

**SUMMIT COUNTY
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

June 2, 2021
Meeting Held by Zoom Conference

OSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Hunt, Laura Rossetter, Terry Craig, Turk Montepare, Peter Grosshuesch, John Taylor, Art Hardin, Jeff Leigh, Bob Gregory

OSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Rankin, John Uban, Paul Semmer, Bruce Fitch

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Lorch, Jordan Mead, Allison Mitchell, Jim Curnutte

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT: Anne Lowe – Town of Breckenridge, Adam Bianchi – USFS, Mark Leidal, Danelle Cook- Town of Silverthorne, Jason Kemper, Morgan Kemper, Linda Sugar, Karin Osterloh, Linda Mueller, Harry Vanderkooi, Ryan and Danni McDermott, Joan, Judy Romano

Call to Order: Turk Montepare called the meeting of the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council to order at 5:36 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved with the addition of the Piney Acres Trail.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Approval of Summary Report: The summary report was approved as submitted.

Public Comments not included on the Agenda:

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion of Open Space Management Activities:

Piney Acres Concept Trail

Brian Lorch gave a brief history of the Piney Acres Concept Trail and the Dillon Valley Natural Surface Trails subcommittee, along with the reasoning for building this trail which is to allow public access to the greenspace in Dillon Valley and connectivity to the surrounding areas and businesses. With the construction of this trail and additional concept trails through the Straight Creek green belt, the Piney Acres trail will provide a recreational opportunity and a connection between the East and West ends of Dillon Valley. With very little remaining greenspace in western Dillon Valley, providing equitable access to these areas will and improve the quality of life for local residents. The restrictive covenant on the property does not exclude recreation trails on the property, only buildings and structures..

Jason Kemper provided the Piney Acres neighborhood's objections to the trail including that this trail does not directly connect to other trails in the area and that it may be restricted in the covenant for this property. Mr. Kemper also asked if the Dillon Valley NST subcommittee was part of a larger committee and mentioned that his interpretation of the restrictive covenant is different than the department's interpretation.

Turk Montepare asked what the feeling of the neighbors was and why they objected to the trail. Mr. Kemper stated that the only objections that they have to the trail is in regards to the restrictive covenant on the property. The original grantor of the restrictive covenant, Judy Romano, mentioned that she intended the property to be preserved AS IS into perpetuity. They are concerned about the disturbance of the land and interruption of the view corridor.

The County attorney's office will review the covenant and provide an interpretation as whether or not the covenant restricts natural surface trails.

Update from County Commissioner Work Sessions

Quandary Visitor Use Plan:

Staff gave an overview of BoCC recommendations for implementing short-term solutions to the capacity and parking issue at Quandary Peak Trailhead given at the May 25th work session. It was reiterated that the major concerns are parking and not the resources. The hardened trail makes this an ideal destination for the large crowds attracted to this popular 14er. Recommendations included more enforcement, expansion of the existing parking area on Summit County Open Space property, additional signage to designate legal parking areas, potential for designation of one side of each county road as legal parking, and the establishment of a county subsidized pilot shuttle program to pick up visitors in Breckenridge and drop them at the Quandary trailhead. Launching a county-wide shuttle system was not advised for the short-term due to lack of sufficient time to initiate it before the summer season. During the work session, District Ranger Adam Bianchi warned that unrestricted shuttle service to the Quandary Peak Trailhead may lead to overcrowding and resource damage. Staff mentioned that this issue could be addressed by setting daily user limits for the shuttle operator. Staff will seek qualified shuttle service providers to service the pilot program.

Sheriff Jamie Fitzsimons addressed the issue of parking on Hwy 9 and that the county has had conversation with CDOT and Colorado State Patrol about placing "No Parking" signage on Hwy 9. Without this signage, State Troopers cannot ticket or tow vehicles that are not impeding traffic or causing a public safety hazard. Additionally, the Sherriff mentioned that one major issue with enforcement at Quandary Trailhead was lack of adequate cellular data signal to access databases and write tickets. A local resident at the meeting was willing to provide a secure WI-FI network from his home that deputies could access and use for enforcement at the trailhead.

The OSAC questioned if the BOCC will continue to direct this process or seek input from other stakeholders. Mr. Lorch mentioned that this is an iterative process and that all the stakeholders should be involved going forward. The BOCC identified specific actions as "low hanging fruit" and they want to see action on the ground to address safety concerns as soon as possible.

Swan River Restoration Reach B:

Staff provided an update on the progress of the Swan River Reach B Restoration to the BoCC at their regular work session June 1. Troy Thompson of ERC gave an overview of the design plan and staff added the budget for the project and the status of the gravel milling and mining operations on the site. Staff is pleased to share that they are entering the construction phase of the contract with ERC/Tezak with a guaranteed maximum price of \$1.553M, which aligns well with the remaining cash budget. Gravel stockpile removal is ongoing and restoration efforts will begin in July with channel construction, final grading, and initial revegetation and seeding to be completed by the end of October. Larger plantings and final revegetation will occur in 2022. The Reach B design will build and improve on what was accomplished in Reach A, adding more variability on stream width, a wider floodplain, and more diversity in the bank stabilization methods. The alignment for Reach B has been "potholed" to ensure that mine waste is not present in the proposed channel. The BoCC was supportive of the contract for construction as well as pursuing wetland creation along the Swan River, as well as the necessary water rights undertake the full project.

Discussion of Recpath Management:

The Recpath is fully open and crack sealing and stenciling is near completion.

Executive Session to Discuss Acquisition of Real Property Interests: A motion was made to enter into Executive Session, and it was seconded. OSAC entered into Executive Session at 6:32pm. A motion was made to exit Executive Session and seconded. OSAC leaves Executive Session at 6:52 p.m.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Lorch

Brian Lorch, Open Space and Trails Director