



COMMISSIONERS:  
DARRYL GLENN (PRESIDENT)  
MARK WALLER (PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE)

STAN VANDERWERF  
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR.  
PEGGY LITTLETON

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### Park Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 11, 2017 – 1:30 p.m.

Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade, Colorado Springs

<u>Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recommended Action</u>
1. Call Meeting to Order	Chair	
2. Approval of the Agenda	Chair	Approval
3. Approval of Minutes	Chair	Approval
4. Introductions / Presentations		
A. Brian Bobeck, Park Operations Division Manager		
5. Citizen Comments / Correspondence on items not on the agenda (limited to five minutes unless extended by Chair)	Chair	
6. Development Applications		
A. Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat / Vacation and Replat	Ross Williams	Endorsement



<u>Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recommended Action</u>
7. <b>Information / Action Items</b>		
None		
8. <b>Monthly Reports</b>	Staff	Information
9. <b>Board / Staff Comments</b>		
10. <b>Adjournment</b>		

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

*Minutes of the September 13, 2017  
El Paso County Park Advisory Board Meeting  
Centennial Hall  
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

Members Present:

Bob Falcone, Chair  
Ann Nichols, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Jane Dillon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Terri Hayes, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair  
Julia Sands de Melendez, Secretary  
Alan Rainville  
Anne Schofield  
Edmund Hartl  
Todd Weaver

Staff Present:

Tim Wolken, Community Services Director  
Sabine Carter, Administrative Services Coordinator  
Jason Meyer, Project Manager  
Ross Williams, Park Planner  
Dana Nordstrom, Community Outreach Coordinator  
Nancy Bernard, FCNC Supervisor

The following minutes are a summary of the proceedings. A recording is available upon request at the El Paso County Parks Administration Office.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Bob Falcone, Chair.
2. Approval of Agenda: Ed Hartl made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Julia Sands de Melendez seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 - 0.
3. Approval of Minutes: Ann Nichols made a motion to approve the August 9, 2017 meeting minutes. Ed Hartl seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 - 0.

(Jane Dillon joined the meeting at 1:33p.m.)

4. Introductions and Presentations:

None

(Terri Hayes joined the meeting at 1:35p.m.)

5. Citizen Comments

Allison Plute, Chair of the Creek Week Cleanup promoted 'Creek Week' and invited the Board to participate in one of the many Creek Week clean-up events. Creek Week will be conducted from September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 8<sup>th</sup>. Up to 3,000 volunteers are expected for litter cleanup along creeks, trails, parks or open spaces throughout the Fountain Creek Watershed. She recognized Dana Nordstrom, Community Outreach Coordinator, for her efforts to support Creek Week.

Susan Davis, Executive Director for Trail and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) invited the Board to attend the organization's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

6. Development Applications:

**A. Abert Ranch Subdivision Preliminary Plan and Rezone**

Ross Williams provided an overview of the Abert Ranch Subdivision Preliminary Plan and Rezone and addressed questions by the Board.

**Julia Sands de Melendez recommended to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners that approval of the Abert Ranch Subdivision Preliminary Plan and Rezone include the following condition: Require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$4,070. Terri Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.**

**B. Waterbury Filing No. 2 Final Plat**

Ross Williams provided an overview of the Waterbury Filing No. 2 Final Plat and answered questions by the Board.

**Jane Dillon recommended to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners that approval of Waterbury Filing No. 2 Final Plat include the following condition: require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$29,304 and urban park fees in the amount of \$18,504. Ed Hartl seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.**

**C. Forest Lakes Filing No. 2B Final Plat**

Ross Williams provided history and overview of the Forest Lakes Filing No. 2B Final Plat.

**Jane Dillon recommend to the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners that the approval of the Forest Lakes Filing No. 2B Final Plat include the following conditions: (1) the developer shall provide a Letter of Disqualification from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to construct and maintain the trail where it enters the designated Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse (PMJM) habitat along Tract E / Waterfront Park and the developer is responsible for any mitigation required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including fencing; (2) require fees in lieu of land dedication for urban park purposes in the amount of \$11,565. Terri Hayes seconded the motion. Ann Nichols abstained from voting. The motion carried 8-0-1.**

7. Information / Action Items:

**A. Walden Preserve 2 Park Lands Agreement Extension Request**

Jason Meyer provided an overview of the Walden Preserve 2 Park Land Agreement Extension Request. The developer approached the County to request an extension under the agreement to allow additional time for trail construction and installation of urban park amenities. Jason Myer provided the Board with photos taken during an onsite tour to measure construction progress. Jane Dillon asked if the one year extension is a realistic timeline for completion of the outstanding

projects. Jason Meyer stated that he had several discussions with the developer and it is his opinion that the timeline is realistic.

**Ed Hartl recommended to the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners approval of the Walden Preserve 2 Park Lands Agreement extension request as presented, amending the original agreement deadline to October 31, 2018. Jane Dillon seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.**

**B. 2017 TABOR Ballot Question**

Bob Falcone gave an overview of the TABOR ballot question as it relates to parks projects. Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), indicated that the TOSC Advocacy Committee unanimously supported the ballot measure. Susan Davies asked if the Black Forest Regional Park trail re-construction projects could be funded through the FEMA disaster funds. Tim Wolken stated that these trails projects are not included in the disaster relief projects but could be addressed with the regional trail project funds if the TABOR ballot issue is approved.

8. Monthly Reports:

Bob Falcone inquired about a recent citizen complaint regarding the new operational hours and restrictions at the Rainbow Falls Historic Site. Tim Wolken indicated that he explained to the citizen that the site is being transformed into an historic site and the new operational procedures are needed to control vandalism at the site, reduce potential injuries at the site, and preserve the site for future generations.

Bob Falcone inquired if the Park Operations Division Manager position has been filled. Tim Wolken indicated the hiring process is nearing completion and it is anticipated the new manager will begin on October 9, 2017.

9. Board/Staff Comments:

None

10. Adjournment: **The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.**

---

Julia Sands de Melendez, Secretary

## **El Paso County Parks**

### **Agenda Item Summary Form**

**Agenda Item Title:** Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat / Vacation and Replat

**Agenda Date:** October 11, 2016

**Agenda Item Number:** # 6 - A

**Presenter:** Ross Williams, Park Planner

**Information:** **Endorsement:** X

#### **Background Information:**

Request for approval by M.V.E., Inc., on behalf of GNC Bunting, LLC, for Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat, Vacation and Replat, for the development of two (2) four-plex multi-family residential buildings, one on each lot for a total of eight (8) residential units. The property is located northeast of the intersection of South Academy Boulevard and B Street, near Pikes Peak Community College and Fort Carson.

The 2013 El Paso County Parks Master Plan shows no parks, trails/routes, or open space directly impacted by the proposed development. The proposed B Street Secondary Regional Trail is located immediately north of the property in an adjacent open space containing Fishers Canyon Creek. The property is not located within any candidate open space land.

As no trail easement dedication is necessary, staff recommends fees in lieu of land for regional park purposes in the amount of \$3,256 and urban park fees in the amount of \$2,056.

#### **Recommended Motion:**

Recommend to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners that approval of the Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat, Vacation and Replat, include the following condition: Require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$3,256 and urban park fees in the amount of \$2,056.



# Development Application Permit Review



**Community Services Department**  
**Park Operations ~ Planning ~ Recreation / Cultural Services**  
**Environmental Services ~ Veterans Services ~ CSU Extension**

November 9, 2016

Subdivision requirements referenced in section 8.5.2 of the El Paso County Land Development Code. Fees are based on average land values within designated areas. See El Paso County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) Resolution for fees established on annual basis. The Park Advisory Board meets the second Wednesday of each month, 1:30 p.m., BoCC Auditorium, second floor Centennial Hall Building, 200 S. Cascade, Colorado Springs.

Name:	<b>Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat - Vacation/Replat</b>	Application Type:	<b>Final Plat</b>
DSD Reference #:	<b>VR-17-003</b>	CSD / Parks ID#:	<b>0</b>
Applicant / Owner:	Owner's Representative:	Total Acreage:	<b>0.51</b>
<b>GNC Bunting, LLC</b>	<b>M.V.E., Inc.</b>	Total # of Dwelling Units	<b>8</b>
<b>205 Sedona Drive</b>	<b>Dave Gorman</b>	Gross Density:	<b>15.69</b>
<b>Englewood, CO 80921</b>	<b>1903 Lelaray Street, Suite 200</b>	Park Region:	<b>3</b>
	<b>Colorado Springs, CO 80909</b>	Urban Area:	<b>5</b>

Existing Zoning Code: **RM-30**      Proposed Zoning: **RM-30**

**REGIONAL AND URBAN PARK REQUIREMENTS**

Regional Park land dedication shall be 7.76 acres of park land per 1,000 projected residents. The number of projected residents shall be based on 2.5 residents per dwelling unit.	Urban Park land dedication shall be 4 acres of park land per 1,000 projected residents. The number of projected residents shall be based on 2.5 residents per dwelling unit.
--	--

**LAND REQUIREMENTS**

Regional Parks: <b>3</b>	Urban Density: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2.5 units or greater / 1 acre)
<b>0.0194 Acres x 8 Dwelling Units = 0.155 acres</b>	Urban Parks Area: <b>5</b>
	Neighborhood: <b>0.00375 Acres x 8 Dwelling Units = 0.03 acres</b>
	Community: <b>0.00625 Acres x 8 Dwelling Units = 0.05 acres</b>
	Total: <b>0.08 acres</b>

**FEE REQUIREMENTS**

Regional Parks: <b>3</b>	Urban Parks Area: <b>5</b>
<b>\$407.00 / Unit x 8 Dwelling Units= \$3,256.00</b>	Neighborhood: <b>\$101.00 / Unit x 8 Dwelling Units = \$808.00</b>
	Community: <b>\$156.00 / Unit x 8 Dwelling Units = \$1,248.00</b>
	Total: <b>\$2,056.00</b>

**ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff Recommendation:	<p><b>Recommend to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners that approval of the Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1 Final Plat, Vacation and Replat, include the following condition: Require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$3,256 and urban park fees in the amount of \$2,056.</b></p>
-----------------------	--

Park Advisory Board Recommendation:



August 22, 2017

**LETTER OF INTENT  
BUNTING MULTIFAMILY FILING NO. 1 – VACATION REPLAT**

**Owner:**

GNC Bunting, LLC  
205 Sedona Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921  
(719) 646-5907

**Applicant:**

M.V.E., Inc.  
1903 Lelaray Street, Suite 200  
Colorado Springs, CO  
(719) 635-5736  
Attn: Dave Gorman

**Site Location Size and Zoning:**

The proposed subdivision to be known as “Bunting Multifamily Filing No. 1” is located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 15 South, Range 66 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., El Paso County, Colorado. The properties have El Paso County Tax Schedule No.'s 65054-08-034 and 65054-08-035 and are currently vacant platted parcels with addresses of 1724 and 1728 Hampton South. The proposed subdivision is located on the north side of Hampton South, west of Interstate 25 and east of B street. Each proposed lot is approximately one quarter acre. The total area of land under consideration for replatting is 0.51± acres and the property is zoned RM-30 (Residential Multi-Dwelling).

**Request and Justification:**

The request is for approval of a Vacation and Replat of two parcels of land currently composed of a portion of Lot 4, all of Lot 5, and a portion of Lot 6, Stratmoor South Subdivision. The proposed replat will create two (2) lots. The property is proposed to be replatted to allow development of two (2) four-plex multi-family residential buildings, one on each lot for a total of eight (8) residential units. Multi-family dwellings are an allowed use in the RM-30 zone. The resulting residential density is 15.7 DU/Ac, which falls below the zone maximum of 30 DU/Ac. The proposed use will be nearly identical and complimentary to the existing adjacent development. This development will feature more off-street parking and landscaping than the existing surrounding properties. The purpose of the development is to provide affordably priced housing for lower incomes for the use by the people of El Paso County and nearby Fort Carson. There is an established need for affordable housing in the area.

The Owner and Applicant are requesting approval of the Vacation Replat for “Bunting Multifamily Filing No.1”. The property is eligible for subdivision under El Paso County Land Development Code. The proposed lots will provide an adequate site for multi-family dwellings and is a location and zone fitting for the purpose.

*Engineers • Surveyors*  
**1903 Lelaray Street, Suite 200 • Colorado Springs, CO 80909 • Phone 719-635-5736**  
**Fax 719-635-5450 • e-mail mve@mvecivil.com**

This application meets the Vacation and Replat submittal requirements, the standards for Divisions of Land in Chapter 7 (Section 7.2.3(A)(3) and Section 7.2.3(C)., and the standards for Subdivision in Chapter 8 of the El Paso County Land Development Code (2016). Vacation Replats are reviewed and approved in consideration of the following review criteria found in the El Paso County Land Development Code.

Vacation

1. *Vacation of the recorded plat will not leave any lots or parcels without adequate utility or drainage easements.* This vacation is accompanied by a replat which will provide the necessary utility and drainage easements.
2. *Vacation of the recorded plat will not vacate road rights-of-way or access easements needed to access other property.* No road right-of-way or access easement are being vacated with this proposed vacation action.
3. *Vacation of the recorded plat will not inhibit the provision of adequate public facilities or services to other property as required by this Code.* There are not public facilities or services that will be affected by the vacation of the subject existing multi-family residential lot and portions of lots. Also, the vacation action is accompanied by a replat that will replace the lot and lot fragments with two viable platted lots for multi-family residential use.
4. *Vacation of the recorded plat is consistent with the Master Plan.* This proposed vacation is accompanied by a replat which is consistent with the Master Plan and satisfies the required findings for a Final Plat. There is no aspect of the proposed vacation that conflicts with the goals and policies of the Master Plan.
5. *Vacation of the recorded plat will not adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare.* There is no aspect of this vacation that will adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare. The proposed vacation action will make way for the proposed replat which will enable the use of this long-vacant property in an established neighborhood.
6. *Where the lots or parcels are subject to any CC&Rs or other restrictions, that any potential conflict with the CC&Rs or other restrictions resulting from the vacation of the plat has been resolved.* There is no record of any CC&Rs or other restrictions concerning the subject property.

Replat

1. *The replat complies with this Code, and the original conditions of approval associated with the recorded plat.* The propose replat complies with the Land Development Code. The replat does not affect any original conditions of approval of the 1967 recorded plat. The purpose of the replat is to replace the existing lot and lot fragments created by past ownership transfer of lot portions. The replat will reconfigure two parcels made up of a portion of Lot 4, all of Lot 5, and a portion of Lot 6, Stratmoor South Subdivision. The replat will establish two (2) new viable lots which are of similar size and area as the existing surrounding lots. The adjacent street right-of-way will remain in place. A drainage easement shown on the original plat has already been vacated by County action.
2. *No nonconforming lots are created, and in the case of existing nonconforming lots, the nonconformity is not increased.* The purpose of the replat is to replace the existing lot and lot fragments created by past ownership transfer of lot portions. The replat will reconfigure two parcels made up of a portion of Lot 4, all of Lot 5, and a portion of Lot 6, Stratmoor South Subdivision. The replat will establish two (2) new conforming and viable lots which are of similar size and area as the existing surrounding lots.
3. *The replat is in keeping with the purpose and intent of this Code.* The proposed replat will

establish two (2) new lots in place of the existing lot and lot fragments that meet the requirements contained in the Land Development Code in size, area and provision of adequate public facilities and services. The replat will allow use of the property in the existing and surrounding RM-30 zone. The development and use of the lots will be in conformance with the requirements of the Land Development Code as established by an administratively approved Site Development Plan.

4. *The replat conforms to the required findings for a minor or major subdivision, whichever is applicable.* This replat conforms to all the required finding of a subdivision plat, including compliance with the Master Plan. The Master Plan is comprised of several elements. One of the elements is the El Paso County Policy Plan (1998), which does not include site-specific land use policies, but establishes broad policies and goals which are intended to serve as a framework for decision-making regarding development of the County. The project satisfies the following policies from the Policy Plan as they specifically relate to this request: Policy 5.1.8 - Encourage the retention and development of existing military installations by protecting their operational integrity and promoting compatible adjoining land uses. The site is in an ideal location to provide off-base housing nearby Fort Carson; Policy 6.1.3 - Encourage new development which is contiguous and compatible with previously developed areas in terms of factors such as density, land use and access. The site is proposed to bring multi-family housing of similar size and nature as the surrounding neighborhood; Policy 6.1.7 - Encourage infill development which complements existing uses, is consistent with Small Area and other adopted plans. This development will utilize an existing vacant area between two established four-plex buildings. The presence of the new development will act to discourage the current random dumping an unauthorized uses of the vacant property; Policy 6.1.11 - Plan and implement land development so that it will be functionally and aesthetically integrated within the context of adjoining properties and uses. The proposed site will provide development for similar size and use and the surrounding neighborhood will be developed in accordance with the current Land Development Code, which incorporates updated Landscaping, Parking, and Trash Enclosure requirements that will serve to enhance the current neighborhood; Policy 6.2.11 - Encourage compatible physical character, density and scale in existing neighborhoods; Policy 6.3.4 - Commercial, office industrial, and residential development should be compatible with surrounding land uses in terms of scale, intensity and potential impacts. The proposed development is bound on all sides by properties zoned RM-30 (Residential Multi-Dwelling), the same as the proposed site.; Policy 13.3.1 - Consider market driven approaches and land use plans that provide for low income housing; Policy 13.3.2 - Support the low cost housing efforts of private and non-profit organizations. This proposed development, by nature of its location and configuration is intended to be a low-cost housing option for use by El Paso County residents. The site is not contained within any Small Area Plans of the County. The proposed replat is in compliance with the Parks Master Plan, which does not call for trails or parks in the site vicinity. The replat is also in compliance with the Master Plan for Mineral Extraction as no separate mineral estate owners were found for the property and the existing development on surrounding properties is not compatible with any potential mineral extraction operations. The site is contained within the service area of Stratmoor Hills Water and has agreed to serve the property. The water mains on the site interior have been constructed and inspected in 2006 in accordance with Construction Documents that were reviewed and approved by the District. Fire Protection is provided by Stratmoor Hills Fire Protection. Water Mains and Fire Hydrants for the site exist in the adjacent Hapton South roadway and there adequate emergency access from two paths and directions.
5. *Legal and physical access is provided to all parcels by public rights-of-way or recorded easement, acceptable to the County in compliance with this Code and the ECM.* Access to both new lots is provided by existing Hampton South, a 60' wide public right-of-way that is

constructed with asphalt pavement, concrete curb and gutter and sidewalk. The two lots will access the public street with standard El Paso County drive entrances.

6. *The approval will not adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare.* There is no aspect of this replat that will adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare. The proposed replat will enable the use of this long-vacant property in a manner originally intended and provided for on the originally recorded plat and established public infrastructure.
7. *Where the lots or parcels are subject to any CC&Rs or other restrictions, that any potential conflict with the CC&Rs or other restrictions resulting from the replat has been resolved.* There is no record of any CC&Rs or other restrictions concerning the subject property.

Z:\61072\Documents\Correspondance\61072 LetterOfIntent-Vacation Replat.odt



**El Paso County Parks  
2017 Action Plan**

<b>Recreation / Cultural Services</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Upgrade BCNC Exhibits	Todd Marts	High	Construction Phase
FCNC Cultural History Exhibit	Nancy Bernard	High	Bid Phase
County Fair SWOT Analysis Projects	Todd Marts		Completed
Fairgrounds Staff Cross-Training	Stacy Reavis		Completed
Implement "Wildlife Explorers" Program	Mary Jo Lewis		Completed
Fountain Creek Nature Center 25th Anniversary	Nancy Bernard		Completed
Expand County Fairgrounds Equestrian Events	Stacy Reavis		Completed
Develop a Junior Docent Program	Ian Wilson		Completed
Develop a Social Media Plan	Todd Marts	High	
Create a "Nature Buddies" Program	Maria Petkash		Completed
Develop a Volunteer Recruitment Plan	Todd Marts		Completed
Develop a Pollinator Festival	Mary Jo Lewis		Completed
Water-Wise Perennial Garden Kit Sales Program	Mary Jo Lewis		Completed
Expand Halloween Events at Fairgrounds Programs	Stacy Reavis	High	
Update the Environ education school programs	Mary Jo Lewis	High	
<b>Park Operations Division</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Complete irrigation renovation plan		High	
Complete Rainbow Falls security plan		High	
Develop individual park operation plans			Tabled
Convert security officer to park ranger			Completed
<b>Planning Division</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Widefield Community Park Master Plan	Ross Williams		Completed
Kane Ranch Master Plan	Ross Williams	High	Bid Phase
Establish a Regional Open Space Committee			Completed
Rock Island Trailhead Improvements	Ross Williams	Low	
Develop a Park Planning Criteria Manual	Jason Meyer	Medium	
Update the Urban Park Grant Guidelines		Tabled	
Establish a Planning Division Internship Program	TBD	Medium	
Elephant Rock Open Space Purchase	Tim Wolken		Completed
<b>Capital Improvement Projects</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Pinerias Open Space - Phase 1	Ross Williams	High	Design Phase
Rainbow Falls Recreation Area	Tim Wolken	High	Bid Phase
Black Forest Regional Park Improvements	Jason Meyer	High	Bid Phase
Flood Recovery Projects	Jason Meyer	High	Bid Phase
Fairgrounds Improvements	Randy Smith	High	Construction Phase
Fountain Creek Regional Park Improvements	Ross Williams	High	Bid Phase
Jones Park Improvements	Tim Wolken	High	Construction Phase
Ute Pass Regional Trail Expansion	Jason Meyer	High	Planning Phase
Ceresa Park Improvements	Patrick Salamon		Completed
Widefield Community Park Improvements	Ross Williams	High	Design Phase
New Santa Fe Regional Trail Improvements	Jason Meyer	High	
FRRP Restroom Building Roof Replacements	Randy Smith		Completed

<b>Community Outreach</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Complete County Fair Sponsorship Program	Dana Nordstrom		Completed
Partners in the Park Program	Dana Nordstrom		Completed
Expand Friends Groups	Dana Nordstrom		Completed
Complete Nature Center Fundraising Program	Todd Marts		Completed
Establish an On-Line Giving Program	Christine Burns	High	
Establish a Fair Queen Fundraising Program	Dana Nordstrom		Completed
Establish a National Trails Day Event	Christine Burns		Completed
Establish Weekly "Impact on Parks on Health" Campaign	Christine Burns		Completed
Create a Partners in the Parks Video	Christine Burns		Completed

Community Services Department Parks / Recreation & Cultural Services Divisions September 2017 Monthly Report									
<u>Facility Revenue Totals To Date</u>		<u>2017</u>				<u>2016</u>			
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Balance</u>					<u>Totals to Date</u>
Parks Facility Reservation Revenue		\$ 180,000	\$ 188,630	\$ (8,630)					\$ 173,827
County Fair / Fairgrounds		\$ 257,800	\$ 315,722	\$ (57,922)					\$ 288,675
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 437,800</b>	<b>\$ 504,352</b>	<b>\$ (66,552)</b>					<b>\$ 462,502</b>
<u>Fundraising Revenue</u>		<u>2017</u>				<u>2016</u>			
	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>					<u>Totals to Date</u>
County Fair Sponsorships	Fair Operations	\$ 65,000	\$ 81,250	\$ (16,250)					\$ 80,050
Partners in the Park Program	Park Operations	\$ 30,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000					\$ 20,000
Trust for County Parks	Park Operations	\$ 10,000	\$ 24,888	\$ (14,888)					\$ 22,025
Nature Center Fundraising	Nature Center Support	\$ 25,000	\$ 23,980	\$ 1,020					\$ 24,447
County Fairgrounds Support (Fairgrounds Corp)	Programming/Facility Support	\$ 40,000	\$ 50,000	\$ (10,000)					\$ 50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 170,000</b>	<b>\$ 195,118</b>	<b>\$ (25,118)</b>					<b>\$ 196,522</b>
<u>Grant Funds</u>		<u>Awarded</u>							
Great Outdoor Colorado - Habitat Restoration Grant	Jones Park	\$ 75,000							
Great Outdoors Colorado - Planning Grant	Kane Ranch Master Plan	\$ 30,000							
Great Outdoors Colorado - Mini Grant	Falcon Dog Park	\$ 45,000							
Community Development Block Grant	Widefield Community Park	\$ 150,000							
		<b>\$ 300,000</b>							
<b>Totals</b>									
<u>Parks Division Reservations</u>		<u>2017</u>				<u>2016</u>			
<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>		
January		29	1064	N/A		16	678		
February		26	850	N/A		20	647		
March		77	1918	N/A		20	201		
April		240	7619	4.1		111	3259		
May		396	17014	4.2		326	14908		
June		448	20691	3.94		479	20438		
July		441	24401	4.28		491	22365		
August		345	21010	4.44		385	23342		
September		342	19386	4.27		334	17895		
October									
November									
December									
<b>Total</b>		<b>2344</b>	<b>113953</b>	<b>4.21</b>		<b>2182</b>	<b>103733</b>		

<u>Parks Facility Reservations</u>		<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>	
<u>September</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
<u>Bear Creek Regional Park</u>					
Archery Lanes		1	1	1	1
Athletic Fields		17	3354	20	3600
Pavilions		71	3612	74	4799
Trails		6	1700	5	1250
Vendor		4	10	6	12
Tennis Courts					
Vita Course					
Meeting Room		10	131	21	255
<u>Black Forest Regional Park</u>					
Athletic Fields		3	210	3	180
Pavilions		17	816	11	580
Vendor					
Tennis Courts		20	80	22	48
<u>Falcon Regional Park</u>					
Baseball Fields		34	850	15	375
<u>Fountain Creek Regional Park</u>					
Athletic Fields		1	100	3	300
Pavilions		24	990	25	958
Trails					
Disc Golf Course					
Vendor					
<u>Fox Run Regional Park</u>				3	18
Athletic Fields		33	1145	34	1635
Gazebo		39	1434	21	505
Warming Hut		1	10	8	165
Pavilions		48	2098	47	2249
Trails		3	225	3	225
<u>Homestead Ranch Regional Park</u>					
Pavilions		3	170	9	340
Athletic Fields					
Trails					
<u>Palmer Lake Recreational Area</u>					
Palmer Lake Santa Fe Trail		1	400	2	200
<u>New Santa Fe Trail</u>					
Monument Trail Head New Santa Fe Trail		2	800		
Baptist Road Santa Fe Trail		1	400		
AFA Santa Fe Trail		2	600	1	200
Vendor					
<u>Paint Mines Trail</u>					
<u>Rock Island Trail</u>					
<u>Black Forest Section 16</u>		1	250		
<u>Total Park Facility Reservations</u>		<u>342</u>	<u>19386</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>17895</u>

<u>Fairgrounds Facility Reservations</u>				<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>		<u>2016</u>	
<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	
January		17	463				8	220	
February		15	260				13	355	
March		19	512				9	194	
April		17	3720				17	3124	
May		16	3519				12	3413	
June		14	3972				16	3908	
July		4	28,142				7	29,908	
August		10	4064				12	3582	
September		14	1399				12	7723	
October									
November									
December									
<b>Total</b>		<b>126</b>	<b>46051</b>				<b>106</b>	<b>52427</b>	
<u>Fairgrounds Facility Reservations</u>				<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>			
<u>September</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>		
<b>Swink Hall - Fairgrounds</b>									
Fair Corporation Meeting		1	5			1	5		
FAB Meeting		1	17			1	19		
Lions Club Meeting		1	20			1	20		
Wedding Reception - Oereter		1	50						
Senior Dinner		1	60			2	127		
Quincenera		1	75						
COC Meeting						1	18		
<b>Track</b>									
Race		1	862			3	7158		
<b>Barns</b>									
<b>Livestock Arena</b>									
<b>Grounds -</b>									
<b>Whittemore - Fairgrounds</b>									
Calhan HS Girls Basketball Practice		4	40						
Community Outreach Center - Health Fair		1	300			1	300		



<b>September</b>	<b>2017</b>		
	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	
Parks Advisory Board	9	27	
Fair Advisory Board	14	56	
Fairgrounds Corporation	5	20	
Friends of the Nature Centers	74	423	
Adopt-A-Park / Trail / Volunteer Projects	160	1,200	
Front Range Community Service	1	44	
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>1,770</b>	

  

<b>Programming</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>2017</b>			<b>2016</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Totals for Year</b>		<b>Programs</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
January		19	461	4.96	33	1438
February		32	1104	4.97	26	836
March		34	706	4.96	50	1028
April		112	3819	4.99	179	3665
May		214	4089	4.83	210	4579
June		93	5127	4.90	102	3384
July		97	2964	4.94	67	1,903
August		62	1477	4.99	41	1,608
September		94	2654	4.99	105	3,073
October						
November						
December						
<b>Totals</b>	<b>800 / 21,000</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>22401</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>21514</b>

  

<b>September</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
Discover Bear Creek	BCNC	9	195	5.00
Incredible Insects	BCNC	2	28	5.00
Colorado Wildlife Detectives	BCNC	2	28	5.00
Paint Mines Hike	BCNC	1	6	
Ciara Vista	BCNC	1	50	
Interpretive Volunteer Training	BCNC	2	16	
Stellar Care	BCNC	1	15	
Our House	BCNC	1	11	
Outreach: Pawtoberfest	BCNC	1	500	
Outreach: Gold Hill Mesa Concerts	BCNC	2	150	
Active Adults: Outdoor Painting Workshop	BCNC	3	9	
Aiken Audubon Meeting: Greater Sage Grouse	BCNC	1	27	
NE: Mule or Whitetail	BCNC	1	20	
Pikes Peak Community College	BCNC	1	13	
Harrison District 2	BCNC	1	6	
Foundation for Successful Living	BCNC	1	4	
Scout: Girl Scout Bug Badge	BCNC	1	17	5.00
Birthday: Bugs & Beasts	BCNC	2	40	

LW: Oh Deer!	BCNC	1	18	5.00
Bear Creek Friends Group Open House	BCNC	1	100	
Community Intersections	BCNC	1	7	
Birthday: All About Animals	BCNC	1	21	5.00
Tree Walk	BCNC	1	27	5.00
Walk the Wetlands	FCNC	11	216	4.90
Discover the Wetlands	FCNC	19	308	5.00
Fairy House & Gnome Home Party	FCNC	1	57	5.00
Nature Adventures: Crazy Cattails	FCNC	1	18	5.00
Duckwood Community Gardens Meeting	FCNC	1	6	
Fall Bird Count	FCNC	1	30	5.00
Junior Docent Demo: Uses of Yucca	FCNC	1	39	
Scout: Service Project Cub Scout Pack 516	FCNC	1	20	
Pikes Peak Community College	FCNC	1	20	
UCCS Sonic Walk Student Prep Meeting	FCNC	2	24	
MOPS Playdate	FCNC	1	22	
Our House	FCNC	1	5	
2's & 3's Busy Beavers	FCNC	1	17	5.00
Wette Education Center	FCNC	2	16	
Magic Monarchs	FCNC	1	22	5.00
Junior Docent Demo: Wild About Wildlife	FCNC	1	109	
Volunteer Environmental Education Leader Training	FCNC	1	6	5.00
Mosaic	FCNC	1	12	
Outreach: Fountain Community Night Out	FCNC	1	132	
Friends Board Meeting	FCNC	1	12	
Sonic Listening Walk	FCNC	2	50	4.95
Scout: Girl Scout Bugs Badge	FCNC	1	30	5.00
Junior Docent Demo: Uses of Cattails	FCNC	1	32	
Creek Week Kickoff	FCNC	1	80	
Junior Docent Demo: Uses of Yucca	FCNC	1	63	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>2654</b>	<b>4.99</b>



COMMISSIONERS:  
DARRYL GLENN (PRESIDENT)  
MARK WALLER (PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE)

STAN VANDERWERF  
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR.  
PEGGY LITTLETON

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

#### MONTHLY REPORT

SABINE CARTER, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COORDINATOR  
DEBRA REID, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR

**September 2017**

#### General Updates:

1. Facility rental revenue is up by \$14,803 from this time in 2016.
2. There were 342 reservations made in September for a total of \$26,678.

#### Special Events:

1. Bear Creek Regional Park was host to the annual Pawtoberfest again. The Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region invited the community to this vendor-based, dog & family-friendly festival with craft, brews & spirits, food trucks, music, a 2-mile dog walk, agility demonstrations, pet contests etc. The event is one of our most popular events with upwards of 2,000 visitors.
2. The El Paso County Conservation District invited the community to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Urban Agricultural Fair Day at the Fountain Creek Regional Park. This one-day event introduced visitors on how to milk a goat, make goat cheese, can and ferment food, get started with bee keeping, and keep chickens in the backyard. The event included 30 vendors, food trucks, face painting, a petting zoo, and more.
3. The Dog Agility of the Pikes Peak Region held their DOCNA (*Dogs On Course in North America*) trial again. Agility competitors choose the classes and division or level that allows them to challenge their abilities. This 3-day event was held at the Black Forest Regional Park.



4. We hosted five larger running events in the month of September. The Monument Academy, the Landsharks Running Club, The Rocky Mountain Classical Academy, The Colorado Springs Christian High School and the US Air Force Academy Fitness Center all held XC events or fundraiser runs throughout our park and trail systems.
5. A local Cub Scout Park received permission for an overnight camping event at the Fallen Timber area of Fox Run Regional Park.
6. Several area photographers applied for permits for professional/commercial photo shoots at the Paint Mines Interpretive Park.
7. Several churches, local companies and families were approved for special event permits to include bounce houses and other inflatables into their functions.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH and GRANTS**

#### **Monthly Report – September 2017**

Christine Burns, Community Outreach Manager  
Dana Nordstrom, Community Outreach Coordinator

### **Community Outreach**

#### **1. COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

- A Partners in the Park video has been created by the El Paso County Public Information Office to support outreach and partner development. Thank you Nancy Nelson, Dana Nordstrom and our partners for creating this great marketing video. The video can be seen on the County's YouTube site at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0xZIYmpsHo>
- Staff participated in Creek Week Site Leader Training with over twenty groups participating. Community Service Department Headquarters is the designated supply pick up location for all Creek Week Volunteer Projects.

The Board of El Paso County Commissioners unanimously approved a proclamation in support of the fourth annual Creek Week Cleanup. Commissioner Longinos Gonzalez, Jr., read the proclamation into the record, "The Fountain Creek watershed, including Fountain Creek, related wetlands, existing trails, and recreational facilities, is a unique watershed that is an important resource and valuable asset for the people of El Paso County and the Pikes Peak Region. Creek Week programs and activities are designed to raise awareness of water quality and littering issues within our watershed, to encourage organizations and individuals to collect litter and debris, and make Fountain Creek and the watershed cleaner and safer."

This year's Creek Week Kick Off was held at the Fountain Creek Nature Center with the Wrap-Up Event to be held at the Bear Creek Nature Center.

#### **2. FRIENDS GROUPS:**

- A community wide concert was held at Fox Run Regional Park with the fabulous harmonies of FlashBlack. Chick-fil-A was on site with great food for sale. There was a good turnout and the event provided an opportunity to advertise involvement with the Fox Run Friends Group. On Saturday, September 16, a



guided hike was held by Ross Williams with 32 people interested in starting a Friends Group for the Pineries Open Space.

- The month ended with a celebration of Bear Creek Regional Park. We had just over one hundred people join us for the evening at the Bear Creek Nature Center. I would like to thank the five dedicated Friends Groups which are, Bear Creek Garden Association, The Equestrian Skills Course, Bear Creek Dog Park, The Friends of EPC Nature Centers and Bear Creek Regional Park. Thank you for all your hard work!

3. JOIN US:

- Please join us for Ghouls and Stools Day at the Bear Creek Dog Park, from 9a.m. to Noon on Saturday, October 28th. Bring your four-legged friend for our Golden Stool Contest sponsored by Heuberger Motors, Subaru.

### **Grants**

1. A built environment grant was submitted to the Colorado Springs Health Foundation requesting \$110,000 in grant funds to support improvements at Widefield Community Park.
2. A youth corps crew's grant was submitted to Great Outdoors Colorado. El Paso County Parks requested \$54,000 in in-kind youth corps crew work at the Pineries Open Space to complete forest management and noxious weed mitigation.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### **RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2017**

SUBMITTED BY: TODD MARTS, DIVISION MANAGER

#### **General**

1. In September, Bear Creek Nature Center began hosting Aiken Audubon's monthly meetings and educational programs. For at least one year, Bear Creek will host these programs, drawing an audience of Aiken Audubon members to the Nature Center on a monthly basis. The meetings and programs are open to the public, which also increases opportunities for the Nature Center to attract a new audience through educational programming.
2. Bear Creek Nature Center held two days of training for new and established Interpretive Volunteers. The training addressed philosophies of environmental education, interpretive techniques, and hands-on experience with Bear Creek's field trip programs. Increasing the number of Interpretive Volunteers is a goal of Bear Creek Nature Center, as it will allow the center to accommodate large numbers of groups interested in field trips and will help maintain an optimal educator-to-student ratio.
3. Bear Creek Nature Center hosted a Bear Creek Regional Park Friends Groups Open House on the evening of September 28<sup>th</sup>. This was an opportunity for Friends Groups that support Bear Creek Regional Park & Nature Center to meet and for members of the public to learn about how these groups operate and how to get involved. Represented groups included Friends of Bear Creek Regional Park, Friends of El Paso County Nature Centers, Bear Creek Garden Association, Friends of the Equestrian Skills Course and Friends of Bear Creek Dog Park. Approximately 100 people attended.

#### **Projects, Fundraising & Grants:**

1. Eagle Scout candidate Andrew Haworth worked with Fountain Creek Nature Center to add split rail fencing to sensitive areas of the nature trail to encourage visitors to protect sensitive habitats by staying on the trail. This scout spent at least three planning sessions with Nancy Bernard, solicited and received a post hole digger and related fencing tools from a rental company, fund raised to provide all the fencing supplies, measured and dug the appropriate holes, recruited and directed volunteers during the project, and installed 5 stretches of fencing on one Saturday morning! This was a much needed addition to the nature trail!

## **Programs & Events:**

1. An innovative and unique program partnership came to fruition when two professors from the UCCS Visual and Performing Arts Department conducted two Sonic Listening Walks on the Fountain Creek Nature Center Nature Trail. The professors and their students helped program participants explore the relationship between nature, poetry, music and sound. The program was funded by a grant that the professors wrote and received to conduct in partnership with the nature center. Program evaluation comments included, "I will listen more attentively. I will walk without headphones. I focused listening on the sounds of nature. More listening, not talking."
2. Outreach at Fountain Community Night Out—5 Nature Center volunteers staffed an interactive table at Fountain's annual community evening event at Metcalf Park. They facilitated games, wildlife interpretation, and program promotion reaching hundreds of people.
3. Creek Week Kickoff—Saturday, September 30. About 80 people registered & came to work on 10 cleanup projects in Fountain Creek Regional Park & Nature Center Trails. Commissioner Gonzales along with Fountain Creek's Bucky the Beaver, Stan the Can from Environmental Services, and Switchback's Ziggy the Mountain Goat got it off to a great start. Bags of trash, cigarette butts, plastic bottles, carpeting, car fenders and much more were prevented from entering our waterways and blighting our park. Like Wendell Berry says, "Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you!"
4. On September 16, Bear Creek Nature Center filled the role of registration & start point for the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region's Pawtoberfest walk and fundraising event held in Bear Creek Regional Park. This was a great opportunity for the nature center to reach a broad audience of people- many of whom were previously unfamiliar with the El Paso County Nature Centers. Bear Creek Nature Center staff manned educational tables at the Pawtoberfest event and were able to inform an audience of over 500 people about the mission and programming of El Paso County Nature Centers.
5. BCNC staff and volunteers attended two Saturday evening concerts at Gold Hill Mesa. These outreach events allowed Bear Creek staff to connect with a large audience by providing crafts, hands-on interpretation, and information about Bear Creek Nature Center's many program offerings.
6. Archery Camps at Bear Creek completed in August. There were a total of five 3 day camps, throughout the summer with a total of 22 students. Each student enjoyed learning the art of Archery, and having access to a free Archery range to continue practicing their skills.
7. The end of summer concerts in the Park at Bear Creek Regional Park on August 23<sup>rd</sup> there were approximately 200 in attendance and it was raining, which all in attendance were able to still enjoy the music underneath the pavilion. On August 30<sup>th</sup> approximately 400 in attendance, everyone enjoyed the music.
8. Rainbow Falls Historic Site is a popular place to tour with approximately 400 visitors per day when open. The majority of visitors are out of state. Colorado College Geology department toured the site for a field study on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Professor, Jeff Noblett,

lectured 18 students on the great Unconformity and Coral Reef formations at Rainbow Falls. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> a historical tour took place, with 5 in attendance the group was able to discuss and reminisce from 1900's to today.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### **PARKS PLANNING DIVISION MONTHLY REPORTS SEPTEMBER, 2017**

#### **ACTION PLAN:**

##### **Capital Project Management:**

1. Black Forest Regional Park: Staff is working with Rocky Mountain Field Institute on 2017 work associated with the IndyGIVE campaign. Work focuses on implementing forest management plan recommendations, drainage improvements, soil stabilization, and trail decommissioning. RMFI has completed 18 workdays so far in 2017. Four additional work days are scheduled for this winter to decommission two trails.

The drainage plan by AECOM was completed in January with recommendations to construct a sediment pond, energy dissipater and other non-engineered improvements in the park. Staff is completing State review and is developing the IFB package to procure a contractor.

The Black Forest Regional Park Master Plan Update was presented to the Park Advisory Board on August 9 and approved by the Board of County Commissioners on September 5. Staff is developing an IFB package to provide a contractor to implement trail repairs/construction.

The County was awarded six weeks of Mile High Youth Corps work from GOCO to complete single-track trail construction and decommissioning in Black Forest Regional Park and Pineries Open Space. As of August the Corps completed four weeks of work within Black Forest Regional Park and Pineries Open Space. The final two weeks are scheduled for November.

2. Elephant Rock Open Space: The acquisition process is complete. An environmental assessment, appraisal, ALTA survey and title documents were obtained in late 2016. The County Attorney provided a real estate contract which was executed by the Board of County Commissioners on May 25. Closing occurred in August 2017. The master plan process has been initiated.

3. Pineries Open Space: The County selected Wilson & Company to perform Phase 1 final design work and held a kick-off meeting in March. 30% design plans were reviewed by staff in early May. A public meeting to review design plans and trail alignments was held on June 8 at The Lodge at Cathedral Pines. 90% design plans and construction documents were completed



in July and are being reviewed by staff. Staff completed marking of single-track trail corridors in July.

4. Rainbow Falls Historic Site: 2015 FEMA-funded work, resurfacing of a portion of the main trail/service road with road base material, was completed with assistance from the Department of Public Works. Staff prepared an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the \$345,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant project, and bids were due on March 7. Two bids were received, both considerably over budget. CDOT has advised that the County will need to rebid the project, and Parks has elected to wait until the fall, when contractors are more available and physical conditions are less challenging. In the meantime, Parks is evaluating different bridge options and has reopened the park for the summer.

5. Ute Pass Regional Trail: The County received a State Trails grant to construct approximately 2/3 mile of trail between Ute Pass Elementary School and Winnemucca Road. Staff is initiating a design/build process with development of a scope of work as SHPO and environmental clearances are being processed. Staff continues to support the Ring the Peak Trail and is coordinating advocacy with TOSC, City Parks and the State. Jason Meyer is attending the October 11 key stakeholder meeting.

### **Planning:**

1. City of Colorado Springs Bike Master Plan: Planning Staff is serving on the Technical Advisory Committee for the update of the plan. The final TAC meeting was on August 2 to review the initial draft. A draft plan is now available for public review and will be presented to City Council in 2017.

2. Fountain Creek Regional Park Master Plan: Planning and Park Operations Divisions have launched on implementation of Phase I improvements. The dog park and Cottonwood Meadows parking lot and trails RFP was published in June. One bid was received, considerably over budget. Staff canceled the solicitation and will resubmit an RFP for parking lot design only. South District staff has initiated planning and construction of the community and demonstration gardens, with support from Pikes Peak Urban Gardens.

3. Widefield Community Park Master Plan: The Master Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on March 30. Specifications are under development for Phase 1 improvements. Parks has received the \$150,000 Community Development Block Grant Notice of Award, and is expecting a Notice to Proceed in October 2017. Staff has also submitted an \$110,000 grant application to the Colorado Springs Health Foundation for the installation of exercise equipment, updated trails, and basketball/pickleball court improvements.

4. Elephant Rock Open Space Master Plan: Staff has initiated preliminary work, such as base map development, in preparation for the upcoming master plan process.

5. Regional Open Space Committee: As proposed in the County Strategic Plan, the Planning Division coordinated the formation of a regional open space group, and the first meeting was held on May 18. The purpose is to share information and build partnerships to collectively advance open space conservation projects.

## **Flood Recovery:**

1. 2015 Flood Recovery: Jason Meyer continues to serve on the County Financial Impact Team that meets twice a month to collaboratively advance projects. Environmental clearances are underway for large projects, such as the Hanson Trailhead and New Santa Fe Trail repairs. A contract to complete the Black Forest Section 16 and Drake Lake repairs was awarded to RMC and work was completed in May, 2017. The Willow Springs design contract was awarded to J3 Engineering, and design is underway. A contract to complete Fountain Creek Regional Trail flood repairs was awarded to Wyoming Efficiency Contractors and work was completed on September 8. A contract for Hanson Trailhead design is advertised with bids due October 10. Staff is finalizing an IFB package to provide a contractor to implement trail repairs/construction along the New Santa Fe Regional Trail.
2. Highway 85/87/Maxwell Street Trailhead Bank Stabilization: The feasibility phase of this US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 14 project is nearing the end with completion of the Preliminary Design Assessment/Environmental Assessment. Construction was planned in 2017-2018; however, project cost increases by the USACE from \$2.5 million to \$3.9 million have put the project out of range for the County at this time. Thirty-five percent matching funds for construction (\$945,000) was secured through a CDBG-DR grant and State disaster recovery funds. Another \$500,000 is now needed given the increased cost. The project will be tabled until the County can secure additional funding.
3. Upper Fountain Creek Restoration: The USACE conducted a cost-benefit analysis to determine if there is Federal government interest in a Section 205 project in the Rainbow Falls vicinity. USACE staff has reported back that a project in this area is not supportable, but there may be other suitable grant programs.

## **OTHER:**

1. Culturally Modified Tree Project: The Pineries Open Space Culturally Modified Tree Assessment has been completed. The Black Forest Regional Park CMT Assessment is underway and expected to be completed in 2017.
2. Development Permit Application Reviews: Staff reviewed five development permit applications in September, including one that will be presented to the Park Advisory Board on October 11<sup>th</sup>.
3. Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District: Community Services Department Staff continues to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Group. The committees help develop and implement watershed restoration and enhancement projects.
4. Geographic Information Systems (GIS): Staff is working with the County Information Technology Department to expand El Paso County Parks' use of GIS for data collection, operational, and planning applications. Planning staff received a software upgrade in 2016. New regional park maps have been completed or are in process, and new and/or improved datasets have been received.
5. Grants for Capital Projects: Planning Staff wrote a GOCO mini-grant application for the Falcon Regional Park dog park and a GOCO planning grant application for Kane Ranch Open

Space for funding in 2017. The GOCO Board awarded both grants. Staff also applied for a CDBG grant for Phase I Improvements at Widefield Community Park for funding in 2017-2018, and was awarded the grant in July 2017. Staff has also submitted an \$110,000 grant application to the Colorado Springs Health Foundation for the installation of exercise equipment, updated trails, and basketball/pickleball court improvements at Widefield Community Park.

6. Groundwater Quality Study: The Board of County Commissioners endorsed initiation of a monitoring effort. Next steps include re-establishing the Committee and developing a scope of work and funding package for monitoring. A stakeholder meeting was held on February 22. Approval of bylaws and appointment of members was completed on June 20.

7. Internships: The Geography and Environmental Studies Program at UCCS has expressed interest in providing interns to the Planning Division. Staff will coordinate, with a goal of having intern(s) on board in 2017.

8. Website: Staff has updated Planning pages to comply with ADA recommendations. New pages and content are created as new projects are initiated.



COMMISSIONERS:  
DARRYL GLENN (PRESIDENT)  
MARK WALLER (PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE)

STAN VANDERWERF  
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR.  
PEGGY LITTLETON

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

### PARK OPERATIONS DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER, 2017

#### Operations/Misc. Projects

**Fairgrounds RV Electric** - Morton Electric has been awarded the contract for the installation of the RV pedestals and the new electrical service east of the Whittemore Building at the Fairgrounds. Morton has received a positive response back for their electrical material submittals and will be ordering the material to proceed with the project. The easement license agreement between Mountain View Electric Association and El Paso County has been approved by both parties and is waiting for final approval by BoCC. Once approval is in place, Morton Electric will construct the electrical transformer pad for MVEA to set their transformer for the RV service. The timeline for completion is expected before the end of October.

**Santa Fe Trailhead Restroom** - A purchase order has been generated for Olson Plumbing for the installation of a new potable water service line to the restroom at Baptist Rd. Scheduling has been tentatively set for the week of October 16<sup>th</sup>. The current well that supplies the restroom with water will be disconnected and shut down. Currently park staff are researching and obtaining price estimates on replacing the current waterless fixtures with either stainless steel or a vandal resistant style of restroom fixtures. County staff are working with Tri-Lakes Metro District on an easement agreement for a sanitary sewer line. If the proposed utility corridor is agreed upon, the new sewer line would be within feet of the restroom for an easy tie in. With the connection to a sanitary line, park maintenance staff will no longer have the need to maintain the Clivus units that handle all of the restroom waste.

**Insurance Claims Update** - The roof replacement on the pavilion roof at Clear Springs Ranch has been completed. Stratmoor Valley Park pavilion roof is slated for replacement on October 16th. The County is still waiting on approval of the roof replacement for Palmer Lake restroom, the restroom at Bear Creek Terrace, and the repairs of the Warming Hut and Gazebo roofs at Fox Run Regional Park.

**Bear Creek Tennis Court:** Evergreen Tennis Courts has been contacted for the repairs since they were the original installers for the material on the court. The warranty still covers the material. Just a reminder, the surface material on court #6 became dislodged in a smaller wind storm in February. Due to scheduling conflicts with Evergreen Tennis and the need for sustained warm weather to apply this type of surfacing, repair of the court will need to be moved to the spring of 2018.



Willow Springs Bridge: The bridge was damaged due to a severe storm event in July of 2016. Matrix Design Group and Terracon Consultants have been contacted to provide estimates for a Geotechnical and Scour assessment of Crews Gulch to verify if the existing bridge may be repaired. The bridge itself was examined by AIG engineering representatives and found to be structurally stable. Once the estimates are in from Matrix for the assessments, they will be presented to AIG for consideration. If AIG will cover the engineering cost, the County will proceed with the engineering recommendations for repair or removal. Matrix Design Group is scheduled to provide the estimates in October.

**Fountain Creek Nature Center Security Cameras** - Operations staff have investigated the cost of repairing and upgrading the security cameras for the Nature Center. VTI Security, the company that supplies and maintains security systems for other County departments, has presented a bid which is substantially higher than the one from ACA Security, the original installer of the current system. Repairs and upgrades will proceed once a funding source is available.

**Playgrounds Inspections** - All playground inspections for El Paso County Parks have been completed and the assessment reports for each playground have been provided. Staff held a meeting with the owner of Playground Safety Solutions, to go over his findings and assist in offering solutions for some of the more difficult code violations. This will be a good opportunity for staff to address any concerns they have. It was agreed upon that the highest priority is the lack of surface material in the playgrounds. The material needed is costly. Discussions will be required on locating a funding source and scheduling these repairs as soon as possible.

**Bear Creek Dog Park Water Fountain Leak** - Olson Plumbing is scheduled to repair the underground leak starting October 5<sup>th</sup>. Olson gave an estimate of 1 to 1-1/2 days for repair. This is the waterline that supplies the hydrant for the main dog park. The hydrant is utilized in filling bowls to supply dogs with water. This leak was losing 1600 gallons of water per day according to Facilities staff. This leak is currently isolated and shut down.

**Park Administration Office Skylight** - Trafton Roofing was awarded the bid for replacing the leaking skylight at PHQ. The skylight was engineered and fabricated in Denver. Trafton Roofing received the skylight and was scheduled to replace it on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Due to weather and other circumstances the replacement has been delayed. Depending on weather, the new skylight will be installed on the weekend of September 29<sup>th</sup> or the weekend of October 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Central District**

**Bear Creek Regional Park** - Due to unusually high precipitation rates many trails throughout the district were damaged and athletic fields were severely affected by heavy use under saturated conditions. The unfavorable conditions did allow staff to complete deep cleaning and organizing efforts in the maintenance shop and allowed time to clean and service tools and equipment. Despite the unfavorable conditions Central staff was able to complete maintenance responsibilities and finish several projects.

Staff completed aeration, fertilization, and over-seeding efforts to Bear Creek Regional Park and are now prepping for winterizing the irrigation system. A final broadleaf herbicide application was completed to all turf areas and a non-selective application was applied to parking lots, landscape beds and sidewalks.

Central staff is preparing for the upcoming snow season and has stockpiled all necessary materials. Snow call-out lists are complete and plowing equipment is being inspected and serviced.

Playground audits were performed earlier in the month and staff is strategizing on ways to meet compliance. Funding sources will need to be allocated prior to service efforts. Many less significant noncompliance issues are being addressed internally.

Staff added four 12ft white pines to Bear Creek West to help define field boundaries and to add winter texture and color to the park. The trees were donated by Harding Nursery and are a great addition to the park landscape.

A purchase order was approved and processed for fire mitigation efforts in Bear Creek East. Mitigation efforts will begin 11-6-17.

**Equestrian Skill Course** - Staff is working in conjunction with the Friends Group to plan and design the final phase of the steps obstacle. We hope to complete the expert steps obstacle in late fall.

**Illegal Camp Removal** - There has been a slight increase in illegal camping activity. Staff continues to remove obvious trash and remains diligent with camp removal. Our team is working closely with park security to hopefully send the message to illegal campers that their actions will not be tolerated. We hope that our fuel reduction /fire mitigation efforts will deter illegal camping near the east end of Bear Creek Regional Park.

**Tennis Court Damage** - No new maintenance tasks to report.

**Bear Creek Nature Center** - Attendance has been very high at the Nature Center and Central staff has been busy with janitorial efforts and facility cleaning. Staff removed several wasps nest from the outdoor classroom and Songbird Trail. Staff mowed the natural areas surrounding the facility and made repairs to the heavily eroded maintenance road on the east side of the facility. Staff hosted the first annual Friends Celebration event which recognized the various groups for their outstanding efforts. The groups used the exposure to recruit new members and to sign-up volunteers for upcoming projects.

**Rainbow Falls Historic Site** - The Central team continues to battle illegal access issues at Rainbow Falls. Staff is hoping to work in conjunction with EPC Security and Manitou PD to hopefully reduce noncompliance. Law Fence installed a security fence to deter trespassing on the south side of the historic site in hopes of eliminating foot travel along a popular section of social trail. Staff installed a 60ft security fence near the bridge along Manitou Ave to prevent access from Manitou Ave.

**Bear Creek Dog Park** - Our team continues to provide exceptional customer service to this highly used area. Staff spends an average of three hours per day with facility / park cleaning. With the huge influx of visitors staff is simply trying to keep up with emptying trash cans and cleaning restrooms. Other tasks such as mowing, string trimming, and trash removal are being completed as well. Staff began mowing the large native area in the center of the park to provide more open space for visitors to utilize.

Staff is currently working on repairing a water mainline leak and removing an unused water fountain.

Central staff is working with the Department of Transportation to repair several damaged areas in the main parking area.

A purchase order has been submitted to replace the eight entrance gates in the main parking lot. Pending approval, the new gates will provide safer access to the park and will reduce maintenance involvement with repairs to the old, worn out gates.

The Central team made several repairs to obstacles in the agility area and all obstacles are now fully functional.

**Volunteer Groups** - Many of the dog park Friends continue to assist with maintenance tasks including waste removal and stocking bag dispenser stations.

**Downtown Facilities** - Staff completed aeration, fertilization, and over-seeding efforts to all 16 properties and is now prepping for winterizing the irrigation system. Staff made several herbicide applications to remove unwanted weeds from high profile areas. The team continues to work diligently to repair and improve irrigation systems throughout the district. Staff completed significant efforts of adding many yards of mulch to the Pikes Peak Center.

**Ute Pass Trail System** - Staff spent several days mowing, string trimming, and repairing eroded areas along the entire trail corridor. The trail is in great condition and will be enjoyed by many.

**Jones Park** - Staff ordered ten "AREA UNDER RESTORATION" signs to place in areas near the recently decommissioned 667 Trail. We hope to visit the area in late October to install the signs.

**Training** - No new training to report.

### **East District**

**Fairgrounds** – The Fairgrounds have been relatively quiet for the month of September. Staff prepped the grounds for a few minor events such as, a wedding reception, an auto race, gymkhana and the annual Health Fair held in the Whittemore Building. The Health Fair is a great service for the residents of rural eastern El Paso County.

Fairgrounds staff members were able to begin work on a retaining wall project at the Fairgrounds with blocks that had been stored on the grounds. After the installation of the new livestock pavilion, staff noticed some drainage issues on the north-east side of the pavilion. Due to the significant amount of rain we received during the 2017 County Fair, staff was able to identify the main issue that needed to be addressed. Staff has installed two French drains that collect the run off from the wash pad and the pavilion itself and redirected it out through the base of the retaining wall. This will allow for better control of the storm water runoff and hopefully, alleviate some of the barn flooding issues we had during this year's Fair.

With the summer equestrian season coming to a close, staff began work on opening up the indoor arena for open riding as well as for the winter gymkhana series. Staff moved the announcer's booth, reinstalled the arena panels and turned the arena. The livestock arena building is ready for use.

**Drake Lake Open Space** - There has not been any additional damage to the Drake Lake washout. County staff held a public meeting at the site and addressed any questions or concerns the public had. Staff is also in the process of removing dead trees while the water level is lower. The parks supervisor worked with the Environmental department to ensure we had no birds nesting in the trees prior to removal. Staff will leave the stumps for fish habitat and for the turtles to sun themselves on. Staff will keep an eye on the area and make repairs as needed.

**Rock Island Trail** - Staff was able to box grade and mow the Rock Island Regional Trail. Staff continues to replace broken fence rails and posts when needed.

Geo Caching Colorado is one of the adopt-a-park groups that adopted a portion of the Rock Island Regional Trail. They held a volunteer project at the trailhead for their members to participate. The group removed trash and debris from along the trail, assisted with noxious weed mitigation and trimmed back overgrown trees and shrubs. Geo Caching Colorado has been a great group to work with and we look forward to continuing our partnership.

**Homestead Ranch Regional Park** - Staff began the final herbicide treatment of the year at the beginning of September. Staff treated all of the beds and the areas surrounding the restroom facilities.

Staff was recently contacted by an Eagle Scout looking to perform a project in the park. Staff coordinated the removal of several saplings in order to support a healthy forest. The scout

completed his project on September 16<sup>th</sup> with 25 volunteers assisting. They were able to remove several saplings and deadwood along the trail, making the area look much better.

**Falcon Regional Park** - During the summer monsoon season staff noticed some drainage issues we were having with the ballfields. The water on the red field was pooling up behind home plate and not draining to the desired location. The park supervisor met with the operations supervisor to assess the situation and come up with a plan to repair the issue. Pioneer delivered 50 tons of infield mix and parks staff regraded the entire red field to provide better drainage. Since the regrading has been completed there have been no other issues. There is still a minor issue on the blue field that will be addressed in spring of 2018.

## **North District**

**General Information** - In the North District, September has been a busy and productive month. We had two Eagle Scouts groups complete their projects, including a new field kiosk, and painting metal railings in Black Forest. El Paso County Wildland Fire Crew met with Colorado Springs Fire Departments for classes a training including clearing trees, fire breaks, and fuel reductions. They also provided the parks system with additional forest mitigation.

**Fox Run Regional Park** - Throughout Fox Run Regional Park, we box bladed and graded all roads and parking lots, including the area around Aspen and Spruce Lakes. We performed weekly turf mowing, and checked irrigation systems to evaluate needs; resulting in replacing broken valves in Pine Meadows. In addition we completed Fall aerating and fertilizing, as well as replaced split rail along the perimeter of the park. Park staff has completed the renovation of Fox Run's main landscape bed. Staff is excited to include spruces, boulders, lights and a variety of grasses, shrubs, and flowers. With remaining funds staff was able to complete an additional bed located near Aspen Lake which includes boulder benches, a small pathway that divides the two landscape beds as well as the spruces, grasses, flower and boulders.

**Black Forest Regional Park** - In Black Forest Regional Park, the Wildland Fire Crew cleared trees to reduce fuels and create fire breaks. Staff completed seasonal aerating and fertilizing, we hand-watered ponderosa pine trees, continued weekly turf mowing, and cut down a mature pine tree located near the restrooms. In addition we have started clearing out the old landscape beds near the playgrounds, and have planted a few trees in the area. Staff has also box bladed and graded all roads and parking lots in the park.

**Pineries Open Space** - In the Pineries Open Space, we continued removing wood for Phase 1 development of the Pineries. We have also been monitoring trespassers using ATVs on the property and de-touring their access through the use of dead tree trunks placed on property lines and access points. We have also repaired and replaced many gates that have been broken and cut.

**Palmer Lake Recreation Area** - The North District has been providing mulch delivery to the Crawford Memorial construction site. Staff has replaced broken split rail along the parking lot as well as placed decorative boulders.

**New Santa Fe Regional Trail (Baptist Road trail head, Highway 105 trail head, Ice Lake, North Gate trail head)** - Staff mowed native grasses.

**Hodgen Road Trail** - Due to heavy rain fall amounts the Hodgen trail received significant erosional damages that closed the trail. Staff rebuilt 3,300ft of trail with the use of heavy machinery, material delivery, and placement of culverts to reduce future trail damage.

## **South District**

**General Overview and Staffing** – Staff completed fall turf maintenance tasks and continued to make progress on Fountain Creek Regional Park Master Plan improvements.

The City of Fountain has begun work on the realignment of the Fountain Creek Regional Park entrance off of HWY 85/87.

The South district continues to battle homeless camps and overnight campers that move around from park to park. Creek and community clean-ups took place on two days in the district.

Staff completed EPA boom deployment training put on by the County and the EPA. This training was in effort to improve the County's readiness to react to a contaminant spill in Fountain Creek, like the diesel spill that occurred last year.

**Equipment** – The South district received the second of two upgraded trucks. Thanks to Tim Wolken and Fleet managers for making this happen. The newer trucks are helping to improve staff safety and efficiency. Staff has begun to prep all snow removal equipment for the upcoming snow season. Fleet is in the process of purchasing needed snow equipment for the district.

**Fountain Creek Regional Park** – Duckwood Community Garden construction continues to move forward. Staff completed the installation of a new 700ft water line and 5 hydrants that will serve the garden from our McKinnon well. Staff over seeded all turf areas and caught up on weed control applications. Century link installed new phone lines and changed the shop's main phone number. Staff began the planning process for the Demonstration Garden, which is part of the master plan. The park continued to be busy with reservations throughout September.

**Fountain Creek Nature Center** – Staff worked on trail maintenance and split rail repair. Staff assisted with the Creek Week Cleanup project.

**Willow Springs Ponds** – The Willow Springs Pond area has been experiencing a large volume of transients and campers passing through. Staff has selected the contractor for forestry thinning and fire mitigation work. We expect the work to commence the first week of October.

**Widefield Community Park** – The planning and operations departments continued the Master Plan Improvement process.

Staff completed about 1 acre of tree trimming work. We did have a large cottonwood fall down on the west side of the park. Thankfully no one was hurt. Staff removed and cleaned up the fallen tree.

**Stratmoor Valley Park** – Staff, Tim Wolken and County Environmental, along with CONO, conducted a highly successful community clean-up project. Over twelve 30 yard roll-off dumpsters were filled in a few short hours with rubbish from the local neighborhood. This helps the parks by helping the community remove trash and unwanted items like old broken furniture properly. Otherwise these items are often illegally dumped on County property which leads to parks staff having to spend time and resources to clean-up these dump sites. CONO volunteers helped with the project. CONO also provided a free BBQ lunch for the community, during the event.

**Stratmoor Hills Park** – Staff conducted routine maintenance.

**Hanson Open Space Trailhead** – Remains closed. Staff still checks on the trailhead weekly.

**Maxwell Trailhead** – Staff conducted routine maintenance. Army Corps of Engineers has closed the trail from Maxwell north to El Pomar for railroad track and bridge work. This section of trail could be closed for several months.

**Grinnell Boulevard** – Staff conducted routine maintenance.

**Clear Springs Ranch** – Staff conducted routine maintenance. Trafton Roofing completed repairs to the pavilion roof that had been damaged by wind storms earlier in the year.

**Additional Sites** – Staff performed routine maintenance checks at the following locations:  
McCrea Reservoir, Mule Train