



**TOPS Working Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes -FINAL
Wednesday, July 6, 2016**

Members Present: Jason Alwine, Lee Milner, Cathy Grossman, Nancy Hobbs, Joe Lavorini, Jeff Mohrmann, Sarah Musick,

Members absent: Sarah Blakeslee, Becky Wegner

Alternates Present: Jim Klever

Parks Board Liaisons Present: Scot Hume

Parks Board Liaisons Absent: Jason Rupinski

Staff Present: Chris Lieber, Christi Mehew, Kurt Schroeder

.....
Jason Alwine brought the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

Agenda Preview

Announcements

Chris Lieber - Update on TOPS related projects:

- I-25 and Cimarron – There will be many upcoming closures due to project progress.
- Bike Master Plan – The plan is underway and the new bike planner, Kate Brady, is leading this effort.
- Bluestem Management Plan – A recommendation was made to remove some falling barn structures; however, those structures will remain due to protecting nesting owls.
- Corral Bluffs – New fencing and signage will soon be installed. The state will formally take action in September to designate Corral Bluffs as a Colorado Natural Areas Program and participation at this meeting is encouraged.
- Cottonwood Creek underpasses for the Cottonwood Trail at Academy – Many meetings have been scheduled to discuss alternatives.
- Cottonwood Creek Trail at the underpass at Austin bluffs and Woodmen – The project is ready to go out to bid.
- Foothills Trail at 30th Street – The design process is underway.
- Inspire Grant – The grant helps connect children with nature and many of the Open Spaces will be featured.
- The Lake Moraine Trail at South Slope – The project is progressing and moving forward with Medicine Wheel as the project partner.
- The Legacy Loop – Many public meetings have been held and lots of work is occurring with focus on the trailhead and the Rock Island Trail connection.
- Manitou Incline Phase II – The project is out to bid and construction should begin after Labor Day.
- Midland Trail at 21st near Gold Hill Mesa – The design process is underway.
- Pickleball Courts at Monument Valley Park – The courts are being poured.

- The Land Exchange with the Broadmoor – Due diligence is continuing with environmental assessments. A surveyor has been hired and all parcels will be surveyed.
- Nancy Lewis Park – A public meeting has been held regarding the new playground.
- Rock Island Trail from Sand Creek to Constitution – A consultant has been hired and the design process has started. Public meetings will be starting next month.
- Sand Creek Trail from Constitution to Palmer Park – The acquisitions of twenty three easements are needed and half of the easements are completed. This project will start construction approximately late Fall or early Spring.
- Sand Creek Trail from Las Vegas to Hancock – The project is in the final stages with anticipation to open next month.
- Shooks Run Trail – The planning and design process is continuing.
- Skyline Trail at Union Boulevard – Three acquisitions have been completed.
- Stratton Management Plan – Plan implementation is underway.
- University Park Trail at UCCS – The project will go out to bid next week and construction will begin this Fall.
- Ute Valley Master Plan – A vast amount of trail repair work has been done and the trailhead will be constructed within the next two weeks. The bidding cycle is complete.
- Venezia Community Park – Artificial turf is currently being installed.
- Watkins Property – The acquisition of the property closed two weeks ago.

Approval of Minutes

Motion – to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2016 meeting:

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

Citizen Discussion

- No citizen comments.

Presentations

1. Envision Shooks Run (Presented by Aaron Egbert, City of Colorado Springs Senior Civil Engineer)

[Link to Power Point Presentation](#)

The power point presentation included: the importance of the project for Public Works; project goals; planning process; community concern about funding; community involvement summary; project team efforts; opportunities for our city; recommended corridor theme; corridor theme approval process; community opportunity; Public Works observations; realities of the recommended corridor theme and the TOPS Working Committee involvement.

- Aaron Egbert introduced Dan Krueger, the Consultant Team Project Manager from Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, and Lisa Bachman, the Public Relations Consultant from Bachman PR.
- Lisa Bachman distributed a sign-up sheet for the Shooks Run Newsletter.
- This is a 30 - 50 year project. The City has an internal team and several departments are represented.
- Many of the structures on Shooks Run are deteriorating, the channel needs to be widened and storm water improvements are needed.

- A Facilities Master Plan will be adopted and the appropriate approval process will be followed.
- The TOPS Working Committee will have opportunities to be a part of this project according to what the ordinance will allow with a focus on sustainable funding.
- Bill Koerner (Trails and Open Space Coalition) Commented that this is a great plan and in addition expressed concerns regarding with the lengthy project time as plans could change. Aaron Egbert stated a Master Plan is being developed with several departments involved. The plan will be refreshed every five years to see if changes are needed and to show progress.

2. 2D Trail Improvements (Presented by Chris Lieber, Parks Development Manager/TOPS Program Manager)

- The goal is to complete eight projects by the end of the year. The projects include the following trails: Skyline, Sinton, Pikes Peak Greenway, Sand Creek, Palmer Mesa, Rock Island, Homestead and Shooks Run.
- Skyline Trail from Research Boulevard to Union Boulevard and Woodmen Road construction is completed.
- A consultant has been hired for the Legacy Loop and they will provide a signage template for all 2D projects.
- The north end of Monument Valley Park called gravel hill has been entirely transformed and is ready to open up within the next two weeks.
- Sand Creek Trail from Airport to Hancock, the work will begin within 20-30 days with focusing on repairing the drainage issue across the pedestrian ramp, repairing concrete, repainting and pruning vegetation.
- Palmer Mesa Trail work starts next week and the goal is to complete this project before school starts.
- Rock Island Trail from Chelton to Academy and Academy to Powers Boulevard will be going out to bid within a week.
- Homestead Trail, North Carefree to South Carefree, design is complete and will be going out to bid in August.
- Shooks Run Trail corridor behind the Bon Shopping Center, a new trail will be laid and citizens have requested a pedestrian crossway through the Bon shopping center with the trail going from Wahsatch to Weber Street. A donor has offered to help regrade and make this area lower which gives ADA access.
- A sign was shown to the Committee which states "2D at work" which will be posted when trails are closed.
- The 20th Anniversary of the TOPS program is next year. A meeting will take place with Committee members to discuss ideas for the celebration.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn
1st – Lee Milner, 2nd – Sarah Musick, Approved – Unanimous
- Motion to go into a Closed Executive Session
1st – Nancy Hobbs, 2nd – Lee Milner, Approved – Unanimous

Closed Executive Session - Discussion pertaining to a property matter.