

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services



Agenda

PR&CS Administration
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Please silence your phone during the meeting.

Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015

7:30am

Palmer Room

Call to Order

Citizen Discussion

Time for any individual to bring before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board any matter of interest they wish to discuss that is not elsewhere on the agenda. Comments are restricted to three (3) minutes; you will hear an alarm when your time is up. Please contact PR&CS staff no later than the last Wednesday of the month prior if you wish to place a longer presentation on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes-August 13, 2015

Minutes are posted no later than 5:00pm on the Tuesday before the meeting at:

<http://parks.coloradosprings.gov/explore-play/get-involved/boards-committees/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board>

Ceremonial Items (10:00am – Time Certain)

- Kids on Bikes—Nikki McComsey Chris Lieber

Action Items

1. War Dog Memorial Chris Lieber
2. Venezia Community Park Universally Accessible Grant Application Jeff Webb
3. TOPS Code Update Chris Lieber

Presentations

4. City Auditorium Restroom Update Kim King
5. Inspire Grant Application Tilah Larson

Staff Reports

6. Bear Creek Watershed Update David Deitemeyer
7. Tussock Moth/Spruce Bud Worm Update Dennis Will
8. Discover Colorado Springs Calendar Sarah Bryarly/Tilah Larson
9. Project Updates: Open Space Management Plans,
Larry Ochs, Foothills Trail, Hillside Community Center Chris Lieber

Board Business

10. Committee Reports

Adjournment

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: September 10, 2015
Item Number: Action Item #1
Item Name: War Dog Memorial at Memorial Park

SUMMARY

The Memorial Park Master Plan identifies specific areas for the development of future memorials within Memorial Park. The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department has received a request from the War Dog Memorial Project Team to erect a memorial in Memorial Park in honor of the service and dedication of war dogs, past, present and future who have served our troops at home and abroad. The War Dog memorial is intended to be a place to honor war dogs and a place for reflection, celebration and thanks for the many people whose lives have been touched by the commitment of these service dogs. The War Dog Memorial Team is seeking approval to construct their memorial within the Ring of Honor at the World War II Memorial.

PREVIOUS ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND:

Parks Department staff has worked with the War Dog Memorial team to identify a suitable location within the Circle of Honor at Memorial Park for their proposal. The monument proposal has been designed with this location in mind. The plan of the proposed memorial is attached to this packet and will be located at plot 27. The memorial will include a statue, low walls adjacent to the statue with inlaid plaques that will show war dogs in action and provide education as to their role, as well as a walkway to access the memorial.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The War Dog Memorial team will be responsible for all costs associated with creating and erecting the memorial. Maintenance of the memorial including and repairs stemming from vandalism, theft, weather or other acts or events shall be covered by a stewardship endowment provided by the War Dog Memorial team.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The War Dog Memorial design was presented to the Arts Commission. The Arts Commission is comfortable with the proposal and does not have any major recommendations or suggestions for changes

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:

The War Dog Memorial Project Team has reached out to service organizations that have sponsored adjacent war memorials within the Ring of Honor. See attached letters of support.

ALTERNATIVES:

Decline or modify the proposed War Dog Memorial

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the War Dog Memorial design concept and the proposed location within the Memorial Park War Memorial Ring of Honor for the War Dog Memorial.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion approving the War Dog Memorial within the Memorial Park War Memorial Ring of Honor.

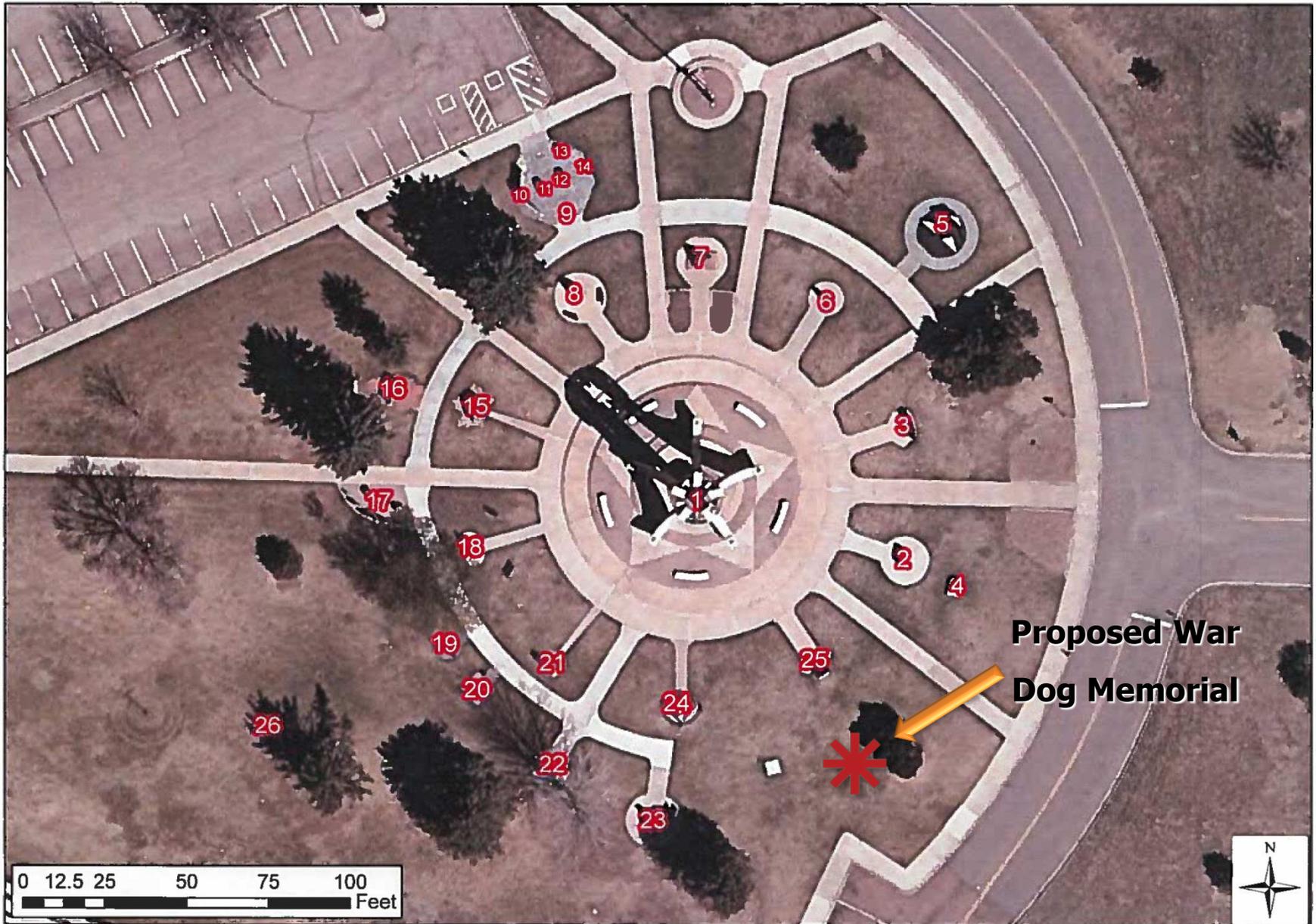
PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Wade and Ruby Ridpath, War Dog Memorial Project Team

Attachments:

- Letter of Request from War Dog Memorial Proponents
- War Dog Memorial Design Exhibits
- Letters of Support

Proposed War Dog Memorial





ABOUT US

Wade Ridpath: Vietnam Veteran - Served for 12 years in the United States Navy
Associates Degree in Science from National College, Rapid City, SD
Past Instructor for the Dale Carnegie Course
Self Employed as a Hair Designer for 39 years

Ruby Ridpath: 31 years in Banking, Mortgage Lending & Real Estate
Currently Office Manager/Administrator and Bookkeeper with a nationally
franchised Real Estate company for 20 years.

Member of the United States War Dogs Association
Volunteer with Mission K9 Rescue – 2013 to Present
Board Member with the Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center - June 2002 to Present

In November, 2011, we adopted CWD Carlos, a retired Explosive Detection Dog that had served for 5 continuous years in Iraq and Afghanistan. His adoption changed our lives. Educating the public about War Dogs, as both MWDs and CWDs are collectively called, became a passion and has brought us to where we are today. We have given presentations about War Dogs at numerous venues including Expos, Civic Organizations and Elementary Schools along the front range of Colorado since 2012.

In August 2013, we were honored to adopt Military Working Dog Alik H218, a retired Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog that served for 8 years with the USAF Security Forces. Recently, on April 22, 2015, we adopted CWD Boss, a retired Mine Detection Dog that served his entire life in Kuwait.

In 2013, through an extensive social media campaign, CWD Carlos was voted the Military Hero Dog of 2013 which has allowed us to reach more of the public about the selfless sacrifice and service of war dogs both past and present.

Ruby has traveled coast to coast (Los Angeles, Dallas, Washington DC & New York City) with CWD Carlos and MWD Alik educating people about our nation's working dog heroes.

- In 2013, Ruby had the privilege to travel to Washington DC with CWD Carlos and speak at a Congressional Briefing on Capitol Hill on behalf of our nation's working dog heroes.
- In 2014, Ruby traveled to New York City with MWD Alik where they represented and honored War Dogs in the Veterans Day Parade.

We believe the over 4,000 dogs that were either euthanized or left behind in Vietnam deserve to be honored and remembered. We believe that the dogs that have given their lives willingly and selflessly deserve to be honored. We believe the dogs that have sustained injury and suffer from Canine PTSD deserve to be honored. **We believe all War Dogs have earned and deserve to be revered forever.**

We are dedicated to building the War Dog Memorial that will honor the dogs that have served and continue to serve protecting our troops, country and freedoms both domestically and overseas.

Wade & Ruby Ridpath

War Dog Memorial
PO Box 25822, Colo Springs, CO 80936

Ph. 719-470-0936
Email: wardogmemorialco@gmail.com

Find Us On Facebook
[FB.com/wardogmemorialco](https://www.facebook.com/wardogmemorialco)

The War Dog Memorial Project is a component fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization.
Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

WAR DOG MEMORIAL COLORADO

www.wardogmemorialcolorado.com

Why a War Dog Memorial?

In November of 2011, we adopted a retired Explosive Detection Dog named CWD Carlos that changed our lives and inspired us to be a voice for our nation's working dog heroes. In August of 2013, we were honored to adopt MWD Alik that was retired after serving for almost 8 years as a Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog with Security Forces.

Military Working Dogs (MWDs) and Contract Working Dogs (CWDs), while their ownership is different, work in the same areas of operation performing the same jobs. They are "War Dogs" that give the best years of their lives valiantly protecting our troops, civilians and freedoms both domestically and overseas.

These noble warriors work tirelessly in scorching heat, freezing cold, blinding sand and torrential rain without complaint. They risk their own lives protecting the lives of our troops yet ask for nothing in return except some food, water and love. Their loyalty and commitment is unsurpassed. They sustain injury, use their own bodies to shield their handler and, some have lost their life.

Because of their selfless devotion many fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters have returned home to their families.

We have chosen to build this War Dog Memorial to give these "heroes with fur" the honor and respect they have earned and deserve. For generations to come, this Memorial will stand to honor the War Dogs that are truly, our "Forgotten Heroes".

Our sincere desire is for this War Dog Memorial to be a place where Military Working Dogs and Contract Working Dogs will be revered forever and be a place of reflection for those who served with and whose lives were saved by these amazing hero dogs.

How You Can Help

Monetary Donations



Fundraising Events



Sponsorships



Spreading the word

Your support and donations are paramount to building the War Dog Memorial honoring our "Forgotten Heroes".

Thank You,

Ruby & Wade Ridpath



The War Dog Memorial Project is a component fund of the **Pikes Peak Community Foundation**, a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

War Dog Memorial
P.O. Box 25822 Colorado Springs, CO 80936



Ph. 719-470-0936
email: wardogmemorialco@gmail.com



Find Us On Facebook
FB.com/wardogmemorialco



Memorial Details

The War Dogs (German Shepherd & Labrador Retriever) on top of the pedestal will be 1 ½ time life size Bronze Sculptures.

The Center Pedestal will be 9 feet in diameter.

The walkway around the center pedestal will be approximately 6 feet wide.

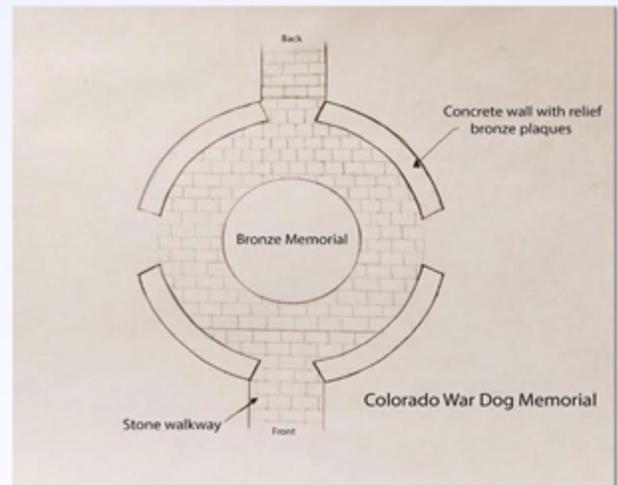
The walkway will be paved with gray laser engraved "Honor" Bricks.

8 Bronze reliefs depicting the history of War Dogs and 4 Bronze educational plaques will be permanently set into the inside face of the walls.

The diameter of the Memorial will be 24 feet including the wall.

The walls of the Memorial walls will be 3 feet high.

The entrance and exit to the Memorial will be approximately 6 feet wide .



Artist's sketch - Overview of the planned War Dog Memorial

The plans for the War Dog Memorial are subject to change.

The War Dog Memorial Project is a component fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law.



Colorado Springs
Parks and Recreational Department

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the "War Dog Memorial". My husband John J. Howe, M.D., served in Viet Nam from 1966-1967. As his widow, I am speaking for John and myself. I feel this memorial is a wonderful tribute to these noble warriors who have risked their lives and by doing so, have saved the lives of thousands of our men and women.

Sincerely,



Gayle Getts-Howe

27 April 2015

April 14, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand there is some concern about the appropriateness of a War Dog Memorial in the same park as a Veteran's Memorial. I believe it is fitting to include the War Dog Memorial there. From as far back as the Civil War dogs have been instrumental in aiding and assisting our troops. There have been countless instances where the War Dog has saved lives by his action. The dog's dedication and unswerving faithfulness to his troops is remarkable. Dogs such as CWD Carlos, MWD Gabe (both American Humane Association Hero Dogs) and MWD Cairo (who was part of the SEAL team that captured Osama Bin Laden) are all heroes who demonstrated their courage every day of their service.

As veterans, my family believes these heroes deserve no less a place than the Veteran's Memorial Park. I was in the National Guard, my husband Rick was a Marine, and our Daughter Johna was also a Marine. We appreciate the service and sacrifice these noble animals gave and continue to give to us.

Sincerely,



Merry Starkey

April 14 2015

To Whom it may concern

I understand that there is some conflict over the War Dog Memorial. Being A Marine Veteran of the Viet Nam War plus an American Citizen, Here is my TWO cents.

These Fine Brave animals served with Courage and Dedication questioned by no one. These Animals did what was asked of them and many gave there lives or were badly injured and Never questioned their job.

These fine animals saved God only knows how many lives while serving along side of our TROOPS.

So my TWO CENTS is this Please Allow this Memorial to be Placed beside the Brave Men and Women that they Served with.Allow them the Same Honor they Deserve.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cpl. R. D. Starkey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Cpl. R. D. Starkey
U.S.M.C.



PIKES PEAK DETACHMENT

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

PO BOX 10536
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80932-1536

From the Office of
Russell Miller

Commandant / Chaplain

Sir,

On behalf of the Marine Corps League, Pikes Peak Detachment. I would like to take this opportunity to say that we support your effort to install a War-Dog Memorial alongside the other memorials that are currently displayed at Memorial Park here in Colorado Springs.

Military working dogs have played an integral part in all the branch's mission goals for generations.

We salute you and wish you great success in your undertaking.

Semper Fi

Russ Miller

Commandant

Toys for Tots Coordinator

Marine Corps League, Pikes Peak Detachment 29

719.235.1058

rcmlr@msn.com

cstoys4tots@live.com

www.mclpikespeak.org

"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"



United States War Dogs Association, Inc.

"Canines with: Honor - Courage - Loyalty"



14 May 2015

To Whom it may concern;

My name is Ronald L. Aiello, and I am president of The United States War Dog Association (USWDA). I have known Ruby Ridpath since 2012 when her adopted retired war dog CWD Carlos won USWDA's Working Dog Service Award, and Ms. Ridpath became a member of our organization. Since that time, she has generously volunteered her time to promote and help war dogs and their causes. In 2013, CWD Carlos won the Hero Dog of the Year in the military division, and Ms. Ridpath has used Carlos' achievements to fight for the betterment of retired CWDs. She has worked closely with Mission K9 Rescue who is chapter six of USWDA. Last summer when Mission K9 Rescue needed to raise funds to bring back 20 CWDs from overseas, Ms. Ridpath worked tirelessly to help raise the funds. She created an auction and online store in which all proceeds went to the campaign.

I am thrilled that Ms. Ridpath has decided to take on the challenge of creating a war dog memorial in Colorado Springs. As a Vietnam veteran and former canine handler, I know first hand what these dogs mean to our servicemen and women. It is important that they are recognized and honored along with the rest of their comrades.

Yours Truly,

Ronald L. Aiello

1313 Mt. Holly Road, Burlington, New Jersey 08016

City of Colorado Springs
Parks and Recreation Department

27 APRIL 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this in support of the "War Dog Memorial". I am a Navy Veteran , having served in World War II in the Pacific from 1944-1946. Because of these devoted and selfless warriors , the lives of thousands of our men and women have been saved. I feel this memorial is a wonderful way to say "Thank-you for your service".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William M. Getts".

William M. Getts

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: September 10, 2015

Item Number: Action Item #2

Item Name: John Venezia Community Park Resolution of Support, Great Outdoors Colorado Grant Request

Summary: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is currently seeking a \$350,000 Great Outdoors Colorado grant for the equipment and construction of the playgrounds within the John Venezia Community Park. Great Outdoors Colorado offers competitive grants to eligible entities for a variety of park, trail and open space needs across Colorado. Great Outdoors Colorado funding comes from Lottery proceeds and is no way funded through a tax of any kind. Staff is seeking support from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the grant application. A formal resolution of support will be presented to City Council in October of 2015.

Previous Council Action: None.

Background: In accordance with the Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Trails 2015-2025 Master Plan, the City pursues a variety of park facilities and recreation opportunities for the Colorado Springs community. The Master Plan identifies a significant deficit of large developed community parks in the northern reaches of Colorado Springs. In 2005, the John Venezia Community Park site was identified as a priority for development; support for construction of the park was reiterated during the development of the 2015-2025 Parks Master Plan public process.

In 2006 an extensive public master plan process was conducted for the John Venezia Community Park. This planning process engaged the community in three public meetings which established the vision and programming for the park. Demographics, geographic deficiencies in community parkland, current user trends, and recent development patterns all indicate the need for development of the John Venezia Community Park site.

In 2009 the original John Venezia Community Park Master Plan was approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. However, due to funding issues and the economic down turn, the construction of the community park was placed on hold indefinitely.

During the fall of 2014, funding solutions became available to aid in the initial phases of construction of the community park. When additional funding was identified, the Parks Department again took the master plan to the community to ensure the plan would meet the recreational needs of the community. After two public meeting and reapproval by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, staff was able to finish preparing the construction documents and put the park out to bid.

Construction of the first phase of John Venezia Community Park is currently underway. The elements that have been reserved for a future phase include the tennis courts, pickleball courts, in-line/basketball courts, the multi-use field and tennis court lighting, the Hay Loft shelter, and the trail connection between the western edge of the park to Lexington Boulevard. Although the playgrounds are included in the initial construction costs; if funding can be specifically identified for that use, it will free up other dollars to put towards the phase 2 elements.

John Venezia Community Park is located at the southwest corner of Union Boulevard and Briargate Parkway. The park is roughly 110 acres, 30 acres is developable, while 80 acres falls within the Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse habitat and is not eligible for development. As the Parks Department engaged the public in the original master plan process the theme for the John Venezia Community Park was established as a “Ranch”. Based on this guiding theme, the design has evolved around a traditional ranch homestead concept.

The following elements are included in the amended master plan.

“The Homestead”: 1 Large Pavilion Complex (“The Barn” pavilion accommodating 160 users, “The House” pavilion accommodating 120 users, and “The Bunkhouse” accommodating 92 users) 2 Orchards, and 1 Parking Lot (144 spaces)

“The Corral”: 1 Universally Accessible Playground and 1 “Loafing Shed”

“The Watering Hole”: 1 Sprayground and 1 “Outhouse” (accommodates restrooms, sprayground mechanics room, and shade shelter)

“The Round Pin”: Small Scale Artificial Field

“The Pastures”: 2 small “Loafing Sheds”, 2 Gravel Walking Loops, 1 Parking Lot (72 spaces) and the maintenance building.

“The Range”: 1 Street to connect Briargate Parkway with Union Boulevard (39 on-street spaces), 2 Roundabouts, 2 Parking Lots (158 spaces), 3 Size “A” Soccer fields (lighted), 1 Playground, , 6 Tennis Courts, 1 Neighborhood scale Basketball/Inline Hockey Court, 4 Pickleball Courts, Plaza area for community performances, 1 shade shelter, and 1 “Outhouse” building (Restrooms)

Miscellaneous: 10’ wide Briargate Trail (along Briargate Parkway) and 2 Miles of Interior Sidewalks

The playgrounds within John Venezia Community Park will continue the overall theme of the park. Some of the play experiences that will be explored through the design include the following: the upper hayloft of the barn, climbing the ladder to get to the hayloft, the chicken coop, riding a horse, climbing to the top of the silo, sliding down hay bales, slashing in mud puddles, playing hide n’ seek, crawling under or through logs, climbing a tree, drawing water from a well pump, exploring various outbuildings, etc.

This playground is also important because it will be the second Universally Accessible Playground within the City of Colorado Springs; through the design children of all abilities should be able to interact and explore without boundaries.

Financial Implications:

The Parks Department is seeking a \$350,000 Great Outdoors Colorado Grant that would go towards the purchase and construction of the two playgrounds within Venezia Park. This grant will require a minimum of 10% cash match and 25% in-kind match, should our application be successful. These matching fund requirements are amply covered by our current funding that has been appropriated for Venezia Park.

Board/Commission Recommendation: None.

Stakeholder Process: The John Venezia Community Park has gone through an extensive public process, both in 2008 and 2014.

Alternative: Decline support for the Great Outdoors Colorado grant application.

Proposed Recommendation: Approval of the resolution supporting a Grant application for the John Venezia Community Park Playground.

Attachments:

- John Venezia Park Master Plan
- A resolution supporting a Grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the John Venezia Park Playground

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO GREAT OUTDOORS
COLORADO FOR THE JOHN VENEZIA COMMUNITY PARK
UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND**

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Colorado ("GOCO") is soliciting grant applications to assist local governments with new park development, enhancements to existing parks, park land acquisition, environmental education facilities as well as master, site-specific and trail plans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs ("City") is requesting funding from GOCO to develop and enhance the John Venezia Park Universally Accessible Playground("Project") for public use; and

WHEREAS, it is unlikely that the development and enhancement of the entire John Venezia Community Park would be possible without GOCO financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region to apply for a Local Government (LPOR) grant for the John Venezia Community Park; and

WHEREAS, GOCO requires that the City Council state its support for the project grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1 That City Council strongly supports the application to GOCO for the development and construction of the Universally Accessible Playground at the John Venezia Community Park.

Section 2 That the Mayor of the City of Colorado Springs, or his designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and submit the grant application to GOCO requesting funding for this project.

Section 3 That the City Council acknowledges that the grant application includes matching funds which the City of Colorado Springs shall be responsible to provide if a grant is awarded.

Section 4 That the City Council will appropriate those matching funds and authorize the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of any Grant awarded by GOCO and accepted by the City.

Section 5 That the City of Colorado Springs is committed to the long-term maintenance of the Project, subject to appropriation of funds by the City.

Section 6 That if this grant is awarded, the City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Colorado Springs, or his designee, to sign necessary grant

agreements with Great Outdoors Colorado and accept the grant funds.

Section 7 This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this ____ day of _____, 2015.

Merv Bennett, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: September 10, 2015

Item Number: Action Item #3

Item Name: Proposed Update to City Code to Conform to Voter Approved TOPS Ordinance

SUMMARY: The voter approved TOPS Ordinance establishes the framework for the Trails, Open Space and Parks Program. The TOPS Ordinance was originally approved on April 1, 1997 and has since been amended by the voters on several occasions. The current City Code has not been updated to reflect all of the amendments that have been approved by the voters; expressly the requirement for biennial financial audits of the TOPS Program, and the recent change to allow more flexibility for spending within the TOPS Parks Category. Staff is seeking revisions to the City Code to conform to the current voter approved TOPS Ordinance.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND: Staff has prepared draft ordinance language to amend City Code section 202 (deposit and expenditure of revenues) and section 203 (biannual independent audit) of part 2 (deposit and expenditure of revenues) of article 6 (trails, open space and parks program) of chapter 4 (parks, recreation and cultural services) of the code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to expenditure of revenues and independent audit.

The need for an update to the City Code was identified by staff and confirmed via the 2014 TOPS Audit process. The City Auditor has recommended that these changes be made to the City Code for consistency between the voter approved TOPS Ordinance and the City Code. Since the effective date of the voter approved TOPS Ordinance Amendments, the TOPS Program's actions and activities have been in full compliance with the voter approved requirements for biennial financial audits and parks category expenditure requirements.

The proposed City Code amendment brings the City Code into conformance with the current voter approved TOPS Ordinance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: N/A

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: The TOPS Working Committee voted unanimously in support of the proposed Code revisions on September 2, 2015.

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS: N/A

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION: A motion approving the proposed Ordinance to amend the City Code to conform with the current voter approved TOPS Ordinance.

Attachments:

- Draft Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 15-_____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 202 (DEPOSIT AND EXPENDITURE OF REVENUES) AND SECTION 203 (BIANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT) OF PART 2 (DEPOSIT AND EXPENDITURE OF REVENUES) OF ARTICLE 6 (TRAILS, OPEN SPACE AND PARKS PROGRAM) OF CHAPTER 4 (PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS 2001, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO EXPENDITURE OF REVENUES AND INDEPENDENT AUDIT

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 2. Section 202 (Deposit and Expenditure of Revenues) and Section 203 (Biannual Independent Audit) of Part 2 (Deposit and Expenditure of Revenues) of Article 6 (Trails, Open Space and Parks Program) of Chapter 4 (Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

4.6.202: Deposit and Expenditure of Revenues:

* * *

H. Use For Parks: Of the revenues received from the sales and use tax and other revenue sources, after deductions for planning as described in subsection A of this section, a maximum of twenty percent (20%) of the revenues may be used to acquire an interest in new open space land for new park areas, including the construction and acquisition (but not maintenance) of new park area recreational capital improvements for the use and benefit of the public. Recreational improvements shall be limited to the purposes described in section 4.6.101 of this article. Any funds or other revenue received pursuant to this article that is spent on existing lands owned by the City may be spent ~~only~~ to **acquire, construct, establish and maintain** new parks and related facilities thereon as ~~are~~ described in section 4.6.101 of this article **and to maintain and renovate all City Parks.**

4.6.203: ~~BIANNUAL~~ **BIENNIAL** INDEPENDENT AUDIT:

The City shall adopt regulations requiring an independent ~~biannual~~ **biennial** audit of the expenditures of all of the net proceeds from the sales tax and other revenue. The City Council, with City and advisory committee participation, shall regularly review the audits with a view to establishing expenditure priorities.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its final adoption and publication as provided by Charter.

Section 4. Council deems it appropriate that this ordinance be published by title and summary prepared by the City Clerk and that this ordinance be available for inspection and acquisition in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this ____ day of _____, 2015.

Finally passed: _____

Merv Bennett, Council President

Delivered to Mayor on _____.

Mayor's Action:

- Approved on _____.
- Disapproved on _____, based on the following objections:

John W. Suthers, Mayor

Council Action After Disapproval:

- Council did not act to override the Mayor's veto.
- Finally adopted on a vote of _____, on _____.
- Council action on _____ failed to override the Mayor's veto.

Merv Bennett, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

DRAFT

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: September 10, 2015

Item Number: Presentation - Item #4

Item Name: City Auditorium Restroom Renovation Update

BACKGROUND:

The Historic City Auditorium is a valuable public asset owned by the City of Colorado Springs and operated by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. It is located on the southwest corner of Kiowa and Weber Streets in downtown Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The City Auditorium, formerly known as the Municipal Auditorium, is the culmination of efforts to create a large, multi-purpose meeting and entertainment facility for the city of Colorado Springs. In 1922 the City approved the construction of such a building, and in 1923 the building was completed and opened to the public. As a joint effort between three prominent local architects, Thomas MacLaren, Charles E. Thomas, and Thomas Hetherington, the auditorium was intended to be a fine example of local architecture and a testament to the community of Colorado Springs.

In 2013 the City of Colorado Springs identified and appropriated funding to renovate and expand the existing restroom facilities at the City Auditorium. Currently, the number of functional and accessible restrooms is extremely limited. The number of toilets, sinks, and urinals does not meet current code requirements for a building of the City Auditorium's size and the restroom configurations would not meet current ADA requirements. These clear accessibility challenges have become an issue for the ongoing operation of the Auditorium. As the City Auditorium works to position itself as one of the major public and performance venues in downtown Colorado Springs, it is imperative that the restrooms be renovated and expanded to meet current code requirements and the expectations of patrons and vendors alike.

An RFP was developed and released in 2014 with two primary objectives. First, the RFP requested the services of an Architect or Architectural Firm to guide the redevelopment of new and/or renovated restroom facilities at the City Auditorium. The substandard condition of the restroom facilities has a negative impact on user experience and is a major barrier to the economic viability of the City Auditorium as a performance venue. The second objective (Phase 2) of the RFP was to establish a long-term, on-call relationship with the winning architectural consultant to help guide further rehabilitation, restoration, and redevelopment of the City Auditorium. The City Auditorium was constructed with the motto "*For the Use of the People and the Glory of the City*". The goal of this portion of the RFP was to develop strategies, priorities and plans to help ensure that the City Auditorium lives up to these lofty ambitions.

CURRENT STATUS:

At the completion of the above mentioned RFP process, SlaterPaull Architects was selected to address the restroom renovation as well as serve as the on-call architectural consultant for the City Auditorium. They are in the process of completing the design and developing the construction documents for the renovation of the first floor restrooms with a targeted construction date of the fourth quarter of 2015. The initial design is included as Attachment A. A public meeting is being held on September 3, 2015 to tour the existing restroom facilities and provide input to the proposed restroom design and timelines. The results of that meeting will be included in the presentation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on September 10th.

Simultaneously, SlaterPaul has been instrumental in developing and submitting a Historic Structure Assessment grant to the State Historic Fund in the amount of \$20,000. Typically, this type of assessment is helpful in determining prioritized recommendations for the building and establishing associated costs for these recommendations. As part of this grant, an economic feasibility study is being proposed to assist the City in determining the most appropriate uses of the building through public engagement and community input.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

None. Presentation only.

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: September 10, 2015
Item Number: Presentation Item #5
Item Name: GOCO Inspire Initiative Grant Application

SUMMARY

GOCO's Inspire Initiative is a five-year strategy aimed at inspiring Coloradans, particularly kids, to appreciate, enjoy and take care of our great outdoors. The initial Inspire Initiative Grant will support a planning process to address the growing disconnect between youth and the outdoors. Upon completing the planning process communities will have the opportunity to submit applications with specific requests for grant funding for project implementation.

The Pikes Peak Region Coalition, which includes the City of Colorado Springs, has submitted a Level 1 grant proposal. If awarded, we receive a \$100,000 grant from GOCO to engage in a 10 month planning process, starting in October 2015 and ending in August 2016. Upon completing the planning process Level 1 pilot communities can then seek an implementation grant between \$1 million and \$5 million.

PREVIOUS ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND:

The Inspire Initiative will pilot up to five communities in the first year. Up to ten additional communities will be added in the second and third years for a total of 15 communities. The initial application is for a planning grant, in which communities will engage in a planning process to develop solutions and break down barriers that limit youth's meaningful engagement with nature. Barriers like time, transportation, money, access, and lack of interest and understanding keep kids from getting outside and developing the lifelong passion for the great outdoors.

For the purposes of the grant application the Pikes Peak Coalition identified the service areas of our 3 community centers, Hillside, Deerfield Hills and Meadows Park, as well as the surrounding southeast corridor of Colorado Springs as our target region. Additionally, we identified Beidleman Nature Center at Sondermann Park as a location to advance environmental programming in an accessible setting that minimizes many of the pre-identified barriers. Upon a successful grant application we will be targeting these sites in the planning process and identifying ways that we can reach the southeast community to increase meaningful connections to nature and play.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

GOCO will award a \$100,000 planning grant, which has a required 25% overall match with at least 10% cash and 15% in-kind.

Cash match:

- \$15,000 from the Pikes Peak Community Foundation Conservation Fund
- \$7,500 from the City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
- \$2,000 from Catamount Institute
- \$1,000 from Kids on Bikes

Additional in-kind services and donation will be provided by coalition partners, including El Paso County, Colorado State Parks and Wildlife, Rocky Mountain Field Institute.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:

In the initial planning process we convened 35 leading stakeholders and community organizations throughout the region. Upon selecting our target area and needs we then convened the primary coalition members to identify our assets and opportunities in support of the grant application.

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

N/A

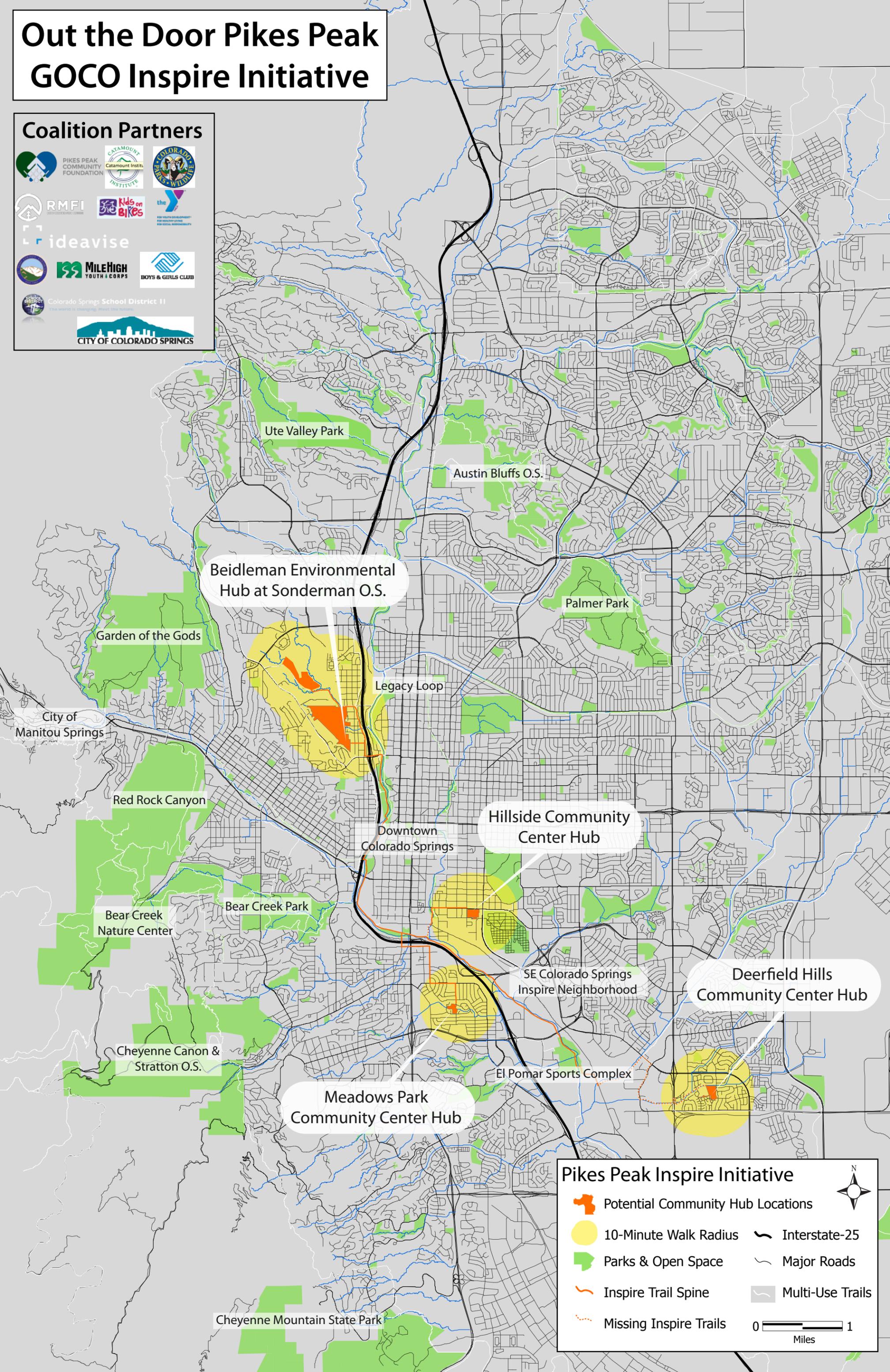
PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Attachments:

- Grant Application Exhibits
- Inspire Youth Assignment Video - Deerfield Hills Community Center:
<http://youtu.be/PjNJlIZsr5l>

Out the Door Pikes Peak GOCO Inspire Initiative

Coalition Partners



Beidleman Environmental Hub at Sonderman O.S.

Hillside Community Center Hub

Deerfield Hills Community Center Hub

Meadows Park Community Center Hub

Pikes Peak Inspire Initiative

- Potential Community Hub Locations
- 10-Minute Walk Radius
- Parks & Open Space
- Inspire Trail Spine
- Missing Inspire Trails
- Interstate-25
- Major Roads
- Multi-Use Trails

0 1 Miles

Out the Door Pikes Peak Inspire Project

Engaging Youth | Inspiring Families | Bringing Nature to our Backyards

Deerfield Hills Community Center

1,900: Families living within a 10-minute walk
 29,000: Youth served in 2014
 33,000: Visitors to Deerfield Spray Ground
 12.7: Acre adjacent neighborhood park

Beidleman Nature Center

15,206: Feet of programed nature trails
 100: Acre adjacent open space
 2,048: Families living within a 10-minute walk
 1,500+: Youth Served at Beidleman Enviro Center



Bench overlooking Mesa Creek



Native meadows, foothills landscapes in 100 acre Sonderman Open Space



Well-developed trail system and abundant riparian habitats



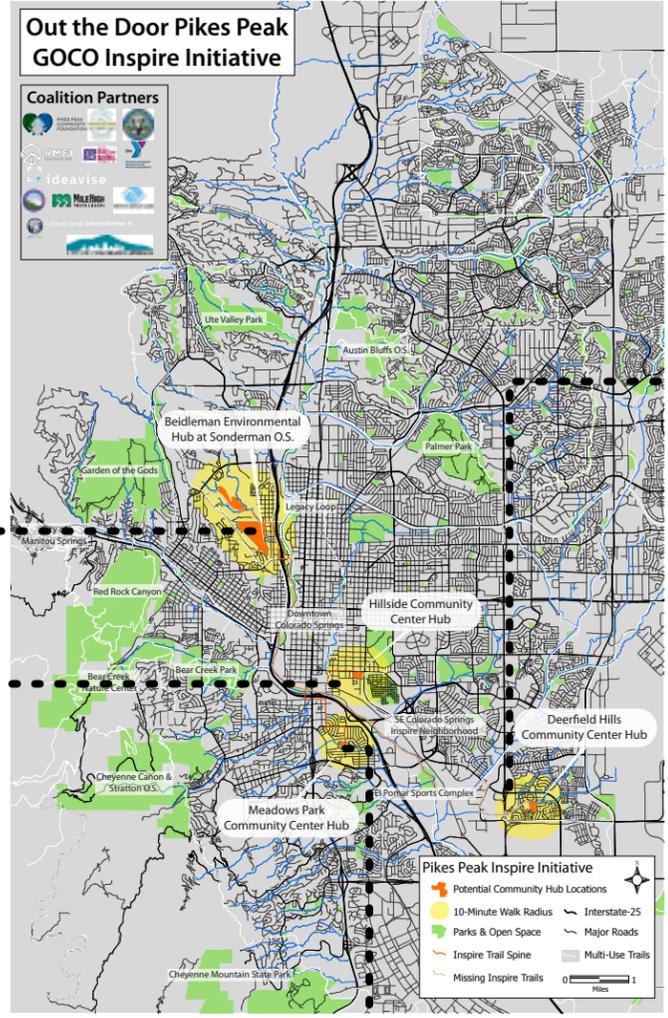
Beidleman Nature Center Hub Site



Five Senses Trail: Sight Segment



Space for play and discovery



Community Center, Potential Hub Site



Mountain Views from Deerfield Park



Deerfield public Spray Ground Park



13 Acre Deerfield Hills Park



Deerfield Hills Community Garden



Adjacent Turman Elementary School

Hillside Community Center

1,042 : Families living within a 10-minute walk
 32,000: Youth Served in 2014
 15,000 : Free meals served in 2014
 10.74: Acre adjacent neighborhood park



Fountain Park



Hillside Community Garden



Community Center, Potential Hub Site



ADA accessible playground



Adjacent 11 acre Fountain Park

Meadows Park Community Center

1,535: Families living within a 10-minute walk
 27,000: Youth served in 2014
 35: Partner organizations supporting Center
 6.1: Acre adjacent neighborhood park



Community Center, Potential Hub Site



Spring Run Creek



Spring Run Creek



Neighborhood access to Park



Adjacent 6 ac Meadows Park



Dense housing and park amenities



Meadows Bicycle Library & Workshop

Neighborhood access to Park

Hillside Preschool and playground