



CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
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CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

MEETING DATE: April 10, 2013

TIME: 11:30 PM

LOCATION: Recreation Center large conference room – 920 Boulder Drive

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes from the March 27, 2013 meeting.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, that the consent agenda be approved and that each specific action on the consent agenda be approved as indicated. (Items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed above. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Committee Member or citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered on the regular agenda.)

Regular Agenda:

1. Review of public comments collected from the recent public meetings.

New business:

1. Public Comments

Next Meeting Date: April 24th at 11:30 pm

CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 27, 2013
Minutes of Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amber Travsky, Amy Williamson, Bill Gribb, Dave Hammond, Evan O'Toole, Joe Lord, Mike Moeller, Peggy McCrackin, Vicki Henry

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Dan McCoy

CITY OF LARAMIE STAFF PRESENT: Paul Harrison, Parks & Recreation Director; Mel Owen, Administrative Assistant; Cody Jennings, Assistant Planner; Eric Jaap, Civil Engineer; Jodi Guerin, Recreation Manager

GUESTS: Janean Forsyth-Lefevre; David Gertsch, County Planning Director

The regular meeting was called to order by the Chair at 11:30 a.m.

Consent Agenda:

1) Approval of the minutes from the March 13, 2013 meeting.

Motion by Moeller, second by McCrackin, that the consent agenda be approved. Motion carried 8-0, (Travsky absent).

Regular Agenda:

1) Acknowledgement and discussion of Stakeholder Meeting Summaries.

The Committee requested an electronic copy of the list of Stakeholders originally contacted for meetings be disseminated to members. The following entities or groups were also noted as stakeholders that staff should attempt to make contact with in an effort to encourage their participation: Cathedral Home, Laramie Audubon Society, local equestrian groups, any local dog trainers, Trout Unlimited, Issac Walton Society, the local Cyclocross group, WY Whitewater Association, the UW Extension Office, and the Forest Service Recreation Division.

Motion by Moeller, second by Williamson, to acknowledge receipt of the stakeholder summaries and to incorporate the summaries into the Master Plan. Motion carried 9-0.

2) Development of a vision statement for the Master Plan.

The Committee discussed potential vision statements for the Master Plan.

Motion by Williamson, second by Travsky, to adopt the following vision statement: "To create a system of parks, recreation, natural areas, and trails that can adapt to meet the current and future needs of the Laramie community and the surrounding region."

Motion by Lord, second by Travsky to amend the motion, replacing the word "create" with "have" in the above vision statement. Amendment failed, 1-8.

Motion by Travsky, second by Moeller, to amend the motion, replacing "create" with "sustain and enhance" in the above vision statement. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion carried, as amended, 9-0. The following vision statement was formally adopted: "To sustain and enhance a system of parks, recreation, natural areas, and trails that can adapt to meet the current and future needs of the Laramie community and the surrounding region."

3) Discussion of dog park standards.

Harrison presented a draft of dog park standards for the Committee to discuss and further develop. The Committee noted the following changes or additions to the dog park standards:

- The size of regional dog parks should be increased to 10 acres or larger.
- Multiple dog waste bag dispensers and trash containers should be added to the standards for regional dog parks.
- The minimum size for community dog parks should be increased to 2 acres, with the ideal size at 3-5 acres.

- Fences in community dog parks should be 6 feet high with 6 feet tall divider fences.
- Water features should be listed as optional in the standards for dog parks.
- Both regional and community dog parks should have trash and recycling receptacles included in the standards.

New Business

Harrison noted that Game and Fish have requested the City consider expanding the ages for fishing at Huck Finn Pond, so that teens and adults could also utilize the Pond for fishing. The Committee stated a preference to continue offering fishing for kids only, due to the size of the Pond and the fact that it is the sole 'kids only' fishing spot in town. Motion by Williamson, second by Moeller, that no change be made to the age requirements for fishing at Huck Finn Pond. Motion carried 8-1.

Public Comments:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mel Owen
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation
City of Laramie

A summary of all public comments received by the public at the following Meetings:

March 27, 2013 – 12:00 to 2:00 – Laramie Recreation Center

March 27, 2013 – 5:30 to 8:00 – Laramie Recreation Center

March 28, 2013 – 12:00 to 2:00 – Fire Station #2

March 28, 2013 – 6:00 to 8:00 – Lincoln Community Center

March 27, 2013 – 12:00 to 2:00 – Laramie Recreation Center

- 26 people signed in.
- General Comments
 - A comment letter from Marcia Gladstone (Hand Delivered to Staff)
 - A inquiry/concern into how shared-use paths and on street bike lanes would interface and transition between the two different types.
 - (2) Two comments provided regarding the importance in keeping/maintaining/ensuring that access to the east to the National Forest through the other public properties in the area. At a minimum at least access should be secured if major property acquisition can't happen.
- Mega Map
 - Comment #1 – Spring Creek Path near senior housing on 30th and Sheridan Street – Screen of path along Spring Creek from residential and senior housing to reduce noise, smoke, visibility, etc. should be incorporated. Also signage should be use to discourage access into parking area off the path.
 - Comment #2 – Playlot Park south of Spring Creek near future 30th Street extension – Small Park in this location is okay, however may be too far away for seniors in the area.
 - Comment #3 – Boulder Drive and Bill Nye Intersection – Boulder Drive should extend to the Interstate and be the interchange for the area. Not 30th Street.
 - Comment #4 – East of future 30th Street, south of the new housing development “The Pointe” – This area should not be developed and will cause flooding if it is.
 - Comment #6 – Future Neighborhood Park, south of Bill Nye in Turner Tract – this is a good park location and a good idea to have as a Dog Park.
 - Comment #7 – 30th Street and I-80 Interchange – No 30th Street Interchange.
 - Comment #8 – East of town, between National Forest and City – I think a public access corridor connecting the city and the National Forest east of town is super important.
 - Comment #25 – Park area south of CortHELL neighborhood Area – I would like some garden plots (so I can grow veggies) in our neighborhood.
 - Comment #26 – Spring Creek Channel – This area should be improved as a fishery. Great job on Spring Creek! Please keep it up and protection this “wild” stream. Maybe put trout habitat so kids can learn to fish along a safe stream. [Person drew a fish as well].

- Comment #27 – 4th and Fetterman (I believe more a generalized location) – Volunteer gardeners can plan annuals and perennials flowers, and more in mini plots along 30th Street and Grand et. al. I would do this for a season. Include daffodils and much more. [Person drew a flower and smiley face for us.]
- Comment #28 – North of Harney Street, near 22nd Street in field – provide a connection between the existing path and 22nd Street for the retirement home, Connemara and Richards park to use so they don't have to walk up 22nd Street or utilize future private paths within UW's land.
- Comment #29 - East of town, between National Forest and City – My number 1 priority here is greeting the town connected to Medicine Bow National Forest across the Warren Livestock property and protecting the exposed aquifer from development.
- Parks/Trails Map
 - General Comment – fix dog park, put in grass!
 - Comment #37 – Washington Park Basketball Courts – Basketball court lights need to be able to stay on longer at night.
 - Comment #38 & #39 – One at LaPrele Park the other south of Cortrell neighborhood in the Neighborhood Park to the south – We would like garden plots in our neighborhood please.
 - Comment #1 – 15th Street in Tree Area – Better snow removal on Bike Trail.
 - Comment #2 – Willett Dr. near hospital and golf course – Better road care on Willett in this area, Also maybe a stop light at that intersection at 10th and Willett.
 - Comment #3 – 45th Street near Indian Hills neighborhood – This Street should connect to Grand Avenue.
 - Comment #4 – Labonte Park – Take better care of the pone that smells bad.
 - Comment #5 – 21st and Grand – Bridge or tunnel across Grand Avenue.
 - Comment #6 – South of town, west of 15th street, south of I-80 and north of Skyline – park or Recreation in open area by skyline would be helpful for new daycare on 15th and skyline, kids need somewhere to play.
 - Comment #25 – 15th and Grand – Bike box at this intersection.
- Monolith Ranch Map
 - General Comment – This ranch shows great potential.
 - Comment #25 & #26 – Near the current entry and at the parking area off of HWY 230 – Better signage on HWY 230 and a Pedestrian bridge(s) over stream for bird watchers.
 - Comment #27 – Near the center of the ranch, west of HWY 287 – Please make large park area. (this comment may apply to the whole ranch, sticker just put in the middle)
 - Comment #28 – Located south of the pivot – Wind farm for local electricity. I'd like to see the monolith ranch become the Laramie version (sp) of Central Park in NYC. The Anchutz wind properties in Carbon County are excellent planning process examples! Check the "Colorado Community Solar Garden Act" , remote solar installs are excellent possibilities for brown fields, airport buffers and the ranch.
 - Comment #29 – Pivot – Make opportunities for entrepreneurs to grow food, instead of growing alfalfa to simply use water.

March 27, 2013 – 5:30 to 8:00 – Laramie Recreation Center

- 20 people signed in.
- General Comments
 - Purchase all open space over the Aquifer Recharge Zone for a public park. City ownership works fine, probably better than State ownership. Do not landscape or irrigate, just leave it as it is, with non-motorized trails connecting to the US Forest Service Pole Mountain Unit.
 - A fiber optics line is located south of I-80 and the easement that it is in should be use to secure an access easement to allow a trail or access to the top of I-80.
 - What about a Monolith Ranch Land Swap for aquifer land?
- Mega Map
 - Comment #9 - East of town, between National Forest and City – Access from parks to State section and trails east to National Forest.
 - Comment #10 – Area between Corthell neighborhood and 19th Street, south of Spring Creek – Love the idea of the bike path around town. Additionally I enjoy the fabulous idea of open space by LaPrele Park.
 - Comment #30 – Laramie River, north of Optimist Park – Good location for whitewater park providing natural constriction in the channel, nearby parking, and a fair bit of gradient in the river in this area. [This item was supported by 6 different people].
 - Comment #31 – Along green Belt, west of cold storage buildings – I suggest putting in an adjacent/parallel single track dirt trail to the existing green belt & proposed continuation of the green belt that surrounds the City.
 - Comment #32 – – Laramie River, north of Optimist Park – Increase river access points to where the river can be utilized more freely by fisherman, tubers, kayakers, and floaters. Extreme South and North points would be best if they provided riverside access to vehicles and some parking. [This item was supported by 7 different people].
 - Comment #33 – Future Union Pacific Park Site – Obstacle Course.
- Parks/Trails Map
 - Comment #40 – Future Neighborhood Park in Indian Hills – Definitely think this is a good spot for a neighborhood park. People love to walk in this area.
 - Comment #41 – Future Neighborhood Park east of Indian Hills – People are already using this area so it is a good idea to preserve and regulation usage.
- Monolith Ranch
 - Comment #30 – South of Fishing Access on the Ranch – Water access definitely would be utilized. i.e. fishing, rafting, boating – let’s make use of the river – high amount of attraction for recreation.
 - Comment #31 – Central Monolith Ranch – Mountain Biking is popular for college students – Mountain Bike Trail!
 - Comment #32 – Central Monolith Ranch – Mountain bike single track trail system with multiple loops, creative design, many option, similar to soapstone Recreation area north of Ft. Collins.

March 28, 2013 – 12:00 to 2:00 – Fire Station #2

- 17 people signed in.
- General Comments
 - Dirt trails beside shared use path
- Mega Map
 - Comment #11 – Future Community Park west of Colorado Ave. – this park is a good location.
 - Comment #12 – Future Playlot at the SW corner of Adams and Franklin – Move this park more west closer to Colorado Ave.
 - Comment #14 – East of Town – Access to the East is important.
 - Comment #15 & #16 – On Beltway around town – The Beltway concept is a good idea and should be preserved.
- Parks/Trails Map
 - Comment #7 – Old Roller Skate Rink – City own the Roller Skating Rink open to the public and available to the local roller Derby Team “The Naughty Pines Derby Danes” and other leagues for events.
 - Comment #8 – Future Dog Park location north of Aragon Fields – I would greatly appreciate this development. Having a dog in this area I often have to travel out of town for him to be let off the leash and get exercise.
 - Comment #42 - North of Harney Street, near 22nd Street in field – Connect trail in this area to 22nd Street. This would help with access to Jr. High if this path connected to 22nd.
 - Comment #43 – Aragon Fields – Area for runners who don’t like running on concrete.
 - Comment #44 – Future Natural Area between Corthell neighborhood and 19th Street, south of Spring Creek – Improved natural area, trail and trash upkeep , improved landscaping and mostly left undeveloped.
 - Comment #45 – LaPrele Park – I like the dirt path at this park. Keep these maintained and add more at various parks.
 - Comment #46 – Ridgeline Trail – Would love shared use paths in this area.
 - Comment #47 – Rural Paths east of town – Rural Paths – YES!
 - Comment # 48 – East of town, northern area – Bike and walking access to this area would be wonderful.
 - Comment #49 – Future Boulder Drive – Safe bike access to the new High School site!!
- Monolith Ranch
 - Comment #34 – Monolith Ranch Fishing Access – Kayak Park/tubing – great idea.

March 28, 2013 – 6:00 to 8:00 – Lincoln Community Center

- 17 people signed in.
- General Comments
 - It would be nice to have more swings and merry-go-rounds in town.

- It would be important to ensure all “dog parks” be leash-free. The newly adopted ordinance doesn’t allow for voice control and is (if you’re a responsible dog owner) a negative shift in lifestyle for us and our dogs. Maybe some trails could have similar status?
- We need access east to the US Forest Service property, and west along the abandoned rail bed – ideally also to US Forest Service property.
- Need more room to move.
- Good views
- Space to walk my dog.
- Laramie has done a very good job in building parks that serve the community. I believe the only constructive comment I could make would be to incorporate parks structures that promote community unity.
- East all the way up to the US Forest Service and west up to Centennial we need access.
- We need long loops that are automobile free!
- Kiwanis Park on the west side – Couldn’t it be considered to have a small paved walk path around the park? It’s so little used in winter, usually gets bumpy and drifted and many more would use it – it’s a beautiful (often unused) park.
- I think the way you connect all the trails to the Greenbelt is awesome. The long term planning is awesome and very well thought out. I would like to see a connection between the Greenbelt and more central town, but overall it’s an awesome plan. Also it is so important that we have access to the east.
- “Beginner” Bike riders (training wheels, trikes, etc.) need an oval to ride on in neighborhood and community parks. Parents/guardians sit and watch kids practice safely so clear sight-lines are necessary. The area doesn’t have to be large, just something that challenges skill acquisition without needing parents keeping up.
- Need to have BMX track in West Laramie. The two that are planned are not accessible to West Laramie kids.
- Thank you for keeping bike lanes on through streets – much better than uncontrolled intersections.
- Please make 2nd and Sheridan to 15th and Sheridan a priority.
- **Mega Map**
 - Comment #1 – I-80 and South 3rd Interchange Area – Needs some work. Cyclists going north must ride on street going wrong way – against traffic. Need to add a sidewalk extension or something to make connectivity until riders can get to 2nd Street.
 - Comment #2 – Garfield Street and Snowy Range Rd. – Where State HWY and interstate Right-of-way meet, cyclists heading east into town the bike lane pavement disappears inexperienced riders swerve into auto lanes. Needs some patching.
 - Comment #33 – Greenbelt west of UP Property – Bridge & connection between McCue and Greenbelt in existing easement.
 - Comment #13 – The “Grove” sales office – This could be a potential viewshed area.
 - Comment #14 – Area between Corthell neighborhood and 19th Street “Silver Sage” – Property owner does not like that this is shown on his property.

- Comment #15 – Future Neighborhood Park on North 15th Street – The playlot will be more accessible to more people if it is moved to the south part of the park area. I wasn't to see the overall nature area increase. It is important to keep the view shed so you can go up on the hill and look over at the Medicine Bow Mountains. I am in favor of this natural park area , but question how compatible having it as a bike area will be. I have small children and do not want to keep worrying about competing with bikers on family walks. We definitely need room to roam in this area of town.
- Parks/Trails Map
 - Comment #50 – Jacoby – We need another Golf Course – 18 Holes!
 - Comment #51 – Labonte Park – Make stink lake park into a dog park or install doggie bag dispenser.
 - Comment #52 – North of town on the Laramie River – I feel that some trails around town are desperately needed, runners and bikers have some problems finding places to go that are not on main streets.
 - Comment #53 – New UW apartments “Bison Run” – It would be nice to have a park area near Bison Run more towards Grand Ave. in that empty lot to throw Frisbee or hang out.
 - Comment #54 – Washington Park – The basketball courts are not in very good condition. There are a lot of slick spots on the cement. Possibly replace the courts foundation to make it more safe to run and jump on.
- Monolith Ranch
 - Please keep the Monolith Ranch Non-motorized.

Melissa Owen

From: Derek Teini
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 3:30 PM
To: Paul Harrison; Melissa Owen; Derek Teini
Subject: Parks & Rec. Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Just wanted to pass along the following public comment:

Marsha Gladstone, Resident of the Retirement Community on 30th, is okay with Shared- Use path located on Spring Creek, however is concerned about noise and how it will be blocked from the trail. In speaking with her it seemed as if her concern was more geared towards the new student housing project and 30th Street, hoping the trail and associated landscaping would be intense and block the noise, dust, and pollution. She indicated that a lilac hedge would be good way to block the noise, dust and pollution.

Mel: Feel free to pass along to the Ad Hoc

Derek T. Teini, AICP

Senior Planner

City of Laramie, Community Development Department, Planning

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ALL CITY OF LARAMIE ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE AND ATTACHMENTS MAY BE TREATED AS PUBLIC RECORDS AND SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Bryant [<mailto:bryassoc@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2013 9:53 AM

To: Paul Harrison

Subject: Park system idea

To:

Paul Harrison,

Re: Park system idea.

I do not know if a new high school will be built...

But if it is, can the existing unused high school become part of the City Park system? It has a track and field, the Gym is already being used for City sports and outside it has open space.

I do not know how this could all work, but the existing high school has art rooms, wood working rooms, metal working, a welding shop, and auto work areas.

Maybe something like the existing Civic Center; where this could be made into another Community Center for those on the North end of town?

This maybe could be City run or a Board run facility.

Just an idea for the future of the park system, community and the use of that place if a new high school is built.

Tom Bryant,
Bryant Assoc., LLC
311 So. 2nd St.
Laramie, WY
307-742-0932

ALL CITY OF LARAMIE ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE AND ATTACHMENTS MAY BE TREATED AS PUBLIC RECORDS AND SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

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From: Mikell [<mailto:mikell@wyoming.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 9:05 PM
To: PTR Master Plan
Subject: Greenbelt trail comment

Hi,

I have provided (separately) some input to the MasterPlan process for proposed parks and trails, and was glad to do so.

I would also like to make a comment/suggestion concerning the Laramie River Greenbelt Trail as it exists today. Great as the trail is, there is a significant problem with the trail underpass at the Snowy Range Road. There is so little elevation difference between the trail and the river that the underpass is frequently frozen over when occasionally water levels rise in the river and, and then similarly the underpass is flooded for at least several weeks each spring when river levels rise from snowmelt.

I believe that **most** of this problem could be corrected were the trail level in the underpass raised approximately 1 foot. I think there is enough clearance overhead to accommodate that, though I do not know if there are design rules/standards that mandate some minimum level of clearance that would be compromised. But, if possible, this would be a useful improvement, and one which should not cost too much money.

But I also believe an alternate route should be developed to ensure year round travel through this chokepoint, to consist of a pedestrian crosswalk across the Snowy Range Road, with connections to the River Trail on both sides of the road.

--Mikell Platt



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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March 5, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Harrison, Parks and Recreation Director,
Derek Teini, Laramie City Senior Planner

FROM: Mike Snigg, Laramie Region Fisheries Supervisor

COPY TO: David Zafft, Fisheries Management Coordinator, file

SUBJECT: Community Fisheries

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is continually looking to provide fishing opportunity. One of these opportunities is development of “Community Fisheries” for all residents usually located within city boundaries. These fisheries are especially important to young potential anglers and those unable to travel to more remote lakes and streams. Huck Finn Pond is an example of an important fishery for kids thirteen and under to fish.

For many years I have been trying to obtain more community fishing opportunities near the City of Laramie, specifically along the Laramie Greenbelt. For a variety of reasons these have not yet worked out.

I would like to suggest that as the City of Laramie develops the Parks and Recreation Master Plan that community fishing ponds be considered. We have the ability to stock community fishing ponds with catchable size trout. Ponds such as Huck Finn provide lots of opportunity, not only for fishing but for many other wildlife related activities. Please feel free to contact me (1-307-745-5180 ext. 237) if there is opportunity for creation of additional community fisheries in the City of Laramie and our Department will assist to the best of our ability.