

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes Regular Meeting – May 2, 2013

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Tawny Espinoza at 12:14 p.m.

Meeting Location: Lincoln Park Tower – Hospitality Suite

Roll Call

Board Members Present: David McIlroy
Dr. Scott McBrayer
Bart Dickson
Scott Coleman
Tawny Espinoza
Kristy Emerson
Marc Litzen
Jim Doody (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent:

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Schoeber, Director
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
Traci Wieland, Recreation Superintendent

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

Dr. Scott McBrayer moved to approve the March 14, 2013 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Scott Coleman seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Motion adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Item 3: Las Colonias Master Plan

Rob Schoeber provided a short history on Las Colonias Park, stating a year ago City Council gave approval for staff to move forward with revisions to the master plan. A stakeholder group has since been formed, consisting of representatives from Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, Riverfront Commission, Tamarisk Coalition, Lions Club, City Council, and City staff. The most significant change to the previous master plan is the omission of the recreation center, as the direction is now to develop the property as a “passive” recreation park.

Traci Wieland showed a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed Las Colonias master plan (See attached). A public meeting was held, in which approximately 75 people attended and provided positive feedback. At this time, the group is researching a multitude of grant opportunities and working towards obtaining final cost estimates. The current plan will be used as a “road map” for the next several years, providing a direction to go should funding become available for development. The hope is to start some aspects of the development later this year, although nothing has been decided at this time.

Dave McIlnay moved to approve the proposed Las Colonias master plan. Scott McBrayer seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Item 4: Project Updates

Rob Schoeber stated he had recently met with the Police Department and other agencies regarding the growing concerns about the high level of alcohol use at Emerson Park. In response, an Administrative Order declaring Emerson Park an “alcohol free zone” has been implemented effective immediately. Signs have been posted and the Police Department has begun enforcing the new regulation.

Traci Wieland provided an update on various park projects (See attached). The Lincoln Park entrances have now been paved and the existing crosswalk on 12th Street is currently in the process of being moved. The local marble club is celebrating Marble Day on June 4, with hopes the relocation of the marble rings will be completed in time for their event. The tennis and pickle ball court bids are going out soon, and the hand rails on the west side of the stadium have now been installed and will be painted before graduations.

Item 5: For the Good of the Community

Dr. Scott McBrayer had some questions about the lack of adult softball tournaments in the Grand Junction area. The majority of local softball tournaments are held at City facilities but are organized by the individual groups.

Scott Coleman briefly discussed a routine Sunday evening event that is taking place at Sherwood Park. Traci Wieland reported staff is currently developing a process to address private organizations conducting business on public property. Staff hopes to roll out the new guidelines soon to ensure quality control and consistency throughout the parks.

Item 6: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative
Specialist

Las Colonias Park

Today's Agenda

- Team involvement
- Review of progress
- Overview of conceptual plan
- Next Steps

Team Involvement

- Stakeholders
- City team
- Ciavonne, Roberts, and Associates
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment / Department of Energy
- US Fish and Wildlife
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Local music promoters/event organizers
- Local “historian”
- Grand River Mosquito Control District

What's Been Completed

- Re-established water flow in slough



What's Been Completed

- Purchased 755 Struthers



What's Been Completed

- Conceptual Designs
- Kept major themes of 1998 and 2008 plans
- Involved major stakeholders and incorporated majority of feedback

What's Been Completed

- Public Participation
 - Community meeting, April 10
 - Approximately 75 attended
 - Positive feedback
- Many ideas/comments will be included in final presentation to City Council

What's In Progress

- Grant research
- Cost estimates/phasing options
- Whitewater/kayak park conversations
- Wetland delineation/permitting
- Ongoing water quality testing for backwater area
- Conversations with Math and Science Center
- Historical sub-committee
- Incorporation of Botanical Garden Master Plan

Potential Grants

- GOCCO
- Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund – Co. Water Conservation Board
- Boettcher Foundation
- Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant – Co. Water Conservation Board
- Environmental Solutions for Communities - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Supplemental Environmental Project – Co. Dept. of Public Health and Environment.
- State Historical Fund
- DOLA

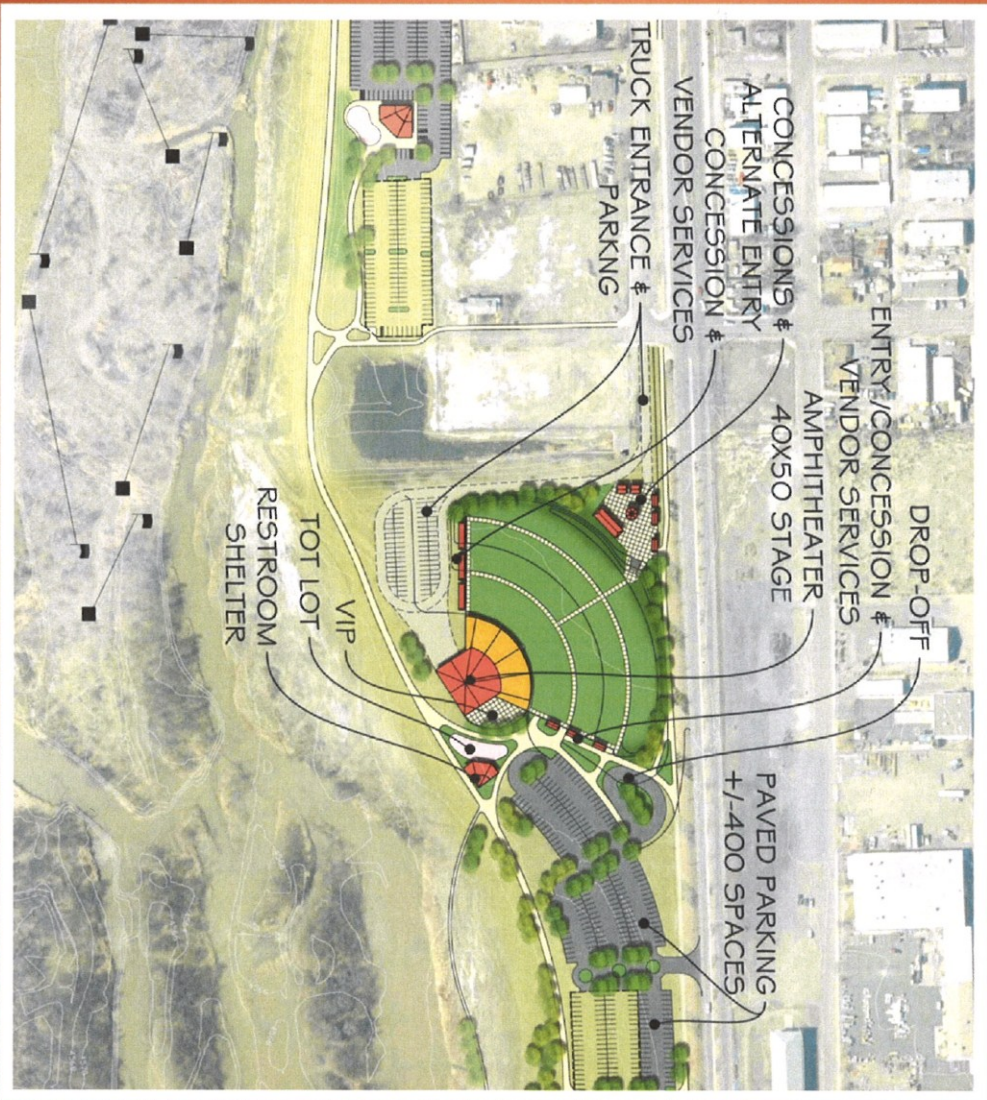
West Entrance



West Entrance – Botanical Garden Master Plan



Amphitheater



Riparian Restoration/Backwater Pond



Festival/Multi Use Area



Wetlands



Whitewater/Kayak Park



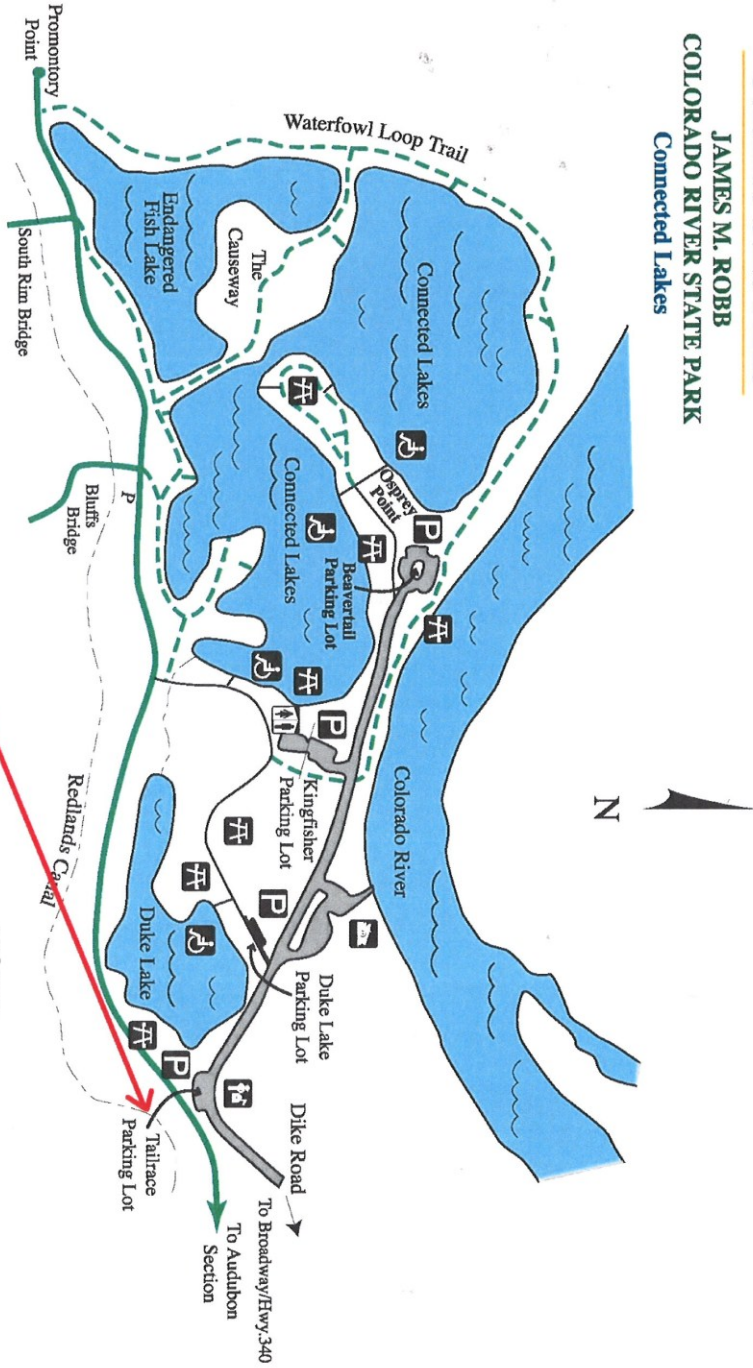


Colorado State Parks

JAMES M. ROBB

COLORADO RIVER STATE PARK

Connected Lakes

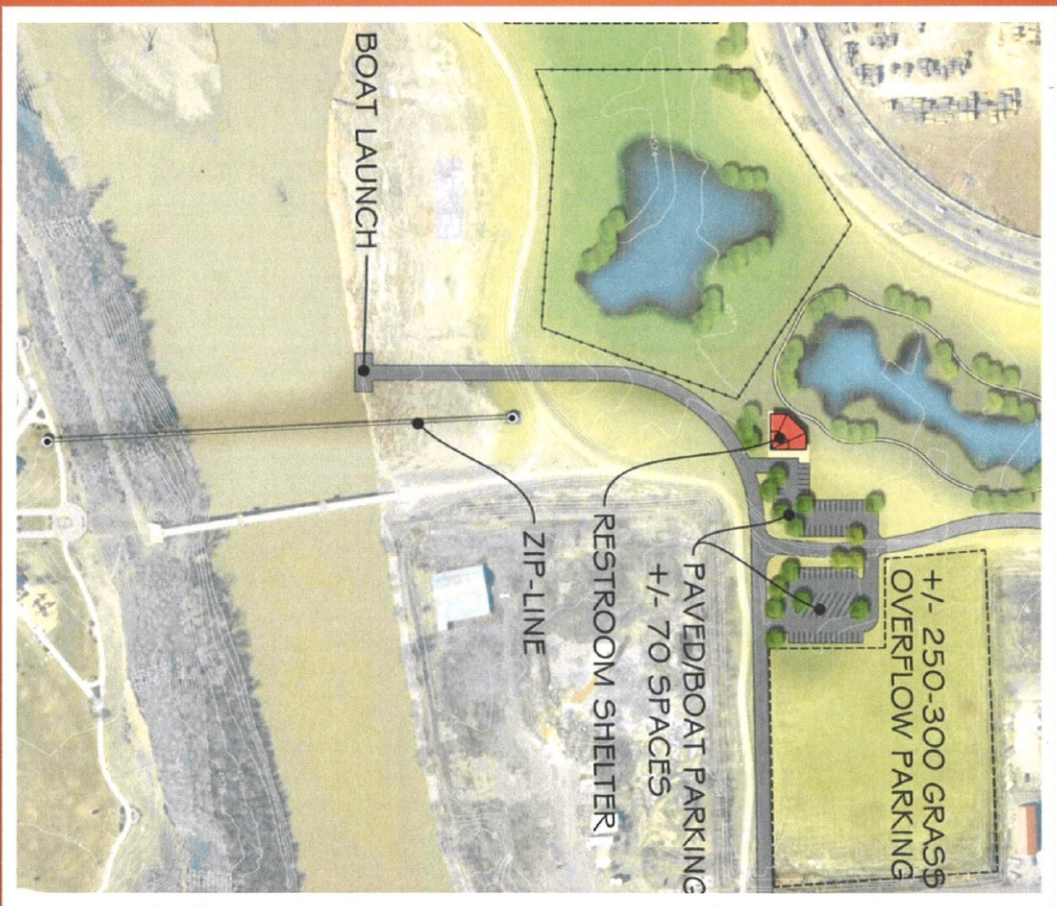


Potential Whitewater/Kayak Park Location

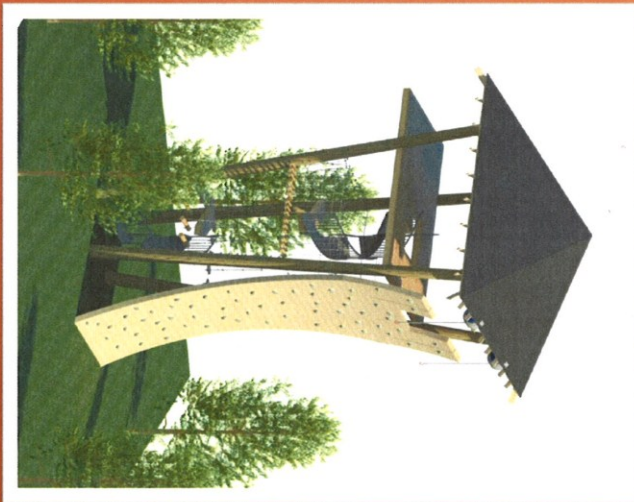
LEGEND

	Park Entrance		Picnic Area
	Restrooms		Accessible Fishing
	Parking		Boat Ramp
	Paved Trail		Unpaved Trail

Zip Line



Zip Lines



Next Steps

- Determine phasing/develop cost estimates
- Presentation to City Council, June 5
- Grant applications
- First phase development

West Entrance Comments

All for the disc golf and native arboretum. It will be beautiful! You all always do well on playgrounds!
Too much Disc Golf in the Trees
Art, Sculpture - River Overlooks & boardwalks to observe wildlife on River. (Talk to Audubon) Historic
Finally a Nice update/facelift/ In time Frank Nunn Junk yard will be a distant memory. Did I just age myself?
Maybe consider historic Spanish Architecture- but more contemporary look- Spanish style fence. Modern Deco
Please include adequate bicycle racks, including racks that can accommodate 3-wheel recumbent cycles.
Bike Racks around entire park to use when at the park
Great
Design disc golf course so that when flooded the impacts and clean-up result in minimal expenses (design it so that recognize flooding will eventually occur.)
I am concerned about homeless people taking control - as has happened at several city parks, needs to be
If the Kayak park is off the disc golf area. Planning for kayakers to put in/ take out nearby necessary where would the kayakers park?
Perhaps a zoo or limited animal (wild) display.
Good Plan
Need woodchip running trail circumnavigating entire park.
<u>Buy Brady Properties!</u>
Yes make [the native arboretum] happen
It all looks good! Remember the Art sculptures. Hope we can make it happen!
"We need to buy the Brady Property."

Amphitheater Comments

I really like the idea of an amphitheater! Use Teither-Doma and Reynolds Polymer! Birds Nest Style Stage and cover! (**Spelling?)
Stage backdrop must be the unique signature of the park.
I am excited to see this happen!
Great!
Great! :) Long Overdue. Do the Amphitheater as soon as you can as a priority- we don't have anything like that and it will finally draw some cultural interest to the community- concerts maybe?
Between Brady Property and park put in a dirt berm to block visual and light for park
Las Colonias Amphitheater
Great
I like that it is aimed away from the homes on Orchard mesa. Needs to have a time limit and require noise **(?)
Fantastic! Can't Wait!
The City should work hard to get a land transfer to include the Brady Property into the Park.
The name of the amphitheater should be Las Colonias too
This looks good- a nice place for music and other groups to perform. I want to stay involved.
Question size of Amphitheater like smaller shelters spread around for multiuse.
Ok
Keep it simple and affordable
Waste of space that could be used to encourage people to be active. How often will amphitheater be used?
When in use it just encourages people to sit, not be active.
A woodchip running trail around the park would be excellent for people who want to run/jog with low impact. Also people rehabilitating etc. could have a place to exercise.
We need this amphitheater!
Hope we can make it happen!
"Las Colonias" would be a great name for the Amphitheater. Or "Colonias Amphitheater"

Festival/Multi Use Area Comments

Yeah! Let's get a big multi-use area. I'm all for Festivals! Big Trees!
Camping for events
Please speak to the city about paying for an appraisal of Brady's Property. He wants to sell! Let's buy it! An appraisal is the next step!
Riverfront Festivals, Pork & Hops, Earth day, etc.
Same as amphitheater - well done! Looking forward to Pork & Hops. Keep it simple - and smart!
More bicycle racks here would be good.
examine the possibility of creating a water sports complex to use in conjunction with land activities.
Important to get electrical there. Talk with Palisade Riverbend- lessons learned.
Ensure native grass plantings mix is one that will use the least amount of water (preferably a mix that will not require watering except in drought conditions, etc.)
I am a little concerned about a commercialization of the park with a zip line. Should promote walking and
I am here to present the case of a contemporary concrete skate park. I understand the close proximity of the Orchard Mesa park. However, from my and my most avid skateboarder's perspective, that is <u>Not</u> a skatepark, which is built to a scale that makes it functional for High Level Skating and is not a destination park. It does fine as a novice park for children, but not much more. I propose either the festival grounds or eastern most overflow parking to be used. I cannot stress enough the importance of a reputable skatepark company to be contracted for the site design for the sake of park flow and usage. My vision is to use a part of this space to build a <u>destination</u> park which works for both local children and traveling adults much like the "lunch loop" has done for bicyclists. I would love to offer any help needed, I can provide info for skatepark grants, reputable builders, case studies, community support and so on. I would be more than happy to answer any and all questions and I look
I feel a concrete skateboard, roller skate, scooter type park would be a fantastic addition to this park. These types of parks are often pushed to the side of the park and looked at in a negative light. However, there are several of these types of parks that have proven to be a very beneficial attributes to the surrounding areas if done right and actually included into the main focus of the park and not tucked away or hidden in the shadows of the area. I hope it will be given some thought. Thanks, Jodi.
Privately- developed performance venue/ sports arena
Need to keep foot traffic on gravel or wood chip pathway
This good. Wood chip running trail can pass through it.
Love the Native Grass and Native Arboretum
Question frisbee golf! Can be dangerous for walkers if too close
Get an appraisal in the Brady meeting
Interpretive signage. Hope we can make it happen!
It would be nice to have our festival there. Cinco de Mayo.

Wetlands Comments

Pay attention to fish and bird habitat- we love our birds! The plans look beautiful! Make it beautiful and happy and it will be successful! Make this Happen!!! :)
Outdoor/ River Center (Boat Rental)
Health+Safety: I want to bring my children (2+4 yrs old) to this beautiful park. Please take a second look at the uranium contamination that has happened in the area. I question the DOE's findings
Overlooks, boardwalks (talk to Audubon)
Good Use of the natural wetlands space and combined irrigation needs. Good thinking and planning there. Keep up the good work
Bike racks here, also
Can this area be used as an ice skating (rink/area) in winter?
Make sure the road to the boat ramp allows for traffic in and out with staging area at the river. People need room to set up and waiting space for shuttle.
Ensure all aspects of the park do not contribute negatively to water quality in the Colorado River.
Beautiful Use of the area!
<u>Wonderful</u> to have a boat launch. It would be better over on the Brady Property. City should buy that land.
This community needs an accessible pond to learn the kayak eskimo roll. (Boat Launch) good.
ponds, playgrounds and river. I am sorely disappointed that we chose to leave Brady in this valuable area. Is there no hope for a negotiation to trade properties. My family would adore a white water park. We often travel to Salida, Glenwood, Cascade and Boise, Idaho and other communities to enjoy kayaking and to watch others kayak in WW parks. We're glad to see a boat launch and hope for on-going education/ info about rafting when floating our beautiful river. Kayla
Love the spacious dog park with pond! Fresh water and Non-murky (sand/gravel) bank the best
Can we work on life jackets for the little kids. Program in Alaska is wonderful. I have ideas.
Like kids water/fountain park in master plan 2008 to go along with dog park.
Skip [the dog park] Stock [water quality ponds] with fish (sportfish)
Boat ramp at this location will be a very popular amenity and needs thought and planning to accommodate
This will be nice as wood trail goes through, around it.
Wonderful to see boat ramp and parking!!! Is there anyway of having a kayak pond for people to practice their
Make sure the uranium is actually safe.
Consider climbing wall or boulders- for bouldering

General Comments

Interesting, it all looks unbelievable! What an awesome attraction for families/ tourists. The zip line will get a great view and odor of SEMI TRUCKS !! That is a major, sad flaw in the plan. Buy it! (Brady Property) Duh!

Please- drinking fountains and covered bench seating interdesperced. Please include adequate drinking fountains at multiple locations throughout the park. Some sheltered-covered park bench seating at various locations would be good. Consider including picnic tables scattered throughout, to encourage users to linger- artists to

Picnic area? Covered, open uncovered and grassy.

I strongly support the overall design/ intent of the park! It will provide a great attraction to the City and Riverfront Trail. The overall design should emphasize natural/ native plantings requiring the least amount of

a slalom park is a nice feature for river enjoyment. It doesn't have to be a whitewater park for boaters to practice skills and enjoy the river. Are you familiar with the wonderful park that is right downtown Salida? What a nice feature for the town folks and tourists alike.

As you probably know, there has been talk in the past of creating 4-5,000 seat arena both for entertainment and possibly sporting events down in the Las Colonias area. It seems to me that at least looking in to the idea of a privately-financed facility that could be used year-round(indoors) makes more sense and could be done earlier perhaps, than a publicly-funded festival grounds that would have a limited season. Also, there is a lot of open space that is a little less valuable that would be just as well suited to festivals, such as Matchett Park(much greater capacity, too. There is also an existing dog park and again, the land is too valuable for that use, I believe.

The master plan for Los Colonais Park is very well thought out and should be an asset the Colorado River riparian area. My vision for the open spaces can be restored to a riparian area that will attract birds and other wildlife. I have spent the last 12 years restoring a former gravel pit on Dike Road for Grand Valley Audubon Society. The area had been neglected after Mesa County abandoned this mining site and was over grown with non-native plants. The soil was saturated with salt to the point that not even weeds would grow. After over \$200,000 and thousand of hours of volunteer hours spent on the property it is starting to look like a wildlife area. Wildlife and birds are beginning to return to the area. It will take years before it will look like the smaller areas that was not ever disturbed. I believe that the city planners can benefit from our experience turning a dead zone into a wildlife area. I would like to be included in the planning for the landscape in the area outside of the planned

Comments Given to Staff

We need to have a spot where people can practice 'rolls' in their Kayaks. This would need to be an area with very slow moving or still water that is about four feet deep. I think the final irrigation pond that we pump out of would work well for this application.
Festival camping area. This would be useful for events like Ride the Rockies, or a week end blue grass festival, etc. I wouldn't envision camping just any time, but for particular events some overnight camping availability may be needed.
I talked with a lady who was concerned that we were destroying wildlife and bird habitat. She was concerned that the speakers from the amphitheater would run them off.
I also talked to a gentleman that wanted a soft surface, sawdust from Doug Jones, jogging path around the park.
Concern about noise from the amphitheater (from residents in Orchard Mesa)
How will parking be handled during large events?
Camping on-site?
Loved the area for temporary vendors
Disc golf area should have established trees
Path along kayak location for laps
slalom track, freestyle course like Durango
Shorter distance to haul boats
soft surface running trail around park, sawdust running trail, Eugene Oregon has a similar trail
Zip line!
leave some dead cottonwoods for bird habitat, even short tamarisk
noise effecting riparian efforts
worries about cement and not enough plantings right now
sloping of wetland ponds need to have correct gradient to attract birds
make sure there is turf on the dog park, "pond edge"
Legends sculpture?
composting facility
It was suggested that we look into using a hydriodic Ram to bring water out of the river and not use pumps? "I don't have any idea what this is".
Please use a combination of irrigation water and river water. She is afraid the irrigation water has chemicals in it that will hurt her dog.
There is an 8" line that was put in dedicated for Las Colonias Park". He said this line is at the far North end of the park. He said he would be more than happy to meet with us and show us the line. I have his number. This is really worth looking into.
"Are you sure you have done everything to make sure this site is safe for the kids that will be playing there and those visiting the park"
This one is on a suggestion form. "With the new entry on this curve the speed limit needs to be reduced to at least 35 mph or lower past the 271/2 road curve. Very dangerous conditions already present on the curves and new traffic will be drawn to the areas. Please consider safety. She wants to be contacted. I will get the form to you."
There was notable concern for wildlife ... and therefore support for the Riparian Rehab and the Pond Wetland aspects of the park
Lots of support for the Dog Park – all noting they liked having a lake in the Dog Park as well as maintained turf
I got a good suggestion to consider using water cannons within the native grass areas as opposed to installing significant underground systems. This could greatly reduce initial costs, but increase initial maintenance
Numerous people were anxious for the private properties (Randall to brew pub, and north edge of parkway) to redevelop, and recognized that this project would be the catalyst to make that happen sooner
I only had to explain the radon/ammonia issues to one attendee

<p>Most expressed that the Amphitheater was long overdue</p>
<p>There should be a woodchip walking/jogging trail circumnavigating the park with various cutoffs. A model for this type of trail can be found in the Eugene, Oregon, park system. It's called "Pre's Trail". I currently jog around Canyon View Park in the soft grass even though I live in Orchard Mesa. Canyon View's dirt trail is too hard packed to minimize injury so I run in the grass. The cement trail that now circumnavigates Canyon View is wonderful for walking and my wife and I use it frequently. Being able to circumnavigate the park is much better than an out and back trail. A woodchip trail at Las Colonias would be soft enough to allow beginner joggers to jog with minimal risk of injury. Google "Pre's Trail" in Eugene Oregon and you will see how nice this works in a park. http://www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?NID=1727 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre%27s_Trail http://www.runnersworld.com/trails-run/pres-trail-eugene-oregon</p>
<p>I cannot understand why a large amphitheater should be built in the park along with all the parking it will require. It's use will be minimal compared to park attractions that could be put in this space. Parks should encourage people to an active life style, not encourage them to sit on their fannies and watch entertainers. I recommend removing the amphitheater and replacing it with an obstacle course for adults to use at any time. Special events could be held at the adult obstacle course in combination with the woodchip running trail. Las Colonias could become a famous park like Eugene's Pre's Trail, but only better, because we would have an adult obstacle course. These challenging courses have excellent safety records. Here is a link to a video of the Air Force's obstacle course. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EL8dO3gjfw</p>
<p>I also see a shortage of picnic areas in the current plan. I recommend sheltered picnic areas similar to Long's Park or Canyon View.</p>

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting – May 2, 2013 Project Update

Lincoln Park Renovation

- The east entrance into park between Administration and the Golf Course and the 12th Street entrance have been paved.
- The existing crosswalk on 12th Street west of Stocker Stadium will be moved south and a median will be added. Upon completion of the crosswalk, crews will install an eight foot sidewalk on the east side of the track fence and entrance into the stadium. Work is scheduled for May with hopeful completion by JUCO (see page 2 and 3).
- The marble rings will be relocated northeast of the current location in an effort to provide a stage area for events. The new rings will be poured with the crosswalk and sidewalk project. The Grand Junction Lions Club will be participating in a “Marble Day” with the marble club on June 4.
- New signage has been ordered for the park including entrance and regulation signs, and crews are currently designing and scheduling a complete renovation of all existing landscape and planting beds.
- Tennis/Pickleball court bids were reviewed by user groups and are scheduled to go to bid mid-May with construction taking place mid-June through mid-September.
- Safety upgrades are underway at Stocker Stadium and will be completed by May 10.
- Bid specs are being developed for the Stocker Stadium track overlay and repair.

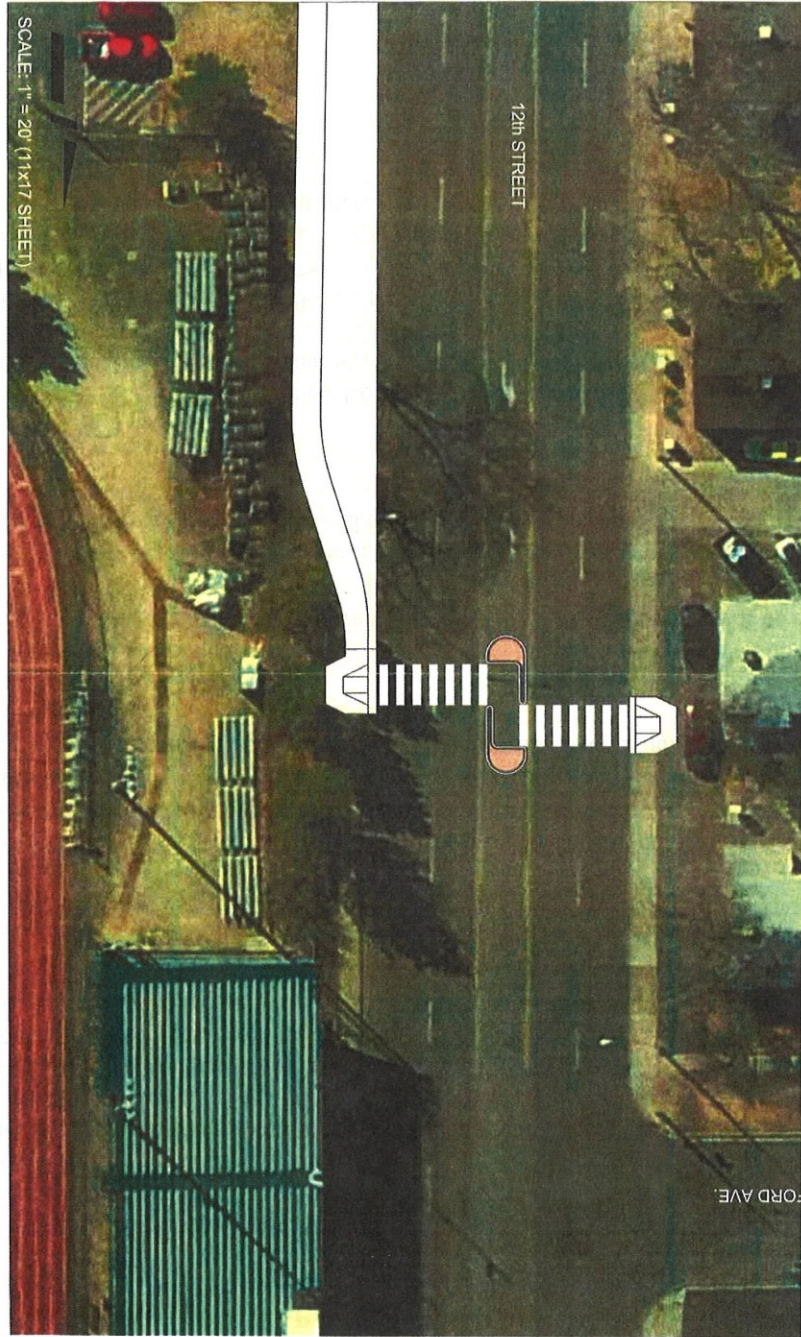
Matchett Park

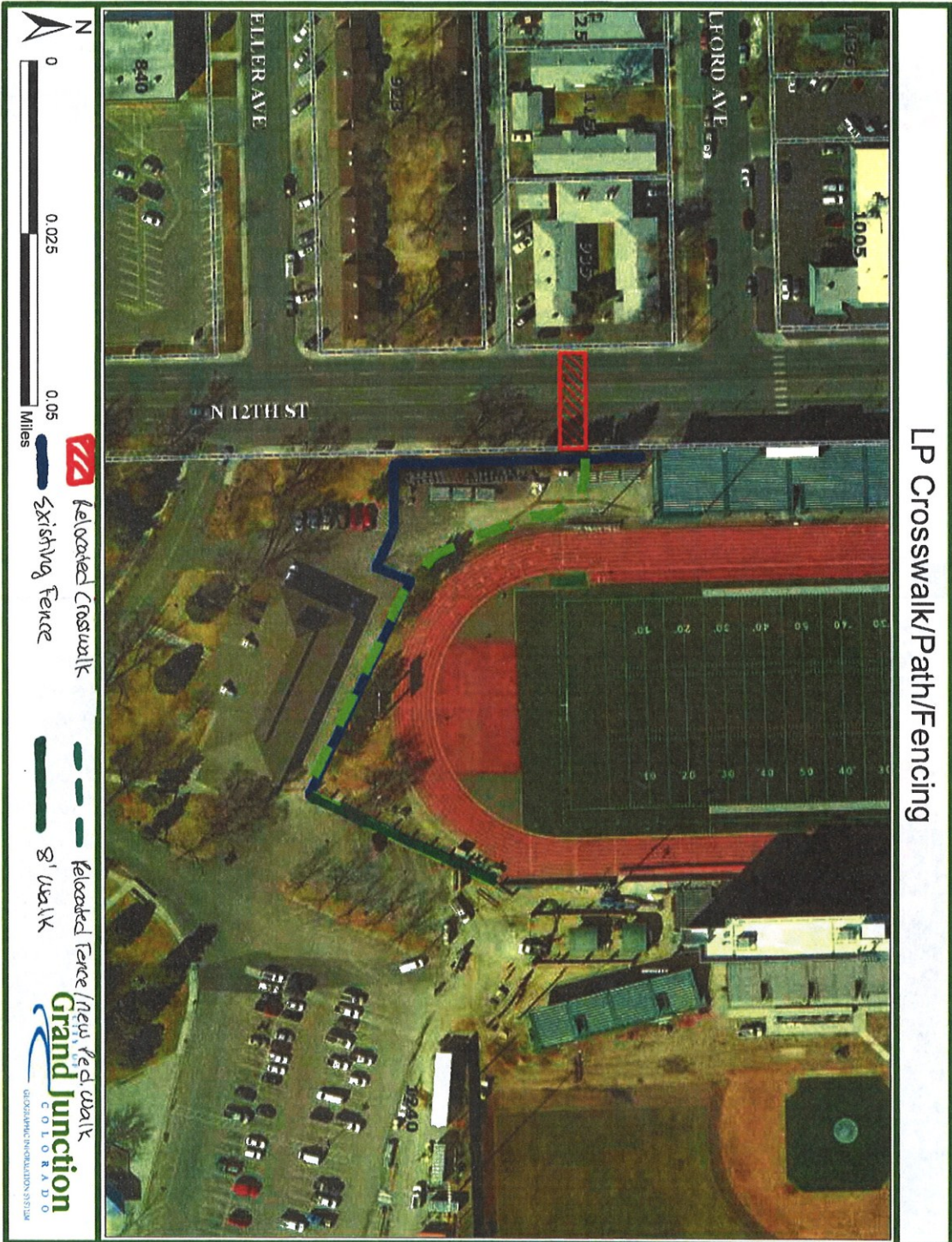
- Still waiting to hear about the planning grant through GOCO. Notification will be received in June.
- A neighbor survey is being developed for a hopeful meeting in May or June.
- Request for proposals are being developed and will be advertised in June once the GOCO grant notification is received.

CIP Projects

- Bids were received for OM Pool Locker Room, LP Pool locker room, OM Plaster, and OM Deck. Between all four projects and the remaining ADA funds, the projects will be completed as scheduled this fall.
- Request for proposals are being developed for trail repair on Watson Island and three sections of the Blue Heron Trail.
- Final playground selections were made for Pomona Elementary and Washington Park (see page 4). Installation will take place this summer.

2







WASHINGTON PARK

**POMONA ELEMENTARY OPTION 1
GRAND JUNCTION, CO**

	ELEVATED PLAY ACTIVITIES - TOTAL 9 ELEVATED PLAY ACTIVITIES ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER 7 ELEVATED PLAY ACTIVITIES ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP 0 GROUND LEVEL ACTIVITY TYPE 0 GROUND LEVEL QUANTITY 9	Req'd 9 Req'd 7 Req'd 0 Req'd 0 Req'd 9	Ages 5-12 Y-HS
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Miracle

Church Recreation, LLC PO Box 1174 Niwot, CO, 80544 PHONE NO: 303-530-4414 FAX NO: 303-530-9230 GROUND SPACE: 73 X 36 PROTECTIVE AREA: 65 X 45 DRAWN BY: Miracle Maker SCALE: 1/8"=1' DATE: April 03, 2013	010_41372504769 ✓ COMPLIES TO ASTM/CPS ✓ COMPLIES TO ADA	TYPE: QUANTITY:	To promote safe and proper equipment use by children, Miracle recommends the installation of either a Miracle safety sign or other appropriate safety signage near each play system's main entry point(s) to inform parents and supervisors of the age appropriateness of the play system and general rules for safe play. THE PLAY COMPONENTS IDENTIFIED IN THIS PLAN ARE PEMA CERTIFIED. THE USE AND LAYOUT OF THESE COMPONENTS CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF ASTM F1487. AN ENERGY ABSORBING PROTECTIVE SURFACE IS REQUIRED UNDER & AROUND ALL PLAY SYSTEMS.
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Traci Wieland - Handicap parking at Lincoln Park

From: Amber Malone <amber2ben@yahoo.com>
To: "traciw@gjcity.org" <traciw@gjcity.org>
Date: 4/23/2013 9:08 AM
Subject: Handicap parking at Lincoln Park

Hello Traci ,

I am the woman in the wheelchair with the two cute little boys that you spoke with yesterday in the Lincoln Park parking lot regarding handicap parking. My name is Amber Clark, and I would like to thank you for taking an interest in getting people the accessibility they need.

In regards to the question you asked, where to put the handicap parking lots, I believe the cut in spots off of Gunnison would be the best idea. After looking at the place that you pointed out, that people would have to reverse out of, it would make me nervous about running over a small child backing up for such a long distance.

I also wanted to let you know what a difference Rocket Park and now Lincoln Park has made in my life, and hope you can pass the appreciation forward. Before these parks were adapted for wheel chair access, I still bought my kids to the park to play. However, I also had to bring someone else with me that could watch and play on the equipment with them because my wheelchair could not maneuver through the wood chips. Now not only can I bring my boys to the park by myself, I can also safely play with them on the equipment. Thank you for making such a difference in my life.

Amber Clark

Paraplegic mother of a 3 year old and a 1 year old