



OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD (OLAB)

AGENDA

DATE: January 28, 2016

TIME: 5:00- 8:00 PM

LOCATION: City of Loveland Public Works Administration Building • Second Floor Conference Rooms
City of Loveland Service Center • 2525 W 1st Street

- 1) CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
- 2) PUBLIC COMMENT
- 3) AGENDA REVIEW
- 4) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
- 5) INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. [Cultivating Connections for a Healthy, Working River - Third Annual Poudre River Forum](#) – The focus of this year's Forum is agriculture and water projects. Fresh off the Governor's approval of the State Water Plan, this conference will focus on how cooperative water projects can help meet future water demands and the role the Poudre River plays in sustaining our agriculture economy. Friday, February 5, 2016 | 9am – 4pm | The Ranch, Loveland – flyer in packet.
 - b. Help us select the 2016 Visual Artist of the Year! We need an Open Lands Advisory Board member to serve on the selection committee. The process takes place in late February/early March and involves reviewing typically 6-10 applications, meeting with the committee and helping with artist interviews if necessary. If interested, let us know now, or contact Teddy at (970) 619-4561 or tparker-renga@larimer.org.
 - c. Temporary Closure at Devil's Backbone Open Space Beginning Feb. 1. Construction is expected to take at least four weeks, weather depending. - see attached press release.
 - d. The grant request to GOCO for the Horsetooth West Expansion project was ranked number one in the state and awarded \$1 million.
 - e. GOCO launched the [Protect Initiative](#) with a request for concept papers to compete for \$47 million over a three-year period. Papers are due February 12. Larimer County and wonderful partner City of Fort Collins intend to submit an application.
 - f. Larimer County hired Western Water Partnerships to implement the CWCB water ATM grant.
 - g. Land Evaluation Site Assessment tool update – possible partnership between Natural Resources and Ag Advisory Board, with final adoption by Board of Commissioners
 - h. Larimer County has selected a contractor for the Poudre River Bank Stabilization project at Lions Open Space. The project will be completed in two phases: rock work this spring and trail construction and revegetation this fall. Lions Open Space trailhead will be closed during the spring but the Pleasant Valley Trail will remain open.
 - i. Pinewood's remaining elements still underway; rock was selected for monument sign, hope to have it all done by end of January
 - j. First set of planning documents are underway for the South shore Campground improvement project. Project elements to include are up to 30 new campsites and a shower building. Original shower building estimates were low, so project cost projections are rising. First public meeting will be in mid-February.
 - k. Broke ground for the new Horsetooth Information Center and maintenance buildings, scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2016. Heather and Teddy are working on the interpretive signs component.

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- l. Loveland notified DNR that reconstruction of Viestenz-Smith Park will not occur until fall of 2016 and isn't planned on opening to the public until 2017.
 - m. Thank you letter from RMNP
 - n. Staff attended a 2-day retreat for 2016 planning.
 - o. Open Space Operations District Reports
 - p. Sales Tax Report from prior month
 - q. Acquisition & Development Financial Summary Sheet
- 6) DISCUSSION & UPDATES
- a. Outreach, Education & Volunteer end-of-year summary – Pam Mayhew and Heather Young
 - b. Alternative Transfer Mechanism, a Colorado Water Conservation Board funded project – Alex Castino and Todd Doherty, Western Water Partnerships
- 7) EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. (24-6-402(4)(a) for discussion of the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real or personal property interest,
- 8) ADJOURN

Included in PDF:

- Agenda
- Minutes of last meeting
- Thank you letter from RMNP
- Open Space Operations District Reports
- Sales tax report for prior month
- Acquisition & development financial summary sheet

Attached Separately:

1. News articles



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Visitor Services • Open Lands • Weed Management • Forestry

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NEWS RELEASE

FROM: Teddy Parker-Renga, Department of Natural Resources, (970) 619-4561

CONTACT: Meegan Flenniken, Resource Program Manager, (970) 619-4562

DATE: January 20, 2016

SUBJECT: **Temporary Closures at Devil's Backbone Open Space Start Feb. 1**

For Immediate Release:

LOVELAND, Colo. – Construction will take place at the Devil's Backbone Open Space trailhead, resulting in temporary closures at the popular open space west of Loveland.

The Devil's Backbone Trailhead and associated parking area, located just north of U.S. 34, will close Feb. 1. The Morrison Loop Trail will be closed during construction, as well as the Wild Loop Trail from the southern arc of the loop to the trailhead. Construction is expected to take at least four weeks, weather depending.

Visitors may still access Devil's Backbone Open Space from the Blue Sky Trailhead, near Horsetooth Reservoir, and the trailhead at the City of Fort Collins' Coyote Ridge Natural Area.

The temporary closures are the result of improvements coming to Devil's Backbone, which are based on feedback from open space users and the updated Devil's Backbone Management Plan. Improvements will include:

- Expansion and reconfiguration of the trailhead and parking area, with more parking spaces
- A multi-use equestrian and mountain bike trail through the Hidden Valley area of the open space
- Designation of the Wild Loop Trail as hiking only
- A webcam on the parking area, likely to be installed in spring or summer
- Additional interpretive materials and play features

Updates on construction and reopening of the trailhead and trails will be posted on Larimer County Department of Natural Resources' website, www.larimer.org/naturalresources.

For questions or more information, please contact Meegan Flenniken, resource program manager, at (970) 619-4562 or mflenniken@larimer.org.

To learn more about Larimer County's parks and open spaces, visit our website at www.larimer.org/naturalresources

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