I. Location Options: Where do we want to change how trash and compost are stored?

Bears have been observed throughout the city; however, their activity is concentrated in the western urban interface (see *Attachment E* for map of bear sightings 2009-2013). A new approach to how trash is stored could cover a broad area that includes the section of the city most visited by bears over 10 years, a more targeted area that focuses on the highest concentration of bear activity in the past five years, or an area of the city where the method of trash storage is disturbed by bears most frequently. Three zones are described below followed by the pros and cons of imposing new trash and compost regulations in each area (see *Attachment A* for zone areas). *Note: the sum of community survey results referenced in this section do not equal 100 percent as respondents could choose more than one answer.*

a) Zone One: Broad Bear Activity Area (staff recommendation)

This area includes residential and business trash and compost storage west of Broadway to the city limits, south of Wonderland Lake and north of Greenbriar. This zone covers the largest area, and includes the area of the city that has experienced the majority of bear activity over the past 10 years. This zone is comprised of 12,436 residences and 1,001 businesses. There are an estimated 7,546 trash carts; 7,183 compost carts; and 584 trash dumpsters being serviced in this area.

- **Pros**

Securing a larger area would minimize the likelihood of shifting bear-trash conflicts to another area because bears are smart adaptable creatures that tolerate humans for easily accessible calories. If the area or properties of secured trash at the western urban interface is too limited, bear conflicts may be displaced to other areas (north or south) or properties that have not experienced conflicts in the past. Seventy-nine (79) percent of the Bears and Trash online survey respondents agree or somewhat agree with this approach, as well as most people who attended the December public meeting.

- **Cons**

The greatest obstacle in developing bear-resistant trash storage thus far has been cost; however, estimated costs for acquiring or leasing trash containers are now lower than in the initial analysis. The larger an area affected by regulation change, the greater the financial impact. In addition, there is less community support expressed for regulation change by residents that live in urban interfaces areas who have not experienced bear activity in recent years (i.e., south Boulder).

b) Zone Two: High Bear Activity Area

This zone covers a more limited area that has experienced the majority of bear activity over the past five years. This zone is comprised of 6,906 residences, and 433 businesses. There are an estimated 3,688 trash carts; 3,450 compost carts; and 408 trash dumpsters being serviced in this area.

- **Pros**

Requiring trash and compost to be secure in this more limited area would improve trash storage where bears are getting into trash most often. Eighty-two percent of survey respondents agree or somewhat agree with securing trash and compost in this zone, a slightly higher percentage than the support for Zone One.

- **Cons**

Prior to the city maintaining a database of bear activity and conflicts with trash in 2009, there was significant bear activity in southwest Boulder. Though this area has not experienced significant bear activity in the past five years, the proximity of residential areas to natural areas makes it easily accessible by bears. If trash and compost are secured in this limited area, and other residential areas close to the western urban interface are excluded, bear-trash conflicts may shift back to other areas that have not experienced conflicts in recent years.

c) Zone Three: Alleys West of Broadway

This area focuses on the method of trash storage that experiences the most visible trash disturbances by bears. Alleys are currently exempt from the requirement to put trash out only on the morning of collection and waste containers are stored in and along alleys 24 hours a day seven days a week. Because of this storage allowance, there are continuous opportunities for bears to easily access trash. The area is comprised of 6,486 residences and 594 businesses. There are an estimated 3,114 trash carts; 2,856 compost carts; and 458 trash dumpsters being serviced in this area.

- **Pros**

Securing trash and compost in this zone was supported by 83percent of the survey respondents, a slightly higher percentage than the support for Zone One or Two.

- **Cons**

Trash disturbances by bears are by no means limited to alleys. There are many residences surrounding alley areas that experience bear-trash conflicts. Similar to cons described in Zone Two, if trash and compost are secured in this limited area, and other residential areas close to the western urban interface are excluded, bear-trash conflicts may shift to other areas.

II. Storage Options: How do we want to effect change in the way trash and curbside compost are stored?

Communal trash enclosures are the most effective trash securing strategies implemented by other Colorado communities (e.g., Town of Snowmass Village), but they may not be feasible for existing Boulder neighborhoods due to space limitations. Bear-resistant containers, reinforced with sturdy materials and special latches, can be more widely used as they are similar to most trash and compost carts used in Boulder today, although they are not as effective as communal enclosures (see *Attachment F* for an analysis of trash securing systems and Boulder's current practices).

Two options for the use of bear-resistant containers were described in the public process for feedback (i.e., Options **One** and **Two** below) and an additional option was evaluated as a result of public feedback and new information from trash haulers (Option **Three** below).

a) Storage Option One: Trash and compost must be secured in enclosures or bear-resistant containers until 5 a.m. on collection day

This model of trash storage would require trash and curbside compost storage to be secured “indoors”¹ or in an approved bear resistant container until 5:00 a.m. the morning of pick-up. This means that if trash and compost are stored in a garage, shed, or trash enclosure, they would be set out after 5:00 a.m. the morning of trash collection (unsecured from bears only at that time). Trash and compost containers that are stored outside during any or all other times must be in an approved bear resistant container.²

- **Pros**

Allowing residents to continue or establish using “indoor” storage of waste containers without imposing bear-resistant container requirements honors the many residents that may have established their own system of securing trash from bears

- **Cons**

This system allows all trash containers to be unsecure when put out for trash collection until picked up. Making trash available to bears the morning of trash collection may result in bears shifting their presence in town the morning of trash collection when food waste is most easily accessible.

b) Storage Option Two: Trash and compost stored in or near alleys must be secured in bear-resistant containers

Currently in Boulder, trash, curbside compost and recycling are required to be stored in a way that is secured from animals, wind, or other elements; and containers must remain closed and not overflow. In addition, waste containers cannot be set out for collection prior to 5:00 a.m. the morning of pick-up. Additionally, alleys are exempt from the requirement of only putting waste containers out after 5:00 a.m. the morning of pick-up, and containers can be stored in the alley 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This alley-based option would remove the current alley exemption and allow for waste containers to be stored in or near the alley only if approved bear resistant containers were used for trash and compost. It would also allow waste containers to be unlatched, or unsecure if put out on the alley after 5:00 a.m. the morning of trash pick-up.

¹ Definitions of Indoors: within a building, house, garage, shed or approved wildlife resistant enclosure. Includes an enclosed structure consisting of four (4) sides and a roof. The sides of the structure must extend to the ground and the door cannot have more than a two-inch gap along the bottom. The door must have a latching device of sufficient design and strength to prevent access by wildlife. Ventilation openings shall be kept to a minimum and must be covered with a heavy gauge steel mesh or other material of sufficient strength to prevent access.

² Definition of approved bear resistant container: must meet the standards of testing by the Living With Wildlife Foundation and a “passing” rating by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) as bear resistant for 60 minutes.

- **Pros**
This option gives residents choices because it allows them to pull trash carts off the alley when being stored or obtain a bear resistant container for storage on the alley. Thus it will reduce costs to property owners who opt to not obtain bear resistant containers.
- **Cons**
This storage option does not address the entire area where bear-trash conflicts are a problem. This option also may not be effective in securing trash, since unsecured carts pulled off the alley to adjacent private may be as easily accessible to bears as carts on the alley.

Note: Costs and resources needed to implement Storage Options One and Two cannot be accurately estimated, because they do not require any change for residents who are currently storing their trash and compost containers “indoors” (e.g., in a garage). The city does not have a count for how many residents currently store trash containers outdoors, or who would continue to store trash outdoors if these options were implemented.

c) NEW Storage Option Three: Trash and compost secured in bear-resistant containers until emptied by trash hauler (staff recommendation)

Storage Options One and Two both allow for trash and curbside compost to be unsecure when put out the morning of trash collection. Having food waste accessible to bears for several hours on trash collection day may not deter bears from coming into town. Rather, the bears might shift their activity to early mornings when unsecured trash has been put out for collection. This new option would require that all trash and compost containers in designated areas be in approved bear-resistant carts and secured until trash collection. Implementation of this option could also be phased in, starting with alleys. This storage option is currently being implemented in Aspen.

- **Pros**
This option offers the greatest deterrent to bears and is the only option of storage that would be considered “Good” according to the Bear Smart Society rating system for waste management (see *Attachment H*). The option is also least resource intensive to enforce because officers can patrol and issue citations during daytime hours (i.e., after 5:00 a.m.). This option addresses concerns raised during public discussion at the meeting and through email and telephone comments about having unsecured trash.
- **Cons**
This option would require the most resources, as all residents would be required to obtain two bear-resistant carts for both trash and curbside compost. Residents who are managing their trash and food waste to prevent conflicts with bears have expressed concerns with being mandated to obtain bear resistant containers so they can be secured at all hours.

Note: Costs associated with this option can be more accurately estimated because all compost and waste containers in the designated area would be required to be bear-resistant (see estimated number of trash and compost carts being serviced in Location Options section).

Additional Information about Costs Associated with Storage Options and Bear-Resistant Containers

The City of Boulder regulates trash service requirements, but private companies provide trash hauling services. Currently, the city has cost information for two different bear-resistant trash service scenarios offered in Boulder. The two scenarios include containers provided (rented or sold) by trash hauler to customer (Western Disposal Services) and containers provided by the customer (currently), and exploring ways to provide containers in the future (One-Way). See *Attachment G* for description of trash hauler estimated costs and impacts.

Container Provided by Trash Hauler (Western Disposal)

Western Disposal is the largest trash hauler serving the most customers in the areas affected.

Western Disposal would provide residential customers with bear resistant containers as part of their contracted trash service for an additional monthly rental fee, or customers will be able to purchase and assume maintenance and replacement of carts. As with their current service, customers would have a choice of 32, 64, and 96 gallon bear-resistant containers for trash and compost. Potential monthly rental costs range from \$0.19 to \$4.75 per cart, and purchase price ranges from \$53 to \$260 per cart. These estimates are for alley pickup. Curbside pickup where the hauler would have to unlatch carts would include an additional \$2 per cart, monthly.

Western Disposal also would provide commercial customers with bear resistant dumpsters as part of their contracted trash service. Customers would have a choice of a 2 or 3 cubic yard dumpster. The additional monthly cost for each dumpster is \$27 (this includes new bear-resistant dumpster and labor to unlatch each unit per pick up). The total cost is based on the estimated cost of buying new bear-resistant dumpsters. If Western Disposal is able to find a lower-cost alternative by retrofitting existing commercial dumpsters, it may lower the monthly container price accordingly.

Container Provided by Customer (One-Way, Inc.)

In this scenario, residential customers would purchase and maintain their own bear-resistant containers. Once purchased, One-Way, Inc. would not charge additional monthly collection fees for bear-resistant containers. There are many models of bear resistant containers available. Example costs are provided below for two types of bear resistant containers (from BearSaver.com).

Black Bear Container

A tough container offering a medium level of protection, including a bear-resistant latch and steel-reinforced side rails, back corners and lid.

Grizzly Container

A fully secured cart offering the maximum level of protection, including a bear-resistant latch and steel-reinforced side rails, lid, back corners, back stiffener, and handle area.

Size (gallons)	Price for Grizzly*	Price for Black Bear*
32	\$161	-
65	\$222	\$196
95	\$231	\$207

*Prices do not include shipping.

One-Way would provide commercial customers with bear resistant dumpsters as part of their contracted trash service. The company is currently evaluating costs associated with providing bear resistant dumpsters to customers, and that information is not yet available.

III. Enforcement Options: How should enforcement of trash and compost storage regulations be enhanced?

The Bear Education and Enforcement Pilot Program (BEEP) conducted in Boulder in 2012 and 2013 showed education coupled with enforcement is an effective strategy to improve behavior regarding how trash is stored. In 2014, the city is planning to enhance education and enforcement efforts. First, education will focus more on student and rental properties where resident turnover is expected to be higher. Second, the enforcement strategy will include patrolling every alley and street in Bear Zone Two, two times per week for four months of the bear season (i.e., March 15- Nov 1). Enforcement of the trash ordinance could also be enhanced by two code enforcement staff (see *Attachment I* for how additional staff would support enforcement of trash ordinance). In addition to these changes, there are three options for how enforcement effectiveness could be increased. Enforcement of either location or storage option above could include one or more of the following approaches:

a) Add administrative service of summonses (staff recommendation)

Current code requires a person to secure trash, as set forth in § 6-3-5, B.R.C. 1981. Section 6-3-5 does not impose responsibility on property owners. Therefore, enforcement of the trash ordinance currently requires an officer to serve a summons for the observed infraction directly to the resident or land owner. The limitations of this “direct serve” requirement is contact may not be made if residents are not home during contact attempts or residents do not come to the door when contact is being attempted. Adding the option of an administrative service of a summons would allow the violation to be directed to the land owner even if direct contact could not be made.

b) Increased fine amount from \$100 to \$250 for first offense (Currently implemented in Aspen and staff recommendation)

Current code sets a maximum fine of \$500 for a first offense. The municipal court schedule for mailing in trash tickets currently identifies a fine amount of \$100 for a first offense and \$250 for a second offense. This option would increase the fine amount for a first offense to \$250.

c) Fine alternative

In lieu of paying a fine for an offense (first offense if fine raised to \$250, second offense if not raised), defendant can obtain an approved bear resistant container prior to court date (currently in Durango).

- **Pros**

Greater enforcement is effective in changing people’s habits in securing trash and complying with city rules, and some of the existing provisions (such as direct

serve requirement) are barriers in allowing for effective enforcement. Public feedback has been supportive of increased levels of patrol, citations, and to some degree increasing fines.

- **Cons**

Greater level of enforcement incurs costs to the city for additional processing and staff patrol time. Additionally, some members of the public have expressed concerns over paying increased fines for violations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the analysis and feedback, staff is providing the following recommendations related to applicable location or zones, trash containers, and enforcement.

Locations or Zones

First, staff recommends imposing a requirement for securing trash from bears in Bear Zone One (west of Broadway) with a phased approach to implementation, requiring compliance with new regulations in Bear Zone Three (alleys west of Broadway) in spring of 2014. The ordinance would allow the city manager to expand the area as necessary to address changes in bear behavior.

Staff recommends this focus on Zone One because bears are very adaptive animals, particularly when it comes to the search for food. In the best case, the requirement for bear-resistant containers will go a long way to reducing bear feeding in the area initially designated. One likely result is that the bears will move into other areas where trash is less secure. Additionally, city manager authority allows for efficiently and quickly addressing changing conditions. Such authority would be exercised pursuant to the city manager's rulemaking authority, which requires consideration of public input before the city manager adopts a final rule.

Staff recommends phasing implementation to begin with alleys west of Broadway in the spring because it is an area heavily impacted by bear activity, and currently the most cost effective area for bear-resistant cart requirements (no additional unlatching fee imposed on Western Customers for alley pickup). It will also allow additional time for testing potential retrofit securing systems for containers currently in use, prior to implementing the requirement to a larger area of the city. Testing of bear-resistant products can only occur April through November.

Storage Options

Staff is recommending trash and curbside compost be secured in approved bear resistance containers until emptied by the trash hauler (Option Three). The proposed ordinance would require that all trash containers in the designated area be secured at all times (not just until 5:00 a.m.). Dumpsters would also be required to be secured until emptied by the trash hauler.

Staff also recommends establishing a fund to assist low income residents with acquiring or leasing trash containers to offset their costs.

Enforcement

Staff recommends that the requirement to use bear-resistant containers be extended to property owners to allow the violation to be directed to an owner even if direct contact cannot be made by an officer.

Staff also recommends that the ordinance include a provision establishing a minimum fine of \$250 for failure to use a bear-resistant container.

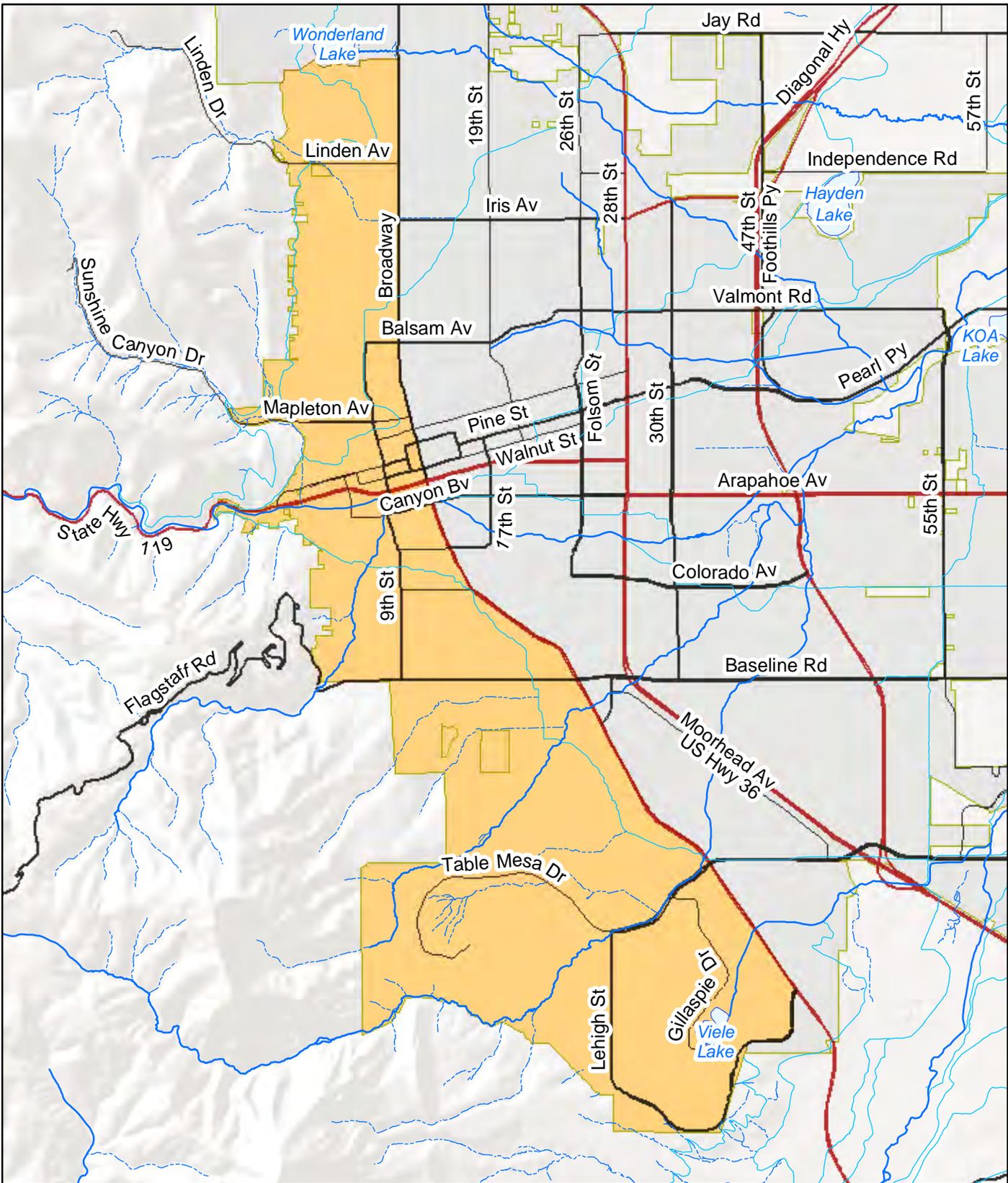
NEXT STEPS

Following direction from council in January, staff expects to craft a draft ordinance for council first reading in February or March 2014 and second reading in March of 2014.

ATTACHMENTS

- A:** Maps for Location Options: Zones One, Two, and Three
- B:** Draft Environmental Advisory Board Feedback from Dec. 4, 2013
- C:** Public Feedback and Survey Results on Options for Securing Trash and Curbside Compost
- D:** Colorado Parks and Wildlife Letter of Support
- E:** Map of Reported Bear Sightings 2009-2013
- F:** Trash Storage Systems to Deter Bears and Boulder's Current Practices
- G:** Trash Hauler Costs Associated with Bear-Resistant Containers: Western Disposal Services and One-Way Inc.
- H:** Proposed Options Compared to Other Communities and Bear Smart Society's Rating System
- I:** Code Enforcement Staffing Recommendation

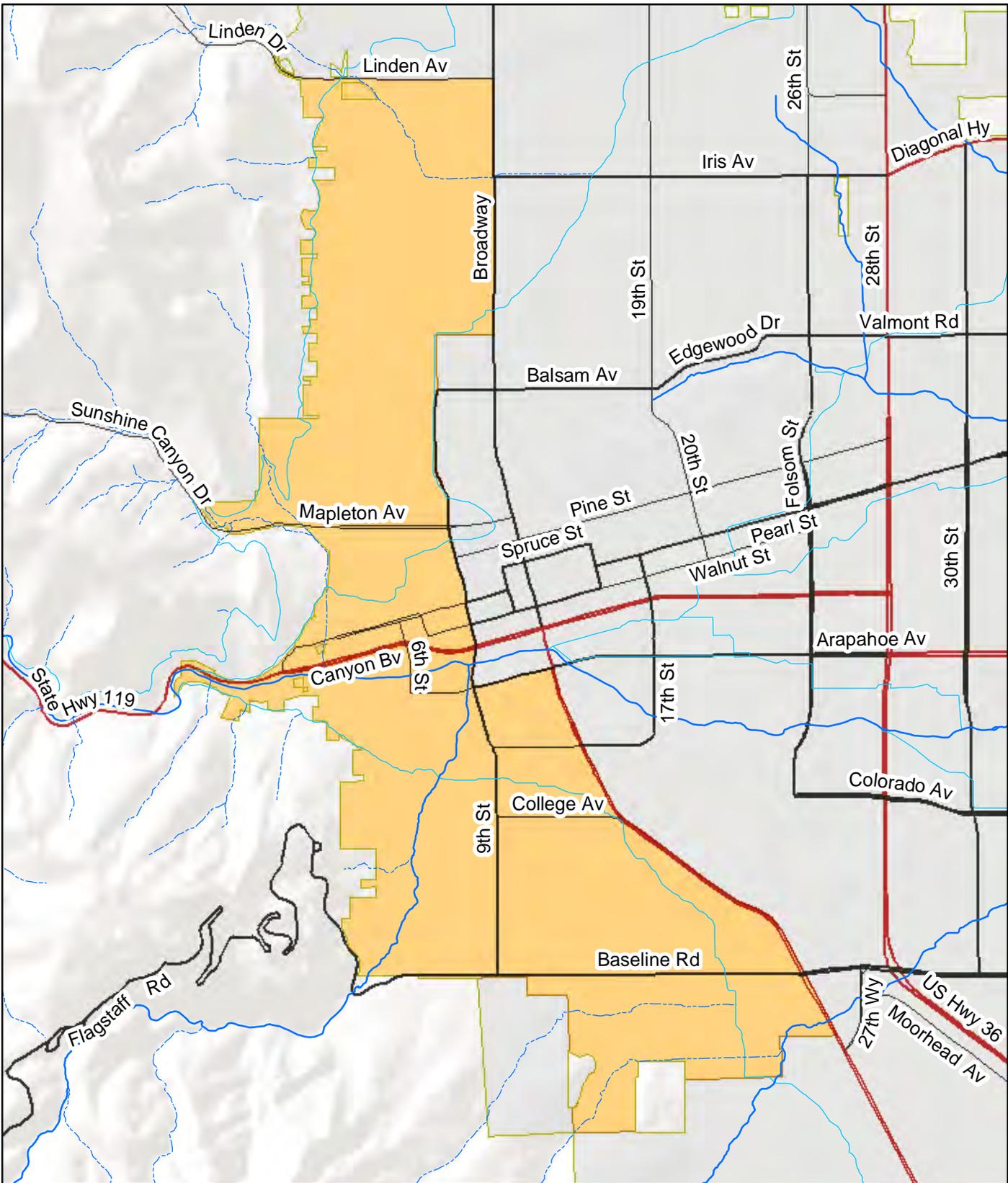
Zone 1- majority of bear activity over the past 10 years



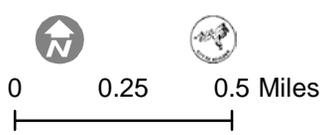
- Zone 1
- City Limits
- Creek
- Creek, Intermittent
- Highway
- Major Road
- Ditch
- Minor Road
- Major Lakes



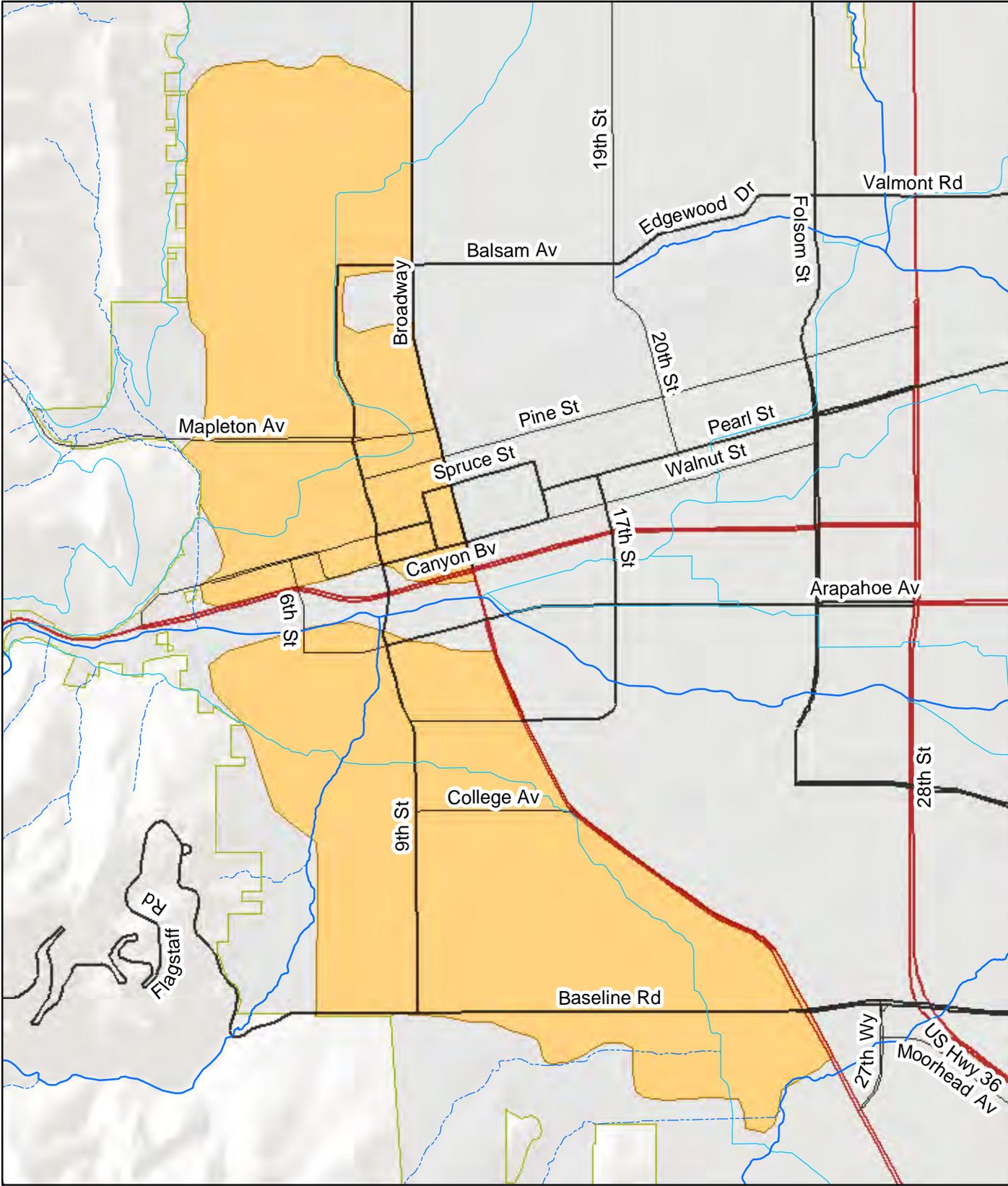
Zone 2 - High bear activity area past 5 years



- Zone 2
- City Limits
- Creek
- Creek, Intermittent
- Ditch
- Major Lakes
- Highway
- Major Road
- Minor Road



Zone 3 - Alley Trash Pick-up



- Zone 3
- Major Lakes
- Creek
- Creek, Intermittent
- Ditch
- City Limits
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Highway



**CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY**

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Environmental Advisory Board

DATE OF MEETING: December 4, 2013

NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Juliet Bonnell,
303-441-1931

NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT:

Environmental Advisory Board Members Present: Mara Abbott, Tim Hillman, Larissa Read, Stephen Morgan, and Morgan Lommele.

Staff Members Present: Jonathan Koehn, Val Matheson, Juliet Bonnell

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Brenda Lee spoke on behalf of Boulder Bear Coalition regarding the issue of securing trash from black bears. She felt that change to the city's current approach is necessary for the safety of both bears and residents. She suggested that the city take more action and enforcement measures in order to address this issue.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Analysis and Options to secure trash and curbside compost from black bears: Urban Wildlife Coordinator Val Matheson

V. Matheson presented background information to the board on the Black Bear and Mountain Lion Component of the Urban Wildlife Management Plan which was adopted by council in 2011 and identifies an adaptive management approach to reducing the accessibility of trash to bears in Boulder. The approach included returning to council in 2014 with feedback on the approaches that have been implemented over the years and additional options on how to secure trash from bears.

She noted that this became a council priority due to four bears being killed over the past year. **V. Matheson** proposed three options to the EAB to secure trash and curbside compost and asked for the board's feedback on location options, storage requirements and enforcement options. Based on results from public meetings, a public survey, and EAB feedback, staff will formulate recommendations on these options to present to council in January 2014.

First, she discussed location options of where it is important to include in an ordinance to effect change in the way trash is being secured and managed. These options included the following locations: (a) a broad bear activity west of Broadway that includes 12,436 homes and 1,001 businesses (b) a high bear activity area where the majority of bear activity has occurred over the past 5 years that includes 6,906 homes and 433 businesses or (c) alleys, where the method of trash storage experiences the most disturbances by bears and includes 6,496 homes and 594 businesses.

Next, she discussed the two storage requirement options for securing trash which included: (a) a requirement for securing trash in enclosures or bear-resistant containers until 5 a.m. on collection day, or (b) requiring trash and compost stored in or near alleys to be secured in bear-resistant containers. The upfront cost of enclosures is high, but in the long run is very cost-effective. Bear-resistant containers cost residents more than regular trash containers as does pick-up service for bear-resistant containers.

Finally, the three enforcement options she proposed included: (a) adding an administrative service of summonses which allows a trash violation to be directed to a landlord even if direct contact cannot be made, (b) increasing fine amounts from \$100 to \$250 for first offense and (c) offering a summons fine alternative of obtaining a bear resistant container.

V. Matheson asked for feedback from the board on the three option components to reduce the accessibility of trash and food waste to bears and whether the EAB would like to see staff explore any other options.

S. Morgan noted that trash in his neighborhood is always knocked over, but that he's never seen a compost container knocked over. He felt that any storage requirement changes should cost less than \$10/month more than current storage and service costs. He warned against only addressing this problem in one location and that this would simply shift the problem to other locations. He mentioned that enforcement by the city is somewhat lacking and suggested using Western for enforcement purposes by having them charge extra for strewn trash.

L. Read felt that the problem locations where trash has been strewn by bears (not areas where bears have just been sighted) are the ones that should be focused on. She mentioned the need to take into consideration the different needs of the various populations affected by changes in requirements made and potentially using different approaches/requirements for different populations and areas. She suggested looking into the possibility of building trash enclosures for interested residents and she liked the idea of offering a summons fine alternative of obtaining a bear resistant container.

T. Hillman agreed that building communal trash enclosures for interested residents should be pursued where allowed by code. He also liked the idea of allowing residents to purchase/subscribe for bear resistant containers instead of paying the fine associated with a trash ordinance summons.

M. Lommele supported all of the options and noted that action is necessary. She felt that this is a problem that needs to be addressed immediately.

S. Morgan suggested that in high density areas on the hill, redevelopment projects should be required to include communal trash enclosures.

M. Abbott agreed that actions taken should be considered and appropriate to the various populations that are being served. She'd like for the expectations between landlords and tenants to be clear. She suggested that the city receive more clarity from Western about costs as soon as possible and prior to taking options out to the public. She also liked the idea of bear resistant containers instead of a fine or fee.

Public Comments and Feedback Received July 2013 – January 14, 2014 Concerning Securing Trash and Bear Protection

I. Public Comments

- Summary of Public Comments Page 2
- Community Comments & Feedback (57 individuals)
 - Nov. 2013 – January 2014 Pages 4- 22
 - July- October 2013 Pages 23-51
 - PowerPoint Presentations & Draft Ordinance Pages 52-61

II. Online Survey Results

- Summary Page 62
- Survey was available at [www.boulderwildlife plan.net](http://www.boulderwildlifeplan.net)
from Nov. 22- Dec.23, 2013
- 302 respondents Pages 63-87

III. December 9, Public Meeting Feedback (29 attendees)

- Electronic Poling Results Pages 88-91
- Notes From Meeting Discussion Pages 92-94
- Comment Forms from Dec. 9th Public Meeting Pages 95-108

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Summary

The following is a summary of the feedback provided in the survey, in emails, and at the meeting on Dec. 9, by the majority of people provided the following comments:

- A lot of sadness and anger expressed over the killed bears and desire to prevent further killings.
- Need to take quick action to protect bears for the 2014 season, including requiring bear-resistant containers and stepped-up enforcement.
- Spilled trash is a long-standing problem in some parts of the city – it’s not just a problem for urban wildlife, it is also an aesthetic and sanitary issue.
- One-size-fits-all approach to trash containers will not be beneficial or fair (e.g., be cognizant of people who have already taken measures to secure trash; allow different options for purchasing or leasing containers, retrofit containers, etc.)
- Boulder people should share in responsibility and cost of coexisting with bears.
- Concerns about solutions that might “shifting the problem” and the opportunistic nature of bears – they are likely to follow the path of least resistance to the trash (whether it be finding new locations for easy access or containers that are easy to get into).
- College students and rental homes seem to be repeat offenders with spilled trash.
- Concerns over the \$10/month cost for trash container through Western and the fact that they do not offer a 32 gallon option. (*Note: Western has since offered a lower cost and 32 gallon alternative.*)
- Concerns expressed about putting unsecured containers out after 5:00 a.m.. Can there be flexibility to require latching during bear season, or different kinds of containers with automated latching/unlatching, etc.?
- Some interest in changing Colorado State Park and Wildlife’s policies about euthanizing bears -- change to a “no kill” policy.
- Suggestions for a higher fine for a second offense – use the first offense as a warning or learning opportunity.

A few people expressed concern about the “heavy hand” of city government and preference for letting people address this problem through voluntary measures, sponsorships, or other creative means. Some concerns expressed over enforcement – that enforcing existing policies is part of the solution. And several people commented about the appearance of a monopoly trash hauler, especially after the city’s requirement for compost.

Other ideas suggested:

- Require future ADUs and residential units to provide adequate and secure places to store trash.
- Require haulers to fine people for spilled trash.
- Provide bear feeding areas west of town in the spring and fall.
- Provide subsidies for low income or elderly – possible partnerships with non-profit organization.

- Stop alley pickups. Other people noted that the alley is the only viable option for some people.
- Use a "Bear Whisperer." (e.g., Mammoth Lakes uses better enforcement and hired a year-round person to harass bears with noise and consult with the community.)
- Increase neighborhood patrols and partnerships with city for notification and enforcement.
- Involve kids and college students in educational campaigns and getting the word out.
- Pilot a bear resistant enclosure somewhere west of Broadway. (Note: A local person is developing a shed product that could be tested.)

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Community Comments and Feedback about Bears and Trash Part I: (November 2013 – January 2014)

Sent: Friday, November 01, 2013 11:25 AM
To: Council;
Subject: bears/trash

Dear City council,

There has been a bear wondering martin acres for the past several weeks, eating trash, bee hives etc and I expect before the weekend is out it will be another dead bear in Boulder. We keep calling these creatures into our neighborhoods by our irresponsible behavior, then freak out and kill them. When is City council going to require- since citizens won't be responsible on there own - bear locks on trash cans throughout Boulder. It saddens me to no end to think this bear will be dead soon, or thinking about the cubs whose mother was killed that will slowly starve to death because of our neglect. Please act before next fall, get this situation taken care of. WE say we are so responsible and love our open space- we need to love the animals of open space as well.

Rosemary Hegarty

Sent: Friday, November 01, 2013 12:02 PM
To: Council
Subject: bear in Martin Acres

I was heartbroken to hear that a bear returned to my street Martin Acres this morning, on trash day, no less... we're literally luring these guys into our yards. What are we going to do to stop this? How will City Council empower us to make changes? Upgrading our trash and compost bins to include bear locks seems like a great start.

I've been horrified at the dumps I see around town, too, especially the big open ones next to dorms like the high-rise on 27th Way-- it's constantly overflowing, and bears aside, all it takes is a windy day to send much of it into the streams.

It's time to make some changes. Time to walk the talk.

Amy Marquis

From: Ellen Seagraves
Date: November 3, 2013, 10:02:00 AM MST
To:
Cc: Ellen Seagraves
Subject: Bears - trash issue

Bears are opportunistic hunters.

They use their nose to decide which way to go in search of food.

Ammonia and pine smells deter bear.

Solutions: (utilize smells to deter animals)

1. Trash Crew Sprays trash cans with ammonia or pine scented spray after trash is dumped into truck. Each trash truck would be equipped with a commercial type sprayer.
2. Geographic areas littered with trash (i.e. hill area) - trash pick up company employees a ground crew. Area residences where crews work are accessed a fee and billed at an appropriate rate. So, if ground crews spend an hour on your "block" on average per week billed at rate determined to pay for services rendered. Other way to access billing would be by weight of garbage picked up in block area per week by crews. This should encourage locals to pick up their area. Have some pride - or pay.

Kind Regards,
Ellen Seagraves

From: Lynn Segal
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2013 6:53 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: RE: [wildlifepan] Securing trash to protect bears: community input needed on options

Valerie, could you explain how the following statement from your comments is a problem.

--" bears in Boulder that are a concern for public safety or show repeated nuisance behavior are killed".

The problem as I see it, is THAT they are being killed and I want to know why. If the problem

from your perception is the nuisance and the safety, could you be VERY specific in describing exactly how so?

I might inform you that as of the date my new neighbors moved in, their FOUR barking dogs accost me every time I exit my house and THAT is a nuisance. The fox family that holes up in the shed in that same residence, the deer families, the skunks, the raccoons (which have been in the closet in my bedroom as well as the healthy live bird I found in there that my cats brought in, the mouse that has moved in since the cats were gone (it IS a nuisance)-- ALL those wild animals were no problem and generally beloved by me. The Elk I never got to meet was not even a safety problem when a neighbor with a dog rounded a blind corner right into it. As to the 4 barking domesticated dogs-- I am MENTALLY destabilized from even having a conversation with a plumber scoping my sewer system at a time I need to very carefully analyze all the complex dynamics of the sewer back up .

I was not physically hurt by the dogs and I would love to be able to get rid of them or insist that my neighbors bring them in their house to sequester the noise to their confines. But since they aren't "wild"life , I can't do that and without repercussion from neighbors that are protected by being allowed to have barking dogs. I can see why the bear was annoyed by a dog at the home of people where the last bear, the mother, was murdered. I don't want to get explicit, but suffice to say I think she showed a lot of reserve. I cannot be sympathetic to Roger Koenig, the owner of the house where the elk was killed when I heard there was some fear regarding the elk and his dog. Roger needed to be talking to the neighbor that rounded the corner. How can you effect better education and community unity so that some extremist reactionary approaches can be de-escalated? I can't imagine that if Sam Carter came up to my house and warned me of a shot that he was going to "take down" an elk -- that I would not insist on seeing the specific injury he was taking down the animal for. I don't think that Sam would have had the audacity to come up against me. But maybe I would have been intimidated. I seriously doubt it. Probably Sam would have been running away screaming trying to get away from me, because I don't accept intolerance or disrespect for sentient wild animals. I am fierce when it comes to that.

I can appreciate my landscape architect neighbor who offered the elk, in an agreement between the two parties, to take SOME but not ALL of the tulips in her project.

I see the real enemy in Boulder is the fear, and not the actuality. And I can tell you that the only thing I am afraid of is what I feel like doing when those dogs next door are interrupting my conversation and sensor scoping of my pipes in my yard with my plumber at \$90/hr.

Oh, and I don't see the wildlife officers taking down deer because of the potential damage from cars running into them. And I don't think there was a lawsuit from the driver when the bear that returned after being tranquilized was killed by his car. Also my family didn't generate a lawsuit about a bighorn sheep that we ran into on the hiway on the way up skiing 25 yrs ago. And I felt pretty bad for the sheep. I don't know what became of him. I recommended we don't leave for skiing so early to my overly enthusiastic skier brother.

Lately I heard from Alycia, a naturalist on the McClintock trail flood tour that the flood very much compounded problems for hyperphagia demands on berries from bear populations in Boulder. This kill policy needs to be changed. It is adding insult to injury. And if you are going to say it is not your responsibility but a policy you are complying with, maybe you need to do something about that and set up these meetings with the authority that has those policies in place. It would be unethical to do otherwise.

I expect a thorough answer to my concerns and ALL specific questions answered.

Thanks,
Lynn

From: Thomas Fraser
Sent: Sunday, December 01, 2013 7:49 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Bears in alley and garbage concerns

I got your email from the hill neighbor list serve and wanted to give you my input on the bear situation so that you might provide it at the appropriate meetings. I live at [REDACTED] and we see bears occasionally and garbage knocked over in the alley frequently. I would like a bear proof container but the cost from Western Disposal is prohibitive. They want to charge 10\$ monthly which, when you consider the number of residents that they would collect this from in perpetuity is a ridiculous sum of money and well beyond the cost of providing and servicing the containers. I would be in favor of purchasing a bear proof container at a one time cost if the city would offset the cost to make the purchase affordable.

With regard to storing cans in yards, sheds and garages, I unfortunately do not have the available space and with regard to keeping it in my yard my neighbor had his wood fence knocked down twice when he tried this. This option is not viable as I'd rather have spilled garbage than damaged fences and the result is the bears got the food anyways.

I have created a system that has been successful; in preventing the bears from getting in my garbage. My first attempt at bungy cord fastening the can to the fence was ineffectual but my next idea has not been foiled. I drilled two small holes in the can and lid and twist a plastic coated wire through the holes and though it has been knocked over the bears have not accessed the garbage. My neighbors, mostly college kids and disinterested adults don't seem to make any attempt to prevent the bears from getting into the garbage. I think increased enforcement of current laws would be useful and allowing enforcement officers to fine owners, not just tenants after an initial warning even if they cannot make personal contact. This goes for snow removal and yard garbage, untended yards and bushes as well!

In summary, I would be open to purchasing a bear proof container at a reasonable and probably

subsidized ONE-TIME fee, I think enforcement and fine of reasonable codes would improve conditions and storing garbage off alley is not a reasonable option for me.

Thanks, Tom Fraser

From: Bill Quinlan
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 9:03 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing trash to protect bears

I disagree that ALL residents must be FORCED to pay for bear resistant containers or enclosures when those residents do not have a problem. This is a lazy 'simple' one size fits all solution by unimaginative bureaucrats.

The current level of enforcement is WAY too lax. The City is not doing it's job well. Now they want to just force every one to pay for containers that honest diligent responsible people DO NOT NEED. The lazy wasteful people are causing the problem. MAKE THEM PAY !!! If the city wants to pay for the containers then that's fine with me. I don't need one. I don't have a problem. I don't waste food.

I live across the alley from a multiple time offender. Trash is strewn all over. I've reported the situation. Nothing changes. Now you want to make me pay for their laziness and stupidity. This is unfair.

--

William Quinlan

From: Edward Arnold
Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2013 4:37 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: bears and trash

Ms. Matheson,

I've been watching the info published on the issue of bears in trash. Just to let you know what I think:

I wouldn't want to pay for bear-proof trash cans for ALL my trash (although I wouldn't have to because I live just outside city limits). It just is NOT that hard for residents to keep food waste out of their trash! That is what I do, and it works:

Food waste goes into a compost bin kept in the garage.

Recyclable/washable food containers are washed of residue and go to recycle bins in the garage.

We don't use recyclable/non-washable food containers (e.g. pizza boxes) so that isn't an issue. Plastic food bags are washed of residue and go to a CHARM bin in the garage.

Any non-recyclable food container which has residue on it, is washed before going in regular trash.

When the portion of the waste stream I can't recycle goes out for the trashman, there is no odor. I have never had a bear go for my trash since I began separating food waste from trash, which is over 5 years.

I would really like to see you lower the boom on foothills residents. If Ecocycle is going to try to get businesses to recycle more, why can't we have trash/recycling requirements for foothills/near-foothills residents that require them to keep food out of their trash? Laziness should not be an excuse!

Edward R. Arnold

From: Ivo Sesnic
Sent: Saturday, December 07, 2013 10:32 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Dear Sir,

I agree with your government in securing trash to protect bears! Do you have a brochure about securing trash to protect bears?

Sincerely yours,
Ivo Sesnic

From: Mary Rozaklis
Sent: Saturday, December 07, 2013 10:50 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Glad to participate in this program. Would prefer bear proof containers instead of inside storage because of odors in the summer. We compost a lot so could get pretty smelly on warm days.

A couple of further thoughts; our alley is a highway to the Mt Sanitas trail. It has taken years to get people to pick up dog poop and bag it. Unlike some of my neighbors I don't mind bagged poop in my trash can. If we eliminate accessible trash cans, I fear people will either stop picking up or leave poop bags in the ally. Realistically no one wants to hike or walk to coffee with a bag of poop in their hand. I don't want the bags to end up in the recycling bin. Could there be one

poop drop off bin every few blocks? I realize people are individually responsible for their dog but we need to be realistic.

Another issue is the fruit trees in our ally. While people can pick up dropped fruit; we have seen bears sitting in a near by apple tree eating fruit that has not fallen. I have to admit we have enjoyed these late night sightings which seem harmless. We view the bears from indoors and don't interfere with them. I would urge the city to try to work with DOW to relax the standards on putting bears down. When you live in the mountain interface area of the city you should know that coyetes, bears, mountain lions, foxes, deer and raccoons will be in your "backyard" and take responsibility for your pets, bird feeders and trash.

I feel we should not in any way encourage wild life to visit our alleys but I also feel strongly that when animals are eating their natural food like fruit and berries we should let them go their way with no penalty.

Thank you for your efforts on this complex but important issue.
Sincerely, Mary Rozaklis

From: Helen El Mallakh
Sent: Sunday, December 08, 2013 8:49 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Response requested on Bear-resistant trash cans

Dear Ms. Matheson

I have been in contact with you before regarding the issue of mandatory bear-resistant trash cans and sent you a powerpoint presentation about our neighborhood's efforts.

I was quiet dismayed to read your quotes in the Daily Camera article on "Can Prices Could Drop," on December 7, 2013. I find it interesting that neither you nor Erica Meltzer (the author) is capable of figuring out the true cost of the bear-resistant trash cans is not merely the monthly pickup charge, but it is the outlay of \$250+ per trash can. Here is the reality, for my family to go over to the bear-resistant trash cans it would cost a little under \$1,000 for the first year and \$500 each year after that. Please, get real when Western Disposal says it "could" reduce prices, it does not mean that it WILL reduce them.

Furthermore, unlatching the trash can to reduce the costs of the \$10 pick up fee DEFEATS THE ENTIRE PURPOSE. Do you not understand that this would allow bears to get into the trash when it is put out on the street?

If you and Erica Meltzer want more appropriate analogies than why don't you tell the Daily Camera who, in the case of Aspen and ever other mountain community requiring bear-proof trash can in Colorado, pays for them?

Here is the reality, you have a lot of angry people in my neighborhood who pay extremely high taxes. OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WAS NOT WELL SERVED BY THE CITY IN THE FLOOD. WE HAVE LARGE DEBRIS LEFTOVER FROM THE CITY THAT HAS STOOD FOR NEARLY 3 MONTHS SINCE THE FLOOD, INCLUDING METAL GRATES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY. Now you want us to pay for this?

Please stop your injurious policies to the people of this city. IF THE CITY WANTS THIS - LET THE CITY PAY FOR IT.

Helen El Mallakh

From: Robin Richmond
Sent: Friday, December 06, 2013 5:07 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Cc: Brenda; Marilyn Johnson

Hi Val,

We were glad to have had the opportunity to be involved in the Environmental Advisory Board meeting Wednesday (12/4/13). It was good to hear your answers to the board's questions and equally interesting to hear their comments and recommendations.

Given the member's comments, we'd appreciate the answer to a few questions:

1. Do you intend to change the current options in the proposal you submit to the city council in January to reflect the board's suggestions?
2. In addition to updating the community on the City's progress regarding this issue, do you intend to you use the additional community feedback to make changes to your proposal?
3. Is the intent of your report to recommend specific actions to the council based on the feedback you have compiled?
4. If your report is not intended to recommend specific actions to the council, can you please clarify what is the specific purpose for this report?

The following is a list of the EAB member's recommendations:

Necessary in order for the community to make decisions on the best options:

- costs for customers leasing or purchasing bear-resistant cans
- costs for increased enforcement

- specific information on enforcement (# of violations written, # of summons and #of convictions to date)
- reallocation of funds by the City Manager for enforcement is considered a major issue that must be understood and addressed in order to make a final decision

Other comments and suggestions:

- Member asked why Western Disposal does not offer 32g bear-resistant cans, as many people want the smaller size, and suggested the city require this an necessary option for Western Disposal customers. This would make environmental as well as financial sense for many of the residents of Boulder.
- Due the lack of clarity on what has been done already, member suggested that the city needs to work harder on negotiating a reduced fee with the bear-resistant can manufacturer for the purchase of a large number of cans.
- Require communal enclosures be built as part of any future property renovation on the Hill.
- If the city cannot enforce the trash adequately, then the haulers should address it.
- Western Disposal fee is too high, one member asked if they were "double-dipping" by charging an additional fee for the bear-proof container.
- Low income and elderly should not be paying the same price as others for either leasing or purchasing a bear-resistant can and that this will need to be subsidized by the city or community.
- The fact that some communities may want to share a communal enclosure (perhaps sharing the cost for construction) should be included as an option.
- Solutions will likely be different for different populations (i.e. college students versus long-time home owners). This needs to be addressed in the menu of options.
- Member statement: There has been too much talk about this and not enough action. Highly support the city addressing this issue with action.

Thank you for doing this important work and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Robin Richmond

Brenda Lee

Marilyn Johnson

From: linda
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Council
Subject: Bears and Trash

Hello,

I have been reading the Daily Camera about the Bear and Trash situation.

I agree that something should be done to help curb the number of hazard bears in Boulder.

I live at [REDACTED], my home is near the East end of the street near Yale, a good distance from open space but still west of Broadway.

My opinion is that first the city should start to enforce the 5 am placement of trash on the street prior to forcing citizens to purchase bear proof containers. I notice most of my neighbors put their trash out the night before. It is not that difficult to move the trash from the garage to the street in the morning.

I am opposed to forcing all residents west of Broadway to purchase bear proof containers. Many live quite a distance from open space. Personally, there are only 2 persons living in my home and we usually only fill 1/3 of the smallest container. (we would sign up for even less trash volume if we could) Why should I be forced to purchase a larger size trash service when I don't even fully use what I purchase now just because people are too lazy to follow the existing city ordinance?

One round of ticketing should do the trick.

Thank you for listening to my opinion.

Linda Behlen

From: linda
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 10:32 AM
To: Council
Subject: RE: Bears and Trash

Here is a way that I could just retrofit my existing container. Why can't I just do this? I care about bears, not interested in paying more for trash service.

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/bear-resistant-retrofit-polycart.pdf>

From: Tom Dickson
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 11:45 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Valerie,

I want to make you aware of a local solution to the "wildlife in residential trash bins" problem that is the subject of the public meeting tonight. Unfortunately, I am out of town and won't be able to attend the meeting. I hope to have one of my engineers attend in my place.

Nature-Proof, LLC is a Boulder company that is currently developing and testing LidLock, which is a device that secures the lid on outdoor trash containers. Lidlock will keep the trash secure from wildlife even when the container is pushed over. And the beauty of LidLock is that it releases *automatically* when the container is picked up by the garbage truck on collection day.

So the homeowner can leave LidLock latched all the time and does not have to remember to release the latch the morning of collection day. The truck driver also doesn't have to get out to release the latch. The container can be picked up and dumped in the same fashion as an unlatched container. Although LidLock won't let critters get in the trash, it is easy for a homeowner to release to put trash in.

Also, when considering a requirement for wildlife-safe trash containers on a large-scale, LidLock is the most cost-effective solution because it does not require wholesale replacement of the containers. LidLock is designed to be used with existing trash containers.

You can see a short video of LidLock in action at www.nature-proof.com. The version you will see is designed for coyotes and raccoons. It also keeps the trash secure on windy days (like we had recently!), so we don't have trash blowing all over town.

Perhaps most important for what you are addressing tonight, Nature-Proof will be producing a bear-proof version in the near future.

I hope you will check out the website and let me know what you think. We can solve the wildlife in the trash problem and support a local Boulder start-up at the same time! Also, could you please forward this email to people who are considering this issue or let me know who I should be contacting?

Thanks so much and take care,

Tom Dickson

From: Nancy Wigington
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 12:05 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Hi Ms. Matheson,

I wanted to send you the same letter, with attachment, which I sent to City Council members just a few moments ago. I will not make the meeting tonight, but hope that my views are included in citizen feedback. I have been very concerned about our "bear problems" for a few years now, and am excited to see that it looks like some real progress is finally going to be made in making our local bears safer. Thanks for the work you're doing to help this process along.

Nancy Wigington

December 8, 2013

Dear City Council members,

I am writing to strongly encourage the City of Boulder to adopt stricter guidelines for trash cans and enforcement policies in relation to bear problems in town. It was very encouraging to read the article in the Daily Camera on 12/7, discussing options and showing that the city is finally ready to address this important issue, after four bear killings this year. Saving our local bears should be given a much higher priority than it has in the past.

I strongly support the idea of having bear-resistant trash cans mandatory for houses west of Broadway (either the larger version of 12,000 homes if that's feasible; or at the very least, the 6,900 homes in the "high bear activity" areas). The large majority of those households could easily handle the \$3.75 extra price per month for bear-resistant cans that Western Disposal is quoted as saying would now be possible. If there are some households for which this extra cost would be a hardship, then one suggestion would be helping these families out through some of the enforcement fines -- a portion could be put aside for just this purpose.

It is also important that city rules about trash storage, and when it's time to put out trash in these bear areas, be strictly enforced, with a special emphasis on alleys where much of the bear activity has taken place. I know from talking to friends who live on an alley near Chautauqua that trying to educate neighbors has not been effective in the past; fines will make a difference with residents who don't feel much concern for how their behavior impacts, and sometimes kills, bears.

I wrote the letter below several months ago right after unknowingly witnessing the shooting of a yearling bear from a distance (the onlookers, including me, thought we were watching a relocation of a bear on the creek path, and were upset later to be told that the bear was in fact killed due to a prior home invasion). I decided not to send the letter, which I wrote at an emotional time, for awhile -- then the floods came, and city council elections. I was going to send it in early December anyway when I read the bear article.

I hope that my views (which also represent my family's feelings) are taken into account, even though I don't live in the impacted area. I would still strongly support the bear-resistant can requirements and enforcement fines if I lived west of Broadway.

Please taken action in the near future to ensure the safety of our bears next spring through fall, and in the years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wigington

Letter by Nancy Wigington referenced in email:

Today I was part of a group hanging out in the Canyon Blvd. median (beyond the taped off section) watching what we thought was a rescue operation for a treed bear on the creek path just east of Eben Fine Park. All of us, including some small children, were excited to see the bear. After the bear fell out of the tree, we heard a couple of loud pops, which we assumed were additional tranquilizers. All the officials had done a good job of blocking visual access to the bear once it was on the ground, and kept us at a good distance. A Colorado Division of Wildlife officer took the time to come over and explain what had actually happened -- instead of a rescue operation, we were unfortunately watching a yearling bear which was shot and killed after it fell out of the tree. She explained that it had walked into a couple houses earlier today, and because it was so used to humans, they felt there was a strong risk of it harming a human down the line, as it got older and bigger. I'm sure I wasn't the only one in the assembled group who left feeling very sad, where we had earlier felt uplifted.

The situation also makes me very angry, not at the officers who felt they had no choice, but at the city and citizens of Boulder who have not been diligent enough in preventing these sorts of senseless killings. Boulder spends money on all sorts of things, some of which I've found frivolous in the past, and we have certainly approved many taxes over the years to keep our open space open. We are a community that cares about its wildlife too, but we haven't done enough to protect all of it, especially the bears.

It has come before City Council before to buy bear-resistant trash containers for those neighborhoods frequented by bears (such as around Chautauqua, and towards the canyon, including Eben Fine Park, which bears seem to frequent the past few years). I realize that they are expensive, but this issue needs to be revisited and money found to implement this program in at least one or two of these neighborhoods to test out their effectiveness. We are way past the point of handing out flyers to neighbors asking them to not put out their trash until the morning that it is picked up. I have close friends who live near Chautauqua, and we have talked about how some of their neighbors totally ignore these requests. One neighbor even said that s/he didn't care if their trash led to the death of a scavenging bear.

Many residents care, and try to minimize the human impact on bears. Other residents in this town either don't care, or are too lazy, to take any extra precautions to keep bears from becoming dependent on human food.

Since these types of containers are expensive, what about the idea of establishing a special fund earmarked to help with this expense, that residents could contribute to? I bet a lot of money could be raised in this town to help minimize the number of bear deaths due to their increased familiarity with, and decreased fear of, humans.

On a personal level, I don't want myself or others (especially children) to have to watch the killing of bears in our town, which could be prevented (or at least decreased) by a more vigilant approach by the City itself and its residents. These beautiful animals deserve the added protections which we could most certainly provide if we care enough to make them a funding priority. Please give strong consideration to reviving these discussions.

*Thank you.
Nancy Wigington*

From: Sharon Schilling
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 11:59 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Good Morning Val,

Lets look at the facts and think outside the box for just a minute.

Do the bears come into the city to enjoy the nightlife, culture and shopping? Or do they come to marvel at the multimillion dollar homes and Boulder Elitism ? Maybe just to annoy us?

No, of course not, they come for food; for survival. So let's feed them. What a novel idea. So let's keep the bears in the hills.

Let's look at the obvious. We punish the bears with death or faulty thinking relocation. Try thinking like a bear for a while. Let's face it they'll go home again despite the odds because that is what they know. Even if you drugged me, and relocated me, I'll guarantee you, I too, would get back to boulder, because that's home for me too. Why the effort, the energy for relocation and the animal suffering? Why? Like humans, they'll always go home again.

I propose setting up bear feeding stations scattered throughout our foothills where bears are know to habit. Nothing fancy, you understand, just the food please. Wildlife officers can

pick sites and rotate them or just random dumps, no dump trucks you understand, just waste from restaurants scattered here and there to prevent people from waiting with cameras or worst. Sites of course not to be known to the public to protect the bears and human stupidity.

Bears have acute sense of smell; they like us are also opportunists. Why would I drive 5 miles to get to a grocery store when I can walk to one around the corner?

When food is limited, the animals must eat and they will go where they smell food. They are trying to survive, instead We are killing them because they are hungry. Can you reconcile that? The bears come to survive, instead they come and we kill them.

If you were a momma bear with hungry cubs, would you continue futile foraging when you suddenly caught the scent of food? No, you wouldn't. Can they think like a human

and say to themselves, gosh if we go into boulder, we risk death, so we'd better keep scouring the hills in search of food? No, of course not. They are going to go wherever they can including looking at the barrel of a gun in order to feed themselves and their young.

Well let's suppose you put up these expensive bear trash cans. Be honest. That just means the animals will have to go deeper into the city and you know we are loaded with restaurants, forget the neighborhoods. Soon, it will be a requirement of everyone in the city to have a bear proof can simply because the bears must continue to search for food or die. ARE the People who sell these cans, counting their profits yet? As for me, a little smarter than bears, if one grocery store is closed, well I'll simply keep driving until I get to the next one which is open. Do you see my point? Trash cans are futile. Keep the bears out of the city, period.

There can be little argument, that when food is plentiful, we don't see the bears. The facts show that. They don't want human contact and don't need it. When, food is scarce, however, they must, unknowingly put their lives in danger by getting food wherever they can.

Boulder prides itself on being innovative. Lets try it. Forget trash cans, though tidy homeowners, renters, would be encouraged; forget fines and all the associated red tape and court hearings. Set up feeding areas and you'll see bears no more.

Ah, you argue, that will encourage more bears into the area and more births. Maybe, but the population tends to stabilize itself, nature does that for them. And maybe like the homeless, having more facilities available, invites more homeless to come to Boulder. Maybe so, but Boulder people have the money, the intelligence and the savvy to make it work.

Ah, you argue, it puts the public at risk when wandering college kids and the like try to harass the bears or worse. Maybe, but rotating the sites would cut those chances down

and periodically advancing new sites would leave more to chance encounters than by intent. Good distances from trails and areas least likely to invite human hikers exploration.

You know the foothills, think about it.

Try it for a couple of years. Put it on a pilot program, get through the red tape. Heck, if it is successful, and I guarantee it will be, a carefully thought out plan, could turn to a money maker of sorts, opening a few areas with appropriate viewing areas for feeding, camera clicking and educational classes for our young, native and visitors alike. Something like

the Wildlife Sanctuary out east, you know. Let's all live in peace and enjoy ALL that God has so abundantly given us.

Please, present the ideas and give me feedback. I'm sure others can even expand on the idea if they think about it or to the contrary, offer arguments of their own. Think about it

what do we really want to accomplish? Keeping bears in the foothills or policing the citizens?

Really, respectfully submitted.

Sharon A. Schilling

From: Dorothy Riddle
Date: December 9, 2013, 2:20:27 PM MST
To:
Subject: Bears and Trash

With regard to the problem of keeping bears from trash bins, please consider a plan that allows residents to choose from a variety of haulers. Specifically, please do not force all of us to deal with Western. I prefer to own my trash bins and I would appreciate it if the City could assist residents in the purchase of bear resistant bins at an affordable cost.

Dorothy Riddle

From: William Howard
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 8:16 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Cc: 7/18/2009 WIFE
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

After spending over 500,000.00\$ a number of years back (as you recall it was the lead above the fold front page) to help prairie dogs,it would be unconscionable not to have a major investment to save our bears

From: Robert Dullien
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 9:32 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Shocked to read about bear-proof mandate proposal. We live in South Boulder and put trash out just in time for pickup. Please do not burden us with yet another nanny-state intrusion into our lives. We have never had any problem with bears. Raccoons just once - and we learned fast how to avoid their getting into our trash. Do not underestimate the intelligence of Boulderites. Government is not supposed to control everything.

Best regards, Rob Dullien

From: Philips - DNR, Jim
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 9:43 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: bear trash deal

Morning Val - talk about blurred, couldn't think of anything more original to title the subject than "a deal" - have to deal with Boulder people and their "dealing" with bears.

Very good job last nite - as the lady said you handled it quite well and have reason to feel you "did good"!

As I digest some of this I'll try to write some comments on the options. I do feel that I may write a piece to Open Forum with my opinions even though I'm not a Boulder resident and have no real say in what City Council should or shouldn't approve.

Again job well done under the circumstances.

--

Jim Philips

Administrative Assistant

Hunter Outreach

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

From: Stan Brown
Date: December 10, 2013, 12:50:10 PM MST
To:
Subject: Bear Issue

We have filled out the survey but we wish to make clear to the council our strongly held opinion on this matter.

1) Enforcement at least in our south Boulder area west of Broadway has been terrible. We see no reason police or other city employees are not enforcing the rule about homeowners putting out trash/compost containers until 5 AM. We frequently see containers out early the night before pickup.

2) Enforcement officers need not hand a summons to the homeowner - can't imagine why such a rule was put in place and we suggest you change it BEFORE doing more on this matter.

3) It is totally unfair to those of us who keep our containers in a locked garage until 7 or 8 AM on the day of collection to have to pay more for either rental of bear resistant containers or to buy such containers ourselves. Only those who do not store their containers inside or in an enclosure should pay for the containers. An additional fee of close to \$90/year may not seem like much to some of you but it is to us as senior citizens of Boulder.

Stanley and Pamela Brown

From: Bev
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2013 8:48 AM
To: Council; plandvelop
Subject: Overbuilding and Bears

I'm writing in support of requiring to rent or purchase bear proof containers.

Also allowing more ADUs ...ie: garages turned into bedrooms or alley houses adds more trash per household.

My suggestion is to require landlords to provide adequate and secure places to store trash. Or certainly require any new ADU requests to have secured and adequate trash storage for 4 adult renters, etc.

Thank you, Bev Pogreba

From: Sharon Schilling
Sent: Monday, January 06, 2014 10:29 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: RE: Securing Trash to Protect Bears

Happy New Year Val!

Thanks for the article. I had just been thinking, I hadn't heard from you and there you were. Wow, I thought, pretty impressive.

Still one thing I noticed missing in comments about feeding the bears is the fact that the feeding implies feeding year round. There is no mention as to pre and post hibernation, just that feeding the bears is not recommended and for some of the reasons you and I already discussed. I sense too, that you have your own opinion on the subject and perhaps I wasn't very clear on what I was proposing.

I am proposing pre and post hibernation feeding periods; a few weeks before hibernation to "give them something to sleep on," and post hibernation a week or so when they wake from hibernation to give them a start. Seems simple enough because as I understand it, those are the periods of time that we see the most frequency of bears in town.

I'd like my suggestions with input from my previous email included, forwarded on to council..... or would you suggest in order to be heard, that I contact each council member directly?

That we would outright kill a mother bear and her two cubs because she is hungry and doing the best job she can to care for her cubs is a blatant reflection of the depth of our incompetence and intolerance of all that is nature. We violate Mother Earth. We are not doing our job to protect what we are given. While there is guardianship ad nauseam for dogs, where is our stewardship for wildlife?

Thanks Val,

Sharon

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Part II July – October 2013

From: Julianne McCabe
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2013 9:07 AM
To: Council
Subject: bears in alley

Hello. Today there 3 cans over in our alley, 500 block of Arapahoe (9 AM Monday). I spoke to Western and they said to call code enforcement (3 - 441 3333). I did and understand an officer will be out when available. *I was confused when I spoke w/ Western*, thinking today Tues (not Monday) because there are always cans down on Tues AM, trash pickup day. Since it is Monday, if code enforcement comes soon, it will find these cans/trash and can issue tickets.

We have had bears in our alley all summer. I don't think Western should clean up after these people and if they do they should charge them a hefty fee for this "cleanup". Now that I know the code enforcement no., I will use it. Everyone in the alley knows the situation, some people comply, others don't. There have been bears in our alley since I lived here (1976) but lately it seems they come earlier (June this year.) and stay later (Oct./Nov/).

I am not sure what the neighborhood bear liaison person does. It seems to me I should have known to call the 3-441-3333 code enforcement agency, but didn't. It also seems to me in areas of the city where the issue is hot, the city should post signs warning of code violations and fines. (Not expensive signs, temporary plastic ones.) Last, I don't understand why people don't get the difference between recycling and garbage. I understand the bear proof cans are in back ordered and expensive. Nonetheless, given the risk to bears, the burden should be on the owner, with the help of the bear liaison person, to not be a repeat offense. There are many things reasonable people do to avoid the situation, photo below.

Thanks, Julie McCabe

From: Johannah Franke
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 5:30 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie; Kristin Cannon
Subject: Bears

Although we, on Norwood Ave. in North Boulder have never yet had our garbage bothered by animals, it seems time for all of Boulder to move to bear proof cans in spite of cost.

Thanks,
Johannah and Lehn Franke

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Garfield

To: council

Sent: Tue, Sep 10, 2013 11:28 am

Subject: Bears

I am writing to urge our city council to mandate bear-proof cans, step up enforcement of trash/littering in alleys, and increase fines for non-compliance. It is outrageous that bears are being shot and killed within our city because they are just being bears. Below is a draft of a letter I submitted to the Daily Camera. Although it was not printed, it was echoed by another letter that appeared in the paper today.

Another bear is killed in Boulder. His crime? Choosing a tree near a school for a nap and not leaving soon enough. Look, people aren't going to willingly secure their trash. Bears aren't going to stop eating. So is the plan to just kill all the bears? I'm not so sure how bears differ from the "beloved" Mapleton elk, except that we've been taught to fear the bear. Consider the fact that bear attacks are extremely rare. Do you know anyone who was ever hurt by a bear? Probably not. How about bitten by a dog? Probably so. In fact, you're more likely to be killed by dogs, bees, or lightning than a bear. (Source: www.bear.org <<http://www.bear.org/>>) Bear behavior is all too often misinterpreted. Sometimes they charge. It's just called bluster. It's a warning that they are frightened and want you to go away. But we don't. We kill them instead. We misinterpret their behavior and they suffer as a result.

Around Ely, MN , where the Wildlife Research Institute researchers do their work, people have been coexisting peacefully with bears for decades. No one has been attacked. Bears who lose their fear of people aren't more likely to attack those people, they are just more likely to ignore them and go about their bear business. Check out the website above. Learn about how we can coexist with our bear neighbors.

Can't we, as Boulderites, try a different response to bears, and co-exist with them rather than killing them? We flock to Estes Park to listen to elk bugle. The rare moose is seen as a novelty and we take pictures. Both are dangerous, but we aren't afraid. But we've been taught to fear bears. On the one hand they are cute little cuddly teddy bears, but on the other they are often pictured standing, snarling with teeth bared ready to attack. Neither image is true. They are magnificent creatures we should learn to avoid -- just like they naturally avoid us. Please, let's be a little more forward thinking on this. I look to the City Council to take leadership on this issue and let the bears live!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Garfield

From: john cooper
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:23 PM
To: Brautigam, Jane
Subject: Trash and Bears

Hello,

would it be possible to get Western Disposal trash collectors to report homeowners who fail to secure their trash containers against bear attacks?

John Cooper
Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado

-----Original Message-----

From: Alex Barber
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 9:35 AM
To: Council
Subject: Bears

To the members of Boulder City Council:

It is time for immediate action to be taken by your members to do something about the on-going bear tragedies caused by inappropriate and irresponsible trash disposal by residents in Boulder. It is shameful and cruel and why are you waiting for study results when the evidence is in front of you? Mandatory trash disposal regulations must be implemented immediately.

No one should be allowed to leave trash out except on trash day. Mandatory bear proof containers should be required in the most difficult areas. I live in the county foothills. We will be paying extra money to insurance companies as a result of living in the "fire prone area" these people can surely pay to protect wildlife for the areas that they have chosen to live in.

I do not see much difference between fire mitigation and bear mitigation. I would gladly pay for a bear proof garbage can if they were available to us in the foothills if it meant saving the life of a magnificent bear.

Please give this issue your immediate attention. It seems like the solution is very simple.

Thank you
Sincerely
Marcia Barber

On 9/19/13 1:03 PM, Scott Gibbons wrote:

David,

I am glad your dog survived. There was a small dog killed by a bear in it's yard near us this summer as it went after a bear.

I have given this a lot of thought the last couple of weeks, and have been cleaning up neighbor's dumped cans (again). I have visited the neighbors myself, and reported them to Code Enforcement (among others) more than once.

I toured alleys last night. Many cans dumped, none emptied that are bear-proof.

This problem will not be solved voluntarily. Trash must either be kept in a secure enclosure (I keep mine behind a seven foot enclosed area and have never had a problem), in a garage, or in a bear-proof container. And this is what the law needs to state. Then neighbors won't have to continually call Code Enforcement. Either the can is bear-proof or it is not out in the alley until the morning of collection. This gives an alternative for those without an enclosure or garage...they get a bear-proof container. Yes it costs them more but that is each residences problem. There is no basic right to keep your trash in a public right-of-way.

I will be speaking with council members personally about this. Time to do something.

Scott

p.s. As my neighbor and I looked at a can across the alley, dumped for the nth time

he spoke the oft-repeated quote: "Insanity is repeating the same mistakes and expecting different results"

Scott Gibbons
University Hill Executive Committee Chair
"A Voice for Respectful Living"

From: On Behalf Of Philip Higgs
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2013 12:43 PM
To:
Cc: UHNA EC; Hill Neighbors
Subject: Re: [hillneighbors] Bear encounter 9/18 - trash container regulation urgently needed

Seconded by Philip Higgs, 750 17th st , who just called Code Enforcement for perhaps the fifth time in as many weeks due to almost every garbage can in our alley being knocked over by bears.

Incidentally, our student neighbors have a hard time closing the lids on their cans -- or even getting the garbage *into* the can -- and rarely clean up the damage. And I doubt they're suffering any ill effects from

City or landlords, since it keeps happening every week.

On 9/19/13 1:49 PM, Sarabeth Mitton wrote:

As we look at bear proof options, please note:
Those of us with only 32 gallon service cannot get bear proof cans. They don't make them. We neither have the need, the space or the funds to upgrade service to that level. Many of us also have no inside storage. I will say this though. If your cans are well secured and not directly on the alley (ours are tucked behind our tiny lawnmower shed, out of sight from the alley with a multiple criss cross tight bungee system) they will not be taken by the bears. At least our never have since we moved them off the alley 8 years ago.

And the bears are rampant nightly on our alley. Raccoons and skunks too! Some of the places I find the neighbors trash remnants in my yard are not accessible by a large animal. Perhaps we should only consider making this mandatory for rental properties since they all have large can service and are 99.99% of the problem on my alley. It could be a simple addition to rental licensing requirements.

SARA MITTON

From: "City Properties Group, LLC"
Date: September 9, 2013, 4:50:56 PM MDT
To: Val Matheson
Subject: Bears

Hi Val. Listen I have emailed KC Becker about this before. KC emailed us today to inform us about the pilot program for bear trash containers. It is ironic that a few weeks ago she sent everyone on this listserve an email that was highly threatening, saying if people didn't just stop leaving their trash in the standard bins, Boulder would fine us or regulate that we get new containers. I can't stand this kind of governmental heavy hand! Boulder is so good at it too! I immediately wrote to her and asked her to stop sending these threatening emails and to consider that we just happen to be a city nestled into the foothills of a great mountain range, and bears like lions, squirrels, fox, elk, deer, raccoons and snakes live with us too! It's our choice to live where we do!

In today's email she acknowledged that the trash containers might not solve the problem because guess what? It's complex! It didn't solve Aspen's problem.

Please don't use this as another way to impose more rules and regulations on us and a means to create a new revenue stream by extracting fines from us if we don't comply. If you do this, you will also have to fine people for having dogs and cats and even small children in their yards in the neighborhoods at the foothill because guess what? LIONS EAT THEM DAILY! Lions are much more of a threat to humans than bears are, yet we're not talking about that.

Let this City be a live-where-you-want-at-your-own-risk. But PLEASE don't tell people what kind of trash containers we must have, make us buy them and fine us if we don't. Optional participation is fine but the facts prevail- it doesn't solve the problem. The problem is we live where we do and other sentient beings live here too.

What I would like to see is a humane NO KILL policy adopted by the City. Relocate these animals as many times as necessary, but stop killing them! Good grief.

Janine Kotre

CITY PROPERTIES GROUP, LLC

On Sep 19, 2013, at 12:32 PM, David Raduziner wrote:

Boulder City Council members:

Yesterday was very difficult for me and my family at 765 14th St (between Baseline and Cascade). Our 28 lb wheaton terrier charged the well known bear sow with two cubs in our yard at about noon. The sow ripped off her collar and put a claw into her torso. She's ok but still quite agitated, and perhaps the emotional damage will be lasting. But this issue is not about our dog. The issue is that our residents are feeding the bears with their trash and this is endangering the bears. Those of us in bear prone areas of the city MUST use bear proof containers for trash cans maintained outdoors. And the only way to make this happen is to enact strict bear proof container laws.

The presence of bears in our University Hill neighborhood has increased dramatically over the last ten years. For many years there were occasional incidences of trash cans overturned in the alleys. Then more regular occurrences began about 5 years ago. Then three years ago bears began visiting our front yard, evidenced by several large piles of scat over the course of the summer. Last summer they began entering our 6' to 7' high fenced back yard again leaving evidence of scat several times. This summer they were regularly present and sleeping in our yard during

the daytime. The trash cans in our alley have been overturned almost every single night since the beginning of July this year.

Two years ago we finally signed up for a bear proof container from Western Disposal. We have not had a single incident of trash rummaging by bears since. They've tried to get in - claw and teeth marks prove it - but they have never been successful. The containers work. The \$10 per month fee is well worth it, even just to eliminate constant clean up.

But only two of the residents along our alley have these containers. All other containers are overturned virtually every night. While we don't have to clean up our own spilled trash anymore, the issue is much more serious than that. Because trash is so readily available as a food source, the bears cannot help themselves but to eat it. And now they don't even bother going home back to the mountains - they live in the neighborhood full time. This presents a serious safety threat to our pets - and to our children. My middle school kids could have easily come home from school, walked in our front gate and surprised the slumbering sow, activated her protective instincts leading her to maul them. Is that what it is going to take for the city to take action on this matter?

The bears stayed in our yard for the day, eventually napping about 40 feet up in a very large ponderosa pine tree right next to 14th St. These bears have spent many days on our property and we have not called the Department of Wildlife previously as we knew they would likely euthanize the sow and the cubs future would be uncertain. I thought long and hard about it and then ultimately came to the conclusion that the bear had to go - a very difficult decision, killing a bear. The bear must be euthanized because she has adapted to her new trash rich alley lifestyle and she is training her cubs to perpetuate it. It is not her fault, it is our community's fault because we have failed to protect her from being attracted to our neighborhood.

I called Wildlife and they came out about 6:00 PM. But for the fact that it was getting dark rapidly, the bears had climbed so high in the tree and officer John was not able to secure enough additional officers due to the heavy load from flood issues, they would have taken out the bear and then relocated the cubs. Officer John and I agreed to leave them be but it is absolutely clear that the clock is ticking, with officials waiting for the optimal time to dart the bears. Officer John is very disappointed that it has come to this - euthanizing wild animals is the final option wildlife officers wish to take but they understand that it has come to this.

When it began to get dark, the bears made their way down the tree and ambled across our yard. They climbed over the alley wall and fence in the usual way and started their regular evening routine. This morning our alley was strewn with trash and several piles of bear scat as a signature.

It is time for city council to take action - map out bear prone areas and require all residents to use bear proof containers or secure trash cans indoors until morning pick-ups. Please put this on the agenda for 2014. Let's not place another resident in the position of having to decide whether or not a bear should live or die.

Best,
David Raduziner

On 9/19/13 12:51 PM, Mark Gelband wrote:

All -

More punitive code, requirements and expense have rarely, if ever, solved a problem in this community. Seems we could start with the same rules for alley trash cans that apply to those of us without alleys – that cans be not placed in the alley prior to 5 a.m. on the day of collection.

As with so many issues in the city, we already have rules being largely ignored and code enforcement that is neither objective nor consistent. Why don't we first try consistently and steadfastly enforcing the rules we already have?

Mark Gelband

On 9/19/13 12:50 PM, Matejka, Tamah wrote:

Hi,

I live at [REDACTED]. We have seen lots of bear scat in our yard, particularly over the past year. However, we never have garbage in the alley because we keep it in our garage. We drag it out on Friday mornings, when it gets picked up by Western Disposal. This solution might not work for everyone, but it does for us. When our neighbor's house was first bought by college kids, there was initially trash in the alley. I went over and told them about the bears and they started doing the same thing as us and I haven't seen trash in the alley this year, either. Perhaps we should walk the neighborhood and talk about either keeping trash in the garage until trash collection day, or else renting the bear proof containers.

I suppose there is still a risk that bears would eat the morning we put out the trash, but it hasn't happened to us yet.

I also think the fires in the mountains have brought more wildlife to our neighborhood. We have lived at this address since 1987 and never saw bear until a few years ago.

Tamah Matejka

9/19/2013

Dear David,

I am fully with you on this. I live in a neighborhood that has had several bears -- co-existing quietly with us for several years. Mine is also the neighborhood where two bears have been killed in the past month.

Most folks along our alley are responsible with their trash. Two apartments with students who come and go and have a collection of usually filled-to-overflowing trash cans are not. Night after night, their trash cans are upended and trash is carried all over the place.

The property owners have left figuring out what to do to the tenants. The tenants just drive over their trash as though it is invisible. The problem is less now that a couple of our bears are dead, but what a shame and what an unfair price was paid for human obliviousness.

We have simply got to stop feeding these guys. Requiring bear proof cans or trash can containment in garages is needed now. I don't think there is any other solution to reducing the in-town bear population that has become habituated to easy pickin's in our trash.

Sincerely,

Susan Osborne

9/11/2013

Warren Hern:

Bear being destroyed is a tragedy. No putting food in trash cans. Must only put food in trash can right before trash pick-up. There is trash scattered all the time in alleyway between Valley view drive and Dewey, and 4th and 5th streets.

From: Thomas Fraser
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 7:42 AM
To:
Cc: Matejka, Tamah; UHNA EC; Hill Neighbors
Subject: Re: [hillneighbors] Bear encounter 9/18 - trash container regulation urgently needed

Closing them is worthless as is bungees and I have even tried drilling a hole through can and top and wiring it closed. The latter works best. They have removed my can from the best bungee system and I've seen them then pounce on it until some garbage(although not the full scale dumpage) can be reached though the wired top. My issue is the cost of the bear proof container. I'd be happy to buy one if the city offset the cost, but 10\$/month in perpetuity is ridiculous. Does it really cost Western 2.50\$ in manpower each time they open them. Multiply that by the number of cans (about 75\$/week in my alley alone) and this will be a cash cow for Western. I do not have a garage/shed with room for garbage or space for one and my neighbor kept his in the back yard rather than the alley and after a bear went over the fence for it he tore down a section of fence to get out. The only option I support is a one time reasonable fee for a bear proof can. Tom Fraser- PS- my favorite option provided by the city literature is to freeze all of your garbage until collection day:)

9/20/2013

I agree with Dr Frasier, Mr Gelband, and Sara. The city has created a virtual garbage monopoly with their mandatory compost rules. My former garbage provider (One Way) canceled their service after these rules were enforced. Meanwhile I hear that the owner of Western Disposal jets in occasionally to check in on his garbage monopoly. We don't need more mandatory monthly fees to line his pockets and we probably don't need more laws. Enforcement of existing laws would be helpful though.

As others have pointed out, we're dealing with a bit of an anomaly here because garbage service was canceled last week. In addition, this is an exceptional year because there's not fruit on the trees due to our early May deep freeze. The bears have almost no natural food this year.

Should we be creating new and costly laws in response to anomalous events as Mr Raduziner suggests? I say maybe we should step back and see if we have a pattern where this occurs again next year. If so, then maybe new laws are in order, but, for now, I say no.

For the record, I also advocate that the two strike rule regarding bear encounters should be waived this year to reflect the fact that the conditions have forced the bears to wander into town. I witnessed the tagged bear and her cubs on our street prior to the flood and it appeared that the cubs were still nursing. If the mother gets killed the cubs will likely die. I'd avoid calling DOW for this reason.

On the subject of laws, regulation, etc., I found this column in the Boulder Weekly to be very compelling. It's about the guy on the horse to Utah. Seems so long ago as it was before the flood but worth a read: <http://www.boulderweekly.com/article-11627-vaya-con-dios.html>

Enjoy your weekend.

Brian Barrett

9/20/2013

Thanks so much Brian, my heart is breaking over the thought of killing this mother bear. The last killing was bad enough. There has to be some kind of waiver for the situation they are in this year. Maybe they can be relocated as a family? We are good about doing that with criminals, why not poor defenceless bears? I am hopeful kinder hearts will prevail and they will spare this mothers life. The cubs are babies and I agree they wouldn't survive and shouldn't be placed in captivity.

Just my 2 cents.

Diana Trettin

From: David Raduziner

Date: September 22, 2013, 8:35:41 PM MDT

Cc: UHNA EC, Hill Neighbors"

Subject: Re: [hillneighbors] Bear encounter 9/18 - trash container regulation urgently...

Reply-To:

Neighbors:

I've been away this weekend but have had a chance to review the various posts - thanks to all for your interest in this matter.

It was suggested that perhaps this year was an anomaly. The activity was somewhat greater. However as I stated initially, the bear activity has been intensifying every year with bears living in our garden the last two years. And we are on 14th between Baseline and Cascade, not up against open space. Also these bears live for a long time. Once habituated into feeding on trash, they will return year after year. We don't need to wait to see if they will come back next year. They absolutely will, perhaps a bit later in the summer depending on the availability of easy pickings in the wild, but they will come for sure.

Based on at least one response, it appears that some bears will tip compost bins, though my

neighbors and I have never seen it. After communicating with a number of folks on this, my guess is that it depends on what is in them. If it is yard and vegetable waste, no problem. If it includes animal protein, then they'll go for it - but we should not be composing animal protein, it is not allowed.

On the matter of cost, I agree the \$10/mo additional fee is high - this is why we avoided taking the plunge for so long. If they are required, then there will be a massive increase in volume of production and I have no doubt the cost would go way down and perhaps a deal can be worked for a one time sign up fee to cover the extra hardware cost. However it may be that it actually costs somewhat more to service the bear proof containers, takes a bit more time for the workers. Of course this whole issue would be part of a discussion with Western Disposal. By the way, our Western Disposal workers are amazing people in my book. Super hard workers and always friendly and helpful.

On the issue of whether or not bear proof containers will "solve the problem". Well it depends how you define the problem. If the problem is defined as "eliminating all bears from ever entering the neighborhood" than it absolutely won't. But the bears are very smart. If they can't find food, then they will give up. Even if they smell it. They will learn over time that it is fruitless to try to get it. The containers are incredibly effective as the claw and teeth marks on ours verify - they just can't get them unlatched. I'd rather take the chance that they will visit less frequently over time than worry to much about them getting more and more angry that they can't get into containers.

The notion of eliminating food from trash and compost strikes me as pretty much impossible. Yes, eliminate animal waste from compost. But there will be some element of food in our trash and our best bet is to keep it in containers indoors or if in containers outdoors, make sure they're bear proof.

For those of you who haven't seen one of these containers, here is a photo of one. It is just like the normal container but has a latch system. To open you put your finger in the hole on the right and push a small lever to the left. To close, just push down. There are two metal latches on either side of the front that are hidden from view that completely lock it down.

Thanks to all for your comments. If we can all get behind the simple notion that eliminating access to our trash containers will significantly improve, if not completely solve, the bear problem, we can make something happen here. With thoughtful city regulation, robust enforcement, caring neighbors and peer pressure, we can save many bears in the future.

Best,
David

From: Dave Amberger
Date: September 23, 2013, 10:31:58 PM MDT
To:
Subject: Bear-Proof Trash Mandate
Reply-To:

Hello Boulder city council.

It's time to stop your due diligence. Mandate bear-proof trash cans for all rentals and residence living in areas where bears frequent. (Perhaps to start anyone west of 9th St, or West of Broadway.)

Week after week the alleys are strewn with trash and bear scat.

Boulder has always been ahead of the curve on issues (open space, recycling, bike paths, and flood zone management.....) However, on protecting wildlife you seem to be behind the curve.

It is time to setup and decided to reduce the killing of native wildlife.

Make this mandate effective August 2014 and save a few bears.

Sincerely,
Dave Amberger

From: On Behalf Of Sarabeth Mitton
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 8:58 AM
To:
Cc: UHNA EC; Hill Neighbors;
Subject: Re: [hillneighbors] Bear encounter 9/18 - trash container regulation urgently...

An FYI about garbage costs. People with 32 gallon service currently pay \$26.90/month. As Western does not have bear proof 32's in their system, it would be required to move up to 64 gallon service at a cost of \$49.10/month for bear proof, nearly doubling my monthly cost, or costing me, and others like me, \$266.40 additional annually. And a lot of us do not have room to store the 64 and currently do not even fill our 32 each week. It would be wasteful and inconvenient.

So before mandating this service to those of us who will pay a penalty for the carelessness of others, please resolve this inequity with Western. Require them to get 32's made bear proof, before going further with this proposal.

SARA MITTON

9/23/2013

All, I contacted Frank Bruno, president of Western Disposal about this and he is discussing it with the City.

Note that several years ago (10?, 15?), before the brown cans, the city was going to move trash collection to the street for a number of reasons, two of which I recall was that OSHA regs were changing for garbage collection (automated container lifting), and because alleys were becoming impassable. We (UHNA) objected because recycling was already in the street and it was a mess, plus then we would have seen garbage cans in front of many houses all week long. It was a bad idea that further marginalized the need for alleys.

Alleys are the lifeblood of healthy urban neighborhoods, but that is another subject.

Anyway, Ken Wilson and I undertook a research project to generate data to counter the city's arguments and then scheduled a meeting attended by about 20 people from Western and the City (Bruno was city manager at the time). Long story short the outcome was that recycling was moved to the alley, compost was added, garbage trucks modified and the brown cans were provided to all customers citywide all in one price.

That was a pretty cool, high leverage effort that ken and I are very proud of.

I am confident that Western is going to come up with an equitable and effective solution to the trash collection. They need our thoughts on the subject so thank you to everyone that have weighed in.

A couple of side benefits to the effort was that the city started improving alley clearances and drainage (our paved alley with centerline drainage saved us from recent floods), and also eliminated many encroachments that would prevent firefighters to safely battle blazes from the rear of our homes. Lastly, the overhead power / cable lines are far more reliable in our maintained alley.

In the mean time we need to stop killing bears, after all, we moved into their habitat 100 years ago. I don't know what to do about them, but I bet the naturalists and scientists in the neighborhood have some innovative ideas.

Thank you,
Steven Walsh

9/23/2013

Neighbors:

These emails from Mr Raduziner and Mr. Walsh (and others) seem to refer to Western Disposal as the incumbent garbage provider. I was never aware that we had an official incumbent provider although my former provider (One Way) canceled their service when the spring pickup was nixed and composting was mandated. I also wasn't aware that our former city manager got the gig heading up our garbage monopoly, a monopoly that may have been created by rules that our former city manager helped craft.

Being a NJ guy I don't want to dig too deeply into this garbage mess, but if we actually have a de facto monopoly running the show shouldn't there have been an RFP process so the ratepayers could get a competitive bidding process going on their behalf. I believe that Lafayette has an incumbent provider determined by a RFP process and their rates are considerably lower than ours. Certainly, economies of scale would suggest that our rates could be bid even lower than Lafayette's.

If we're going to have a garbage monopoly let's do it properly and put it out for bid. That way maybe the \$10/month for a bear proof can and other excessive charges might come down and we can all afford to use these cans. Why doesn't city council address this?

Thanks,

Brian

ps - Is there a witness protection program for garbage whistleblowers?

From: Tom Wilson
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2013 11:22 AM
To: Council; Brautigam, Jane
Subject: Bears and trash... please stop doing nothing

I wrote you all around a year ago (maybe a year... time flies) about bears and trash on the hill. I suggested requiring so-called "bear proof" containers. Of course the issue is not only bears, but also raccoons, and the related trash nuisance from dumped cans.

The replies I got basically stated, more or less, that:

- we'd follow the lead of other communities, but
- data's not in yet, and so far it seems the cans are not 100% effective

Of course the situation's not getting better. As a long time Hill resident, I can offer a view from the trenches:

1. There are a bunch of places on The Hill where houses don't have a place to put the cans inside because there's literally no room for a garage. So **putting cans inside is basically impossible**.
2. Animals are opportunistic. That's obvious, but what may not be obvious is that the same cans are raided again and again. **It matters a LOT what you put in the trash, and when.**
3. Students tend to throw out the worst (most attractive) garbage. I know what they throw out because it ends up in the alley with great frequency. Students don't follow the rules in place now, so **it's inconceivable** (*yes, I know what that word means*) **to imagine the problem could be solved by education and voluntary cooperation** at the point of what and when gets tossed out.

The take-away here is that nothing positive will come of this without new requirements for handling trash. This is not complicated. The only reasonable solution at this time is to require "animal-proof" containers for houses that do not put the trash inside. I know, there's already an ordinance about securing your trash, but you see how that's working.

Every argument against this resistant-can solution would apply equally to the "6-day" rule, except perhaps that different people care about it. No one seemed to blink at that, so why not this, which is **actually** related to public safety?

Sure, it is not 100% effective. But it's also not zero percent effective.
Doing what we are doing now (nothing) is definitely zero percent effective.
Unless you count shooting bears as part of the solution.

Thanks for listening.
Please consider making this a priority,
-Tom

ps: To set a good example, I called Western to change to an "animal-resistant" container. I found out that all they stock are 64 gallon containers. So to change my service from the currently-sufficient 32 gallon service, I'd have to also upgrade to 64 gallon service, and it would basically double my trash costs. Western said it only stocks the 64 gallon containers because animal-proof service is not popular and it's too expensive to stock all the sizes. Seems reasonable I guess, but it's incredible that there are no decent options for many homeowners in this part of town.

pps: my neighbor's trash, 9/2



9/24/2013

Robert Troup:

Observes college students in area of 10th and Aurora, who do not clean up trash cans for days once knocked over and he is sick of it. He believes students don't have a lot of disposable income and the probability that they will spend \$10 extra per month on bear resistant containers is zero. He suggests that the city try to get sponsorship for bear resistant cans to address cost (i.e. whole foods gets name on cans they sponsor).

From: adaline jyurovat
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2013 10:57 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Bear/trash/our discussion 9-24-13

You said you are looking for input from people in the neighborhood as to how best to get out the word, esp. to the new tenants, regarding trash that attracts bears. You said door to door contact did not work for your most recent project. If you send me the note you want to go out, I will pass it on as best I can.

I didn't ask if you used college students to help do the job. That might help in the personal -one to one area. Every year there are a lot of newcomers/students around here. Arriving the day before trash pickup might be instructive/educational.

Another thought is concerned adults (maybe from the neighborhood) bringing along concerned/enthusiastic elementary students which might be even better. Kids' concern over having to have bears killed because of trash issues might come through really strong. It might even induce some guilt or other emotional charge to encourage remembering and participation.

Having concerned kids do the artwork on carefully designed/worded brochures might also be more attention getting than those of a pro.

+++++Ask the targeted students themselves what would get there attention, and include the option of fines. Also ask if their parents recycled at home and got them involved. (environmental center should really do this kind of survey beginning each year or semester.)+++++

Addi Jyurovat

On Oct 1, 2013, at 8:59 AM, Dagmar Fehlau wrote:

I have followed these bear conversation for a while and have never said anything, but now that yet another bear was killed (and her cubs will likely die, too) I am truly wondering what the agenda is for some of our neighbors?

Bears live here. Trash or no trash. They do not know the difference between a tree in Chautauqua and a tree one or more blocks away from it. There isn't a giant fence, and they sure are not able to read signs! In the seven years I have lived here there has always been bears in our neighborhood, in my front yard, in our tree, in our alley, near our school. They have come to feast on the many fruit trees that grow here. And then they leave. And yes, they have feasted on trash. How has that ever hurt me or my family? Once you will eliminate all the trash, they will STILL come into our neighborhood to eat fruit and berries and anything else our luscious trees

and bushes have to offer. This year has been such a bad year for fruit crop, so of course more trash cans have been the main food source for some bears.

I wish our neighbors could wait it out, realizing how tough it has been on our bears, instead of calling on them every time they see a bear snout, which will surely always result in their death, as we now know.

If we chose to live so close to wilderness we should be able to handle seeing bears up close. This is bear country and it will always be. Killing them one by one will not change that!

By all means let's be smart about our trash! And pick up our fruit. And hope that no other doggie will get hurt. But do not expect that there will never be another mama bear in our trees. They will still come. They live here.

Thanks,

Dagmar

10/1/2013

Dear City Council,

I am incredibly saddened and angry that yet another bear has been killed in Boulder. The City of Boulder is not doing it's job in this respect. The city ordinance that mandates ticketing repeatedly knocked-over trashcans is not being enforced AT ALL and the city's negligence on this matter is astonishing and disturbing. The bulk of the people in this city care about bears, I can assure you. PLEASE PLEASE cease this awful mismanagement and put the proper enforcement in place so that the public will have an incentive to handle their trash responsibly and stop the bear buffet that ultimately kills these majestic creatures.

Thank you for your consideration and prompt attention to this matter,

Tiffany O'Meara

10/5/2013

Dear City Council Members (and candidates and important officials also copied)–

Like so many, I was stunned to hear about the recent executions of four bears, including one whose now-orphaned cubs will have to try to survive their first winter alone. Sometimes insane policies get put into place and although we know they're wrong, we get used to having to obey them.

But I know that Boulder, and those of you on Council especially, work hard not to let inertia drive cruelty and inefficiency. Fortunately, there are two remedies that could completely resolve the problem, and I hope that you will make their discussion and implementation a top priority of your upcoming retreat.

One is an obvious and immediate answer that could make a huge positive difference for Boulder: Legislate the use of bear-proof trash cans on the west side of Broadway (or any areas where it's needed) and carefully enforce their use. Since we all know the problems of unfunded mandates, a fund to support their use should be implemented too. I personally would be happy to contribute to it or to any efforts needed to help to put that in place. Such legislation, enforcement and funding are extremely well justified as well by the fact that they will keep significant amounts of trash from contaminating water sources and other areas. We know how trash mars the quality of life and appeal of Boulder; anyone who has seen the ultimate outcome in the Pacific Garbage Vortex and the widespread destruction of plankton and marine life due to plastic trash will know that garbage that is allowed to go unsecured affects the chain of life in many devastating ways.

The second is larger scale but even more important if we care about saving the lives and unnecessary suffering of sentient beings such as those killed in recent weeks: This is the perfect time to urge Colorado Parks, with which the DOW has just been merged, to change this policy of capital punishment for bears for making the mistake of looking for food in the same area twice. (Especially given how many have babies, which strikes me as similar to taking out a soccer mom for shopping two times at the same Safeway.)

Surely this policy is tremendously time and energy consuming and bad-press-producing for them as well. Very often one finds that government agencies hate to carry out policies such as this themselves. But they need our support for change. Many people and some significant organizations will be objecting to this policy, but your voice would have by far the most impact. Please do all that is needed. I would be happy to help in any way, from contributions to letter writing and phone calls and visits to officials.

While I would ordinarily hesitate to commit to all of that, this is a very important issue of humaneness, ecological good sense, and fairness. I, after all, have a voice—and you have a much bigger, more influential voice—and wildlife have none at all, and no way of understanding that a desire for food means a death sentence. Please do everything in your power to end the death and suffering that I think the great majority of Boulder voters would be deeply happy to see stopped.

With much gratitude for all you do and have done –

Cathy Comstock, Ph.D.

10/4/2013

To Whom It May Concern- it has disturbed me that garbage continues to be picked up in the alleys in the western parts of Boulder- including our address at 1838 columbine. why can't it be mandatory that all garbage cans be picked up on the streets!! Too many people- our neighborhood included are too clueless or lazy to put cans out in the alley the day of pickup and leave cans in alleys all the time. We draw the bears to easy food because of our shortsightedness then kill them. The garbage trucks are often too heavy and tear up the alleys anyway. Can you please consider and let me know? Thank you. Julie Smith

10/4/2013

City Council members,

The recent killing in Boulder of a female bear with dependent cubs, one of four bear killings in Boulder this summer and fall, stirs us to protest an indifference to a correctable problem. The real problem is continued attraction of wild animals by unprotected garbage. The solution should be to both educate the public to the toll this takes on bears and to pass an effective ordinance mandating that trash cans in affected areas be adequately bear-proofed and that such an ordinance be adequately funded and enforced.

In addition, we urge you to petition Colorado State Parks and Wildlife to discontinue their "two strikes and you're out" policy with regard to urban bear populations. This seems arbitrary and unnecessary. We have not experienced a human fatality from a bear attack in Colorado for many years, and we are convinced that the vast majority of Boulder residents would rather live with bears, if necessary, than kill them. Our organization, as always, would be glad to help with disseminating information and working with the public and other agencies to make sure that humane policies regarding bears are supported and followed.

Sincerely,

BCNA
Peter Kleinman, President

10/4/2013

City Council- I was very happy to read about your discussion of requiring bear-resistant trash cans for Boulder residents near the foothills. I can't say how strongly I encourage you to pursue this long overdue rule.

I live in the Knollwood subdivision (technically in the Boulder County) and we are visited almost daily by bears especially in the fall. Although most of our neighbors are conscientious about only putting out their trash the morning of collection days, I think that having bear resistant cans would help with the daytime bear visits

and the unenlightened neighbors who leave trash and recycling cans out year-round and won't be convinced to move them inside.

I think that the City of Boulder could learn from other progressive towns like Squamish BC which require bear-proof cans. How did they do it, what were the logistics, what level of bear resistance is needed etc. Please do some research on bulk can discounts and address this problem in a comprehensive and thoughtful manner. The current piecemeal approach of "education efforts," voluntary purchase of cans by a few residents and sporadically fining the rest is clearly not effective.

Please utilize the momentum gained by the recent spate of bear killings to enact enforceable rules, and please be ambitious about the size of the area affected- at least everything west of Broadway is needed, or the problem will just creep east.

Thank you for your consideration-
Megan Wilder

From: Deborah Byrd
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 4:58 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Slaughtering Bears

Vicky,

Below is a copy of my comments to the ranger who sends out emails re: bears in the city

This continued slaughter of bears in Boulder is intolerable. The statistics show that bears do not attack people. Penalties must be imposed on people who leave edible trash out in the alleyways or anywhere trash is found lying about.

This is not about bears; it is about people living near wildlife and not taking proper precautions to prevent them from being killed.

You are a killer. You slaughter animals. Your actions are reprehensible

Please change this two-strike policy of bear-killing in our city. Please conduct meetings to find ways, as suggested above, to stop this senseless, tragic killing of these most beautiful creatures.

I have seen bears frequently in my 33 years in Boulder - in my neighborhood, in Chautauqua - and I have never, ever had the slightest sense of attack or danger. I do not go close to them, I leave them alone. I see them, they see me. I let them be.

deborah byrd

From: Linda Weber
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 11:50 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Bears

Here's what I just sent to the Boulder City Council:

Dear Boulder City Council,

Since humans are at fault with regard to making trash available to bears (after taking over their habitat), then humans should be held responsible, possibly relocated, or at least censored and fined. Bears are not at fault; they are simply being bears. Killing them is a horrendous "solution" to the problem. I urge you to find another way.

Thank you,

Linda

Linda Weber, counselor and author

From: Barbara Brandt
Sent: Wednesday, October 02, 2013 9:42 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: bear resistant trash cans

Hello,

Please require bear resistant trash cans in the city limits. We need to stop this senseless killing of bears.

Thank you,

Barbara Brandt

From: Ken DeBow and Linda Palmer
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 11:32 AM
To: Council
Subject: saving Boulder bears

Dear Members of the City Council,

Today we read with relief the news that the Council is planning to address with some urgency the issue of bears needing to be killed because of their frequent and repeating presence in the city.

The most significant reason bears enter the community is that they have free access to trash. In our Newlands neighborhood, a typical morning walk past 5 or 6 alleys between 3rd Street and North Boulder Park reveals between 10 and 30 knocked-over trash cans in a day. Our record count is 43. Just night before last, we heard a bear next door, and yesterday morning, we counted 11 knocked over cans in a 4 block stretch. We have written to the Camera and to Western Disposal in the past regarding the problem, and we have taken part in efforts to educate people who leave their trash out all week---all to no avail. We might like to think that education programs are enough to stop people from leaving out their trash all week, but the last two years have shown that these programs are not enough. We might like to think that residents will buy bear-proof cans, but we see few of them in our neighborhood despite programs to make them available at North Boulder Park. We might hope that people will stop leaving their trash out all week in alleys to protect the bears, but that has not happened, neither here in Newlands nor in many other neighborhoods, such as Chautauqua, even as three bears have been killed in the last weeks because of their attraction to free food. In fact, the same cans are knocked over day after day; people clean up their dumped trash, put it back in the can, and then leave the can out for an exact repeat the next day.

We all know that the Boulder bears are learning to be trash eaters, and they are teaching their young the same, and the tragic result is the death of too many bears. We support education efforts, but we know they have proven inadequate; we support requiring bear-proof bins, but we know many people will not (or can not) buy them. That still leaves at least two very reasonable strategies to reduce the number of bears in our community.

The most logical solution is to ask or require that Western Disposal and other companies cease alley garbage pick-ups, at least in bear-prone neighborhoods. People who have their garbage picked up on the street do not, ever, leave the full garbage cans outdoors all week; they put them out on the morning of pick-up, as the law requires. People who keep their cans in the alley fill them all week and leave them full for bears to pick at day after day. Solution? Stop the alley pick-ups. The bears won't find easy-access food and will, on their own, return to where they can find food in the wild.

The other possible solution would result in a nice form of revenue for the city: police every alley in affected neighborhoods and fine every person violating the rule that requires putting cans out after 5:00 a.m. on pickup

day. We already have that city rule; put it into effect (we have never seen any patrol in our alleys). Fine every person who puts cans out, fine them every day they persist. What a lot of money would flow in. And no doubt the cans would soon disappear.

Either way, our alleys would be neater, and much more important, our bears would be saved. Please act on this issue as soon and forcibly as possible.

Linda Palmer and Ken DeBow

From: Pat Lehman
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 11:20 AM
To: Council
Cc: Dom Nozzi; Bev Jones; carolyn crawford; Jan Vanderlinden
Subject:Fwd: [MapletonHillNeighborhood] sow and 2 cubs

Greetings Boulder Council Members:

Brenda Lee, of the Boulder Bear Coalition, has suggested that I forward my letter to the Mapleton Hill list serve to you. I am most concerned over the killing of bears eating from our trash cans. Why are we treating the symptom and not the cause of these needless bear killings? It appears that only punitive fines will change people's behavior, not over-the-top expensive bear-proof trash cans. I realize that such a system requires more hours of enforcement, but I believe that is better than needless destruction of wildlife. Aspen and other mountain communities have learned to peacefully co-exist with bears. No residents have been mauled or killed by bears that i know of. Why can't we adopt their model?

Respectfully,

Pat Lehman

Begin forwarded message:

From: Pat Lehman
Date: October 1, 2013, 1:31:13 PM MDT
To:
Subject: Re: [MapletonHillNeighborhood] sow and 2 cubs
Reply-To: MapletonHillNeighborhood@yahoo.com

This breaks my heart. I live at [REDACTED] and virtually every house on my alley on the

North side is a rental on the 400 block of Concord. Most days there are overturned trash cans in my alley because people put trash out on non-trash pickup days. The amount of trash is creating a large problem. It is very unlikely these houses are on the Mapleton Hill list serve, so they are probably unaware of the consequences of their actions. This never happened when the properties were owner-occupied. Do you think a visit to these homes from the wildlife office would be worthwhile to inform them about the problems their actions are causing related to the death of bears????? Do we need to contact the owner of these rental homes?

From: Helen El Mallakh
Sent: Wednesday, October 09, 2013 5:43 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Response to Bear Policies

Dear Ms. Matheson

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me today. I am putting together a short report for you about what has worked well in our neighborhood and how we have stopped bears from getting into our trash. While we believe that bears will continue to use our neighborhood as a transit corridor, we feel that our investments in neighborhood outreach, building our own animal-resistant trash storage, and other strategies have been successful to date. However, we don't support the mandating of bear-resistant trash containers and suggest that a "one-size-fits-all" approach by the City won't be beneficial or fair to the citizens who have made significant outlays - in terms of finances, energy, and effort- to make eliminate bears consuming trash contents.

Regards

Helen El Mallakh

From: Helen El Mallakh
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 11:34 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Re: Response to Bear Policies

Dear Ms. Matheson,

I will be putting together a powerpoint report this weekend. I do want to add a recent story that I think best captures the group think mentality for a solution to the bear issue. One week before school restarted in August, I saw the 590-pound bear who was living at the cemetery near Flatirons Elementary, called 911, and was called about 2 hours afterwards by a bear biologist

(who was with Colorado Parks and Wildlife). The bear biologist told me a repeated refrain: (1) "It is the people of Boulder's fault for not securing their trash and he could take no action," (2) "There is no solution to this issue until the City Council mandates bear-resistant trash cans for everyone," and that (3) "Bears are being senselessly killed because we don't mandate bear-resistant trash cans." When I asked that the bear biologist contact the elementary school, I was told that it "wasn't important" and that he attended that school and they were "used to dealing with wildlife issues."

Fast-forward about 3 weeks: two bears are euthanized within a block-radius of the school. The 590-pound bear being shot and killed while the children were on the playground and the school officials never told about the incident (see video at <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/second-bear-shot-killed-near-flatirons-elementary-school-in-boulder>). I spoke with the school's principal and was informed that they were never told about the large bear living in the cemetery prior to that day by Wildlife officials. Larry Rogstad, the district Area Wildlife Manager, was quoted the next day in the Daily Camera calls the killing of the bear "senseless." (see http://www.dailycamera.com/news/boulder/ci_24050751/wildlife-officers-forced-euthanize-another-bear-boulder-near)

Here is my take on the situation. The wildlife officials are obsessed with the idea that bear-resistant trash cans are the only solution to the problem. Wildlife officials don't think to mention that the safety of small children makes the killing of the bears necessary - they were killed based on public safety.

I don't believe that my voice or the voices of others in my neighborhood will ultimately change the council's decision, which I think will be to mandate bear-proof trash cans. We won't outweigh the mantra and drumbeat created by the Colorado wildlife officials and repeatedly given in the Daily Camera. Our hope is that we can get some type of exemption from the mandate for those of us who have made the investment in securing our trash and other lifestyle changes to make our areas less hospitable to bears.

The problem with trying to get stakeholders to engage on certain issues is that there is a credibility gap here in Boulder. On too many issues, the solution has already been selected by policy makers and stakeholder engagement becomes, in effect, a facade. What the city does not realize is that instead of placating stakeholders it alienates them because they realize that the end policy was a done deal from the start.

My willingness to tell what worked for my neighborhood is based on the view that we can maybe get some type of exemption from the costly mandates that I see coming down the road. But I would be naive to believe that this process will result in anything other than a mandate given the power of the Wildlife officials to frame this issue entirely on trash.

Here is what should be the greatest concern: a child will be mauled, badly injured, or killed in the near future in Boulder- with or without the trash can mandate. We don't have an effective plan for dealing with bears-or other wildlife. The narrow focus that has been promoted by Wildlife officials, in conjunction with their lack of resources or lack of desire to use what

resources are available to them, is a recipe for disaster. The blame game against the citizens of this city can only go on so long before their are human victims in addition to the killed bears.

Regards

Helen El Mallakh

From: Louise Padden
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 12:22 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie; Council
Subject: Bears and City Council

Dear Ms. Matheson,

We live in your pilot program area and thank you for your work on protecting the bears and educating the community. We're glad to see the city council and other agencies focused together on solutions. Towards that goal we would like to see a no kill/relocate ordinance included as part of the solution. Proposed by Aimee Albe and supported by a group of volunteers, Boulder needs to protect bears as part of our wildlife family. Other areas, with much larger bear situations than we have, Juneau Alaska, Tahoe, etc., have management procedures and information that can help our city formulate a more humane and successful system.

Some questions and comments we have:

1. How many people received second or third convictions for not securing trash? We walk the alleys behind Grant and after the first \$100 fine there did not seem to be increased compliance. We were told that there was not enough staff funding to follow up. Jane Brautigan brought up the issue of identifying who the can belongs to. These are important pieces of the problem that need solutions.
2. Western disposal allows extra trash in bags alongside bins, and this is especially a problem on Uni Hill.
3. The momma bear that was killed and two cubs relocated on 9/30 came from a request by one homeowner and agreed to by Jennifer Churchill, spokeswoman for Colorado Parks and Wildlife, despite many other homeowners asking for a relocation. How can one homeowner decide the bear's fate when many others asked for relocation? Hibernation is so close, and the flooding destroyed what

little food supply was left in Chautauqua and Flagstaff.

4. On 10/3/2013 Ms. Churchill stated: "I don't think we have evolved to the point where we can have predators living in our backyards". This is a surprising statement, since we already live with bobcats, coyotes, skunks, racoons, bats, bears, deer, and other wildlife. We cherish our open space, and most people understand that we already live with predators. We need to work together to find solutions to this complex issue, and give bears the same protections we give our other animal populations. A no kill ordinance needs to be in place and allowing relocation outside our region. Make the changes that will be effective, and please include community feedback.

Sincerely,

Louise Padden

From: Maggie
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 9:21 AM
To: Matheson, Valerie
Subject: Re: [wildlifeplan] Update on urban bears and trash to be discussed at city council meeting on October 15
Importance: High

I AM GLAD YOU ARE ADDRESSING BEARS! WHY HAVE YOU NOT FINED HOMEOWNER WHO DO NOT PROTECT TRASH, FALLEN FRUIT ETC? WHY SHOULD THE RES OF US WHO ARE CAUTIOUS HAVE TO ENDURE THE KILLING OF OUR BEARS? HOMEOWNER MUST BE MADE RESPONSIBLE – FINE THEM!

Maggie Schafer

From: Michael Higuera
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 8:11 PM
To: Matheson, Valerie; Kristin Cannon
Subject: Re: [MapletonHillNeighborhood] ear tagged sow + 2 cubs near 11th and Aurora yesterday 9/3

My preference is to require bear proof trash cans for residents in areas bears frequent. Preferably distributed by the city or garbage company so there is no way to opt out. I think it's more equitable for the city to pay for these cans since wildlife is a public good and therefore the general public should pay to protect wildlife.

Mike Higuera

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

PowerPoint Presentation & Draft Ordinance

A Neighborhood's
Response to
Bears: The
Willowbrook
Road Experience



By Helen E. Malachuk
Resident at 150 Willowbrook Rd.
Boulder, CO 80302
hmalachuk@twbnet.net

From Out of Control to Under Control

- As a neighborhood, we have been able to decrease bears eating from trash sources
- We have done this with more than 80 percent of residents having regular trash cans – not bear-resistant ones
- While bears will continue to transit through the neighborhood, we have far fewer incidents today than five years ago
- We view our sizeable investments (time, energy, and money) as part of the reason we have been successful
- But many of our residents DO NOT want a city mandate making us use bear-proof trash containers

Recommendation

- If residents can show that they can secure their trash, they should be exempted from any future city policy mandating the use of bear-proof trash containers
- If the city decides it will not allow exemptions, then senior citizens, disabled persons, and those with low or fixed income should receive some type of subsidy or tax credit to compensate for the high cost of a mandated program

I. Introduction: Willowbrook Road's History with Bears



Photos taken from in our neighborhood

Where We Live: Willowbrook road is located off of 6th street and Cascade along Gregory Creek



Proximity to Open Space & Creek Bed

- Due to our proximity to open space and the Gregory Creek path, bears frequently transit through the Willowbrook neighborhood.
- Many of the neighbors are native Boulderites and have lived on the street for decades (the oldest being 92 years of age)!
- About 6 years ago we started to see increasing numbers of bears transiting through the neighborhood and getting into our trash
- But the "bear issue" was not a new one...

The History of Our Neighborhood and Bears

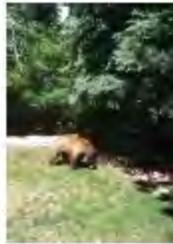
- With the coming of settlers to Boulder in the late 1800s and the building of Chautauqua, increased human food sources – such as fruit trees – attracted larger numbers of bears into the city limits
- Trash was not considered to be the source of attracting bears since it was burned on site
- The Willowbrook neighborhood of today would have abutted the Chautauqua park area and the Snow Family Apple Orchard of the early 20th century
- Boulder's bear "policy" at the time was to kill bears and not let them habituate

100-Years Later: A New Bear Challenge

- While bears always lived in this area, human development increased the attractiveness to bears
- 100 years after bears were attracted in large numbers to the apple trees of the Snow family, the neighborhood faced a new dilemma with more bears coming down from the mountains and staying in the city feeding off of trash
- "Urban bears" became common place in the neighborhood using the Gregory Creek bed as a transit corridor

Willowbrook Road: A Cub Nursery

- In particular, this neighborhood became a site for sows to rear their cubs and drop off their yearlings
- Neighbors repeatedly called in bears, but none were relocated. Instead, we were told by the State Wildlife officials that the bears would return to the mountains on their own.



A young bear in the backyard of 850 Willowbrook. Wildlife officials were called and told us he would go back to the mountains to forage.

The Birth of Urban Bears: We increasingly found that the bears were not returning to the mountains, but living in the city off of human food.

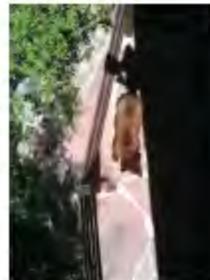
In this photo, a sow and cub rest in the backyards of 850 and 860 Willowbrook Rd. along Gregory Creek.



While this situation looked picturesque, it was not ...

- The increased numbers of bears looking for food, breaking into trash containers, and arriving at evening barbecues became a safety issue (both for the bears and the residents)
- Bears would go through the street on "trash day" knocking over trash cans and eating out of the garbage at 8 am in the morning
- It went from picturesque and cute to a surreal nightmare

II. Neighborhood Response to Bears



A photo of a bear (taken from above) walking by the old trash storage container at 850 Willowbrook. This was at the height of the bear problems!

Neighborhood Response

- Our neighborhood was involved in the City's educational outreach program
- But on our own, it was clear that things were getting out of control fast and that the State's Wildlife Department wasn't the answer
- Controlling our trash, lifestyle changes, and other deterrents were put in place by the neighborhood
- We have invested time, money, and resources in developing our own successful response

Over 80 percent of the neighborhood does not use bear-resistant trash cans

- The majority of residents have regular trash cans, which they store in their garages
- Other residents without garages have regular trash cans, which they store in custom bear-proof containers
- Under 20 percent of the residents use Western Disposal's bear-resistant trash cans

If not bear-resistant trash cans, then what worked?

- Making trash less attractive: solidarity & deterrents
- Scaring bears
- Making lifestyle changes
- Investments in securing trash/food sources
- A case study: The Bear-Proof Trash Container at 850 Willowbrook Rd.

Making Trash Less Attractive – Neighborhood Solidarity

- It became imperative that residents not put their trash cans out the night before trash pickup
- We did have some residents who didn't seem to care about this, but with enough external pressure they eventually started to secure their trash
- On the morning of trash day, residents all put out their trash within a narrow window of the pickup, which has been coordinated with Western Disposal to be first thing in the morning
- We have bear whistles, which we use if we see that a bear is trying to get into the trash (although we don't seem to need to do this anymore since bears don't come on trash day)

Making Trash Less Attractive - Smell Deterrents

- Recognizing that bears are thought to have the best sense of smell of almost any other animal on earth, we looked at using smell deterrents for our trash cans
- Rinsing out trash cans with ammonia, Lysol or Pinesol, or Cider Vinegar
- Storing organic materials (especially, meat and fish) in Ziploc bags or smell-proof bags
- Freezing organic materials until trash day
- Carefully rinsing out food containers

Scaring Bears When We See Them

- Car alarms
- Pots and pans
- Bear whistles
- Radios
- Motion-detectors (lighting and sound)
- Walkers carry bear spray with them

What We've Done Away With

- Birdfeeders
- Barbeque grills left outside
- Composting
- Picking up fallen fruit or getting rid of fruit trees
- Feeding of our pets outside

Investments made by neighborhood

- Bear-resistant trash cans
- Electric-fences around fish ponds
- Motion-triggered lights

III. Case Study of The Bear-Proof Trash Storage Container at 850 Willowbrook Rd.



Homeowner Dorothea El Mallakh showing off her bear-proof trash storage area

The hand-welded trash storage container at 850 Willowbrook: when frustration and innovation collide

- Without a garage, homeowner Dorothea El Mallakh, had to find a innovative plan to keeping bears away from her trash and recycle bins
- Living on Gregory Creek meant that bears were frequently on her property, so she turned to local H&M Mechanics and asked them to build her a steel trash container

The old wooden trash can holder was easily tipped over by bears



The new custom steel container was much larger and heavier. It also had bear-proof handles. This photo shows you the size.



The "christening" of the new hand-welded steel trash container by local-based H&M Mechanical. The company works in air conditioning and heating, but designed this for Dorothea as a special favor.



BEARS AND TRASH IN BOULDER

A proposed simple and pragmatic solution

THE PROBLEM

- Trash strewn alleyways west of Broadway
- Bears attracted to trash:
 - City is managing via the “state’s 2 strike policy” (reactive not proactive)
 - **Bears die every year due to City’s choice of management.**
- Difficult and costly to enforce current ordinances
- Citizens following current ordinance should not be adversely affected in any future ordinance change.

Key Points Driving Proposed Solution

- Western is currently cleaning-up spillage from tipped cans, without consequence to their customers. This is somewhat good, but this is also bad:
 - These customers continue not securing their trash
 - This complicates the burden of city enforcement
 -
- Western (one of 2 predominate haulers) leases cans. Their leased cans are labeled with each customer's address. It is simple to identify the customers whose cans are tipped over.

A Pragmatic Solution

Small additions to “Chapter 6-12: Trash, Recyclables and Compostables Hauling”

- **New Definitions:**
 - “Trash Clean-up Fee”
 - “Non-Bear Resistant Can Collection Service”
 - “Bear Resistant Can Collection Service”
- **Require haulers to charge a “Trash Clean-up Fee” for cleaning-up trash spillages to customers paying for “Non-Bear Resistant Can Collection Service”**
- **Require haulers to discontinue providing “Non-Bear Resistant Can Collection Service” to those customers that have been repeatedly charged a “Trash Clean-up Fee”**
- **Require haulers to schedule trash collection in the college / Uni-hill areas on Mondays to minimize lingering trash**
 - **Current collection from Western in the college area is on Thursdays**

Changes are only additions of text only, there is no deleted text.

Chapter 612: Trash, Recyclables and Compostables Hauling

6121 Legislative Intent.

- (a) The city council finds that a significant reduction of the volume of solid waste and a corresponding increase in the volume of recyclables and compostables generated by citizens and businesses in the city would benefit the public welfare. The city council finds that it would do so by reducing the consumption of important, nonrenewable natural resources, as well as the amount of land required for disposal of solid waste in landfills, thereby helping to extend the longevity of these valuable nonrenewable natural resources and allowing land to be used for purposes other than the disposal of solid wastes.
- (b) The city council finds an increase of occurrence in unsecured trash in the alleyways in west Boulder. The unsecured trash attracts bears, resulting in a corresponding increase in the state's department of wildlife enforcing the 2 strike policy on bears. Companies providing trash hauling services to this part of town will reduce the occurrence of unsecured trash by charging fees for cleaning up spilt garbage, and requiring repeat offenders to pay for a Bear Resistant Can Collection Service.

The intent of the city council in enacting this chapter is to a) decrease the amount of solid waste and increase waste reduction, recycling and composting practices by the citizens and businesses located in the city, and b) reduce the occurrence of unsecured trash.

Ordinance No. 7585 (2008), Ordinance No. XXX (2013)

6-12-2 Definitions.

The definitions in chapter 1-2, "Definitions," B.R.C. 1981, shall apply to this chapter, including, without limitation, the definitions of Compostables, Hauler, Recyclables, Trash, Trash container and Wildlife-resistant container.

The following terms used in this chapter have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Multi-family customer" means the occupants, taken together, of a residential building or set of residential buildings that uses a collective, common system for the collection of trash generated by the occupants.

"Periodic trash collection" means the regular collection of trash on a schedule of not less than once every calendar month..

"Recyclables processing center" means a facility that sorts, packages and otherwise prepares recyclable materials for sale.

"Residential customer" means every occupant of a residential building or set of residential buildings who receives periodic trash collection service, and who does not use a collective, common system for the collection of trash generated by the occupants.

"Bear Resistant Can Collection Service" means the collection of trash from a bear resistant container by a trash hauler. The trash that is collected and hauled must have come from a bear resistant trash container.

"Non-Bear Resistant Can Collection Service" means the collection of trash from a non-bear resistant container by a trash hauler. The trash that is collected and hauled can come from any container as deemed appropriate by the hauler.

"Trash Clean-up Fee" means a fee charged by a trash collection / hauling service to a customer for cleaning-up their spilled trash from a knocked-over non-secured (e.g. bear resistant) container.

(Ordinance No. 7172 (2001); 7585 (2008))

6-12-4 Hauler Requirements.

- (a) Each hauler shall submit an annual report to the city manager of the weight in tons of trash, recyclables and compostables collected by commodity within the city. For loads that contain trash, recyclables or compostables originating in part from within the city, and in part from outside the city, the reported quantity may be estimated by the hauler. Reports shall be submitted for each year by January 31 of the succeeding year using forms provided by the city manager. All information that is confidential pursuant to the provisions of the Colorado Open Records Act, § 24-72-201, et seq., C.R.S., shall be treated as such.
- (b) Each hauler that provides residential trash collection shall provide for the collection of the following no less frequently than every other week:
 - (1) Unlimited recyclables;
 - (2) A minimum of thirty-two gallons of compostables;
 - (3) Three paper or compostable bags of leaves; and
 - (4) Three bundles of branches no larger than three feet by six feet, tied by twine or compostable materials.
 - (5) Haulers providing service to the university hill / college area, shall schedule collection services early in the week (e.g. Monday) in order to minimize the amount of time that college-student trash generated over weekends lingers in trash collection containers (bear proof or other.)
- (c) Bags and bundles of compostables shall be placed adjacent to the compost container on collection day. The collection of compostables and recyclables shall occur either curbside or in alleys, whichever

the hauler utilizes for trash collection.

- (d) Each hauler shall provide each residential customer with a base unit of service which shall include a maximum of thirty-two gallons of trash collection service and which shall also include the collection of recyclables and compostables consistent with subparagraphs (b) and (c) above.
 - (1) A hauler may charge any amount for the base unit of service.
 - (2) A hauler may charge, in addition, a flat periodic fee. This flat periodic fee may not exceed the charge for the base unit of service and shall be itemized separately on customer billing statements.
 - (3) No hauler may charge less than a prorated portion of the charge for the base unit of service for each additional volume of trash that may be collected from a customer during one or more collection periods.
 - (4) Haulers may charge for compostables collection in excess of that set forth in subparagraph (b) above at a rate of no more than seventy-five percent of an equivalent volume of trash service.
- (e) Haulers providing trash collection service to multifamily customers shall also provide collection service of all their recyclables at no additional charge beyond that agreed for trash collection service. The city manager may require each hauler that is providing trash and recyclables collection to multifamily customers to also provide compostables collection.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting any hauler from establishing rules regarding safety. Haulers may also set special pricing for large or unusual items.
- (g) Haulers shall not collect trash from unmarked containers; markings shall indicate the address of the customer paying for the trash hauling service.
- (h) Haulers providing trash collection services shall not clean-up any spilt trash from tipped-over containers without charging a Trash Clean-up Fee of at least \$10 per occurrence per container. Haulers shall keep records of these occurrences and fees charged per paying customer.
- (i) Haulers providing trash collection services shall require any customer that has been charged a Trash Clean-up Fee 2 times, to purchase Bear Resistant Can Collection Service.
- (j) Haulers shall not provide a non-Bear Resistant Collection Service to any customer that has been recorded to have paid a Trash Clean-up 2 times.

Ordinance No. 7585 (2008), Ordinance No. XXX (2013)

II. ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

Summary

Survey was available at www.boulderwildlifeplan.net from Nov. 22- Dec.23, 2013

302 respondents

Q1 - Where in Boulder should trash and compost be secured to protect bears? (*rank the options*)

Most people favored focusing on **Bear Zone Three**, but only by a few percentage points as noted below:

- Approximately 79% of respondent agree or somewhat agree with Bear Zone One.
- Approximately 82% agree or somewhat agree with Bear Zone Two.
- Approximately 83% agree or somewhat agree with Bear Zone Three.
- 21% agree or somewhat agree with not requiring trash and compost to be secured to protect bears nowhere

Q2 – How should trash and compost be secured to protect bears? Of 297 responses, most people agreed with or somewhat agree with **Storage Option 2** (trash and compost in alleys should be secured in bear resistant containers) but a few percentage points. 79% also favored Option1 (securing trash and compost in bear-resistant containers until 5:00 a.m. on collection day.

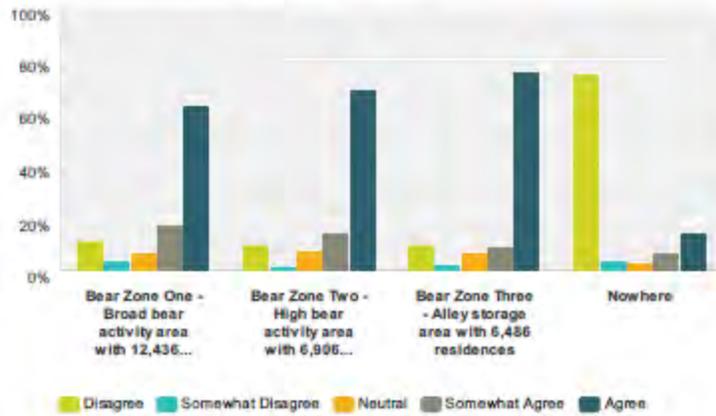
Q3 – How should enforcement of trash and compost regulations be enhanced? (*rank the options*)

87% of the 297 respondents agree or somewhat agree with allowing offenders to purchase a bear-resistant container instead of paying a fine (as in Durango). 76% of the respondents agree or somewhat agree with adding the option to ticket offenders even if officers cannot make direct contact. 53% of the respondents agree or somewhat agree with increasing the fine for first offenses.

Bears & Trash Survey

**Q1 Where in Boulder should trash and compost be secured to protect bears?
Rank the options below.**

Answered: 296 Skipped: 12



	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Total
Bear Zone One - Broad bear activity area with 12,436 residences	10.95% 31	3.53% 10	6.71% 19	17.31% 49	61.48% 174	283
Bear Zone Two - High bear activity area with 6,906 residences	9.59% 28	1.11% 3	7.38% 20	14.02% 38	67.90% 184	271
Bear Zone Three - Alley storage area with 6,486 residences	9.38% 25	1.50% 4	5.99% 18	8.61% 23	74.53% 199	267
Nowhere	73.51% 111	3.31% 5	2.65% 4	6.62% 10	13.91% 21	151

#	Other location options	Date
1	Bear proof containers should be required of entire city, not just focused area. Bears don't observe your boundaries.	12/23/2013 3:56 PM
2	I have an idea. How about getting sponsors to support this program. Maybe we can put their names on bins? So folks feel like they are truly helping and getting recognition. Brad Feld puts his name on bathrooms. I live on the hill and have wonderful bears visit sad but true. They are most often so sick from all the garbage and heave all night. We must help the bears! Thank you team!	12/12/2013 5:09 PM
3	Since zones two and three are similar, it makes much more sense to just specify zone two--seems like level of bear activity should be the major criterion rather than manner of pickup.	12/11/2013 5:45 PM
4	Entire city limits - this is a city problem - and bear have certainly shown up in other areas.	12/11/2013 8:56 AM
5	citywide	12/10/2013 2:21 PM
6	A plan that allows the zones to be changed based on activity every few years seems like a good idea.	12/10/2013 11:20 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

7	Trash & Kitchen smells attract bears to Boulder. Current Trash is a "godsend" keeping bears out of our Kitchens. Take away the trash & they'll be in our Kitchens. Old time towns had a City Dump to attract Bears and also act as a cheap Zoo. Polar bears in Alaska regularly "peel-open" house trailers to get at Kitchens and occasionally human and/or pet occupants. Build a Boulder Dump/Zoo for Safe Bear viewing and feeding.	12/10/2013 9:38 AM
8	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
9	I feel that all bear activity areas should require secure trash containers.	12/9/2013 12:06 PM
10	Bear Proof option may not be the answer at this point. There is a great interim measure that will provide some protection but not entirely bear proof. May be the most cost effective interim measure. It is a new product called LidLock by Nature Proof. www.nature-proof.com —This would be bear resistant.	12/9/2013 11:15 AM
11	Make all trash cans bear proof	12/7/2013 6:56 PM
12	In the mountain parks and public gathering areas like Flagstaff Mountain, etc. Trash containers are NOT PROVEN to solve the bear activity in the City.	12/4/2013 7:29 AM
13	Your map does NOT clearly label the zones on which you are asking for input. I disagree that ALL residents must be FORCED to pay for bear resistant containers or enclosures when those residents do not have a problem. This is a lazy 'simple' one size fits all solution by unimaginative bureaucrats.	12/2/2013 8:56 PM
14	The entire city	12/2/2013 8:16 AM
15	Foothills. Everything west of Broadway, and north of Wonderland lake.	12/1/2013 8:35 AM
16	Questions is odd (above) since the zones are overlapping.	11/29/2013 4:51 PM
17	I suspect that if we secure compost and trash in western areas, bears in search of food will move east so we may want to expand the zone even more.	11/27/2013 9:32 PM
18	Include the neighborhood north of Wonderland Lake. We live on Locust Pl. Our dumb neighbors leave their garbage cans outside all the time. Bears break into them on a weekly basis in the fall.	11/27/2013 11:26 AM
19	city parks	11/27/2013 8:28 AM
20	Trash is fine as it is.	11/26/2013 7:21 PM
21	everyone should be held responsible for securing their trash from wildlife	11/26/2013 9:07 AM
22	We live and work in zone one. There is a LOT of bear activity that could be curbed with protective trash and compost bins.	11/25/2013 3:37 PM
23	In addition to providing secured compost and trash receptacles, the city should also pick up the compost weekly instead of bi-weekly. People should be encouraged not to leave it out overnight and to put it out the morning of. Also, people should be penalized for leaving out trash that is not secured. Bears should not have to die because people want to be careless with their trash!!!	11/25/2013 9:44 AM
24	I believe this should be mandatory for any and all rental properties and all businesses in Bear Zone One.	11/24/2013 8:53 PM
25	To avoid bears from moving from one zone to another another zone, zone 1 to 3 I think it would be best to have the new process of keeping trash secured effective in all areas.	11/24/2013 4:19 PM
26	Anywhere the College students store their trash outside prior to pick up day.	11/24/2013 2:54 PM
27	I agree with an enclosure for compost, recycle and waste carts rather than a locking lid. Not only would an enclosure act as wildlife resistance barrier (dogs too) but it would keep wind from blowing over carts and improve the look of our neighborhoods.	11/24/2013 1:39 PM
28	there are locations where the trash could be picked up on the street instead of alleys- otherwise owners should be fined if garbage is left out in alley.	11/24/2013 1:13 PM
29	Mountain communities	11/24/2013 11:53 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

30	You need to address the problem in the foothills first, since the bears don't live in the city (e.g., Table Mesa, Sunshine Canyon, Pine Brook Hills). You'll have to work with the county on this. 1st step would be to offer bear proof cans for sale to foothills residents at a reasonable price (e.g., at the cost when purchasing in bulk). This would cost the city nothing, but would likely have a significant impact. I looked into purchasing one, but it would have been \$350+ with shipping. I called your office, I called Western Disposal, called the hardware stores, and there was no way to get one locally without paying a huge shipping fee. Again, if you want to address the problem, you will have to coordinate efforts with the county. I'm really tired of hearing that you don't know what to do, year after year.	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
31	Require business trash containers that may contain food to be kept secured between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. 7 days a week, year-round.	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
32	Boulder County.	11/23/2013 1:48 PM
33	I live in zone one. One Thursday evening at 5:30 PM, trash is picked up in our neighborhood on Friday morning to see how many people had their trash out "the night before.". 99% of the houses had their trash out that early the night before. This is ridiculous. People can get up early and put out their trash in the morning.	11/23/2013 12:39 PM
34	Make it easy but optional for those of us outside the 3 zones to participate. While we've only had one or two occurrences over the years we're still concerned and would be willing to participate, even if it costs us extra.	11/23/2013 11:00 AM
35	Our bear-resistant containers were knocked over only once this season, but not opened. Bears are also attracted to the neighborhoods for fallen-fruit, etc.	11/23/2013 10:38 AM
36	EVERYWHERE!!	11/23/2013 9:21 AM
37	Everywhere. We should not be throwing away, in the sense of garbage, what bears want to eat, attracts them.	11/23/2013 9:02 AM
38	Every alley in town. Trash cans should ALL be indoors or bear-proofed.	11/23/2013 7:42 AM
39	Bear proof trash bins should be more affordable and accessible to all Boulder residents even if outside the Bear Zones identified. Western Disposal has made it extremely difficult to purchase these containers. There needs to be much better advertising and encouragement for residents to take advantage of them. WD should be placing big ads in the newspaper, prominently advertising in their newsletters, even adding stickers on trash cans. One neighbor was told they were on back order for a month to get a container (after being put on hold and having to work through two different sales agents at the company). The City should put pressure on WD to take make bins more accessible/affordable and educate Boulder residents	11/23/2013 6:24 AM
40	Any regulations designed to secure trash and compost should be applied uniformly to all areas within the city's jurisdiction.	11/23/2013 3:48 AM
41	Everywhere. I live outside of these 3 zones, and your map is greatly incomplete. There have been many more sights than reported on the map.	11/22/2013 8:27 PM
42	Please phase this in starting in the Spring. Many many other types of animals live and exist by feeding on trash. This includes Raccoons. It is not their fault. Please phase in during warm months so that there will not be a cruel dramatic die off of these many other animals.	11/22/2013 7:09 PM
43	I think it should be all of BOulder. IE Martin Acres had many bear sightings this fall. NOT only will secured trash help with bears but it will help with high winds which effects all of Boulder	11/22/2013 6:53 PM
44	The historical bear activity has been with few bear resistant containers in use. If bear resistant containers are put in place in the smaller zones the bears will move into the othe zones therefor all zones (and potentially larger zones) should require bear resistant containers.	11/22/2013 5:23 PM
45	The fact that everyone who's hyperventilating about the bear problem continues to ignore is that this year was a huge anomaly. We had a record deep freeze in early May resulting in no tree fruit in and around the city. The bears were very aggressive this year because they didn't have food from their natural source. New rules and regulations based on an exceptional year make no sense whatsoever. That would be equivalent to permanently reducing the speed limit to 25 on Hwy 36 after there were a ton of crashes caused by a snowstorm. Let's put on our thinking caps and stop the nanny state intrusion. Can we please?	11/22/2013 5:18 PM
46	I'm fine securing trash, but could really use a bear resistant option so it does not need to be stored inside. And then I think... what about the fruit trees in the yard. Also, not being able to put cans out the night before is difficult.	11/22/2013 4:58 PM

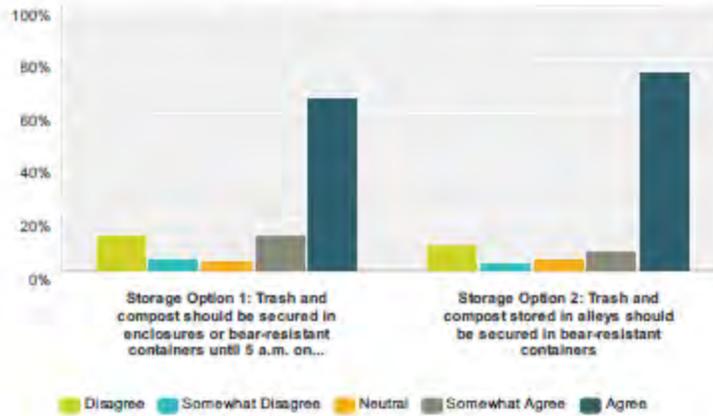
Bears & Trash Survey

47	There have been bears north of Wonderland and west of Broadway.	11/22/2013 3:36 PM
48	West of Broadway with no indoor/secured garage storage for trash, or for any home in this area where the homeowner chooses to leave trash containers outside.	11/22/2013 3:05 PM
49	Concerned about add cost for waste collection if required to go to bear-proof cans.	11/22/2013 3:02 PM
50	Highly focused on where bears are very active.	11/22/2013 2:37 PM
51	Restaurants and other large facility dumpsters	11/22/2013 2:34 PM
52	I live west of Broadway on and doubt that we need to secure the trash, mabe further west but I haven't seen any problems that close to Broadway. Please take care to not overburden poeple to deal with a problem somewhere else.	11/22/2013 1:43 PM
53	As a former mountain resident, the most reliable source is to have bear proof garbage/trash cans at every residence left indoors until trash day and used year round. Simple yet effective solution. Have residents responsible for their waste!	11/22/2013 1:19 PM
54	Just do it everywhere	11/22/2013 1:08 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q2 How should trash and compost be secured to protect bears?

Answered: 257 Skipped: 5



	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Total
Storage Option 1: Trash and compost should be secured in enclosures or bear-resistant containers until 5 a.m. on collection day	13.45% 39	4.14% 12	3.79% 11	13.45% 39	65.17% 189	290
Storage Option 2: Trash and compost stored in alleys should be secured in bear-resistant containers	9.93% 28	2.84% 8	4.61% 13	7.80% 22	74.82% 211	282

#	Other storage options	Date
1	Bear proof containers should only be required if entire city is required to have them. Just like streets and plowing, all should bear the cost. Enforcement of current codes should be first option.	12/23/2013 3:56 PM
2	alley storage is acceptable if garages or other enclosures are used. not necessary to have bear resistant trash containers	12/18/2013 10:38 AM
3	If Option 2 - important to have the "true" bear resistant containers, and not allow folks to do things like bungee cords. That was a huge problem in our alley - ineffective efforts in the alley for bear resistance. Both compost and trash must be in city approved locking containers. However, smell will still attract the bears.	12/11/2013 8:56 AM
4	Back Alley Metals- Red Lodge, MT ck out their solution! backalleymetals.com. Old friends, created a great business dealing with bear/trash (can) issues.	12/10/2013 9:30 PM
5	Communal trash facilities should be installed in as many places as space allows.	12/10/2013 8:41 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

6	My trash is picked up at 7AM and I am never awake between 5 and 7 AM (night woder). I simply can not abide the 5AM restriction. I am also in Table Mesa, South Boulder Rec Center - to Lehigh area, and I do not know of any bear problems in the thirty years I have lived here. Bear sitings, yes. Bear problems, no. You need a map that shows where bears are a problem, not just where they are sited or "active." They do live here, ... you know?! In 30 years on Emerson Ave I have never had an animal invade my trash can, not dogs, raccoons, or bears. And to be quite frank, the last thing I would do is call the city to report a bear. It is the city rangers that are bad for bears' health. I would relish the encounter and consider myself very lucky. What is the problem we are actually avoiding here. How many people have actually been injured by bears in the city of Boulder ... ever? They eat some trash, yes, but have they ever molested people? These aren't grizzlies. People just need to be aware that they share space with wild animals - and may one day be lucky enough to see them.. If I ever did have a trash problem, I would fix it without city enforcement (as I did when living in Illinois when I had to secure trash from raccoons. I've not had that problem here.) I use a 32 gal trash/compost container, so bear your estimate of cost increase is way off. I would pay \$13.75 per month extra - and for what? And if you insist on the 5AM unlatching, I would pay another \$2 per week. And, as I said, for what? I have never known of a bear problem in my neighborhood. When a bear is killed, do you notify everyone in the neighborhood? Perhaps you should start by making sure people are really aware (door fliers, mailings?) when there is a bear problem in their neighborhood caused by human negligence. I am aware of none in the thirty years I have been in my neighborhood.	12/10/2013 7:34 PM
7	Able to be stored outside the pre-5am in a bear-resistant container	12/10/2013 4:30 PM
8	, http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
9	There is a local company patenting an "add on" product to make existing containers bear resistant. Check out www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:13 PM
10	The City might consider looking into an option called Lidlock by Nature-proof	12/9/2013 12:06 PM
11	LidLock by Nature-Proof, a brand new Boulder company has just been tested in Boulder. It is an extremely cost effective locking mechanism that will secure trash, will not open when pushed over but opens automatically when picked up by garbage collectors and automatic garbage trucks.	12/9/2013 11:15 AM
12	A Boulder company, Nature-Proof, LLC (www.nature-proof.com) is in the process of developing and testing a bear-proof latching system for outdoor waste bins that is both easy for humans to use and automatically releases on collection day so the trucks can pick up and dump the containers without the driver getting out to release the latch.	12/9/2013 10:54 AM
13	Design a bear resistant trash can that can still be emptied without the driver exiting the truck and provide it to the entire city.	12/7/2013 6:56 PM
14	Option 2- is poorly worded. But I believe the intent is to require waste companies to make available containers for bear resistance. However, I do not agree that the exemption of alley container storage should be removed.	12/6/2013 12:00 PM
15	I find it hard to understand why communal containers, especially for compost and food waste, cannot be used in the areas with alleyway pickup.	12/4/2013 9:29 PM
16	approved bear proof containers should be available for a ONE-TIME fee. NOT a monthly charge.	12/4/2013 9:19 PM
17	Both options require that residents purchase trash containers that are bear resistant. This is unreasonable. This option should be optional for residents NOT MANDATORY.	12/4/2013 7:29 AM
18	The current trash situation is working fine other than a few hysterical bear people who expect us all to pay absurd amounts of money for "bear-proof" trash containers. If the containers are provided for free, and there is no additional charge from Western disposal for using them, fine, but trash service is costly enough as is.	12/3/2013 1:28 PM
19	Only make past violators secure their trash and compost. They have a problem. I don't. Don't let their laziness punish me!!!	12/2/2013 8:55 PM
20	Or out of the alley as a whole, your bear cans will only do so much	12/2/2013 8:15 AM
21	This question is very poorly worded and is confusing. Trash and compost should be in bear resistant containers	12/1/2013 8:12 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

22	I would agree with bear proof container storage if they could be purchased at a reasonable ONE TIME price not a recurring 10\$/month charge which far exceeds the cost to Western Disposal when taken in aggregate terms. I do not have a safe/secure place to store garbage in my yard nor do I have a shed/garage. My neighbor has had his fence broken down twice by bears while storing garbage in his backyard rather than the alley, so I don't think preventing alley storage is a solution.	11/30/2013 9:06 PM
23	All if Boulder should share rules as bears will wander to where there is food - we will see more downtown and further east. Must be city wide rule.	11/30/2013 8:21 AM
24	Freeze the trash until the morning of collection.	11/30/2013 3:46 AM
25	No idea. What has worked in other cities? I heard that bears can get into bear resistant containers. Not sure why residents, with no expertise in this, are asked to make these decisions (without knowing the facts, pros and cons).	11/29/2013 4:51 PM
26	If trash is OUTSIDE at ANY time other than pick up day after 5:00 AM and before say 6:00 PM, then it MUST be in a bear-resistant container.	11/28/2013 3:53 PM
27	Any bear-resistant containers should be available at a one-time cost, not a monthly rental. Yes, it is more work to open a bear-resistant container, but that is part of living with bears. Any cost that the trash hauling companies want to add to account for the added work of opening the containers should be spread among all the customers in the city of Boulder and in the western unincorporated areas.	11/27/2013 9:32 PM
28	Put trash cans in garages. This is easy and no one has to spend money on bear-resistant containers.	11/27/2013 11:26 AM
29	Give residents the option of taking stinky trash to "bear safe" containers in city parks	11/27/2013 8:28 AM
30	People don't have room for storage in houses/other structures. Our compost is collected no later than 7:00 a.m. It is not possible to put it out that early—we need to put it out the night before. Or you can require that no garbage/compost can be collected prior to 8:30 a.m.	11/26/2013 7:21 PM
31	Decrease the period of time that trash and compost may be stored outside, regardless of type of container.	11/26/2013 1:26 PM
32	I started out to agree that trash and compost should be secured until I realized that far and away the bulk of our compost is non edibles from cleaning up the garden. We put all food waste out the morning of collection. No reason to secure cans the entire week if they hold landscape contents but no food waste. the entire week!	11/26/2013 12:57 PM
33	I think it is problematic to require storing trash inside of a building. The use of bear resistant containers left outside is a better option.	11/25/2013 8:06 PM
34	Require and enforce that trash/compost that attracts bears not be placed in containers until day of collection.	11/25/2013 7:10 PM
35	Different options for different zones	11/25/2013 5:21 PM
36	Storage option 1 is preferred, but 2 is alright as well.	11/25/2013 1:24 PM
37	Adding ammonia solution to compost especially seems to offer some deterrent	11/24/2013 11:12 PM
38	If the City invested in purchasing containers in quantity, the price would come down considerably. Shipping is prohibitively expensive for homeowners or neighborhood organizations for small quantities of bear-proof containers. Perhaps the City could be in partnership with local hardware stores and/or trash haulers, and recover the initial investment in hundreds of cans as the stores and haulers sold them.	11/24/2013 8:21 PM
39	In some communities, example Eldorado Springs, perhaps during bear season residents could store compost and trash away from the residential areas. Giving people an option to move their compost and trash to an off site location containing bear proof containers. Treatments and deterrents to move bears away from the remote collection area could be applied without involving residential streets and neighborhoods.	11/24/2013 4:19 PM
40	I feel that all households, no matter if your trash is collected in the alley or curbside, should be required to have a bear resistant container. All houses west of Bmadway, no exceptions.	11/24/2013 2:26 PM
41	Enclosure is a better route.	11/24/2013 1:39 PM
42	If possible garbage should not be stored or picked up at all in alleys.	11/24/2013 1:13 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

43	Large multi-household secured containers - in the alleys would be more economical and more effective in preventing bear problems and assuring compliance.	11/24/2013 10:25 AM
44	I'm not sure I understand what the difference between option 1 and option 2 is.	11/24/2013 7:45 AM
45	Our compost is picked up at 7:00 a.m. (not even 7:05), and some people get theirs picked up prior to ours! Everyone who remembers puts out garbage the night before, as it is too hard to get it out the morning before 7:00. If you require garbage to be stashed until the morning of pickup, you need to require that garbage collection cannot occur before 8:00 a.m.	11/24/2013 7:05 AM
46	It would really be nice to know what the cost is for bear resistant containers. Apparently this is a secret, as Western Disposal's site also will not share this information. If it did, perhaps more people would use it. I suspect I would.	11/24/2013 5:29 AM
47	Storage Option 1: "Enclosures" should be expanded to include storage on private property that is secured from the public right-of-ways by fencing. Trash that is scattered by bears or raccoons on private property is more likely to be cleaned up by the property owner than when it is scattered in public right-of-ways like alleys. Also, compost containers, whether provided by Western or compost containers that are privately owned should be confined to storage on private property as an alternative to having to have a bear-resistant container for compost.	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
48	It is unclear to me if bear proof containers can be purchased or only rented. Offenders should be required to purchase their containers.	11/23/2013 11:22 AM
49	Is there a history of bears getting into trash during trash pickup day? If so then for the higher risk areas bear-proof containers should be required. The cost of this should be shared by all Boulder residents, not just put on the burden of those living in the high risk areas.	11/23/2013 11:00 AM
50	Who writes these things? What is the difference between option 1 and 2? I have little confidence in how this survey will be used because I think it was poorly written and that will reflect also on how it is evaluated. I guess I don't care about what happens after 5am on collection day because it doesn't matter.	11/23/2013 10:41 AM
51	The garbage cans from the student apartments along our alley are a mess - bears turn the garbage cans over every night in the summer and fall. What is truly maddening is that the owners live in the building and there is a garage on the alley where the garbage cans could be kept. After the killing of the bears, I am convinced that we must do more.	11/23/2013 10:34 AM
52	I live on the hill in one of the areas most affected by bears this year. I don't believe we should require everyone to purchase bear containers at the current prices from western which are exorbitant. Therefore you need more lower cost alternatives if you want compliance. That means the rule needs to be a list of options for people including bear containers, keep trash inside until morning or other low cost options for those that can't keep trash inside all week. It's that third option that needs a closer look if I'm forced to pay an additional \$300 per year in perpetuity to western... that's not a viable solution. Also, this is one issue that has nothing to do with student population, I don't understand why that is called out in the enforcement options.	11/23/2013 10:25 AM
53	Residents in the mountains have been storing their trash indoors until the morning of pickup for years! There is no reason why residents in the city cannot do this also. Big fines should be given to those who do not comply and landlords should be held responsible for the actions of their renters!	11/23/2013 10:20 AM
54	leave it the way it is.	11/23/2013 9:40 AM
55	Trash and compost should be stored in ENCLOSURES (building, house, garage, shed) until 5 AM on collection day. (Probably the option that most people will disagree with but, the option that really needs to happen.)	11/23/2013 9:32 AM
56	All of Boulder - same rules for everyone. If you want to put your trash or recycling out before the morning of pickup, you MUST secure it in a bear proof container. If you don't want to pay for a bear proof container, you need to get yourself out of bed on your trash collection day to take the trash out. Those big trash containers servicing several residences will need to be bear proofed and the cost borne by the residents using them. It can be added to the rent in those "higher resident turnover" areas.	11/23/2013 9:21 AM
57	People should not put food waste, un-fined food containers in trash containers. Use garbage disposal for meat, grain left overs. Sort out bones for a bag to be thrown out. Get rid of the large plastic sacks w/ indiscriminate trash. Do not put meat and grain in compost, whether yard compost or compost for pickup and recycle.	11/23/2013 9:02 AM

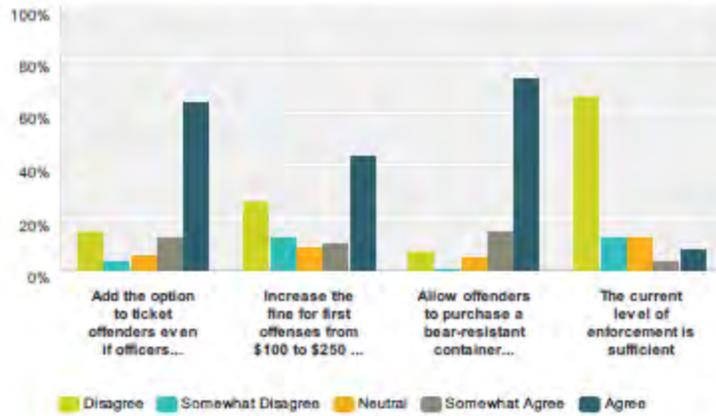
Bears & Trash Survey

58	For alley pickup, you should require bear proof trash. You can't expect people to be responsible enough to store in garage etc. just make it required with western disposal! Perhaps negotiate the fees down with western.	11/23/2013 8:43 AM
59	Have a place to bring edible trash before collection day	11/23/2013 7:06 AM
60	Require the use of bear-resistant containers. However, restricting when trash and compost can be set out for collection is simply not feasible. Many, many people follow a schedule for which placing trash out after 5 a.m. and before 7 a.m. is not practical. Furthermore, most people prefer to NOT have trash and compost stored within their residence or garage. Require animal-resistant containers uniformly throughout the entire municipal area without scheduling restrictions, and evaluate whether that measure has had a positive impact before considering adding enclosure and/or timing restrictions.	11/23/2013 3:48 AM
61	change the rule exempting alleys	11/22/2013 8:11 PM
62	Keep in garages or storage sheds until 5:00 am on trash pick up days.	11/22/2013 7:10 PM
63	Please phase this in starting in the Spring. Many many other types of animals live and exist by feeding on trash. This includes Raccoons. It is not their fault. Please phase in during warm months so that there will not be a cruel dramatic die off of these many other animals.	11/22/2013 7:09 PM
64	Perhaps evening before rather than 5AM. Also perhaps seasonal.	11/22/2013 6:09 PM
65	People will most likely not properly close the bear resistant containers which will lead to "gray" enforcement action so Option 1 is much more straight forward and effective (at protecting bears) option.	11/22/2013 5:23 PM
66	Can I purchase bear resistant cans?	11/22/2013 4:58 PM
67	Within Fenced Area / Within Garage structure should be a fine way to keep containers secured. Residents should not be required to pay \$20/ month rental fee from Western, for Bear resistant containers if they have other available options. In downtown Boulder we don't have bear activity.	11/22/2013 4:56 PM
68	I do not think compost, meaning yard waste, needs to be secured inside or in bear proof containers because we have a lot of bears, but they never get into the yard waste.	11/22/2013 4:48 PM
69	Adequately secured alternative latch system an option until first violation.	11/22/2013 4:35 PM
70	Can we distinguish between food compost containers and yard waste compost containers? Because I'm not seeing yard waste compost as any kind of problem. We bring our food waste (compostable bags) outside just when we put out our bins in the morning on the day of pickup.	11/22/2013 3:05 PM
71	Enforce the code that is on the books now. The owner can choose how to secure from 'animals, wind, or other elements and containers must remain closed and not overflow.' But is there is a violation, as there are so many right now, enforce it.	11/22/2013 2:37 PM
72	Western Disposal dumpsters - need to have the lids closed by Western Disposal staff. Once the Western Disposal trucks have emptied a dumpster they ALWAYS leave the top open - this is one of the biggest problems if the dumpster is next to a cement enclosure - employees are then stuck with moving the dumpster to get the top down - Results: tops on dumpster are almost always left open	11/22/2013 2:34 PM
73	I think you should confirm that compost in this regard means food-based compost. I also think that food should be rinsed from recyclables.	11/22/2013 2:34 PM
74	keep the trash inside your house and then drive it to the waste collection site I live in unincorporated boulder county and that is what we all do. Suck it up and do it. Or, if that is too much for you to handle, keep it inside until collection day, - no trash outside until then. Those of us in my neighborhood wouldn't even consider storing it outside!	11/22/2013 2:17 PM
75	Nearly all compost is not food related. Of the food related compost, it should be all vegetable matter. It looks like there is an answer in search of a problem with respect to compost containers.	11/22/2013 1:44 PM
76	if you have a bear or other wildlife encounter, then you need to prove you keep your trash and compost inside until 5AM even if you're in an alley pickup area. Alley pickup in non-high impact areas should be unaffected by more stringent regulations.	11/22/2013 1:28 PM
77	As a former mountain resident, the most reliable source is to have bear proof garbage/trash cans at every residence and used year round. These receptacles should be stored indoors until the morning of trash pick up. Simple yet effective solution. Have residents and student housing landlords responsible for their waste!	11/22/2013 1:19 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q3 How should enforcement of trash and compost regulations be enhanced? Rank the options below.

Answered: 257 Skipped: 5



	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Total
Add the option to ticket offenders even if officers cannot make direct contact	14.78% 43	3.09% 9	5.84% 17	12.37% 36	63.92% 186	291
Increase the fine for first offenses from \$100 to \$250 (as in Aspen, Colorado)	25.86% 75	12.07% 35	8.97% 26	10% 29	43.10% 125	290
Allow offenders to purchase a bear-resistant container instead of paying a fine (as in Durango, Colorado)	7.19% 21	0.68% 2	5.14% 15	14.73% 43	72.26% 211	292
The current level of enforcement is sufficient	65.04% 173	12.03% 32	12.03% 32	3.01% 8	7.89% 21	268

#	Other enforcement options	Date
1	Like all other city codes, enforcement is insufficient. If there is a code on the books, it should be enforced, not ignored. Simply adding more will do no good. First option should help address this problem, but strong enforcement is needed, not education.	12/23/2013 3:56 PM
2	I am against paying extra for bear-proof trash cans because some of the people in my neighbourhood are lazy or don't care about the law. Many people in the neighbourhood take their trash cans out the night before. Some leave them out all week - and we all have garages in my neighbourhood. These people do not need education. People in Boulder are well-educated. We need enforcement. I called to ask that a code enforcement officer take action in our neighbourhood, but was told that none of them work on Sunday (we have Monday pickup). Very poor excuse. The traffic speeding van was out last Sunday on Broadway. If we can enforce speed limits on Sunday, we can enforce other laws on Sunday. Very simple solution: increase the fines until they can pay for enforcement - including Sunday. It is an extremely poor excuse to say the city cannot enforce the law, so then they want everyone to pay for the deeds of a few. If the people who live in alleyways need bear-proof trash cans that's fine. But I have a garage, I obey the law, and I object to being required to make unnecessary expenditures because of someone else.	12/22/2013 7:40 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

3	Have code enforcement personnel check on SUNDAY nights prior to Monday pickup; we have called code enforcement about repeat offenders in our area but were told that code enforcement does not work on weekends. Otherwise ask Western Disposal to change trash days for anyone living in zones 1, 2 & 3 to only be Tuesday thru Friday. From my experience, people change behavior when it costs them - start the fines at \$250 and ramp it up by at least \$100 for each offense after that. Bears don't deserve to be killed because of these people, and it's not fair for the rest of us to be forced to pay more for bear-proof containers when we follow the law and protect the bears. Punish the problem people, not everyone!	12/21/2013 5:25 PM
4	Enforcement is key. Our alley (800 block between 12th and 13th) - was ignored for at least the last few years. Finally a major offender was contacted - but too late - Mama bear and 2 cubs already euthanized. Increase enforcement - maybe use parking ticket folks to do this too.	12/11/2013 8:56 AM
5	Make sure people are really aware (door to door fliers, mailings?) when there is a bear "problem" in their neighborhood caused by human negligence. I am aware of none in the thirty years I have been in my neighborhood.	12/10/2013 7:34 PM
6	adding more TRAINED code enforcement officers may be helpful, though not as cost effective as making stricter laws. Having a short time peak season TRAINED officer is questionable because who would want to do this job - have to be someone specialized for the time of day and willingness to do an unsavory ticket issuing function - also who would want to train and be responsible for harassing bears and disrupting/changing their behavior. Fines and mandatory compliance	12/10/2013 2:21 PM
7	Have a higher fine for second offense, allowing the first offense to be used as a learning opportunity.	12/10/2013 11:20 AM
8	Shoot offenders in the butt with buckshot for first offense. Tag the in their ears after the second offense. Eliminate them "humanely" after the third offense. Fair is fair.	12/10/2013 10:00 AM
9	I live on a street with an alley. Most neighbors secure their cans in the garage and take them out on trash morning. A few keep their cans on the alleyway. One family does use bearproof cans, but even so they are on the alleyway and get pushed into the traffic zone by animals. Ticketing for alley storage and animal trash dispensment would make the biggest difference, and would not penalize those who are already responsible about trash management even though they do not use bear-proof cans.	12/10/2013 9:08 AM
10	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
11	Require the purchase of any kind of locking mechanism that deters animals of all kinds from opening garbage cans.	12/9/2013 11:15 AM
12	The city is complicit in this issue and SHOULD NOT be acting like trash Nazis....having lived in this current location, "enhancements" of trash regulations ARE NOT the answer....come on guys!!!	12/9/2013 9:40 AM
13	Make the all the containers bear proof and fine offenders consistently.	12/7/2013 6:56 PM
14	The current level of in forcemeat clearly does not work; stricter enforcement and penalties must be chosen.	12/7/2013 11:53 AM
15	More frequent enforcement, much higher fines	12/7/2013 7:56 AM
16	I would strongly prefer to see a city/countywide tax or re-allocation of Open Space money or other funds to provide residents in the impacted areas, particularly the alley areas, with bear proof trashcans, rather than requiring those residents to not only purchase, but to pay a monthly fee for the bear proof trashcans. Note: I keep my trashcans in a garage, so this does not benefit me. But, it seems fair to those residents who live in areas that interface with bears and store their trashcans in alleys that they not be charged additional fees.	12/6/2013 10:19 PM
17	PLEASE READ - This survey should have a question re: other approaches in addition to enforcement. Western Disposal only provides large size bear-proof cans and charges an extra monthly pickup fee for users of bear-proof containers (not sure about other trash collection services). The city should work with disposal services to ensure that small bear-proof containers are available and should eliminate extra bear-proof can trash pickup fees (we've lived in towns where such cans were required and never had to pay such a fee). This would make a big difference for individuals and small households and would encourage them to get bearproof containers. Boulder should focus on ways to support this initiative, not just enforcement.	12/4/2013 10:23 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

18	Can I ask, what is the "cost" to the City and residents right now for leaving things as they are? I think most likely nothing. We live in a City that is snuggled up to bear habitat. We are the visitors, not them. The DOW comes and shoots them, do they surcharge the City for that? I think it's ridiculous that they shoot them in the first place. They don't harm people. Never have. Lions are far more dangerous to humans and have killed MANY more beings, humans and animals but we aren't saying a word about killing them. Listen, let the bears be and let the residents be. People have to understand that they are taking a risk living in bear country. That's their risk. Don't DO ANYTHING!! This BBC entity is just a woman on a mission with nothing better to do than to make an issue out of something that is simply a non-issue. Bears are not harming people in alarming numbers. Leave them alone!	12/4/2013 7:29 AM
19	Quit harassing humans, harass the bears instead!	12/3/2013 1:28 PM
20	I disagree that ALL residents must be FORCED to pay for bear resistant containers or enclosures when those residents do not have a problem. This is a lazy 'simple' one size fits all solution by unimaginative bureaucrats. The current level of enforcement is WAY too lax. The City is not doing it's job well. Now they want to just force every one to pay for containers that honest diligent responsible people DO NOT NEED. The lazy wasteful people are causing the problem. MAKE THEM PAY !!!	12/2/2013 8:55 PM
21	Get the code officers team out there, ADD more officers, extend hours and educate, educate, educate! I called and they only have two working officers? FOR THIS BIG OF A CITY, really, that is crazy!	12/2/2013 8:15 AM
22	Escalating fines: \$250 first offense, \$500 second offense, \$1000 third offense	12/1/2013 8:35 AM
23	see comments above about prohibitive monthly fees for bear resistant containers from Western Disposal.	11/30/2013 9:06 PM
24	Mountain people dump trash as do transients into College rentals. Students often don't regulate well what is happening because of inexperience. Provide educational materials in zone 1-3 - door hangers in fall. Make policies landlords can easily enforce - ie: you must purchase a bear proof container.	11/30/2013 8:21 AM
25	If bear resistant containers are not 100% shown to work, what difference does the fine make?	11/29/2013 4:51 PM
26	I feel the city should share the expense of bear-proof containers with residents. Also, I have secured my compost container with a bungee cord. While this may not be 100% bear-proof, it is very secure and has kept other critters out (raccoons, etc.), serves as a deterrent to bears - keeps them moving on and is considerably cheaper than a bear-proof can. I'm not sure an expensive container plus an additional monthly fee should be the sole burden of the resident if there are less expensive ways to make this happen (like, secure garbage but not dictate how). However, I agree that containers should be secured.	11/29/2013 2:55 PM
27	Simple: Trash removal companies serving Bear Zone Two MUST provide bear proof containers to all residents in the zone. Then there will be near zero enforcement required. Two options for funding: 1) people in zone pay extra (but less than now due to economies of scale); or 2) overall city rates increase slightly to cover cost of those in Bear Zone Two.	11/28/2013 3:53 PM
28	Respond to call! I called the city and emailed about trash violations in our neighborhood and never heard back from anyone.	11/27/2013 11:26 AM
29	I would love to be able to buy a bear proof container. Where can I get one?	11/27/2013 8:28 AM
30	The city or garbage collection services should provide bear-resistant containers. Average folks can't afford them.	11/26/2013 7:21 PM
31	Enforcement problem: discriminating cans left out with no food waste from those with landscape trimmings and other non-food items. We've lived in high bear activity area for 30 years without once attracted a bear to our cans. We suggest ticketing only where cans have been tipped. (We often see tipped cans in our alley between Maxwell and Concord, 4th and 5th.)	11/26/2013 12:57 PM
32	the problem does not appear to be student/rental related. We live in the Mapleton/Nowlands area where there are few students/rentals and the bear activity seems at least as much as The Hill area. Education/enforcement should be increased everywhere that there is a lot of bear activity.	11/26/2013 9:07 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

33	The burden for solving this problem is something that should be shared equally by all Boulder residents. Wildlife is a public resource like open space and all residents should have to pay to protect wildlife, not just those who live near where bears live. I think that the city should step up and pay for bear resistant trash containers for everyone in the widest possible area to protect bears on behalf of the public. By doing this I believe that we will essentially achieve 100% compliance without having to spend money on educating residents, many of whom are transient or students with other priorities, and we avoid enforcement costs and burdens, all the while protecting the bears in the most effective way.	11/25/2013 8:06 PM
34	Cameras to replace officers in the highest risk areas. Alarms or noise in areas to deter bears. Have people spray compost and/or trash with pepper or some other smell that is offensive to bears. This is going to require money and effort/support from the community. Also creates more jobs to protect the wildlife that Boulder citizens, as well as tourists come here for.	11/25/2013 9:44 AM
35	Give an incentive rather than a punishment to begin with such as a tax credit.	11/24/2013 10:34 PM
36	I think many residents would like the option to have their garbage and compost collected two times per week. Involving residents who are willing to help patrol their areas would also help with the enforcement.	11/24/2013 4:19 PM
37	Give the offender a large fine PLUS have them purchase a container. Do not allow trash people to clean up after trash is strewn by bears but slap a sticker on the container informing them that their trash will no longer be picked up until they get a container. Make the container cheaper than the fine they would receive. Hire more enforcement officers to enforce the laws that are already on the books. Not too hard to figure out!!!	11/24/2013 2:28 PM
38	all rentals should have contact parties- offenders should be fined \$250	11/24/2013 1:13 PM
39	As college students, it is difficult to afford the fines placed on my house (9th and College) and then still afford the bear cans. I think requiring offenders to purchase the bear can service is a much better idea, because it would ensure that people are actually getting the cans. The current policy forces us to pay fines, after which it is difficult to think about paying for the bear cans.	11/24/2013 12:43 PM
40	Move the bears instead of killing them.	11/24/2013 11:34 AM
41	Student housing is a problem - education on campus to create awareness would help. Posters in neighborhoods would help. Fining dwellers and landlords would help.	11/24/2013 10:25 AM
42	I can't see spending resources when we don't see bears and there are virtually no disturbances on our street. There have been none in our immediate neighborhood. Instead of trying to find people to fine, if you must insist on a "bear patrol," why not have it search for BEARS, not garbage cans, and scare them from the area? That makes the most sense. Spend the money to teach the bears to stay away. Otherwise, they will always come to town, and there will always be someone who has a problem with wildlife.	11/24/2013 7:05 AM
43	Require all City-wide residential housing units to have bear-resistant garbage and compost containers and require that they are not put out on any public right-of-way or in any alley until 5:00 a.m. on the day of pickup	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
44	It is fair to ticket without direct contact provided that the officers know where the trash originated. The current regulations state that the a person is responsible for removing trash even if the trash did not come from that person's trash can. Because officers usually don't get to trash enforcement calls the same day, the trash often gets blown across the alley to another person's property. When that happens, the person who left his trash unsecured does not get a ticket, and instead the property across the alley where the trash ends up is ticketed. Having more officers should help this situation because theoretically they will be able respond in a timely fashion before the trash gets blown all over the alleys and can identify the trash can (address is on the trash cans) where the trash came from.	11/23/2013 1:25 PM
45	The city of Boulder MUST do more education. I live in a residential low student neighborhood with highly educated neighbors and they STILL put their trash out the night before.	11/23/2013 12:39 PM
46	The alley tends to be full of trash when the bears are active or when the wind blows. We pick up the trash near our house but the students up the alley let it collect. We are in our 70's and often clean up for them but it would be nice to find a way to make them more responsible for their own mess. Perhaps a sticker from the PD on their trash cans would be helpful.	11/23/2013 11:22 AM
47	Trash outside without proper animal-resistant containers (if council gets off it's ass and FINALLY requires them) will be prima facie evidence of violation, no need to serve this in person any more than a parking ticket, etc.	11/23/2013 10:41 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

48	Fallen fruit attracts bears. All sources of attraction should be looked at.	11/23/2013 10:38 AM
49	Do we have a "see, click, fix" option in the city internet scheme? I've noticed the QR codes in city parking lots to report broken parking ticket dispensers... We need a way for residents to photograph garbage in alleys (or potholes, or graffiti, or code violations), submit them and get feedback from the staff.	11/23/2013 10:34 AM
50	No fines; instead a bear proof container will be purchased for you and you will be billed for it if you put your trash out the night before. Encourage residents to be volunteer wildlife guardians by reporting violaters. Hot tip: Deer Valley Road.	11/23/2013 9:21 AM
51	The educational component is missing. What kind of effort does it take to a) require food disposal machines where bears live? What effort does it take to scrape waste into this machine? What effort does it take to rinse food containers, most of which belong in the single stream recycling bin? It is not complicated or hard to figure this out. If people can compost outside, good. I don't put meat or grain in my outside kitchen compost. Raccoons and skunks dig in it for worms or squash seeds, but I have no bears breaking into my yard for it.	11/23/2013 9:02 AM
52	We should look for options to make it easier, or incentive communities as a whole	11/23/2013 7:44 AM
53	Everyone is aware of this problem. Things will stay the same until change is mandated. AND ENFORCED.	11/23/2013 7:42 AM
54	Lake Tahoe has a strict enforcement policy from what I hear. If your trash has been disturbed you MUST install a bear proof container. That is it. No tolerance for being sloppy when it involves the life and death of wildlife.	11/23/2013 7:06 AM
55	Perhaps addresses should be placed on trash bins stored in the alley. Neighbors should be held accountable and embarrassed for their trash that is littered throughout the alley. We have repeat offenders in our Mapleton Hill neighborhood who don't seem to care and can't be bothered by regulations. Even an increased fee would probably not impact them. They may be more persuaded to correct the situation if they knew that they were being identified by their trash.	11/23/2013 6:24 AM
56	The enforcement should be everywhere, not just in Zone Two	11/22/2013 8:27 PM
57	change the rule exempting alleys	11/22/2013 8:11 PM
58	Tax dollars should be used to supplement funds to Western Disposal to allow residents in the most bear dense areas to obtain a bear proof container at the same rate as a normal waste container... This is the only way to truly protect the residents and the bears, especially given that a lot of the issue is on the Hill where many residents are renters, and college students at that. There should at the very least be financial assistance available to those that do not have the income to support the purchase of a bear proof container if it is required since they are expensive. If the community truly wants to put an end to the bear problem, it needs to invest in a solution that keeps trash contained properly, not fine people that are out of compliance with an expensive rule... Spend the money on the bear proof cans, not on sending officers out to give tickets and wildlife officials that end up having to be out patrolling and shooting the bears.	11/22/2013 8:09 PM
59	Fine people and businesses that are not securing their garbage and compost. Enforce the laws to protect the bears and discourage them from entering town.	11/22/2013 7:10 PM
60	Please phase this in starting in the Spring. Many many other types of animals live and exist by feeding on trash. This includes Raccoons. It is not their fault. Please phase in during warm months so that there will not be a cruel dramatic die off of these many other animals.	11/22/2013 7:09 PM
61	It does not appear as if there is any current level of enforcement.	11/22/2013 5:23 PM
62	Really, you need to make affordable bear resistant cans an option, and let us know where to get them. If they are affordable, we are happy to purchase them.	11/22/2013 4:58 PM
63	What enforcement?	11/22/2013 4:34 PM
64	I think people should be required to attend community service education courses. They should be required to see/ experience what they do to these animals, how they put people at harm, and what happens when they are killed. I also think their name should be communicated to the public so people know who is responsible - to add an element of social shame (avoidance) for their actions.	11/22/2013 4:30 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

65	Landlords of single family homes don't have a good way to control this - I don't see why they should be ticketed at all. Tenants are the ones who control when trash gets put outside. In multi-family homes, the situation is different, and landlords should have a responsibility to provide for bear-resistant dumpsters.	11/22/2013 3:05 PM
66	This sounds great.	11/22/2013 2:37 PM
67	My concern is that if people are allowed the option of purchasing a bear-resistant can, they will wait until they get caught. Whatever it takes - too many bears are being shot for no good reason. This could be done with the trash companies' involvement. They could supply ONLY bear resistant trash cans to customers in the impacted areas, rather than making it optional to purchase them. Even if cans are enclosed until 5 a.m., sometimes my trash isn't picked until 5 PM! If the trash hauler purchased these in bulk, perhaps the cost passed along to customers would be less, and perhaps the city could subsidize the cost.	11/22/2013 2:34 PM
68	Enforcement is the real issue in Boulder with respect to this issue and lots of others. Lots of code, but very little gets enforced due to the way the code was written, how it is practically enforced, or the lack of code enforcement officers during the times and places that they are needed.	11/22/2013 1:44 PM
69	I think offenders should be able to show they built an enclosure instead of having to pay an ongoing fee for a wildlife resistant container as a defense against the ticket.	11/22/2013 1:28 PM
70	As a former mountain resident, the most reliable source is to have bear proof garbage/trash cans at every residence and used year round. Simple yet effective solution. Have residents responsible for their waste! It should not have to be monitored and waste enforcement personnel time and taxpayer funds. Create a public based bear trash vigilante group to take on this effort. Don't bother with code enforcement, they won't do anything anyway.	11/22/2013 1:19 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q4 Where do you live and/or work in Boulder? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 300 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
In or around Bear Zone One	50.33% 151
In or around Bear Zone Two	32% 96
In or around Bear Zone Three	38.67% 116
I do not live or work in any of the three bear activity zones in Boulder	14.67% 44
I do not live or work in Boulder	1% 3
Other residence and/or work location	7.00% 21
Total Respondents: 300	

#	Other residence and/or work location	Date
1	Magnolia rd	12/23/2013 7:26 PM
2	Work in Lyons, CO where there seems to be no bear problems	12/23/2013 2:15 PM
3	We also have a house in Winter Park where we have to use communal trash facilities due to bear activity.	12/10/2013 8:41 PM
4	Shanahan Ridge 5: 3703 Telluride Circle	12/10/2013 9:38 AM
5	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
6	63rd and Jay Rd	12/9/2013 12:13 PM
7	2207 Mapleton Ave	12/9/2013 12:06 PM
8	My kids go to Foothill Elem.; we live in Pine Brook Hills - part of county...	12/3/2013 4:38 PM
9	Your map does NOT clearly label the zones on which you are asking for input	12/2/2013 8:55 PM
10	Knollwood subdivision, we see lots of bears in our neighborhood	12/1/2013 8:35 AM
11	I live and work in Zone 3	11/27/2013 9:32 PM
12	We had a mother bear and 2 cubs in our backyard (Vassar Drive) last week the night before a collection day!	11/25/2013 12:35 AM

Bears & Trash Survey

13	Own property at 18 and Canyon	11/24/2013 9:05 PM
14	south boulder residence, work in zones 1-3	11/24/2013 6:28 PM
15	Pine Brook Hills	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
16	Sugar Loaf	11/23/2013 10:20 AM
17	Gunbarrel (Boulder County)	11/22/2013 8:16 PM
18	Martin Acres	11/22/2013 6:53 PM
19	Broadway and Evergreen	11/22/2013 2:34 PM
20	unincorporated boulder country near nedefand	11/22/2013 2:17 PM
21	live in south boulder, work downtown boulder.	11/22/2013 1:19 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q5 How would you identify yourself?
(Select all that apply.)

Answered: 300 Skipped: 2



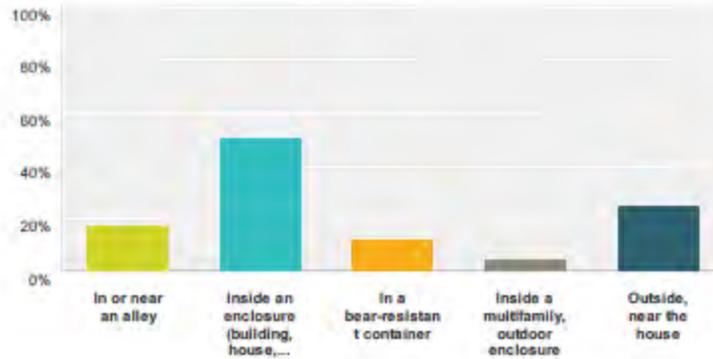
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Landlord	7.00%	21
Property owner	86%	258
Tenant	14.33%	43
Other identity	2.67%	8
Total Respondents: 300		

#	Other identity	Date
1	concerned and interested citizen - who happens to not live in Boulder	12/10/2013 2:21 PM
2	Business owner. pitchj@india.com John Picchiottino Please acknowledge receipt of my Other Locations comments.	12/10/2013 9:38 AM
3	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
4	teacher	11/27/2013 9:32 PM
5	former resident who actively tried to educate my neighbors in the W Pearl/Mapleton Hill neighborhoods	11/25/2013 12:44 PM
6	Someone who has a lot of experience with what works	11/24/2013 1:21 PM
7	City employee	11/22/2013 1:37 PM
8	none of your business	11/22/2013 1:19 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q6 Where do you store your food waste prior to collection day?

Answered: 294 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Responses
In or near an alley	17.01% 50
Inside an enclosure (building, house, garage, shed, etc.)	50.34% 148
In a bear-resistant container	11.56% 34
Inside a multifamily, outdoor enclosure	4.76% 14
Outside, near the house	24.83% 73
Total Respondents: 294	

#	Other storage location	Date
1	We have an enclosure that has doors that Western Disposal uses to empty containers on days of pickup. We have never had any problem with bears at our residence	12/12/2013 9:47 AM
2	Our garbage is kept under our deck next to the house. Our alley was often a mess, but bears never came into our yard after our garbage. I am not stupid - so much available in the alley, that bears did not need to do that. I have no enclosure that would work, and I am willing to pay for a bear container - but cost should be spread amongst entire city as this is a city wide problem. And I mean city wide - not just that bear have been throughout city, but it feels a bit like punishment that because I live west of Broadway - only we have to bear the financial burden.	12/11/2013 8:56 AM
3	An outside community dumpster	12/10/2013 8:41 PM
4	Now? In my kitchen, I compost vegetable matter in my backyard and I accumulate less than 4 gals of trash in a week so it goes out the night before pickup (which is at 7AM, and I am never awake between 5 and 7 AM, so I could not unlatch). When my children were at home I kept trash in an outside container near my front door. It was never tampered with.	12/10/2013 7:34 PM
5	Often times during the warm months, containers are kept in an enclosure. Have taken steps to securely close the container though it would not be considered bear resistant - other varmints are not able to get into the bin	12/10/2013 2:21 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

6	Most trash goes out 1/4 drive to collection area just east of 75th on Valmont. This is pretty far from the nearest house. We have a compost in our backyard (as I am a farmer). We have some bear resistant Trash Cans that have screw tops and heavy plastic. We got these because of problems with raccoons (not bears, as we are probably too far east).	12/10/2013 10:30 AM
7	I live in Niwot, and have only seen a bear once here. If it were necessary, I would gladly pay for a bear-resistant trash and compost bin.	12/10/2013 10:00 AM
8	We have an on-site compost bin where we place plant materials for composting. We see raccoons there but never bears, and we have never had damage to the bin or significant materials removed from the composting pile. All other food and household waste/recycle is stored in cans inside the garage until pickup day.	12/10/2013 9:08 AM
9	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
10	However, if it were determined that our trash location was an attractive nuisance for bears, we would change how we managed it. I live in the foothills (not in Boulder) and make sure that our trash is NOT an attractive nuisance for bears. We have seen bears on our property. I like bears that are not a nuisance. Some of that is my responsibility. I wish our trash company made bear resistant cans available to us. I would pay extra for them.	12/9/2013 12:13 PM
11	We use LidLock by Nature-Proof on our garbage cans. We have just successfully tested this product with Western Disposal collectors. nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 11:15 AM
12	Although our containers are outside, they are behind a 6 ft. fence into our side yard.	12/9/2013 10:20 AM
13	We store our trash outdoors in an area with a high chain-link fence. We have never had a bear or wildlife break into our trash but we are willing to store our trash in our garage.	12/9/2013 9:40 AM
14	Our home produces a relatively small amount of garbage so we pay for the smallest (of three sizes) waste container and choose the largest composter offered from Western Disposal. Unfortunately it is not even an option for them to provide a bear resistant container in our container volume. Through the current fee structure at Western Disposal it would more than double our monthly waste service costs to simply have two bear resistant containers.	12/6/2013 12:00 PM
15	It would be useful if there was some discussion about making bear resistant receptacles more accessible. At this point, they cost a lot more if you use Western Disposal. First, they make you choose a larger trashcan, which costs more. Second, they charge an extra 10\$/month for it.	12/4/2013 9:29 PM
16	We live at 9th and downtown. Never had a bear issue.	12/4/2013 7:29 AM
17	I don't store odiferous waste in my compost and trash can. And my trash can is not put out until trash day. SO WHY are you punishing me for other's laziness. They could store their trash in their garage. But that's too much work for them. Force violators to buy and use bear resistant containers. Don't take the easy way out and edict a blanket 'solution'.	12/2/2013 8:55 PM
18	I have bungeed my garbage can and drilled a hole through it securing the lid with a piece of flexible wire with excellent results.	11/30/2013 9:06 PM
19	Create opportunities for neighbors to group together for shared safe dumpsters - like neighborhood eco passes. Incentivize, educate, offer links to affordable resources	11/30/2013 8:21 AM
20	In a freezer indoors until morning of collection.	11/30/2013 3:46 AM
21	I put compost in bear-resistant can; trash and recycle are in the alley. Since putting in the bear-resistant can for compost, we've never had a bear knock over a can.	11/27/2013 12:44 PM
22	This is how almost everyone in our area stores garbage, etc. Many don't even have garages, so the new regulations would force them to put garbage in their house (health issue) or pay a lot to build an appropriate structure (if they have room). That is too expensive for our neighborhood. Best option: have wildlife officers patrol and haze bears-keep them out of neighborhoods (like they do in Churchill, Manitoba, with polar bears).	11/26/2013 7:21 PM
23	Been here in Table Mesa for 15 years and have never had a single problem, not once. Please don't fix a problem that does not exist here. If the trash is totally gone they'll still come for the apples etc. You must haze the bears out of town.	11/26/2013 6:58 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

24	Depends a bit on the season. I try to keep it inside as long as possible during times of peak activity. If I put it out, I put it inside a chainlink fence, with more protection (no problem) but sometimes guests or my wife forgets, or even I forget. Compost veg and yard waste actively and keep that in sealed 5 gal bucket. My trash is gotten into once a year by likely bear, when in alley, or this compost bucket is raided by raccoons twice a year and I think skunks raid my compost pile a few times a year.	11/26/2013 8:55 PM
25	Do not have bear activity by my house but if I did would be happy to secure it from bears	11/26/2013 11:49 AM
26	I have lived in my current location around 5th and Spruce for 8 years, have left my garbage and compost outside of my house and have never had a bear incident. Bears frequent the alley two doors down from my house often and I have seen bears on multiple occasions. I do think the alleys are the main problem but I also wonder if the alleys were secured, could the bears just come to the streets? I am not sure.	11/25/2013 8:06 PM
27	I keep food garbage in my freezer until day of collection.	11/25/2013 7:10 PM
28	I do not have a garage.	11/25/2013 5:25 PM
29	Bear resistant containers are not allowed by our hoa. We secure our own bins with a homemade tie system.	11/25/2013 3:37 PM
30	Have not had bears get into trash or compost when secured near the house.	11/25/2013 10:43 AM
31	Dumpster at apt building	11/25/2013 9:22 AM
32	We do this during bear season.	11/24/2013 8:53 PM
33	Keep container in garage until trash day.	11/24/2013 2:28 PM
34	CanShed a wonderful product designed and manufactured here in Boulder.	11/24/2013 1:39 PM
35	garbage is placed in alley after daylight the day of collection. There is no reason why garbage can't be picked up on street in our area-south of Baseline on Columbine Ave. Bears are always in our alleys and too many people store garbage in alley- hence a constant food source is available.	11/24/2013 1:13 PM
36	All waste is in enclosures within a townhome complex. The enclosures have gates that close with latches, although frequently users do not latch the gate. In addition, compost containers are within the enclosures and have bear-resistant latches, although, again, users occasionally do not fully close the container so if latches (less frequently than leaving the gate unlatched). I am not aware that we have had bears near the waste enclosures, nor does the map identify a bear sighting in the complex, and the area is immediately adjacent to open space in South Boulder.	11/24/2013 12:36 PM
37	Outside location- compost container	11/24/2013 11:53 AM
38	We have a conventional trash cart secured with multiple bungee cords, which sits near the alley. The bungee cords are mostly effective in deterring the bears.	11/24/2013 7:45 AM
39	We aren't rich and do not have the square footage to store garbage in our house/garage. And many in our neighborhood don't even have a garage!! There has never been a bear incident-bear in garbage-on our block or the surrounding blocks in the 15 years we have owned this house.	11/24/2013 7:05 AM
40	On our private property behind a fully fenced in yard.	11/23/2013 4:35 PM
41	near house, I have no option BUT I toss in a splash or two of high strength amonia. That works.	11/23/2013 3:10 PM
42	We freeze all perishable garbage and anything that has an odor, it is kept in the freezer until trash pick up day.	11/23/2013 1:48 PM
43	Containers are kept inside a 7 foot fenced yard prior to collection day.	11/23/2013 1:25 PM
44	I have once seen a bear knocking over garbage cans in the night before trash collection. Why do you think people put out the trash the night before? Because collection starts at 8am, and not everyone can get their trash/compost out before then. And then it's 2 weeks before the compost is collected again. And the trash and compost is getting stinkier, especially in summer. One solution that I have not seen suggested, is to start collection later in the morning.	11/23/2013 10:52 AM
45	Trash goes outside. There's absolutely no other option here. "Attractive" garbage like meat scraps, etc, go in the freezer until the morning of trash day. This is very effective, but a PITA. Have to do it because there is no 32 gallon bear-resistant option with Western and they do such a great job here I would not like to change providers.	11/23/2013 10:41 AM

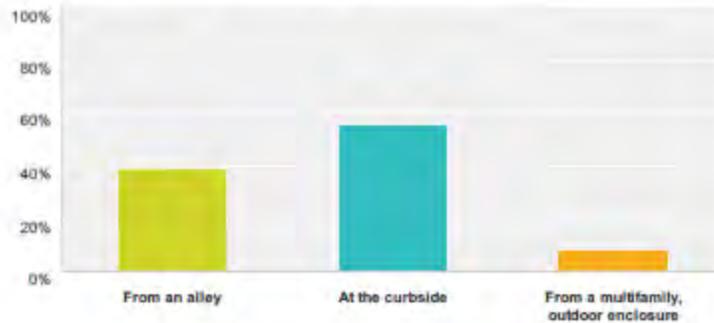
Bears & Trash Survey

46	- I'd add that because we're at the very start of Western's route, we set our alarm for 6:45am on collection day. The trucks rumble down our alley at around 7am.	11/23/2013 10:34 AM
47	In my garage.	11/23/2013 9:21 AM
48	I have a chain link enclosure. Our single garbage can has mostly waste plastic. Our single stream is there too. I do not take Western's compost bin as I compost on my property. I have community use dog waste recycling bins at alley and sidewalk. I realize my yard and willingness to handle yard waste is a time luxury. Nonetheless, even if I lived in an apt., the only difference would be that vegetable waste would be in the garbage disposal in addition to meat and grain. I don't throw away a lot of food. Wasteful and expensive. I am 65, raised 4 children - and have been like this for 40 years. We've always had bears in our alley and I am very sensitive to this as I know the Yellowstone and garbage dump story. (Approximately 30 years ago Yellowstone Park locked bears out of dumps, many starved. In AK I seen bears in dumps, some dying from eating plastic baby diapers. Beyond awful.) This is about respect, how I choose to behave.	11/23/2013 9:02 AM
49	I put the bones etc of chicken and meat in the freezer. We also have a racoon problem and not putting anything edible in the trash has stopped the problem. We did have a bear go for and break the bird feeder so we started taking that in at night and that solved the problem.	11/23/2013 7:06 AM
50	This survey is a bunch of bullshit. Ask the relevant questions. For a family of five using only a 32 gallon trash service, requiring a 64 gallon bear resistant can is an added expense of nearly \$500 per year. Require Western and other trash companies to provide bear resistant cans or to sell them at a reasonable cost. Require 32 gallon or smaller bear resistant cans.	11/22/2013 8:11 PM
51	We purchased bear proof trash and compost bins because we keep our bins in the alley. We don't have a garage or shed as storage options.	11/22/2013 7:10 PM
52	Please phase this in starting in the Spring. Many many other types of animals live and exist by feeding on trash. This includes Raccoons. It is not their fault. Please phase in during warm months so that there will not be a cruel dramatic die off of these many other animals.	11/22/2013 7:09 PM
53	Currently in my backyard	11/22/2013 6:53 PM
54	We could store out Western Compost Container inside our secure fenced yard. We have had no bear, or (raccoon or other wildlife) issues with our compost stored in the alley. We definitely have a squirrel overpopulation problem in the downtown area - interested to hear what the city recommends on that.	11/22/2013 4:56 PM
55	I have an adequate bear resistant system designed myself that has not been opened by the bears though houses on both sides of me have had multiple offenses and bears visit nightly thorough the season. My system is adequate and there is currently no bear resistant can available in the small size I use. The added expense is unfair to someone who has never had a violation.	11/22/2013 4:35 PM
56	there is no collection day, it's simple keep your trash in your house and then take it to the collection facility. It's not that difficult people, thousands of us in the mtn's west of boulder have been doing this for years. it might even help convince you to generate less trash!	11/22/2013 2:17 PM
57	We don't put food waste out for collection, we have our own compost bins for use in our garden and yard.	11/22/2013 2:04 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q7 Where is your food waste collected?

Answered: 283 Skipped: 19



Answer Choices	Responses
From an alley	38.52% 109
At the curbside	55.12% 186
From a multifamily, outdoor enclosure	7.77% 22
Total Respondents: 283	

#	Other collection location	Date
1	short dead-end alley, just off street	12/11/2013 5:45 PM
2	Driveway	12/10/2013 10:00 AM
3	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
4	We live on an alley (44th street) but put our garbage curbside	12/7/2013 11:53 AM
5	99% of our food waste is home composted	11/26/2013 2:57 PM
6	none of the above	11/26/2013 9:01 AM
7	carry out service from driveway	11/25/2013 7:42 PM
8	do not put compost in alley as we use it ourselves	11/25/2013 10:43 AM
9	Dumpster outside apt complex	11/25/2013 9:22 AM
10	from inside the parking garage	11/24/2013 10:34 PM
11	we compost it all on site, have never had bears disturb it even though we have had them in the neighborhood	11/23/2013 9:50 PM
12	Not collected. Food waste is composted for home garden.	11/23/2013 6:17 PM
13	We use enclosed steel compost bins, don't put any out for collection	11/23/2013 5:21 PM
14	On the morning of collection day	11/23/2013 10:20 AM
15	I do not have compost collection.	11/22/2013 5:24 PM
16	it is not collected, I drive it to a collection location	11/22/2013 2:17 PM
17	We don't put food waste out, we have our own compost bins.	11/22/2013 2:04 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

Q8 What company provides your waste collection service?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses
Eco-Cycle	3.09% 9
Green Girl Recycling	0.34% 1
Mile High Roll-Off Waste Systems, Inc.	0.34% 1
One-Way, Inc.	3.09% 9
Republic Services of Denver, Allied Waste Division	0.34% 1
Waste Management Recycle America	1.37% 4
Western Disposal Services	93.81% 273
Total Respondents: 291	

#	Other waste collection service	Date
1	Our recycling container is also bear resistant	12/23/2013 7:26 PM
2	Not sure on this	12/13/2013 8:37 AM
3	http://www.nature-proof.com	12/9/2013 12:18 PM
4	Not sure.	11/26/2013 1:26 PM
5	Western Disposal charges very high rates for bear proof containers and do not have a sufficient amount of containers to meet the need.	11/24/2013 8:53 PM
6	All waste co.s should have an online video about how to handle food waste. The bear officers should visit schools, civic lunches, etc. and give programs. People who are ticketed should be allowed education, and assistance. Most people with 2-3 interventions will manage their garbage to reduce bear nuisance. It will improve city wide recycling and the amount of carbon we throw into landfills.	11/23/2013 9:02 AM
7	Not sure	11/22/2013 8:35 PM
8	Not sure	11/22/2013 4:30 PM
9	None	11/22/2013 2:17 PM

Bears & Trash Survey

10	Silly question.	11/22/2013 1:19 PM
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III. DECEMBER 9, PUBLIC MEETING FEEDBACK

Electronic Survey Results

Bears and Trash
Polling Questions
First, a couple warm-up questions...

Warm Up Question: In the last year, I've seen bears in Boulder

- A. Never
- B. Just a few times
- C. 5-20 times
- D. 20 or more

Response	Percentage
A. Never	31%
B. Just a few times	52%
C. 5-20 times	10%
D. 20 or more	7%

Warm Up Question: What is your gender?

- A. Male
- B. Female

Gender	Percentage
A. Male	24%
B. Female	76%

Where do you live and/or work in Boulder? (select all that apply)

- A. In or around Bear Zone One
- B. In or around Bear Zone Two
- C. In or around Bear Zone three
- D. I do not live or work in any of these zones in Boulder
- E. I do not live or work in Boulder
- F. Not sure what zone

Response	Percentage
A. In or around Bear Zone One	55%
B. In or around Bear Zone Two	9%
C. In or around Bear Zone three	42%
D. I do not live or work in any of these zones in Boulder	25%
E. I do not live or work in Boulder	8%
F. Not sure what zone	4%

How would you identify yourself in terms of ownership? (select all that apply)

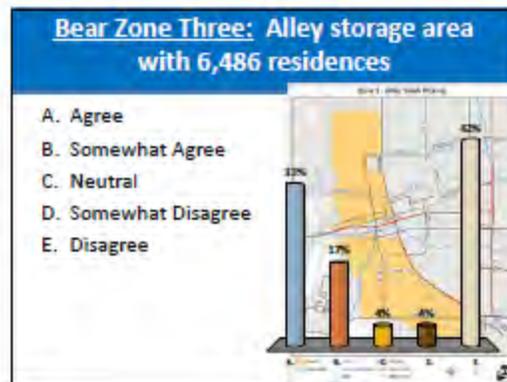
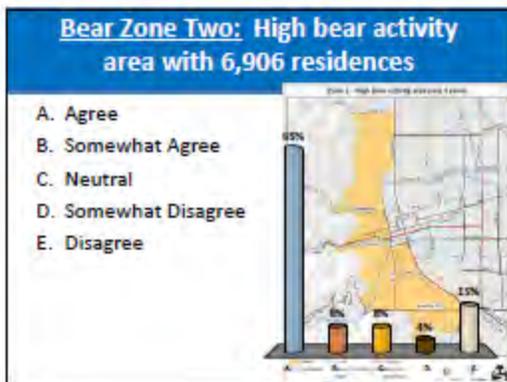
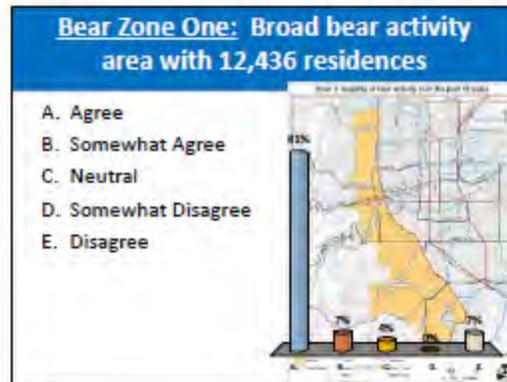
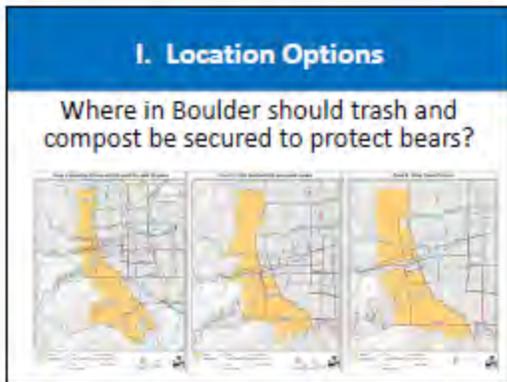
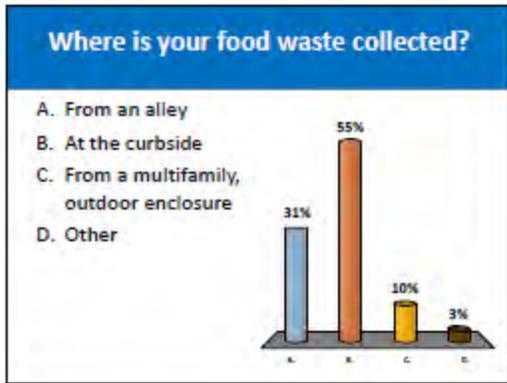
- A. Landlord
- B. Property owner
- C. Tenant
- D. Other

Ownership	Percentage
A. Landlord	3%
B. Property owner	83%
C. Tenant	10%
D. Other	3%

How do you store your food waste prior to collection day? (select one)

- A. In or near an alley
- B. Inside an enclosure (building, shed, etc)
- C. In a bear-resistant container
- D. Inside a multifamily, outdoor enclosure
- E. Outside, near the house
- F. Other

Storage Method	Percentage
A. In or near an alley	12%
B. Inside an enclosure (building, shed, etc)	24%
C. In a bear-resistant container	12%
D. Inside a multifamily, outdoor enclosure	10%
E. Outside, near the house	40%
F. Other	2%

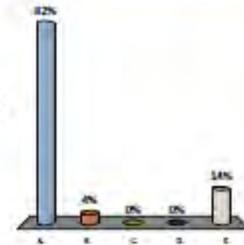


II. Storage Options

How should trash and compost be secured to protect bears?

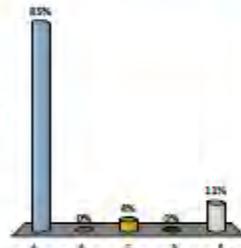
Trash and compost should be secured in enclosures or bear-resistance containers until 5 a.m. on collection day.

- A. Agree
- B. Somewhat Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Somewhat Disagree
- E. Disagree



Trash and compost stored in alleys should be secured in bear-resistance containers.

- A. Agree
- B. Somewhat Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Somewhat Disagree
- E. Disagree



III. Enforcement Options

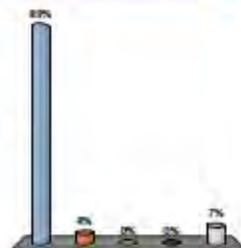
How should enforcement be enhanced?

In addition to:

- focusing education on student and rental properties,
- having code enforcement check for violations in Zone 2 seasonally, and
- Adding officers.

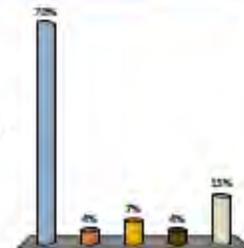
Add the option to ticket offenders even if officers cannot make direct contact.

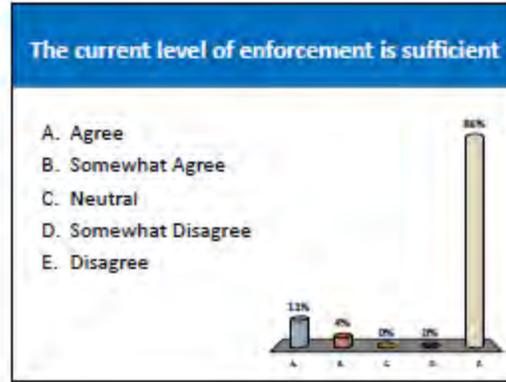
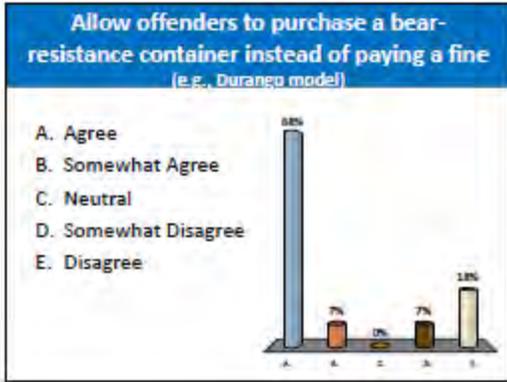
- A. Agree
- B. Somewhat Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Somewhat Disagree
- E. Disagree



Increase the fine for first offenses from \$100 to \$250 (e.g., Aspen model)

- A. Agree
- B. Somewhat Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Somewhat Disagree
- E. Disagree





Thank you!

Please join us in the open house.



III. DECEMBER 9, PUBLIC MEETING FEEDBACK

Notes from Meeting Discussion

Bear Meeting Comments, Questions and Discussion Notes

West Senior Center

5:30-7:30 p.m.

12/9/13

29 attendees

Questions and Comments

- Steve Jones (Audubon Society)
 - There is not too much community consensus and bears have right to survive. Don't move in and shoot
 - Moving forward: don't put all costs west of Broadway
 - Subsidies. Do as a community
 - Hope something happens quickly
- Steve Ramy (Homeowner)
 - Mischaracterized mood – not sad, “outraged.” Started with wrong problem statement. Solution is not just trash
 - Crack down on trash problem
 - Manage parks and wildlife
 - Don't pass calls
 - “One strike law” is unfair to bears (needs to change)
 - No track record of causing harm
 - More active role
 - Be harsh on citizens as bears have no lenience
- Rosemary Hegerty (Martin acres)
 - Bears are starting to move there and worried about bears moving east.
 - Choke cherries gone, bears will have a hard time, due to floods
 - People need to take responsibility
 - Trash strewn – trash cans poorly designed
 - Western could help more with trash cans
 - Safety factor for different times of day
 - Why is trash not being picked up until 3 but has to be out so early?
 - Val regarding securing trash:
 - Will they change behavior? Based on what we're seeing and know now
 - Recognize they are coming from the west
 - Is 5 miles a small radius?
 - Don't understand thinking about Broadway
- Kathy Creenstein (on Hill)
 - Why not consider relocating bears? More proliferation of bears going to increase
 - Education doesn't work (students)
 - Why aren't people nervous about children?

- Problem has increased dramatically
- We alone are getting older, making it difficult to live in Boulder
- Relocate – they come back.
- Students, in this context to relocate, animals
- Marge Leget
 - What about citizen enforcement? Same offenders all the time
 - Hotline – so it doesn't put additional stress on the city. (in each area, agent or walk leader)
 - Doorhangers part of education process
- Caroline (on Hill, resident with students)
 - Dumpsters are in back, do we have information on dumpsters?
 - For commercial or multiunit
- No name stated
 - Did city look into more officers per week?
 - Make sure people have enough trash so not over-flowing
 - More frequent
 - Multifaceted problem – no one disagrees there. Changing human behavior won't solve problem, bears will venture further – new neighborhoods
 - Mammoth Lakes solved this issues as a city
 - Better enforcement etc. for people
 - Hired a person year round to harass with noise ("bear whisperer")
 - He consults with communities
 - Can't look in cubby hole
 - Have entity to change bears behavior
 - Never work if we don't address on parallel level
 - Presentation focuses on options
 - People should know they should scare them
- Are we looking at survey options or comments? Any additional on website.
- Is an option to enforce the law now? (do nothing)
- Marilyn Johnson
 - What exactly would we go to City Council?
 - No recommendation yet
 - Problem with 5:00am unlatching cans
 - It doesn't make sense. Why have unlatched cans? Keep them latched
 - Bear saver – said don't latch during hibernation
 - Trash should be secured
 - Are we going to municipalize?
- Brenda Lee
 - Some ideas should be incorporated in council feedback. Hope to see it expanded
 - Add an option. Surprised that feedback isn't incorporated in current options
 - What about suggestion about enforcement?
 - Not very positive – trash hauler? Why not them? Why isn't this an option for people to consider?
 - (to not penalize those who are doing a good job)
 - Not included because relationships with officers vs. trash hauler (this would change relationship)

- Enforcement hasn't been to community expectation
 - Conflict of current expectation
 - Thank you Val
- Hank
 - Agree with statement about locking trash all over, not just at Broadway
- Mark Rushton
 - Product can shed LD certified as bear resistant enclosure
 - Habitat has been changed
 - Look to plant food in nature (berries)
 - Support cleaning up landfills
 - Littering neighborhoods with 96 gallon carts demo/prototype
 - 20 units – no change

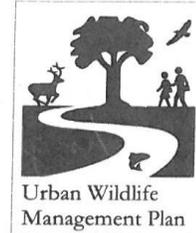
III. DECEMBER 9, PUBLIC MEETING FEEDBACK

Comment Forms



City of Boulder

**Options to secure trash and curbside
compost to reduce the accessibility of
food waste to bears
Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013**



Comment Form

**Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside
compost from black bear in the city?**

*good job researching trash hauling comp-
anies - they are the ones making profit on
trash and are a part of community - they
really should be working hard to bring cost
down so citizens are not frustrated with contain-
er costs) - improve, upgrade containers to
high quality - or higher quality -*

*People need to do a better job of securing
their trash & taking responsibility for it.
Attention to detail!! - make sure it is secure
Don't say you didn't have time for it - make
it so. - otherwise pay the fine - get punished*

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

for neglect.

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

You may also send your comments by e-mail to mathesonv@bouldercolorado.gov or mail to the City of Boulder, Comprehensive Planning Division, c/o Val Matheson, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306. →

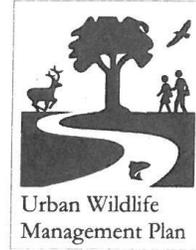
Name JIM PHILIPS
Street Address, Zip 234 So. JEFFERSON AV. LOUISVILLE, CO 80027
Phone 303-291-7150
E-mail Jim.philips@state.co.us,

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.

Boulder complains & makes excuses no
less than any city - but pointing
fingers at CPW for doing what they have
to - blaming and complaining about
OSMP looking out for safety issues is
how many Boulder people are.
mandatory cans.
max. fines - higher taxes if need be
Get the job done for the majority.



City of Boulder
Options to secure trash and curbside
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Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

#1 - we need many more code enforcement to start very early in the am -

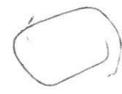
2. Hand "Bear food" on mt. N. Parks for from the city

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Name Ann Whilbed
Street Address, Zip _____
Phone 303 443-9145
E-mail _____



Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



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Options to secure trash and curbside
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Dec. 9, 2013



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- 1) This is city problem - not west of
Boardway problem - Bears already in Martin Acres
- 2) Western is not supplying adequate
trash cans for our community - what
is their responsibility to supply adequate
trash cans for 1) Wind 2) Animals etc
- 3) Everyone needs Wind & Animal
Proof trash cans in City - throughout
- 4) The City Needs to do the right
thing to get these trash cans - Don't
decide it is too expensive
- 5) ~~Western~~ IF Western doesn't want to work
= city would need to work = other trash
companies

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

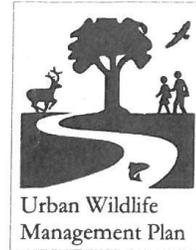
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Name _____
 Street Address, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

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Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

\$ cost just to W. of Broadway?
of enforcement is city wide.
municipalize trash pickup
enforcement w/ city vs WD
* get CU involved w/ 40% of GHG 's *
* come from landfill & students ought nought
be wasteful if they are U. students & *
Lynn Segal | walk their talk. Also, *
303-447-3216 like ETOH *
they need ~~to~~ trash orientation *.

Lynn

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

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Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- WOULD LIKE TO SEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CURBSIDE + ALLEY TRASH CAN OWNERS BE THE SAME.
- WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE THE REQUIREMENTS + ENFORCEMENT EXPAND EAST OF BROADWAY AS BEARS MOVE EAST.
- SUGGESTION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CITIZEN "ENFORCEMENT AGENTS" THAT REPORT PROBLEMATIC ADDRESSES. DIRECTLY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
- WOULD LIKE TO SEE STRICT ENFORCEMENT FOR SECURING TRASH HANDLED DIRECTLY FROM TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF RENTAL PROPERTIES. STUDENTS COME + GO, PROPERTY OWNERS NEED TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR.
- WOULD LIKE TO SEE BOULDER COUNTY MAKE AVAILABLE BEAR-RESISTANT CANS TO ALL RESIDENTS AT A "WHOLESALE" RATE. IF EVERYONE BUYS A CAN BOULDER SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET VERY GOOD RATES. --- WHAT A PROFITABLE, SHORT-TERM BUSINESS THIS COULD BE!

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

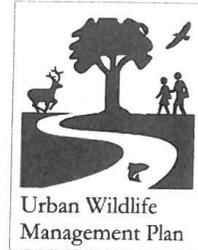
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Name WARSJOKI LEGGITT
 Street Address, Zip 1928 MARIPOSA AVE.
 Phone 303-394-0566
 E-mail _____

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



City of Boulder
Options to secure trash and curbside
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Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- 1) Shooting bears is a symptom of
an out of control militarism.
- 2) Tongue in cheek: An expensive funeral
for each one shot/killed.
- 3) Find a "Grand" Balance. (This problem
comes w/ the territory. It's their land/home.

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

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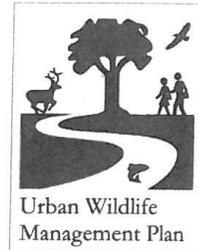
Name Anonymous.
 Street Address, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



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Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

DUMPSTERS THAT ARE NOT LOCKED OR KEPT
INSIDE - WHY?
I have lived at the western edge of Boulder for 11 1/2 years -
I have NEVER had a bear in my trash. But to exclude
dumpsters from the "trash out no earlier than 5"
rule is ridiculous. I don't mind seeing bears in
my neighborhood - they don't hunt anybody. But
the dumpsters must be secured - especially on
campus - landlords can be held responsible.
If we can ban couches, we can require locking
dumpsters. Also - the \$75/mo option is a good
idea - \$10 per month currently charged for bear
proof is outrageous.

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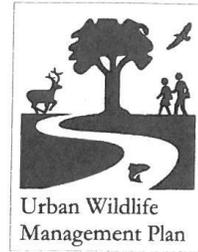
Name CYNTHIA CORNELIUS
Street Address, Zip 416 Pleasant St.
Phone Boulder CO 80302
E-mail andyvrama@yahoo.com

cynthia.a.cornelius@gmail.com

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



City of Boulder
**Options to secure trash and curbside
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Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- Costs in comparing trash services aren't apples to apples. After you buy your cans - services are less expensive for one way.

- Are there enforcement options the only ones being considered?

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

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Name Blair Norman
Street Address, Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



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Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- underground trash storage w/ secured lids
- BEAR-PROOF/resistant CONTAINERS/dumpsters
in alleys
- change ordinance to only allow
alley trash after 5am - not 24/7
- increase trash pick-ups to twice weekly
during bear active months
- Recommend people freeze compost
prior to putting out

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

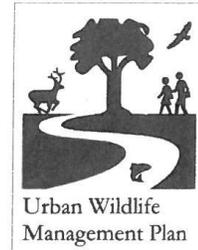
You may also send your comments by e-mail to mathesonv@bouldercolorado.gov or mail to the City of Boulder, Comprehensive Planning Division, c/o Val Matheson, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306.

Name Andrea Venditti
Street Address, Zip 1098 Fairway Ct, Bldg
Phone 720 933 3068
E-mail _____

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



City of Boulder
Options to secure trash and curbside
compost to reduce the accessibility of
food waste to bears
Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

- ① INCREASE THE FINE TO THE PROPERTY OWNER - DOUBLE FOR 2ND OFFENSE
DOUBLE AGAIN FOR 3RD OFFENSE - SHOW THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM.
- ② THE CITY MUST GET SERIOUS ABOUT TAKING ACTION.
- ③ REQUIRE SECURED TRASH FOR ^{ALL} PROPERTY OWNERS WEST OF BROADWAY
- ④ WORK WITH ALL TRASH HAULERS FOR HELP IN DETERMINING WHAT WILL
BE REASONABLE FOR THEM.
- ⑤ ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WEST OF BROADWAY RECEIVE NOTICES OF INFO
OF THE PROBLEM & THE LAWS.
- ⑥ PERHAPS CITY CAN INSTITUTE REFORM WITH DIV. OF PARKS & WILDLIFE TO
ALTER TWO STRIKE RULE

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

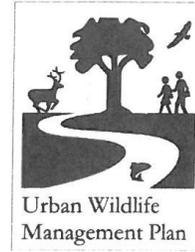
You may also send your comments by e-mail to mathesonv@bouldercolorado.gov or mail to the City of Boulder, Comprehensive Planning Division, c/o Val Matheson, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306.

Name	<u>RANDY KEENER</u>	
Street Address, Zip	<u>1920 ARAPAHOE</u>	<u>80302</u>
Phone	<u>303 912 1545</u>	
E-mail	<u>RDKEENER @ YAHOO.COM</u>	

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



City of Boulder
**Options to secure trash and curbside
compost to reduce the accessibility of
food waste to bears**
Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

→ LOWER THE NUMBER OF ALLEY TRASH CANS IN THE HIGH
INCIDENT AREA, LIMITED SPACE, LIMITED # OF GARAGES,
THE MANDATED USE OF BEAR PROOF CONTAINERS { SMALL
LARGE
TIED TOGETHER WITH A NEGOTIATION WITH WESTERN
FOR A LOWER PRICE AND HOPEFULLY AN OPTION
TO PURCHASE CONTAINERS.

→ WET COMPOST SERVICE IN THE HIGH BEAR
INCIDENCE AREA MAY BE IMPRACTICAL DEPENDING
ON THE END COST OF BEARPROOF CONTAINERS

Web site: boulderwildlifeplan.net

Please leave this comment form at the welcome table.

You may also send your comments by e-mail to mathesonv@bouldercolorado.gov or mail to the City of Boulder, Comprehensive Planning Division, c/o Val Matheson, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306.

Name TOM HOYT
Street Address, Zip 1315 9TH STREET BOULDER CO 80302
Phone 720-226-1041
E-mail HOYT.CAMP@GMAIL.COM

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.



City of Boulder

**Options to secure trash and curbside
compost to reduce the accessibility of
food waste to bears
Public Meeting
Dec. 9, 2013**



Comment Form

Do you have any comments on the options associated with securing trash and curbside compost from black bear in the city?

I believe the bears are hungry and we need to plant their fruit trees on the greenbelt spaces. Then they'll have food & won't need to eat from the garbage in town.

I'm sure Boulder residents would volunteer to do this planting. This will also help w/ the soil erosion caused by fires & flood.

Editor, the Camera:

When a bear is shot dead in the course of doing what it must do to survive—eat everything possible and nap in trees—it's not being 'euthanized,' it's being killed. Nobody was suffering except for our impatient DOW officers. The rest of us seem to peacefully coexist with bears sleeping in our trees. Let's do the following to end the carnage and solve what is really a human problem:

First, disarm DOW officers when they enter the city. Instead provide them with ear tags and plane tickets.

Second, send them out to patrol our alleys and tag the owners of trash cans that have fed bears. They're easy to spot. The same trash cans are in the same alleys every week with garbage strewn around accompanied by piles of bear poop.

Third, on the second offense, pull out the plane tickets and relocate the offending humans.

Watch the problem disappear. How will you react when you see your neighbors, festooned with yellow ear tags, out for one last margarita at the Rio before their relocation? You will wish them the best in New Jersey and rush home to call your trash hauler for a bearproof trash can.

In all seriousness, who should we be expecting to learn from being tagged, the humans or the bears? The humans will find their way back to Boulder but they'll probably take better care of their trash. When the bears return, they get shot. Let's end this cruel, unfair, and feckless two-strikes policy and solve the human problem once and for all.

Steve Gaede

3023 4th Street

Boulder 80304



COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

4207 West County Road 16E • Loveland, Colorado 80537
 Phone 970-472-4460 • FAX 970-472-4468
 cpw.state.co.us

January 10, 2014

Boulder City Council
 1777 Broadway
 Boulder, CO 80302
 (303) 441-3002

Dear City Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed changes to the Black Bear and Mountain Lion Component of the Urban Wildlife Management Plan (UWMP). The city of Boulder and council should be commended on its efforts to reduce human-wildlife conflict within the city of Boulder, and for taking on such proactive measures as the UWMP. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) personnel have always enjoyed a very positive and productive relationship with city of Boulder staff including rangers, biologists, and outreach specialists with Open Space and Mountain Parks; city police including code enforcement officers and animal control; and especially Valerie Matheson, the Urban Wildlife Coordinator. We are fortunate to have such engaged and hard working partners in Boulder!

Because of its location, layout, and landscape Boulder experiences significant human-wildlife conflict which includes interactions with large carnivores such as black bears and mountain lions. CPW officers are tasked with protecting human safety while directly managing wildlife in Boulder. Ensuring public safety for humans while protecting wildlife is a delicate balancing act but ultimately and rightly our decisions must emphasize minimizing risk to humans, and sadly wildlife sometimes pays the price as when large carnivores must be removed from densely populated areas in town. In most instances officers try to allow bears and lions that have come into the city to leave on their own and officers and Boulder rangers when needed encourage animals to leave by hazing them, but sometimes circumstances dictate that chronic nuisance wildlife be physically removed. Occasionally this means that the animal in question will be either relocated to more suitable habitat or destroyed. Animals that are a direct threat to human safety because of their behavior, are completely habituated to living in town or have already been relocated once must be destroyed. This year CPW officers killed four bears within the city of Boulder for these reasons. These decisions are not made lightly and it is done with reluctance and considerable sadness. As wildlife officers we strive to protect wildlife and it is frustrating to see that careless or lackadaisical human actions repeatedly result in harm to the wildlife the public claims to love.

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Mike King, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
 Bob D. Broscheid, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
 Parks and Wildlife Commission: Robert W. Bray • Chris Castilian, Secretary • Jeanne Home
 Bill Kane, Chair • Gaspar Perricone • James Pribyl • John Singletary
 Mark Smith, Vice-Chair • James Vigil • Dean Wingfield • Michelle Zimmerman
 Ex Officio Members: Mike King and John Salazar

While Boulder cannot unilaterally control decisions on management of bears it can do a considerable amount to discourage bears from coming into the city, lingering in town and falling into a chronic conflict situation to begin with. Over several years CPW Officers have observed that unsecured garbage is the major attractant that draws bears into the city. Garbage is different from the bears' regular food sources and has many negative impacts to bears as individuals and as a population. Unsecured garbage entices hungry bears to forage near city parks, schools, and residences. No doubt bears are active in the city at almost every time of year and at any time of day. The most enticing lure drawing bears into town and holding them in town is the constantly available trash resource, easy calories for an animal adapted to gathering in calories. If the ideal Boulder truly strives for is to reduce risk to black bears while protecting public safety, it is essential to implement management strategies that eliminate availability of trash to bears, period. Anything less will maintain the status quo, and bears will suffer due to continued garbage left by Boulder's residents that provides an unavoidable attraction and addiction for foraging bears.

Last time this issue was before council CPW recommended a "not a problem until it is a problem" approach similar to Durango. In subsequent years the extent of the problem of bears and garbage in Boulder has become more apparent and it seems that with ongoing drought, increasing bear populations, and increasing habitat encroachment; conflicts will only increase making a proactive (instead of a reactive) approach more necessary. Boulder has a unique opportunity to be one of the first major cities in Colorado to address bear-garbage conflict and it should be done in a manner that will produce results. Added cost of implementing enhanced trash ordinances on residents is not insignificant and it is understandable that the council would be reluctant to present its constituents with such a financial burden, but by requiring bear resistant cans council will be protecting human safety as well as bears. Options that do not require garbage to be secure from bears at all times may still burden residents without effectively removing the bear attractant.

There are a lot of factors to take into consideration and it may not be feasible to require every resident to purchase or lease a bear resistant garbage and/or compost bin. Short of that, every resident should be required to secure their garbage and compost either with a bear resistant can or in a secure enclosure until their scheduled pick up. What is not recommended is any sort of retro-fit that has not been tested and proven bear-resistant or any municipal code change that only addresses alley-way pick up. Securing only some garbage or requiring methods that are ineffective will only worsen the problem as it will require resources from the public without achieving results and will squander the public's momentum in solving this issue.

It has been demonstrated in Boulder and other communities that education is important but, by itself, not effective in solving the bear problem. Without adequate code enforcement; regulations alone will not be effective in protecting people and bears. Strategic prioritization such as hiring and/or tasking code enforcement officers to work at

night or early in the morning and dedicating enough officers to cover the entire area in question is absolutely a crucial component in effectively securing garbage and reducing bear-human conflicts. Additional efficiencies could be realized if the "direct serve" requirement was eliminated and households could be served a ticket without officers having to make repeated attempts to contact individuals directly.

Based on CPW Officers experience over the last several years the area in which garbage should be secured includes neighborhoods west of Broadway. Bears certainly wander into other areas of the city and it is possible these boundaries may have to be reevaluated in the future, but west of Broadway is a clear, discrete area and does include a majority of bear-garbage conflicts.

It is for these reasons that CPW fully supports staff recommendations and encourages you to implement them.

Boulder has an important opportunity to protect wildlife in a meaningful way. While bears die from various causes every year it is a shame and a sad waste for CPW to be forced to kill garbage habituated bears because trash is left accessible in Boulder. There is no guarantee that the solutions proposed by city staff or the preferences expressed by CPW will remedy this issue entirely but it is the responsibility of those that live near and in wildlife habitat to live responsibly in a manner that minimizes risk to wildlife. Responsible management of refuse is a doable goal that will improve community aesthetics while reducing risk for people and wildlife. We look forward to working with the Boulder community as we all strive to make this the best possible place for people and wildlife

Thank you for your consideration and your efforts!

Sincerely,

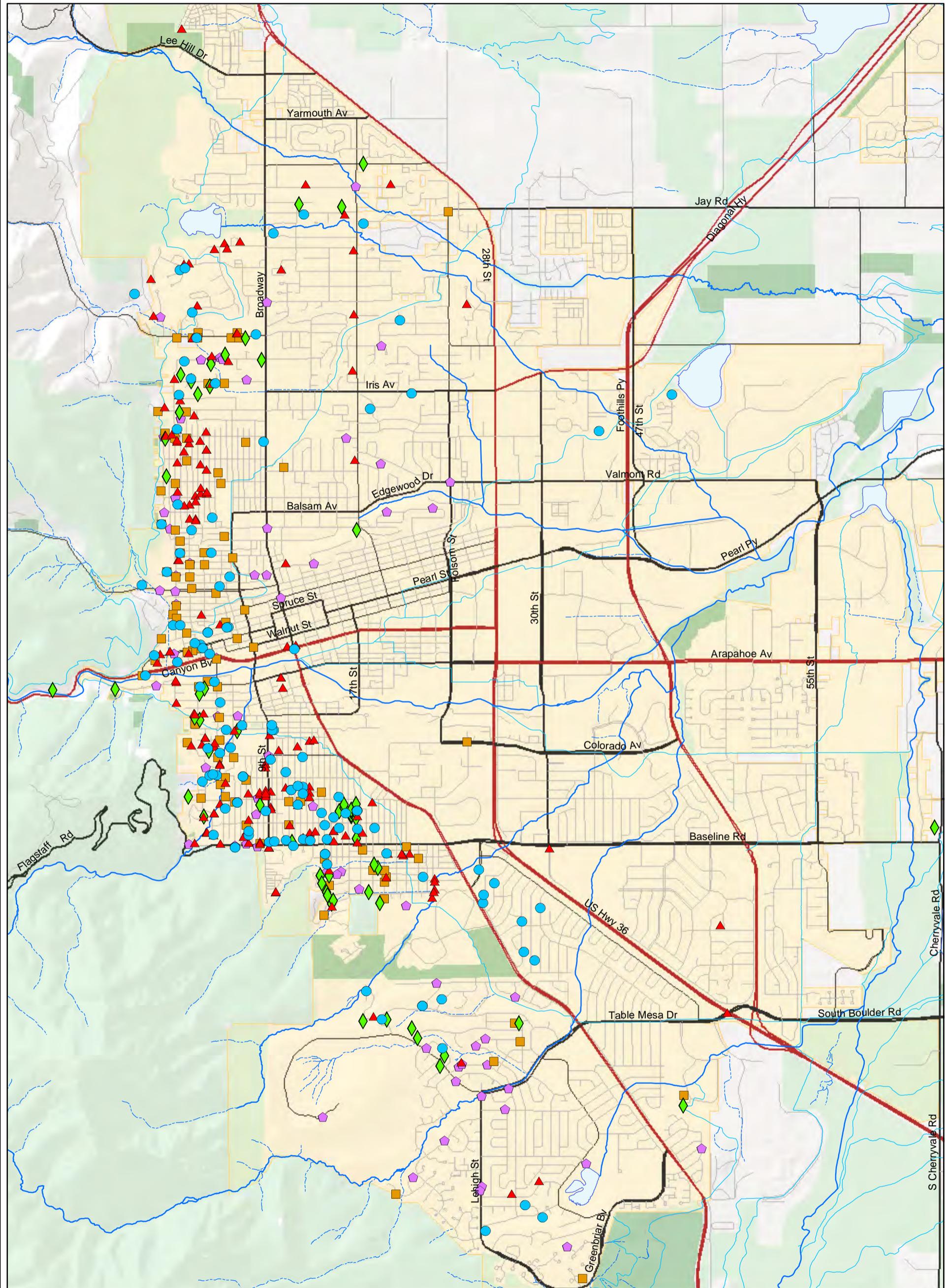


Larry Rogstad
Area Wildlife Manager

CC: S. Yamashita, T. Kroening, M. Taylor, L. Rogstad, K. Cannon, K. Middledorf

Reported Bear Sightings 2009 - 2013

Within City of Boulder Limits



- Sightings by Year**
- 2009
 - 2010
 - 2011
 - 2012
 - 2013
- Map Features**
- Major Lakes
 - City Limits
 - Open Space and Mountain Parks Property
 - Conservation Easement
 - Fee Property
 - Miscellaneous Easement
 - Alley
 - Highway
 - Local Street
 - Major Road
 - Minor Road
 - Creek
 - Creek, Intermittent
 - Ditch

Scale: 0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

North Arrow

City of Boulder Logo

Urban Wildlife Management Plan Logo

Evaluation of the Effectiveness and Feasibility of Systems that Secure Trash from Bears

The following is a description of systems designed to secure trash from bears. The systems are described from most effective to least effective. It is important to note these systems are shown as a gradient of deterring bears from accessing waste. Few municipalities have established a “bear-proof” waste storage system which involves metal communal receptacles, and none have been implemented in the US. (Canmore, Alberta population 12,000, and Whistler, British Columbia population 9,500 are examples of communities with “bear-proof waste storage systems). Municipalities in the US have addressed bear-trash conflicts by trying to deter bears by making it harder to access trash. Bear-deterrent systems do not ensure a bear will not break the securing system but aim to make it harder to access food in town than in natural areas so that bears don’t rely on human generated foods. Some systems are more effective than others. This section describes systems used in the US from most effective to least effective. It also includes an evaluation of how feasible the particular system would be in Boulder.

Communal enclosures

The most effective long-term solution to securing trash from bears is to establish communal trash enclosures that serve approximately 20 residences per enclosure. (For more information on evaluating the effectiveness of waste management collection systems visit: www.bearsmart.com.) The town of Snowmass Village has instituted a system of communal enclosures and, based on reports from Area CPW officer Kevin Wright, and Snowmass Village Animal Services Officer Laurie Smith, the system is working for their community. Due to challenges in identifying space for communal dumpsters in areas where bears most commonly access trash in Boulder, communal dumpsters are not listed as an option at this time, but they will continued to be explored as a long term solution.

Individual enclosures

On the spectrum of effectiveness in securing trash from bears, individual enclosures for storing waste containers fall below communal enclosures but are more effective than bear-resistant carts that are stored outside. Bears are less likely to break into a shed or trash enclosure than a bear-resistant container. However, not all residences in are able to build storage structures due to building restrictions.

“Bear-resistant” carts and dumpsters

The term “bear-resistant” in this context refers to containers that have been through testing with captive bears, and were approved as “bear-resistant” through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee's (IGBC) Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program, or the Living With Wildlife Foundation. Certification through this process currently means the container, which contained an attractant, remained closed for 60 minutes with a bear and was still usable after that 60 minute period. The polycarts are usually made of strong plastic and have metal latches. Dumpsters are usually metal with metal lids. It is important to note that these carts

are not “bear-proof” but are designed to deter bears by making it harder for them to get to waste. This system involves container similar to most trash and compost carts, and dumpsters used in Boulder today, except the containers are heavier and dumpsters have heavier lids. The City of Durango is currently partnering with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CWP) to conduct a multiyear study on effective methods for reducing bear-human conflicts. As part of the study, approximately 900 city residents received wildlife-resistant polycart garbage containers in 2013. The study, which commenced in 2011, will continue through November of 2015. At this time, there are no preliminary results of the study.

Retrofit for carts currently in use

Retrofitting existing carts to address bear issues has been appealing to many municipalities, because making use of existing carts is much more cost effective than buying new carts. Until companies started designing and manufacturing bear-resistant carts, all of the available bear-resistant carts were regular “off-the-shelf” carts that were modified by adding hardware. These retrofits had issues with metal banding rusting, bending, or being pulled off by bears or damaged after repeated hauling. Rivets popped off after the plastic around the rivets begins to crack, etc. So the lifespan has shown to be a lot shorter with retrofitted carts. Squamish, BC is currently using a retrofitted cart that has been bear tested, and seems to be working according to Squamish WildSafe BC Community Coordinator, though like all bear resistant containers bears are able to penetrate the securing mechanism.

Analysis of Trash Storage Approaches to Deter Bears

Approach

Effectiveness

Feasibility

1. Communal Enclosure



(Snowmass)

Best

Low

2. Pick up at individual residences
Stored "inside" (i.e. garage, shed,
bear resistant trash enclosure)
Until morning of pick up



(Aspen)

Better

Medium

3. Pick up at individual residences
Stored outside in bear-resistant container



(Durango)

Good

High

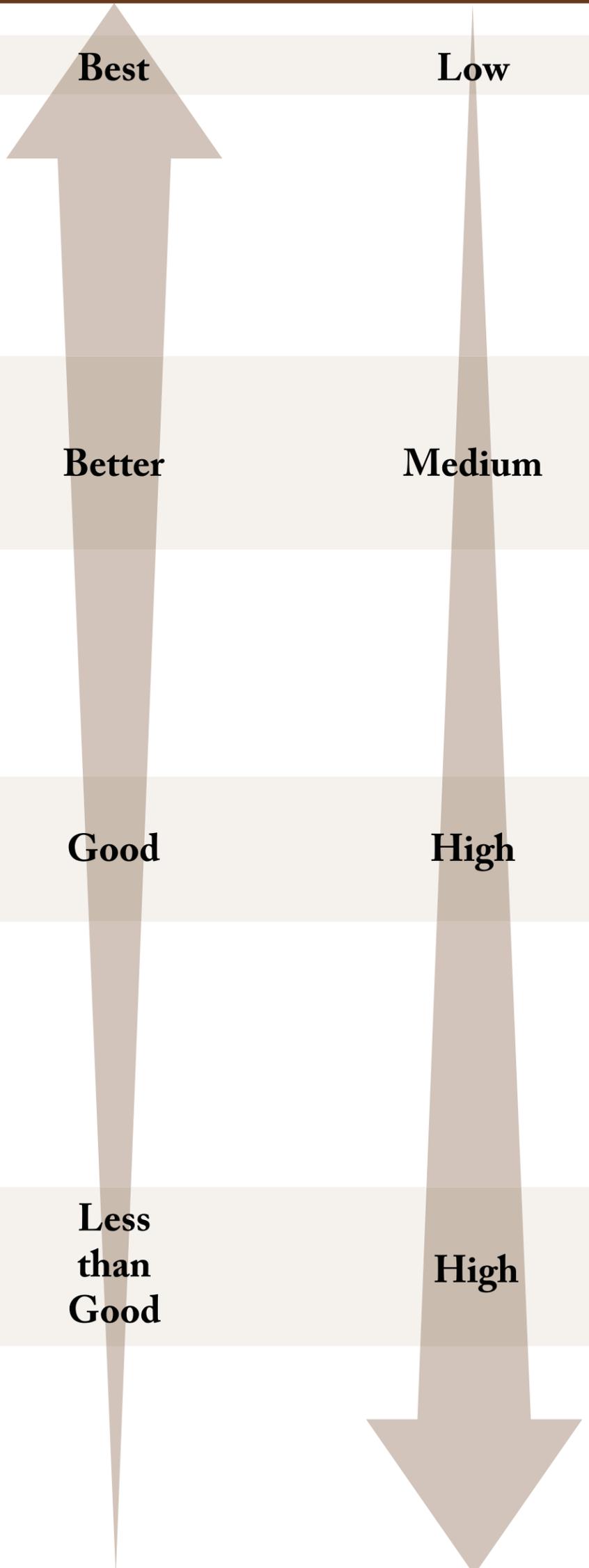
4. Pick up at individual residences
Stored outside in retro fitted
bear-resistant container



(Virginia)

Less
than
Good

High



Boulder’s Current Practices in Comparison to Aspen.

The current Boulder Revised Code, 1981 offers some proactive measures aimed at managing wildlife attractants:

- Section 6-3-3 prohibits the accumulation of trash, recyclables, and compostables.
- Section 6-3-5(a)(1) requires that trash, recyclables, and compostables be stored in containers so that it is not overflowing and is not scattered by animals.
- Section 6-3-5(a)(9) prohibits placing trash, recyclables, and compostables out for collection before 5 a.m. on collection day and requires that containers be removed by 9 p.m. the same day. This section includes an exception for public alleys.
- Section 6-3-9 requires rental properties in the University Hill and Goss-Grove areas to maintain daily trash service Monday through Saturday during spring and fall periods published by the city.

However, current trash storage requirements fall below the Bear Smart Society’s “Good” rating of waste storage systems because bear resistant containers are not required for outdoor trash storage, or when containers are put out to the curb for trash pickup (see table one below).

Table 1. *Bear Smart Community rating system for waste management collection systems (from Bear Smart Society: www.bearsmart.com).*

GOOD	BETTER	BEST
Curbside Pickup: Garbage stored indoors until day of pick up, or in bear-resistant containers outdoors - place curbside only on morning of pick-up.	Main bear-proof compactor sites for general use placed strategically at points in community by which residents regularly travel.	100% bear-proof receptacles placed throughout community - one for every 30 homes + bear-proof receptacles for commercial use (incl. garbage, recycling & grease).

Staff compared Boulder’s current waste management practices to those in other communities in North America and Canada that also identify bear activity as a potential problem in their cities. Of the communities researched, Town of Snowmass Village, Aspen, and Durango provided the most useful information because of recent updates to their regulations.

Aspen is particularly notable, as the city has implemented a trash ordinance requiring bear resistant containers as of June 1, 2010. This updated ordinance requires trash to be stored in a way that is considered “Good” in the Bear Smart Society rating system for waste management. Prior to 2010, residents who were issued a summons for a black bear in trash were given the option to purchase a bear resistant container in lieu of paying a fine. In 2009, Aspen experienced record high bear reports in town, which led to the more restrictive trash ordinance implemented in 2010. The ordinance changes did not seem to reduce the numbers

of bears that come into town, but the Aspen community Safety Officer believes the changes have resulted in fewer bear-trash conflicts and fewer bears being killed. Aspen Police website states: *Due to drought conditions and poor natural food sources during 2012, bears ventured into town in high volumes. This was the first true test of the revamped wildlife ordinances. The department received record 1,040 bear calls in 2012 yet fewer bears were relocated and euthanized in Aspen than in previous years (1 and 2, respectively). There were also significantly fewer trash violations, especially in residential areas of town. We believe the community prevented the unnecessary death of bears by embracing local trash ordinances and taking preventative measures to bear-proof their homes.*

Aspen Police Department Annual Summary of Total Black Bear Calls for Service

<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2012</u>
638	82	713	351	1,040



January 7, 2014

Ms. Valerie Matheson
Urban Wildlife Conservation Coordinator
City of Boulder
1777 Broadway
Boulder, CO 80302

RE: Bear Resistant Carts and Western's Approach

Dear Valerie:

We have appreciated working with you the past few months as we all search for the most effective and economical approach to reducing bear-human interactions resulting from unsecured trash in the city of Boulder. It appears that years of drought conditions, fires in the neighboring mountains and a growing bear population has resulted in bears foraging more frequently in the urban areas along the westernmost boundary of the City. We all have seen that bears are coming into the City in greater numbers to feed on unsecured trash, as well as compost, bird feeders, pet food, and fruit trees.

In an effort to help protect bears, for several years Western has made bear-resistant carts available to our customers for a charge of \$10.00 per month per cart. The charge was based on the relatively low number of carts requested by customers and the fact that Western Disposal was not receiving a volume discount from the supplier.

Making trash less accessible to bears increases the service cost and Western Disposal is very aware that this can be upsetting to a household or a business budget. In keeping with this concern, Western Disposal would propose options that limit the additional costs as much as possible.

We suggest the City should address the areas with the heaviest bear activity as a first step—this is generally in the alleys on the west side of Broadway. Once success is achieved in the alleys, the program can be expanded, as appropriate, based on the change in activity of the bears.

In addition to making refuse less convenient to the bears, we also believe that it would be helpful to make the community less attractive to bears by discouraging their foraging in the City. Without this step, bears may eventually become more aggressive in their activities as well as expanding their territory into the City. We should think of this as a multi-layered approach: increased education of citizens, secured trash in target areas, enforcement of current and future ordinances, and discouragement of urban foraging by the bears. We understand that the approaches that are selected must be tested, evaluated and ultimately reduce the attraction of trash and organics set out for collection as a food source.



Western Disposal's Role

Western Disposal will make bear-resistant carts and containers (dumpsters) available to our customers in areas designated by the City for special bear/trash control. Providing these special containers, however, presents two issues: (1) The carts and containers are much more expensive, and (2) servicing the carts and containers can be more expensive.

Cart Costs

Bear-resistant carts can be approximately five times as expensive as a regular trash cart, and we could be procuring thousands of them at a cost of over a million dollars. Western is willing to make that investment if the Council decides to move forward with requiring such carts. We, however, want to be assured of our course of action before we make a substantial financial commitment to new carts.

Carts can be supplied to customers by Western as part of their normal monthly service with an increase in rates to cover the cost of the carts. In this case, Western would retain responsibility for maintenance, damage, making size exchanges, and the eventual replacement of the carts. For carts supplied as part of normal monthly service, Western will offer the same three sizes of bear-resistant carts for residential use (32-, 64- and 96-gallon) as we do for regular service. The monthly rental charge would be as follows and this would be an additional *per-cart* fee (important, please note: at this point, we do not know what quantities we would be ordering, which will affect final pricing; therefore, these are approximate quantities and costs only):

Bear-Saver Option		Bearicuda Option	
32 gallon	\$3.15/month	32 gallon	\$.19/month
64 gallon	\$4.60/month	64 gallon	\$2.78/month
96 gallon	\$4.75/month	96 gallon	\$2.87/month

Or, the carts may be purchased if the customer prefers owning their cart and avoiding an additional fee each month. Maintenance and replacement would then be the customer's responsibility. The purchase prices for the carts are:

Bear-Saver Option		Bearicuda Option	
32 gallon	\$176.00	32 gallon	\$ 53.00
64 gallon	\$248.00	64 gallon	\$172.00
96 gallon	\$260.00	96 gallon	\$183.00

Unlocking Charges

In the areas with existing alley pickup, Western Disposal is currently utilizing a two-person rear-load truck. With employees already on the ground, they can unlock the carts as they bring them to the truck for unloading, and so there would be no additional charge for unlocking the carts.

In areas with curbside pickup, Western is currently using one-man automated side-load trucks where there are no employees outside of the truck on the ground. Western Disposal has determined through a time study that in those areas we would need to add a \$2/month unlocking fee for each cart if our employees have to get out to unlock the cart (please note: the unlocking fee must apply to each bear-resistant cart because they are serviced by different Western trucks during the day). The 96-gallon Bearicuda Kodiak cart is marketed as working with the fully-automated truck; if this proves to be the case, there would be no additional unlocking charge for this cart.

Customer Unlocking Option

In many parts of the United States facing similar bear-human trash issues, government requires that the customer unlock the bear-resistant cart on the morning of their pickup. If this were the case in Boulder, no additional unlocking fee would apply for curbside collection of bear-resistant carts.

We understand that there is some concern among some residents that the cart would be unlocked for a period of time before collection. Just to provide perspective to this situation, the percentage of time that the cart would be secured or locked would be greater than 90% of the time. We realize that this may not be considered a perfect solution, but it is considered to be the gold standard by many communities around the country as well as the state of Virginia. This approach balances costs and benefits and brings the public into the solution.

Metal Dumpsters

For customers in designated area(s) with existing metal dumpsters with plastic lids, we will be able to offer metal-top, bear-resistant dumpsters (containers) for an additional \$27 per month per container, which includes the additional service costs. (Note: the bear-resistant containers have very heavy metal lids that will be considerably heavier for the customer to lift and noisier when dumped. Any new regulation should take this into account regardless of the hauler.)

In closing, we believe the best solution to this dilemma must include options appropriate to individual resident's situations and encompass multi-layered responsibility. The problem will not be solved simply by the use of bear-resistant carts. We suggest the following approach:

- If a resident is able to secure trash/organics within a structure or enclosure until the day of pickup, this should be considered a preferable alternative.

- If an enclosure is available, the customer should not be required to purchase or rent a bear-resistant cart.
- If carts are on an alley route, they should be secured in a bear-resistant cart and be unlocked by the collector at the time of their pickup.
- The City should begin this program only in alley areas evaluate how the above restrictions are working prior to expanding to the areas with curbside collection.
- Once again, if the curbside program is included, the City should consider a customer unlocking requirement like others researched by staff.

A Potential Western Disposal Solution

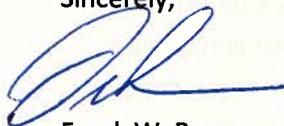
Western is nearing completion on the design of a proto-type reinforced bear- and wildlife-resistant retrofit of the existing Western cart. Let me quickly assure you that we are not talking about a simple clasp or latch system. We have devised a sturdy locking mechanism that includes and complements a reinforced rim that will prevent a bear, raccoon, or other creature from easily prying the lid open.

The breakthrough feature of the new design is that it will work with the curbside automated routes without the need for the driver to exit the cab to unlock the cart. The cart remains locked until time of pickup and will automatically relock following the pickup so wind and residue will not be as much of a factor. With this new approach, there would not be an unlocking charge.

If the Council accepts this pathway, Western Disposal will be able to retrofit existing carts in a phased approach, beginning with the most challenging parts of the City. We understand that our retro-fit design will need to be tested, and therefore we propose the following: allow Western to pilot the redesign in the coming season in the difficult areas of the community and also pursue testing and refining the design in concert with appropriate officials and experts as soon as this can be done.

Again, we thank you for working together with Western Disposal on this challenging and important issue.

Sincerely,



Frank W. Bruno
President & CEO

ONE WAY, INC.
P.O. BOX 376
HYGIENE CO 80533

DBA ONE WAY TRASH
DBA ONE WAY DISPOSAL



Monday, January 13, 2014

Valerie Matheson
Urban Wildlife Conservation Coordinator
1739 Broadway, 4th Floor
Boulder CO 80306

RE: Impacts of the City of Boulder Requiring Bear Resistant Containers for Trash & Compost Storage

One Way, Inc. supports the implementation of a trash & compost storage ordinance in areas with high bear activity. We offer our full cooperation with such an ordinance.

Collection of Bear Resistant Containers or Collection from Enclosures

One Way, Inc. offers customers a unique service in Boulder. We accommodate customer's individual needs through a traditional manner that does not use automated systems. We currently service several different models of bear resistant containers which we will collect at the curb, at your door or from an enclosure. Containers are returned to a designated location ensuring that the streets are clear and the container does not blow away. These services are provided at no additional cost to the customer.

Service Capabilities

One Way currently services approximately 240 residential accounts in the City of Boulder. We operate residential routes in Boulder two days per week. With our current operation we would be able to collect approximately 800 customers per week. With advance notice we would be able to acquire the appropriate equipment and labor to service a larger number of customers.

Costs

Our main concern is the cost to implement this ordinance. From our experience, a majority of customers subscribe to 32-gallons trash and 65-gallons compost. To accommodate 26,000 customers with a 32-gallon bear resistant trash can and a 65-gallon bear resistant compost can it would cost approximately 9.3 million dollars*. This is a costly investment to both residents and haulers; even if the haulers make the initial investment these costs will be passed onto the resident. Smaller haulers and low income households may not be able to overcome these economic barriers therefore we request that some sort of economic assistance to haulers or residents is considered to ease this burden.

Alternate Options

To provide our current 240 customers with the appropriate containers it would cost One Way approximately \$38,640 (240 x \$161*) for trash cans and \$47,040 (240 x \$196*) for compost containers. One Way would need to come up with an initial investment of approximately \$85,680 to accommodate our 240 customers with bear resistant containers. We favor providing residents the option to install a bear resistance enclosure on their property. Residents could safely store trash & compost in the enclosure and not worry about placing receptacles "out" on trash day. This would keep neighborhood

streets clean and clear while protecting residents from the loss of their container (high winds often cause containers to blow away – a costly occurrence with bear containers priced over \$100 per container). We are currently looking into cost effective storage enclosures to offer residents.

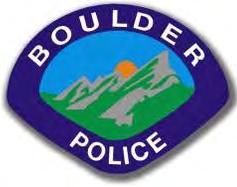
*Pricing for 32-gallon & 64-gallon bear resistant containers used from examples provided on the Urban Wildlife website (www.bearsavers.com).

Sincerely,

Landa Montoya
Vice President of Administration
One Way, Inc.
(303) 823-0556

Proposed trash and curbside compost storage options compared to other communities and the Bear Smart Society's rating of waste management systems

			Proposed Options			
Canmore Alberta	Whistler British Columbia	Snowmass	Aspen New Option 3	Boulder Option 1	Boulder Option 2	Durango
Bear-proof communal enclosure	Bear-proof community compactor	Bear-resistant communal enclosure	Curbside pick-up stored 'indoors' in bear resistant containers	Curbside pick-up stored indoors or in resistant containers	Resistant carts required for alley storage	Resistant carts required after trash is strewn
			Latched carts put out morning of pick-up	Carts unlatched morning of pick-up	Carts unlatched morning of pick-up	Carts unlatched morning of pick-up
Best	Better		Good	Bear Smart Community rating system for waste management		



M E M O R A N D U M

Code Enforcement Unit
Boulder Police Department
Office 303-441-1875
www.bouldercolorado.gov

To: Mark Beckner, Chief
Thru: Carey Weinheimer, Commander
From: Jennifer Riley, Code Enforcement Supervisor
Date: December 19, 2013
Ref: Staffing Recommendation

This memo is in response to an email request from the city manager to evaluate recommendations for staffing levels for nuisance enforcement that are anticipated to be discussed at the City Council and in reference to enforcement of trash regulations to secure waste from wildlife.

For the past two years the CE unit has participated in the Bear Education and Enforcement (BEEP) pilot program with the city Wildlife Coordinator and the Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The BEEP involved a citizen feedback campaign intended to engage the residents' for solutions to bears disrupting waste within the city. Through this feedback, the residents have identified increased enforcement as a solution to this issue. It was also documented through diligent records keeping of enforcement staff that education did not produce a behavior change, while enforcement made a significant change in the residents' storage of waste. The BEEP program will be reporting results and findings of the two year pilot and making staff recommendations to improve securing waste from bears in January 2014.

Currently, the Code Enforcement (CE) unit is staffed with two full-time CE Officers and a working Supervisor to provide nuisance code enforcement to the 101,808 residents within the 43,479 housing units in Boulder. This level of staff provides one CE officer per 40,723 residents or per 17,392 housing units that are distributed within the five police patrol districts. Due to the administrative duties, the working supervisor has been calculated as half an officer. The CE schedule is Monday-Friday from 0700-1700 except city observed holidays. CE utilizes the live dispatch system and mobile devices coupled with cloud based data management to help leverage current staff levels to be more efficient and responsive. The unit embraces a community policing approach to enforcement and a combination of both reactive (54% complaint based) and proactive (46% officer observed) responses. The unit enforces ordinances pertaining to quality of life issues such as:

- Illegal Use of a Dumpster 5-4-12
- Noxious Weeds 6-2
- Outdoor Storage of Furniture 5-4-16
- Overhanging/Obstructing ROW 8-6-3
- Sidewalk Snow Removal 8-2-13
- Signs in ROW 5-4-15
- Smoking in Public Places 6-4-3
- Special Trash Service Required 6-3-9
- Trash Storage and Accumulation 6-3
- Use of Pesticides 6-10
- Weed and Brush Control 6-2
- Wood Burning Restrictions 6-9-3

The city manager also asked the PD to identify the staffing that would be needed to execute a trash enforcement plan and the costs that would need to be covered in terms of personnel and non personnel expenses. The city manager further inquired if these new employees would also be able to enforce other laws while checking for trash violations, and if so which ones.

In evaluating the most effective use of staff time, skills, resources, and budget; I would recommend exploring the option to add a CE Officer (\$18.81-\$30.10) and an Administrative Specialist I (\$15.72-\$23.94).

Even with the use of our mobile technologies, a CE officer will average 20% (8 hours) of a 40 hour work week on data entry in the office. The addition of an administrative specialist will allow the code officer to remain in the field as opposed to conducting data entry and records maintenance. This will also increase report consistency, expedite time sensitive mailings, and increase phone service on the CE general number (currently unanswered while officers are in the field). This position would allow the unit to provide 18% more enforcement per officer (54% more with three officers).

If a third CE Officer were to be added, this level of staff would be able to provide one CE officer per 29,088 residents or per 12,423 housing units that are distributed within the five police patrol districts. With the addition of a third CE officer the district assignments would be redistributed to make a dedicated officer for district 3 which is our high volume area. The officer would enforce all codes that are the responsibility of this unit, thereby not only working to address securing waste from bears but also other quality of life concerns throughout the whole city. This would be a more efficient use of staff budget as the bear concerns is a seasonal issue.

To accommodate the recommended staff, the unit could be relocated to the second level of the Pearl St annex, mall officers could utilize the first floor desks and resources that were vacated by CE. The relocation would cost \$0.00 by utilizing the current desk units. No new vehicles would need to be added as the unit currently has three vehicles. No new desktop computers would need to be added as the current desk units all have computers. One mobile device would need to be purchased for the new officer as well as uniform costs.

This recommendation would improve the capabilities of the CE unit by increasing the time spent in the field for CE officers providing more enforcement of waste storage from bears and other quality of life concerns for the community and addressing the Council's priority. This would also increase customer service, expedite time sensitive mailings and case entry, and help improve the consistency, and efficiencies of the unit while using budget resources in a responsible way. Through consistent and engaged enforcement, CE would strive to improve voluntary compliance of storing waste from bears and all quality of life violations by influencing the communities' view and overall culture of these issues.

Staffing Cost Options Outlined:

Administrative and Officer:

- Entry Lvl Staff Total Compensation- Administrative- \$43,160.00/yr (30% for benefits)
Officer- \$50,869.00/yr (30% for benefits)
Total- \$94,029.00/yr
- Start-up Equipment Requirement- Administrative- \$0.00 (Utilize Current)
Officer- \$800.00/Mobile Device; \$2,000.00/Uniforms
Total- \$2,800.00
Total All- \$96,829.00