

TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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SUBJECT: Consent Agenda

DATE: May 24, 2021

- A. Approval of [Minutes April 26, 2021](#)
- B. Approval of [Minutes May 10, 2021 Study Session](#)
- C. Parks and Recreation Development Update

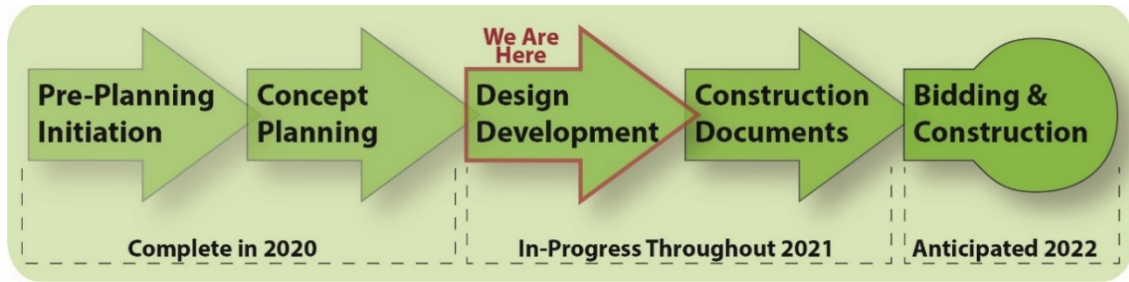
The following information is intended to provide the PRAB with relevant updates on specific projects as they reach major milestones. This section is not all inclusive of all current projects and only illustrates major project updates. For a complete list of all current projects and details, please visit www.BoulderParkNews.org.

Planning and Design

The following projects are currently in the planning and design process that involves research, alternatives analysis, public involvement and development of planning documents and design plans to guide decision making and future capital improvements.

- **Flatirons Golf Course Facility Design Project:** The Flatirons Golf Course Facility Concept Planning wrapped up at the end of 2020. Staff continues to work with the local architect, [ZDesign Group](#), on the next phase: Design Development. The previous phase (Concept Planning) documentation, including community engagement summaries, will remain on the [project web page](#) throughout the duration of the project. Construction is anticipated in 2022; however, staff has committed to keeping PRAB and the community informed about the project as it develops through Design Development and Construction Documents, to ensure the continued excitement and support of the project.

Project Process Diagram



Based on the community engagement throughout 2020, staff is excited to share the next level of design as submitted for a land use review (City of Boulder Planning and Development Services required process). Details and features may change based on comments from the land use review staff. Highlights of the project can be found below while the detailed [full land use review](#) documentation is also available to the public.

This month, staff is highlighting the building materials, elevations, and the floor plan. The Design Development phase heavily relies on the community engagement from the previous phase and the expertise of the consultants as we move into more technical details.

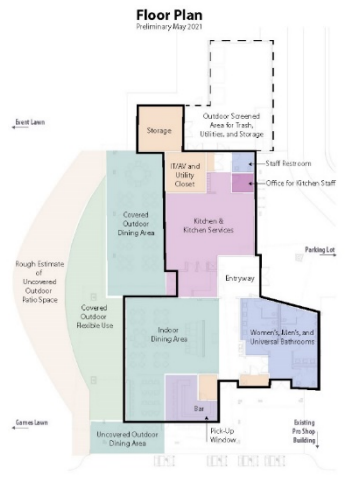
Staff is excited about the progress and hopes to keep the community excited as well. Project banners will be placed on the fence around the golf course to share the elevation and point them to the web page for the latest information. The web page will be updated regularly with email notifications for those who have requested it. The golf community will also be kept informed in the newsletter provided to users. Our main goal is to keep the community informed as we develop the level of detailed plans required for construction.

In addition to the physical building, staff is in the process of developing a business plan that will help guide the search for a food and beverage (F&B) partner for this site. The F&B partner will likely also manage the special event lawn including scheduling, onsite catering, and related services. It is important that guidelines are set to provide a high level of service to the golf course, ensure a rich community experience, and support a mutually beneficial long-term partnership. Right click on the images below for a larger view.

Elevations



Floor Plan



Materials



The next steps will include more detail about parking, sidewalk access, and circulation between the buildings. Examples of what the engineers are currently working on include flood requirements, tree protection, energy needs, and electric vehicle (EV) station locations. Consideration for the future is being considered in features like additional conduit (or sleeves) that would allow for future expansion of EV stations.

- Howard Heuston Skate Park:** Construction of skate features at Howard Heuston Park have been paused pending a follow-up community meeting to share information, hear feedback, and answer any questions the neighbors might have. Construction at Howard Heuston was anticipated to begin in mid-May, following the skate park construction at Scott Carpenter Park. The skate park contractor will instead begin work at Valmont City Park. Please visit the [Howard Heuston Park](#) page for upcoming meeting details as soon as they are available. The community can submit their email address to be notified about the upcoming meeting in mid-June and leave comments.

We want to honor the public process and the voices that were heard from the Howard Heuston Park neighborhood in 2017 and the community-wide Skate Park Improvement process in 2019-2020, but also understand that current neighbors may not have been involved in those opportunities.

The neighborhood outreach for Howard Heuston Park renovations occurred in 2017, resulting in the new playground, picnic area, fencing, etc. It is a common planning practice to develop a concept plan for park improvements, including potential future phases of work that might fall outside of the original project budget. Once funding is available, staff relies on the previously approved plan for those future improvements. Skate features were identified as a future phase in the approved concept plan.

There was subsequent outreach regarding Skate Park Improvements in 2019 and early 2020. The outreach for the Skate Park Improvements project was targeted community-wide, as it involved improvements and additions at multiple parks. The second meeting in

2020 was hosted completely online at the early onset of COVID. Staff made their best effort to align the outreach with the new safety guidelines, but we also realize it was a stressful time for all, creating a less than ideal time to discuss skate features.

At the upcoming community meeting in June, staff will provide the background of the project to begin discussion with a factual base of information, requested demographics, and the process of how staff arrived at the current location and size of the skate features at Howard Heuston. This meeting will be an opportunity to share dialogue between the neighbors and the skate community to collaborate on a solution for all.

- **Planning Projects Underway:** Staff or contractors continue to work on the following projects and will update the PRAB as major milestones are achieved:
 - Multiple Resources Preservation Plan (MRPP)
 - BPR Master Plan (See Matters from the Department item)

Construction

The following projects are scheduled for construction, under construction or have been recently completed. For additional details please visit www.BoulderParkNews.org.

- **Chautauqua Playground Renovation:** The Chautauqua Playground opened to the public on Mother's Day weekend. The playground was renovated as part of the department's ongoing Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The design for the playground was unanimously approved by PRAB in December of 2019. The Landmarks Design Review Committee (LDRC) approved staff's application for a Landmarks Alteration Certificate in March of 2020. Construction began in September of 2020 and progressed through the winter, as weather permitted.

The renovation project included:

- Replacement of playground equipment and surfacing to meet ADA accessibility standards and safety guidelines and requirements
- A custom rock climbing structure
- New sand play
- Addition of natural play features such as log steppers and boulders
- Site amenities such as bike racks, picnic tables, trash, recycling, and compost receptacles.

The May playground opening was a 'soft' opening. A grand opening is currently planned and will take place in June. More information will be provided as details are finalized. Please visit the [project website](#) for more information and pictures.

- **Skate Park and Pump Track - Scott Carpenter Park and Valmont City Park:** After over a year and a half of community input, design, and permitting, the construction of two new skate parks at Scott Carpenter and Valmont City Park and a bike pump track at

Valmont are underway. A third, planned skate park at Howard Heuston is currently on hold pending a follow-up meeting with the community. More information on the plans for Howard Heuston, previous community engagement, and an upcoming meeting can be found [here](#).

The addition of the new skate features and the pump track at the parks are supported by community members and stakeholder groups and will greatly increase the amount of skateable space in the city for users of all abilities. It will also provide much needed outdoor, socially distant recreation opportunities and beginner skate features for those starting to learn. Each of the locations will be accessible to all community members.

General information on the skate park improvements and pump track project can be found [here](#).

Scott Carpenter Park: The new skate park at Scott Carpenter will add approximately 5,300 square feet of skateable area to the existing park.



Catering more to beginners to intermediates, the Scott Carpenter skate park is designed with flat terrain for slower speeds and smaller, low-impact street features. Construction is anticipated to last through the end of May or early June.

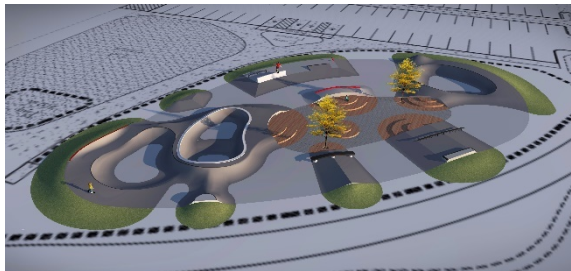


Valmont City Park – Skate and Pump Track: Valmont City Park will soon be home to a new 10,000 square foot skate park and bike pump track. In addition to the skate and bike



elements, the existing parking lot will be renovated to improve pedestrian and vehicular connections and provide a new storm water garden for water quality. These improvements represent part of a larger concept plan. Other improvements may be implemented at a later point when funding is available.

The new skate park will include a bowl, transition elements, and street features and has been designed for users of all skill levels.



The new bike park pump track will be a beginner level, 10,000 square foot track. The track will be comprised of asphalt trails, a beginner slant wall, and a hammock.



Construction Impacts at the Park Sites: Construction impacts will be specific to each park. The public is encouraged to visit websites for each of the individual park sites for impacts and general construction information. Generally, the public can expect the following at each site during construction:

- Closures around the construction area.
- Detours of adjacent walks or paths. Detours will be posted at the specific park site.
- Intermittent increase in construction traffic as materials are delivered or removed **from the site.**
- Construction hours are Monday through Friday, 7.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Below are links to the websites for each of the individual parks:

Scott Carpenter Park: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/scott-carpenter-park>

Valmont City Park: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/valmont-city-park>

Natural Lands

The following projects are focused on habitat and wildlife management in an urban environment.

- **Volunteer Programs:**
Natural Lands Outreach Volunteers and Prairie Dog Count Volunteers: Recruitment for both programs is currently ongoing. Natural Lands Outreach Volunteers shifts have already begun. The first prairie dog counts will occur in mid-June, with additional counts in July and August. More information on these programs can be found on the [volunteer page](#).
- **Natural Lands Operations:** The Natural Lands Team is excited to welcome two new standard staff starting in early June, along with two seasonal staff to help with the busy season. One of those seasonal staff is a full-time naturalist/ranger position funded by the GOCO Resilient Communities grant and focused at the Boulder Reservoir.
- **Natural Lands Projects Underway:** Staff or contractors continue to work on the following projects and will update the PRAB as major milestones are achieved:
 - Urban Wildlife Management.
 - Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Restoration.
 - Visitor Management; and
 - Boulder Aeromodeling Society coordination.

C. Operations Update

The following information is intended to provide the PRAB with relevant updates on specific BPR services in the parks or facilities. This section is not all inclusive of all current operations and intends to provide awareness on key accomplishments, new happenings, service level

adjustments, or other information impacting operations.

COVID-19

The latest information and results of recovery efforts can be found at <https://bouldercolorado.gov/coronavirus>.

- **City of Boulder COVID-19 Recovery:** Boulder County Public Health continues to support a dial framework for COVID-19 guidance where Boulder County will be in Level Clear through August 16. Under level Clear, local capacity restrictions and mitigation are no longer required but may be encouraged.

As of May 31, 2021, reservations will no longer be required at recreation centers and pools as detailed in [this email sent to community members this week](#). Staff will continue to provide regular updates to the PRAB on opportunities to restore department services.

- **Communications on Reduced Summer Services Levels**

In several engagement and feedback opportunities this spring, department staff shared that the most helpful thing leadership could do to support them through pandemic recovery and in managing workloads and stress is to clarify and manage community expectations.

Subsequent to the April 26 [Matter from the Department on Summer 2021 Service Levels](#) which identified services facing reductions due to financial impacts or limited capacity, the department issued a [press release](#) on May 7th sharing that summer service levels will be reduced so that resources can be focused on services that safely deliver the broadest community benefit possible.

To help address concerns around burnout, staff were provided a ‘support toolkit’ that provides suggestions to resolve common causes of burnout including time/work management, meeting management, and self-care/connection among other topics. Templates for email and voicemail were created to make community members aware of current service levels and how requests will be prioritized to make workloads manageable. Feedback will be gathered and shared during the summer season to help monitor burnout and determine efficacy of these tools.

- **Boulder Valley School District Joint Use Agreement**

In 2004, the department and the Boulder Valley School District entered into a ten-year joint use agreement (JUA) for the mutually beneficial use of recreation facilities within the city which are owned and operated by both entities to promote the health and general welfare of the community and contribute to the enhancement of the recreational opportunities afforded to the children in the community. In January 2016, the parties entered an updated five-year JUA set to expire this year.

Staff have worked with representatives from the district to create an updated JUA that iterates on previous agreements and was intended to serve for another five-year term. The agreement was ultimately limited to one year to allow the findings from the following two undertakings to inform a more long-term partnership between the District and the City that will best serve the community:

- a. The tennis courts at Centennial Middle School are in fair to poor condition, and the extent of refurbishment required to bring them to acceptable conditions is unknown at this time. The District and the City have issued a joint Request for Proposals (RFP) that will inform both the work required and the funding strategy to enable this work.
- b. The City is updating its Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which includes a community Needs Assessment to understand community needs for recreation facilities and analyze current Levels of Service. The District is updating its Capital Strategy to inform future capital funding efforts.

While the outcomes from these initiatives are awaited, the one-year agreement which will begin on July 1, 2021 primarily updates both city use and district use of facilities to better align with current operational needs and clarifies maintenance, irrigation and management responsibilities for facilities with shared property lines.

- **Scott Carpenter Concessions**

In 2020 staff submitted a Request for Proposal to obtain a concessions vendor for Scott Carpenter Pool, at that time no bids were received. In March 2021, two potential concessions vendors contacted staff to express interest. An informal bid process was developed to aid staff in determining the most appropriate vendor. One bidder subsequently withdrew their bid. Staff have selected Landloch LLC as the concessions vendor for Scott Carpenter Pool for the 2021 summer season, who will operate the concession area under the name the Belly Flop Cafe.

The menu will initially include prepackaged items as the Belly Flop ramps up to full service and will ultimately include sandwiches and salads and other traditional pool-side offerings. Operations of the concession are currently scheduled to begin by June 12.

- **Boulder Reservoir Good Neighbor Commitment**

Following the PRAB April 26, 2021 business meeting, and per the timeline established in February, staff incorporated board member's feedback into a final document. [The final document](#) has been shared with neighbors who have signed up to the Reservoir mailing lists and via liaisons on the Waterstone and Valhalla neighborhoods. Building on adjustments made with input from neighbors for the second draft, the final document reflects these changes based upon input from the PRAB:

- *Name Change*: To reflect input that this document does not reflect bilateral agreements between the city and neighbors, and based upon requests to rename it, we now refer the Good Neighbor Agreement to as our Good Neighbor Commitment.
- *Neighbor's Role in Reservoir Decisions*: To ensure role clarity, and how Neighbor input will be considered, we have clarified our commitment to seek neighbors' input and added language to explain how that feedback will inform operations.
- *Request for consequences*: Based upon a request for consequences, a new section explains how violations of policies, sound restrictions or other will be addressed with any business partners or event producers.

BPR staff are now focused on operating the Reservoir as outlined in the 2021 operations plans and ensuring that all commitments are honored. Staff are hopeful that success implementation will build trust with neighbors and support a great summer at the Reservoir for the community.