



Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

DATE: Thursday, January 17, 2019

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Boulder County Parks & Open Space 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Projects

PRESENTER: Tina Nielsen, Special Projects Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

Background

Boulder County annually approves a 5-year Capital Improvement Project plan and budget for the Parks & Open Space department. The plan helps the department prioritize and budget for improvement projects on open space and provides a structure for seeking partnerships and grant funds to help leverage our budget. The plan also provides a framework for public input on priorities and timing of new projects.

2019 Capital Improvement Project Budget Summary

Category	2019				
	2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total
Recreation & Facilities	\$92,000	\$0	\$0	\$89,750	\$181,750
Historic Preservation	\$33,412	\$200,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$288,412
Public Education	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Agriculture	\$0	\$80,836	\$171,330	\$212,332	\$464,498
Forestry	\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$161,500	\$1,121,500
Ecosystems	\$98,000	\$0	\$498,000	\$146,400	\$742,400
CIP Total	\$223,412	\$1,240,836	\$669,330	\$689,982	\$2,823,560
Contingency				\$60,018	\$60,018
Grand Total	\$223,412	\$1,240,836	\$669,330	\$750,000	\$2,883,578

Staff Discussion and Recommendation

The \$750,000 capital improvement budget is distributed between six project categories: Recreation & Facilities; Historic Preservation; Public Education; Agricultural Resources; Ecosystems; and Forestry. Funding for all of these categories, except for a portion of the Forestry category funded from the county's general fund, comes from the sales tax approved by voters in 2010.

Five-plus years out from the historic 2013 flood, we can finally say that much of the recovery work is close to wrapping up. Most flood recovery funding is separate from this capital budget; however some of that work continues to be reflected in the ecosystems CIP category.

Priorities for most capital projects follow directly from management plans and master plans adopted by the Board of County Commissioners following a public process. In other cases, staff prioritizes projects based on department mission, goals in the department's 2020 vision, purchase agreements, intergovernmental agreements, and requests from communities and the public. The project spreadsheets in Attachment A and the project descriptions in Attachment B provide project-specific details.

Thanks to contributions of partners, grants, and other funding sources, we are able to leverage the CIP budget with over \$1.9 million in grants and partnerships in the Historic Preservation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Ecosystem categories. These additional funding sources include:

- Potential grant from the State Historical Fund for the Braly Barn Phase I restoration.
- Contributions from our Agricultural tenants and the grants they receive from the Colorado Natural Resource Conservation Service through their Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).
- Grants from FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and the State Forest Service (State Fire Assistance/Wildland Urban Interface) for forestry work.
- Boulder County Certificate of Participation bond funds (flood recovery tax), Colorado Parks and Wildlife wetlands grant match funds for flood restoration, and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District grants for riparian restoration work.

The CIP budget does not reflect the personnel costs of the Parks & Open Space department. In normal (i.e. non-flood recovery) years, we conservatively estimate that 40% of staff time is devoted to capital projects. Staff costs are funded through the department's operating budget, and are significant – over \$2 million annually. The Department also spends a considerable amount of sales tax funds to hire seasonal employees to assist in the construction of CIP projects. Finally, the County pays for the cost of the Youth Corps, whose assistance is vital on many POS capital projects. Thus, the real cost of Capital Improvement Projects, including both the estimated project costs and personnel costs, is much greater than the numbers reflected in the capital budget.

POSAC Action

At their public hearing on Nov. 15, 2018, POSAC unanimously recommended BOCC approval of an earlier version of the Boulder County Parks & Open Space 2019-2024 CIP. Since that time, staff has added several projects in the Agriculture category, totaling an additional \$130,527. The details of these projects are outlined in the attachments.

BOCC Action Requested

Approval

Attachments

- A. Boulder County Parks & Open Space Proposed 2019-2024 CIP Spreadsheets
- B. Capital Improvement Project Descriptions for 2019-2024 CIP

Summary of 2019 Capital Improvement Projects

		2019				Total
		2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	
Recreation & Facilities						
1	Heil 2 Improvements	\$36,000	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$91,000
2	Construction & Maintenance Guidelines	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$19,750	\$69,750
3	Ag Heritage Center Improvements	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$21,000
4	Anne U. White Trailhead	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$\$\$	\$\$\$
Recreation & Facilities CIP Subtotal		\$92,000	\$0	\$0	\$89,750	\$181,750
Historic Preservation						
1	Braly Barn Phase I	\$3,488	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$203,488
2	Cultural Resource Survey	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
3	Tumbleson House	\$29,924	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,924
4	Heil 2 Caboose 2199	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
5	Major Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$\$	\$\$
Historic Preservation Subtotal		\$33,412	\$200,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$288,412
Public Education						
1	Cardinal Mill Exhibits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Public Education CIP Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Agricultural Resources						
1	Becky - Lateral sprinkler	\$0	\$50,693	\$68,841	\$38,774	\$158,308
2	Boulder County Land Venture - electric service to pivot	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,000	\$34,000
3	Cherry Creek Tree Farm - center pivot	\$0	\$21,376	\$23,489	\$9,031	\$53,896
new 5	James Construction - access	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,888	\$9,888
new 6	James Construction - electric service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$24,200	\$24,200
new 7	Boulder County Land Venture--additional funds toward electric service for pivot	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$27,206	\$27,206
new 8	Jay Road Church of Christ-subsurface drip irrigation	\$0	\$8,767	\$0	\$20,433	\$29,200
new 9	Hamouz & Lutz -- sprinkler	\$0	\$0	\$79,000	\$48,800	\$127,800
Ag CIP Subtotal		\$0	\$80,836	\$171,330	\$212,332	\$464,498
new	Forestry/Fire CIP					
1	Heil: Lichen Loop PA1 (U1, U2) (162 Acres)	\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$61,500	\$1,021,500
2	Heil Valley Ranch (Ingersol Rx) 260 Acres Target	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Forestry CIP Subtotal		\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$161,500	\$1,121,500
Ecosystems						
1	Flood Restoration 6354510	\$86,000	\$0	\$398,000	\$46,400	\$530,400
2	Wildlife Habitat Restoration 6354508	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000
3	Grassland Restoration 6354502	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$42,000
4	Native Plant Propagation 6354503	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000
5	Riparian Restoration 6354506	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$15,000	\$115,000
6	Reclamation/Revegetation 6354505	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ecosystems CIP Subtotal		\$98,000	\$0	\$498,000	\$146,400	\$742,400
CIP Total		\$223,412	\$1,240,836	\$669,330	\$689,982	\$2,823,560
Contingency Fund					\$60,018	\$60,018
Grand Total		\$223,412	\$1,240,836	\$669,330	\$750,000	\$2,883,578

	Summary	2019				Total
		2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	
I.	Recreation & Facilities CIP Subtotal	\$92,000	\$0	\$0	\$89,750	\$181,750
II.	Historic Preservation Subtotal	\$33,412	\$200,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$288,412
III.	Public Education CIP Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
IV.	Ag CIP Subtotal	\$0	\$80,836	\$171,330	\$212,332	\$464,498
V.	Forestry CIP Subtotal	\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$161,500	\$1,121,500
VI.	Ecosystems CIP Subtotal	\$98,000	\$0	\$498,000	\$146,400	\$742,400
CIP Total		\$223,412	\$1,240,836	\$669,330	\$689,982	\$2,823,560

Recreation & Facilities Capital Improvement Projects 2019-2024

RAF CIP	2018 Expected Carryover	2019			Total 2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
		Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP							
1	Heil 2 Improvements	\$36,000			\$55,000	\$91,000					Implementation of Heil 2 Small Area Plan infrastructure. Complete Eastside Trail, School House Loop Trail, Corral Trailhead. Altona School site development. Install restroom and equestrian parking.
2	Construction & Maintenance Guidelines	\$50,000			\$19,750	\$69,750					B-06: Create construction and maintenance guidelines for POS facilities
3	Ag Heritage Center Improvements	\$6,000			\$15,000	\$21,000					Complete Phase 2 implementation of irrigation and site improvements at AHC utilizing in-house labor. ADA Access for MacIntosh Barn. Building Permit will require Architect/Engineer plans.
4	Anne U. White Trailhead		\$		\$	\$					Scope and cost being finalized, with goal of completing construction in 2019.
5	Lagerman Agricultural Preserve						\$130,000				Expand and modify trailhead as necessary based on demand, with particular attention horse trailers and boat trailers. In-house construction.
6	Betasso Parking Expansion						\$130,000				The 2009 Betasso Management Plan calls for expansion of current trailhead capacity if increase in visitor use warrants, as a medium priority based on long term >5 years review.
7	Walker Ranch Management Plan Implementation						\$40,000				Implement Management Plan improvements: Redesign and build Ethel Harold parking lot. Natural play area design and installation at Meyers Trailhead.
8	Braly Loop Trail, Parking Lot, Trailhead					Grant Application	\$15,000	\$			Potential Fishing is Fun grant. Development of site dependent on flood restoration. Transportation funding of regional restroom. CIL funding of 48k available for R & F.
9	Tolland Ranch Trail					Grant Application	\$5,000	\$	\$		Submit for a construction grant in fall 2019 and start construction in 2020. Assume 3 years to build out system. Additional funding would include the Michael O'Brien fund. Trail needs to be open to the public no later than 2024.
10	Castle Rock Site Improvements							\$			Completion of Planning process related to Climbing Management could identify recreation site improvements for Castle Rock area
11	Parking Lot Expansions								\$	\$	Consider additional expansion of park facilities such as: Mud Lake, Caribou, Hall Ranch, Walden, and Walker.
12	Rock Creek Spur - 104th Street							\$	\$		Trail link from Lafayette and Louisville to Rock Creek Farm and its trail system; identified as high priority by Louisville and Lafayette
13	Reynolds Ranch/Rogers/Castle Rock Improvements									\$	Start implementation of any approved recommendations from management plan process.
Recreation & Facilities CIP Subtotal		\$92,000	\$0	\$0	\$89,750	\$181,750	\$320,000	\$0	\$	\$	
Recreation & Facilities other funding											
14	St. Vrain Trail Construction to Pella						\$	\$			Funding and construction of trail from Airport Road to Pella Ponds from Boulder County Transportation and possible grant application.
Other Recreation & Facilities Funding Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Recreation & Facilities CIP Subtotal		\$92,000	\$0	\$0	\$89,750	\$181,750	\$320,000	\$0	\$	\$	

Historic Preservation Capital Improvement Projects 2019-2024

Historic Preservation: \$100K	2019					2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions	
	2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total 2019							
1	Braly Barn Phase I	\$3,488	\$200,000		\$0	\$203,488	\$100,000					Complete 2018 construction documents in order to prepare construction documents for April 1 2019 SHF grant application. Grant announcement Aug 1, 2019. If awarded, grant contract executed late fall 2019. Develop RFP winter 2019. Out to bid early 2020. Cash match not required until project start. Construction summer/fall 2020. Phase I scope limited to structural repairs and include architectural fees for project oversight to meet grant requirements. Estimated cost to be refined over winter 2018-2019.
2	Cultural Resource Survey				\$30,000	\$30,000	\$	\$	\$	\$		2019 - Indian Mountain cultural resource survey. 2021-2024 - Walker Ranch re-survey or other high priority that ties into a department wide effort or project.
3	Tumbleson House	\$29,924			\$0	\$29,924	\$			\$\$\$	\$\$\$	2019 - Contract out crack stitching construction documents with 2018 carryover funds. Crack stitching cost estimate to be developed in 2019. 2020 - Possible crack stitching project to be out to bid. 2023-2024 - Contract out installation of septic, restroom, water service, interior plastering, electrical, plumbing and parking needs for future use as determined by the N. Foothills Open Space Management Plan.
4	Heil 2 Caboose 2199				\$25,000	\$25,000						2019 - Caboose facelift and asbestos abatement. High Plains Railroad Preservation Association will provide guidance for appropriate repairs and techniques.
5	Major Maintenance				\$	\$			\$\$\$	\$\$\$		2019 - RFP to determine cost estimate (1st Q 2019) for Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm spring/summer outbuilding painting. 2022- Reshingling the Agricultural Heritage Center Lohr McIntosh barn. 2023 - Reshingling the Walker wagon barn, cabin or well house.
6	Braly Garage						\$35,000					2019 - AI will get a cost estimate together during fall/winter 2018-2019 to revise current placeholder. 2020 - Buildings and Historic Preservation to complete repairs.
7	Olivieri House, Garage, Office								\$	\$	\$	2022-2024 - Buildings & Historic Preservation rehabilitation of cabin, garage and office building. Remove collapsed bunkhouse and contract out site stabilization work.
8	Reynolds Ranch Log House								\$	\$	\$	2022-2024 Buildings & Historic Preservation to begin repairs for future use determined by the Platt Rogers/Reynolds Ranch Open Space Management Plan.
9	Henning Barn				\$							2019 - assess and estimate cost
Historic Preservation Subtotal		\$33,412	\$200,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$288,412	\$135,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	

Public Education Capital Improvement Projects 2019-2024

	Public Education	2019					2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
		2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total 2019						
1	Cardinal Mill Exhibits				\$25,000	\$25,000						Interior exhibits for the top and bottom of mill
2	Ag Heritage Center Exhibits						\$125,000			\$		Replace "Faces of Boulder County," "Food" and "Tools of the Trade" due to wear and tear after two decades of use 2022: Outdoor demonstration fields
3	Braly & Ramey Interpretive Opportunities							\$10,000			\$	Trailside panels along Braly trails (series) and possibly Ramey property (1 panel) 2024: Braly Environmental Center
4	Nederland Mining Museum Exhibits									\$25,000		Interpretive plan for hard rock mining sites, and begin updating Nederland Mining Museum exhibits
	Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$125,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	

Agricultural Resources Capital Improvement Projects 2019-2024

Agricultural Resources	2018 Carryover	2019				2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
		Grants	Partner/Other	CIP	Total 2019						
1. Center Pivot & Lateral Sprinklers - Conventional											
a.	Becky - Lateral sprinkler	\$50,693	\$68,841	\$38,774	\$158,308						Center pivot irrigation sprinkler (EQIP)
b.	G. Anderson - center pivot					\$35,000					Full center pivot sprinkler
c.	Henry & Ross- 2 center pivots							\$200,000	\$175,000		Two full center pivot with swing arm (no EQIP, tenant cost share)
2. Center Pivot & Lateral Sprinklers - Organic											
a.	Boulder County Land Venture - electric service to pivot			\$34,000	\$34,000						upgrade diesel generator to electric from for center pivot irrigation
b.	Cherry Creek Tree Farm - center pivot	\$21,376	\$23,489	\$9,031	\$53,896						Wiper center pivot (EQIP)
c.	Haley - install irrigation system								\$175,000		Lateral or pivot irrigation sprinkler for organic farm
3. Organic Farm Stand Projects											
a.	Hygiene Dairy/Bishop - produce storage and processing facility					\$20,000	\$130,000				Food Safety Act - will have guidelines for washing and storage facility in the coming years 2020- architect
4. Other Projects											
a.	John Clark - boundary fence & irrigation					\$25,565					5-strand barbed wire along N. 95th St. And north boundary. Safety issue with livestock excaping and getting hit by cars
Ag CIP Total		\$72,069	\$92,330	\$81,805	\$246,204	\$80,565	\$130,000	\$200,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	

Agricultural Resources	2018 Carryover	2019				2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
		Grants	Partner/Other	CIP	Total 2019						
Additional Projects Not Reviewed by POSAC											
1	James Construction--new access			\$9,888	\$9,888						improve safety of access for farm equipment
2	James Construction--electric service			\$24,200	\$24,200						upgrade from gas power for irrigation and future refrigeration needs
3	Boulder County Land Venture--additional funds toward electric service for pivot			\$27,206	\$27,206						additional funding to upgrade multiple gas generators to electric for livestock well watering and livestock handling facility
4	Jay Road Church of Christ--subsurface drip irrigation	\$8,767		\$20,433	\$29,200						subsurface drip to be installed on ~30% of property
5	Hamouz & Lutz -- sprinkler		\$79,000	\$48,800	\$127,800						install sprinkler system
Additional Projects Subtotal		\$8,767	\$79,000	\$130,527	\$218,294						
AG CIP Total with Additional Projects		\$80,836	\$171,330	\$212,332	\$464,498						

Forestry-Fire CIP 2019-2024

	Forestry/Fire CIP	2019					2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
		2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total 2019						
1	Forest Thinning Treatments											Forest ID Team will work out Details
a.	Heil: Lichen Loop PA1 (U1, U2) (162 Acres)		\$960,000		\$61,500	\$1,021,500	\$61,500					2017 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant, we are moving forward still no award but looks promising for \$960,000, Split CIP Between 2018-2019. Applied for some State Funding FRWRM which could possibly cover our share. Has Approved ID Team Prescription.
b.	Caribou and Sherwood Gulch (PA1 U2 & U3) (100 acres)						\$102,500	\$102,500				Applied for a 2019 Grant for \$245,000, match to complete project would be \$205,000 possibly over two years. Additional match from staff time. Should know by April of 2019. Project could possibly be pushed until 2021/2022 if CIP dollars needed elsewhere. Total project cost estimated at \$4500 per acre. Prescription will be written in Early 2019 Approved by summer 2019
c.	Hall: Button Rock PA5 U1-6								\$100,000	\$280,000		This would be a 40 acres pilot project to start collaborative (collaboratives have better chance at grant money)Will need to apply for Grant Funding to do complete project. 227 acres at \$6000, Does Not Include need for road access. Will Have Approved SOW by Early 2019. Could be interchanged with Caribou project.
d.	Walker: Meyers Gulch PA1 (U1, U3-6) (355 Acres)										\$150,000	Total estimate is \$1,800,00. Will need to apply for Grant Funding. Typically cost share is at least 25% which would be \$450,000 of CIP, Project could be split up into three projects at about 100-140 acres a piece. Needs CPW consultation Possible Split Between 2020-2021. Has Approved Prescription.
e.	Hall: Button Rock PA6 U3-4											Will need to apply for Grant Funding. 162.2 acres at \$8000. Does Not Include need for road access. Will Have Approved Prescription by Early 2018.
f.	Hall PA7U5 Stands 1-3 (12.5ac) Nelson Donut											Apply for grant (Priority in County and local CWPP & POS Mgt. Plan) nelson loop, Bumped due to flood. May also move to In House operations)
2	Prescribed-Fire/Activity Fuels Projects											Burning activity fuels from completed mechanical operations, or burning to maintain open forest structure. All of the following listed projects may be burned at any one time, meaning that if they have approved PRF and Burn Plan they can be burned.
a.	Heil Valley Ranch (Ingersol Rx) 260 Acres Target				\$100,000	\$100,000						This all depends on what can be completed by the BCSO. Typical first entries can cost \$500 per acre. We estimate that we can complete at least 250 acres each year. Approved PRF, Burn Plan Almost Complete. Money identified for property may be shifted to other location due to conditions.
b.	Rabbit Mountain (Arapaho Rx) 350 Acre Target (3444 Total)						\$100,000					Based on a 250 acre year at \$500 per acre. PRF and Burn Plan Approved
c.	Betasso (Arkansas RX) 262 Acres							\$100,000				Based on a 250 acre year at \$500 per acre. PRF Approved.
d.	Hall Ranch (Nelson Loop Rx) 860 Acres								\$100,000			Based on a 250 acre year at \$500 per acre. PRF Approval Early 2018
e.	Walker: (Walker Rx) 1056 Acres									\$100,000		Based on a 250 acre year at \$500 per acre. PRF Approval Early 2018
f.	Heil: (Wapiti/Wapiti2) 440 Acres										\$100,000	Based on a 250 acre year at \$500 per acre. Approved PRF and Burn Plan
Forestry/Fire CIP Subtotal		\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$161,500	\$1,121,500	\$264,000	\$202,500	\$200,000	\$380,000	\$250,000	

Ecosystems CIP 2019-2024

Ecosystems	2019					2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Project Descriptions
	2018 Carryover	Grants	Partner/ Other	CIP	Total 2019						
1 Flood Restoration 6354510											
a. Brewbaker	\$86,000		\$398,000	\$31,400	\$515,400						Post-flood stream restoration funded by COPS and CIP Ecosystems. Postponed due to CLOMR
b. Golden Fredstrom			\$\$\$	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$11,325					volunteer services. Wetland and stream restoration funds, including restoration around the old Niwot diversion.
c. Parrish							\$50,000				Design costs for Parrish flood recovery - east parcel
d. Geer Creek								\$60,000			Post-flood stream restoration funded by COPS and CIP Ecosystems.
2 Wildlife Habitat Restoration											
b. Black Footed Ferret Reintro				\$23,000	\$23,000	\$23,000					Dust, SPV, and staff time for plague control on pdog towns for future
c. Loukonen Dairy Farm, Parcel F				\$12,000	\$12,000						Fencing off portions of the Lake Ditch/ephemeral drainage for PMJM habitat.
a. Aq Wildlife Habitat				\$5,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$12,000				Wildlife habitat and pollinator projects on ag properties: Swanson, Ertl, Puma, Montgomery Farms, AHI
d. South Branch Ditch/St. Vrain						\$8,000					Fencing off portions of the South Branch Ditch at Braly and Sadar for PMJM habitat
e. US36 Wildlife Crossing									\$150,000		Underpass or fencing for possible US36 wildlife crossing
3 Grassland Restoration 6354502											
a. Mowing: Various Properties				\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000					Mowing for restoration on Rock Creek Grasslands, Egg Farm, CEMEX, et. al.
b. CEMEX	\$12,000				\$12,000	\$10,000					Weed control and additional forb seeding on 140 acres of Cemex
c. Cheatgrass Restoration						\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000			400 acres of treatment for cheatgrass infestation usign Esplanade
4 Native Plant Propagation 6354503											
a. Native Seed Collection and Increase				\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000			Seed collection & increase of local ecotypes not available on commercial market, including seed increase at Peck.
5 Riparian Restoration 6354506											
a. Bailey Ponds/Kenosha			\$100,000	\$10,000	\$110,000	\$10,000					\$400,000 from UDFCD by 2020 (\$100K a year) for construction. UD also covering design costs
b. Lower Boulder Creek				\$5,000	\$5,000						Kenosha East and West Ponds reclamation & wetland planting. Post-LBC construction maintenance.
c. Zapf						\$15,000					Plantings and/or fencing along South Branch for PMJM habitat at Zapf property
d. Sherwood Creek							\$50,000				Assessment of Sherwood Gulch stream daylight through mine area.
6 Reclamation/Revegetation 6354505											
a. Conger Mine (Sherwood Gulch)						\$7,000					2019 - Reclaim the bare areas of the Conger Mine at the Sherwood Gulch property; 2020 funds to assess and plan for daylighting Sherwood Creek through mine.
b. Hall 2 Mine Reclamation							\$6,000	\$6,000			Maintenance of reclamation, post-bond, in conjunction with management plan implementation.
7 Road/Social Trail Closure											
a. Reynolds Rogers						\$15,000	\$12,000				Closing social trails/roads in conjunction with trail building on the Reynolds property.
Ecosystems Subtotal	\$98,000	\$0	\$498,000	\$146,400	\$742,400	\$172,325	\$165,000	\$101,000	\$150,000	\$0	

Boulder County Parks & Open Space Capital Improvement Project Descriptions 2019-2024

POSAC Meeting, November 15, 2018

(Project numbers correspond to project numbers on Attachment A spreadsheet)

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RECREATION & FACILITIES Projects: CIP Funds

1. **Heil 2 Improvements:** 2019 CIP. The County purchased the 210 acre Heil 2 property in late 2012. This property lies on both the east and west side of Geer Canyon Drive south of the existing trailhead. A small area plan for Heil 2 was completed and approved in May, 2016, with improvements including a trails, trailhead, and trailhead amenities. The Overland Loop Trail opened in 2017. CIP funds are earmarked for completing the improvements adopted in the Heil Valley Ranch 2 Small Area Plan: East Side Loop trail, Schoolhouse Trail, Corral Trailhead, and equestrian parking. See also HP #4.
2. **Construction & Maintenance Guidelines:** 2018 carryover + 2019 CIP. Vision 2020 includes the goal of the creating construction and maintenance guidelines for parks related facilities. The RFP was awarded to Design Workshop of Lafayette in late 2018 and work will be completed in 2019.
3. **AG Heritage Center Improvements:** 2019 CIP for Phase 2 of irrigation site improvements and to install ADA access to the MacIntosh Barn (requires architectural and engineering plans). In 2014-2016 staff completed driveway improvements for site distance, upgraded an agriculture irrigation structure to correct erosion problems to the trail, completed Phase 1 irrigation improvements for the yard area near the house, and installed a culvert intercept by corrals. Phase 2 work includes additional irrigation and plantings to entry and central yard area.
4. **Anne U. White Trailhead:** 2019 CIP. The Anne U. White trail has been closed since the devastation of the 2013 flood. Work on the trail is essentially completed, and has benefitted from the help of numerous volunteer days. The two homes closest to the trailhead were a part of the buyout through the FEMA process, and the county Transportation Department is working on the road and access into 2019. Trailhead design options will be evaluated and finalized by first quarter 2019, and construction is expected to be completed in 2019.

5. **Lagerman Agricultural Preserve:** 2020 CIP. In 2020, expand and upgrade the trailhead as necessary to accommodate horse and boat trailer parking, based on demand. This project will use in-house staff for construction.
6. **Betasso Parking Expansion:** 2020 CIP. The 2009 Betasso Preserve Management Plan calls for expansion of current trailhead capacity as a medium priority based on visitor use and demand.
7. **Walker Ranch Management Plan Implementation:** 2020 CIP. The management plan update for Walker Ranch was completed in 2013. 2020 CIP funds will be used for upgrade of Ethel Harrold Trailhead, along with installation of a natural play area at the Meyers Trailhead, as called for in the plan update.
8. **Braly Loop Trail, Parking Lot, Trailhead:** 2020-2021 CIP. Apply for Fishing-is-fun grant or GOCO trails grant in 2019. The St. Vrain Creek Corridor Open Space Management Plan was adopted in 2004. Among the visitor use goals identified is to develop a trailhead and related amenities at the Braly property. Plans include creating a loop trail, Trailhead and parking facility, to eventually be part of the St. Vrain corridor trail. Additional funding coming from cash-in-lieu funds and Boulder County Transportation (for construction of restroom for regional trail). See also HP #1.
9. **Toll Property Trail:** 2020-2022 CIP. In January, 2015, Boulder County partnered with the Colorado State Forest Service and Great Outdoors Colorado, with coordination by The Conservation Fund, to acquire a conservation easement over approximately 3,334 acres of the Tolland Ranch property near Eldora Ski area in western Boulder County and Gilpin County. The acquisition includes a 6.5-mile long trail easement. In 2018 a Class III Cultural Resource Survey of the trail corridor was completed. Plan is to apply for a trail construction grant in 2019 with trail construction beginning in 2020 and continuing into 2021 and 2022 if needed.
10. **Castle Rock Site Improvements:** 2021 CIP. Castle Rock is a popular climbing and picnicking site in Boulder Canyon. A planning process is underway to determine recreation site improvements the Castle Rock area, with funding planned in 2021.
11. **Parking Lot Expansions:** 2022, 2024 CIP. Consider additional expansion of park facilities at various parks, including Mud Lake, Caribou Ranch, Hall Ranch, Walden Ponds, and Walker Ranch.
12. **Rock Creek Spur – 104th St.:** 2022-2023 CIP. There is an opportunity to connect the Coal Creek Trail with Rock Creek Farm via the S. 104th Street corridor. This connection has been identified as a high priority for Louisville and Lafayette, and would provide access from these two communities to Rock Creek Farm and its trail system. Opportunities for making this connection include the utilization of the S. 104th Street right-of-way, the western boundaries of the open space properties themselves, or through the Colorado Technology Center. All combinations of these possibilities will be explored and if a trail should pass through an open space property, all efforts should be made to preserve the integrity and function of the agricultural resource, including irrigation concerns. Lafayette and Louisville are taking the lead on the planning and funding of this connection.
13. **Reynolds Ranch/Rogers/Castle Rock Improvements:** 2022-2023 CIP. Master planning will be occurring for improvements, including consolidation of the trail system and evaluation of parking/trailhead options. Funds are earmarked for implementing the approved improvements.

RECREATION AND FACILITIES Projects: Other Funds

14. **St Vrain Trail Construction to Pella** (Boulder County Transportation). The St. Vrain Trail Master Plan was completed in 2006 in collaboration with the City of Longmont and Town of Lyons. Construction timing of the trail segment from Airport Road to Pella Ponds depends on real estate acquisitions.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CIP Projects:

1. **Braly Barn Phase I:** 2019-2020 CIP. The circa 1903 Braly barn is located on the historic Wencel Farm northwest of Hygiene. The County purchased the 112.48-acre property June 2000. Both the main branch and the south branch of St. Vrain Creek cross the property, which sustained significant damage during the historic 2013 flood. Flood repairs on the breached reservoirs will start in 2019, allowing plans for public access on the proposed St. Vrain trail which crosses through the property to resume (see RAF #8). In 2018, the barn's construction documents were updated in anticipation of applying for a 2019 State Historical Fund grant. If awarded, the 2019 CIP funds will provide a cash match to the grant award. Construction will occur in 2020. Phase I scope of work is limited to structural repairs and includes architectural fees for project oversight to meet grant requirements. Cost estimate to be refined over winter 2018-2019.
2. **Cultural Resource Survey:** 2019 CIP. CIP funds will be used to conduct a cultural resource survey at Indian Mountain in anticipation of the increased visitor use on the property by American Indian groups and individuals. Funding in future years will be used for cultural resource surveys on other priority properties, including a re-survey at Walker Ranch to update the 38 year old data, and to obtain data for previously unsurveyed properties that will contribute to a larger department effort.
3. **Tumbleson House:** 2018 CIP carryover; 2020, 2023-2024 CIP. The circa 1890s Tumbleson House at Hall Ranch was rehabilitated with GOCO Legacy Grant funds in 2001. Originally, foundation repairs were to begin in 2017, but due to the unexpected discovery of asbestos in the first floor plaster walls, the focus of the project shifted to asbestos mitigation and the foundation repairs were delayed. As a result of the asbestos abatement revealing the source of the stone wall cracks, engineers believe a crack stitching project to bond the stone wall cracks together might be sufficient instead of the more costly foundation repair. In 2019, the plan is to contract out the crack stitching construction documents with 2018 CIP carryover funds, in order to develop a cost estimate for work, anticipated to go to bid and be completed in 2020. Additional restoration work is projected for 2023-2024, to ensure that the house remains viable for future uses that will be determined through the North Foothills Open Space Management Plan update, currently projected for 2020 or later, pending completion of the Hall 2 mine reclamation.
4. **Heil 2 Caboose 2199:** 2019 CIP. Complete the 1891 caboose facelift and asbestos abatement as part of Heil 2 Trailhead preparations. High Plains Railroad Preservation Association will provide guidance for appropriate repairs and techniques.
5. **Major Maintenance:** 2019, 2022-2023 CIP. Funding is allocated for high cost projects that extend beyond the operation and maintenance budget capability. Projects include painting outbuildings at the Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm, re-shingling the Agricultural Heritage Center Lohr McIntosh barn, and work on the Walker Ranch wagon barn, cabin and well house.
6. **Braly Garage:** 2020 CIP. Continuing work at the Braly property in preparation for public access (see HP #1), funds will be used to repair the Braly garage, a building that contributes to the historic

significance of the property as identified in the St. Vrain Creek Corridor Open Space Management Plan .

7. **Olivieri House, Garage, and Office:** 2022-2024 CIP. Purchased in 2007, the Olivieri property is located in Sunshine Canyon and originally operated as a small-scale hard rock mining operation before becoming a vacation home for the Olivieri family for over 50 years. The buildings are a representative example of the types of rustic mining cabins that were typically constructed during the early 20th century through their simplicity of design and use of readily available natural materials. The Buildings and Historic Preservation crew will removed the collapsed bunkhouse, rehabilitate the cabin, garage and stone office building.
8. **Reynolds Ranch Log House:** 2022-2024 CIP. The 1874 log house is part of the historic Hockaday Ranch located southeast of the Town of Nederland. Charles Hockaday, who most likely constructed the building, settled in the area after working as a freight operator from St. Joseph, Missouri to Central City, Colorado. The property is significant for its association with the early settlement of the area and the development of high country ranching. In preparation for a future use of the building as determined by the forthcoming Platt Rogers/Reynolds Ranch Open Space Management Plan, funding will cover the costs of the repairs. Operations and maintenance funds will cover any small necessary repairs until 2021. See also RAF #13.
9. **Henning Barn: 2019 CIP cost estimate.** Recreation and Facilities will conduct an assessment to obtain a cost estimate and complete the barn repairs. Located on the Western Mobile property, the 1905 barn is one of last remaining features of the Henning Farm, an early 20th century farm that incorporated dairy into their operation in the 1950s. A silo and loafing shed also remain on the property. Once a complete farm complex with over 10 buildings and structures, the large hay barn is an historic icon on the landscape that is visible while driving on Hygiene Road.

PUBLIC EDUCATION CIP Projects:

1. **Cardinal Mill Exhibits:** 2019 CIP. Interior exhibit themes for the top and bottom of the mill will include Old Cardinal and current Cardinal site, life in a mining town, and how a mill works. This is the final step in a years-long restoration effort to bring the mill to life for public interpretation.
2. **Ag Heritage Center Exhibits:** 2020 CIP. Due to wear and tear, a number of exhibits installed in 2000 will be replaced: "Faces of Boulder County," "Food," and "Tools of the Trade" exhibit.
3. **Braly & Ramey Interpretive Opportunities:** 2021, 2024 CIP. The St. Vrain Creek Corridor Open Space Management Plan was adopted in 2004. Among the educational and interpretive objectives identified is to develop signage focusing on the significance and protection of the riparian resources, and exploring the development of an environmental center on the Braly property using the double A-frame building. In 2021, trailside panels will installed at Braly and Ramey properties highlighting the natural and cultural resources. 2024 funds will be used for the potential development of an environmental education center. See also RAF #8; HP #1.
4. **Nederland Mining Museum Exhibits:** 2023 CIP. Replace some exhibits with interactive components so exhibits are more engaging for museum visitors to learn about hard rock mining in Boulder County.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES CIP Projects:

Center Pivot and Lateral Sprinklers: We install center-pivot and lateral irrigation systems to conserve water, reduce erosion, reduce labor costs, and increase crop production. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers cost-share through their voluntary Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). This program will share on average 50% of the total cost. In addition to the environmental benefit, center pivots provide an economic benefit for the County through increased production; typically a 25% increase in production or more is attainable. This correlates into increased revenue. Center pivot sprinklers are also a great benefit to our stewardship responsibilities. Farm field roads and open irrigation ditches are eliminated, reducing the prime location for noxious weeds to get established, and reducing the weed management costs.

Organic & Market Farms: Organic & market farms are generally small acreage farms and have the irrigation water and soils that are suited to growing vegetables or “Farmers Market” type produce. These types of crops are raised more efficiently with drip or sprinkler irrigation. This will require new irrigation infrastructure, which typically includes an irrigation water holding structure or pond, pumping station, some underground pipeline, and new electric service brought to the irrigation pump. These systems can supply irrigation water to overhead sprinklers and/or drip-tape irrigation.

1. Center Pivot & Lateral Sprinklers—Conventional Farms

- a. Becky lateral sprinkler – 2019. Tenant raises livestock feed (corn/hay) on 67 ac.
 - Ag tenant will apply for EQIP program and cost share
 - Powered by new electric powerline from Wasson project
- b. Goldamay Anderson center pivot sprinkler – 2020. Tenant raises alfalfa and grass hay on 120 ac.
 - Assume Ag tenant will be approved for EQIP program
 - Also powered by electric powerline from Wasson project
- c. Henry & Ross: 2022-2023 (2 full circle with swing arm pivots planned over 2 years)
 - Tenant raises row crops (sugar beets, corn , alfalfa, etc.) on approximately 300 acres
 - No cost share from Ag tenant no EQIP funds for these pivots

2. Center Pivot—Organic Farms

- a. Boulder County Land Venture center pivot upgrade: 2019. Tenant raises livestock feed (alfalfa/grass hay) on 110 ac.
 - Install new electric service to operate existing center pivot
 - Currently operation with diesel powered generator
- b. Cherry Creek Tree Farm –1/4 circle center pivot wiper on a 16 ac. portion of the property (lateral wiper installed in previous years): 2019. Tenant raises organic vegetables.
 - Will use existing irrigation pond and powerline
 - Relatively inexpensive to add to existing system to expand irrigation to east half of farm
- c. Haley subsurface drip irrigation with precision Ag technologies: 2024
 - Tenant raises organic vegetables. The subsurface irrigation would be installed on 70 ac., half the productive acreage.
 - Much more efficient than sprinkler irrigation systems, but also more expensive

3. Organic Farm Stand Projects.

- a. Hygiene Dairy/Bishop – produce storage and processing facility. Tenant raises organic vegetables. The storage would be used for
 - Construct a shed or building to allow for washing produce to meet the Food Safety Act
 - Also, included in the design will create some cold storage for winter squash and other produce

- May include restroom facilities to meet the FSA hand washing requirements

4. Other Projects.

- b. John Clark – boundary fence and irrigation: 2020
 - The west boundary is currently without a fence. A fence will be constructed on west boundary to allow for livestock grazing in the winter months
 - This fence installation will interfere with the current irrigation system, so a new gated pipe irrigation system would be the best solution to be able to continue to irrigation this farm

Additional Projects Not Reviewed by POSAC

1. James Construction—new access. Tenant raises organic vegetables (cabbage).
 - a. The current access location is not a very safe location for farm equipment access or visitors access for a propose farm stand.
 - b. The new propose access location will be a safer access for farm equipment and closer to a proposed limited parking area for farm stand.
2. James Construction—electric service
 - a. Currently the Ag tenant has to rely on gas power irrigation pumps and has no power to later install some type of refrigeration unit for keeping produce.
3. Boulder County Land Venture—electric service for pivot. Tenant raises livestock feed (alfalfa/grass hay) on 110 ac.
 - a. As mentioned above (#2a.), the tenant is using diesel powered generator to power the center pivot. Replacing the diesel with electric power will allow tenant to replace other generators in use for livestock watering well and for livestock handling facility.
4. Jay Road Church of Christ—subsurface drip irrigation. This property is also knows at the Kilt Farm. Tenant raises organic produce on 7 acres.
 - a. This is a NRCS approved EQIP project for irrigation improvement. A sub-surface drip irrigation system will be installed on approximately 30% of the property
 - b. An underground pipeline will be installed to operate a hard-set irrigation sprinkler system on the remaining portion of the property.
5. Hamouz & Lutz—sprinkler system. Tenant raises row crops (wheat, barley, sugarbeets, and alfalfa) on 47 ac.
 - a. This property was being considered for the installation of an extensive underground irrigation pipeline to use with gated pipe.
 - b. This would eliminate some of the erosion from the existing open earthen irrigation ditches.
 - c. After lengthy consideration and the Ag tenant willingness to contribute, it was decided that installing a sprinkler system would be a better use of our funds.

FORESTRY CIP Projects:

1. **Forest thinning treatments:** 2019-2020 CIP. These large projects are designed to reduce forest fuels through the implementation of Forest Restoration concepts. Restored forests have a structure that is better at responding to wildfire events. In addition they are strategically located on the landscape to protect communities, watersheds, and infrastructure at risk.
 - a. Heil, Lichen Loop (162 ac.) This project is likely to receive grant funding from FEMA (pre-disaster mitigation) and the State of Colorado. The goal is to complete ponderosa pine restoration east of the Lichen Loop Trail at Heil Valley Ranch. Our plan is to complete 162 acres of fuels reduction across two units (PA1U1 and PA2U2).

- b. Caribou and Sherwood Gulch (100 ac.)
 - c. Hall: Button Rock PA5 U1, U3-6
 - d. Walker Ranch/Myers Gulch (355 ac.)
 - e. Hall: Button Rock PA6 U3-4
 - f. Hal PA7U5 Stands 1-3 (12.5 ac.) Nelson donut
2. **Prescribed Fire/Activity Fuels Projects:** 2019 CIP. After BCPOS has completed mechanically thinning some of our forests, the ideal next step for ecological process is to reintroduce fire. Our Prescribed Fire Interdisciplinary team (Fire ID Team) identifies appropriate areas to use this management practice. It can include areas of grassland and shrub land, as well as forests that have been thinned in the last several years. The Fire ID Team prioritizes projects based on preparedness and opportunity, therefore may complete work in other locations as needed
- a. 2019 Heil Valley Ranch, Ingersol RX (260 acres): This project area was treated in 2013 utilizing mastication equipment due to the steep slopes and accessibility. Mastication works leaves behind activity fuels, which we hope to remove/consume through prescribed fire operations in the project area. This will be a first entry reintroduction of fire into the area. It will be a very complex prescribed burn project.
 - b. 2020 Rabbit Mountain, Arapaho RX (350 acres): There is the need to carry over money for this project due to the delay in invoicing by the State for utilizing the Juniper Valley hot shot jail crew out of Buena Vista. Additionally, Rabbit Mountain in the second priority for continued prescribed fire activity, with a maximum of 350 acres being burned each year.
 - c. 2021 Betasso (Arkansas RX) 262 ac.
 - d. 2022 Hall Ranch (Nelson Loop RX) 262 ac.
 - e. 2023 Walker Ranch 1.056 ac.
 - f. 2024 Heil (Wapiti/Wapiti2) 440 ac.

ECOSYSTEMS CIP Projects:

1. **Flood recovery:** 2018 carryover + 2019 CIP. Funds from CIP will be used to restore streams and floodplains that are not funded by other grant sources.
- a. Brewbaker: 2019 CIP. Left Hand Creek at the Brewbaker property is a high priority for our department, yet it did not rank high enough for FEMA funding in the Left Hand Creek Master Plan. COPS, also known as the County sales tax funds, will provide up to \$398,000 for finalizing design-build plans and construction of this project.
 - b. Golden Fredstrom: 2019-2020 CIP. A CPW Wetland Grant is providing funds for plant materials and volunteer services to restore parts of the St. Vrain Creek impacted in the 2013 Flood along the Golden Fredstrom property.
 - c. Parrish: 2021. Fund design for flood recovery on east parcel.
 - d. Geer Creek: Post flood stream restoration funded by COPS and CIP will target priority areas needing stabilization and habitat improvements.
2. **Wildlife Habitat Restoration Projects:**
- a. Black Footed Ferret Reintroduction: 2019-2020 CIP. Meet 2020 Vison Goal to reintroduce Black Footed Ferrets by 2020. In order to do this, funds are needed to purchase plague vaccine and flea dust for plague prevention to help increase prairie dog populations that have been negatively affected by plague. The target areas for ferret reintroduction are Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain, Dowe Flats, and the grasslands east of Superior that tie into City of Boulder OSMP lands and Rocky Flats.

- b. Loukonen Dairy Farm, Parcel F: 2019 CIP. Fence off portions of the Dake Ditch/ephemeral drainage for Prebles meadow jumping mouse habitat.
 - c. Ag Wildlife Habitat: 2019-2021 CIP. Wildlife habitat and pollinator projects on agricultural properties: Swanson, Ertl, Puma, Montgomery Farms, AHI.
 - d. South Branch Ditch, St. Vrain Creek: 2020 CIP. Funds will be used to restore the South Branch Ditch, a historical tributary of the St. Vrain Creek that runs through several BCPOS properties (Braly, Ramey, Western Mobile). This area is one of the best habitats for the federally threatened Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse in Boulder County.
 - e. US 36 Wildlife Crossing: 2023
3. **Grassland Restoration Projects:**
- a. **Mowing:** 2019-2020 CIP. Because of all the mowing maintenance needed on multiple grassland restoration properties, a separate category was created for this need. Funds are used to rent a tractor and hire a seasonal mower, enabling more efficient and effective mowing on Rock Creek Grasslands, Egg Farm, CEMEX and others.
 - b. **CEMEX Restoration:** 2019-2020 CIP. Restoration efforts began in 2004 and will continue through 2019. The southern approximately 160 acres will be planted to perennial natives in 2019.
 - c. **Cheatgrass Restoration:** 2020-2022 CIP. BCPOS has been using an exciting new tool for restoring areas invaded by the annual grass, cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), also called downy brome (*Bromus japonicus*). Research using the herbicide Esplanade has released native vegetation suppressed by cheatgrass dominance. Applications will be made on a larger scale of up to 400 acres with this funding.
4. **Native Plant Propagation:** 2019-2022 CIP. POS is collecting local, native ecotypes of seed that are not available commercially. These funds are used to support the following: 1) our volunteer native seed collection program, 2) the Native Seed Garden at the Peck property, and 3) additional seed increase from commercial farms operations. The local native seed we generate will be available for current and future flood recovery and ecological restoration projects.
5. **Riparian Restoration Projects:**
- a. Bailey Ponds/Kenosha: 2019-2020 CIP. This stream restoration on Boulder Creek was identified as a high priority in the Boulder Creek Master Plan. Partner with the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District for funding and implementation.
 - b. Lower Boulder Creek: 2020 CIP. Maintenance funds post-Army Corps of Engineers project completion.
 - c. Zapf: 2020. Plantings and/or fencing along the South Branch of St. Vrain Creek for Prebles meadow jumping mouse habitat improvements.
 - d. Sherwood Creek 2021 CIP. A portion of the creek buried in mine tailings at Sherwood Gulch will be daylighted and restored.
6. **Reclamation/Revegetation Projects:**
- a. Conger Mine at Sherwood Gulch: 2020 CIP. Illegal shooting has become a problem at the Conger Mine. Bare areas will be reclaimed and large piles of woody debris will be moved so that they are not used as shooting targets.
 - b. Hall 2 Mine Reclamation: 2021-2022 CIP. Maintenance of reclamation, post-bond, in conjunction with management plan implementation.
7. **Road/Social Trail Closure:** 2020-2021 CIP. Closing social trails/roads in partnership with USFS on the West Magnolia area and Reynolds Ranch property and in conjunction with building sustainable trails in other locations.