

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COUNCIL SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

August 10, 2022

OSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Rossetter, Terry Craig, Dave Bittner, Jeff Zimmerman, Peter Grosshuesch, Paul Semmer, John Uban, Meagan Graham

OSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Turk Montepare, Arthur Hardin, Robert Gregory, John Taylor

STAFF PRESENT: Katherine King, Allison Mitchell

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT: Anne Lowe – Town of Breckenridge, Cindy Ebbert – USFS, Kristina Kachur – Logan Simpson

Call to Order: Terry Craig called the meeting of the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council to order at 5:35 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved. The only change is that there will be no executive session.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

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

Public Comments: No public comments.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion of Open Space Management Activities:

Wildlife

OST staff gave a quick presentation showing a few video and photo highlights from the six wildlife cameras placed on Open Space and Trails properties from January – July, 2022. These photos and videos were from Doig Homestead, Bob Craig, Tenderfoot Meadows, and the Swan River Restoration Site. OSAC members encouraged staff and Logan Simpson to include a photo in the Master Plan. In addition, OSAC encouraged staff promote these wildlife videos on the County website and social media to promote our conservation efforts and connect people to our open spaces. OSAC did caution staff to not label the specific property where these photos were collected.

OSAC Input

Thank you Jeff Zimmerman for alerting OST staff to the erosion occurring on the Recpath. Due to the heavy rains, erosion was occurring near the County Commons and Frisco Peninsula. Staff cleaned up the debris and installed straw matting and wattles to help control the erosion. Staff encourages OSAC to let them know of any maintenance issues they see in the future.

SPR-TV

OST staff met with the Board of County Commissioners during an August 2 work session to discuss the SPR-TV revised route. The BOCC approved the amended route and was supportive of the amended

easement with OSAC's conditions that included additional restoration standards, that the sole intent of the easement was to provide power to SPRTV's site, and providing a financial guarantee.

Blue Lakes Road

Blue Lakes Road is closed from the lower lake gate to the upper lake. Colorado Springs Utilities did not realize the amount of use occurring at both lakes, so decided to block vehicular access to the upper lake. Their biggest concern is people walking on the dam, so they are working with their dam engineers to ensure dam safety as well as the USFS to maintain pedestrian access to the National Forest.

Quandary Peak

On August 2, the landowner adjacent to the Quandary Parking Lot blocked a portion of the lot with an OST buckrail fence, as well as placed a number of signs around his property. The owner believes the County destroyed the value of his property, the current property markers are incorrect, and the County is not following the PUD regulations.

At the moment, the fence has been removed and Quandary Peak Trailhead is open, but the signs remain on the perimeter of his property. The landowner is living out of a tent on his land and removing trees from his lot. The signs and living in a tent are County Land Use Code violations, so staff are working with the Code Enforcement Office as well as the Sheriff's Office. County staff and OSAC have been advised to be aware of these issues when visiting the area.

Open Space and Trails Master Plan

Since the last OSAC meeting on July 20, Logan Simpson and OST staff have incorporated OSAC, BOCC, and public comments into the plan. At the August 9 work session with the BOCC, staff presented the latest master plan draft. The BOCC did not have any additional comments and are ready to adopt the plan by resolution, pending the OSAC's recommendation.

During the August 10 meeting, OSAC presented their last remaining edits to staff and Logan Simpson. Some of these were technical edits (e.g., missing a comma or being able to link the Table of Contents to each section), while others were content related. Below is a quick overview of the comments provided by OSAC:

- The issue of dog waste
- Highlighting the "Then and Now" graphic as OST-Department specific
- Adding QR codes to link to the story maps
- Including indigenous people with American Indian Tribes
- Strengthening the County Land Use Code and the pertinent OST Master Plan policies so that the Master Plan effectivity weighs in on what developers can and cannot do
- Spreading the word and communicating with all user groups about recreating responsibility
- Adding the concept of sustainable design in trail management

The OSAC unanimously voted to recommend the Master Plan for adoption pending these discussed revisions. Laura Rossetter made a motion, and Paul Semmer seconded it. Katherine encouraged OSAC to attend the August 23 BOCC meeting to express support for the plan.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The September OSAC meeting will most likely be canceled. Staff will send out an email to confirm.

The Town of Blue River finalized their trails plan and is interested in engaging the County and Town of Breckenridge on joint management plans of Town of Breckenridge-County owned parcels in the Town of Blue River boundary. A timeline has not been discussed.

Someone has been spraying blue dots on the Blue River Trail that extends from Pennsylvania Creek to 39 Degrees North subdivision. There is a proposal from a local Boy Scout troop to remove the dots.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Mitchell

Allison Mitchell, Open Space and Trails Resource Specialist