

# **Open Space Advisory Board**

## **Agenda**

**Wednesday, October 9th, 2024**  
**Library 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room**  
**951 Spruce Street**  
**7:00 PM**

*Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.*

- *Call in to: +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 883 3175 6380 or*
- *You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: [www.louisvilleco.gov/osab](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/osab)*

*The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board, preferably 24 hours before, the meeting at [EmberB@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:EmberB@LouisvilleCO.gov).*

1. 7:00 pm Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
5. 7:05 pm Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda (5 minutes, more time as needed)
6. 7:10 pm Staff Updates (5 Minutes)
7. 7:15 pm Board Updates (15 Minutes)

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Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or [MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov). A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

**Open Space Advisory Board**

Agenda

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8. 7:30 pm Action Item: OSAB Recommendation Regarding the Acquisition Reserve 2025-2026 Budget Proposal. Presented by Susan McEachern, OSAB Chair (30 Minutes)
9. 8:00 pm Discussion Item: E-Bike Regulations on Trails. Presented by Ember Brignull, Open Space Superintendent (30 minutes)
10. 8:30 pm Discussion Item: Criteria for Wayfinding Review. Presented by Ember Brignull, Open Space Superintendent (15 Minutes)
11. 8:45 pm Discussion Items for Next Meeting November 15th:
  - i. Acquisition Tiger Team,
  - ii. Grant Tiger Team,
  - iii. Wayfinding
  - iv. Water Rights
12. Adjourn

**Open Space Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 7:00pm

Library 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room

951 Spruce St.

1. **7:00 pm Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call** – OSAB board present: Susan, Charles, Andy, David, Jessamine, Michiko; on-line: Mark Poletti and Brad Pugh  
Staff present: Ember Brignull, Bryon Weber, Adam Blackmore
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Moved by Andy, seconded by Jessamine, passed unanimously
4. **Approval of Minutes** – Moved by David, seconded by Andy, passed unanimously
5. **7:05 pm Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda** – no public present
6. **7:10 pm Staff Updates**
  - Ember: Goats and Cows back on North OS soon.
  - David asked about replacement style of open space signs. Ember replied they will be in the style of the new wayfinding signage. David: is there a prioritized list of sign replacements? Ember: wayfinding prioritized through CIP, but other signs are replaced as they come up.
  - David asked about the new pocket prairie at Hecla Lake. Ember: just planted. Doesn't look natural yet but will. It's an effort to increase native plants as a pollinator trail.
  - Ember: city DEI training is optional but encouraged. Will be offered every 2 years. Jessamine thought it could be offered earlier in the year. Michiko agreed.
  - David: has there been a response to RTR trail/underpass suggestions from the July meeting, Public Works?
  - Bryon: applicant is working on construction drawings, will resubmit to Public Works. He has yet to see which comments were taken into consideration.
  - Michiko: will revised drawings be presented to OSAB?
  - BW: no, just PW. He does not know if there are any changes as a result of OSAB suggestions.
  - Adam: second reading of quasi-judicial ordinance revisions hearing on 9/17.
  - Adam: Oct 1 Council meeting, city manager recommendation of 25/26 budget.
  - Charles asked about opportunities for art on new trash cans.
  - Ember: complaints about less natural looking, painting might make it look worse.
  - Adam: there is a process for this. It might be possible if people want.
  - Michiko: can we bring this up with the Cultural board?

- Susan: feeling of rest of board that we should leave it alone. Charles regrets bringing it up.

**7. 7:25 pm Board Updates**

- Susan - Follow the Facebook Page: Fans of Louisville Open Space and Parks
- David – Boulder-Erie Regional Trail (BERT) update. Does not border Louisville but will be a major new addition to regional recreation and commuting trails. Alignment is likely to follow defunct railroad tracks from Valmont/63<sup>rd</sup> crossing through Teller Farm/White Rock, 95<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing US287 at an underpass, and then connecting to Erie trail system.
- David – report from the special city Council meeting of Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>. Regarding e-bikes, council is recommending a 15-mph speed limit on trails regardless of means and allowing class III e-bikes on trails. The message is that they care about behavior, not hardware. There was no discussion about enforcement.
- Ember: no other front range community allows class-III bikes.
- Michiko: timeline?
- David: none yet. Charles suggested we discuss this with Lafayette in our joint meeting in October.
- Susan: discuss in November meeting. [wasn't this moved to the October pre-meeting?]
- Susan gave kudos to staff on the fire mitigation event at North OS was great.
- Susan recognized the Weed Whackers for over 140 hours volunteer effort.
- Grants Tiger Team – Andy: focus on grand opportunities for CIP projects first.
- Acquisition Tiger Team – Michiko: nothing this month.

**8. 7:35 pm Discussion Item: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department Long Range Plan Discussion. Presented by Bryon Webber, PROS Project Manager (see revised packet for slides presented)**

- Major item of discussion was why the Trails plan was being bid separately from the OS plan.
- Andy: why trails plan bid separately? Easy to miss.
- BW: casting a broad net
- Charles was disturbed that Trails is split off from OS and might not happen. He would rather see a more holistic OS plan that covers both conservation and trails.
- Adam: trend is toward combined expertise in consulting firms. We have a couple trails-specific consultants who are interested. Funding for trails (2C) is already there.
- Charles: since we've never had a trails plan, maybe lead with trails instead of listing it as an add/alt?

- Adam: could change language in RFP. With two funding sources makes things complicated.
- Bryon: didn't make sense to include trails as a fifth division.
- Jessamine: need to emphasize need for trails plan throughout document.
- Bryon: can change language to emphasize trails
- Andy: how would you even do public input on PROS part without talking about the T part? Require consultants to work together?
- David: Boulder has Visitor Master Plan. Something like that might be a good model.
- Susan: habitat, conservation, restoration need to be included as well.
- Jessamine thought the ordering of document needs to be refined. Why start with water rights (something very specific) rather than a more general subject like the visitor experience and community values? Determine what community values and priorities are? This can guide OSAB and city for years to come.
- Adam: everyone agrees acquisition is important but can't agree what to do with it once we get OS.
- Adam: funding in 2026 for OS master plan, only department within PROS with funds set aside for Master Plan.
- Ember: plans often work together and sub out team members to different areas.
- Michiko: PROS plan does not include Trails plan? How would a separate trails MP work?
- Bryon: Trails MP will be very detailed; PROS plan is at a much higher level.
- David: lots of plans occurring in short time and not necessarily in the most logical order. Should we really even do OS plan before wildlife surveys and so forth?
- Bryon: it's a chicken and egg problem. You can argue either way as to order of operations. The funding is aligning to have a trails plan now and future dollars to have detailed OS plans later. Why do a wildlife study in a place where there is no desire to put a trail?
- Ember: there is a planned natural resources survey in two weeks of any trail alignment identified in any existing plan and will be surveying anything that comes up in this project. "We also have a pretty good idea of where the sensitive areas are and aren't. Not a lot of surprises."
- Discussion on open house and public input strategy. How many should happen? How soon? What style?
- David on trails: a trails connectivity analysis would be helpful. Prioritization by importance and timeline. Example of hypothetical RTR connector trails as important but not urgent. Important trails we've advocated for need to be in the plan. Don't need to bring trails to all four advisory boards.
- Adam: how did old TMP come to be?
- Susan & Michiko: RFP wording change: "proven experience preferred" -> "required"

- Jessamine: scope of work: review maintenance plan.
- Michiko: can we see examples of consultant candidates' work?

**9. 8:53 pm Discussion Item: Agenda Setting for Joint Meeting with Lafayette.  
Presented by Susan McEachern, OSAB Chair**

- 6:00-7:00 p.m. - OSAB only
  - Business: e-bikes
- 7:00 p.m.: Joint meeting [Ember has captured priority list of topics]
- Concern about getting too in the weeds and not having enough time.
- Idea of inter-board liaisons (exchange program) to discuss and report on in-the-weeds issues.

**10. 9:14 pm Discussion Item: OSAB Communication with City Council. Presented by  
Susan McEachern, OSAB Chair**

- There is general frustration regarding the lack of any kind of response from Council regarding official OSAB business.
- Case in point: the prairie dog rodenticide memo we formulated after the August meeting seemed to disappear into a black hole. Did it ever get read by Council? How can we address this issue? Should someone from OSAB present our findings to council at meetings directly?
- Ember: if a formal vote is taken on something at a regular board meeting, it could be presented as official OSAB business to the board.

**11. Adjourn 9:28**