



Parks and Open Space

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MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE February 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Eric Hozempa in the Hearing Room of the Board of Commissioners, Third Floor, Boulder County Courthouse, Boulder, Colorado.

POSAC Members in Attendance

Present: Sue Cass, Eric Hozempa, James Mapes, Scott Miller, and Gordon Pedrow

Excused: Jenn Archuleta, Cathy Comstock, Jim Krug, and John Nibarger

Staff in Attendance

Renata Frye, Al Hardy, Jeff Moline, Susan Spaulding, Kevin Grady, Conrad Lattes, Mike Downey, and Therese Glowacki

Approval of the January 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Action Taken: Sue Cass moved to accept the January minutes. Scott Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments - Items Not On The Agenda

- Laura Boldt, 12900 Linda Vista Dr., Longmont. She is the Boulder County Fair Coordinator and she spoke about the fair's 148th anniversary events this year.
- Margaret LeCompte, 290 Pawnee, Boulder. She spoke about the loss of open space if the Land Use designation of the land owned by Flatirons CU South campus is changed to Public.

Exception to BCPOS Rules and Regulations to allow E-bike use on the Scriffiny Property US36 Bikeway

Staff Presenter: Al Hardy – Recreation and Facilities Manager

Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC

Questions

Gordon Pedrow : If this isn't approved, will there be a gap of trail then where e-bikes can't be used?

Al Hardy: Yes, the idea is that all the agencies will allow e-bikes on their sections for Bike to Work Day.

Jim Mapes: It's my understanding that there are different classes of e-bikes, Class 1 e-bikes have to be pedaled; Class 2 e-bikes have a throttle. Have you considered making a distinction between the different classes? Jefferson County has made a distinction on their open space properties.

Al Hardy: We can take a look into that. In the packet an e-bike is described as having a maximum speed of 20 mph. We are looking at this as the only exception, so we are not looking to allow e-bikes on our regional trails or other trails.

Sue Cass: This seems to make perfect sense, but do you see this as establishing a precedent in any way?

Al Hardy: I don't see this as a precedent, because this exception is for a 12-ft wide paved corridor, which we really don't have anywhere else in our system.

Public Comments

None

Action Taken

Gordon Pedrow moved to accept staff recommendation as presented, and Jim Mapes seconded the motion. After discussion, Motion carried unanimously.

Regional Trails Bus Tour Discussion

Staff Presenter: Al Hardy – Recreation and Facilities Manager

Action Requested: Information Only

Questions

Eric Hozempa: How long do you think this tour will take?

Al Hardy: Basically, a full day.

Eric Hozempa: I wonder if you should separate it into two tours.

Scott Miller: I was going to say that, too. It could be easier to swallow if it was split up over two days.

Public Comments

None

Bald Eagle Population Changes in Boulder County - Increase in Territorial Pairs and Landscape Changes and an Overview of Protection Measures

Staff Presenter: Susan Spaulding - Wildlife Specialist

Action Requested: Information Only

Questions

Gordon Pedrow: The young that have fledged and succeed, have they started to form the pairs in Boulder County?

Susan Spaulding: We don't really know who is who. We can kind of tell. We have a nest on Hygiene Road, and because of banding, we know one was from Barr Lake State Park near Brighton, and one was from Milton Reservoir in Weld County. They came to Boulder County and started a nest. We don't band our chicks now. Our monitors are able to keep track pretty well right after they fledge, but we really don't know the adults.

Jim Mapes: Are any of the other raptors that the bald eagles are pirating food from suffering?

Susan Spaulding: There is definitely more pressure on ferruginous hawks. They tend to lose their prey because they aren't used to dealing with bald eagles. They don't know how to defend their prey against stealing. But we have a new landscape now and some species are benefitting from that.

Public Comments

None

Forest Raptors at Heil Valley Ranch – Research and Monitoring Aid Development of Conservation Goals

Staff Presenters: Kevin Grady - Heil Ranch Caretaker and Karen Blaugrund - Volunteer

Action Requested: Information Only

Questions

Sue Cass: I've been under the impression for several years now that Cooper's hawks have changed their nesting habitat to some degree. I know of at least two Cooper's hawk nest in the city of Longmont. Can you address that?

Karen Blaugrund: Yes; I know someone in Boulder who lives behind Ideal Market who has a Cooper's hawk nest in his yard. The Cooper's hawk is definitely a generalist and they have habituated to humans; more so than the others.

Kevin Grady: One reason for seeing them more in urban areas is because of bird feeders.

Public Comments

None

Resource Management 2016 Highlights

Staff Presenter: Therese Glowacki - Resource Management Division Manager

Action Requested: Information Only

Due to technical difficulties, not all of the presentation was recorded.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

The audio, available staff memos and related materials for this meeting can be found on our website: www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org/POSAC



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PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2017
TIME: 6:30 pm
PLACE: Commissioners' Hearing Room, 3rd Floor, Boulder County Courthouse,
1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO

AGENDA

Suggested Timetable

- 6:30 1. **Approval of the January 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes**
- 6:35 2. **Public Participation - Items not on the Agenda**
- 6:40 3. **Exception to BCPOS Rules and Regulations to allow E-bike use on the Scriffiny Property US36 Bikeway**
Staff Presenter: Al Hardy – Recreation and Facilities Manager
Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC
- 7:00 4. **Regional Trails Bus Tour Discussion**
Staff Presenter: Al Hardy – Recreation and Facilities Manager
Action Requested: Information Only
- 7:30 5. **Bald Eagle Population Changes in Boulder County - Increase in Territorial Pairs and Landscape Changes and an Overview of Protection Measures**
Staff Presenter: Susan Spaulding - Wildlife Specialist
Action Requested: Information Only
- 7:50 6. **Forest Raptors at Heil Valley Ranch – Research and Monitoring Aid Development of Conservation Goals**
Staff Presenters: Kevin Grady - Heil Ranch Caretaker; Karen Blaugrund - Volunteer; & Susan Spaulding - Wildlife Specialist
Action Requested: Information Only
- 8:10 7. **Resource Management 2016 Highlights**
Staff Presenter: Therese Glowacki - Resource Management Division Manager
Action Requested: Information Only
- 8:40 8. **Director's Update**
- 8:45 9. **Adjourn**

Available staff memos & related materials for this meeting may be viewed on our website:
www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org/POSAC



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PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

TIME/DATE: Thursday, February 23, 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Commissioners Hearing Room, 3rd floor, Boulder County Courthouse, 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Exception to BCPOS Rules and Regulations to allow E-bike use on Scriffiny Property US36 Bikeway.

PRESENTER: Al Hardy, Recreation and Facilities Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to the BOCC

Boulder County Transportation has requested an exception to Rule 9 of the Parks and Open Space Rules and Regulations to allow electronic bike (E-bike) use on the US36 Bikeway located on Scriffiny Open Space. Exception from Rule 17 would also be needed to allow use of the trail corridor 24 hours per day.

Background

E-bikes are defined by state statute as a vehicle with two wheels, operable pedals, an electric motor not exceeding 750 watts with a top speed of 20 miles per hour. Local authorities have the discretion to allow or prohibit E-bikes along pedestrian and bicycle paths. E-bikes, where permitted, are granted all the rights and responsibilities of a bicycle.

POSAC considered and recommended that the US36 Bikeway be constructed on the perimeter of the Scriffiny Open Space in 2011 for the potential to provide some positive relief for users of the bikeway to be further away from vehicle traffic lanes and to shift the bikeway away from a more ecologically diverse area of the Scriffiny Open Space. The BOCC approved and a formal agreement with CDOT was created to construct the US36 Bikeway on Scriffiny.

The Bikeway is now fully open for the entire 18 mile length and there is desire by the multiple communities that manage the trail to allow E-bike use to encourage recreation and transportation cycling options for all ages and abilities. The request to extend the hours when this trail is open is consistent with an existing exception for other regional trails that are used for commuting. The goal is to begin regional promotion of E-bike usage along the US36 Bikeway in conjunction with Bike to Work Day in June 2017.

Proposal

Recommend to the BOCC to make exceptions to Rules 9 and 17 for the Scriffiny Open Space US36 Bikeway to the following BCPOS rules and regulations to allow E-bikes and recognize this trail corridor to be open 24 hours per day:

9. Vehicles

- (a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, including a car, truck, motorcycle, minibike, snowmobile, four-wheel drive or other recreational vehicle, within any County Parks and Open Space area, unless the area is specifically designated and posted to permit the operation of such vehicle in that area. County and emergency vehicles on official business are excepted from this Rule. For exceptions related to disabled access refer to Rule 9(b).

17. Hours

County Parks and Open Space areas shall be open for daytime use only, between the hours of sunrise and sunset, with the exception of the trail corridors for the Longmont-to-Boulder (Lobo) Lobo Trail, Coalton Trail, Coal Creek Trail, Rock Creek Trail, Meadowlark Trail, and Mayhoffer-Singletree Trail, which trail corridors and neighborhood connecting spurs shall be open 24 hours per day. Further exceptions are permitted only by obtaining written permission from the Director or the Board.

Staff Discussion

Boulder County strives to be sustainable and provide a place where people can live, work, and play. The US36 Bikeway is an example of the desire by the County and other municipalities to improve connectivity and provide multiple transportation options along the US36 corridor.

The US36 Bikeway is a 12-foot wide paved multi-use path that functions as a transportation and recreation corridor connecting multiple communities and regional and local trail systems. The Bikeway is paved for its entire 18-mile length with approximately 0.55 miles located on the Scriffiny Open Space property. Topography and distance are the biggest challenges for bicycle commuters within Boulder County. E-bikes are one unique solution to these challenges and enable residents of all ages and abilities to benefit from the US36 Bikeway. E-bikes are considered motor vehicles by our *Vehicle* rule and that is why an exception is needed. The other municipalities along the US36 Bikeway are reviewing E-bike policies and are expected to permit E-bikes on the Bikeway. The City of Boulder already permits E-bikes on most paved trails and on roads (<https://bouldercolorado.gov/goboulder/electric-assisted-bikes-policy-review>).

Adding the US 36 Bikeway to the list of excepted trail corridors for the *Hours* rule aligns with the goal of the bikeway to provide additional transportation options that are not always realizable in the hours of sunrise to sunset.

This request is limited to the US36 Bikeway on the Scriffiny property and BCPOS sees a strong benefit to the community to provide this expanded use of the path on a trail corridor that has minimal habitat and agricultural value (as described in the 2011 POSAC memo).

Action Requested

Recommend the BOCC support use of E-bikes on the Scriffiny Open Space for the US36 Bikeway and to allow use of the path 24 hours per day.

Additional Resources

The agenda that is posted at the POSAC web page provides the additional 2011 Scriffiny US36 Bikeway related POSAC and BOCC documents.

www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org/POSAC



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To: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

From: Rich Koopmann
Planning Manager

Date: August 15, 2011

RE: US 36 Bikeway
Trail Options
Scriffiny Open Space

Property Background:

The Scriffiny Open Space property was purchased in April 1997. There were two parcels in the acquisition, one southwest of Superior and a second in south Louisville. This parcel consists of 21 acres and lies adjacent to the south side of Avista Hospital. The purchase price was \$22,000/acre.

In 1999, the County conveyed conservation easements to the City of Louisville and the City of Broomfield. Broomfield received their CE under the terms of the Northwest Parkway IGA while Louisville paid \$126,000 for their CE. The CE's were later amended to accommodate the conveyance of right-of-way to CDOT for the 88th Street bridge and a land exchange with Avista Hospital for expansion of their facilities.

The purpose of the property acquisition was to preserve open space and provide for a visual buffer along US 36. Agricultural infrastructure on the property is minimal and consists of fences, irrigation laterals, and diversion structures. No water rights were acquired as part of the transaction but the South Boulder and Coal Creek ditch system does pass through the northwest corner and southern areas of the property.

The Scriffiny property was historically used for pasture and the production of hay. However, prior to the County purchase, the land use practices changed and black-tailed prairie dog activity expanded to where the overall vegetation community is primarily weedy in nature now. In recent years plague has eliminated the prairie dog population on the property.

Project Proposal:

Earlier this summer, the County Commissioner's Office and Parks & Open Space were approached by the City of Louisville to consider providing for a trail option to the proposed US 36 Bikeway that would route the bikeway through the Scriffiny property. Such a route would allow for relief from a bikeway entirely adjacent to the vehicle traffic lanes and it would provide for bicycle access for those local residents wishing to use the US 36 Bikeway. As currently envisioned, the Bikeway would be a 12-foot wide paved path along the north side of the Turnpike for all year use.

Later this fall, CDOT will be releasing an RFP for traffic improvements along the stretch of US 36 in this area. Part of the package will include the Bikeway element. This proposed route segment would add another option for consideration by CDOT when they move into the next phase of the project.

Discussion:

Staff from the County Commissioners Office and Parks & Open Space met with Louisville City staff twice this summer to review options for a bikeway route on the Scriffiny property. There are some grade constraints as well as concerns about fragmentation of the property with a 12-foot wide bikeway.

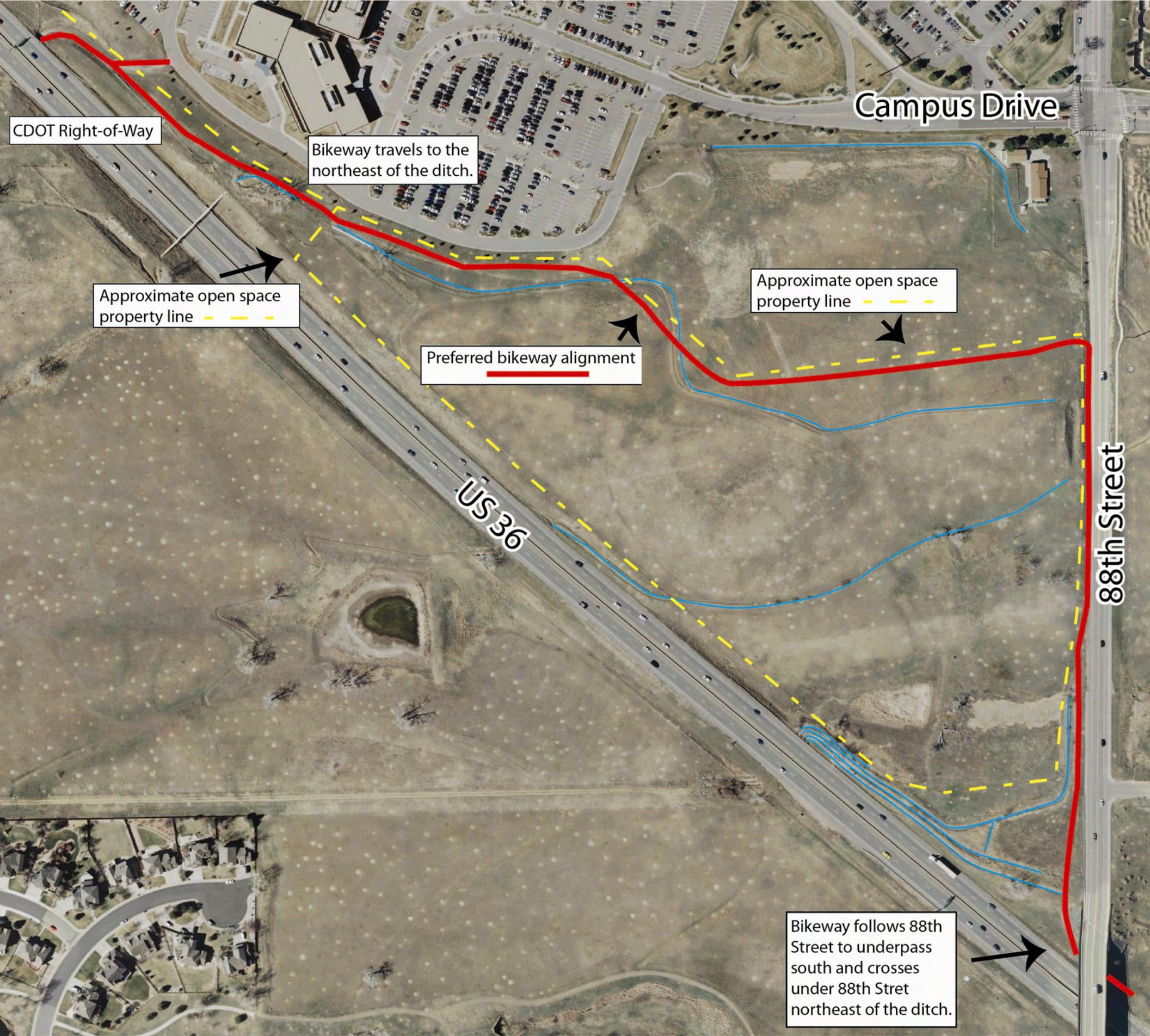
The wildlife biology staff concurred that while the property as a whole has minimal habitat value, the south area around the open irrigation ditches and detention pond has the most potential for wildlife diversity. Options for routing the bikeway through that habitat were thus eliminated in favor of an option around the perimeter.

The agriculture potential for the property is minimal without complete rehabilitation and re-application of irrigation water. Given the slope of the ground and condition of the soils, the more suitable option would be to restore the land to native grassland. The South Boulder & Coal Creek ditch water that the County owns passes through the property but is currently applied on the Admor and Bowes properties further east. All of this water in the portfolio is needed for the pasture/hayland on those two properties.

This bikeway route is only a potential option for CDOT consideration as they make decisions on the US 36 Roadway improvements package. It may/may not come to fruition, but Louisville and the County are comfortable that it has the potential to provide some positive relief for bicycle riders who would use the new Bikeway.

Action Requested:

Decision/recommendation on support for this US 36 Bikeway option that would skirt the perimeter of the Scriffiny Open Space property.



Preferred alignment

- Removes bike path from highway noise
- Avoids environmentally sensitive area in the southeast of the property
- Provides a direct route for commuters looking to access Avista Hospital, Conoco Phillips or Monarch High School
- Relatively flat

CDOT Right-of-Way

Bikeway travels to the northeast of the ditch.

Campus Drive

Approximate open space property line

Approximate open space property line

Preferred bikeway alignment

US 36

88th Street

Bikeway follows 88th Street to underpass south and crosses under 88th Street northeast of the ditch.

**MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE,
August 25, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Lisa Dilling in the Hearing Room of the Board of Commissioners, Third Floor, Boulder County Courthouse, Boulder, Colorado.

POSAC Members in Attendance

Present: Sue Cass, Cathy Comstock, Lisa Dilling, Russell Hayes, Eric Hozempa, Kevin Bracy Knight, Janice Moore, and John Nibarger.

Excused: Paul Jurasin

Staff in Attendance

David Bell, Renata Frye, Dave Hoerath, Rich Koopmann, Ron Stewart, Justin Atherton-Wood

June 23 Meeting Minutes

Sue Cass moved to accept the June 23 minutes. John Nibarger seconded the motion. ***Motion carried 6-0, with 2 abstentions. [Eric Hozempa and Janice Moore abstained because they were not at the June meeting].***

Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda

None

**Urban Drainage Project on the
Harney Lastoka Property**

** Action Requested- Recommendation to BOCC*

Presenters: Rich Koopmann, POS and Shea Thomas & Dave Skuodas,
Urban Drainage & Flood Control District

See Staff Memo for Detail on Presentation.

Questions

Lisa Dilling: In the event of a 100-year flood, where will the water go in a 10-year channel over this property? Shea Thomas: The 100-year will still be conveyed in that channel, but it will be up to the limits. It is adding a risk factor if there is clogging, it could overtop the banks in a 100-year flood. Kevin Bracy Knight: How much in feet is the channel being reduced, going from 100-year to 10-year? Shea Thomas: The easement for the 100-year channel would be 70 feet wide, and the easement for a 10-year channel would need to be 55 feet wide.

Sue Cass: Will there be any problems when the 100-year flow hits the 10-year channel on the Harney-Lastoka property? Dave Skuodas: That is a consideration. If the water does top the channel it will stay on the property, following the contours of the channel.

Lisa Dilling: In that event, there will be no additional problems for the nearby residents in Lafayette? Shea Thomas: No. The channel next to the houses is a 100-year channel.

Sue Cass: Do you know which of these possible designs will be used in this project? Dave Skuodas: Not yet. We will have stakeholder involvement to see what might work best.

Russell Hayes: Who is paying for this project? Dave Skuodas: The City of Louisville and Urban Drainage.

Kevin Bracy Knight: During the design process, is there a way to mitigate clogging or mitigate potential impacts of clogging? Dave Skuodas: The Urban Drainage & Flood Control District maintains the channels to promote conveyance.

Lisa Dilling: What is the Urban Drainage & Flood Control District exactly? Is it a government entity? Shea Thomas: We were created in 1969 to deal with multi-jurisdictional issues in the Denver Metro area. We are funded by mill levies.

Sue Cass: How does the County feel about this project? Rich Koopmann: I think we at the county have gone as far as we can, considering we are one of three partners that own this property. The size change [of the channel] was one thing that we held on to. We have some issues still to work out regarding irrigation on this property, but I think we can live with this.

Public Comment

- Dick Schillawski, 1160 N. 119th St., Lafayette. He has problems with drainage issues from Louisville going past his house. He is hopeful that UDFCD will do a better job of communicating their plans and listening to the public. He has not been able to find the UDFCD website.

Shea Thomas: The website address is www.udfcd.org. We have a list of master plans under “Current Projects”. You will be able to find reports, the schedule, meeting minutes, and a public comment box.

Janice Moore: What will happen to the flow in Coal Creek after this project?

Shea Thomas: We are starting a master plan of Coal Creek and Rock Creek in January 2012. I can't speak to the conveyance capacity of Coal Creek at this time.

Motion

Eric Hozempa moved to accept staff recommendation for the project as presented, and Kevin Bracy Knight seconded the motion. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion on Motion

Cathy Comstock: Is this a final approval or can this come in stages?

Dave Skuodas: This is just an approval of a guide for how to develop ways to handle flood control. We will work with the county when it comes time for design.

Sue Cass: I have a concern about constricting the flow across Harney-Lastoka.

Lisa Dilling: I echo that concern. There must be a point to engineer for a 100-year flood, otherwise we would just engineer for a 10-year flood and use free board for the extra.

Kevin Bracy Knight: It sounds to me that in a 100-year flood, the areas flooded will be open grasslands, not homes.

Trail Alignment Changes Proposed by the City of Lafayette for the Mayhoffer 15 Property

** Action Requested- Recommendation to BOCC*

Presenters: Justin Atherton-Wood, POS & Jeff Moline, City of Lafayette

See Staff Memo for Detail on Presentation.

Questions

Russell Hayes: It is not clear to me where this trail goes when it gets to 104th Street.

Justin Atherton-Wood: We are thinking that it will tie in with the existing trail to the west that goes under Hwy 42 once the connection through Louisville's CTC property is constructed [planned for 2012. It will also connect to the trail planned for 104th Street. Users can also use the exiting road shoulder or sidewalk on the west side of the road in the meantime].

Kevin Bracy Knight: Is the existing sidewalk [east of the proposed trail along Hwy 42] a true sidewalk, or is it a mixed-used path?

Jeff Moline: We need to look at widening the sidewalk, or designating it for multi-use.

Kevin Bracy Knight: Is there a way that people in the neighborhood can get directly to the path, without first going out of their way onto Hwy 287?

Jeff Moline: No, there just isn't a way to do that. The area is solid [home] lots.

Sue Cass: Has the current agricultural lessee been brought into the planning? Justin Atherton-Wood: Our ag staff have been talking with the lessee. Sue Cass: And what is his or her perspective? Justin Atherton-Wood: I think he said he could live with it. With this alignment, the agricultural impact is pretty minimal.

John Nibarger: You are not currently asking for the western [104th Street] corridor at this time?

Jeff Moline: That potential corridor is already in the Jallop Plan so there is no reason to ask for that now.

Public Comment

None

Motion #1

Eric Hozempa moved to accept staff recommendation for the trail alignment changes as presented, and John Nibarger seconded the motion.

Discussion on Motion #1

Kevin Bracy Knight proposed an amendment to suggest that the County work with Lafayette and Louisville to find a way to make the sidewalk a multi-use path that is both publically accessible and safe. Lisa Dilling seconded.

Motion #2

Eric Hozempa moved to accept staff recommendation for the trail alignment changes as presented, with the amendment proposed by Kevin Bracy Knight, and John Nibarger seconded the amended motion. *Motion carried 6-0 [Janice Moore and Cathy Comstock were not in the room for the vote].*

Discussion on Motion #2

John Nibarger: I like seeing these types of trail connections in intelligent locations. I live in Superior, and I like the idea of being able to get from Coal Creek to Rock Creek on my bike.

Kevin Bracy Knight: I think this looks like an important and safe connection for pedestrians and cyclists.

Lisa Dilling: My concern is the impact on agricultural operations, but hopefully putting it on the edge there, those impacts won't be significant.

Preferred Alignment for US 36 Bikeway on the Scriffiny Property

* Action Requested- Recommendation to BOCC

Staff Presenter: Rich Koopmann

See Staff Memo for Detail on Presentation.

Questions

Kevin Bracy Knight: As I see the proposed trail, it looks like it does good job of following Highway 36, then the trail takes a jog to the left instead of continuing straight, is that because of terrain considerations? Going straight down would cut off a significant amount of distance for the user. Rich Koopmann: There is a hill right there, and there are ditches there that would need to be crossed. In addition, Louisville was looking for a connection to the north onto the bikeway. It is also preferable from the land owner's standpoint to keep the trail off more of the Scriffiny open space.

John Nibarger: It looks like, on the part that goes east to west, a commuter would have a climb and then drop back down when heading toward the tunnel. Rich Koopmann: Correct. This is an option that we would put out to CDOT.

Public Comment

None

Motion

John Nibarger moved to accept staff recommendation for the trail alignment changes as presented, and Eric Hozempa seconded the motion. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Discussion on Motion

Eric Hozempa: I like the idea of having a trail off of Hwy 36, without being exposed to the traffic.

Lisa Dilling: Yes, I'm really excited about this type of commuter trail. John Nibarger: This general idea of a commuter trail here is something that neighboring towns have been thinking about ever since Conoco-Phillips purchased the former Sun property. I'm glad Louisville got the ball rolling.

Sue Cass: If I were a bike commuter, it seems the whole idea is straight and fast.

Kevin Bracy Knight: I am of two minds. I cycle commute every single day, and I love the idea of scenery and having a beautiful commute, but this proposed alignment is almost doubling the distance along this stretch of Hwy 36. Commuters usually want to get to where they are going quickly. Personally I would prefer having a small, short hill that is not too steep, rather than staying flat but going a farther distance. People might get discouraged if the trail is too meandering.

Lisa Dilling: It's my understanding that this is a proposal to go into a package that may or may not happen, so I don't see why a new proposal couldn't be made in the future.

CDOW Front Range Cougar Study Update

**Information Only*

Presenter: Dr. Mat Alldredge, CDOW

See Staff Memo for Detail on Presentation.

Questions

Sue Cass: It seems like cougars get away with much more than bears do. Why the difference in policy? Mat Alldredge: Part of it has to do with research projects. There is a strict 2-strike policy with bears. We wrote our own protocols relative to this research project with cats, giving them more leeway so we can study them. We have been very diligent about understanding what the cat is doing, and maintaining human safety and protecting livestock.

Cathy Comstock: You had mentioned previously that lots of kittens weren't surviving. What was going on there? Mat Alldredge: I wish I knew. The first couple years of the study, all the kittens around Evergreen were dying from malnutrition, and we suspect disease such as Parvo, but they didn't all test positive. Around the Boulder area, some older kittens were out on their own and getting into trouble near the urban areas. We also didn't see much dispersal in the first

few years of our study. The males are hardwired to do. Right now we see lots of kittens [6-9 months old] dispersing and surviving, so they are doing what they are supposed to be doing.

Janice Moore: How does this compare with what other researchers have found out about cougars? Mat Alldredge: There are studies in California, but our landscape is much different from theirs. They don't have many cat sightings in peoples' yards. The sightings tend to be more on easements between developments or next to golf courses. I think maybe those properties [in California] are fenced more than the ones out here. Washington State has research findings much more similar to ours.

Sue Cass: Is there a website for your research? Mat Alldredge: We have annual reports that we can distribute to your board, and I'm happy to return anytime.

Public Comment

None

Agricultural Division Update

**Information Only*

Staff Presenter: David Bell

See Staff Memo for Detail on Presentation.

Questions

Kevin Bracy Knight: Are you working with any businesses or organizations specializing in local foods on a large scale? David Bell: The challenge is having the local items in the field at a given time to be in demand. It's a conversation many people are having right now.

Kevin Bracy Knight: Is there a way to make what is available more accessible to people? I usually can't get to area farmers' markets because of my job. David Bell: We have to start working on relationships with growers and buyers to make it happen. We have a 90-day growing season. Everyone's tomatoes and cucumbers come in at the same time, so what do local buyers do when they need cucumbers other times of the year? They have to go back to their regular suppliers at that time. It is a lot of extra work, but some people are willing to do it right now. Shelly Allen with the St. Vrain Valley School District is an example of someone who has gone above and beyond by working with area farms to get fresh produce for her schools.

Eric Hozempa: I think the amount of revenue raised on open space land is impressive. Do any of our tenants that farm on county open space advertise that fact? David Bell: [Our tenants] show a lot of support for us, but if they were leasing land from a private owner they wouldn't be expected to advertise that Joe Smith owns the land. It is something we would like to do, and we are working on some Boulder County branding on some products. I want to add that local farmers making money on open space means that money is going right back into the local economy, not just the open space program.

Eric Hozempa: Are there any barriers for farmers having roadside stands? David Bell: They would need to go through Land Use, which has very specific regulations for actual farm stands,

which is more of a brick and mortar facility. A Point of Sale system is different and we are looking for ways of making the process easier.

Janice Moore: Isabelle Farms, who leases County and City of Lafayette open space, has a farm stand on Baseline in Lafayette. They are open 10-7 every day. It's wonderful because I don't have to fight the crowds at the big farmers' markets. My question is whether the county can encourage the use of certified humane slaughterhouses? David Bell: One of the challenges is finding a USDA approved facility anywhere. Janice Moore: It would be nice if POS could find a Temple Grandin endorsed facility that uses humane practices.

John Nibarger: Arapahoe Meat Packing is one such facility. David Bell: Yes, but it is a very busy place to get into.

Cathy Comstock: Is any of the corn on county land GMO? David Bell: Yes, almost all of it is GMO corn. In 2010 there were 1,725 acres of genetically engineered corn. We do have one farmer growing conventional corn for chickens.

Public Comment

None

Director's Update

A joint meeting with the FAPC is scheduled on November 22 at 5:30 for the Sustainable Agriculture Literature Review. The regular POSAC meeting will follow.

Due to the upcoming holidays, proposed meeting dates are November 17 and December 8. November 17 will be a joint public hearing with the Food & Agriculture Policy Council on the Cropland Policy Document. At the December 8 meeting, POSAC members will take to vote on the Cropland Policy. POSAC members will notify staff of their availability on these dates.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.



Parks and Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road · Longmont, Colorado 80503
303.678.6200 · Fax: 303.678.6177 · www.bouldercounty.org

M E M O

TO: Board of County Commissioners

Unanimously approved

FROM: Parks & Open Space Staff
Rich Koopmann *RWK*
Planning Manager

DATE: September 12, 2011

RE: US 36 Bikeway
Trail Options
Scriffiny Open Space

Property Background:

The Scriffiny Open Space property was purchased in April 1997. There were two parcels in the acquisition, one southwest of Superior and a second in south Louisville. This parcel subject to the proposal consists of 21 acres and lies adjacent to the south side of Avista Hospital. The purchase price was \$22,000/acre.

In 1999, the County conveyed conservation easements to the City of Louisville and the City of Broomfield. Broomfield received their CE under the terms of an IGA while Louisville paid \$126,000 for their CE. The CE's were later amended to accommodate the conveyance of ROW to CDOT for the South 88th Street bridge overpass and a land exchange with Avista Hospital for expansion of their facilities.

Over the next couple of months, CDOT will be releasing an RFP for traffic improvements along US 36 from Pecos Street toward Boulder. The project will consist of HOV lanes, rapid transit and bikeways. The \$310 million first phase proposals are due in February 2012 and construction is slated to begin in the summer of 2012. This proposed route segment for the Bikeway could be added as another option for CDOT consideration for this area of US 36.

Discussion:

Staff from the County Commissioner's Office and Parks & Open Space met Louisville staff on-site this summer to review options for a bikeway route on the Scriffiny property. There are some grade constraints as well as concerns about fragmentation of the property with a 12-foot wide bikeway.

The POS wildlife biology staff concurred that while the property as a whole has minimal habitat value, they suggested the south area around the open irrigation ditches and detention ponds have the most potential for wildlife diversity. Options for routing the bikeway through that habitat were thus eliminated in favor of an option around the perimeter of the property.

The agriculture potential for the property is minimal without complete vegetation restoration and re-application of irrigation. Given the slope of the ground, condition of the soils, and fact that no water was bought with the property, the most suitable agriculture option would be restoration to native grassland.

This proposed bikeway route is only a potential option for CDOT consideration as they make decisions on the US 36 Roadway improvements package. It may/may not come to fruition, but the owners of the Scriffiny property are comfortable that it has the

potential to provide some positive relief for bicycle riders who would use the new Bikeway.

Louisville & Broomfield Response:

Both Louisville and Broomfield are in agreement with proposing this US 36 Bikeway option through the Scriffiny property to CDOT for consideration. Should this option be selected for the Highway Improvements package, an IGA will be drafted among all parties to formalize the discussions.

POSAC Recommendation:

The Parks & Open Space Advisory Board reviewed this item at their regular August 25, 2011 meeting. There was some discussion about the less than direct routing proposed, but the Superior representative thought it would be beneficial for High School Student access to Monarch High School as well as future employee access to the Conoco Phillips campus. There was also a suggestion that, if accepted by CDOT, a northeastern leg of the route be completed to the Avista stoplight on South 88th Street to provide easier local access.

There was no public input and the POSAC vote was unanimous to recommend that the BOCC support this US 36 Bikeway option to skirt the perimeter of the Scriffiny Open Space property.

Action Requested:

Decision/Direction



Preferred alignment

- Removes bike path from highway noise
- Avoids environmentally sensitive area in the southeast of the property
- Provides a direct route for commuters looking to access Avista Hospital, Conoco Phillips or Monarch High School
- Relatively flat



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PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

TIME/DATE: Thursday, February 23, 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Commissioners Hearing Room, 3rd floor, Boulder County Courthouse, 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Regional Trail Connections Field Trip Planning for Open Space Advisory Committee Members and Staff of the open space programs in Boulder County

PRESENTER: Al Hardy, Recreation and Facilities Division Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: Information and Input on the Tour

Background

Staff is planning a field trip for advisory committee members and staff from all the open space programs in Boulder County: City of Boulder, Erie, Jamestown, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville, Lyons, Nederland, Superior, and Ward. This will be the third time Boulder County has hosted county-wide open space advisory committee meetings; the previous meetings were held in 2009 and 2012.

The goal for county-wide open space advisory committee member meetings has been to give members a chance to network and discuss issues that affect all of our programs in Boulder County, as well as to learn about specific concerns faced by our sister programs.

This year, staff is working on a tour of regional trail connections in the eastern part of the county, which is related to communities' annual trail requests. The annual report on open space and trails request can be found on the county's web page: <http://www.bouldercounty.org/doc/parks/openspacerequest.pdf>. Refer to Attachment C for a summary of community requests along with the county's responses. In addition to networking, the goal of this tour is to give all communities a chance to discuss their trail requests and for all participants to gain insights about how these regional trail systems are coming together.

Discussion

The attachments to this memo outline the proposed itinerary with estimated timeframes and talking points for each tour stop. Staff is soliciting input from all the open space programs to flesh out the itinerary and talking points. We would like to hear your thoughts as well.

1. Does the proposed tour date of Saturday, May 20, work for you?

2. We are trying to hit stops for each of the communities in the county. Is the itinerary too ambitious—i.e. do you think an all-day tour is too long?
3. Are there specific talking points you would like to cover and discuss?
4. Other thoughts?

Action Requested

Staff welcomes your input on the itinerary and talking points for the all-county open space advisory committee regional trails bus tour.

Attachments:

Draft Itinerary: Bus Tour of Regional Trail Connections

Draft Map for Bus Tour of Regional Trail Connections

DRAFT: Bus Tour of Regional Trail Connections

Proposed date: Saturday, May 20

(Alternative dates: June 3 or June 10)

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Proposed Itinerary (numbers correspond to map)—TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

1. Longmont: 9 a.m. meet at Fairgrounds (or Isaac Walton)
2. Longmont: 9:20 a.m.: Sunset bridge/Isaac Walton
 - Talking points: flood recovery, regional trail plans
3. Erie: 10 a.m. Eastern terminus of UP rail line corridor at County Line Road
 - Talk about East-West regional connections, local desires, timeline
4. Lafayette: 11 a.m. Flagg Park
 - Talking points: county philosophy of regional trails, Coal Creek/Rock Creek confluence
5. Louisville: 11:45 a.m. Aquarius Trailhead
 - Talk about Coal Creek/Rock Creek trail, timing, logistics
6. Louisville: 12:30 p.m. Dillon Road underpass
 - Discuss local contributions/connections
7. Superior: 1 p.m. Coalton Trailhead. (Pass out sack lunches)
 - Discuss existing and planned regional trail connections
 - Talk about US36 bikeway while driving
8. Boulder: 2 p.m. Airport-Andrus Trail (61st/Andrus/63rd)
 - Discuss local connections to LOBO trail.
9. Boulder: 2:30 p.m. IBM Connector Trail connection
 - Discuss planning time factor
10. Boulder: 3:00 Joder Ranch
 - discuss North TSA
11. Lyons: 3:30 p.m. US36/66
 - Discuss St. Vrain Trail/Lyons to Boulder Trail/Town trail convergence at intersection
 - Rabbit Mountain connections to Larimer
12. Longmont: 4:00 p.m. Pella Crossing.
 - Discuss St. Vrain Creek greenway connections
13. Longmont: 4:30 p.m. Lagerman Reservoir/AHI
 - discuss planned trail and regional connections to Boulder and Longmont
14. Return to Fairgrounds (or Isaac Walton) 5:00 p.m.
 - Optional: Left Hand Brewery

Additional regional trails to talk about:

Rocky Mountain Greenway

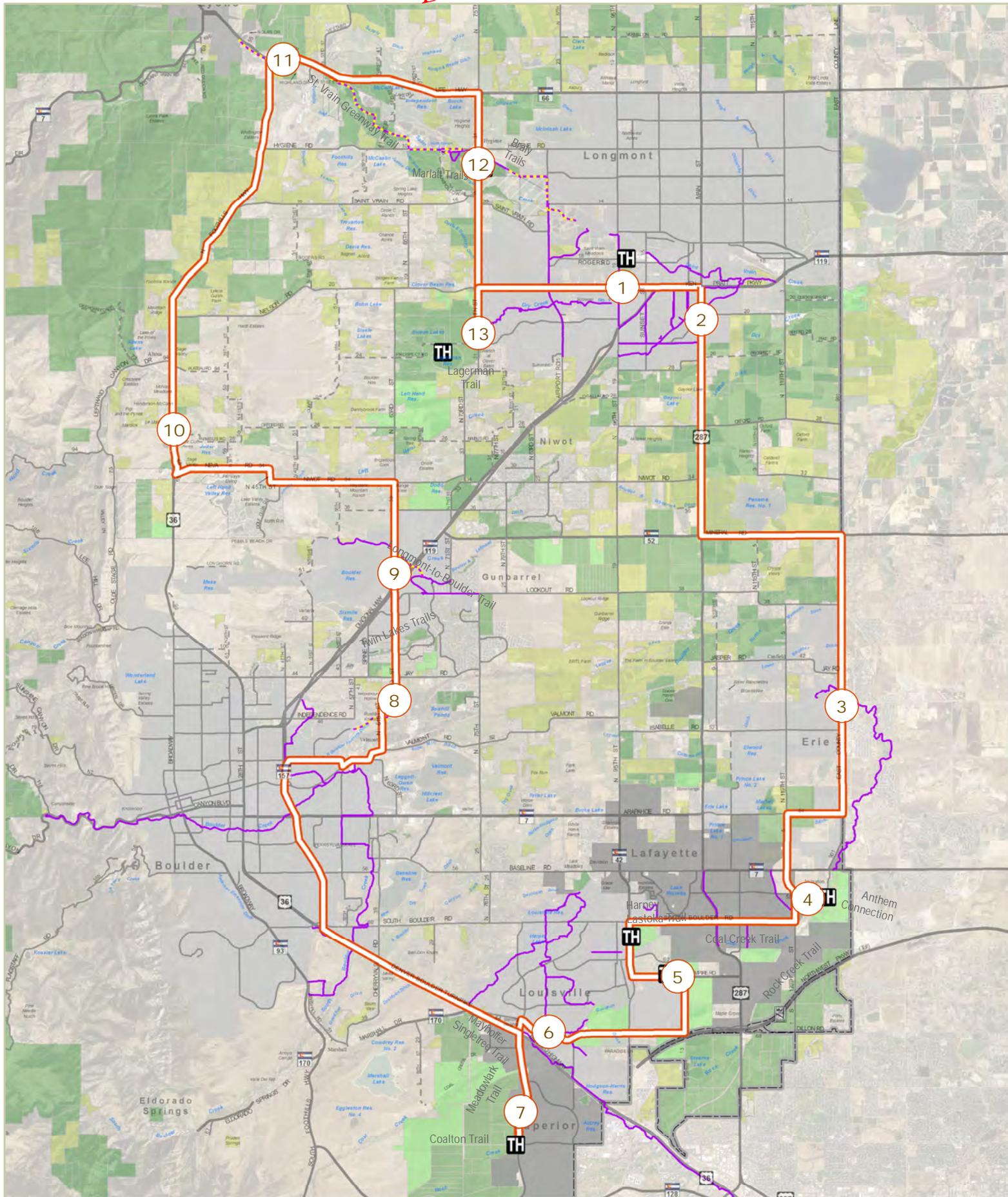
Regional Mountain Trails Master Plan

Eldorado Canyon State Park to Walker Ranch

Regional Trails Bus Tour *DRAFT*



Parks & Open Space



2017



Trailhead

Existing Trail

County Open Space

County Conservation Easement

FILE: C:\Users\mdutinger\Desktop\RegionalTrailTour.mxd

Bus Tour Route

Proposed Trail

Joint County and Municipal Open Space

Options

The user agrees to all Terms of Use set forth by Boulder County For Terms of Use, please visit: www.bouldercounty.org/mapdiscclaimer





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PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

DATE AND LOCATION: Thursday, February 23, 2017, 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Hearing Room, 3rd floor Boulder County Courthouse, 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Resource Management 2016 Summary

PRESENTER: Therese Glowacki, Resource Management Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: Information Only

Background: The Resource Management Division consists of Education and Outreach, Forestry, Plant Ecology, Resource Protection, Weeds, and Wildlife. Below are some of the 2016 accomplishments we will discuss.

Education and Outreach

- Staff continued to increase outreach with schools at the Nederland Mining Museum and through a partnership of remote camera monitoring of wildlife.

Forestry

- Forestry staff and Sheriff's Office fire crew conducted a winter prescribed burn for the first time.
- Forestry staff completed major forest health improvement projects using helicopter logging at Betasso Preserve.

Plant Ecology

- Work continued on flood restoration planning and implementation, primarily on the St. Vrain River at Hall Meadows and Reach 3.

Resource Protection

- Lefthand Outdoor Challenge expanded collaboration with many agency partners.

Weeds

- Staff continued a collaborative research study at Rabbit Mountain on cheat grass control. The results were so effective we have begun a large scale control on our valuable grasslands.

Wildlife

- Staff continued monitoring the impact of elk on Rabbit Mountain and worked with CPW to draft a plan of action.
- Staff continued monitoring Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse and native fish in the St. Vrain.