



**TOPS Working Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes - FINAL
Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

Members Present: Jason Alwine, Cathy Grossman, Nancy Hobbs, Joe Lavorini, Lee Milner, Jim Klever, Jeff Mohrmann, Becky Wegner, Lily Weissgold

Members Absent: N/A

Alternates Present: N/A

Parks Board Liaisons Present: Jason Rupinski, Carol Beckman, Mina Liebert

Parks Board Liaisons Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Britt Haley, Karen Palus, Kurt Schroeder, Kim King, Christi Mehew, David Deitemeyer, Steve Bodette, Kelly Rajab

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Jason Alwine brought the meeting to order at 7:37 a.m.

Closed Executive Session (Presented by Britt Haley, Design and Development Manager/TOPS Program Manager)

In accord with the City Charter Art. III, §3-60(d) and the Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(a and e), the TOPS Working Committee, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold a Closed Executive Session. The issues to be discussed involve determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations and instructing negotiators regarding a land acquisition matter. The Chair shall poll the TOPS Working Committee members, and, upon consent of two-thirds of the members present, may hold a closed executive session. If consent to the closed executive session is not given, the item may be discussed in open session or withdrawn from consideration.

Motion: To enter into a closed executive session.

1st – Cathy Grossman, 2nd – Nancy Hobbs, Approved, Unanimous

Motion: To end the closed executive session.

1st – Nancy Hobbs, 2nd – Lily Weissgold, Approved, Unanimous

Agenda Preview Jason Alwine announced the Rustic Hills Drainage Improvement at Rock Island Trail action item will not be presented today.

Board Picture (Taken by David Deitemeyer, Park Planner)

Announcements

Britt Haley, Design and Development Manager/TOPS Program Manager

- She wished the TOPS Working Committee happy holidays.
- The Rustic Hills Drainage Improvement at Rock Island Trail action item will not be presented because additional research is needed regarding the property being purchased with open space funds. The item will be postponed until more information is received from the City Attorney's office after an updated legal review is completed.
- The Legacy Loop Shooks Run presentation will be presented by Dan Krueger from Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig (FHU) and Steve Bodette, Capital Project Coordinator. A detailed presentation concerning Shooks Run was presented to the Committee on December 7, 2016. She distributed the slide presentation from December 7, 2016 to the Committee for review. Today's presentation is an update.
- She will be leaving at 9:40 a.m. due to another meeting that she needs to attend.

Approval of Minutes – November 1, 2017

Motion: To approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 TOPS Working Committee meeting.

1st – Cathy Grossman, 2nd – Joe Lavorini, Approved, Unanimous

Citizen Discussion

Bill Koerner, citizen, the Transit Mix Concrete Company has applied for a permit to mine an area south of Highway 115. He participated in a tour of this area which was coordinated by Warren Dean who is the Great Outdoors Colorado representative. This is a beautiful property and it's far away; however, if the Committee has an interest he urged them to please contact board member Warren Dean.

Presentations

2017 Budget Update (Presented by Kelly Rajab, Parks Financial Analyst)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: TOPS expenditure limits; 2017 TOPS revenue; and TOPS expenditures to date.

Discussion included: the stewardship program actual expenditure through October 2017; the TOPS program is in compliance; future acquisition funds; aim to stay within the percentages each year; expenditures over the life of the tax; some projects are allocated over several years; bank fees; revenue projections are not actuals; cost per acre for maintenance of open space properties; and a request for an additional budget meeting and a TOPS monthly expenditure report.

Legacy Loop Shooks Run Update (Presented by Steve Bodette, Capital Project Coordinator and Dan Krueger, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig (FHU) Consultant Team Project Manager)

The presentation included: the current project status; updates since December 2016; and the next steps.

- The project design is 60% complete.
- They are resolving issues with the railroad and progress is being made.

- The City has received the right-of-entry from the Lane Foundation which will provide access to the property.
- The environmental survey will soon be completed.
- FHU provided information regarding a “jack and bore” alternative for the trail crossing.
- The next steps include: finalize the details regarding the railroad underpass; receive approval for the underpass; continue the discussion regarding the use of the alley; move the design process forward and submit it to the railroad for review; and acquire the right-of-way to the area in 2018.

Discussion included: receipt of the right of entry of the property to the south known as Campers Village to survey the trail alignment; the option chosen is to go under the railroad just west of the Shooks Run Trail. Other options have been analyzed and ruled out; this option moves it west to avoid the flood plain; lack of space to go over the railroad tracks; pipe size – 14 feet in diameter and 70 feet long; exploring the best method to get underneath the railroad tracks; receiving more feedback from the railroad with 60% of the design complete; timeline – January hire a geotech specialist and the final design to be completed by early summer.

Susan Davies, Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) Executive Director, stated the north side of the Legacy Loop is costing more than expected and asked if there is a timeline for this area to be completed. Steve Bodette stated a sign is being erected explaining the phases of the project. The designs are 60% complete for the area from Popcycle Bridge to Templeton Gap and they are currently working on the Popcycle Bridge trailhead design. The north gap has challenges with the grades and going under Cascade and Nevada Avenues. Costs continue to go up so a completion date cannot be determined.

Citizen Discussion

Bill Koerner, citizen, announced the Corral Bluffs Alliance will be having a celebration on Monday, December 11th. Please contact Bill Koerner or Jackie Hilaire for more information.

Susan Davies, TOSC Executive Director, stated she recently had a meeting with Tim Wolken, El Paso County Community Services Director and the discussion included the increase of costs. She asked the Committee to start thinking now regarding voter approval of the TOPS program in 2025 as their role will be pivotal moving forward.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the TOPS Working Committee meeting at 9:50 a.m.

1st – Nancy Hobbs, 2nd – Jeff Mohrmann, Approved, Unanimous