

City Council

Study Session Agenda

January 27, 2015
Library Conference Room
951 Spruce Street
7:00 PM

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|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| 7:00 p.m. | I. | Call to Order |
| 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | II. | Discussion – Open Space Advisory Board |
| 8:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | III. | Discussion – Snow Removal |
| 8:30 p.m. – 8:35 p.m. | IV. | City Manager’s Report
a. Advanced Agenda |
| 8:35 p.m. – 8:40 p.m. | V. | Identification of Future Agenda Items |
| 8:40 p.m. | VI. | Adjourn |

**SUBJECT: BRAINSTORMING SESSION WITH THE OPEN SPACE
ADVISORY BOARD REGARDING THE FUTURE OF OPEN
SPACE**

DATE: JANUARY, 27 2015

PRESENTED BY: CITY OF LOUISVILLE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

SUMMARY:

The City of Louisville Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) appreciates the opportunity to communicate directly with the City Council to discuss the future vision of Open Space. The topics of discussion will include:

- 1) Expansion of OSAB's purview to include trail planning, review and comment on any City-owned public lands including: Parks, public rights-of-way and Open Space lands.
- 2) Recommend short and long term strategies and/or tactics to study, manage, improve and restore Open Space.
- 3) Integrate Open Space property acquisition into City Planning. Encourage and support City staff to pursue alternate acquisition approaches such as conservation easements, rights of first refusal and other methods.

Current OSAB Members: Helen Moshak, Michael Schantz, Laura Scott Denton, Tom Davinroy, Linda Smith, Spencer Guthrie, Christopher Smith and Missy Davis

Staff Members: Joe Stevens, Parks & Recreation Director, and Ember Brignull, Open Space Manager

FISCAL IMPACT:

No immediate impacts, but additional staff or contractor resources may be required to implement acquisition and development strategies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion

ATTACHMENT(S):

None

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION – SNOW REMOVAL

DATE: JANUARY 27, 2015

**PRESENTED BY: KURT KOWAR, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
JOE STEVENS, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR**

SUMMARY:

Over the 2014 holidays there was considerable snow accumulation and the Mayor asked staff to provide information on process and resource allocation. The City's Snow and Ice Removal Plan, the Streets' Snow Removal Map and the Trails and Parking Lots Snow Removal Map can be found on the City's website at <http://www.louisvilleco.gov/residents/public-works/snow-removal-information-565>.

The City's Public Works operations crews try to plow every residential neighborhood street once after the major arterials and collectors are cleared. The Parks and Recreation Department makes every attempt to remove snow on hard surfaced trails and sidewalks under City responsibility within 24 hours following a snow event. The particular storms that hit this year on Christmas evening, the next few days and New Year's Eve were more challenging due to extreme cold temperatures and back to back snow fall. Some specific challenges and how the City plans to address those challenges are as follows:

- Limited supply of Ice Slicer due to storage limitations at the current City Shops facility. The storage capacity will increase three-fold at the new City Services Facility currently under construction and to be completed in August of this year.
- Back-to-back storms and limited storage capacity influenced staff to use Ice Slicer sparing during this period.
- There is only one Ice Slicer supplier in the area, and it can take many days once an order is placed to get supplies replenished given the demand on Ice Slicer.
- Louisville has an aged snow plow fleet without modern control systems to consistently distribute the material on the streets in a uniform and efficient manner. City is currently awaiting delivery of two snow plows equipped with modern systems. The City will continue modernization of the fleet over the next several years.
- Limited Ice Slicer budget. Each year staff reviews the entire year and makes projections on appropriate budget amounts based on the results of numerous storms throughout the year. As the City moves into the new City Shops facility and continues the upgrade of our fleet to modern systems, staff will continue to evaluate budget and levels of Ice Slicer to determine if the appropriate dollars and resources are allocated.

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- City staff attempts to best balance performance with cost and for the vast majority of storms appears—based on citizen satisfaction—to achieve a reasonable balance. Other than adding storage capacity at the new City Services Facility, increasing the capability to handle “outlier” snowfall events and/or extended periods of extreme cold temperatures would require more resources (staff, equipment and material) that would rarely be used and be expensive to maintain.
- During the snow storms at the end of 2014 and early 2015 the City also experienced a number of water line breaks that required reallocation of Public Works and Parks staff.

The City continues to evaluate and attempt to improve its operations every year. Staff believes the current process produces good results at a reasonable cost. However, staff would appreciate City Council’s suggestions for further improvement or resource allocation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The current snow removal budget for Public Works is approximately \$313,000 per year. Parks and Recreation Spends approximately \$95,800 each year. Costs for a higher level of service would depend on the level of service.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Park and Recreation Department’s Snow Removal Procedures



Memorandum

To: Joe Stevens

From: Dean Johnson

Date: January 21, 2015

Re: Parks Snow Removal Information for Council Communication

Park and Recreation Department's Snow Removal Procedures

The Park and Recreation Department's snow removal responsibilities are primarily focused on plowing parking lots at public facilities, plowing paved trails and clearing sidewalks along City property. Parking lots such as the Police Station, Recreation Center, City Hall and the Library are given top priority. Once cleared paved trails and walks around schools and along primary thoroughfares such as Via Appia and South Boulder Road are plowed. During large snow events, only one side of these main routes is prioritized. Soft surface trails such as the Coal Creek Trail are not plowed.

The City of Louisville's municipal code, Sec. 12.16.050 directs the timeframe for completion.

Sec. 12.16.050. Removal of snow.

It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of any lot, block or parcel of ground within the city, or any agent in charge of such property, to allow any snow or ice to accumulate or remain upon any sidewalk alongside such property longer than 24 hours from the time of the last accretion of such snow or ice. (Code 1962, § 20.34; Code 1977, § 12.16.050)

The Parks Department does its best to adhere to the time constraints in the code for its entire inventory, not just sidewalks. If a snow fall with less than 6" occurs, on average a 90% completion rate within the 24 hour time frame occurs. If snow falls over 6" (which constitutes a major event) or single digit or subzero temperatures occur, completion time can vary. Usually, parking lots and the 8' trails can still be completed within the timeframe, but the 4 foot walks become more challenging.