

LARIMER COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 14, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.,

Bison Room, Natural Resources Administrative Office, 1800 S. County Rd 31, Loveland, CO

The mission of the Larimer County Parks and Open Lands Department is to establish, protect, and manage significant regional parks and open lands, providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

PAB Members in Attendance:

Chris Klaas	x	Mark DeGregorio	x	Stephanie Vann Dyken	x
Deborah Shulman	x	Nick Clark		Steve Ambrose	---
Frank Gillespie	x	Rob Harris	x	Steve Johnson, Commissioner	x
John Gaffney		Ron Kainer	x		
John Tipton	x	Russell Fruits	x		

NR Staff in Attendance:

Gary Buffington		Kim Butler		Ken Brink	x
Dan Rieves	x	Mark Caughlan	x	Jenny Miller	x

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Natural Resource Events for this month: See website <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
- To sign up for Parks Advisory Board minutes go to <http://larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm> put in your email and click 'subscribe', then check "Parks Advisory Board" box.
- The Larimer County Passport to Your Open Spaces launched May 31 to much initial success. An estimated 2,000 passports were handed out in the first week. The passport was created as part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax in 2016. Currently, the passport only covers the open spaces, not parks. Learn more: www.larimer.org/passport. People buying passes just to participate in the Passport program. Passports were available for distribution to Parks Advisory Board (PAB) members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Parks Master Plan Update –presented by Bruce Meighen from Logan Simpson (power point)
 - Current Parks Master Plan is 10 years old. Logan Simpson is the contractor working on our new Master Plan. Others involved are Tom Keith with Crossroads Consulting Services (economists) and Kesser Overton Architect specializing in fairgrounds. Project and Contract Management; Ken Brink will be Project Manager, Gary Buffington; DNR Director and Bob Herrfeldt, LC Ranch. This Master Plan is a combination of Reservoir Parks and the Ranch Events Complex.

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Project management team: Jeremy Call (Parks), Tom Keith (RMP/EA), Janet McKenzie (The Ranch).

- Why are the Master Plans being combined?
 - Public reason, see handout (Bulletin #1) Play vs. recreation- many citizens do not differentiate between the two words. Nature of the population is changing. Urban setting is getting closer to reservoirs. Both serve a market that are not just local to Larimer County. Public process, includes messaging, ability to reach a larger audience, new audience. Additional reason: Ranch wants to learn about the parks successes, processes and can that be implemented on Ranch side.
 - Russell Fruits: Could this combo steer the parks side to alternate plan? Bruce Meighen- The plan is to recognize user groups; where are visitors from, what groups are they associated with, and have they been to the reservoirs before?
 - Russell Fruits: Properties with horsemanship within parks maybe seen as priority above water or other parks issues because the plans are combined. Bruce Meighen- Data needs to be addressed. Survey will be sent out and questions need to be specific.
 - Deborah Shulman: What is the end goal? Byproduct of 2 plans put together; to attract or cater? How to protect experience of reservoir and access to greater number of users.
 - Frank Gillespie: Observation on Bulletin #1 - word 'play' in the hand out- was a lot of time put into this word, this word is kind of a turn off? Curious why word was chosen. Maybe reflect and pass on to team to choose certain words. Different words mean different things to different people. At Ken's direction we can keep looking at the wording. There will be compromise when working with 2 plans.
 - Russell Fruits: Maybe recreate is a better word.
 - Dan Rieves: Maybe entertain for Ranch and recreate for us. These 2 departments are closer than others like Solid Waste.
 - Ken Brink: Trying to figure out words that fit to all groups has been a challenge. This is the group to have the discussions. The good part is the public involvement which gives a good sample of citizens. Public maybe more generic, but we will focus on water based properties and value, and what goes into Master Plan. PAB will have more input on the actual plan to develop details, daily issues, and more ability to focus on Larimer County Parks. Bruce Meighen- It will still be 2 plans in the end, together at some points, but break apart at other parts. Ken will test 'play' with the group. In terms of wording, it can be changed under 'Next Generation'.
- Project Overview:
 - Focus on water based areas, other areas excluded at this time. Ken Brink had a meeting with Bureau of Reclamation yesterday, 6-13-16. People and visitors have commented on areas outside of boundary of Parks: Horsetooth trails, Chimney Hollow, land acquisition between parks. There is a separate Master Plan for Open Space. Budget for this Master Plan is straight forward and does not address properties outside of "Parks".
- Phases of the plan: 5 phases
 - Phase 1: Foundation- Stakeholder Interviews, online questionnaire #1
 - Phase 2: Visioning- Public scoping meetings, online questionnaire #2
 - Phase 3: Alternatives- Public workshops and Online Questionnaire #3
 - Phase 4: Draft Plans- Draft plan public meetings, public review period, online questionnaire #4 (ENVIRONMENTAL Assessment complete, before MP moves forward)
 - Phase 5: Final Plans- Presentations, public hearings

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- Public involvement in the Plan: (see handout)
 - Each one of the 5 steps has an online questionnaire and the handout shows the anticipated schedule. There will be a series of public events and they will always be held in groups of 3. One usually at Ranch, others spread out. Each public event will always ask about all the projects. We plan to see if location of these public events makes a difference. Ken will approve dates. Parks Advisory Board is the PSC- Parks Stakeholder Committee for the Master Plan. Next meeting in August, around 22-24. Public events will be announced, more questionnaires and direct mailing will come.
 - Ken Brink: PAB meeting in July, we will gather ideas and want options to be practical. Lori Smith, Senior Accountant will come to give update on budget. She will come in July with power point and documents to have context of where we are financially.
 - Russell Fruits: Are there additional member of PSC, or just Parks Advisory Board? Bruce Meighen- There is a stakeholder committee from Ranch, but this is the group for Parks.
 - Ken Brink: Input from Bureau, Sheriff, and Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) will be requested.
 - Mark DeGregorio: Maybe during process there could be a meeting with Bureau, I have never met anyone from Bureau- Ken Brink and Bruce Meighen- Good idea!
 - Ken Brink: Question to Steve Johnson, any words of wisdom? Steve Johnson- No
 - Deborah Shulman: How do we find out dates for public sessions? Bruce Meighen- Official appointments will come from Ken Brink. Deborah Shulman: The intent is not for all PAB to go to all public meetings? Ken Brink- Maybe break it up to smaller groups so someone is present at all public sessions.
- Plan Objectives: does the plan have the ability to look at new properties, if necessary, visitation, manage carrying capacity?
 - Deborah Shulman: Will there be studies of different types of visitation, for example paddle board visitors who don't have a boat trailer, maybe another access to water. Bruce Meighen- Yes, we will request and are relying a bit on parks staff. The gap that has been identified is visitation data, we have data, but not consistent data. Maybe enough to meet Bureau requirements. Dan Rieves- This is a scope of work issue that was not in original scope.
 - Ken Brink: Survey in field, how many people are in average campsite, weekend, weekday? Average number of people in a vehicle? Very popular which is great, but it creates challenges. Mark and Dan are great managers of staff, so could there be another water based park? Opportunity to explore/purchase Mountain Park down the road? Growing population creates a need for more quality places.
 - Dan Rieves: Looking at trajectory of growth in our parks, what is the best palatable method? Valet parking, or boat launching times? If we try, there may be push back, maybe put this in the new plan. Last plan was facility based, but this one seems more program type and not as much capital. Looking at trends of what works, what doesn't work because we don't have firm visitation numbers. Laser counters on trails, works good for one entry point. At Horsetooth and Carter, this does not work. Maybe drones could help with visitation counts? We need to be able to have good data on visitation.
 - Mark DeGregorio: Tag line- National Parks spill over 'Find Your Park', possible for Larimer County; 'Find Hermit Park'.
 - Bruce Meighen: The message is to think ahead, this group does that, think about what will the next generation of people like to do. 10 years ago, yoga on paddle boards would not have happened. Address trends, forward thinking.

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- Dan Rieves: In 2007 it was extreme sports, now human powered, electronic mountain bikes.
- Bruce Meighen: This plan will teeter off of original Parks Master Plan to stay true. Challenges; 1 million plus people to be at our door, growth is heading this way and expect visitation to increase. National Parks, Disney World, have increased visitation, as examples.
- Round table: express worries, ideas, comments on Master Plan
 - John Tipton: Big thing is the change in population. Hard because of the finite amount of space, we need a way to give more people access to water sports; there is no more room. Like to see more campsites, property acquisitions and trail access.
 - Deborah Shulman: Quality of life goes down just trying to park vehicle. Where is the tipping point? Would like to see reservoirs focus on swimming, paddle boarding, not motorized. Motorized boats pollute, but they pay more. Maybe access to water and not via boat ramp, separate parking for non-boat trailer. So many people doing so many things! Shadow Mountain Reservoir, big area for osprey nesting, with so many birds, maybe we could develop wildlife aspect.
 - Ken Brink-this area is outside plan, but a place with more paddle board opportunities is Chimney Hollow, which will be wakeless.
 - Dan Rieves: Canoe/kayak beach was intended for Carter but it was never built.
 - Frank Gillespie: Concern is that we are good at meeting the needs of power boats, but do not have diverse group of people. Moratorium on engines would be needed. Other group pays their way, but if we don't meet other needs, they don't show up.
 - Stephanie Vann Dyken: We do a good job of creating places. We need separation of user groups, mountain bikers not running over kids at camp group.
 - Ron Kainer: Traffic and usage on weekends; it is quite congested with groups using this area. Maybe road crews can make wider bike paths, it all leads to safety issues. South Bay improved entrance which is a good improvement. Increased crowds equals increased popularity. Residential parking at Horsetooth Mountain Open Space (HTMOS) lower lot. People are walking up CR 38E from lower lot, this is again a safety concern.
 - Mark Caughlan- There was a motorcycle accident near there the weekend prior, helicopter was called.
 - Mark DeGregorio: Balance quality of experience with increased visitation. People don't have the opportunities in Metro areas, but it limits those who actually live here. Concern; if gate would be closed to people trying to access park(s). May have to give Larimer County residents preference. Water quality is another issue. More expensive to treat water, when will water right owners step forward to put pressure on recreation/pollution to cut back? Could be an issue. Opportunity; Chimney Hollow, I would like to see this factored into Master Plan. At least in 5 year range and what opportunities does this allow, maybe use Bureau dollars? Ken Brink- Chimney Hollow is an open space, it will help with large size power boats. Mark Caughlan- We cannot spend Bureau money on non-Bureau properties
 - Rob Harris: Most of my issues identified: Midweek use, premium on weekend use. What is the next big revolution in recreation?
 - Chris Klass: Don't know if Master Plan will dive into near-term operations or big piece management. Is there a different fee structure for Larimer County residents? Dan Rieves- Yes, for annual permits. Chris Klass: A need is to be organized for reservations. Dan Rieves- Campers are able to make reservations 180 days prior. Chris Klass: Maybe

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reservation for boat launching, only so much area that can be expanded and improved on. Come up with a way to manage this. There is a safety factor. There will always be a conflict between users, but we must figure it out and manage it.

- Dan Rieves: If conflict occurs between personalities then we cannot do anything. But if conflict is due to our facilities, and crowding then it is an addressable conflict. At Horsetooth there is every type of floating device and diversity and competitive racing. Carter Lake has confits at the swim beach because it was poorly designed and there is no other place to take dogs. Not expecting PAB to come up with a plan/solution. When conflict is for a small segment, looking at total, small user groups may not be able to be addressed.
 - Ken Brink: What is the niche of these Parks? Many agencies do this well, so ask ourselves, is it better to have other entity do certain things, and Larimer County Parks do certain things?
 - Mark DeGregorio: Our niche is water.
 - Mark Caughlan: Currently 350 boats in Marina at Horsetooth. It is a power boat reservoir, and that cannot change, but we can coexist. We cannot take chunks away from power boating reservoir. This year Horsetooth has 7 vendors/concessionaires doing paddle boards, 3 of which are yoga on paddleboards!
 - Dan Rieves: Sailing at Carter is what fits. Horsetooth is what it wants to be, it doesn't fit everyone's needs. At HTMOS people just want to hike; they love it and that's why they are there. Horsetooth is a back country experience that is right near town. Thought we could change limits but when feedback was provided, people do not feel crowded, they said they feel safer with more people around. Addressing water quality; 24 years ago there were more boats with less emissions. So I don't know if it is worse or better for water quality.
 - Ken Brink: Our properties are staged for urban people to do something outdoors.
 - Dan Rieves: Drought will be next inevitable recession. We have a lot of water right now. We will be brown and down again.
 - Russell Fruits: We need to be innovative and proactive to reach people. What is the Board identity? How to set it up? A lot of summer talk, not a lot about off season. Idea to service customers in winter. What are the winter recreational opportunities to build in the off season?
 - Mark Caughlan: We are at capacity at Horsetooth, we need 100 more campsites, and we need to build out. Only 300 capacity for parking, but 350 boats can fit on reservoir. Boat trailer parking is huge issue. Maybe another ramp to walk off for paddle boards. Based on identifying capacity, we may have to turn people away. Fishing is a contingency, fishing is a huge draw to Horsetooth, best fishing in country. 68 fish caught on Saturday between 8 am-4 pm on a flat bottom boat, and they were big fish. There are 16 fishing tournaments at Horsetooth this year, including the Fishing Expo. Big boats come and spend a lot of money, even in the snow. No paddle boards in winter. Water fluctuations is also a factor in the winter. Request for full service cabins to be open year round.
 - Deborah Shulman: If ramps are developed in future, are you going to be asking silent sports people? Dan Rieves- Clarification; Will kayak and silent sports people be asked their opinion? Yes
- Next steps for Master Plan: Survey, focus on what you want and you don't have to answer every question. There will be separate user groups. What is the most efficient use of revenue and facilities? Popularity is a good problem to have. Questionnaire will be handed out, but it is being reviewed right now. Likely at end of 2 weeks it will be available.

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5 minute break 7:09pm

ACTION ITEMS: - None

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS: - 10 minutes

Park District updates and Parks Master Plan Implementation Progress report – Dan Rieves, Carter Lake District Manager; and Mark Caughlan, Horsetooth District Manager

○ **Carter Lake Updates**

- Referencing the old Master Plan: some projects never got done, a few down south; like South Shore redevelopment. Interested to see if it is swept into new Master Plan. Main hinge point at Carter Lake South Shore is water availability, can we/should we build a shower house? RPA Architect Studio, testing feasibility to see if we can generate enough water at that point. All steps of water process, extract from ground, store, treat, dispose.
- Ranger Excellence School (RES) is over, new crop of rangers, we put in more training of new rangers than other places. Snake bites to motorcycle accidents to boat accidents, we are in full force.
- Mark Caughlan and Dan Rieves put in a grant request asking \$830,000 to pave parking lots at Inlet Bay and Carter areas. Purpose is to access and maintain federal land. Pueblo got same grant and paved bike trails, they were excited that we applied. August 1 we will find out if we are successful.
- Special events? What is our niche on our properties and county as a whole? We are the venue and venues have fees. Matrix was created for managers to evaluate request and to determine correct amount to charge. Educational and field trips vs. other special events?
 - Filming needs to be addressed: photography, wedding, commercials. This is not really a special event, more like commercial use. Frequently filming window is very small. We don't want to have a bad facility with conflict, or a bad policy.
 - Special events on county roads is the struggle. On a normal day, many bikes are on the roads, and with a special event it is worse. Rangers time is spent dealing with these issues and neighbors are becoming more vocal. Bikes on public roads is a user group we deal with but don't manage. This is not part of the Master Plan, but it cannot be pushed off. We will end up losing a lot of work if we don't address the road issue. Carter Lake neighborhood issues include discussion of road events, home access is blocked on weekends and difficulty interacting with neighbors.

Board and Staff comments:

- Deborah Shulman: Good point about road issue, Bingham Hill is part of Horsetooth, there is no shoulder and so many bikes.
- Dan Rieves: At Carter Lake it is a real issue. When scheduling staff, I have to put medically trained staff at certain times to cover what will happen on county roads. Discussions with Sheriff to see what rangers are to do. Many events happen near park, but not in park, we frequently direct traffic at nearby accident sites.
- Deborah Shulman: Asking Dan & Mark: are you meeting with Road and Bridge? Mark Caughlan- Yes they are very acutely aware of the issues.
 - Dan Rieves: We have roads near Carter, but we have dams, so we cannot expand. Road and Bridge is very responsive and engaged. Special events

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people are very aware. Right now moratorium: no sanctioned special events on roads between Memorial Day and Labor Day. One event occurred (the McKee Classic) the weekend before Memorial Day, it was horrible. Due to nice weather, staff ended up directing traffic.

- Ken Brink: Road & Bridge and Planning will be on the Technical Advisory Board for the Parks Master Plan.
- Stephanie Vann Dyken: Will Road & Bridge and Planning be at public events? Ken Brink- I will look into it- good idea.
- Dan Rieves: People ask 'Can you just ban bikes on road?' No. This is just an example because of proximity, not mission. We embrace opportunities, but there is no answer right now. We will address issues in the Park with the public, issues outside the Parks should be addressed by others.

○ Horsetooth Updates

- Campgrounds at Horsetooth are 90% full today, on a Tuesday in June.
- Spring was a problem due to weather issues. We were full last September and October.
- New building coming along and it looks great. We will move in the 1st week of August. From our last Master Plan, the pavilion was built, it is great, but problem is parking. Cannot allow large weddings on weekends because I cannot guarantee parking. All spots are full, we need more parking.
 - Mark DeGregorio: Could a shuttle be provided by customer? Mark Caughlan- I'm working on that issue.
- Had some vandalism in park
- Medical mostly on county roads
- Boat fire on Sunday, most likely electrical
- Staff each weekend make DUI arrests
- People are ramming gates, so trail cams installed
- A couch was found in the cave

Board and Staff Comments:

- Deborah Shulman: Any more consideration of running ongoing shuttle from town? Ken Brink- Capacity of reservoir is capped for public safety on water. Design is to match capacity with parking spaces. We have to be okay saying no to people trying to enter if park is full.
- Dan Rieves: Even with restrictions a shuttle will likely be run whether we like it or not. Like wakeboarding at reservoir, it occurs, but they are not our concessionaire. We believe these all belong as concessions and not provided by county staff.
- Ken Brink: Possibility of a storage reservoir north of Fort Collins; Glade Reservoir. Does the county want to support this, what conditions and opportunities does it create for public recreation?

○ Other updates from Ken Brink:

- New Red Mountain Manager- Steve Gibson. There were lots of applicants for the position. 6 interviews, 4 could have been successful in Ken's opinion. 2 internal candidates were right on par with 2 external candidates who had 20 plus years of experience.
- Zac Wiebe will be new Resource Specialist II, taking over Jeffrey Boring's prior position; Jeffrey went to work for Estes Valley Land Trust.
- Ken attended a Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) meeting last week.

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- Referencing recent BP America Production Co vs. Colorado Department of Revenue court case; Severance tax which funds the Aquatic Nuisance Species program (ANS) and other programs, is going away, (approximately \$6.5 million). This includes Black footed ferret and about a \$300K grant from the state for ANS. We will keep you informed.
- Lone Tree Reservoir owned by irrigation company -CPW had a 20 year lease for \$675/month. Term was up, and negotiations of \$5,000 was offered by CPW, but irrigation co could receive up to \$50,000 as a private reservoir. CPW offered \$10,000 for a 1 year term and asked for time to decide what to do; that was accepted. Possibility to partner with others to keep Lone Tree in public trust.
- Bodecker Lake and Lone Tree are in the lease plan. Residents could possibly want to have private lake.
- Lon Haggler – is a perpetual lease

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Gary Buffington, Director- none; Gary absent

REMAINING INTERVIEWS OF PAB MEMBERS: Ken Brink gave the okay.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer N. Miller

APPROVED:

Russ Fruits, Chair

***Next regular meeting [if needed]: July 12, 2016
Lake Loveland Rm, 2nd Fl, Courthouse Office Bldg,
200 W Oak, Fort Collins, CO***

Public can view agenda and minutes at
http://larimer.org/boards/minutes/parks_advisory_board.cfm



**LARIMER COUNTY
THE RANCH EVENTS COMPLEX
AND RESERVOIR PARKS MASTER PLANS
TWO PLANS, ONE GREAT COUNTY TO PLAY!**

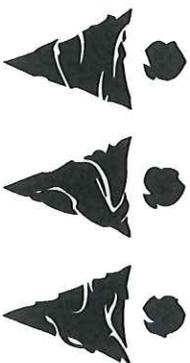
PAB Meeting
14 June 2016



Agenda

- Welcome & Team Introductions/Roles
- Project Overview
- Project Process & Schedule
- Public Involvement and Outreach Coordination
- Key Goals Interactive Exercise (for those who did not attend a stakeholder session)

Team Introductions



L O G A N S I M P S O N

Crossroads Consulting
Services

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

PROJECT + CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Ken Brink, Project Manager, Gary Buffington, DNR Director, LCDMR, Bob Herfeldt, LC Ranch

PROJECT + CONTRACT MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC FACILITATION COORDINATION

Bruce Meighen, AICP, Project Manager, Kristina Kachur, AICP, Assistant Project Manager
Logan Simpson

THE RANCH MASTER PLAN

Jana McKenzie, Technical Lead
Logan Simpson
Chip Overton, Fairgrounds Planning
Kiefer/Overton
Susan Sieger, Operational Review and Performance Audit Analysis
Crossroads

PARKS MASTER PLAN

Jeremy Call, Technical Lead
Bruce Meighen, Resource Management
Tom Keith, Natural Resources + Recreation
Jana McKenzie, Conceptual Design
Kristina Kachur, Recreation
Logan Simpson
Susan Sieger, Fee Review
Crossroads

RMP/EA

Tom Keith, Technical Lead
Bruce Meighen, Resource Management
Jeremy Call, Public Facilitation
Logan Simpson

Core Consultant Team

THE RANCH MASTER PLAN

Bob Herfeldt
Diana Frick
Mark Tinkenberg
Abby Powell

PARKS MASTER PLAN

Ken Brink
Meegan Fleeniken
Mark Caughlan
Dan Rieves

RMP/EA

Ken Brink
Meegan Fleeniken
Mark Caughlan
Dan Rieves

Core Staff Team

COMMUNICATIONS

Teddy Park-Renga

Project Overview

- Why plan?
- Why plan *now*?
- Why are the two plans combined?

**PLANNING FOR THE
NEXT GENERATION OF PLAY
IN LARIMER COUNTY**

Project Overview

Reservoir Parks

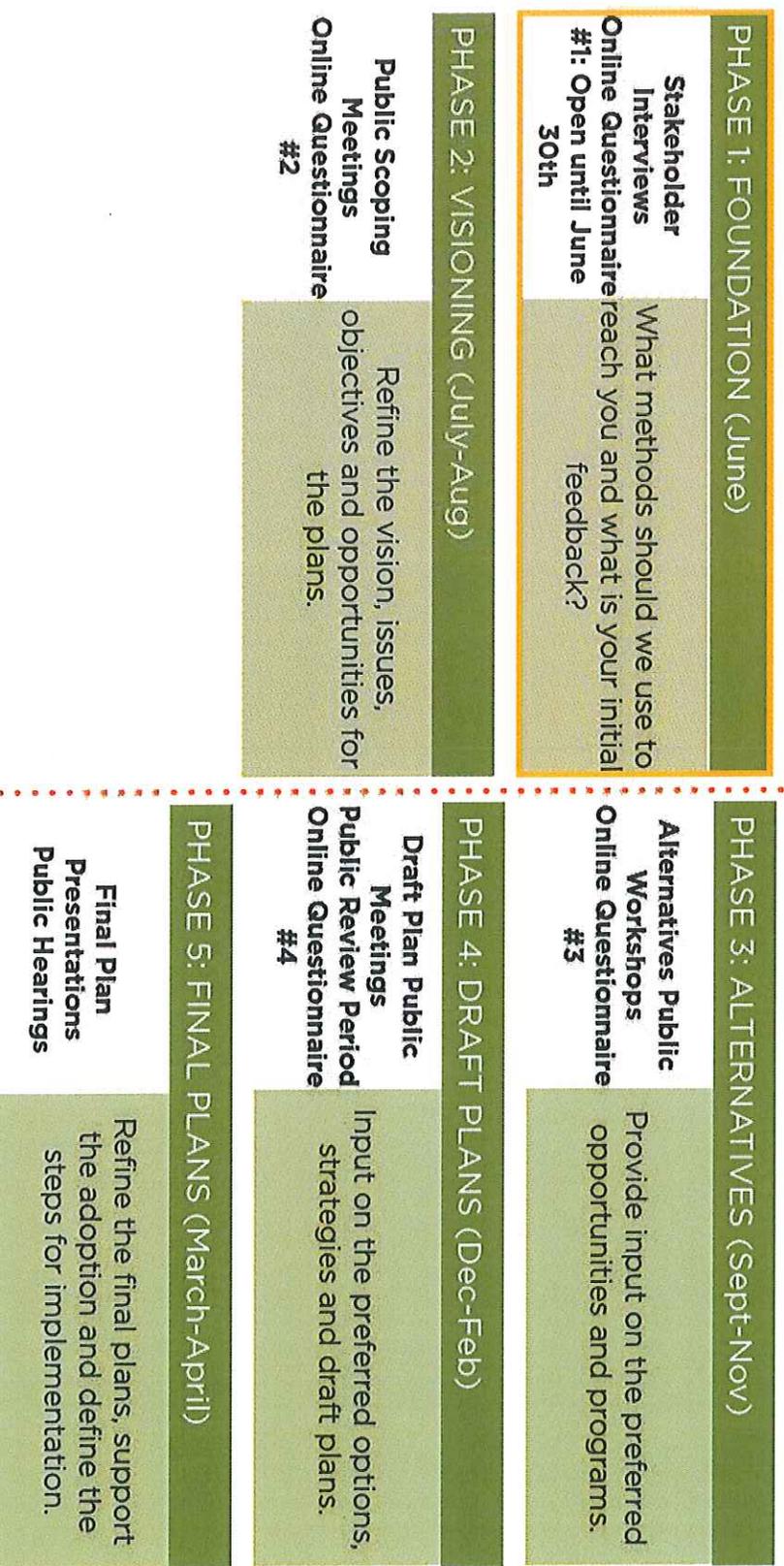
- Horsetooth Reservoir including Bingham Hill Overlook
- Pinewood Reservoir
- Flatiron Reservoir
- Carter Lake

The Ranch

- First National Bank & Larimer County Conference Center
- Budweiser Events Center
- Thomas M. McKee 4-H, Youth & Community Building
- Ranch-Way Feeds Indoor Arena & Pavilions
- Outdoor Arenas
- Events

Project Process & Schedule

5 Great Events Series



Public Involvement

- **Outreach Series #1, Stakeholder Engagement**
 - Online Questionnaire #1: June 6 – June 30
 - Stakeholder Interviews: June 6 – June 30
 - **PAB (PSC) Kick-off: June 14th**
 - Public Notification and Website Launch: June 17
- **Outreach Series #2, Scoping/Visioning**
 - Larimer County Fair Kickoff: August 6
 - Scoping/Visioning Meetings (3 Locations): August 22-24
 - Scoping Period: July 22 - September 9
 - Launch of Questionnaire #2: July 22 - September 9
 - **PAB (PSC) Meeting: August 25**

Public Involvement

- **Outreach Series #3, Alternatives Development**
 - Alternatives Workshops (3 Locations): October 17 – 19
 - Launch of Questionnaire #3: October 17 – November 11
 - **PAB (PSC) Meeting: October 20**
- **Outreach Series #4, Draft Plan and Strategies**
 - Preliminary Plan Review: December 13 – February 13
 - Draft Plan Public Meetings (3) and Comment Period: January 10 – February 10
 - Launch of Questionnaire #4: January 10 – February 10
 - **Draft Plan Presentations to three Boards/Commissions: TBD**
- **Outreach Series #5, Final/Preferred Plan**
 - PTAC Meeting: March 15
 - **Final Plan Presentations to three Boards/Commissions: TBD**
 - Adoption Hearing: April 24

A Few Highlights From Stakeholders!

Objectives (in addition to current objectives found in the Parks Master Plan/RMP)

- Provide flexibility to include new properties
- Stay relevant
- Understanding visitation against the existing managed and maximum carrying capacity
- Maintain visitor experience expectations
- Be intentionally a step above, operating at a higher tier than other providers
- Balance diversity, the spectrum of opportunity, and the level of development to protect resources and experiences
- Continue to distribute uses throughout the week
- Manage infrastructure maintenance and upgrades
- Stay relevant, competitive, and niche
- Focus on quality, innovation, and the next generation of facilities
- Provide a predictably great experience
- Address increasing visitation demand, especially safety

A Few Highlights From Stakeholders!

Opportunities

- Cross market between CSU and The Ranch, businesses, conventions, and sports
- Introduce the next generation to outdoor recreation and education, especially for urbanites and the underserved
- Consider triggers/benchmarks for new property acquisition
- Focus on the use of differential pricing and value pricing in order to distribute use, provide a variety of price points, and maximize revenue
- Incorporate nature play areas within campgrounds to entertain kids
- Better facilitate education experiences for urban populations to learn new recreation activities
- Be a promoter of partner events
- Capitalize on new recreation trends and facilities
- Improve technology for reservations and availability choices
- Provide extended stay options
- Backcountry/boat-in camping on the west side of Carter Lake
- Acquire buffer properties to reduce neighborhood encroachment
- Trail connection from Horsetooth reservoir to Lory State Park and/or Horsetooth Mountain
- Improve partnerships with the Sail and Saddle Club, or make it public
- Connect to offsite boat storage

A Few Highlights From Stakeholders!

Challenges

- Increasing weekday use, especially groups
- Provide education on funding sources
- Sustainable funding for parks given finite number of properties and parking spaces
- Number of boats/groups rafted in coves
- Increase in rental usage and owner storage (boats and jet skis)
- Maintain safety and quality of experiences and environmental conditions given increasing pressure from a growing population
- Addressing millennial trends and new types of recreation
- Increasingly urbanizing environment and how it affects resource management — are these becoming “urban” parks?
- Managing amount and location of visitors while ensuring access to a variety of recreational experiences

Discussion

Key Goals Interactive Exercise

- Individually identify the following by area:
 - Objectives
 - Challenges
 - Opportunities

Two Plans, One Great County to Play!

Planning for the Next Generation of Play in Larimer County

From boating and camping to concerts and rodeos, Larimer County offers it all. Larimer County is embarking on a plan for the next generation of County Reservoir Parks and The Ranch Events Complex.

Through a simultaneous effort, Larimer County will be completing The Ranch Events Complex Master Plan and the Larimer County Reservoir Parks Master Plan/ Resource Management Plan update. It is envisioned that while these would be two separate plans with separate outcomes, the projects would be performed in parallel for an efficient public involvement process. The combined effort will allow decision makers to reach a wider audience and gain input on the vast range of activities in Larimer County.

GET CONNECTED!



For more information and to sign up for updates visit:
www.onegreatcountytoplay.com

5 GREAT EVENT SERIES TO GIVE YOUR INPUT!

PHASE 1: FOUNDATION (June)

Stakeholder Interviews
Online Questionnaire #1: Open until June 30th

What methods should we use to reach you and what is your initial feedback?

PHASE 2: VISIONING (July-Aug)

Public Scoping Meetings
Online Questionnaire #2

Refine the vision, issues, objectives and opportunities for the plans.

PHASE 3: ALTERNATIVES (Sept-Nov)

Alternatives Public Workshops
Online Questionnaire #3

Provide input on the preferred opportunities and programs.

PHASE 4: DRAFT PLANS (Dec-Feb)

Draft Plan Public Meetings
Public Review Period
Online Questionnaire #4

Input on the preferred options, strategies and draft plans.

PHASE 5: FINAL PLANS (March-April)

Final Plan Presentations
Public Hearings

Refine the final plans, support the adoption and define the steps for implementation.



Horsetooth Reservoir © Jeff Anderson



Carter Lake © LCDNR



Carter Lake © Steve Garber



Budweiser Events Center at The Ranch



The Ranch Events Complex

THE RANCH EVENTS COMPLEX MASTER PLAN

The Ranch Events Complex is creating a fully-integrated Master Plan that outlines facility alternatives, expansion and financial options to support these expansions as needed. The Ranch has been operating since 2003 and has a strong understanding of what types of events the northern Colorado market demands, and has been able to operate with a balanced budget for several years; however, with the expiration of the sales tax in 2019 The Ranch needs an updated Master Plan.

The Ranch is owned and operated by Larimer County with facilities including the Budweiser Events Center, First National Bank Exhibition Halls, McKee 4-H, Youth and Community Building, Ranch-Way Feeds Indoor Arena and Pavilions as well as Outdoor Courtyard Spaces. The Ranch provides more than 375,000 square feet of event space on 243 acres. With up to 2,500 events a year, The Ranch hosts a mix of events including local and national livestock and equestrian shows, large flat-floor or exhibition events, outdoor music festivals, concerts, minor league sports, business meetings, 4-H, community events, charity functions, extreme runs, cycling events, as well as the Larimer County Fair and PRCA Rodeo.

Objectives:

- Determine future facilities at The Ranch
- Refine the direction of events and programming
- Integrate proposed improvements with the surrounding development
- Create and plan the future operations and additional facilities
- Add additional programming and improvements that will enhance and increase the experience, revenue, and attendance
- Review the need to seek an extension to the existing sales tax or other funding sources

For additional information contact:
tr_master_plan@co.larimer.co.us

RESERVOIR PARKS MASTER PLAN & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN/EA

The Parks Master Plan is an update of the 2007 plan and will be used to guide the department in meeting the recreation demands of park visitors at the four Larimer County managed reservoir parks and similar future use areas. 90% of the 2007 Master Plan has been implemented and an update is now needed to respond to current conditions, visitor use, and demands. The Reservoir Parks Master Plan will provide a focused vision, identify priority project areas, and specific strategies to accomplish the specified goals. The Plan will include:

Horsetooth Reservoir including Bingham Hill Overlook
Pinewood Reservoir
Flatiron Reservoir
Carter Lake

The Department of Natural Resources manages over 9,000 acres of Bureau of Reclamation land and water bodies. The Resource Management Plan/Environmental Assessment (RMP/EA) will assess surface-disturbing activities associated with a range of alternatives at these reservoir parks. The RMP/EA will ensure the desired outcomes are congruent with the management objectives of the Bureau of Reclamation, the County, and in compliance with NEPA.

Objectives:

- Refine "niche" within the larger recreation destinations of Northern Colorado
- Identify public needs and preferences
- Review programming/facility recommendations that meet changing demographics and trends
- Balance resource conservation values, recreation opportunities, and long-term management
- Evaluate carrying capacity and use areas
- Evaluate regional trail connectivity
- Determine funding needs for long-term financial sustainability

For additional information contact:
parks_master_plan@co.larimer.co.us

Larimer County Ranch and Reservoir Parks
Master Plans

Stakeholder and Online Questionnaire #1 (of 4)

General

1. Contact Information

- Name – optional _____
- Title – optional _____
- Affiliation (Agency or group) –required _____
- Email - required _____

2. What is the zip code for your primary residence? _____

3. What is the best way to reach you during this process? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- At The Ranch or a Larimer County Park
- County local television network
- Naturalist and educational programs, such as hiking tours
- Online questionnaires
- Intercept questionnaires
- Community events and festivals
- Public meetings
- Flyers
- Project website
- E-mail Newsletter/Postcards
- Text
- Facebook/Twitter
- Videos
- Local Newspaper
- Kiosks
- Other

(If respondent selects community events or public meetings)

4. Which locations would be convenient for you to attend a public event? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- The Ranch Events Complex (I-25/Crossroads Boulevard)
- County Courthouse (downtown Fort Collins)
- Loveland Library / Chilson Center (downtown Loveland)
- Natural Resources Administrative Offices / Bison Visitor Center (Carter Lake)
- Horsetooth Reservoir

5. How many times did you visit The Ranch in the last year for an event?

- 0

- 1
 - 2 to 5
 - 5 to 10
 - More than 10
6. How many days did you visit a Larimer County Park (see list) in the last year recreation?
- 0
 - 1
 - 2 to 5
 - 5 to 10
 - More than 10

Ranch Specific

1. Please rate The Ranch in the following event categories on quality or usability of building, facility or venue: 5-Great Venue for this type of event 3- current venue is sufficient 1-Poor Venue for this type of event. (circle one)
- Sporting Entertainment Event (Hockey or Indoor Football) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Concert/ Music or Entertainment Event 5 4 3 2 1
 - Family Entertainment Shows 5 4 3 2 1
 - Community Events (educational or gathering type) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Non-Profit or Charity Fundraisers 5 4 3 2 1
 - Outdoor Festivals or Events 5 4 3 2 1
 - Trade Show or Marketplace Events 5 4 3 2 1
 - Business Meetings or Conferences 5 4 3 2 1
 - Banquets/Parties/ Receptions 5 4 3 2 1
 - Equine Shows or other Livestock Events 5 4 3 2 1
2. Please rate the same types of events according to what you would like to see more of held at The Ranch or less of held at The Ranch: 5- I would like to see much more of this type of event. 3- what is provided is sufficient , 1- I would like to see less of this type of event
- Sporting Entertainment Event (Hockey or Indoor Football) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Concert/ Music or Entertainment Event 5 4 3 2 1
 - Family Entertainment Shows 5 4 3 2 1
 - Community Events (educational or gathering type) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Non-Profit or Charity Fundraisers 5 4 3 2 1
 - Outdoor Festivals or Events 5 4 3 2 1
 - Trade Show or Marketplace Events 5 4 3 2 1
 - Business Meetings or Conferences 5 4 3 2 1
 - Banquets/Parties/ Receptions 5 4 3 2 1
 - Equine Shows or other Livestock Events 5 4 3 2 1
3. What should be the top priorities for The Ranch?
4. What new opportunities or new types of entertainment should The Ranch offer to achieve these priorities?

	JUNE	JULY- AUGUST	SEPTEMBER- NOVEMBER	DECEMBER - FEBRUARY	MARCH - APRIL
	TASK 1. PROJECT INITIATION + TASK 2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY	TASK 3. VISION + TASK 4. TRENDS	TASK 5. THE RANCH MASTER PLAN + TASK 6. PARKS MASTER PLAN/RMP EA - ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT	TASK 5. THE RANCH MASTER PLAN + TASK 6. PARKS MASTER PLAN/RMP EA - PRELIMINARY + PUBLIC DRAFT PLANS	TASK 7. FINAL MASTER PLANS + ADOPTION
<i>The Ranch Master Plan Tasks + Deliverables</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Plan Schedule Public Involvement Plan Facility Tour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary Opportunities Initial Vision 	5.1 The Ranch Site Information + Analysis 5.2 The Ranch Use + Utilization Assessment 5.3 The Ranch MP Concepts + Feasibility Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative Facility Programs Alternative Concept Plans 	Task 5.4 The Ranch Draft Master Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary and Draft Master Plan Print-Ready Draft MP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Prioritization MP Implementation
<i>Parks Master Plan Tasks + Deliverables</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary Opportunities Chapter 1: Foundation Chapter 2: Vision Chapter 3: Trends 	6.1 Parks Alternatives Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative Concept Plans 	6.2 Preparation of the Draft Parks MP + RMP EA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 4: Recommendations Chapter 5: Implementation Preliminary and Draft Parks Master Plan 6.3 Public Review of the Draft Parks MP+RMP EA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print-Ready Draft MP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Prioritization MP Implementation, improved schematic design
<i>RMP / EA Tasks & Deliverables</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above Scoping Period begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping Report Introduction / Purpose & Need Affected Environment 	6.1 Parks Alternatives Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Action + Proposed Action 	6.2 Preparation of the Draft Parks MP + RMP EA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Consequences Resource Management Plan Consultation + Coordination Preliminary and Draft EA 6.3 Public Review of the Parks MP + RMP EA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera-Ready Draft EA 6.4 Final RMP EA/FONSI, Adoption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Record 	(Complete)
<i>Public Outreach Activity: Purpose</i>	Outreach Series #1 To engage targeted stakeholders, including agency and technical experts, early in the process.	Outreach Series #2 To reach out to residents, visitors and committees to refine the vision, issues and objectives for the plans.	Outreach Series #3 To obtain input from residents, visitors and committees on the preferred options and alternatives.	Outreach Series #4 To obtain input from residents, visitors and committees on the preferred options, strategies and draft plans.	Outreach Series #5 To obtain input from residents, visitors and committees on final plans and strategies, as well as conduct formal adoption of plans.
<i>Consultant Team Public Outreach Tools</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Team Meeting #1/Agency Focus Groups and Stakeholder Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 31st- June 2nd Parks Tour: June 15 PAB meeting: June 14 (Add meeting) Internal Scoping Website Launch Press Release, Newsletter #1 Questionnaire #1 Social Media Content Logo And Messaging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Press Release, flyer, newsletter #2 Project Team Meeting #2 Visioning/Public Scoping Events (3). Could be combined with existing event at least one during the County Fair. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair August 6th August 22: Carter August 23: Horsetooth August 24: Ranch August 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTAC Meeting #1 PTAC Meeting #1 RSC Meeting #1 PSC Meeting #1 Intercept outreach to augment the questionnaire during each event series 45 Day Scoping Period : July 22 – Sept 9 Visioning/Scoping Questionnaire #2 Website Update Social Media Updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Press Release, flyer, newsletter #3 Project Team Meeting #3 Alternatives Public Workshops (3). Could be combined with existing event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 17: Horsetooth VC October 18: Carter October 19: Ranch October 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTAC Meeting #2 PTAC Meeting #2 RSC Meeting #2 PSC Meeting #2 Intercept outreach to augment the questionnaire during each event series Alternatives (Wish List) Questionnaire #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 17- November 11 Website Update Social Media Updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Team Meeting #4 Two Month Review of Preliminary/Revised Plans by DNR, Reclamation, RSC, and PSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 13th RTAC Meeting #3 PTAC Meeting #3 RSC Meetings #3 PSC Meetings #3 Digital Press Release, flyer, newsletter #4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release January 10 Two Month Public Review of Draft Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release January 10 Comment period: January 10- February 10 Draft Plan Presentations at 3 Boards as Requested (BOCC, PAB, PC, etc.) or a Combined Summit with RSC and PSC Meetings Questionnaire #4: Draft Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 10- February 10 Website & Social Media Updates RMP EA Comment Response Report FONSI by March 3rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Team Meeting #5 March 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTAC Meeting #4 PTAC Meeting #4 Final Plans Presentations at 2 Boards as Requested (BOCC, PAB, and PC) Website & Social Media Updates Request For Final Comments Adoption Hearings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Packet March 29 April 12 Worksession April 24 Hearing Digital Press Release/ Promotional Brochure (Newsletter #5)
<i>County Staff Public Outreach Responsibilities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Launch Social Media Update Email Notification / Newsletter #1 Meeting Arrangements Video Briefing of PAB and other Advisory Boards beyond the above scope Point of contact for public inquiries Distribution of Press Release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Update Social Media Update Email Notification / Newsletter #2 Meeting Arrangements Video Briefing of PAB and other Advisory Boards beyond the above scope Distribution of Press Release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Update Social Media Update Email Notification / Newsletter #3 Meeting Arrangements Video Briefing of PAB and other Advisory Boards beyond the above scope Distribution of Press Release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Update Social Media Update Email Notification / Newsletter #4 Meeting Arrangements Video Briefing of PAB and other Advisory Boards beyond the above scope Distribution of Press Release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Update Social Media Update Email Notification / Distribution of Promotional Brochure (Newsletter #5) Meeting Arrangements Video Briefing of PAB and other Advisory Boards beyond the above scope