



parks · recreation · cultural services

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2015**

Members Present: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Alex Johnson, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Jason Rupinski

Members Absent: Mina Liebert, Ron Ilgen, Hank Scarangella

Alternates Present: Bob Lally

Alternates Absent: None

Staff Present: Chris Lieber, Kurt Schroeder, Kim King, Christi Mehew

Called to Order Jackie Hilaire brought the meeting to order at 7:36 am.

Citizen Discussion

Jim Coonradt(Cottonwood Disc Golf)

- Mexican black locust plants which are highly invasive are in Cottonwood Park.
- Per Jackie Hilaire's suggestion, Jim Coonradt and Kurt Schroeder will meet in regards to this issue.

Melissa Walker (Friends of Garden of the Gods)

- National Fossil Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2015 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center.

Dave Van Ness (Old Colorado City Foundation)

- The Bancroft Park construction budget estimate sheet for restrooms was distributed and a presentation will be given to the Parks Advisory Board in the coming months.

Susan Davies (Trails and Open Space Coalition)

- October 25, 2015 at 6:30 pm Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center and Trails and Open Space Coalition are hosting a Moonlight Hike in Garden of the Gods.
- October 10, 2015 the Trails and Open Space Coalition in conjunction with Subaru will be hosting the Parade of Parks at Cheyenne Canon. Activities include hiking along with discussing volunteer opportunities.
- Ute Pass Regional Trail Master Plan goes before the Board of El Paso County Commissioners next week and Park Advisory Board support is appreciated. Please contact County Commissioners.
- Friday, October 9, 2015 yard signs will be delivered to the TOSC office urging people to vote "Yes on 2D". Please stop by the office to pick up a sign.

Bill Koerner (Trails and Open Space Coalition)

- A State Initiative is underway to identify 16 trail gaps to be closed. Comments can be submitted on your favorite trail gap in the Colorado Springs region by completing a form by October 10th. Send an email to Bill Koerner at Bill@trailsandopenspaces.org and he will provide the website link.

Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2015

Motion-Charles Castle/Scot Hume, Approved – Unanimous

Ceremonial Items

- **Springs in Bloom Presentation and Judges Recognition** (presented by Donna Sanchez – [see presentation below](#))
 - Flower Bed Competition Winners: Friends of Stacy & Gary and Gail, Colorado Springs School District 11, DRU Yoga Dynamic, Real & Unlimited.
 - Charles Castle inquired about the response to the request of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department to seek an administrative fee from the Adopter Groups to help fund the program. Donna Sanchez stated the response was “A resounding, No”.
- **Popcycle Bridge Project Recognition – Nikki McComsey, Kids on Bikes** (presented by Chris Lieber)
 - Award presented to Nikki McComsey, Executive Director of Kids on Bikes for outstanding leadership and collaboration for the Popcycle Bridge Project.
- **Red Rock Canyon Donation – Lori Cohen Fund** (presented by Chris Lieber)
 - Recognition of Lori Cohen who was an Open Space champion with a deep appreciation for the Park system and spontaneously generous with a focus and passion to make a positive impact in the community. Lori requested the installation of a bench in Red Rock Canyon and through her estate gifted \$25,000 as a special endowment for Red Rock Canyon O.S. with the intention of being a catalyst for more gifts in the future to create long term sustainability for open spaces.

Action Items

1. **Watkins Property Acquisition** (presented by Chris Lieber – [see presentation below](#))
Proposed Motion: Move approval of the acquisition of the 200-acre Property as an extension of Cheyenne Mountain State Park in the amount of \$980,000 from the TOPS Open Space Category.
Motion-Charles Castle/Jason Rupinski, Approved – Unanimous

2. **Ute Valley Park Mountain Bike Trails Resolution of Support, Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program Grant Request** (presented by Jeff Webb – [see presentation below](#))
Proposed Motion: Request for support of a grant application by Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates to Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program for improvement and construction of trails at Ute Valley Park.

Motion – Alex Johnson/Charles Castle, Approved - Unanimous

Presentation Items

3. **Pickleball Tournament Review** (presented by Steve and Ramona Boone-USAPA Great Plains Regional Directors - [see presentations below](#))

- 4. Deerfield Hills Community Center Addition/Alterations Project** (Presented by Jody Derington and Doug Hahn, LKA Partners – [see presentation below](#))
- The first week of November final documents will be completed and contracting bids will be received before Thanksgiving. The contracting process will be completed before Christmas and the 1st Phase projected completion date is prior to Memorial Day 2016.
 - Kim King stated \$400,000 is from a Community Development Block Grant and \$200,000 has been tentatively approved to be used from the City's Facility Committee. We are currently looking at allocating \$100,000 from our 2015 Parks budget. This provides a total of \$700,000 for 2015. However, the \$700,000 for 2016 has not been approved within the Capital Improvement Project Program budget.

Staff Reports

- 5. South and North Slope Update** (presented by Jon Carlson - [see presentation below](#))

- 6. Budget Update** (presented by Kelly Rajab)

- 2016 Budget Calendar and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services 2016 City of Colorado Springs Annual Budget was distributed.
- Important Dates: October 19-20, 2015 City Council Budget Work Session; October 20, 2015 Formal Public Hearing; October 29, 2015 City Council Budget Markup Session.
- The City's budget is focused on repairing streets and supporting stormwater projects.
- Board members requested more budget detail to be emailed to them. Kelly Rajab via Christi Mehew will provide this information.

- 7. Summer Special Event Review/LART Funding** (presented by Carly Kobasiar – [see presentation below](#))

- 8. Request for Proposals Review** (presented by Kim King)

- RFP's are going out to bid on Deer Field Hills Community Center, Hillside Community Center and the City Auditorium restrooms.
- Additional RFP's under consideration are the cemetery enterprise for marketing services, an increase of activities at Prospect and Quail lake and additional recreational sports programs that are not currently offered through our existing programs.
- Acacia Park Ice Rink will run from November 13, 2015 – January 18, 2016. The rink will be eight feet wider and we are considering having more special events during this timeframe to coincide with the rink activities.
- The 2016 Calendar Reveal Award Celebration is at the end of the month.
- City Auditorium and Sertich Ice Center Manager, John Carricato, is retiring on October 23rd.
- Jeff Webb has resigned and his last day is Wednesday, October 14th.

Board Business

- 9. Committee Reports/General Comments**

Kurt Schroeder - UCCS approached Parks for a potential site for their baseball team for 2016. There is a potential for severe weather this winter and possibly an El Nino season per the National Weather Service.

Jackie Hilaire – Inquired about the status of the 3rd liaison to the TOPS Working Committee. Chris Lieber stated Jason Rupinski is the person recommended by the Board and contact has been made with City Council staff on the next step.

Chris Lieber - TOPS Working Committee has an opening due to Leslie Thomas's departure. The committee has two alternates and a recommendation will be presented to the board next month. Alex Johnson volunteered to participate in the Larry Ochs Master Plan meetings.

Scot Hume – He will need to step down in his participation in the Shooks Run meetings. The next meeting is October 29th and Gary Feffer volunteered to be a representative at the meetings.

Jackie Hilaire –She will be absent at the TOPS and Parks Board meetings in November due to travel. Gary Feffer will chair the November Parks Board meeting. Bill Murray, City Council member is in attendance at today's meeting.

Gary Feffer – Stratton O.S. first community meeting is on Tuesday, October 20th from 6-8pm at Cheyenne Mountain Junior High School.

Charles Castle – The last City Auditorium meeting was in March. Envision Shooks Run public workshop will be held on October 29th at 5:30 pm at Palmer High School Gymnasium. The Parks Department is in need of public funding. Bill Murray, City Council member, suggested the Board should bring proposals to Council for ballot consideration. A resolution needs to be built now if results are needed in 2016.

Alex Johnson –Expressed concern about the poor condition of Cheyenne Canon. Kurt Schroeder stated it was due to the Tussock Moth and explained the process of possibly spraying come Spring 2016. Christi Mehew will provide Alex a copy of the presentation made by Forestry regarding this issue.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn – Jackie Hilaire

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.



Flower Bed Adoption Program

March - October 2015

Program Overview

- ✧ Nov 2003 - City Council eliminated flower bed program (\$120,000) as a cost-saving measure
- ✧ Apr 2004 - Springs In Bloom campaign kicked off
- ✧ June – October 2004 - 95% adoption rate (98 out of 105 flower beds)

Program Overview

✧ 2004 through 2009

City Council provided partial funding for flower bed program (\$60,000) to grow plants and administer program

✧ 2010

The program was eliminated as a cost-saving measure

✧ 2011 & 2012

City Council approved funding to purchase the flowers

✧ 2013- 2014

City Council approved funding to grow flowers in City Greenhouses

Program Elements

✿ Publicity

- ◆ Signage, prior adopters

✿ Information Packets

- ◆ Safety vests, policies

✿ Adoption Registration

- ◆ Web site, flower bed designs, flower pick-up schedule

✿ Training

- ◆ Planting guidelines, safety



Program Elements

✧ Signage

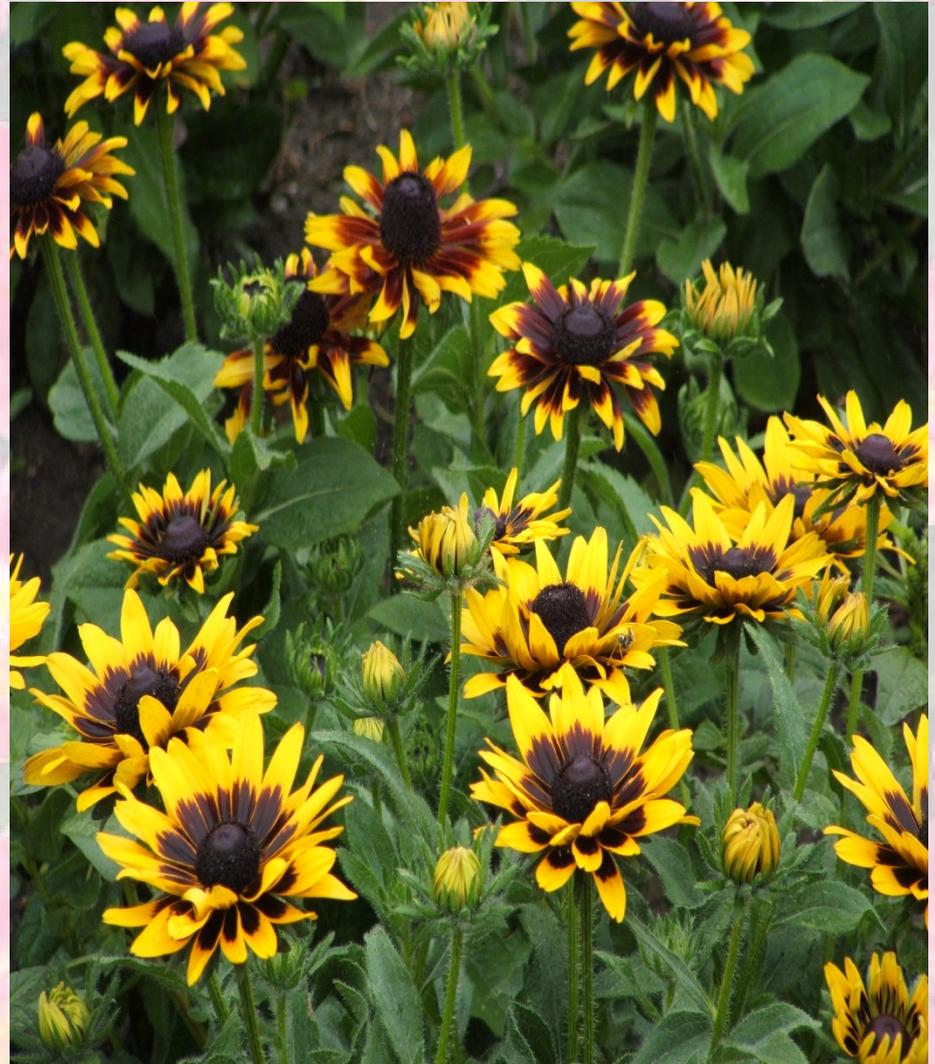
- ◆ In-house production

✧ Watering & Fertilizer

- ◆ Supplied through
Park and Rec

✧ Designs

- ◆ Provided by the
Horticulture staff



Flower Bed Competition

✧ **Competition**

- ◆ **Based on color, maintenance and overall appearance**
- ◆ **3 Categories:
Individual, Business, and Service Organization**
- ◆ **4 Celebrity judges –
Council Member Bill Murray & his wife Susan, Springs Garden
Club Members Elaine Reilly and Sara Gilstrap, Special guest
judge Vickie Gome.**
- ◆ **3 Golden Trowel Awards**

15 finalists were chosen-with one winner in each category



Golden Trowel Awards

- ❖ Adopter Groups attended year end celebration.
- ❖ Our Department Thanked them for their hard work, efforts, and support
- ❖ Presented Golden Trowel Awards



❧ Golden Trowel Award - Individual

◆ Friends of Stacy & Gary and Gail-

The Pioneers Museum
East



❧ Golden Trowel Award - Service Organization

◆ Colorado Springs School District 11-

Uintah and Wahsatch
South



❁ Golden Trowel Award - Business

◆ DRU Yoga Dynamic, Real & Unlimited—

Thorndale Park



11th Annual Celebration



Survey Results Summary

✧ Survey sent to adopter groups

- ◆ **29 responses as of (10/2/15)**
- ◆ **Feedback from participants regarding experience, ideas for improvement, willingness to participate next year**



Survey Results Summary

◆ **Average # of Volunteers =
4 per group
(4 vol in 2014)**

◆ **Average # of Hours =
18 per group
(20 hours in 2014)**



Planning for 2015

✧ Current adoption status

- ◆ **43 adopter groups have already committed to adopting a flower bed in 2016.**
- ◆ **Flower bed designs are in in progress.**
- ◆
- ◆ **The plants will be grown in our City Greenhouses.**
- ◆ **Open adoption begins November 2015**



Adopter Comments

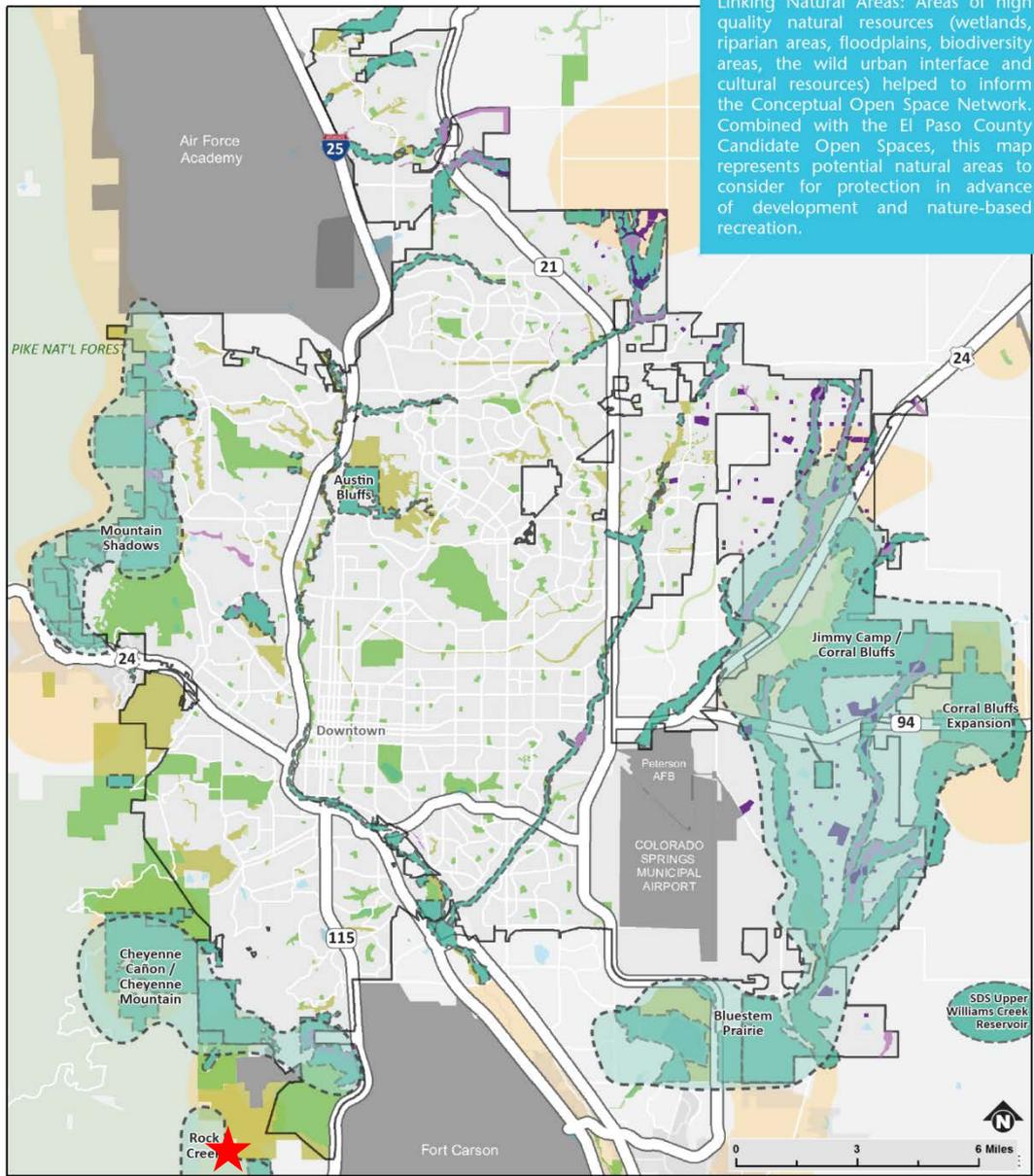
- We had a great experience.
- The plants were fabulous this year.
- The weeds were overwhelming.
- Fun volunteer project, thank you for the opportunity.
- We like the plants, very nice.
- Thank you for all that is done to make Colorado Springs such a colorful place to live.
- The traffic is dangerous.
- Enjoyed being a part of the program, thanks.
- We look forward to next year.

Watkins Property Open Space Acquisition

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
October 8, 2015

Map 27: Open Space Candidate Areas

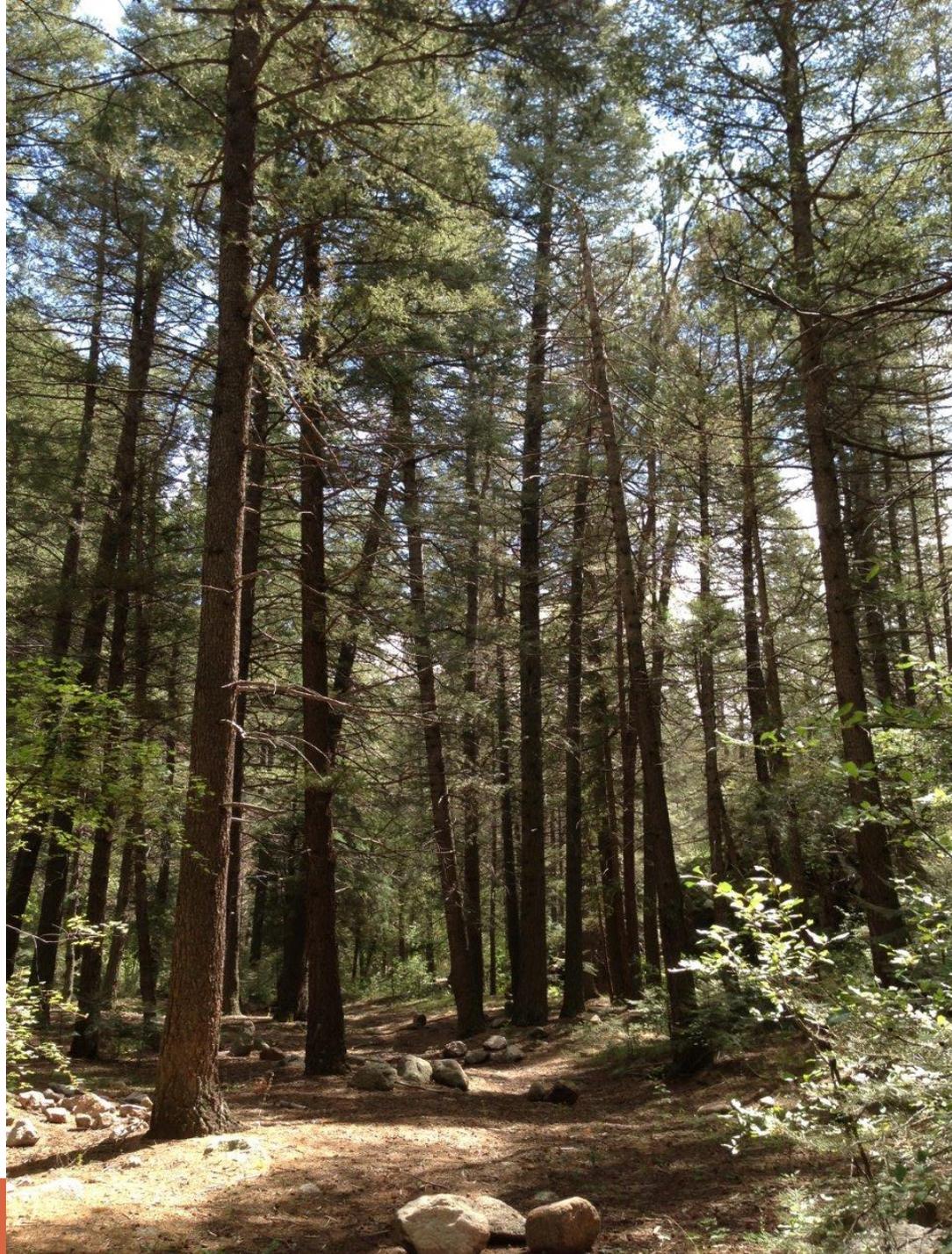
Linking Natural Areas: Areas of high quality natural resources (wetlands, riparian areas, floodplains, biodiversity areas, the wild urban interface and cultural resources) helped to inform the Conceptual Open Space Network. Combined with the El Paso County Candidate Open Spaces, this map represents potential natural areas to consider for protection in advance of development and nature-based recreation.

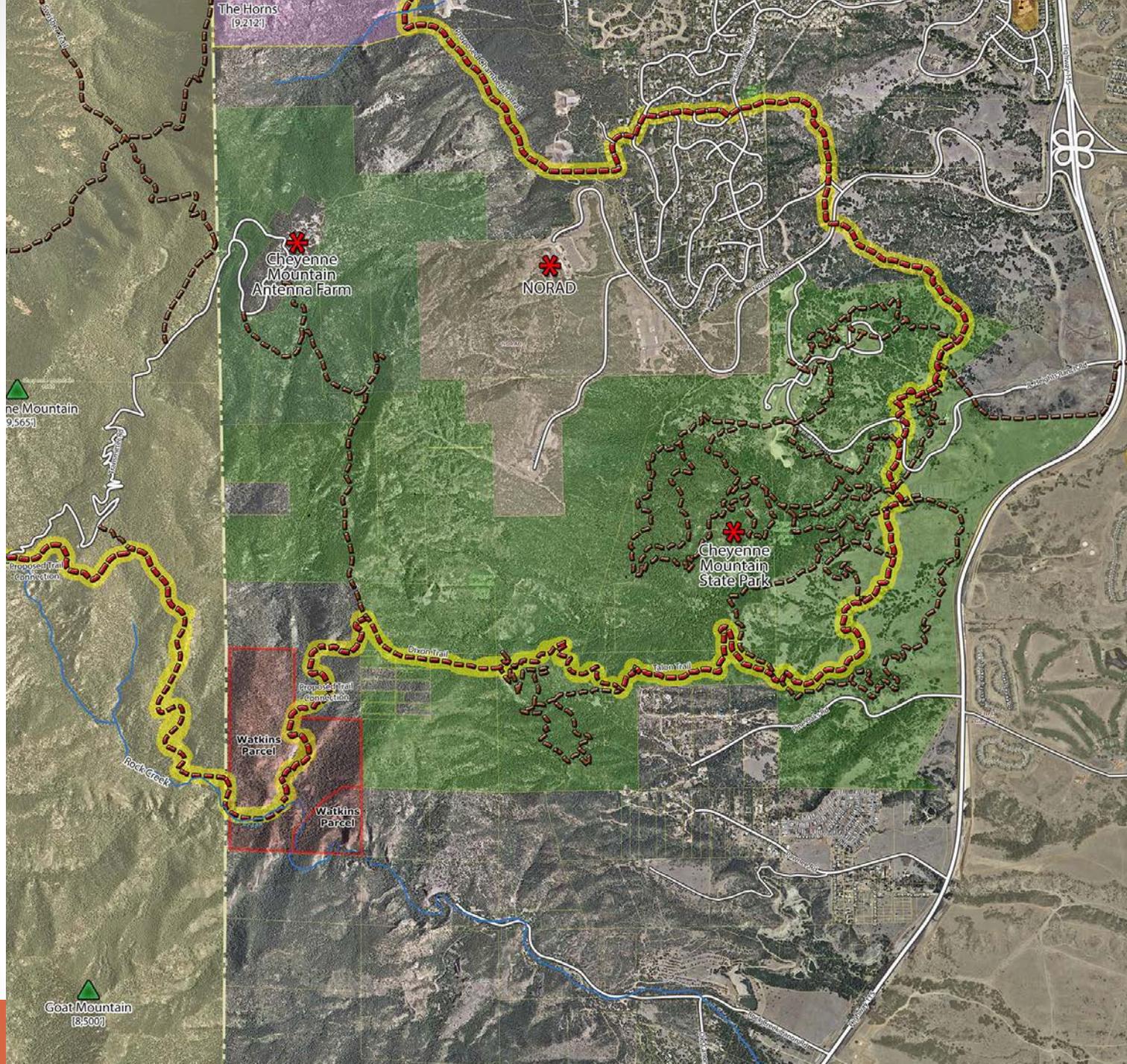


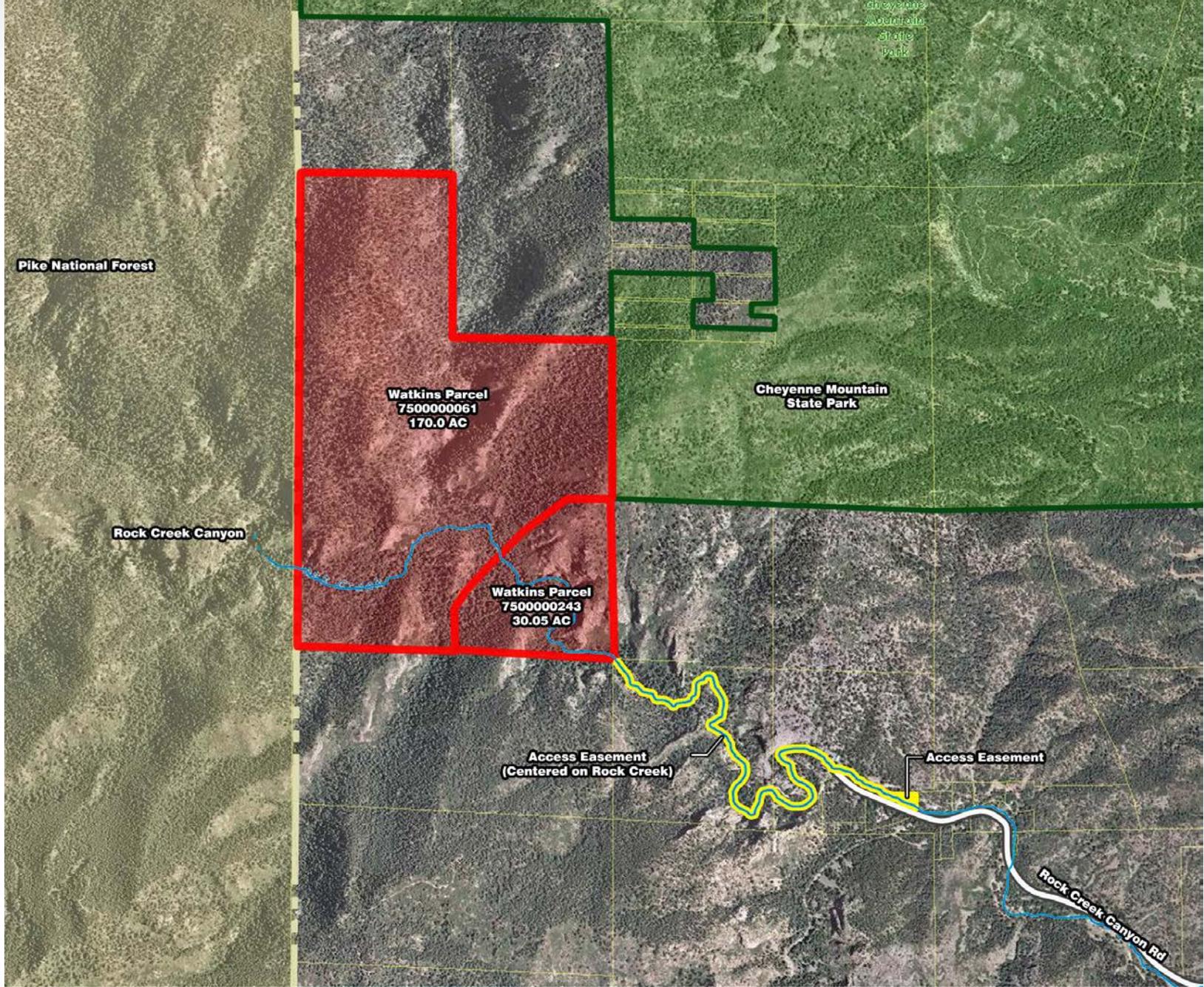
- Candidate Open Space Area
- El Paso County Candidate Open Space
- Conceptual Open Space Network
- Master Planned Future Park
- Master Planned Future Open Space
- Pike National Forest
- Park Lands (City and Special District)
- Open Space/Special Resource Area/Greenway
- Undeveloped Park Land (City and Special District)
- City Limits











Project Summary

Ownership: Joan Watkins

Parcel size: 200 acres

Transaction: Fee Simple Acquisition

Special Considerations:

- Identified for Potential Conservation in Park System Master Plan
- Potential Trail Corridor identified in Park System Master Plan
- TOPS Working Committee has toured the property - recommends acquisition

Terms:

Purchase Price: \$980,000 or \$4,900 per acre

Access:

- Public access to the Property will be via Cheyenne Mountain State Park
- Maintenance and Management access will be via the existing Rock Creek easement
- Seller will convey an easement maintenance and management purposes on an adjacent property

Operations and Management:

- Colorado State Parks will manage and maintain the property in accordance with the TOPS Ordinance.

TOPS Fund Balance

TOPS Expenditures, Appropriations and Proposed Projects				
Category	2015 Approp. + rollover with 2016 Est. Revenue and Proposed Expenditures	Appropriations + Expenditures	By Percentage	
I. Administrative - Max. of 3%	\$503,991	\$3,253,199	2.67%	
II. Maintenance - Max. of 6%	\$873,900	\$6,129,225	5.04%	
Balance after Admin & Mtce	\$112,291,449	% of Balance		
III. Trails	\$8,305,286	\$22,145,555	19.69%	
Maximum 20% of balance	Available Balance	\$312,735		
IV. Parks	\$5,864,701	\$22,069,684	19.62%	
Maximum 20% of balance	Available Balance	\$388,606		
V. Open Space	\$8,033,521	\$60,927,437	54.16%	
Minimum 60% of balance	Available Balance	\$6,447,432		
Total	\$23,581,399	\$114,525,100	94.12%	
Total Available for Supplemental Appropriation in 2016			\$7,148,773	

Questions?

Ute Valley Park

Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates Grant Application

Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program



Parks Board Presentation | October 8, 2015

Ute Valley Park

Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates Grant Application

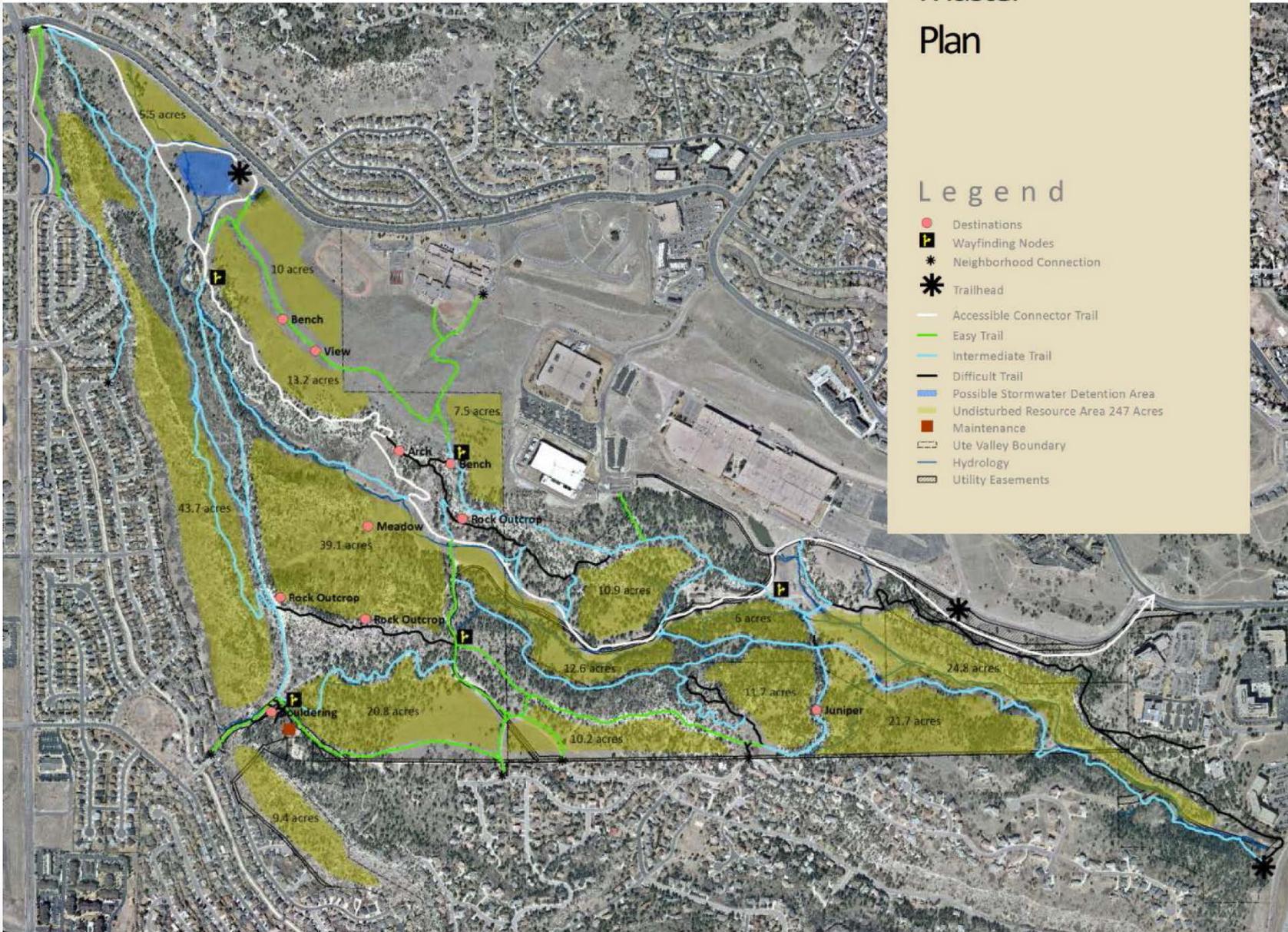
- **Grant Agency:** Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program
- **Project:** Ute Valley Park Downhill Trail and Open Space Enhancement Project
- **Lead Applicant:** Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates
- **Potential Grant Amount:** \$200,000 (\$140,000 award, \$60,000 match)
- **Scope:** Downhill mountain bike trail construction, social trail closure, environmental stewardship, trail repair and new trail construction

Ute Valley Park Master Plan

Master Plan

Legend

- Destinations
- P Wayfinding Nodes
- ✱ Neighborhood Connection
- ✱ Trailhead
- Accessible Connector Trail
- Easy Trail
- Intermediate Trail
- Difficult Trail
- Possible Stormwater Detention Area
- Undisturbed Resource Area 247 Acres
- Maintenance
- Ute Valley Boundary
- Hydrology
- Utility Easements



Ute Valley Park

Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates Grant Application



Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates: 17 years of trail maintenance, new trail design & construction, mountain bike advocacy, education, and community outreach



Inaugural USAPA Great Plains Regional Pickleball Tournament

Steve and Ramona Boone

USAPA Great Plains Regional Directors

The Mayor Plays Pickleball!



Inaugural USAPA Great Plains Regional (GPR) 10-13 Sep 2015

We selected Colorado Springs in 2014

- PPPA experienced staff
 - Five major tournaments
 - Pikes Peak or Bust/State Games
 - Beautiful setting at MVP, 13 courts
- 249 Players from 18 states/Canada/Mexico
- 4 days/422 matches
- Singles added for the first time
- 3480 Volunteer hours = \$78,000



LART

2015 LART approved \$31,920 for Great Plains Regional (GPR) Tournament

-\$5360 GPR

-\$26,560 repair/fencing

Additional GPR/repair/fencing from tournament proceeds: \$6877.42

Economic Benefit to COS and Neighbors

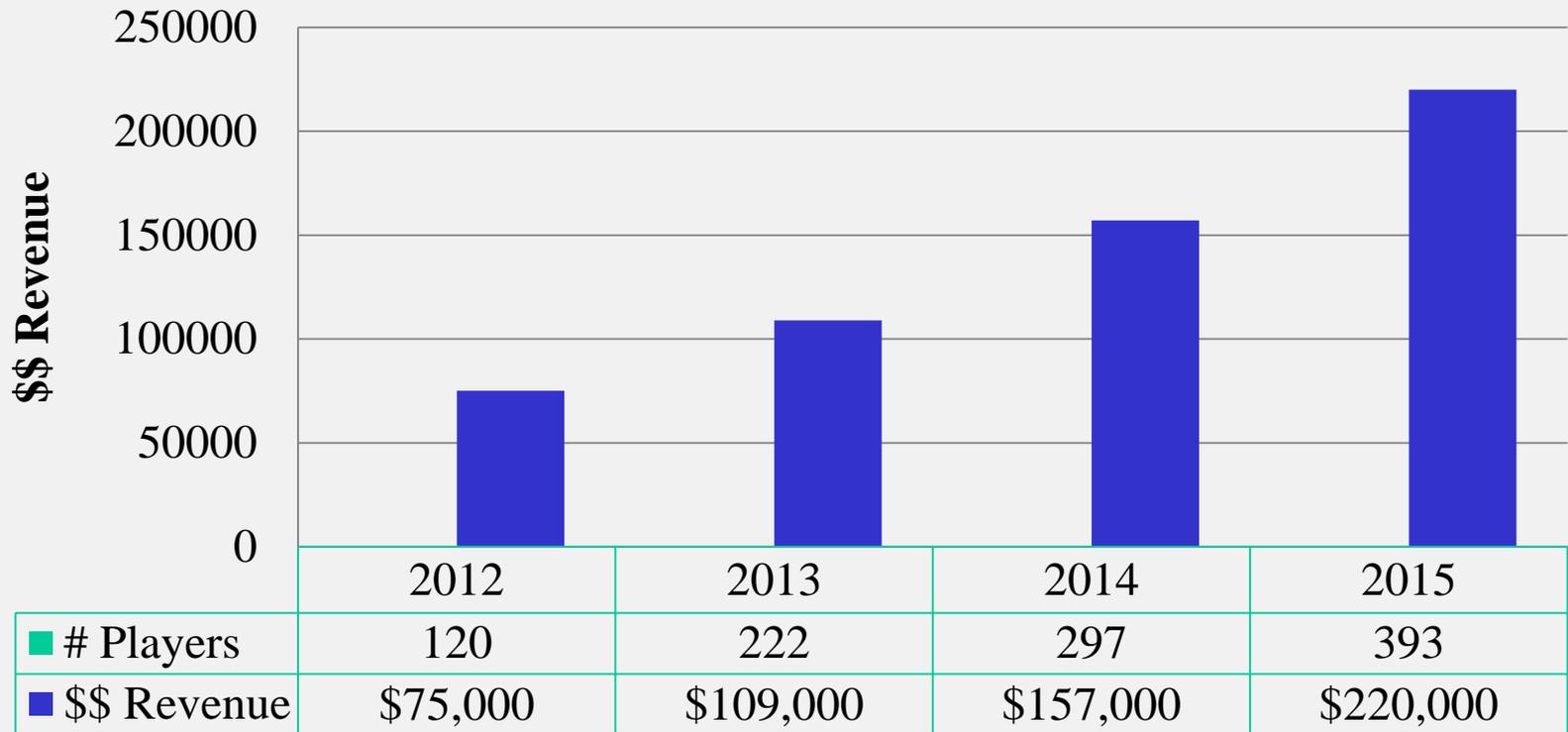
- Pickleball Tournaments attract out of town players
- 2012-2014: \$341K “heads & beds” revenue per CoS VB formula
- 2015: \$208K – almost double growth in fourth year
- Year round, visitors often extend stay to play and visit local attractions
- Center of Excellence

2015 Great Plains Regional Economic Benefit Results

- 249 Registered Players (86% Visiting Player Survey Response Rate) +30%
 - 188 Out-of-towners (61 Locals)
 - + 150 Friends/Family
 - 338 Visitors from Outside CoS
 - 274 Overnighters from Outside CoS + 64 CO Day Visitors +27%
 - 5.5 Night Average Stay / person 20%
 - \$126 / Night / Person Economic Benefit
 - TOTAL Economic Benefit ~ \$208,000 +48%

Economic Benefit RMSG & GPR

Players/\$\$ Revenue



Future Courts Upgrade

- 13 courts at MVP are resurfaced asphalt
 - Originally built in 1923
 - Freeze/thaw cycle causes yearly maintenance \$\$
 - Over \$95K 2012-2015
 - PPPA volunteers repaired for 2015 State Games
- Permanent solution – post tension concrete
 - Est cost is \$350K/15 courts
 - More tournaments = more players = more \$\$
 - PPPA \$50K, Parks and Rec budgeted \$100K, 2016 LART request \$25K = \$175K
 - *Working on grant submissions*

National State Games
Omaha, NE
Aug, 2015

Colorado Springs
players dominated!



Team Effort!

- **Parks and Recreation**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**
- **LART**
- **PPPA**
- **Volunteers**



Colorado Springs Parks Board



Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations



10.08.15









15-003 SPC 1 06-24-15

DEERFIELD HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER ADDITION / ALTERATIONS

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

BUILDING SPACES CHART PRELIMINARY DRAFT

PREPARED BY IKA PARTNERS, INC.

DATE: 7/8/2015

SPACE CATEGORY ROOM NAME	EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTER				NEW COMMUNITY CENTER PRE DESIGN PHASE			
	NO. SIMILAR ROOMS	AREA EACH RM	TOTAL AREA (SQ. FT.)	TOTAL OCCUPANTS	NO. SIMILAR ROOMS	AREA EACH RM	TOTAL AREA (SQ. FT.)	TOTAL OCCUPANTS
COMMON/CORE								
COMMUNITY RM / PRESCHOOL 117	1	1365	1365		1	867	867	24
COMMUNITY ROOM 109	1	1170	1170		1	697	697	
ENTRY / HALL 100/101	1	152	152		1	0	0	
RECEPTION 105	1	72	72		1	259	259	15
OFFICE 106	1	102	102		1	99	99	
OFFICE 107	1	64	64		1	134	134	
OFFICE 110	1	59	59		1	103	103	
KITCHEN 115	1	92	92		1	231	231	
HEALTHCLINIC OFFICE					1	272	272	4
OFFICE					1	110	110	
STAFF LOCKERS					1	0	0	
TEEN ROOM W/ COMPUTER STATIONS					1	810	810	30
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM					1	1492	1492	75
LOUNGE/MEETING SPACE	Included in Community Room 109				1	716	716	Room 109 - 50
COMPUTER ROOM					1	108	108	6
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM (FUTURE)					1	3200	3200	225 and 150
RESTROOMS/LOCKERS (FUTURE)					2	250	500	
COMMON / CORE TOTAL			3076				8882	
SUPPORT AREAS								
MENS TOILET 104	1	146	146		1	137	137	
WOMENTS TOILET 103	1	148	148		1	139	139	
KITCHEN STORAGE 116	1	33	33		1	72	72	
CUSTODIAN STORAGE 122	1	46	46		1	107	107	
TOILET 124	1	23	23		1	51	51	preschool
TOILET 123	1	23	23		1	51	51	preschool
MEN CHANGING ROOM 114	1	45	45		1	129	129	
WOMEN CHANGING ROOM 113	1	45	45		1	131	131	
POOL EQUIPMENT 112	1	55	55		1	56	56	
CLOSET 101A	1	15	15			0	0	GEN. STOR.
CUSTODIAN 122A	1	28	28		1	0	0	Included in cust
MECHANICAL 118	1	108	108		1	108	108	
STORAGE 108	1	81	81			0	0	GEN. STOR.
BUILDING STORAGE 119	1	54	54		1	0	0	GEN. STOR.
BUILDING STORAGE 120	1	23	23		1	0	0	GEN. STOR.
CHAIR STORAGE 117A	1	9	9		1	0	0	GEN. STOR.
CHAIR STORAGE 117B	1	17	17		1	0	0	GEN. STOR.
CHAIR STORAGE 117C	1	17	17		1	0	0	GEN. STOR.
PRESCHOOL STORAGE 121	1	176	176		1	98	98	
TOILET					1	54	54	AFTER SCHOOL
TOILET					1	54	54	AFTER SCHOOL
TEEN STORAGE					1	114	114	TEEN ROOM
TEEN STORAGE					1	32	32	TEEN ROOM
AFTER SCHOOL STORAGE					1	117	117	AFTER SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL STORAGE					1	51	51	AFTER SCHOOL
SPLASH PARK STORAGE					1	30	30	SPLASH PARK
GENERAL STORAGE					1	0	0	
SUPPORT AREAS TOTAL			1082				1531	

SUMMARY:	EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTER	TOTAL OCCUPANTS	NEW COMMUNITY CENTER PRE DESIGN PHASE	TOTAL OCCUPANTS
BUILDING TOTALS				
TOTAL ASSIGNABLE AREA	4168		10413	*
NON-ASSIGNABLE SUPPORT SPACE (HALLWAYS, WALLS, MECH., ELEC.)	12.8% 610		20.0% 2083	
TOTAL GROSS AREA			12496	
EXISTING BUILDING AREA	4778			
PROPOSED PHASE 1 BUILDING AREA			6778	**
DIFFERENCE: TOTAL GROSS AREA - PHASE 1			5718	

* TOTAL ASSIGNABLE PROGRAMMED AREA

** TOTAL PROPOSED PHASE 1 AREA WITH CONSTRUCTION OF 2,000 SF ADDITION (BASED ON INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BUDGET)



City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Addition / Alterations

Relationship Diagrams

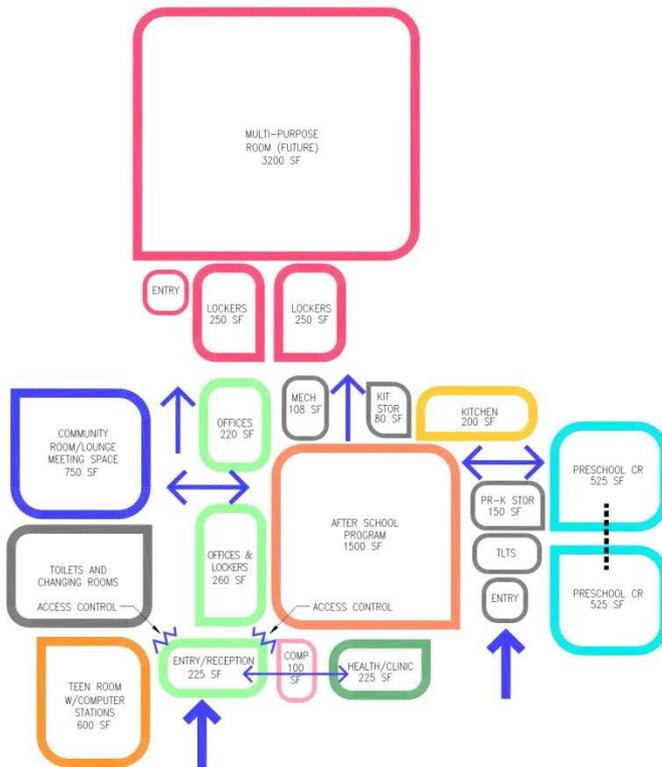
June 2015

L K A PARTNERS
INCORPORATED

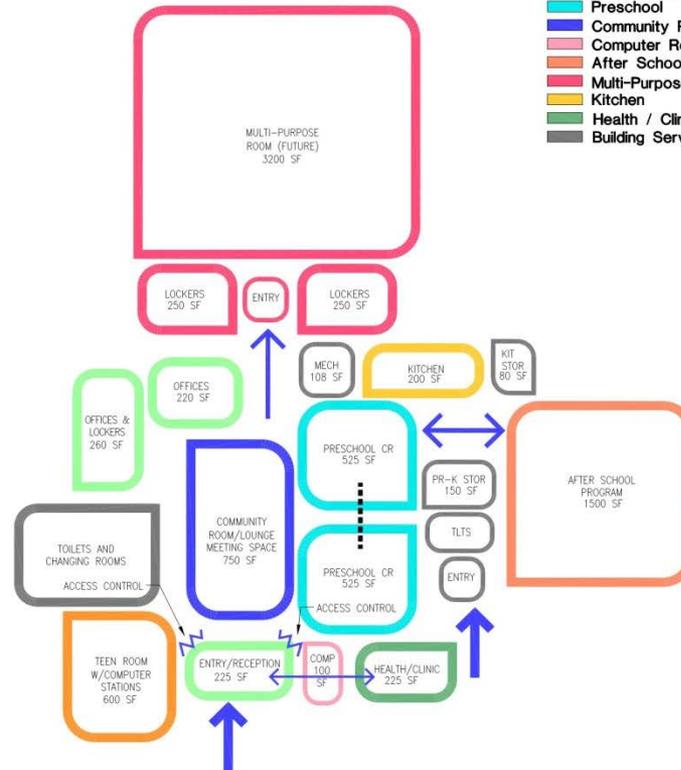


Legend

- Direct Link Between Spaces
- Administration
- Teen Room w/Computers
- Preschool
- Community Room
- Computer Room
- After School Program
- Multi-Purpose Rom (Future)
- Kitchen
- Health / Clinic
- Building Service



Relationship Diagram No. A



Relationship Diagram No. B

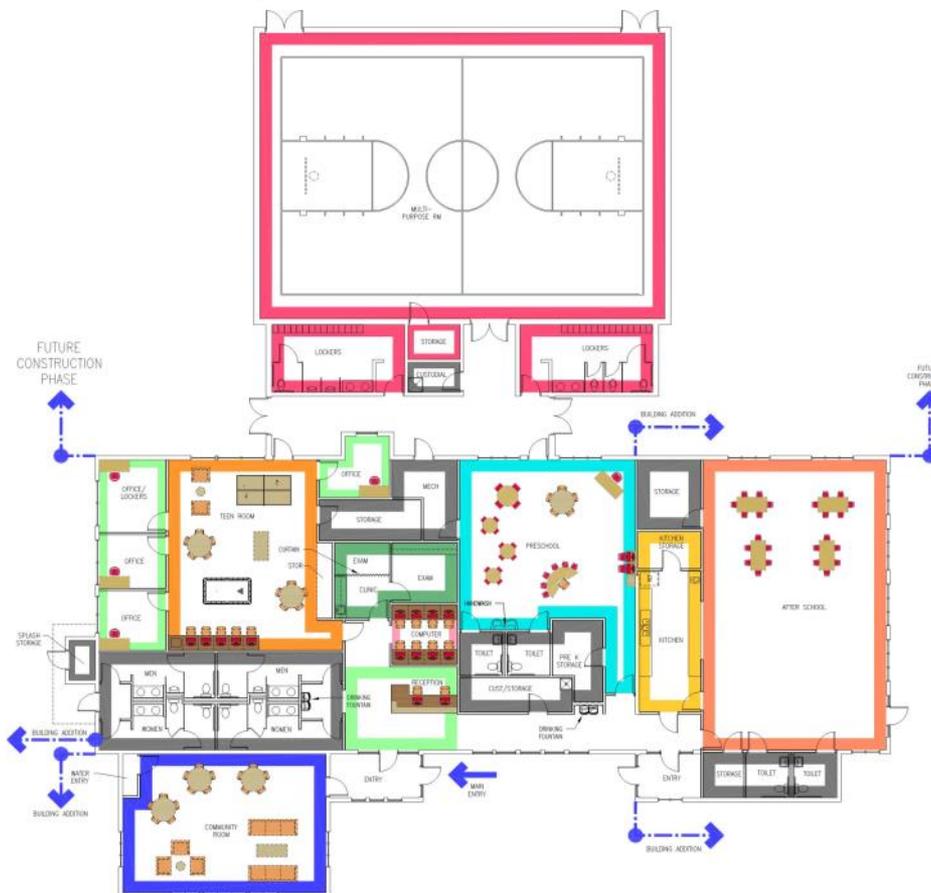


City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations

Schematic Plan

July 2015



Legend

- Administration
- Teen Room w/Computers
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Schematic Floor Plan



City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations

Schematic Plan

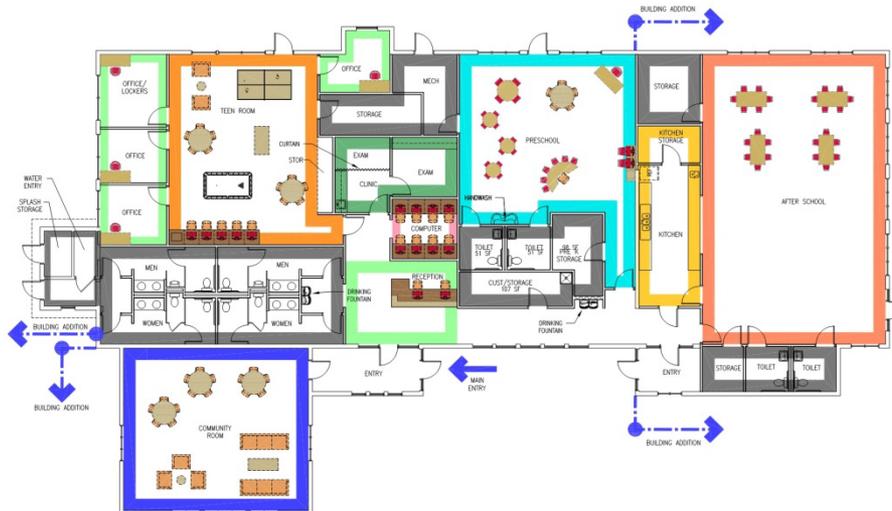
September 2015

L K A PARTNERS
INCORPORATED



Legend

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Schematic Floor Plan



City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations

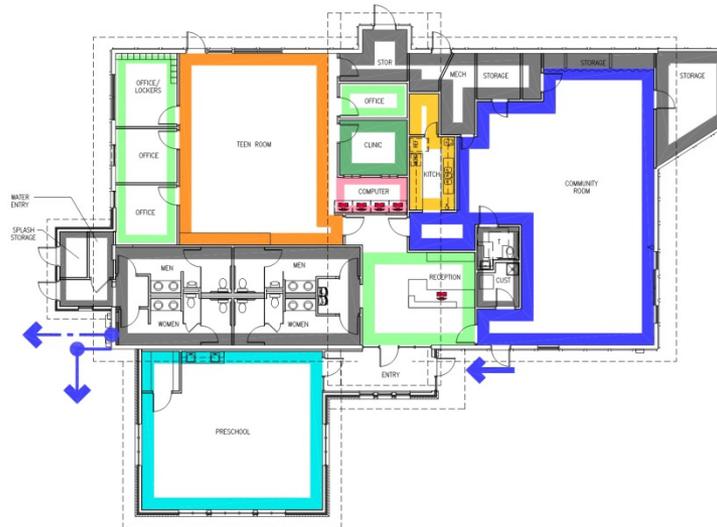
Schematic Plan
July 2015

L K A PARTNERS
INCORPORATED



Legend

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Schematic Floor Plan

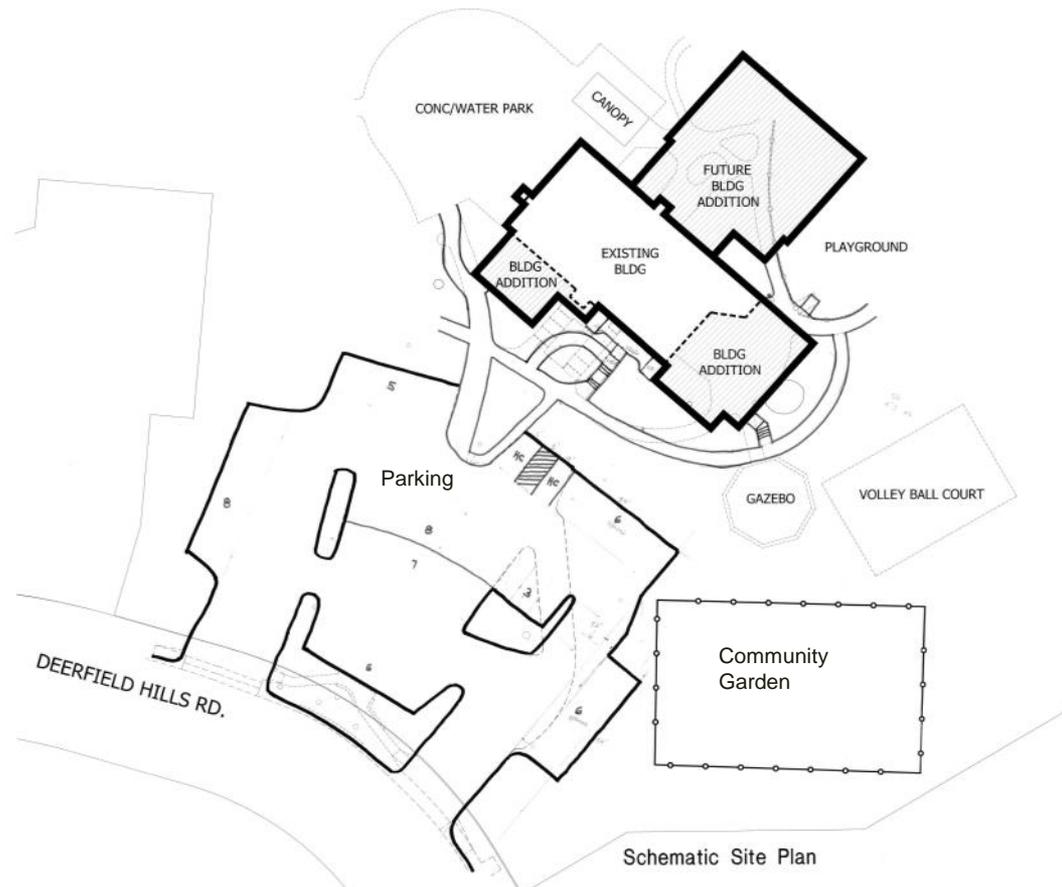
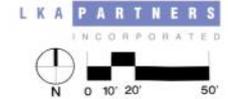


City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations

Schematic Site Plan

July 2015



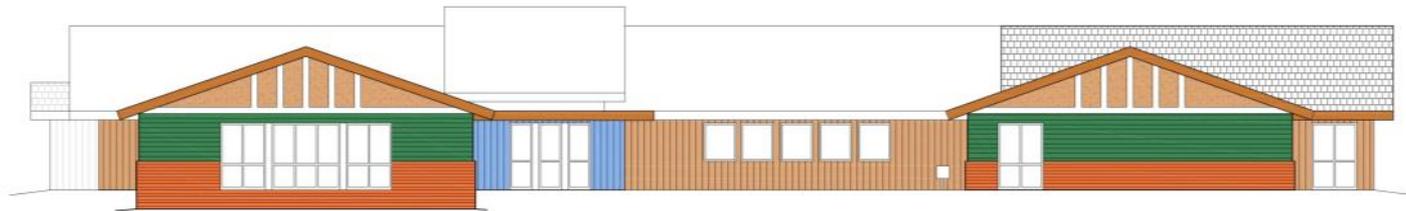
Schematic Site Plan



City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Deerfield Hills Community Center Additions / Alterations

Building Elevations
July 2015



South Elevation



East Elevation

NORTH SLOPE RECREATION AREA



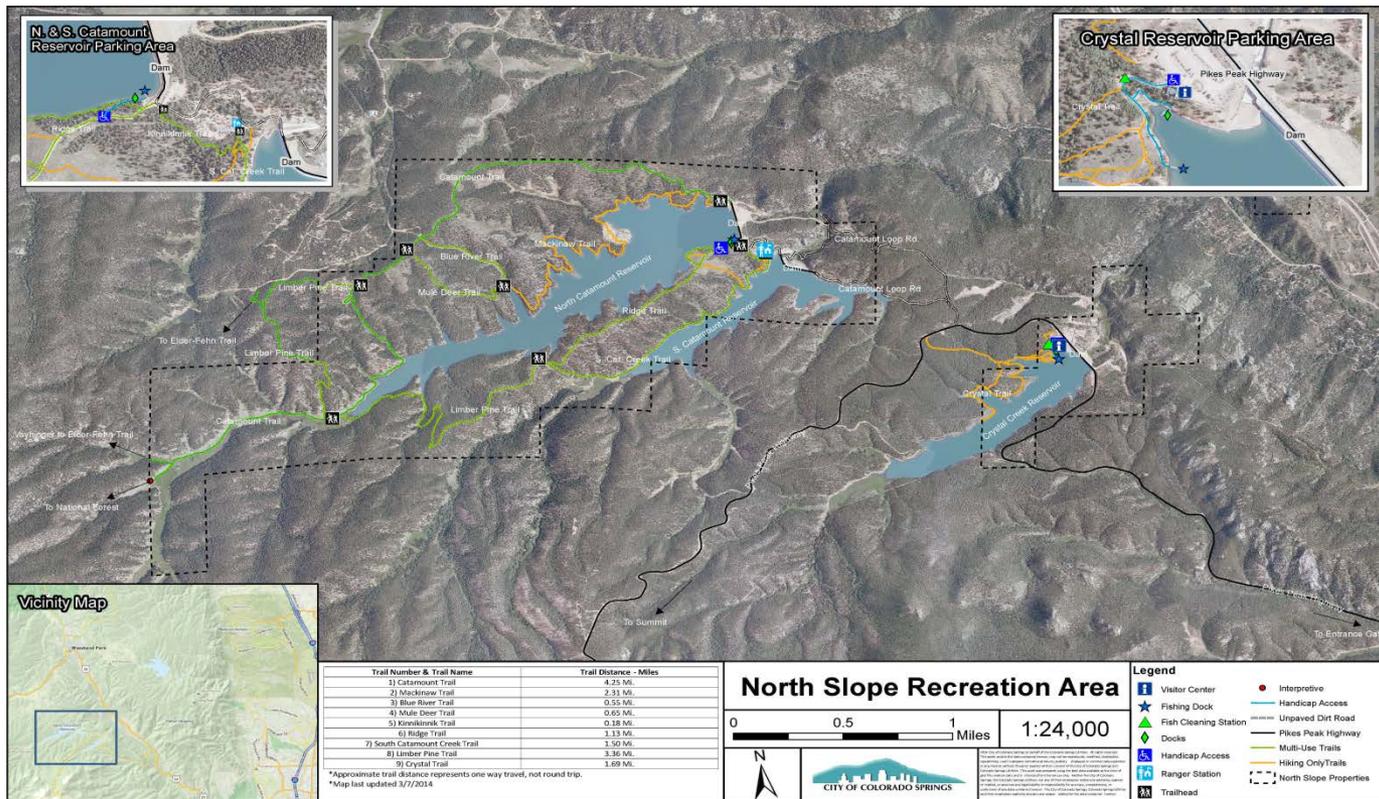


North Slope Recreation Area is managed by the City of Colorado Springs in cooperation with Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the U. S. Forest Service.

The reservoirs serve as a water supply for Colorado Springs and surrounding municipalities. The recreation area opened for its first season in July of 1992.

The recreation area consists of 2,267 acres of forested land with three reservoirs: North Catamount, South Catamount and Crystal Creek. The area is located on the north slope of Pikes Peak and is accessed via the Pikes Peak Highway.

Visitors pay a reduced fee at the Toll Gate of \$4 per adult and under 16 are free. An annual 30 punch pass is \$100.





Opening day is May 1, if
the ice is off the
reservoirs!

The area closes for the
season the third Sunday
in October.





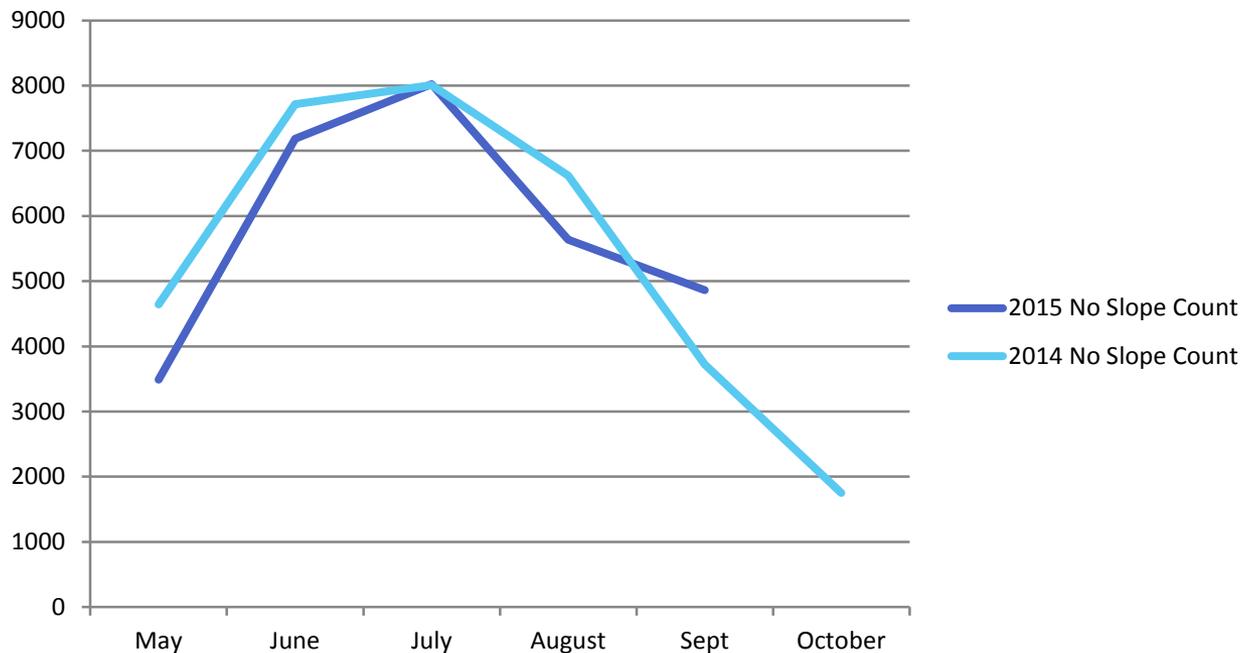
Recreational opportunities include fishing, canoeing, kayaking, mountain biking, picnicking, hiking and scenic enjoyment.

The three cold water reservoirs have an abundance of Brook, Brown, Cutbow, Cutthroat, Lake and Rainbow trout. There are accessible docks at Crystal Creek and North Catamount.



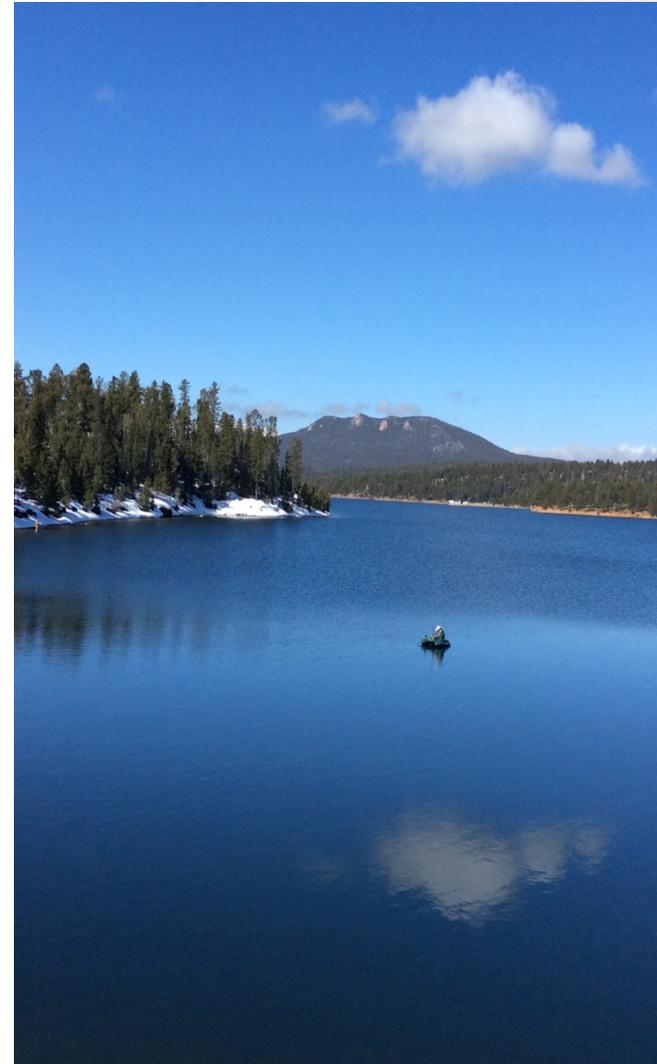
Annual Visits

2014 attendance set a record with over 32,000 visitors. This year, with 30,021 visitors through September 30th, 2015 is on pace to come near that number again.



Challenges

- When the area opened for public use in 1992, the only recreation activities planned for were hiking, picnicking and bank fishing.
- Since that time, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, float tube fishing, and mountain biking are allowed and have become increasingly popular.
- The trail system has expanded to 16 miles of trails, including a portion of the Ring the Peak Trail and connections to Forest Service and Teller County trails.





The increase in number of visitors puts added pressure on the resource, resulting in trail and shoreline erosion, social trails, and wear and tear on roads, parking lots and amenities.



A ranger is on duty to remind users of rules and provide information but rangers have no enforcement authority.

What's Ahead

Requests have also been made for opening the area for winter use



and for special events such as adventure races.

The last formal planning for North Slope took place nearly twenty-five years ago.





Consideration will be given to conducting a master plan process for the North Slope Recreation Area to ensure the protection of this resource and to continue to provide high quality recreation experiences for our residents and visitors.

South Slope Recreation Area

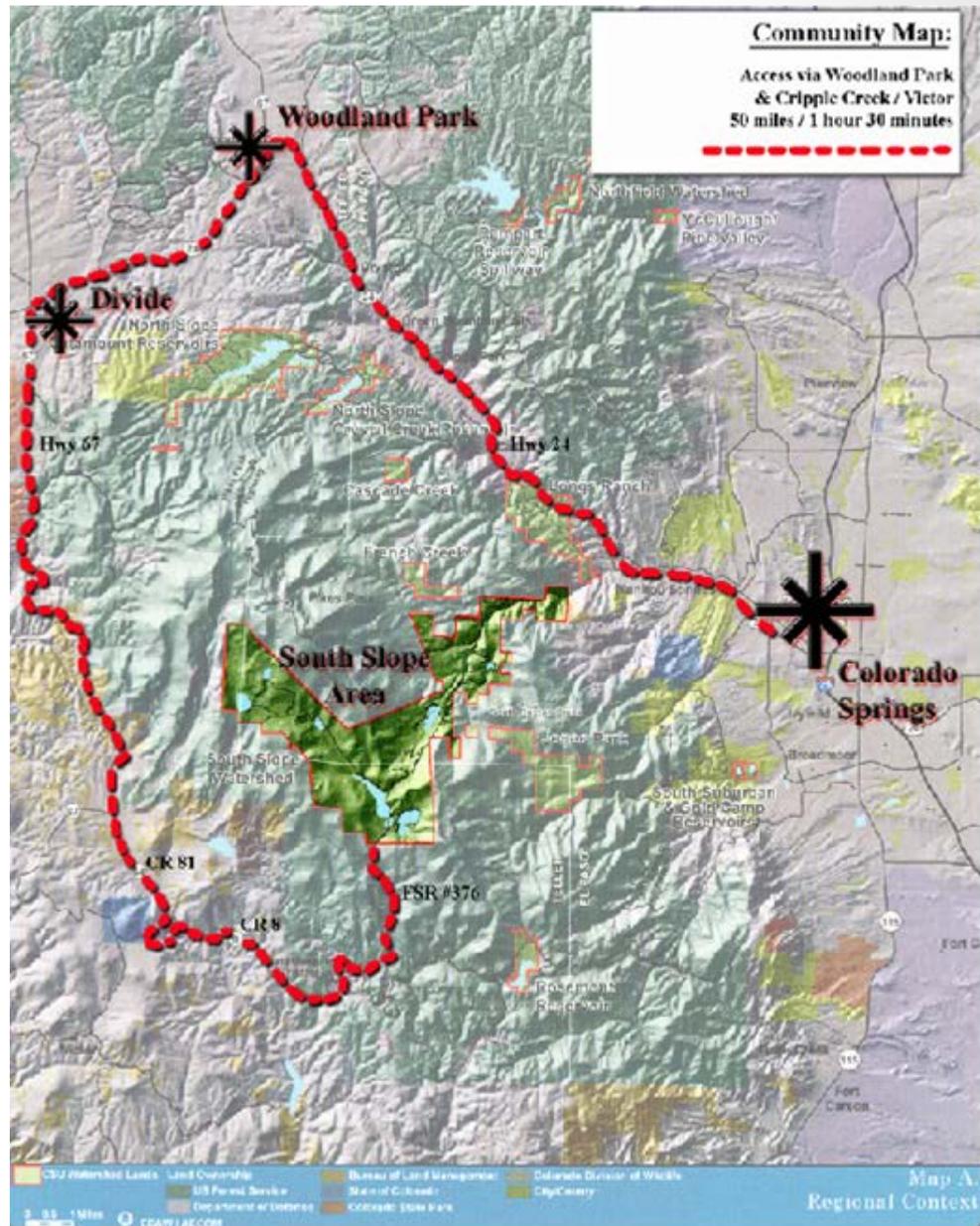


As with North Slope, South Slope is managed by the City of Colorado Springs in cooperation with Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the U. S. Forest Service. These reservoirs also serve as a water supply for Colorado Springs and surrounding municipalities.



South Slope Recreation Area is located on the south slope of Pikes Peak at elevations between 10,500' and 12,000'.

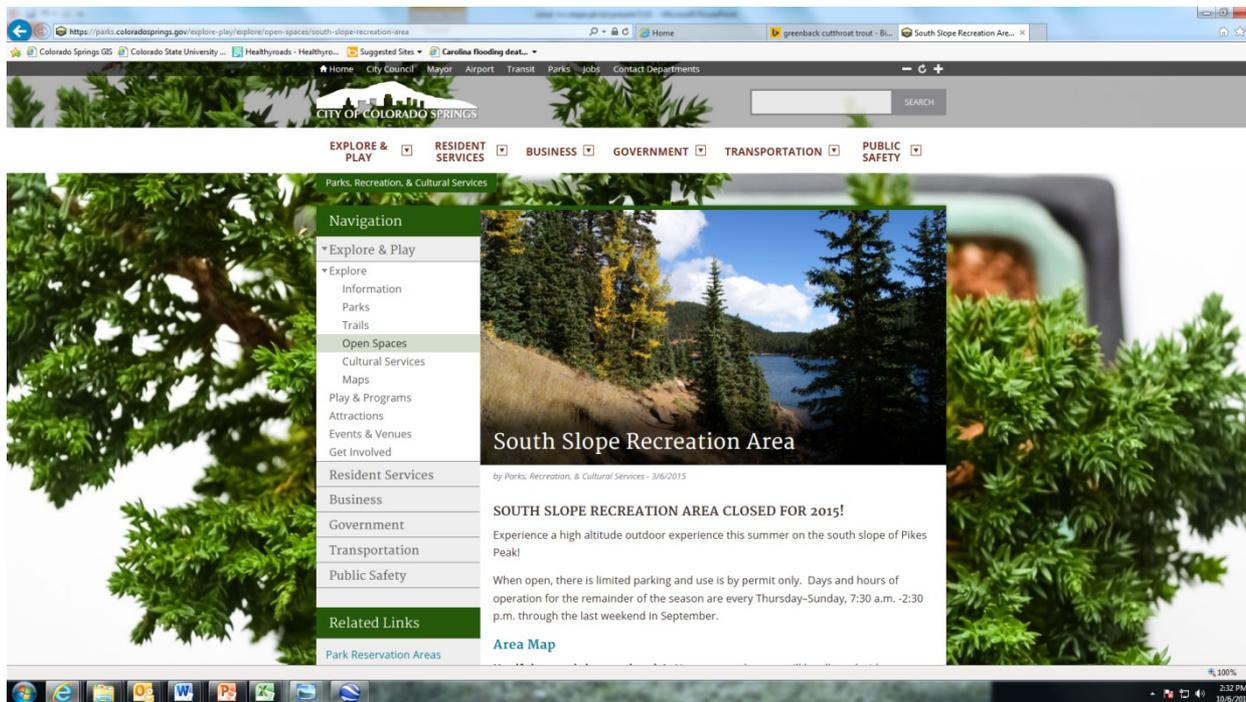
Driving to South Slope from Colorado Springs takes about 1 ½ hours.



South Slope recreation amenities include an 18 car parking lot, driveways, picnic shelter, restrooms, boat ramp, two multi-use trails and fishing on two of the area's reservoirs.

A permitting system is used to regulate the number of users and vehicles accessing the area.

The fee is \$15 per vehicle. A ranger is on duty to check permit holders in, patrol and provide information.



Construction of the amenities at South Slope Recreation Area were completed in the fall of 2014.

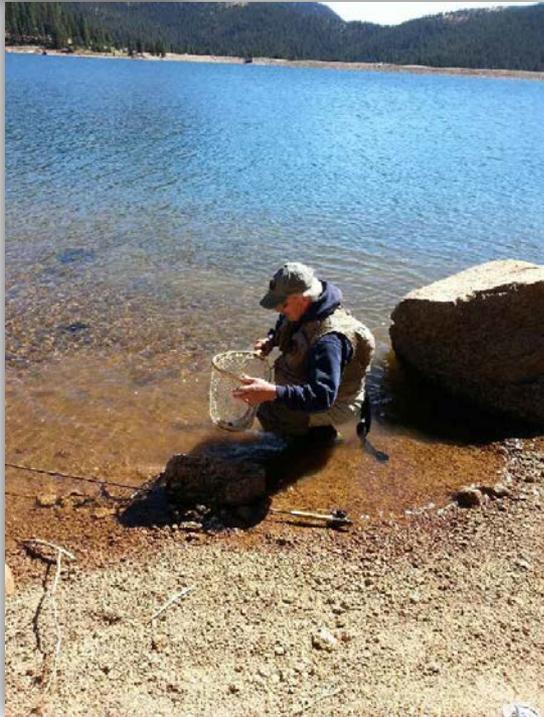


The area was then opened for two weekends in the fall of 2014.....





and South Slope's reputation for fantastic cutthroat trout fishing became established. Anglers raved about the fishing and couldn't wait for opening day of 2015.





We set the 2015 opening day for Memorial Day weekend, however, with the cold, snowy spring, the ice didn't break up on Mason reservoir until June 16th!



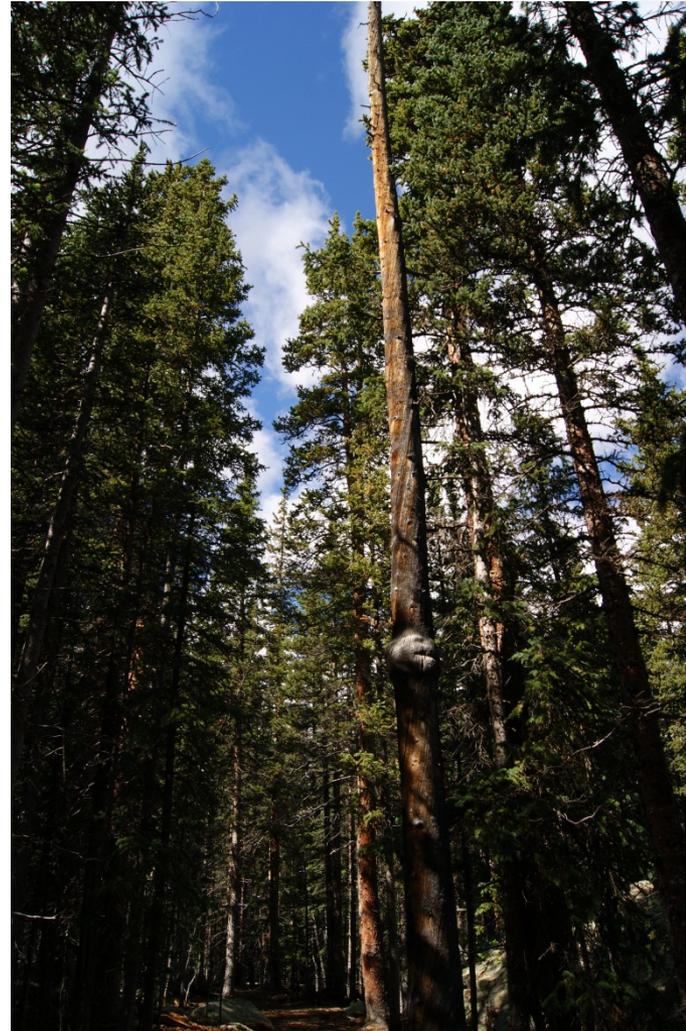
We finally were able to open on June 18th. Even then, there was limited hiking and biking due to snowdrifts covering the trails.

Anglers enjoyed great fishing throughout the season and many hikers and bikers used the 9.4 mile Mason Trail and the 2.4 mile McReynolds Trail.



2015 Statistics:

- Days open: 62
- Reservations: 1,170 (91%)
- Number of reservations unbooked: 110 (majority were Thursdays)
- Average of 3-4 people per vehicle .





Visitors occasionally were able to see wildlife.



The area closed for the season the last weekend in September and we look forward to the 2016 season.

Overall, a very good season for both North and South Slope Recreation areas. Our aim is to continue to provide affordable mountain recreation experiences within a short drive of Colorado Springs. Are there any questions?





parks · recreation · cultural services

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer 2015 Review

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

October 8, 2015

Accomplishments

- Hired two new full-time staff
 - Michelle Bies, Special Events Coordinator
 - Holly Miller, Sr. Office Specialist
- May-September
 - 2014 – 299 events
 - 2015 – 347 events
- Expecting 26% growth in total events for the year; 10% growth in Citywide events
- Internal Events
 - Venezia Park Groundbreaking
 - Mayoral Swearing- In
 - Muscoco Trail Head Dedication
 - First Tee Practice Course at Valley Hi Dedication
 - GoCo Grant Announcement – Legacy Loop
 - Larry Ochs Sports Complex Announcement – Field of Dreams
 - Employee Picnic
- Implemented new tiered pricing structure and created new policies for 2016 – POFA and Fee Reduction Policy
 - Expecting a 39% increase in revenue over 2014

Walk MS



Slide the City



Labor Day Lift-Off



Colorado Springs Half Marathon



LART

- Received 71 Applications for 2016 funding
- Recommended \$4,740,902 in funding for 64 programs/events
- New for 2016:
 - Application process
 - Non-profit discount
 - Cash vs in-kind
- Office of Special Events assistance to LART Committee:
 - Event background/information
 - Budget actuals/Costs of City services
 - Previous Tourism Grant experience

What's Next?

October 21-22 Special Event Workshops

- October 17 - Waldo Waldo 5K
- October 24 – ZOOMA Half Marathon & 10K
- November 7 – Veteran's Day Parade
- November 13 – Skate in the Park Grand Opening
- November 21 – Acacia Park Christmas Tree Lighting
- November 26 – Turkey Trot 5K
- December 5 – Festival of Lights Parade
- December 12 – Ugly Sweater Run

