

A G E N D A

SPECIAL JOINT WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL & PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, TO BE HELD JANUARY 11, 2011, AT 6:00 P.M., AT THE COTTONWOOD RECREATION CENTER, LOCATED AT 150 SOUTH 6TH STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

- I. CALL TO ORDER.
- II. ROLL CALL.
- III. WELCOME &, INTRODUCTIONS.
- IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF:

Comments regarding items listed on the agenda are limited to a 5 minute time period per speaker.

1. FUTURE DIRECTION, NEEDS, PROGRAMS, POLICY AND PRIORITIES, INVOLVING THE COMMISSION'S FIVE-YEAR PLANNING DOCUMENT & THE TRAILS PLANNING DOCUMENT.
 2. FUNDING AND FUTURE PLANNING FOR THE COTTONWOOD RECREATION CENTER. 
- V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC--This portion of the agenda is set aside for the public to address the Council regarding an item that is not listed on the agenda for discussion. However, the Council cannot engage in discussion regarding any item that is not officially listed on the agenda for discussion and/or action (A.R.S. §38-431.02.A.(H).) Comments are limited to a 5 minute time period.
 - VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The Cottonwood Recreation Center is accessible to the disabled in accordance with Federal "504" and "ADA" laws. Those with needs for special typeface print or hearing devices may request these from the City Clerk (TDD 634-5526.) All requests must be made 24 hours prior to the meeting.

City of Cottonwood, Arizona
City Council Agenda Communication



Meeting Date: January 11, 2010

Subject: Discussion – Parks & Recreation Commission

Department: Parks & Recreation

From: Richard Faust, Community Services General Manager
Doug Hulse, Parks & Recreation Commission Chairperson

REQUESTED ACTION

A joint meeting on the behalf of the City Council and the Parks & Recreation Commission to discuss future direction, needs, programs, policy and priorities involving both the Commission Five-Year Planning document and the newly implemented Trails Planning document.

If the Council desires to approve this item the suggested motion is:

No Motion is necessary.

BACKGROUND

The Parks & Recreation Commission is charged by the City Council to review community needs associated with parks, open space and development activities/projects and capital improvement priorities. In the overview of public service objectives and needs for the City, the Commission Representatives have historically weighed in on specifics of future concerns as they parallel a variety of Community projects and needs. As it pertains to input desired by the City Council, this provides another avenue towards “public process” to be utilized by the Council for communication input and strategic planning.

JUSTIFICATION/BENEFITS/ISSUES

The Parks & Recreation Commission has consistently placed as a priority for implementation, the need to conduct a “Needs Assessment” and “Master Plan Study” for constituency involvement in the community process thereby obtaining vital community information involving parks, trails and recreation amenities. Historically throughout Arizona and the national front, many communities implement a planning process through a community needs assessment and a master plan for community wide consensus and direction for parks and recreation planning (gathering information for a public process). In effect this was part of the process involved with the Recreation Center Feasibility Study. The contractor (Barker Rinker Seacat) implemented a “Needs Assessment” throughout the community to gain valuable information (insight) from the citizens and thereby obtained scientific data from the

community for the purposes of more efficient recreation amenities and services. Currently the City of Cottonwood relies heavily on the Capital Improvement Process (CIP) as a means of obtaining valuable direction for the City during the Budget process. Part of the CIP methodology involves the question of what type of planning process was implemented in order to reach or access value to a budgeted request by Department Heads. A “Needs Assessment” and “Parks/Trails Master Plan” study would benefit the Council, Commission and Community in obtaining valuable information to construct indicators and gather raw data to support community growth along with guidelines for future growth and annexations. Simply put, programmatic planning and strategic planning for new capital improvements can be tailored to the needs of the community if there is reliable information from the citizens about their preferences, interests and opinions. Without obtaining specific information, Councils, Commissions and staff are forced to rely upon special interest groups for needed information within the community which tend towards partiality and can be flawed. Needs assessments and Master Plans provide consistent information and provide for valuable planning models making it far easier to defend to the general public than decisions made with single source input.

Example: Verde Valley Regional Trails Concept Plan was a document that was created over a two (2) year period by various representatives from throughout the region. Several hundred people attended the meetings involving this planning document, thereby providing vital community consensus towards a public planning document. This “Trails Concept Plan” can be used in the future by the City of Cottonwood towards supporting a more advanced/cohesive planning document (Cottonwood Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails - Master Plan) with a variety of study elements for Council and future staff, leaders and public to utilize as a road map to the future.

COST/FUNDING SOURCE

N/A.

REVIEWED BY

City Manager: _____

City Attorney: _____

ATTACHMENTS

Two (2) attachments as follows:

- Parks & Recreation Five-Year Plan (2010) – 1 page
- Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Trails 2000 – 2010 Master Plan (Segmented to include front page and table of contents) – 11 pages

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FIVE-YEAR PLAN

10/5/10

PROJECT	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
1. Play Apparatus for Cottonwood Recreation Center Leisure Pool Water Colors System	\$245,000				
2. Verde Village Unit 8 Park Development	\$30,000	\$30,000			
3. Master Plan Study – Parks and Trail Systems			\$120,000		
4. Urban Trail System: Riverfront Trails System, Corridor System access, Del Monte Wash Greenbelt Corridor Trail System				\$150,000 (RFP & access trails)	
5. Park Land Acquisitions (Would include any development including Ball Field Facilities) and/or purchase of Parks Land for Development: Soccer Facilities Expansion Project/Football Fields and additional land for future cultural facilities.				Future Revenue Event	
6. Old Town Community Park with Amphitheater, Gazebo, Children's Play Apparatus and other Neighborhood Park Amenities.				\$100,000 (include in Special Revenue Event)	
7. Civic Center Rehabilitation: Purchase of stage lighting, sound system and projection booth equipment			\$35,000		
8. Relocation of Tennis Center 6-Plex to Riverfront				\$400,000 (include in future revenue event)	
9. Convert old Tennis Center to Water Play Feature				\$275,000 (include in future revenue event)	



**Colorado Springs
Parks, Recreation
& Trails**

*2000 - 2010
Master Plan*



Colorado Springs Parks & Recreation

EDAW

January 2000



From the Group Support Manager

PARKS AND RECREATION



CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

January 4, 2000

The Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to present this Master Plan as a guide for development of parks, recreation facilities and trails for the period 2000 to 2010. This plan concludes a year of surveys, interviews, and analysis, and represents many hours of work by Parks and Recreation staff and our consultant, EDAW from Fort Collins, Colorado. There are numerous challenges ahead in the next decade to keep up with the growth of Colorado Springs, such as finding suitable parkland, assembling adequate capital resources, and securing necessary easements and access rights for trails. The greatest challenge may be that the construction of many new parks, recreation facilities and trails will require increases in maintenance and operational staff which need to be funded in order to keep these amenities available to the community.

The Implementation chapter of the Master Plan addresses, in an overview format, different ways to accomplish both construction and staffing of the new parks, recreation facilities and trails. Further discussion of these topics will follow in a Parks and Recreation Management Plan, which will be a companion document .

We wish to thank the many citizens who participated in the process of developing this plan and the Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for their comments and guidance.

We hope you will find the information contained in the Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan interesting and helpful.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Butcher, Group Support Manager
Parks and Recreation

THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION
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TEL 719-385-5940 FAX 719-578-6934 WEB <http://web-colorado-springs.com>



Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Trails 2000 - 2010 Master Plan

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CHAPTER ONE — THE PLAN SUMMARY

Introduction

The City of Colorado Springs is situated in one of the most spectacular settings along the Front Range. The City's location at the base of Pikes Peak provides dramatic views of this prominent landmark from almost every location in the metro area. Furthermore, the City encompasses a diverse array of natural areas, including forested foothills, sheer-walled canyons, mountain streams, unique rock formations, expansive grasslands, meandering creeks and scenic bluffs and mesas. In 1997, the City of Colorado Springs was home to at least 323,731 people, and it is projected to support a population of 409,360 by the year 2010.



*Pikes Peak from the North
Slope Recreation Area*

This Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan defines policies and projects for the next 10 years that will provide a balanced system of conveniently located parks, interconnected urban trails, and multi-purpose recreational facilities. The Master Plan is based on an inventory of existing conditions as well as an analysis of community needs, including valuable direction provided by Colorado Springs residents through survey responses and comments made in a series of public workshops and other forums.

Summary of Recommendations

The summary of recommendations is presented in the following sequence: parklands and natural areas, urban trails, and recreational facilities including multi-purpose recreation centers, sports facilities, and sports fields.

Parklands are discussed both in terms of introducing a new classification system as well as adjusting level of service standards and recommending new park locations. A system for classifying natural areas is also introduced in order to define an appropriate management framework for the various types of properties the City acquires. The City's urban trail system is also evaluated. Additional trail development is recommended that would complete the City's core trail network and link the system together. While a variety of trail designs are proposed, the Plan emphasizes non-motorized, multi-purpose trails accommodating the needs of recreationalists as well as commuters.

The Master Plan also recommends the development of additional recreational facilities and evaluates level of service standards for multi-purpose facilities, specialized facilities (e.g., swimming pools, ice and in-line rinks, skateboarding parks), and sports fields. Key issues considered during the formulation of the recommendations for facilities included: geographic distribution and ease of accessibility, recent participation patterns in sports activities, demand for services, and level of service offerings in similar communities. Key findings from studies



■ **Special Purpose Park Recommendations**

The recently funded Confluence Park should be classified as a special purpose park. Confluence Park should be carefully planned to ensure that the park is well utilized by city residents and visitors, and becomes the focal point of civic activities in the community. The existing Pioneer Square, Acacia and Antlers Parks should be reclassified into this new category of special purpose park.



Riding on the trail

■ **Urban Trails**

A three-tiered trail system should be developed to offer residents of Colorado Springs an off-street recreational and transportation system for non-motorized uses. Tier 1 trails are paved multi-purpose trails that can accommodate a variety of trail users including walkers, joggers, recreational bicyclists, commuting bicyclist, and horseback riders (as appropriate) within the same trail corridor. A secondary soft surface trail adjacent to the paved trail surface would be provided where feasible to reduce user conflicts.

The Tier 2 trail system would provide feeder trails for the Tier 1 trails and would consist of a single paved trail of concrete or asphalt. Tier 3 trails would be less improved trails located in the mountains or foothills. These would be comparatively narrower, soft surface trails with no shoulders.

Over the next 20 years, the City has planned for the development of approximately 153 miles of additional trail. In the near term, trail development should focus on completion of the proposed 54.4 miles of multi-purpose trail system (Tier 1 trails). Completion of the Tier 1 trail system would link major trail corridors and provide for more even coverage across the City. In addition, the Master Plan prioritizes completion of the Tier 2 trails to increase access to the major trail system. In total, the urban trail system could include approximately 180 miles of trails by the year 2010 compared with the current approximate 65 miles of trails.

The Master Plan also places priority on acquisition of right-of-ways (a minimum of 50 feet) for trail corridors in danger of being lost to other development.

■ **Recreation Center Development**

The Plan recommends the establishment of a level of service radius for recreation centers of approximately a 15-minute automobile trip, which in most areas of the City equates to approximately three miles. This Plan recommends the development of three additional recreation centers in the eastern, southern and central quadrants of the City for a total of six new recreation centers and one renovated facility. These centers should be large facilities, between 60,000 and 70,000 square feet, and include an indoor leisure pool, one or more gymnasiums suitable for basketball and volleyball, fitness and craft rooms, and space specifically dedicated to teen and senior recreational programming. Outdoor swimming facilities should also be considered.



■ **Senior Center Development**

The Master Plan recommends incorporating a senior wing into several of the planned and proposed recreation centers, as well as incorporating elements such as therapeutic pools, game rooms and craft rooms. Including a full-service kitchen and multi-purpose meeting/dining room for serving meals and conducting social events should also be considered. The Plan targets three of the seven planned and proposed recreation centers to include a seniors' wing. These facilities should be located in the northern, southern and eastern portion of the City in order to provide the best access to residents throughout the City. The central portion of the City is already served with the existing senior center, however it does not include an aquatics component.



Senior Center art class

■ **Sports Facilities and Sports Fields Projects**

The Master Plan recommends the establishment of targeted level of service standards for the provision of sports facilities and sports fields. The selection of a recommended level of service was dependent on several factors. One of the most important factors was the current level of service, which was evaluated for its ability to meet current demand. Several sources of information were used to assess current demand including discussions with City staff, interviews with user groups, participation trends, public comments from City residents solicited through collection of written survey data, and data collected from similar communities.

For the most part, the targeted level of service standard closely matches the current level of service the City is providing. In no case was a standard chosen that would reduce the level of service below the existing service levels. However, in a number of cases, a higher level of service is recommended based on the City's low level of service compared to other communities and other perceived demand considerations.

The following is a discussion of how these selected standards translate into additional facilities to meet current as well as anticipated future recreational demand in Colorado Springs.

Soccer & Football

To meet future demand to the year 2010, as well as more evenly distribute fields throughout the City, the targeted standard suggests a need to develop:

- Ten additional "A/B" soccer fields sized 65 yards by 100 yards or greater; and
- Fifteen additional "C/D" soccer fields sized 50 yards by 80 yards.

If feasible, and in order to increase flexibility in programming, it is recommended that all of these proposed 25 fields be developed as larger fields (or A/B fields, 65 yards by 100 yards or greater) with movable goals that allow them to be used as smaller fields when necessary. In addition, a multi-purpose field (approximately 12 acres) is recommended for the northern portion of the City to accommodate three or more football fields as large as 40 yards by 80 yards each.



Youth Sports Football Team



Only the soccer fields proposed within sports complexes should be considered for night lighting, as necessary. Soccer fields developed in proposed community parks should be designed without night lighting to reduce potential impacts to adjacent residential areas.



Adult Sports participant

Softball/Baseball

To meet anticipated demand to the year 2010 using the targeted standard as well as providing these fields in areas of the City with the highest demand, this Plan recommends the development of seven ball fields sized with a distance greater than 300 feet to centerline; and 36 ball fields sized with 200 – 300 feet to centerline.

Fields within both these size categories should be designed with moveable outfield fencing and mounds to allow for flexibility in programming. In addition, nineteen more practice and/or T-Ball fields would be needed to meet anticipated demand to the year 2010; these should be incorporated into future neighborhood parks.

Basketball Courts

This Plan recommends the development of thirteen additional outdoor basketball courts to meet anticipated future demand to the year 2010.

Gymnasiums

The Master Plan recommends the development of gymnasiums in all of the proposed recreation centers. Development of gymnasiums within the proposed recreation centers would provide for a broad geographic distribution of these facilities throughout the City.

Tennis Courts

This Plan recommends the development of 26 additional courts for a total of 136 to meet anticipated demand to the year 2010. These courts should be incorporated into new neighborhood and community parks and distributed evenly across the City.

Swimming Pools



Aquatics and Fitness Center pool.

As discussed above, this Plan recommends three additional recreational centers beyond those currently planned. Two of these centers should provide one pool each and one of these centers should provide two pools. These recommendations, along with the seven planned pools noted above, would provide the recommended total of eleven new pools. Some of these pools should be indoor leisure pools while some of the pools should be outdoor pools.

Ice Skating Rinks

The Master Plan recommends that the City develop a second sheet of ice at Sertich Ice Center to accommodate demand.



Summary of Recommendations

Skateboard Parks

An additional skateboard park is already master planned and funded for development in the year 2000 at the Briargate Subdivision. The Master Plan recommends development of one additional skateboard park, bringing the city-wide total to three, which should be adequate to meet anticipated demand through the year 2010.



Skateboard park at Gossage Youth Sports Complex

Inline Hockey Rinks

This Plan recommends that the City develop one more inline hockey rink to accommodate anticipated demand through the year 2010. Currently, one rink is master planned and funded at Gossage Youth Sports Complex for development in the year 2000.



Inline Hockey at Sertich Ice Center

Other Specialty Recreational Facilities

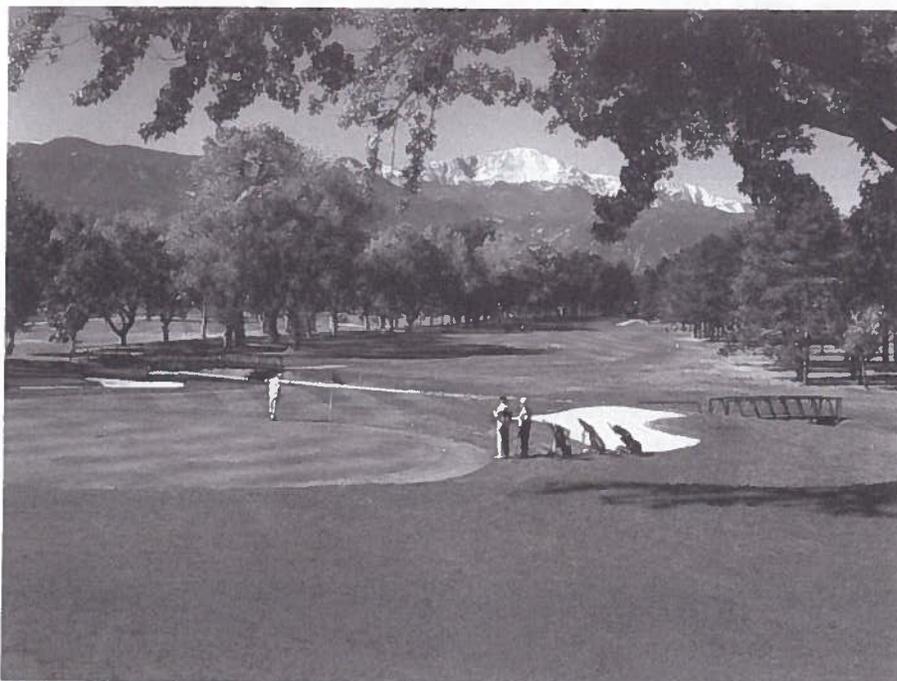
The Master Plan recommends providing additional disc golf, BMX, shuffleboard, horseshoe, sledding and exercise courses as appropriate in selected community and neighborhood parks. Whether a specific facility is needed or appropriate should be evaluated during the master plan process for a given park.



Disk Golf Course at Cottonwood Park.

Golf Courses

There are no specific recommendations for additional public golf courses as part of this master plan. A separate study should be conducted to determine the need for and feasibility of additional golf courses. The city should continue to explore partnerships with private developers to provide public access to golf, provided that the provision of parks in neighborhoods is not severely compromised.



Patty Jewett Golf Course, left and Valley Hi Golf Course, below

